Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time **18th October 2026**

The Riverdale Catholic

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

riverdalecatholic@gmail.com | riverdalecatholic.org

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

St. Gabriel
3250 Arlington Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463
718-548-4470

Holy Masses

The *Dies Domini* (Day of the Lord)

St. Margaret's: Saturday at 4:00p.m. | Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

St. Gabriel's: Saturday: 5:00 p.m. | Sunday: 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon

Weekday

St. Margaret's: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:00 a.m.

St. Gabriel's: Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

Divine Office

St. Margaret's: *Lauds* (Morning Prayer) Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:30 a.m.

St. Gabriel's: *Lauds* (Morning Prayer) Monday through Friday at 8:30 a.m.

Confessions

St. Margaret's: Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. and by appointment

St. Gabriel's: Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. and by appointment

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Margaret's: The Friday 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass concludes with exposition until None (Midafternoon Prayer) and benediction at 3:00 p.m.

Devotions Honoring the Mother of God

St. Margaret's: First Saturday of the Month in Honor of the Immaculate Heart - Rosary and confessions at 11:30 a.m. followed by a Sung Holy Mass according to the ancient Latin usage at 12 noon

St. Gabriel's: Recitation of the Rosary following each weekday Holy 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. Mr. George Pitula, *Deacon*

St. Margaret of Cortona - St. Gabriel School

Mrs. Reagen Haney, *Principal*
School Office: 718-549-8580 |
rhaney@smsgny.org | smsgny.org

Religious Education

Ms. Frances Lopez Alvarado, *Director*
Religious Education Office:
riverdalecatholicreled@gmail.com

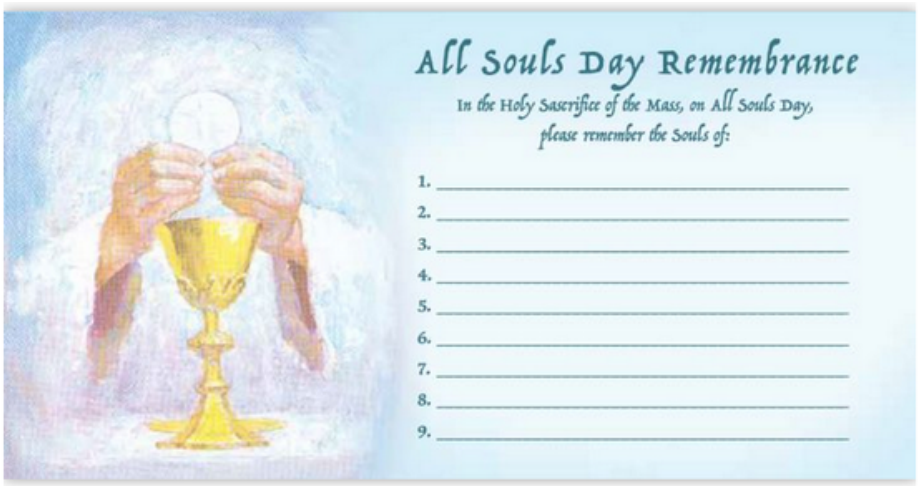
From the Desk of Fr. Seán

Dear parishioners,

All Souls Day Envelopes Are Available In The Vestibules Of Our Churches

The month of November is a special time in the Catholic Church when we remember and pray for our beloved deceased, asking God to welcome them into his eternal kingdom. On All Souls' Day, 2nd November, we unite in prayer for all the faithful departed, especially those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. As members of the Communion of Saints, we remember our loved ones with gratitude, entrusting their souls to the loving mercy of God and offering our prayers for their eternal rest. This sacred tradition reminds us that the bond of love we share with those who have died continues through our faith and prayer.

All Souls' Day Envelopes are available in the vestibules of our churches. Parishioners are invited to take an envelope and write the names of their deceased loved ones whom they wish to have remembered in prayer. Please place your donation inside the envelope as an offering to our parish, seal it, and return it according to the parish's usual collection procedures. Throughout the entire month of November, the names submitted will be remembered in prayer at all Holy Masses celebrated in our parish. May our prayers bring comfort to those who mourn and entrust our beloved departed to the infinite mercy and peace of our Savior Jesus Christ.



The Mass Intentions For 2027 Can Be Reserved Beginning On 28th October

Beginning on Wednesday 28th October, intentions for the Holy Masses offered at our parish throughout the calendar year 2027 can be reserved at the rectory offices of St. Margaret's and St. Gabriel's. On that day, Mass intentions can be reserved from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Power Of Mass Intentions

The Catholic Church teaches that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the highest act of worship and the most powerful prayer on earth. In every Mass, Christ's one sacrifice on Calvary is made sacramentally present, and the faithful are invited to unite their prayers with his perfect offering to the Father. A Mass intention allows us to entrust a particular person or need to God through the Holy Eucharist. It is one of the greatest spiritual gifts we can offer for both the living and the dead.

What Is A Mass Intention

A Mass intention is a specific prayer request for which a priest celebrates the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass. It may be offered:

For a living person, asking God to grant healing, strength, guidance, or abundant blessings.
For a deceased person, praying for the repose of his or her soul.
In thanksgiving for blessings and favors already received.
For special intentions such as peace, conversion, vocations, family needs, protection, or any personal petition.

By requesting a Mass intention, we unite our prayers to Christ's eternal sacrifice—the greatest prayer the Church can offer.

From the Desk of Fr. Seán

Mass Intentions For The Living

The Holy Mass obtains countless spiritual graces for those who are living. It may be offered:

For healing of body, mind, and soul.
For strength during suffering and life's trials.
For God's guidance in important decisions.
For peace, unity, and protection within families.
For birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, ordinations, and other significant occasions.
For conversion, holiness, and perseverance in the Christian life.

Every Mass places our intentions before God in the most perfect act of worship.

Mass Intentions For The Dead

Offering the Holy Mass for the faithful departed is one of the greatest acts of charity a Catholic can perform. The Church has always encouraged prayers for the dead because:

The souls in purgatory are greatly assisted by the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass.
It expressed our enduring love and remembrance for those who have gone before us.
It is a powerful plea for God's mercy and eternal rest.
It reflects our hope in the resurrection and everlasting life.

No prayer benefits the faithful departed more than the Holy Mass.

Why Is The Mass So Powerful?

The Mass is far more than a prayer service or religious gathering. It is:

The sacramental re-presentation of Christ's one sacrifice on Calvary.
The perfect offering of Jesus Christ, who is both Priest and Victim.
The source from which infinite graces flow to the Church and the world.
The highest act of worship that gives perfect glory to God.

Because the Mass is Christ's own sacrifice offered to the Father, no prayer on earth is greater or more pleasing to God. Having a Mass offered for a loved one, a deceased family member, or a special intention is a profound expression of faith, hope, and charity. Through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we confidently place our needs before God, trusting completely in His mercy, wisdom, and divine providence. The greatest gift we can ever offer another person is not merely our prayers, but Christ Himself, truly present in the Holy Eucharist and offered upon the altar for the salvation of the world.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Seán



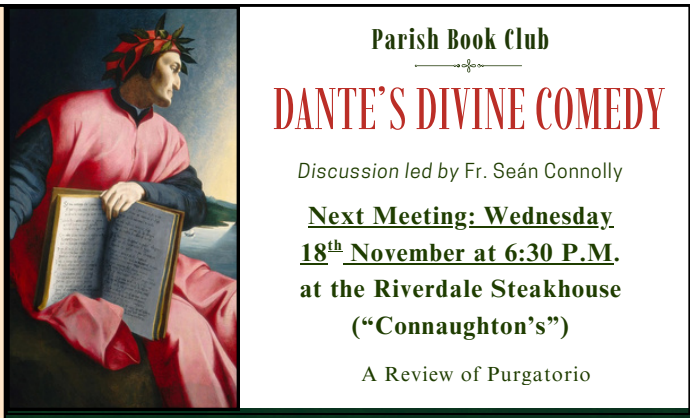
Fr. Walter's Lecture Series

resumes Monday, 16th November at 6:30 p.m
at St. Margaret's Church.

He will be offering a monthly reflection on different Bible Stories.

This lecture will be on Genesis 6-11: The Flood and Babel.





Parish Book Club

DANTE'S DIVINE COMEDY

Discussion led by Fr. Seán Connolly

Next Meeting: Wednesday 18th November at 6:30 P.M. at the Riverdale Steakhouse ("Connaughton's")

A Review of Purgatorio





PARISH PRAYER LIST

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

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED: Michael O'Brien and Catherine McLoughlin, *that they may rest in peace, rise in glory, and their memory be eternal.*

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE: Marc Vincent Valinoti & Alexandra Terese Giga, *that the Lord may bless them and keep them always one.*

THE SICK: Olivia Leroy, Bridget Lynch, Frances Loughlin, Carolina Maldanado, Jack Marchindo, *that the healing hand of Jesus the Divine Physician may be upon them.*

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

COMMUNITY CONCERN: PROPOSED CANNABIS DISPENSARY NEAR LOCAL SCHOOLS AND CHURCH

New York State has approved a cannabis dispensary at 5694 Riverdale Avenue, adjacent to Riverdale Steakhouse. The proposed location has raised concerns among community members because of its proximity to St. Margaret's Elementary School and Church, as well as SAR High School, all located within a block of the site.

While cannabis dispensaries may operate legally, their locations should be carefully reviewed, particularly when they are situated near schools and houses of worship. Community members are calling for greater oversight and a review of the licensing requirements to ensure that these sensitive locations are appropriately protected.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

If you share these concerns, please contact Bronx Community Board No. 8 at the email address below to express your views and request that the proposed location be reconsidered.

Email: bx08@cb.nyc.gov

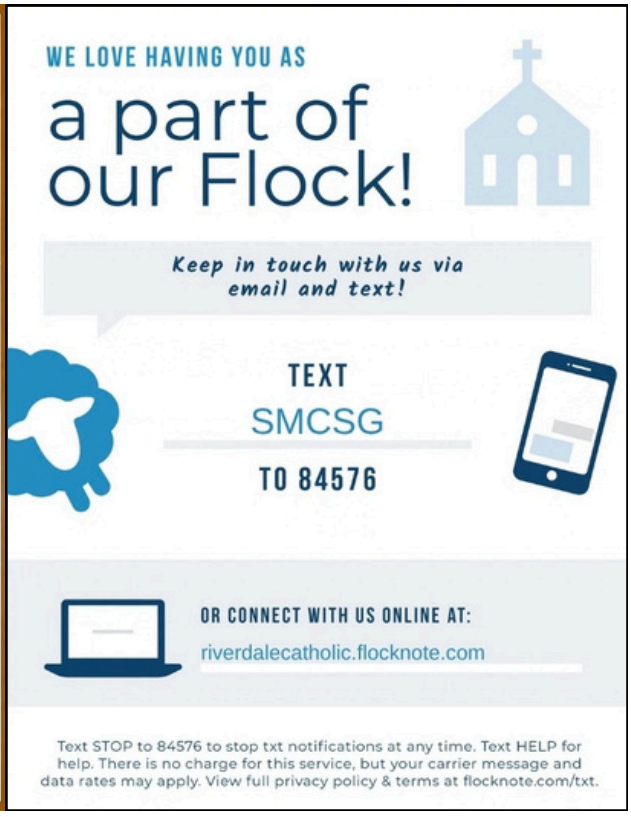
Please also copy our elected representatives and urge them to address this situation, explore what measures may be available to prevent the dispensary from opening at this location, and work toward closing any gaps in state law that may allow similar situations to arise in the future.

PLEASE CONTACT OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Assemblyman Jeff Dinowitz: DinowitzJ@nyassembly.gov
State Senator Gustavo Rivera: grivera@nysenate.gov
City Council Member Eric Dinowitz: Dinowitz@council.nyc.gov

Thank you for taking the time to make your voice heard. Through respectful civic engagement, we can work together to express our concerns and advocate for the well-being of our children, families, and faith community.





St. Margaret of Cortona

MONDAY 10/19
Sts. John de Brèbeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests and Companions, Martyrs
9:00 Denis and Patrick Reynolds and Marcia Reidy
WEDNESDAY 10/21
9:00 Nicky Docu and Mick O'Hara
FRIDAY 10/23
St. John of Capistrano, Priest
9:00 Mary Dolan Tighe, Jeremiah Kerrisk, and Patricia Kitson
SUNDAY 10/25
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 (Vigil) Max Xavier Colvin
9:00 Edward J. Grenawalt and Deceased Members of the Grenawalt Family and Msgr Robert Larkin
11:00 Marie Mazzuca and Josephine Gormley

St. Gabriel

TUESDAY 10/20
St. Paul of the Cross, Priest
9:00 Helene Litsios and Jennifer Twomey
THURSDAY 10/22
St. John Paul II, Pope
9:00 Gladys Recio de Perez and Frances Giallorenzi
SUNDAY 10/25
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 (Vigil) Catherine Sullivan
10:00 Breda Farrelly
12:00 Donald Lacey, Sr.

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.

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wesharedonate.org

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Riverdale Catholic

Words of Life from Antonio Cardinal Bacci's *Meditations For Each Day*



"The devout soul is always motivated by charity and pays no attention to difficulties or obstacles because the grace of God possesses it completely. We also have received, and continue to receive, many graces from our Creator. We were nothing, and God gave us being. We were in darkness, and He gave us the light of faith. We were slaves of sin, and Jesus Christ broke the bonds in which the devil held us and gave us the freedom of the children of God. We were exiles on this earth and God became our companion and our guide. We hungered for the supernatural, and He nourished us with the divine Bread in which He gave Himself to us completely".

Antonio Cardinal Bacci (1885–1971) was an Italian cardinal and scholar who served in the Roman Curia for decades as secretary for briefs to princes, composing in Latin all the major pontifical documents.

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#:_____
EmailAddress:_____
__Change of address/telephone number
__Moving, please remove from parish list