

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

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



www.smm-gv.org

March 30, 2025
April 06, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent
Fifth Sunday of Lent



**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

Lent – A Call to Repent

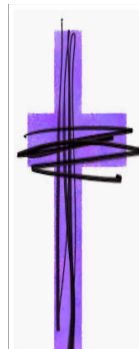
The theme of last week's Gospel, 'repents, and is repeated in today's Gospel story of the Prodigal Son. How the prodigal son repented for his sin and repaired it by surrendering to his father with his confession of unworthiness to be a son. Finally the broken relationship between the father and son is rebuilt. However, I would like to focus on the elder son, who was with the father, walking out of the house, as he was intolerant to his younger brother who came back after a life of dissipation. Jesus tells this story to the Pharisees and scribes who complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them," as the Tax collectors and sinners who were drawing near listen to him. The elder son of the story, who represents the Pharisees and Scribes, complained about the sinners, who represent the younger son, coming back to the Father. So the story is about the intolerant elder-brother who refused to forgive and accept his younger-brother into the home. The relationship between the brothers is broken.

Reflection: The relationship that we build with God and with one another is the foundation of our spiritual life. Moreover, diversity of our creation calls for creativity in our relationships with one another. As everyone is uniquely created, building and maintaining such a healthy relationship with the members of our family, community or co-workers has always been a challenge. However, the chances of rebuilding our broken relationships are tangible only with a spirit of repentance and forgiveness. As we were reminded of 'Repentance' in the last week readings, which means 'change of mind with merciful heart,' that we are called to actively be involved in changing our life, this week readings elicit us to a life of forgiveness which should be the effect of our repentance and finally rebuilding our relationship with one another.

The prodigal son story in today's Gospel illustrates how a broken relationship can be fixed with repentance and forgiveness. The younger-son, who deliberately broke away from his father, comes home with repentance. The father forgives him, but the elder-brother could not forgive his younger-brother. This could be the story of our life. How often have we been like the elder-brother refusing to forgive our brothers and sisters and failing to accept them? Unless we are ready to forgive others we will not be forgiven.

May the Lord, who forgives us, also give us the spirit of repentance and the strength to forgive others! Amen.

Adult Faith Formation



Lenten Small Group members, please check your group listed below for the correct date and time of your fourth and fifth meetings. All meetings will be held in Visitation Hall.

Group 1: Sundays, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm with facilitators Steve Gleason and Margaret Webinger on March 30 and April 6

Group 2: Sundays, 2 pm to 3:30 pm with facilitators Jean Plucinski and Georgeann Wobschall on March 30 and April 6

Group 3: Tuesdays, 10 am to 11:30 am with facilitators Pat Lord and Mike Bloberger/Doris Thimmesh on April 1 and April 8

Before the fourth meeting, please read the material for Week 4 on pages 44 through 59 of the 2025 Lenten Small Group Study Guide which explores how God calls everyone to holiness, the Parable of the Prodigal Son, the power of forgiveness, and the inspirational persons, Blessed Rani Maria Vattalil, St. Devasahayam Pillai, and St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

Before the fifth meeting, please read the material for Week 5 on pages 60 through 73 which explores the call to holiness in every era at any age, Jesus' forgiveness of the woman taken in adultery, how to answer the call to holiness during old age and retirement, and the inspirational persons, St. Nicholas and Blessed Carlo Acutis.

Please remember to fill out the 2025 Lenten Small Group Evaluation Sheet in the back of your study guide and turn it into Pat Lord, Norine Stimart, or Jean Plucinski by Monday, April 14, 2025.

Thank you for your enthusiastic participation in the Lenten Small Group meetings, especially the facilitators, all those who brought treats, or helped with the set-up or clean-up!

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

Healing Mass —April 3rd

The Healing Mass will be Thursday, April 3 at 11:00 am followed by a soup luncheon. Please remember the Healing Mass is for mind, body and spirit. We all need healing. All are welcome. Please us the signup sheets in the back of the Church over the weekend of March 29/30.

March 29—April 13

Saturday, March 29

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass†Shirley Stanoch

Sunday, March 30 **4th Sunday of Lent**

10:00 am Mass† Richard Walker

Tuesday, April 1

5:00 pm Adoration
6:00 pm Mass★ Expectant Parents

Saturday, April 5

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass† Jeanne Krumweide

Sunday, April 6 **5th Sunday of Lent**

10:00 am Mass†Fritz Muntifering

Tuesday, April 8

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

Saturday, April 12

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass†Shirley Stanoch

Sunday, April 13 **Palm Sunday**

10:00 am Mass★ People of SMM

† deceased ★ living

Social Ministry

April Needs: Cleaning Supplies

Most needed are canned proteins: tuna, chicken, peanut butter and beans.

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.

Thank you for your generosity!



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

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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

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

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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

Parishioner Volunteer Thank YOU!

Thank you to everyone that helped transform Visitation Hall for both Masses on the weekend of March 15 and 16. Many hands helped to change it over so quickly!

Thank you to Lee Burke who fixed the boiler in the Church so that we have heat again!
Thank you!

Lenten Schedule

Sun, April 6th, 10:00 am **Reconciliation** with Mass

Fri, April 11th, 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Sat, April 12th, 4:00 pm The Passion of the Lord

Sun, April 13th, 10:00 am Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Thur, April 17th, 7:00 pm Holy Thursday

Fri, April 18th, 3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Fri, April 18th, 7:00 pm Good Friday

Sat, April 19th, 8:00 pm Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 20th, 10:00 am Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Annual Spring Flower Sale

If you missed the opportunity to order flowers and would still like to order, you can order on line at Gertens Fundraising and enter store code 802. The site will be open till Thursday April 3 at 10:00 pm.

The flowers may be picked up on Saturday May 17th from 1-6 pm at the Parish Office Garage.

Thank you for your support!

Questions, please call Nancy Huntley 763-522-9437.

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.

Memorial Garden Donations

Donor	In Memory of:
JoAnne Billings & Orvin Visaya	Kathleen & William Billings & Rupert Visaya
Esther Cruz	Dr. Delfin Cruz
Dianne Drumm	Darrell Drumm
Diana Fodstad	Robert and Evelyn Fodstad
Arlene Karels	Vernice and John Mechels
Jeanette Larson	Barbara Blackey
Paula Lutz	Clarence and Julia Scherer
Tony and Jean Plucinski	Marilyn and Vern Launspach