

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

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



www.smm-gv.org

January 7, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord



**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

The Guiding Star

The Magi from the East followed the star so that they could view the Morning Star of our salvation. With their unusual travel ‘guide’, the star, they were persistent to see the ‘New Born King’, despite the struggles and troubles on their way. They finally reached Bethlehem and they prostrated themselves and did him homage. “Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh” (Mt.2: 11).

Where to find Him? It looks like, in our life of hustle and bustle, we fail to even take a minimal effort to find Jesus, who is in our midst and comes to us in the Eucharist. He is to be found in every person whom we meet in our daily life. We are called to recognize him in every person in need, as we read in the Gospel written by St. Matthew. “And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me (Mt: 25:40).’” Are we willing to prostrate ourselves like the Magi and offer our gifts to him?

Why should we Search: In the Gospel today, we hear that Magi came from the East to adore the newborn King, but Herod, who lived closer to Bethlehem, did not recognize the birth of the Messiah. Herod sent the Magi to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word that I too may go and do him homage.” You and I know that Herod did not look for the newborn Child to pay him homage but to kill. The motives of the Magi and Herod in looking for Jesus are totally different, but Herod says that he wants to go and do homage to Jesus. It is not the mere words that sanctify our deed but the motives behind it. An honest search for Jesus will take us to the new-born King.

The New Star of Conscience: As the Magi followed the star, God has provided us with our ‘rightful conscience’ to be the star that leads us to Jesus. Let us not cloud the ‘star’ with wrongful philosophies or hide it with our self-righteousness but let it shine to guide us to ‘Bethlehem’. Let us follow that ‘Star,’ our conscience, to find Jesus.

Guide our conscience, Lord, that it may rightly and straightly guide us to you! Amen.



My sincere Thanks To All!

I once again sincerely thank all those people who helped with our Church decorations headed by Nancy Becker, lectors, sacristans, money counters, music ministers and everyone who helped to make this Holy Season a great celebration. I thank those who sent me greeting cards and generous gifts during this Joyful celebration. Wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year of 2024!

Festival Update—Silent Auction

A Festival Update... in January? Yes, we realize the festival is over nine months away, and we are in the middle of a cold winter, but the Silent Auction could already use your help! Now that the shopping frenzy is over, it is the perfect time to check out sales at your favorite stores. Find a great deal on items you can donate to our Silent Auction next fall and help us grow. Thank you in advance for your support! We can't wait for September!

Christmas Flower Memorials

Donor:	In Memory of:
Lucille Cervantes	Jason Cervantes



Class will resume January 7th, 2024! Welcome back!

We hope our confirmation students enjoyed a blessed and joyful Christmas and New Years Celebration.

January 6—January 14

Saturday, January 6

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

Sunday, Jan 7 The Epiphany of the Lord

10:00 am Mass† George Lambrecht

Tuesday, January 9

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

Saturday, January 13

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass† Mary Garvey

Sunday, Jan 14 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 am Mass† Richard Sullivan

Tuesday, January 16

5:00 pm Adoration
6:00 pm Mass† Ann Lambrecht

† deceased ★ living

Social Ministry



January items needed:
Toilet paper and paper products.

Alternative Items:
Sugar, oil, flour, cereal, pasta, soup,
canned tuna and chicken, pancake mix,
peanut butter, jelly, and syrup.

Brown paper bags are always needed.

Thank you for your generosity in helping those in need!

Parishioner Volunteer Thank you !

Thank you to Doris Thimmesh for laundering and cleaning the Church linens, corporals, and purificators. Doris keeps our altar linens pristine! Thank you !

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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.

Daily Bible Readings are available online at the United States Council of Catholic Bishop's website www.usccb.org/bible/readings.



Mass was celebrated in the basement of the school



Epiphany House Blessing

Take (blessed) chalk (of any colour) and mark on the lintel of your front door 20 + C + M + B + 24 saying:

The three Wise Men,
C Caspar,
M Melchior,
B and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son
who became human
20 two thousand
24 and twenty-four years ago.
++ May Christ bless our home
++ and remain with us throughout the new year.
Amen.

Loving God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and abiding in your will. We ask this through Christ our Saviour. Amen.