

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

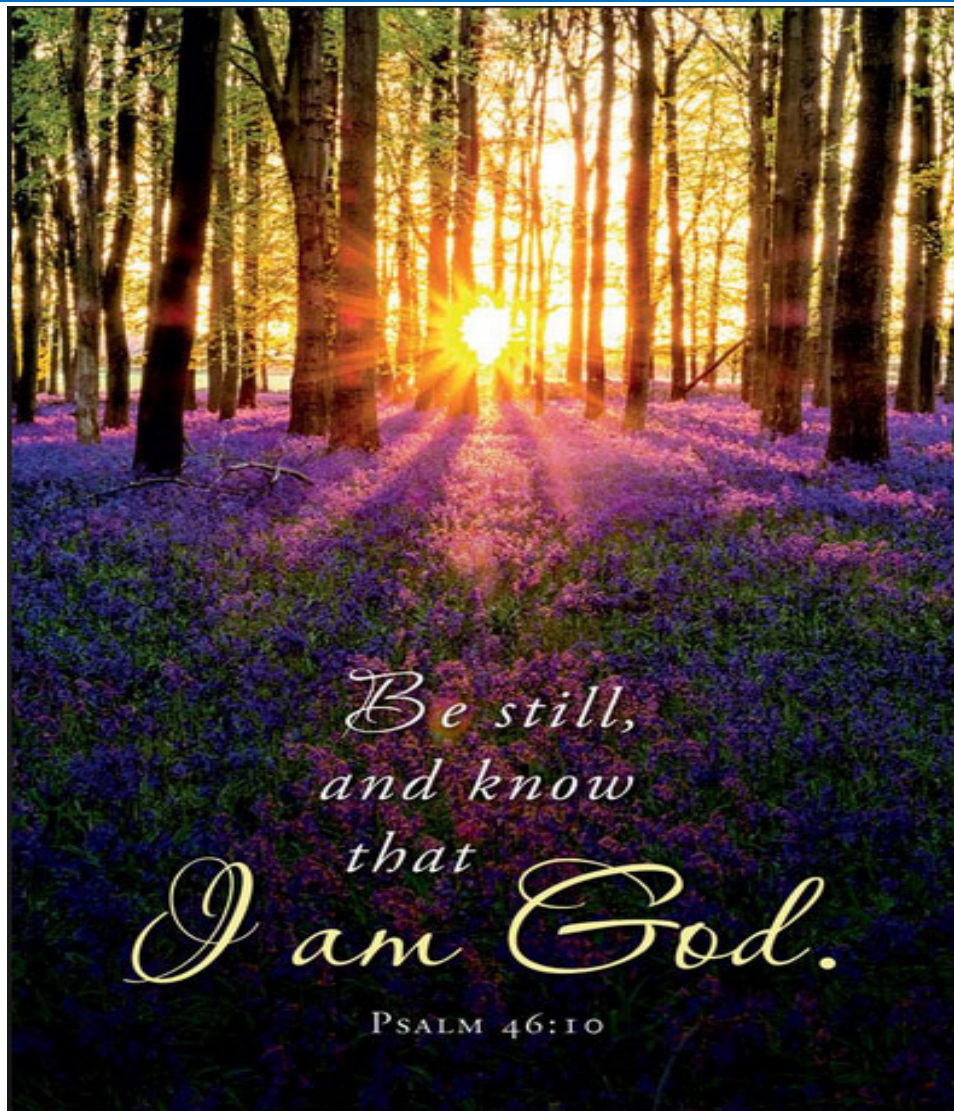
2323 Zenith Ave N., Golden Valley, MN 55422 # 763-588-9466



www.smm-gv.org

January 28, 2024

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Be still,
and know
that
I am God.*

PSALM 46:10

**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

How to Detract our Distraction?

We live a busy life. As St. Paul writes in the second reading, we are ‘anxious and filled with distraction’. Our minds are like a ‘grand central station’. We are forced to keep up the fast paces of our life. We are conditioned by the societal lifestyle. The consumerist corporate world, with their bombarding commercials, dictates what we should like and what we should buy. The companies design how we should dress and what we should eat. A human person in the modern world has become a mere number among the billions. We have lost our uniqueness in this speedy world with economies of scale. We lose our wings in the winds of this worldly business. We may not have time to stop to ‘smell’ the ‘roses’. Many times, we are confused to know the ‘season’ we experience in our spiritual life. In such a time we need the ‘desert’ experience to know about ourselves.

In the past, the sages and spiritual masters went to forests and the deserts to contemplate on their life. They did not go to New York ‘Times Square’ to meditate. They did not go to the great libraries to read the books. But they wanted to read about their lives and wrote the books for libraries with their ‘desert’ experiences. The greatest knowledge they were after, was their ‘knowledge about their self’. They became masters of spirituality by mastering themselves. This was possible for them when they retreated themselves and brought to their inner awareness by fighting against their inner enemies. We all need to have such a ‘desert experience’ to discover ourselves and thus could manage and build spiritual immunity to the ‘various seasonal problems’ of our spiritual life. To win the temptations of our life we get strength by these prayerful experiences.

The whole cosmos moves in a cyclic fashion and so does our life. As we go through the four seasons in a year, (maybe only two seasons in Minnesota) we also go through various ‘seasons’ in our spiritual life. There are days we feel the ‘Spring’ and some days the ‘Winter’ and may experience the ‘Fall’ and we see the ‘Summer’. One day is bright and another day could be dark. It is amazing to see the influences of the cosmic cyclic realities in our daily life. To cope with the changes in the seasons, our body, by nature, makes adjustments so that we survive with good health. But to cope with the spiritual or emotional ‘seasonal changes’, our souls should be seasoned with our ‘desert experience’ so

that we could master these changes to bring good balance without spiritual distractions.

Lord, please give us the wisdom to slow down our life’s ‘speed’ so that we will be able to avoid the accidents of our spiritual life. Amen.

Adult Faith Formation



Holy Adult Mind
Follow Soul Faith Spirit Believe
Heart Prayer Christ
Catholic Formation Understand
Love of God Relationship

Adult Faith Formation

Lenten Small Group Sign-Up Wraps Up this weekend, January 27th & 28th!

All are invited to participate in one of this year’s Lenten Small Groups meeting once a week for five weeks in Visitation Hall beginning the week of Sun. 2-18-2024 and continuing through Tues. 3-19-2024!

This can be your first time joining a group—past participation is not required. Each participant will receive a printed copy and an emailed PDF copy of the 2024 Lenten Small Group Study Guide, “Lent 2024: Following in the Footsteps of Jesus”, which explores themes taken from the Lenten scripture readings for Cycle B.

The deadline to sign up in the back of Church after Mass for one of the three groups listed below is this weekend, January 27/28, 2024!

Group 1: Sundays, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm with facilitators Steve Gleason and Margaret Webinger

Group 2: Sundays, 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm with facilitators Jean Plucinski and Georgeann Wobschall

Group 3: Tuesdays, 10:00 am to 11:30 am with facilitators Pat Lord and Doris Thimmesh

For more information, contact Jean Plucinski at adultfaith@smm-gv.org.

Confirmation Class

Classes continue for the Confirmation students. Please meet Jim and Jon in the Parish Center after Mass on Sunday, January 27th.

January 27—February 6

Saturday, January 27

3:30 pm Reconciliation
 4:00 pm Mass.....† Genevieve Muntifering

Sunday, Jan 28 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 am Mass† Henry Cremers

Tuesday, January 30

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

Saturday, February 3

3:30 pm Reconciliation
 4:00 pm Mass..... * People of SMM

Sunday, Feb 4 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 am Mass† Mary Garvey

Tuesday, Feb 6

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

† deceased * living

Social Ministry



February items needed:
 Kitchen spices

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

The need for food continues to grow. The winter months traditionally have fewer donations. Please continue to be generous.

Parishioner Volunteer Thank you !

Thank you to our dedicated sacristans each weekend! Norine Stimart, Michael Bloberger, Tony Plucinski and Nancy Becker. Thank you for **always** getting the Church ready for our celebration!

The Church of St. Margaret Mary
 2323 Zenith Ave. N., Golden Valley, MN 55422
 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

**The Church of St. Margaret
Mary**
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MN 763-588-9466
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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.

Message from the Office

If you donated \$100 or more in 2023 to the Church of St Margaret Mary, you should receive a donation letter. Parishioner donation letters were mailed on Wednesday, January 17th. If you have not received a letter, please contact Mary Muntifering.

Bulletin Advertisers

As part of a cost saving plan, we would like to have our bulletin printed off site rather than printing it ourselves. In order for us to do so, we need advertisers for the back page of the bulletin. If you are interested in advertising your business in the bulletin, please contact Mary Muntifering.

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

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 and Mess

The Church of St Margaret Mary is considering a community building event. We would like to offer a meal after the 4:00 PM Mass (once per month). The meal will be provided by SMM. There will be a suggested monetary donation as well as a RSVP list to ensure we have enough food.

We are looking for groups of volunteers to make this happen. Community building can only happen by joining hands and working together.

If you would like to participate in this event, in any way, please contact Mary Muntifering.

