

THE RIVERDALE CATHOLIC

A Weekly Bulletin of the Parish of St. Margaret of Cortona - St. Gabriel

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St. Margaret of Cortona
6000 Riverdale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10471
718-549-8053

St. Gabriel
3250 Arlington Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463
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Holy Masses

The *Dies Domini*, "Day of the Lord"

St. Margaret's: Saturday at 5:15 p.m. | Sunday at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12 noon, 5:15 p.m.

St. Gabriel's: Saturday: 5:00 p.m. | Sunday: 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Weekday

St. Margaret's: Monday through Friday at 12 noon | Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (except for the First Saturday of the month)

St. Gabriel's: Monday through Friday at 9:00 a.m.

Confessions

St. Margaret's: Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

St. Gabriel's: Saturday from 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Margaret's: Friday after the noon Mass until the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction at 3:00 p.m.

Devotions Honoring the Mother of God

St. Margaret's: Miraculous Medal Novena on Tuesdays following 12 noon Mass | First Saturday in Honor of the Immaculate Heart - 11:30am Rosary followed by a Sung Latin Mass at 12 noon

St. Gabriel's: Miraculous Medal Novena on Mondays following the 9:00 a.m. Mass | Rosary following each weekday Mass

Rectory Office

St. Margaret's: Hours - Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. | After Hours Emergency Line: 845-622-3996

St. Gabriel's: Hours - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. | After Hours Emergency Line: 845-622-3996



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Fr. Seán Connolly, *Pastor*

Rev. Fr. Walter Genito, Jr., *Parochial Vicar*

Rev. Fr. Timothy Boman, *Parochial Vicar*

Rev. Mr. George Pitula, *Deacon*

Rev. Fr. William Elder, *Weekend Associate*

Rev. Fr. Justin Maria Cinnante, O. Carm.,
Weekend Associate

FROM THE DESK OF FR. SEÁN

Dear Parishioners,

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

A Sunday Known by Many Names

The Second Sunday of the Easter Season is known by many names: the Octave Day of Easter, Low Sunday, *Dominica in Albis Depositis*, Quasimodo Sunday, Thomas Sunday, and in more recent times as Divine Mercy Sunday. The meaning of each sheds light on important theological and historical dimensions of our Paschal celebration.

The Octave Day of Easter

The Church's current liturgical calendar has two octave celebrations for the chief mysteries of our salvation, the birth of the Lord at Christmas and His resurrection at Easter. During these octaves there is a pause in "liturgical time" where our celebration of these two feasts is prolonged for eight days.

Low Sunday

"Low" is a comparative term in relation to what is "high." Easter Sunday was the holiest day of the year. The liturgical differences of "Low Sunday" that closes the Octave are juxtaposed with the "High Sunday" that began it a week prior.

Dominica in Albis Depositis

At the Easter vigil, new members are incorporated into Christ's Mystical Body of believers through the waters of baptism. These neophytes are given a white robe to wear called an "alb" from the Latin "albus-a" which means "white." When given the alb as a sign of their baptismal innocence they are told: "you have become a new creation and have clothed yourselves in Christ. Receive this baptismal garment and bring it unstained to the judgment seat of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that you may have everlasting life."

In ancient times the neophytes would wear their baptismal alb during the whole ensuing week of the Easter Octave. They were guests of honor in the parish. Each morning, they would come to mass in their white albs as a reminder to the rest of the congregation of their own baptism. On Easter Saturday they would come to the church of their baptism dressed in white for the last time and remove their albs. The next day they would attend Sunday mass in their regular clothes and take their place among the ordinary ranks of the faithful for the first time.

Pius Parsch, in *The Church's Year of Grace: Volume III: Easter to Pentecost*, comments on this ancient ritual: "The Easter solemnity comes to an end with today's liturgy. The neophytes therefore lay aside their baptismal robes, fully aware that the shining whiteness of those garments must be retained forever in their hearts." (Collegeville, Minnesota: The Liturgical Press, 1962, 49-50, 53.)

For this reason, the Sunday after Easter has been called "*Dominica in Albis Depositis*, The Sunday of Putting Away the Albs."

Quasimodo Sunday

Throughout the Easter Octave, the Church as a loving Mother continues to pray for her newborn spiritual children baptized at the Easter vigil. The introit or entrance antiphon of the Octave Day's mass shows this, and is the source of yet another name this day is known by—"Quasimodo Sunday." This liturgical text is drawn from 1 Peter 2:2: "Quasi modo geniti infantes, rationabile, sine dolo lac concupscite, ut in eo crescatis in salutem, alleluia, Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia."

Just as newborn infants long for their mother's milk, the neophytes born again by baptism are young in the Faith and must seek nourishment from the "milk," that is, the grace, of Mother Church.

Thomas Sunday

On the Sunday after Easter, Christ appeared to the Apostles in the same Upper Room as He did one week prior on the day of His resurrection. Unlike the last time, "doubting Thomas" is now present. The gospel reading of the day's mass recounts what took place. In dramatic fashion Saint Thomas is permitted to touch the wounds of Christ, and with his newfound belief in the resurrection he proclaims, "My Lord and my God!" (Jn 20:28). The Lord then instructs all on the importance of believing without seeing: "Jesus said to him, 'Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.'" (Jn 20:29).

The Sunday after Easter is called "Thomas Sunday" for this reason, especially among Eastern Christians.

Divine Mercy Sunday

In the present age, the Second Sunday of Easter is known most popularly as Divine Mercy Sunday. Through the Polish nun, Saint Faustina Kowalska, the Lord made known His desire that a feast be dedicated to the Divine Mercy on the Sunday after Easter. At the canonization of Faustina on April 30, 2000, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted this feast for the whole Church.

Five years earlier, John Paul II had this to say in his April 23, 1995 Regina Caeli address about this day:

The whole octave of Easter is like a single day... This Sunday is, in a particular way, a day of thanksgiving for the goodness that God shows to man throughout the paschal mystery. That is why it is often called Divine Mercy Sunday. In its essence, God's mercy, as it helps us to better understand the mystical experience of Blessed Faustina Kowalska, raised to the honor of the altars two years ago, reveals precisely this truth: good conquers evil, life is stronger than death, and God's love is more powerful than sin. All this is manifested in Christ's paschal mystery. Here God shows himself as he is: a Father of infinite tenderness, who does not give up in the face of the ingratitude of his children, and who is always ready to forgive. This day was already properly suited to the request the Lord made through Faustina because the gospel reading of the day's Mass recounts the institution of the sacrament of confession, which is the tribunal of Divine Mercy. The risen Christ said to His Apostles, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." (Jn 20:22-23).

Through these divine words Christ's power is given to priests of the Church to absolve penitents of their sins. How grateful to God we should be for the grace of this sacrament! Though our souls can become like scarlet by sin, through absolution they become white as snow. (Isa 1:18). This is the gift of Divine Mercy.

Gratitude for a Glorious Triduum

I wish to thank all those who put so much time and effort into making the liturgies of the sacred Triduum beautiful celebrations of the chief mysteries of our salvation, especially:

- Fr. Walter Genito for preparing our catechumens and candidates for their reception of the sacraments.
- Our music directors John Welch at St. Margaret's and Nancy Parish at St. Gabriel's along with the voices of their respective scholas.
- The sacristans: Carl Romani, Dennis Donofrio, John Dobbs, Ofelia Seminario, and Jacob
- Those who decorated our churches so beautifully: Susan Hamrick, Patricia Toney, Ofelia Seminario, Michael O'Sullivan and sons
- All of our ushers

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Seán

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For additions or updates, including anniversaries, birthdays, etc. please email: riverdalecatholicbulletin@gmail.com

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED: Ana Reichold, *that she may rest in peace, rise in glory, and her memory be eternal.*

THE SICK: Mary Maguire, Darlene McMeekin, Josephine Maselli, Miliana Mitrov, Mary Ellen Montros, Daniel Moran, Maggie Moran, Irene Morgan, Lorraine Moriarty, Paul Moriarty, Diane Morvillo, Maureen Moscato, Bozena Mull, Linda Muracco, Michael Murocco, Conrado Navarro, Theresa Nolan, Arlene O’Callahan, Caitlin O’Callahan, Peter Ostrander, (list continues next week) *that the healing hand of Jesus the Divine Physician may be upon them.*

BAPTIZED: Daniel Philip Sullivan, Esvin Diaz, Byron Diaz, Debbie Valdez, Allen Gregory, Leysha Rosa, and Ephraim Bosgang, *that these newly illumined children of God may walk always in the light of Christ.*

CHRISMATED AND COMMUNED: Alex Cruz, Thomas O’Connor, Janeliys Rodriguez, Jaylia Rodriguez, Adriane Cureton, Melissa Dominguez, Johanny Valdez-Harris, Dominick Giagrande, Louis Giagrande IV, Nestor Andres Bautista, and Cooper Giesen, *that, sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Body and Blood of the Lord, they may always be partakers of God’s Grace.*

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE: Michael Jennings & Jenna Catelyn DeMarco, Paul Timothy Murphy & Michelle Megan Walpole, Rodney Mirabel & Christina Maria Ovalles, Ray Richard Ruiz & Cindy Raymos, James Joseph Meyer & Cassandra Andrea Pugliese, *that the Lord may bless them and keep them always one.*

NEWLY MARRIED: Drilon Pemaj & Jordana Cristina Barbosa, *that what God has joined together no man may put asunder.*



St. Margaret and St. Gabriel, Pray to God for Us!



Join us for a Lecture Series on:
The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church

To be given by:

Father Walter J. Genito Jr

**At St. Margaret of Cortona Church,
6000 Riverdale Ave, Bronx, NY**

**At 7:00 p.m. on the following eight
Mondays:**

- 15th September 2025
- 20th October 2025
- 10th November 2025
- 15th December 2025
- 12th January 2026
- 9th February 2026
- 16th March 2026
- 13th April 2026

This book will serve as a guide for this series:

**The First Seven Ecumenical Councils (325-787):
Their History and Theology**
By Leo D. Davis SJ (1988)

If you are unable to either obtain a copy of this book or attend every lecture, please keep on attending this Lecture Series whenever you can. You will not have to “make up” missed lectures in order to understand and appreciate the ones you do attend.





**Eucharistic Holy Hour
for Divine Mercy
Sunday**

**Divine Mercy Sunday
12th April**

**3:00 p.m. at St.
Margaret's Church
-Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament
-Sung Chaplet of Divine
Mercy
-Confessions**

In a series of revelations to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, the Lord Jesus called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today, we know that feast as Divine Mercy Sunday, named by Pope St. John Paul II at the canonization of St. Faustina on 30th April, 2000.

**Congratulations To All Those Who Have Been
Received Into Christ's Mystical Body Last Week
At The Great Vigil of Easter!**

The catechumens reborn by water and the Holy Spirit in baptism, sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit in confirmation, and nourished with the Body and Blood of the Lord in Communion:

Esvin Diaz, Byron Diaz, Debbie Valdez, Allen Gregory, and Leysha Rosa.

The candidates sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit in confirmation, and nourished with the Body and Blood of the Lord in Communion:

Alex Cruz, Thomas O'Connor, Janeliys Rodriguez, Jaylia Rodriguez, Adriane Cureton, Melissa Dominguez, Johanny Valdez-Harris, Dominick Giagrande, Louis Giagrande IV, Nestor Andres Bautista, and Cooper Giesen

The Lord expressed his will with regard to this feast in his very first revelation to St. Faustina. The most comprehensive revelation can be found in her Diary entry 699:

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My mercy.

In all, St. Faustina recorded 14 revelations from Jesus concerning his desire for this feast.

Nevertheless, Divine Mercy Sunday is NOT a feast based solely on St. Faustina's revelations. Indeed, it is not primarily about St. Faustina — nor is it altogether a new feast. The Second Sunday of Easter was already a solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter. The title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does, however, highlight the meaning of the day.



St. Margaret of Cortona

MONDAY, 4/13 *St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr*

12 noon: **Catherine McTague**

TUESDAY, 4/14

12 noon: **Denis Reynolds**

WEDNESDAY, 4/15

12 noon: **Diane Dowling**

THURSDAY, 4/16

12 noon: **Tom Looney and Family**

FRIDAY, 4/17

12 noon: **William and Catherine Hoppmann**

SATURDAY, 4/18

8:30 a.m.: **Ann Craig, Meg Curry and Alene Feldman**

SUNDAY, 4/19 *Third Sunday of Easter*

5:15 p.m. (vigil): **Olive Diggin**

8 a.m.: **Louis Ballarin**

10 a.m.: **Aidan Hernandez**

12 p.m.: **Joseph and Catherine O'Connell and Family**

5:15 p.m.: **Denis Cummings**

St. Gabriel

MONDAY, 4/13 *St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr*

9:00 a.m.: **Barbara Hanley**

TUESDAY, 4/14

9:00 a.m.: **No Intention**

WEDNESDAY, 4/15

9:00 a.m.: **Dolly McAllister**

THURSDAY, 4/16

9:00 a.m.: **Louis Ballarin**

FRIDAY, 4/17

9:00 a.m.: **No intention**

SUNDAY, 4/19 *Third Sunday of Easter*

5 p.m. (vigil): **Mr. And Mrs. B. Carleton**

9:30 a.m.: **Bautista Romero**

11:30 a.m.: **Thomas McManus**

For our parish benefactors.

Deign, O Lord, for Thy Name's Sake, to reward with eternal life all those who do us good. Amen.

Collection Totals April 5th:

In-pew: \$31,189

Second Collection: \$6,036

Candles: \$236

Holy Thursday: \$1,392

Good Friday: \$4,827

Weshare: \$4,175

Total: \$47,857



Join our Weekly *Lectio Divina*

Every Saturday at Walsh Hall in St. Gabriel's Rectory
from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Lectio Divina or "Divine Reading" is a traditional Benedictine method of prayerfully reflecting on Sacred Scripture. Each gathering will reflect on the Sunday readings from Holy Mass.

Welcome to the Parish of St Margaret-St. Gabriel!

If you are not registered as a parishioner, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone#: _____

Email Address: _____

Change of address/telephone number

Moving, please remove from parish list

Sign up to support our parish by recurring donations!

Please go to our parish website homepage, riverdalecatholic.org, for a link for the donation page, or scan the QR code to donate.

wesharedonate.org

