

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

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



www.smm-gv.org

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent



THE FIRST PURPLE CANDLE IS THE

“Candle of Hope.”

IT SYMBOLIZES THE HOPE WE HAVE
IN CHRIST AND OUR DESIRE TO
SPEND ETERNITY WITH HIM. DURING
THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT,
WE WAIT FOR JESUS WITH HOPE.

**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

Advent: Preparing with Love

With Advent we begin the new liturgical year. Advent is the celebration of waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus. The word 'Advent' is derived from two Latin words, 'ad' and 'venire', which means 'to come'. So, Advent is the season of Jesus' coming into our life. This is a waiting filled with love for Jesus. As St. Paul says in his first letter to the Thessalonians, "*May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts,*" it is the love for Jesus that makes us wait for him. That love for Him should be realized in our love for one another.

Waiting for someone can be tiresome and tedious. But when we wait with love, it makes the waiting joyful. It is like a lover waiting for his/her beloved to come home from a long journey. Here with great love, we are waiting for Jesus, our dearly beloved, to come into our hearts.

This waiting for Jesus should be filled with faith, hope, and love. Jesus' presence in our home makes us joyful. This joy is also realized in our waiting for him. This waiting should not be idle but should be active with spirited preparation. As we would prepare our house to receive a distinguished guest, we should prepare our hearts with vigilant prayer, as Jesus tells us in the Gospel today. "Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength."

Prayer: Come Lord Jesus! Lord Jesus, come! And make our hearts your home! Amen.

History of the Advent Wreath

The origin of the Advent Wreath can be traced back to pre-Christian Germanic cultures who would light candles during the winter solstice to honor the return of the light. This practice was adopted by Christians in the Middle Ages as a way to mark the season of Advent. The circular shape of the wreath represents eternity, reminding us of God's infinite love and presence in our lives. The greenery used to decorate it symbolizes everlasting life and hope given to us by Jesus. The lighting of the candles sequentially each week provides us with a tangible way to mark the passing of time and encourages us to reflect on the themes of hope, peace, joy and love.

Dec 9 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception



There will not be Mass on Monday, December 9.

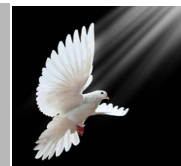
Those who are able to observe the Solemnity are encouraged to do so. Please reflect on the readings of the day, engage in prayer individually, with others, or as a family.

Let us honor this special day dedicated to Our Blessed Mother.

The Giving Tree



Adult Faith Formation Advent Afternoon of Reflection



Advent Afternoon of Reflection Sign-Up Starts this Weekend!

An Advent Afternoon of Reflection is planned for Saturday, December 14, 2024, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in Visitation Hall followed by an opportunity in Church for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 3:30 pm and the 4 pm Mass. David Liedl, a trained spiritual director who lived 33 years as a Franciscan brother, is leading the reflection entitled "Rejoice, O Highly Favored: Three Ways to Welcome the Word Made Flesh." Sign-up sheets are available this weekend, November 30/December 1, and next weekend, December 7/8, in the back of the Church.

For more information, contact Jean Plucinski at 763-593-0664 or at adultfaith@smm-gv.org.

Nov 30— Dec 15

Saturday, November 30
 3:30 pm Reconciliation
 4:00 pm Mass† Leone Knickerbocker

Sunday, December 1 First Sunday of Advent
 10:00 am Mass* People of SMM

Tuesday, December 3
 5:00 pm Adoration
 6:00 pm Mass† Craig Muntifering

Saturday, December 7
 3:30 pm Reconciliation
 4:00 pm Mass* Ukrainian People

Sunday, December 8 Second Sunday of Advent
 10:00 am Mass†Marguerite "Reet" Burke

Tuesday, December 10
 5:00 pm Adoration
 6:00 pm Mass† Al & Agnes Wencil

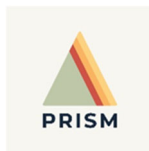
Saturday, December 14
 1:30 pm Advent Afternoon of Reflection
 3:30 pm Reconciliation
 4:00 pm Mass* Immigrants

Sunday, December 15 Third Sunday of Advent
9:30 am Reconciliation Service
 10:00 am Mass† Leopold Rosas

† deceased * living

Social Ministry

PRISM needs for November and December:
Holiday Toys, Gifts and Gift Cards
Teen gifts are in high demand.



Holiday Toy Tree is here! SMM will collect gifts (Giving Tree) November 20-December 9.

Please do not wrap your gifts.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Items always needed: peanut butter, jelly, crackers and cheese, applesauce and prepackaged fruit.
 Alternate Items: sugar, oil, flour, cereal, pasta, soup, canned chicken and tuna, pancake mix and syrup.

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

Molly Anderson
 Collin Abram, *Secretary*.....
 Sue Buck
 Hannah Ficks, *Second Chair*.....
 Jim Franzen
 Steve Gleason, *Chair*.....

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

**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

Advent Reflection Dec 14th

Advent Afternoon of Reflection

On Saturday, December 14, 2024, from 1:30 pm to 3:30pm, spiritual director David Liedl will be leading an Advent Reflection in Visitation Hall entitled “Rejoice, O Highly Favored: Three Ways to Welcome the Word Made Flesh”. The Advent/Christmas Season celebrates the manifold ways God chooses to live among us, to be for us “Emmanuel.” Our afternoon of reflection explores three ways that enable us to better open ourselves to the Word Made Flesh and deepen our experience of joy, gratitude, and peace. Guiding us to these reflections will be one of Fra Angelico’s masterpieces from the 15th century. His painting, The Annunciation, stands at the top of a staircase in the Monastery of San Marco in Florence, Italy. The fresco was intended to inspire the monks of his monastery who walked past this image every day. Come join us as we seek to gather our own treasure of spiritual inspiration from this great work of art and for this great season.

Our reflection leader, David Liedl, was shaped by the spirituality of St. Francis of Assisi having lived for 33 years as a Franciscan brother. In that capacity he served: as a contemplative in the South Bronx, a retreat director in Orlando, and a community leader in Minneapolis. He is a trained spiritual director and provided ministry as a chaplain and Director of Pastoral Care at Catholic Eldercare. The one constant in his varied expressions of ministry is his passion to help people live into the fullness of their spiritual lives. His artistic talents find expression as a musician, poet, photographer, potter, and liturgical artist. He lives in Fridley, has an active practice as a spiritual director, and offers respite care for people living with dementia.

Signup sheets will be available the weekend, November 30/December 1, in the back of church!
For more information, contact Jean Plucinski at 763-593-0664 or at adultfaith@smm-gv.org.

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

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 \$5.00 is appreciated to defray the increased 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.

Parishioner Volunteer Thank YOU!

This week we thank the our Social Ministry Team for setting up the Giving Tree displayed in the back of the Church. Thank you to Marlene Witucki, Mary Ellen Bruski, Nancy Waskosky, Louise Hyser, and Georgeann Wobschall for the beautiful tree display. It puts us in the spirit of giving this season. Thank you!

Neighboring Event—Christmas Village

The St. Raphael’s Rosary Society in Crystal invites you to their annual Christmas Village on Saturday December 7th, 8:30 –2:00 pm at 7301 Bass Lake Road, Crystal. This event includes shopping unique items and gift baskets, visit from Santa from 11:00-1:00 pm, games for kids of all ages, and tasty food from Grandma’s Kitchen.

If you have any questions, please call 763-537-8401.