

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

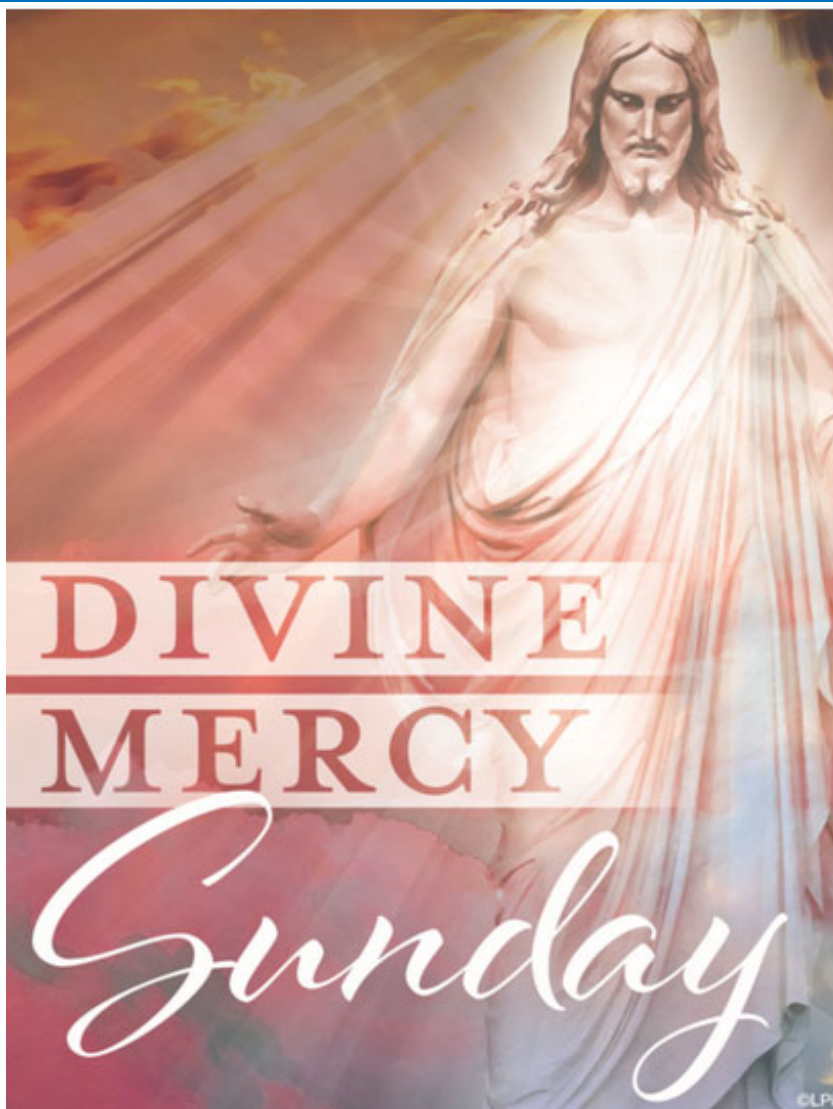
2323 Zenith Ave N., Golden Valley, MN 55422 # 763-588-9466



www.smm-gv.org

April 7, 2024

Sunday of Divine Mercy



**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

I Believe to See What I cannot See

In the Gospel today we read Jesus addressing Thomas, the apostle, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (JN. 20:29). Faith is not based on what we see but it is based on what we cannot see. It is not a scientific truth that can be proven in a lab. But it is formed from the bottom of our heart that we experience. Even the disciples, after having heard all the preaching from Jesus, had difficulty in believing his resurrection. As we hear from the gospel today, Thomas did not believe in Jesus' resurrection. Moreover, he did not believe the testimonies of his own colleagues. He said, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and my hand into his side, I will not believe." He needed to see to believe. But he failed to understand that he needed to believe what he could not see. We believe to see the truth beyond what we cannot see.

In the history of philosophical investigation, there has been an ongoing search for the existence of God. However, the simple truth is that the ontological understanding of God's existence and epistemological investigation of such existence is not to be conceived with human reason, but only by divine intervention. The incarnation of Christ is the intervention in the unending search for Infinite God's Existence. Incarnation is out of God's Mercy to put an end to the unending struggle of human search for God's existence. In the process of searching for the Truth of God which is beyond our understanding, our faith becomes the divine tool when our human reasoning hits the wall of limitation. So, it is not seeing to believe, but believing to see beyond our human understanding.

If we can see and witness with our eyes, we do not need to have faith to accept the truth, because the truth is self-evident. We need the help of faith only when we cannot see physically. Yes, my dear friends, we are blessed because we do believe though we have not seen the resurrection with our own physical eyes. We continue to believe, as we can see the resurrected Jesus in our brothers and sisters.

The episode of Thomas' unbelief is meant to tell us that the disciples were human and had the same struggles of faith as we do every day in our life. The unbelief of Thomas is the affirmation for our faith. It is to give us hope and proof for our faith today. Let us not be "doubting Thomas" but have faith in the One resurrected from death, who is the source of Peace and Joy.

As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday today, let our life be humble to experience the mercy of God, who by sending his only Son and giving the gift of faith to see that the truth is beyond our understanding. It is through the 'eye' of faith we can see God. It is through the heart of love we experience the resurrected Jesus. Without faith we are eternally blinded to the Eternal Truth of God.

Prayer: **Lord, give me the wisdom to believe what I cannot understand and to accept what I can understand. Amen.**



Divine Mercy Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.

Where are the pictorial directories?

Many of you have inquired about the picture directories. I apologize that they are taking so long to get here. Unfortunately, there were too many errors with family names and pictures, and so a second proof was requested. As soon as the corrections are made, they will reprint and mail directly to the Church. I assure you that I am in contact with them weekly.

Thank you for your patience.

Mary Muntifering

Parishioner Volunteer Thank you !

We thank Jim Franzen and Jon Kleist for teaching and mentoring our Confirmation students throughout the years. They are faithfully dedicated to this ministry! It is a gift of time and faith that is priceless! We thank you for your tremendous gift that you have given to our faith family!

Youth Faith Formation

We will have a Mass of Sending for our Confirmation Students on Sunday, April 14th at the 10:00 am Mass. Cake and coffee reception in Visitation Hall will follow. The Confirmation Mass will be at the Cathedral of St Paul at 2:00 pm that day. Congratulations to our Confirmation Students!

April 6— April 14

Saturday, April 6

8:00 pm Mass★ People of SMM

Sunday, April 7 Sunday of Divine Mercy

10:00 am Mass† Emmanuel James Holly

Tuesday, April 2

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

Saturday, April 13

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass† Richard Sullivan

Sunday, April 14 Third Sunday of Easter

10:00 am Mass Villa Konen

† deceased ★ living



Social Ministry

PRISM needs for April: Cleaning Supplies

Alternative items: Sugar, oil, flour, cereal, pasta, soups, canned tuna and chicken, syrup, peanut butter and jelly.

Thank you for your generous donations!

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 763-772-7762



SAVE THE DATE FOR PRISM'S ANNUAL

This event offers two venues: The Metropolitan Ballroom and Clubroom and Frankies Chicago Style Restaurant.



METROPOLITAN
BALLROOM & CLUBROOM
5418 Wayzata Blvd,
Golden Valley, MN 55416



PRISM'S
TASTE OF THE
BURBS



FRANKIE'S
3556 Winnetka Ave N,
New Hope, MN 55427

Ticket Information:

- April 1st-14th: \$125
- April 15th: \$150
- VIP TICKET: \$225

includes VIP reception, exclusive seating, the first choice of parking, and fundraising activities.

VIP RECEPTION: 5:30PM
GENERAL GUESTS: 6:15PM
THURSDAY, MAY 9TH, 2024
FOR MORE INFORMATION: PRISMPLS.ORG/EVENTS/TOB24



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Mary**

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



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.

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.

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



Healing Mass and Soup Luncheon

The Healing Mass is for those that are in need of healing of mind, body and spirit. It is scheduled for Thursday, April 18th at 11:00 am, with a soup luncheon to follow. Please use the sign up sheets in the back of the Church if you would like to donate soup or desserts. Thank you!



Spring Flower Sale

SPRING FLOWER SALE

Thank you to everyone who generously supported our spring flower sale and donations to the Church Gardens.

The plants will be available for pickup at the parish office garage on Monday May 13th from 3-7 pm and Tuesday May 14th from 4-7pm.

Questions call Nancy Huntley at 763-522-9437

Easter Flower Donations

Donor:	In Memory of:
Michael and Cheryl Bloberger	Our Parents
Nafmai	