



THE RIVERDALE CATHOLIC

A weekly bulletin of the

Parish of St. Margaret of Cortona - St. Gabriel

riverdalecatholic.org | riverdalecatholic@gmail.com | 718.549.8053

Served by: Fr. Seán M. Connolly, Pastor
Fr. Walter Genito, Jr. | Fr. Timothy Boman
Dcn. George Pitula



THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA

6000 Riverdale Avenue,
Bronx, NY 10471
718-549-8053

Mass Schedule

The Lord's Day

Saturday: 5:15 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12 noon, 5:15 p.m.

Weekday

Monday through Friday: 12 noon

Saturday: 8:30 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and upon request

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

- * The Miraculous Medal Novena: Tuesday following 12 noon Mass
- * Perpetual Help Novena: Wednesday following the 12 noon Mass in the baptistry
- * First Saturday of the Month in Honor of the Immaculate Heart: Regular 8:30 a.m. Mass followed by the Rosary; 11:30am Rosary followed by a Sung Latin Mass at 12 noon

Rectory Office

- * Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- * After Hours Emergency Line: 845-622-3996

THE CHURCH OF ST. GABRIEL

3250 Arlington Avenue
Bronx, NY 10463
718-548-4470

Mass Schedule

The Lord's Day

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Weekday

Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday from 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. and upon request

Devotions Honoring the Mother of God

- * Miraculous Medal Novena: Monday following the 9:00 a.m. Mass
- * Rosary: Following each weekday Mass

Rectory Office

- * Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- * After Hours Emergency Line: 845-622-3996

Dear Parishioners,

Laetare Sunday

Today is the halfway mark of Lent. Our fast is halfway over! This Sunday is known as Laetare Sunday for the first word of the Introit or Entrance Antiphon: "laetare, rejoice"; "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast. (Cf. Is. 66: 10-11). It is a Sunday of joy because Easter is near. The sacred ministers at Mass wear rose colored vestments as a sign of our joy that we are halfway to Easter. We can take a break from our fasting today, and renew our commitment beginning again tomorrow, to continue our Lenten prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Rite of Acceptance and Scrutinies

We introduce to our parish family this Sunday the catechumen and candidate members of the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) who will be receiving the sacraments at the Great Vigil of Easter on the Holy Night of Resurrection on 19th April.

The Catechumens

Catechumens are those who are not baptized. They will receive all three sacraments of initiation, baptism, confirmation, and the Eucharist, upon entering into the church during the Easter Vigil.

Bushra Mollick, Natalie Matesic, and Charles Sincerbeaux

The Candidates

Candidates are baptized Christians of other denominations, as well as baptized Christians of the Catholic Church who have yet to receive full initiation through the sacraments of their first Communion and/or confirmation.

For a baptized Christian of another denomination, reception into full communion with the Catholic Church involves reception of the sacrament of reconciliation and then, during the Easter Vigil, a profession of faith, and the reception of confirmation and the Eucharist. These candidates are:

Charity Wanjiru Njau, Louis Angelo Berrios, Jr., Gene May Alrena Davis Camp, Amanda Usha Paredes, and Charles Paul Sincerbeaux

The candidates who are already baptized Christians of the Catholic Church that will be completing their initiation through reception of confirmation and/or the Eucharist at the Easter Vigil, are:

Ethan Leopold McClure, Lorie Rose Crespo, Yasmyn Camille Camp, and Jordan Andres Bautista

The Rite of Acceptance and Scrutiny will take place today at the 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Gabriel's at the 12 noon Mass at St. Margaret's.

Through the Rite of Acceptance, both the catechumens and candidates are formally accepted into the Order of Christian Initiation and presented to our parish community so we might offer our lenten sacrifices in part, for their perseverance as they near Easter sacraments.

The Scrutiny prayer is for the catechumens only, who are preparing to be baptized. This is a prayer of cleansing and protection (exorcism) which includes the laying-on-of-hands. Those not baptized are still under the yoke of Satan and Original Sin. The Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the catechumens from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life. This rite should deepen the catechumen's resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out his/her decision to love God above all. It is a preparation for baptism when we are truly set free through our spiritual rebirth as adopted children of God.

Let us all be sure to offer our Lenten prayers and sacrifices for these catechumens and candidates!

Reborn by Water and the Holy Spirit

Many blessed years to the newly-illuminated servants and handmaids of God, Cody James Shephard, Raiden Yurui Sun, Odin, Yuxian Sun, and Aria Malaika Mascia, who were baptized in recent weeks.

Reposed in the Lord

Eternal memory and peaceful rest to Maureen McConnell, Kevin J. Farrell, and Anna Camille Harris who have fallen asleep in the Lord this past week.

Saints Margaret and Gabriel, pray for us!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Seán



2025 Holy Week Schedule

The Church of St. Margaret of Cortona

Monday 14th April
(Reconciliation Monday)

Holy Mass: 12 noon
Confessions: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday 15th April (Fig Tuesday) and Wednesday 16th April (Spy Wednesday)

Holy Mass: 12 noon

Holy Thursday 17th April

Tenebrae: 9:00 a.m.
Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 p.m.
Adoration at the Repository: until 12 midnight

Good Friday 18th April

Tenebrae: 9:00 a.m.
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion: 3:00 p.m.
Compline (Night Prayer) with a meditation on the "Seven Last Words": 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday 19th April

Tenebrae: 9:00 a.m.
The Great Vigil of Easter on the Holy Night of the Resurrection: 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday 20th April

Holy Mass: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12 noon
There is no evening Mass on Easter Sunday

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Holy Saturday 19th April

Tenebrae: 9:00 a.m.
The Great Vigil of Easter on the Holy Night of the Resurrection will be at St. Margaret's at 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday 20th April

Holy Mass: 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

3250 Arlington Avenue | Bronx, NY 10463

A little more about Laetare Sunday and a fun English and Bavarian Custom...

Laetare Sunday comes 21 days before Easter, at the mid-point of Lent. And the custom of celebrating the Sunday as a moment to rejoice mid-Lent dates back to the early Church.

Laetare Sunday has also been known as "Refreshment Sunday," because in medieval England, the Lenten fast would be broken, and Christians would take refreshment with treats, including rich fruitcakes called simnel cakes.



In Italy and France, Laetare Sunday was sometimes called "Fountain Sunday," as people developed the habit of decorating fountains with flowers and branches to celebrate the coming spring. The end of winter and the beginning of spring symbolizes what we celebrate at Easter. New life. Even the earth proclaims the resurrection of Christ!



Stations of the Cross

Every Friday During Lent

9:30 a.m. at St. Gabriel's - 7:00 p.m. at St. Margaret's

... "as they led him away [to be crucified]... there followed him a great multitude of the people..." (Luke 23:26-27)

St. Margaret of Cortona

MONDAY, 3/31

12 noon: **Cynthia Mendoza**

TUESDAY, 4/1

12 noon.: **Friends and Family**

WEDNESDAY, 4/2

12 noon: **Richard Grenawalt and Deceased Members of the Grenawalt Family**

THURSDAY, 4/3

12 noon.: **Peter Dolan**

FRIDAY, 4/4 *St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

12 noon: **Patrick "Joe" Cunney**

SATURDAY, 4/5 *St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest*

8:30 a.m.: **Maureen and Mike O'Sullivan**

SUNDAY, 4/6 *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

5:15 p.m. (vigil): **Betty and Eddie Meyer**

8 a.m.: **Felicia Diaz**

10 a.m.: **Marion and Frank Breen**

12 p.m.: **Hugh and Theresa E. Smith and John Hugh Smith**

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

St. Gabriel

MONDAY, 3/31

9:00 a.m.: **Vicente Gannaban, Victoria MClang and Maria Macadangdang**

TUESDAY, 4/1

9:00 a.m.: **Betty LaMantia**

WEDNESDAY, 4/2

9:00 a.m.: **Maria Gadioma**

THURSDAY, 4/3

9:00 a.m.: **Brian Philbin**

FRIDAY, 4/4 *St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

9:00 a.m.: **Angelia Nouel**

SUNDAY, 4/6 *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

5 p.m. (vigil): **Paul Farrell**

9:30 a.m.: **Marciana Ramos**

11:30 a.m.: **Parishioners of St. Margaret and St. Gabriel**

For our parish benefactors.

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

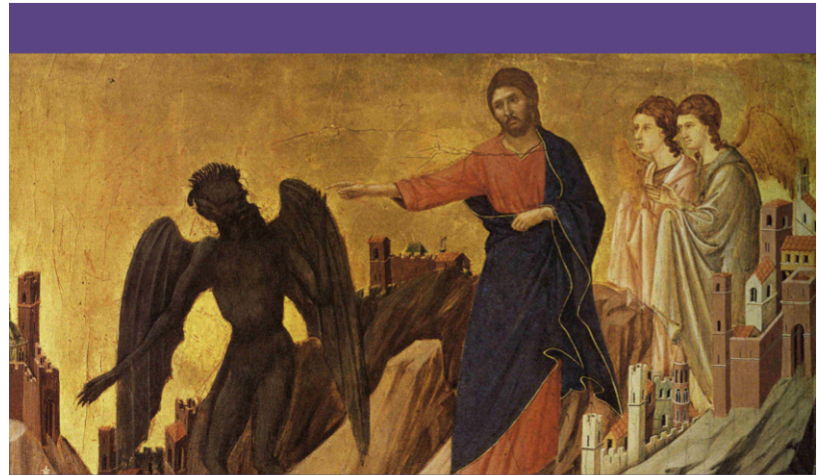
Sunday 23rd March

In-pew: \$14,775

WeShare online giving: \$1,877

Candles: \$649

Total: \$17,301



A Lenten Mission

with Fr. Justin Cinnante, O. Carm

"Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!" -Ezekiel 18:31

7:00 p.m. at St. Margaret's Church

Monday 31st March

Tuesday 1st April

Wednesday 2nd April (with confessions)

Fr. Justin is a Carmelite priest and the chaplain at Iona Prep. He is beloved across the Hudson Valley for his ministry of preaching, healing Masses, and missions.



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