

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

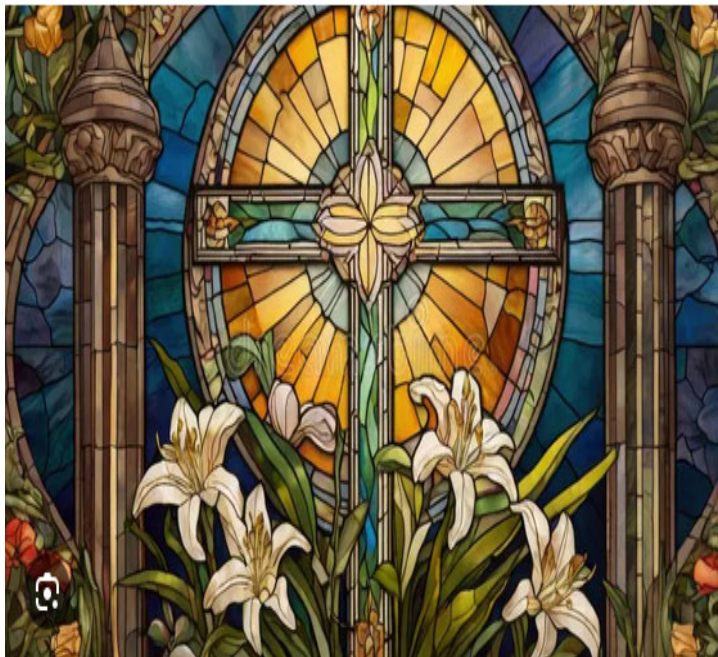
2323 Zenith Ave N., Golden Valley, MN 55422 # 763-588-9466

www.smm-gv.org



May 4, 2025
May 11, 2025

Third Sunday of Easter
Fourth Sunday of Easter



First Holy Communion

Congratulations to Addy Buck, who celebrated her First Communion on Sunday April 27th. May the grace of this sacrament strengthen Addy today and always! Congratulations!



Pastoral Team

Pastor:

Fr. Thomas Rayar
frtom@smm-gv.org

Business Administration

Mary Muntifering
marym@smm-gv.org

Music Ministry

Mary Bur
mbur@smm-gv.org

**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

Easter: The Beginning of Language of Faith

We notice the Mass readings after Easter focus on 'Faith' in the resurrected Jesus. Even the disciples of Jesus were hesitant to believe, as we read in the gospel of this weekend. "When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus" (JN:21:4). It is no surprise even after 2000 years many of us struggle to believe in the Resurrected Jesus who is the source of joyful life.

A few years ago, I happened to read this article in "The Guardian" online papers written by Madeleine Bunting (<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/mar/28/religion>)

"A RECENT survey found that 31% of British people thought Easter was sponsored by Cadbury, while 48% had no idea what the religious festival was about. The 16-24 age groups had the lowest level of knowledge. The Reader's Digest survey is more evidence of how Britain has been comprehensively de-Christianized in the past 50 years. What is interesting is how peculiar this phenomenon is in a global context and how blind secular Europeans are to their peculiarity. As they have become increasingly wedded to their faithlessness, the world beyond Western Europe has experienced an astonishing increase in religiosity. Secular Europe is losing an ability to speak a language — that of faith. It pretends that faith is simply a personal hobby. When the pretense does not work, it peers, fearfully, at a world all around it that has become profoundly foreign."

It is alarming to note how we are slowly buried in the darkness of secularism and speedily moving away from God by forgetting the language of faith. As God intended, religion has done lots of good to the people. But in history, we have seen some religious people and leaders have failed. But in truth, our Faith is the bridge that helps us to pass through our present life to the next.

There have been crusades and religious wars in the past and in the present, but that never made the faith a bad language in civilized society. In the name of secularism and neutralism, the modern society is apparently being moved by the fancy fashion to compromise the enlightened faith of the past. We should not forget religion was the greatest ladder by which the nations were able to climb in knowledge and civilization. History will never forget how the missionaries were the catalysts of knowledge and promotor of civilization in the mainland of Europe during the first millennium (AD). It may not be fair to kick away the ladder by which we climbed to

Reflection Continued

the height of our life today. It was religious institutions that taught us, and in God's name we were cared for in the hospitals. Failures of religious people in history are not a reason to shun away from it. Moreover, it should be the reason we should shoulder it for its success. As the early Christian community celebrated Easter with great joy, we are called to continue teaching the language of faith to the people who have never heard about Jesus.

May the Easter Joy teach us the language of Faith!

Social Ministry

May Needs: Paper and Plastic Bags

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

Thank you for your generosity!



Parishioner Volunteer Thank YOU!

Thank you to Adrienne Riley for watering all the plants each week. With all of the decorations for Easter, it is a time commitment! Thank you Adrienne!

K of C Annual Tootsie Roll Drive



The Knights of Columbus will be handing out Tootsie Rolls this weekend, May 3 and 4 after each Mass. They are accepting free will donations. The donations will be used to help people with intellectual disabilities of Minnesota. Please be generous in your donations to this great and worthy cause.

Annual Spring Flower Pick Up

Amazingly May is upon us!

The flowers ordered during the flower sale will arrive on Saturday, May 17th. The flowers will be available for pick up from 1-6pm on May 17th at the parish office garage. If you are unable to pick them up on that day, please ask a friend or relative to pick them up for you.

Questions: Call Nancy Huntley 763-522-9437

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May 3 — May 18

Saturday, May 3

3:30 pm Reconciliation

4:00 pm Mass★ People of SMM

Sunday, May 4 3rd Sunday of Easter

10:00 am Mass† Bob Czapiewski

Tuesday, May 6

5:00 pm Adoration

6:00 pm Mass★ Expectant Parents

Saturday, May 10

3:30 pm Reconciliation

4:00 pm Mass★ People of SMM

Sunday, May 11 4th Sunday of Easter

10:00 am Mass★ All Mothers

Tuesday, May 13

5:00 pm Adoration

6:00 pm Mass★ Expectant Parents

Saturday, May 17

3:30 pm Reconciliation

4:00 pm Mass† Cheryl Gransee

Sunday, May 18 5th Sunday of Easter

10:00 am Mass★ People of SMM

† deceased ★ living

Social Ministry

May Needs: Paper and Plastic Bags

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
Please call the office

Business Administration

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

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.

Endowment Fund

"A Gift that Keeps on Giving, Year after Year."

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Parish Endowment Fund. Ongoing contributions of cash and stock helps grow the fund where the principal amount is always at work for the parish and cannot be removed. The parish can elect to spend the interest earned to fund special projects or programs of the parish.

175th Anniversary Books

The 175th Anniversary Books are available for a limited time. If you would like to purchase a pictorial book or a graphic novel book, please see Mary Muntifer after Mass.

We have limited copies so please reserve your copy as soon as possible.

The cost of the pictorial book is \$40 and the graphic novel book is \$15 .



Mother's Day Prayer

Heavenly Father, on this Mother's Day, we thank You for our mothers through whom Your gift of life begins and through whom we are nurtured into great human beings. We lift up all mothers to Your love and care. We pray for them, for their needs of strength and support to continue to nurture a family of love, in honor and love for You, our God. Lord Jesus Christ, we call upon Your blessed name to bless all mothers today and every day. Extend Your hands of grace over them. Amen.

