

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

2323 Zenith Ave N., Golden Valley, MN 55422 # 763-588-9466



www.smm-gv.org

December 31, 2023

The Holy Family



**You Are
Welcome Here!**

**We're glad you're here.
Wherever you are
on your journey of faith,
you have a home
with us.**

Mass Schedule

Saturday Mass: 4:00pm
Sunday Mass: 10:00am
Tuesday: 5:00pm Adoration
6:00pm Mass

View the weekend Masses online at:
www.smm-gv.org

**Experiencing the Heart
of Christ, we**

Know Jesus

in Word and Worship.

Live Jesus

in a vibrant, welcoming
Catholic community.

Serve Jesus

in outreach and justice.

Reflection from Father Tom

Feast of the Holy Family

Family is the foundation of our Faith in God and one another. The Sunday after Christmas, we traditionally celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Jesus, by being born in a family, has honored every family. You who live with families know more than I about the challenges and joys of family life. The family is the first 'University' where everyone learns the great values of life. God plants every one of us in our family that we bloom and grow in maturity. If our families and their values were to diminish, that would be the beginning of human disaster. Our family is the nucleus of any civil society. It is the oldest institution in the history of human civilization. So, every one of us has the greatest obligation to provide, preserve and protect the values of our families that our children will produce the fruits of faith, hope and love.

The family plays a vital role to make a person good or bad. Our family is the nursery of all values of our life. This is the first school that God created to get educated in our moral, ethical, and human values of our life. The fathers and mothers are the first teachers of everything we know though they may not be the experts in all they teach. But they plant the seeds of knowledge in us. So, the fathers and mothers should teach the children not only by what they say but also by what they do. Family is where we find our love and emotional security. Our family is the oasis in the deserted life. It is where we rejuvenate our spirit and recuperate our energy for our life journey. Our home is the place we find our family of love and sacrifice. Let us make our home a sweet home of love for our family.

No one can underestimate the challenges of family life. But those challenges are the basic sources of our life and love. Those challenges are wonderful opportunities to deepen our love for one another. Every challenge is a chance to grow. If only we learn to change the 'typhoons' of our life into 'tailwind,' then our 'life flight' will gain more momentum to be successful. To do that, all of us need to have faith in God and in your spouse, children, and in your family members. This faith starts with a simple practice of prayer. A family that prays together will stay together. Prayer is a spiritual exercise like our physical workout. Going to health clubs once or twice in a year will not guarantee your good health. But regular physical practice provides us with strength and prevents us from sickness. Similarly, prayer prevents us from failures and preserves us in 'spiritual health'. A one-day walk may not reduce your blood pressure, but persistent practice will do. So constant practice in our prayer-life brings success in our family life. Let our new resolution for this New Year be 'Family Prayer.' Prayer brings unity in our family which begets victory in our life.

Happy New Year 2024

God has blessed us to see one more year in our life. We joyfully welcome the New Year with gratitude to God. This is the time to look back at the year 2023 in which we thank God and our family members for their great contribution for our growth. We thank God for the 'gains and pains.' By the 'gains' we achieved and we positively have grown. By 'pains' we are made stronger to retain our gains in our life. Both success and challenges are from God that we continually grow in our faith and life. I want to take this opportunity to express my endless thanks to God and every one of you who generously contributed your money, time, and talents for our Parish during this past year of 2023. I also want to thank you for your generous contribution for our parish on Christmas Day. Every one of you is a great blessing from God. May God bless you and your family with plentiful blessings in the New Year 2024!

Lord Jesus, as you blessed the Holy Family with your presence, come into our families to bless us and our children in the coming new year of 2024!

Christmas Flower Memorials

Donor:	In Memory of:
Esther Cruz	Del Cruz

Stewardship Request!

YEAR END GIVING
YOUR GIFT MAKES
A DIFFERENCE

We are at the end of the year 2023. God has blessed us with many opportunities. As we thank God during this Holy Season of Christmas, please consider a year's end gift to our Church that could also increase your tax deferred contributions. As you know, we currently could not find any renters for our School building. In the absence of rental income, it is very challenging to keep up with operating costs of our parish. We need your generous help.

Thank you to those who have completed the pledge form and turned it in. If you have not done so, please fill it out and put it in the collection basket or return to the Parish office. This pledge helps us to budget for the year. Thank you!



There will be Mass but no classes on December 31st. Class will resume January 7th, 2024!

Wishing you all many blessings this Christmas and in the new year!

Jim & Jon

December 30— January 7

Saturday, December 30

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass ...* Carol Bruggemann (Healing)

Sunday, Dec 31 The Holy Family

10:00am Mass ...* Xavier Igherighe (Healing)

Monday, January 1

9:00 am Mass* People of SMM

Tuesday, January 2

5:00pm Adoration
6:00pm Mass* People of SMM

Saturday, January 6

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass† Betty Weidendorf

Sunday, Jan 7 The Epiphany of the Lord

9:30 pm Reconciliation Service
10:00 am Mass† George Lambrecht

† deceased * living

Social Ministry



750 Children were registered to receive toys from the giving tree donations. Thank you for your generosity and in making someone's Christmas a joyful celebration!

January items needed: Peanut Butter, Cereals, Baking Supplies, and paper products.

Brown paper bags are always needed.

Thank you for your generosity in helping those in need!

Parishioner Volunteer Thank you !

Thank you to Dick Karels for the constant attention to our Church grounds. Dick cleans the Church and school grounds, parking lots, and buildings. His endless dedication to our Church is unwavering. Thank you Dick for your constant care!

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763-588-9466

Pastoral Team

Pastor:

Fr. Thomas Rayar
frtom@smm-gv.org
For Pastoral Emergencies and Anointing of the Sick
Call 763-515-2005

Business Administration

Mary Muntifering
marym@smm-gv.org

Music Ministry

Mary Bur
mbur@smm-gv.org

Spiritual Life

Anointing of the Sick

If you, or someone you know of, is ill, elderly or facing surgery, please call the Parish Office.

Baptism

Please call the Parish Center early in your pregnancy or adoption process to register for a Baptism Preparation Session.

Marriage

Please call the parish office six months in advance.

RCIA, First Eucharist, Confirmation

Please call the Parish Center.

Parish Pastoral Council

AT LARGE MEMBERS

Michael Bloberger, First Chair.....
Collin Abram
Brenda Brincks,.....
Hannah Ficks, *Second Chair*.....
Steve Gleason, Secretary
Molly Anderson

PPC COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Nancy Huntley, *Trustee*
Jean Plucinski, *Adult Faith Formation*.....
Georgeann Wobschall, *Social Ministry*.....

FINANCE COUNCIL

Peter Aubart
Michael Ficks
Jeb Myers, *Trustee*.....
Rick Riley
Jim Sherburne

PRAYER CHAIN

Laurie Geving 763-546-6828

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Monday: Office Closed
Tuesdays through Thursdays : 9:00am
to 3:00pm
Fridays: 9:00 am to 12:00pm

History of St. Margaret Mary



Devotional Candles

"I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). In today's culture, lighting devotional candles signifies our prayer offered in faith coming into the light of God. With the light of faith, we petition our Lord in prayer to pray with us and for us to the Lord. The vigil candle that is lit remains so for a period of time and symbolizes how the person desires "to remain present to the Lord in prayer even though we may depart and go about our daily business."

Your donation of \$3.00 is appreciated to defray the cost of the candles.

Mass Intentions

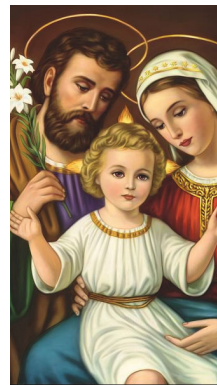


Mass Intentions are offered in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as birthday or anniversary), or for the repose of the soul of someone who has died.

Please contact Mary (marym@smm-gv.org) in the parish office to schedule your Mass Intentions. Suggested minimum donation is \$7.00 or more per Mass.



Mass was celebrated in the basement of the school



Prayer to the Holy Family

Dear Lord,
Bless our family.
Be so kind as to give us the unity, peace, and mutual love that You found in Your own family in the little town of Nazareth.
Saint Joseph, pray for the head of our family. Obtain for him the strength, the wisdom,
and the prudence he needs

to support and direct those under his care.

Mother Mary,
pray for the mother of our family.
Help her to be pure and kind, gentle and self-sacrificing.
For the more she resembles you, the better will our family be.
Lord Jesus,
bless the children of our family.
Help them to be obedient and devoted to their parents.
Make them more and more like You.
Let them grow, as You did, in wisdom and strength and grace before God and man.

Holy Family of Nazareth, by your intercession, love, and holy example, make our family and home more and more like Yours, until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with You.
Amen.

