

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 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. Mr. George Pitula, Deacon

FROM THE DESK OF FR. SEÁN

Dear parishioners,

New Schedule of Holy Masses and Devotions

In last week's bulletin, I wrote a lengthy message explaining the reasons behind instituting a new weekly schedule of Holy Masses and devotions that will take effect on the evening of 5th September. If you have not yet had the opportunity to read it, you may find it on our parish website and social media accounts.

I wish to reiterate my genuine sorrow for the inconvenience or disruption that this change may cause to the rhythm and routine of your weekly life. I understand that our schedules and habits are important, and I do not make changes to our parish life without careful consideration. Nevertheless, this is a necessary measure. I can assure you that the new schedule is sustainable for the long term.

Thank you for your understanding and continued commitment to this parish, our spiritual home. Above all, thank you for your continued commitment to what is at the heart of our life as Catholics: the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass. The celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday, the Lord's Day, ought to remain the highest priority of every Christian. God has given us everything we have and the promise of salvation despite our sins. The most basic act of gratitude we can offer him in return is our worship at the Holy Mass.

Whatever sacrifice may be required of us in adjusting our schedules in order to attend Mass is a sacrifice worth making. Our Lord himself promises that every sacrifice for his sake will be rewarded a hundredfold (Mark 10:29–30).

The Hallmark Logo and Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Earlier this summer, while passing through Kansas City on my way to Nebraska for an ordination, I made a quick stop at the parish church of Our Lady of Sorrows. When I mentioned to a friend back home here in New York that I would be passing through his native city, he told me a curious story: that the famous crown in the Hallmark logo was inspired by the golden crown hanging above this church's high altar. I was intrigued and decided I had to see it for myself.

Our Lady of Sorrows stands at 26th and Gillham Road, in the area of downtown Kansas City known as Crown Center. As I searched for a place to park behind the church, my friend's story seemed all the more plausible. Hallmark's headquarters were just a stone's throw from the parish. According to local lore, Hallmark founder Joyce Clyde "J.C." Hall would visit Our Lady of Sorrows for quiet prayer during the early days of his company. When I entered the church, the first thing that caught my eye was the magnificent golden crown held above the high altar by seven angels.



Standing beneath it, I could understand why the story has endured. It would be too much of a coincidence, I thought. This large crown had to be the inspiration for Hall's design of the Hallmark logo. And what a beautiful thought that so few people realize—the crown associated with the Hallmark name, recognized by millions around the world as they receive the greetings of a loved one or friend in a card, belongs to Mary, the Queen of Heaven.

This Saturday 22nd August, the Church celebrates the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a feast established by Pope Pius XII in 1954, although the belief it expresses is much older. The later placement of the feast on the octave day of the Assumption is significant. Mary has been assumed body and soul into heaven, and now she reigns there together with her Son.

But Mary's crown as the Queen of Heaven is unlike the crowns we usually imagine worn throughout history by earthly rulers. She did not attain it through political intrigue, military conquest, or royal birthright. Her path to the crown began with a humble surrender to God's will: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord" (Luke 1:38).

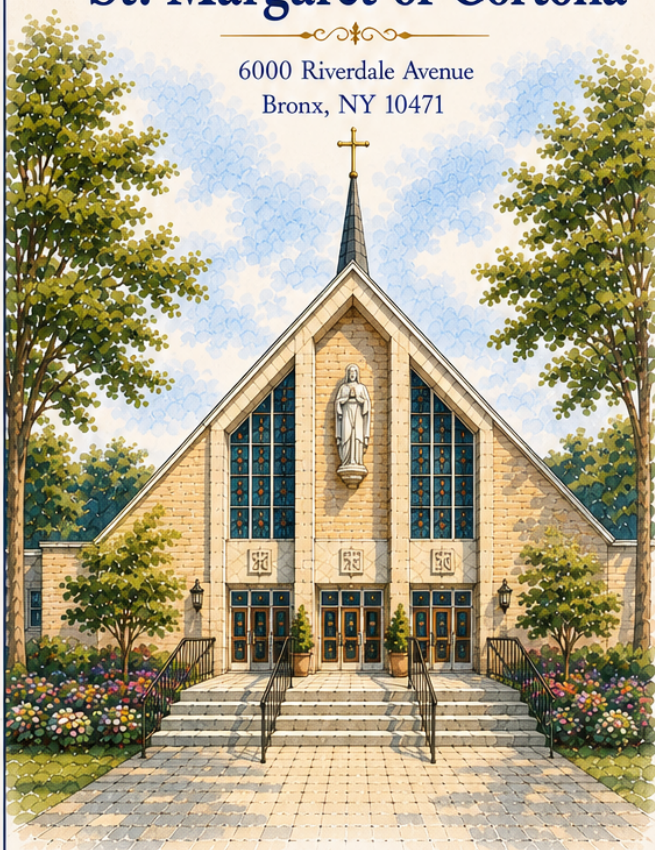
Yours in Christ,
Fr. Seán

Effective the evening of Saturday 5th September

NEW WEEKLY SCHEDULE

The Church of St. Margaret of Cortona

6000 Riverdale Avenue
Bronx, NY 10471



Holy Mass

The Dies Domini, Day of the Lord

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9:00 a.m.



Divine Office

Lauds, "Morning Prayer":

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:30 a.m.



Confessions

Saturday from 3:00 to 3:45 p.m.

and by appointment



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

The Friday 9:00 a.m. Mass concludes with exposition until the recitation of the divine mercy chaplet and benediction at 3:00 p.m.



Devotions Honoring the Mother of God

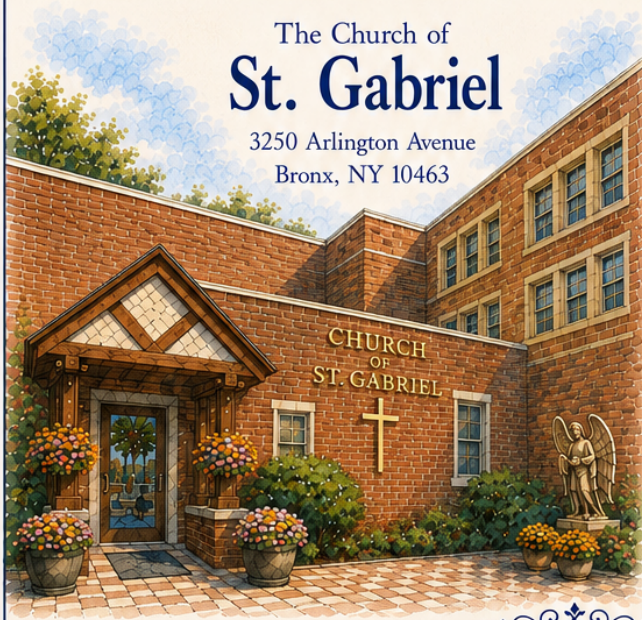
First Saturday of the Month in Honor of the Immaculate Heart:

11:30 a.m. rosary and confessions;

12 noon sung Latin Mass

The Church of St. Gabriel

3250 Arlington Avenue
Bronx, NY 10463



Holy Mass

The Dies Domini, Day of the Lord

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon

Weekday

Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 a.m.



Divine Office

Lauds, "Morning Prayer":

Monday through Friday at 8:30 a.m.



Confessions

Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

and by appointment



Devotions Honoring the Mother of God:

The recitation of the rosary following the 9:00 a.m. Mass on

Tuesday and Thursday

A Message from Fr. Timothy

Dear clergy and wonderful parishioners of St. Margaret of Cortona and St. Gabriel,

It is with a heart overflowing with gratitude and praise to Almighty God that I write these few words to you from the soil of Kafanchan, Nigeria, to express my sincere and heartfelt appreciation for the love, kindness, generosity, friendship, and support you showed me during the five years I had the privilege of living and ministering among you.

As I sit here in my home diocese, I find myself looking back with deep gratitude at the journey God allowed me to make with you. Five years ago, I left my homeland, my family, my people, and everything familiar to come to a place where I knew very few people, and where, at the beginning, no one knew me. Leaving one's land and crossing oceans to serve God in another country is not always easy. There are moments of uncertainty, loneliness, and the inevitable feeling of being a stranger in a foreign land. But God, in His providence, gave me something I could never have asked for or expected: He gave me you.

Through your kindness, acceptance, generosity, encouragement, prayers, friendship, and genuine concern, you transformed what could have been a foreign place into a home away from home. You welcomed me not merely as a priest assigned to your parish, but as a brother, a friend, and a member of your parish family. You helped me, cared for me, encouraged me, laughed with me, prayed with me, and stood by me in ways that I will never forget.

The words of St. Paul have taken on a very personal meaning for me: "I thank my God every time I remember you." (Philippians 1:3). Truly, whenever I think of St. Margaret and St. Gabriel Parish, my heart is filled with thanksgiving to God for the gift of each one of you. I am particularly grateful for the beautiful farewell you gave me on Saturday, July 25, and Sunday, July 26, 2026. Those two days will forever remain among the most cherished memories of my priestly ministry. Despite the short notice, you turned out in such great numbers, setting aside your various commitments simply to celebrate with me, pray with me, embrace me, and bid me farewell. I was deeply moved.

The warmth of your presence, your words of encouragement, your prayers, your gifts, your embraces, your smiles, and your good wishes touched me more deeply than I can adequately express. I went away from those celebrations with a heart that was both heavy because I was leaving and joyful because I had been so richly blessed.

There is an old American saying: "People may forget what you said, people may forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Whether or not every word of that saying is remembered, I can say with certainty that the way you made me feel during my years among you is something I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

You have given me memories that distance cannot erase. You have given me friendships that geography cannot diminish. You have given me love that time cannot easily take away. And you have left footprints on my heart that I shall carry wherever God sends me.

My dear brothers and sisters, ministry is ultimately about people. It is about walking together toward Christ. It is about sharing one another's joys and sorrows and discovering, in one another, the presence of God. Pope Francis once reminded us that "the Church is not a tollhouse; it is the house of the Father, where there is a place for everyone." In many ways, you made me experience that truth. You made me feel that I belonged.

As I return to my home diocese of Kafanchan and begin settling into this new chapter of my priestly ministry, I carry a part of St. Margaret and St. Gabriel with me. I may be thousands of miles away, but you will remain close to my heart and in my prayers.

The distance between New York and Kafanchan may be measured in thousands of miles, but faith has no borders, love knows no distance, and friendship has no expiration date. May God bless your families. May He bless your homes, your children, your work, your dreams, and your struggles. May He strengthen you in moments of difficulty, give you courage when the road becomes difficult, and fill your hearts with the peace that only Christ can give.

Words truly fail me. But if there is one thing I want you to know, it is this: I am deeply, deeply grateful. I shall cherish the memories we created together, and I shall always thank God for the privilege of having been your priest and your brother.

Please keep me in your prayers, as I promise to keep you in mine. May the good Lord continue to bless us, guide us, strengthen us, and accomplish His good work in each of our lives until, by His grace, we are gathered together again, not merely in this world, but in the eternal Kingdom where there will be no more goodbyes.

Until then, may God bless you all abundantly.

With profound gratitude, affection, and prayers,

Rev. Fr. Timothy Boman Nni

Your brother and former parochial vicar

A NOTE ABOUT MY CONTACT INFORMATION

Some of you kindly asked me to provide my contact information. Please feel free to remain in touch:

Phone/WhatsApp: +234 703 351 5097

Email: timshokboman@gmail.com

I would also be very grateful if those of you who took photographs with me during my farewell celebrations could kindly share those pictures with me. I would love to keep them as precious memories of the beautiful years we shared.

God bless St. Margaret and St. Gabriel Parish!

God bless the Archdiocese of New York!!

God bless America!!!

REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN IN OUR PARISH'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM



Registration forms are in the vestibules of both of our churches.



For any questions, please contact the director of our program, Ms. Frances Lopez-Alvarado at: riverdalecatholicreled@gmail.com.



The program typically runs from September to May. This year, classes are held at:



ST. MARGARET'S
SCHOOL BUILDING
WEDNESDAYS
4:00 to 5:30 p.m.



ST. GABRIEL'S
SCHOOL BUILDING
SUNDAYS
10:45 a.m. to 12 noon



"This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and the one you have sent — Jesus Christ."

(John 17:3)



May God give many years of health and holiness to the new illumined, **Aaliyah Goyenechea**, born again through the waters of baptism.



Provide a
**CATHOLIC
EDUCATION**
FOR YOUR CHILDREN

Enroll them at

ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA -
ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL



St. Margaret of Cortona -
St. Gabriel School begins its
100th academic year this fall.

For a century, our school has provided an education to the youth of our neighborhood that nurtures the whole person—academically, spiritually, morally, and socially.

Our school provides students with a strong educational foundation while helping them grow in their union with God and live according to the values of the gospel of Jesus Christ.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
smsgny.org



EMAIL OUR PRINCIPAL
rhaneysmsgny.org



CALL US
718-549-8580

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



PARISH PRAYER LIST

For additions or updates, including anniversaries, birthdays, etc. please email: riverdalecatholicbulletin@gmail.com
NEWLY BAPTIZED: Aaliyah Goyenechea and Daniel Gaines, that these newly illumined children of God may walk always in the light of Christ.

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

NEWLY MARRIED: Ryan Ray Ruiz & Jasmine Nidia Maldonado, that what God has joined together no man may put asunder.

THE SICK: Patricia Taylor Reeves, Daniel Reynolds, Theresa Rinere, Sylvia Rojas, Vicente Romero, Grace Rose, Alejandrina Santos, Katie Searson, Jose Silva, Adelynn Smith, 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!

St. Margaret of Cortona

MONDAY, 8/24 *St. Bartholomew, Apostle*
12 noon: **Antonio V. Sugihara**

TUESDAY, 8/25 *St. Louis, St. Joseph Calasanaz, Priests*
12 noon: **Sebastian Bufamonte**

WEDNESDAY, 8/26
12 noon: **Denis O'Flynn**

THURSDAY, 8/27 *St. Monica*
12 noon: **Sylvia Raptis**

FRIDAY, 8/28 *St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*
12 noon: **Edward S. Grenawalt and Deceased Members of the Grenawalt Family**

SATURDAY, 8/29 *The Passion of St. John the Baptist*
9:00 a.m.: **Katherine McKeon**

SUNDAY, 8/30 *Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*
5:15 p.m. (vigil): **Thomas and Margaret Broderick**
8 a.m.: **Margaret Citarella**
10 a.m.: **Duillo Mazzuca**
12 p.m.: **Shigeysoh Sugihara**
5:15 p.m.: **All the Souls in Purgatory**

St. Gabriel

MONDAY, 8/24 *St. Bartholomew, Apostle*
9:00 a.m.: **Elizabeth Mahon, Mary Reilly and Thomas Mahon**

TUESDAY, 8/25 *St. Louis, St. Joseph Calasanaz, Priests*
9:00 a.m.: **Anthony Cristiano**

WEDNESDAY, 8/26
9:00 a.m.: **Betty and Suzanne LaMantia**

THURSDAY, 8/27 *St. Monica*
9:00 a.m.: **Joseph Sullivan**

FRIDAY, 8/28 *St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*
9:00 a.m.: **Charlie Kistner**

SUNDAY, 8/30 *Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*
5 p.m. (vigil): **Michael and Thomas Lennon**
9:30 a.m.: **No Intention**
11:30 a.m.: **Roserita DuFresne**

*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: 16th August 2026

In-pew: \$12,210
Candles: \$541
Assumption Feast: \$3,233
WeShare online giving: \$2,424
Total: \$18,414



Classes begin on
Saturday
3rd October
at 10:00 a.m.
at St. Margaret's
Rectory

*We need to know
who is interested.*



OCIA

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

- 1 Do you know a non-Christian (someone not baptized) or a non-Catholic member of a Christian denomination interested in entering into communion with the Holy Catholic Church established by Jesus Christ for the salvation of all?
- 2 Do you know an adult Catholic who has not been fully initiated into the Church, needing to receive the sacraments of Communion and Confirmation?
- 3 Are you in any of the above categories?

*Do the inviting and encouraging and let the Holy Spirit do the rest.
Call the parish office or put this completed form in the collection basket. Please allow us to assist you in this most important decision of your life.*

Yes! I want to know more!

I need to receive... (circle all that apply)...

Baptism

First Communion

Confirmation

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____



Call the Parish Office
(718) 549-8053



Put this form in
the collection basket



Drop it off in the
Parish Office

Thank you for helping build our Catholic family!

Summer Hours: St. Margaret's rectory will follow a summer schedule. The rectory will be closed on Mondays and Fridays. We will reopen to our full schedule on Tuesday, the 7th of September.

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

