



# THE RIVERDALE CATHOLIC

A weekly bulletin of the

Parish of St. Margaret of Cortona - St. Gabriel

[riverdalecatholic.org](http://riverdalecatholic.org) | [riverdalecatholic@gmail.com](mailto:riverdalecatholic@gmail.com) | 718.549.8053



Served by: Fr. Seán 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 Dies Domini, "Day of the Lord"**

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. (except for the First Saturday of the month)

## Confessions

Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. | 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

**First Saturday in Honor of the Immaculate Heart** - 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 Dies Domini, "Day of the Lord"**

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. | Upon request

## Devotions Honoring the Mother of God

**The Miraculous Medal Novena** - Monday following the 9:00 a.m. Mass

**The Holy 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

## FROM THE DESK OF FR. SEÁN

Dear Parishioners,

### **Capital Campaign Update**

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our parish community, we are grateful to share that our Capital Campaign has surpassed its \$1,000,000 goal!

### **Campaign Financials:**

- **Goal:** \$1,000,000
- Total Pledged: \$1,009,900
- Amount Paid to Date: \$315,563
- Outstanding Pledge Balance: \$694,337
- Number of Donors: 211

These funds will support repayment of the loan for the church roof and the school boiler, and will also ensure that we have the resources to renovate and reverently beautify the interior of St. Margaret's Church. We extend our sincere thanks to all who have pledged and who continue to fulfill their commitments through prayerful generosity.

If you have not contributed yet, please join the 211 who already have to secure the future of our spiritual home.

Thank you!

### **Fr. Brian McCarthy's 50 Anniversary Celebration**

Please be sure to join us next Sunday 1st February for a special celebration in honor of my predecessor as pastor here in Riverdale, Fr. Brian McCarthy. We will celebrate together the remarkable milestone of his 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood as well as thank him for his 17 years of service to our parish.

Join us for a solemn Holy Mass at 12 noon at St. Margaret's followed by a luncheon in the school gymnasium. Please call our rectory office to let us know if you are coming so we can be well prepared.

### **The Conversion of St. Paul**

25th January is the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, though this year it's commemoration is superseded the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.

It is still worth reflecting on a bit:

This feast celebrates St. Paul turning away from persecution of Christians to promoting Christianity. St. Paul, named Saul at his circumcision, a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, was born at Tarsus, the capital of Cilicia. He was a Roman citizen. He was brought up as a strict Jew, and later became a violent persecutor of the Christians. While on his way to Damascus to make new arrests of Christians, he was suddenly converted by a miraculous apparition of Our Lord. From a fierce persecutor he became the great Apostle of the Gentiles. He made three missionary journeys which brought him to the great centers of Asia Minor and southern Europe, and made many converts. Fourteen of his Epistles are found in the New Testament. He was beheaded in Rome around 66 A.D., and his relics are in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside-the-Walls near the Ostian Way.

Fr. Pius Parsch offer this this moving reflection:

**FROM THE DESK OF FR. SEÁN (CTD.)**

"I know of another "Damascus hour" in my life, holy Mass. Here, too, Christ meets me. Here, grace is added to the grace of my first conversion to perfect what was there begun and to maintain in me the same unfailing consciousness of conversion that we admire in St. Paul. Twenty, thirty years later he was still moved to tears whenever his thoughts turned to that unforgettable moment on the way to Damascus. He, indeed, is a great man in whom the memory of a momentous experience never fades. For the mere act of conversion is not enough. Conversion must be lasting, and our "Damascus hour" at Mass helps make it so. Every Mass affects a conversio, a change in me. I bring my human wants and weaknesses to the altar, and in exchange receive divine life and strength. I bring human bread (at the Offertory) and receive divine Bread (in holy Communion). I go to Mass a Saul, I come from Mass a Paul."

—The Church's Year of Grace by Pius Parsch


Yours in Christ,  
Father Seán

**NOTICE:**

**There will be no 12 noon Holy Mass at St. Margaret's on Friday 6th February.**

This is the day of the enthronement of our new archbishop, Ronald Hicks. Our priests will be away at the cathedral for this important moment in the life of our archdiocese. The intention of this Holy Mass will be offered on that same day by one of our priests.

**Please note that the St. Margaret's rectory will be closed 6 February and 9 February.**



**55th Annual  
Men's Beefsteak**

Friday 6th February  
at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets on Sale Now!

**Support the 55th Men's Beefsteak: "The Night on the Town Raffle"**

The 55th Annual Men's Beefsteak will be held this year on **6th February at 7:00 p.m.** in the Msgr. Daniel A. Peake Memorial Hall in St. Margaret's. All the proceeds of this fundraiser are used to cover the expenses for operating St. Margaret's - St. Gabriel's athletic teams and maintaining our facilities. Raffle tickets are still only \$1 each or a book of six for \$5. "The Night on the Town Raffle" is a way everyone can participate in the Beefsteak and support the athletic program for the youth of our parish. The Grand Prize is a Manhattan hotel reservation, dinner for two at Smith and Wollensky, and two tickets to a Broadway show. Members of the Beefsteak Committee and their supporters will have raffle books for sale after Masses on the weekends of the 17th and 18th, 24th and 25th of January and 31st January and 1st February.

Thank you for your support!

# Join us for a Lenten Mission

23rd, 24th, and 25th February  
at 6:30 p.m. at St. Margaret's  
Church

Preached by Fr. Leo Camurati, O.P.

“Repent and Believe in the  
Gospel”



May God give a long life of holiness and good health to the newly illumined, **Michael Christopher Keaveeny**, reborn by water and the Holy Spirit in baptism.

## The Baltimore Catechism Teaches

A running series of questions and answers from the Baltimore Catechism to grow deeper in knowledge and love of God.

### 80. Why is Jesus Christ God?

Jesus Christ is God, because He is the only Son of God, having the same Divine nature as His Father.

"And the high priest said to him, 'I adjure thee by the living God that thou tell us whether thou art the Christ, the Son of God.' Jesus said to him, 'Thou has said it.'" (Matthew 26:63)

### 81. Why is Jesus Christ man?

Jesus Christ is man, because He is the son of the Blessed Virgin Mary and has a body and soul like ours.

### 82. Is Jesus Christ more than one Person?

No, Jesus Christ is only one Person; and that Person is the second Person of the Blessed Trinity.







*Join us for a celebration  
in honor of Fr. Brian McCarthy's  
50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination*

**Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

12 noon Solemn Mass

Followed by a catered luncheon in the St.  
Margaret's School Gymnasium

*Please call the St. Margaret's Rectory Office at  
718-549-8053 to reserve a seat*

**St. Margaret of Cortona**

MONDAY, 1/26 *St. Timothy and St. Titus, Bishops*  
12 noon: **Peggy and Bill Sloan and Kathleen Brennan**

TUESDAY, 1/27 *St. Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder*  
12 noon.: **Lorraine Marin**

WEDNESDAY, 1/28 *St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church*  
12 noon: **Laurette V. Moran**

THURSDAY, 1/29  
12 noon: **Kelly, McTague and Cullen Family**

FRIDAY, 1/30 *St. John Bosco, Priest*  
12 noon: **Martin Dunleavy**

SATURDAY, 1/31 *St. John Bosco, Priest*  
8:30 a.m.: **Daniel and Pearl Smith**

SUNDAY, 2/1 *Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
5:15 p.m. (vigil): **Kevin O'Donnell**  
8 a.m.: **John Cremin and Paddy Cremin**  
10 a.m.: **Parishioners of St. Margaret-St. Gabriel**  
12 p.m.: **Patricia Benya**  
5:15 p.m.: **Charles and Mary Wallace**

**St. Gabriel**

MONDAY, 1/26 *St. Timothy and St. Titus, Bishops*  
9:00 a.m.: **Dominic Torres**

TUESDAY, 1/27 *St. Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder*  
9:00 a.m.: **Padric Connor (living)**

WEDNESDAY, 1/28 *St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church*  
9:00 a.m.: **Vincent Ronnie Netomuceno**

THURSDAY, 1/29  
9:00 a.m.: **All the Souls in Purgatory**

FRIDAY, 1/30  
9:00 a.m.: **Demosthenes Gadioma**

SUNDAY, 2/1 *Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
5 p.m. (vigil): **Sheila Husk**  
9:30 a.m.: **Michael Pietros**  
11:30 a.m.: **Luigi Cavanna**

**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 Sunday 18th January 2026:**

In-pew: \$9,579

Candles: \$87

Weshare: \$2,109

**Total: \$11,775**

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send me a New Parishioner's Packet

☐ Change of address/telephone number

☐ Moving, please remove from parish list

**Find us on Facebook and Instagram:**



**Riverdale Catholic**



**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](https://wesharedonate.org)

