

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



[stephrembklyn](https://twitter.com/stephrembklyn)



St. Ephrem Catholic Church Dyker Heights

Parish Staff

Very Rev. Robert B. Adamo, V. F., KCHS, *Pastor*
Rev. Anthony S. Chanan, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Msgr. Theophilus Joseph, *Parochial Vicar*
Deacon Kevin McLaughlin, *Permanent Deacon*
Deacon Anthony Stucchio, *Permanent Deacon*
Sr. Mary Ann Ambrose, C.S.J., *Director of Faith Formation*
Mr. Robert Cote, *Youth Minister*
Mr. Michael Phillips, *Academy Principal*
Ms. Adele Rapelye, *Director of Music/Liturgy*
Mrs. Michele James, *Business Manager*
Mrs. Lisa Pinsky, *Parish Secretary*

October 8, 2023

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Abbreviated Bulletin—For Full Copy
<https://stephremparish-brooklyn.org/bulletins>



Hearing Assistance
iOS & Android

Rectory Office

929 Bay Ridge Parkway
718-833-1010
Fax 718-921-5232

Faith Formation Center

Side Entrance of St. Ephrem Convent (off Bay Ridge Parkway)
718-745-7486
FaithFormation@stephremparish-brooklyn.org

St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 ♦ 718-833-1440 ♦ www.stephremcatholicacademy.org

Schedule of Masses

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM, and 11:00 AM
Weekdays Monday through Friday 7:00 AM & 8:45 AM
Saturday 8:45 AM

Rectory Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 AM—12 Noon
1:00 PM—5:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM—12 Noon
1:00 PM—4:00 PM
Saturday **No Office Hours**
Sunday **No Office Hours**

Parish Registration

All are welcomed and invited to register at the Parish Office and participate in our parish or via parish website above.

Devotions

Miraculous Medal Novena, Mondays following the 8:45 AM Mass
Recitation of the Rosary at 8:15 AM before weekly morning Mass.
Divine Mercy Chaplet every Friday following the 8:45 AM Mass
First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following the 8:45 AM Mass and Benediction at 12:30 PM.

Baptism

Parents should call the rectory to make an appointment. Please note that there are no baptisms during the season of Lent.

Marriage

The Sacrament of Marriage requires a time of serious spiritual preparation. Couples should make arrangements for their marriage at least six months before the date of the wedding by making an appointment with a priest or deacon. Please log on to www.pre-cana.org for complete information about marriage preparation in the Diocese.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 3:30—4:30 PM.
By appointment for all other times.

Anointing of the Sick/Communion

To make arrangements for communion to be brought to any parishioner who is seriously ill or confined to the house, or if they wish to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. To see a particular Staff Member, please call for an appointment.

Our Mission Statement

We, the parish family of St. Ephrem, baptized into the life of Jesus Christ and nourished by the Word and the Eucharist, strive to be a welcoming and responsive Roman Catholic faith community. Together we are committed to put our faith into action by: Responding to the spiritual and physical needs of the community through service and charity.

Reaching out to those who are searching for a faith community, including the young and those seeking to re-kindle their relationship with God. Reaching out to all without distinction.

Passing on our faith and traditions through teaching by word and example. Connecting to where people are on their faith journey.

Actively participating in the worship, sacrament and devotional life of the church.

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 8, 2023 "He will lease his vineyard to other tenants." Matthew 21: 33-43

2

Dear Parishioners:

The image of God as a vineyard keeper continues this week. This parable shows that God's life-giving and saving work does not end when human wickedness tries to stand in its way. Amidst all the pain and brokenness and suffering of this world, God finds ways to continue to give life and bear fruit. God is persistent, not only in carrying out God's plans but also in loving us. God wins and will have final victory, even when it is not apparent. And because God is always on our side, this is very good news.

Last Wednesday, over 250 priests from the Diocese of Brooklyn gathered with Bishop Brennan for our Fall Convocation. The theme was: *"A Shepherd among Shepherds, a Bishop with his Priests."* Bishop Brennan has begun a process for Pastoral Planning for the Diocese. In beginning this process, we must also look at the current data and statistics (see the chart below).

Some Clergy Personnel Statistics

Diocesan Clergy	2017	2022	8/31/2023
Priests assigned to active ministry	273	255	255*
Retired Priests	148	143	130
Total	421	398	385

*206 assigned to parishes

Number of priests Age Range	2017	2022	6/30/2023
26-30	14	1	0
31-40	37	39	42
41-50	42	44	51
51-60	72	71	64
61-70	90	77	76
71-74	46	48	41
76-99	120	118	111
TOTAL	421	398	385

Non-Incardinated	56	85	70*
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*Does not include 134 religious order clergy

We have:

175 parishes, which include:
24 merged parishes with 2 sites
4 merged parishes with 3 sites
18 parishes in a partnership (9 pairs)

Total Mass Attendance:

2017:	205,502	
2018:	167,140	(19% decrease)
2019:	160,211	(4% decrease)
2021:	110,607	(31% decrease)
2022:	124,031	(12% increase)
2023:	129,701	(5% increase) May counts only

37% decrease from 2017 - 2023

37 Seminarians at various stages of formation

Bishop Brennan is involving the priests of the Diocese to be part of the discussion. We had round table Deanery discussions, to reflect the local communities. Each Deanery looked at the number of people attending mass at each parish, the number of Baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Weddings, Anointings, and Funerals. In addition, the number of children enrolled in Faith Formation, and catechists. We were asked what do the numbers say about our deanery? About our parish? What are the critical factors to consider in planning for the future? How can the Mass schedule in each parish be adjusted taking into consideration: lower number of assigned priests, lower number of parishioners, and parishioners' complex schedules. How did we assess the Religious Education program in our deanery? What do we need for Bishop Brennan and his Diocesan Team to do to prepare for the future?

The discussion has begun. Some parishes may enter into partnerships, change Mass schedules (as we did), and more collaborations of pastoral programs i.e., Faith Formation, O.C.I.A. and others. Let us continue to pray for one another as this discussion begins and the process continues, as we will all be affected by this process., for this I wanted to share with you this information.

In the Good Shepherd,

Rev. Vincent J. Delaney

DRIVING TO CHURCH? HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARKING ON PROPERTY

- ♦ The School Yard (entrance on 74th Street) can accommodate many cars.
- ♦ If using yard behind rectory, it is best to use designated parking spaces along the building.
- ♦ Please do not block entryway to school building.
- ♦ Do Not Block driveway entrance.

Thank you for your consideration!



Annual Catholic Appeal 2023

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Parish Goal: \$100,198.00
Amount Pledged: \$87,149.00
Amount Paid: \$79,068.98
Donors: 126

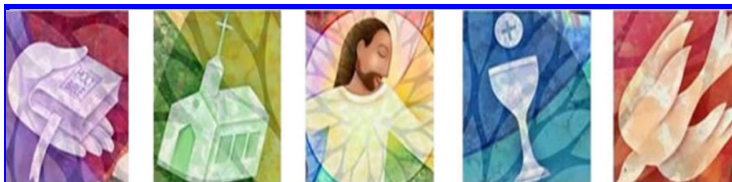


Donate and contribute
to fulfill our Parish goals

Scan the Code

Or text DONATE to 917-336-1255
Or visit: annualcatholicappeal.org





St. Ephrem Parish Faith Formation News!

Children's Faith Formation



Registration for
2023-2024
Continues On-Line

<https://stephremparish-brooklyn.org/faitth-formation-news/>

Then click on **Registration**
in **Side Bar**

You must complete the **Registration Form**
and **Submit** the process. to complete

As of June 18th
One Child: \$160
Two + Children: \$210

Payment can be made on-line by clicking on
"GIVING" then "WELCOME"
then go to **FUND** and scroll down to
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FEES.

St. Ephrem Fever on Saturday Night

Featuring

**DISCO
UNLIMITED**

Live Show



\$55 Per Person
Includes:
Sandwiches, Snacks,
Soda & Water.
BYOB
For Sale Wine & Beer

For Information &
Reservations Contact
St. Ephrem Rectory
(718) 833-1010
You can arrange for
of 8 or 10 People

Two live shows
1 Hour and 15
Minutes Each

Dancing
50/50 Raffle
Basket Raffles

Amazon Wish List
QR Code



Saturday, October 21, 2023
7:00—11:00 PM
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
924 74th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11228

Please make your reservations by October 16th
No Tickets will be sold at the door.

Youth Ministry @ St. Ephrem Parish

Middle School Youth Ministry
(Grades 5-8)
Sunday, October 15th
All events takes place at
12 Noon—1 PM
In the
Faith Formation Office

Learn more email or scan to sign up:
youthministry@stephremparish-brooklyn.org

*"We don't need youth museums
but we do need holy young people."*
Pope Francis



*The O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian
Initiation of Adults)*

*Adults needing both Eucharist
(Communion) and Confirmation or if
interested in becoming Catholic can
also reach out to S. Mary Ann at
Faithformation@stephremparish-brooklyn.org*



CARE OF GOD'S CREATION
**CARE OF
CREATION**

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, October 4th
In **Laudato Si**, Pope Francis writes:
*"St. Francis is the example par excellence of care for the
vulnerable and of an integral ecology
lived out joyfully and authentically."*
St. Francis "invites us to see nature as a magnificent book
in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his
infinite beauty and goodness."

PARISH, ACADEMY AND COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



Concert

Rosary

**Brooklyn Diocesan Choir
St. Ephrem's Adult & Children's Choir**

St. Ephrem Church
Thursday, October 19, 2023
7:30 pm followed by a reception.

Please join us!

*St. Ephrem Home Academy
Association Presents*

*St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
Texas Hold'em Outing*

Friday, October 13, 2023
Registration will start @ 6pm
Game starts @ 7pm

Event will be held in school cafeteria

**924 74th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11228**

\$100.00 Buy-in
\$50.00 unlimited re-buys for 4 rounds

\$25.00 for non-poker players

Food and Drinks will be served

Any questions, please call or message
Angelo Manganiello
718-288-3476

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Join Our St. Ephrem Music Ministry

September is a time of new beginnings and our St. Ephrem Music Ministry is preparing for a new season of sacred music. Please prayerfully consider joining our parish choir. You are very welcome to be a part of our group and your voice will add greatly to sung prayer at our Masses and liturgical celebrations.

Sacred music touches hearts, changes lives and helps to spread the message of the Gospel. Music is a vital part of how we relate to God. It is how we come to understand at a deeper level what goes beyond words, what our relationship is with the Divine, and how we are shaped together as a community of faith. Music takes us to a deeper, higher plane that encourages and motivates us, and nurtures our souls. Choirs inspire and guide worshippers at Mass in prayer and in praise.

And there are practical benefits to singing. Studies have shown that singing relieves stress and increases positivity. It enhances energy levels, improves the immune system, strengthens muscles and increases lung capacity. Singing also improves concentration, memory and attention span.

This choir season, our rehearsals will take place on Sunday mornings at 9:30, and we will sing at the 11:00 Mass on most weekends. Please come and join us beginning Sunday morning, September 17 at 9:30, or any Sunday morning afterwards.

If you are undecided, consider joining us just for some special events. We will partner with the Diocesan Choir, presenting a mini-concert at St. Ephrem on October 19, and we begin preparing the glorious music of Christmas in early October.

For additional information, please feel free to speak with our music director, Adele, after any of our weekend Masses, or you may email Music@stephremparish-brooklyn.org.



St. Ephrem Youth Choir Come Sing With Us!

Do you like to sing?
Do you enjoy meeting and interacting with other students?
Do you want to learn more about music?
Do you want to inspire and encourage others by beautiful and prayerful singing?

Every student in Grades 2 through 8 is invited to join our St. Ephrem Youth Choir. We will rehearse on Mondays after school until 3:45 p.m. and we will sing for special events, concerts, school Masses and selected Sunday Masses.

First rehearsal:
Monday, September 18 in the School Music Room

For Parents: Singing is important because it builds self-confidence, promotes self-esteem, always engages the emotions, promotes social inclusion, supports social skill development, and enables young people of different ages and abilities to come together successfully to create something special in the arts.

St. Ephrem Youth Choir

Please return this form to the St. Ephrem School Office, or to the St. Ephrem Church Office, or email the requested information to Ms. Adele at Music@stephremparish-brooklyn.org.

Student's name _____ Grade _____

Parent email _____

Parent Phone Number _____

Mass Intentions for the week of October 8, 2023

8:45 AM Mass, the Saturday 5:00 PM Mass and the Sunday, 11:00 AM Mass are being live streamed through our parish website. Please share and join us!

Saturday, October 7th

8:45 AM Millicent Patterson
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
Leonard J. Dimino
Harry D'Amura
Peter Puleo
Louis Thomas Tuorto
Timothy McCarthy
John Marone
Michael Cannariato, MD
For the Intentions of John Shovlin

Sunday, October 8th

8:00 AM Florence & Ben Nigro
11:00 AM For the Intentions of Jane & Harry Genzale

Monday, October 9th

No 7:00 AM Mass

8:45 AM Vincent & Domenick Iannizzi

Tuesday, October 10th

7:00 AM Valerie F. Patterson
8:45 AM Pietro Nesta

Wednesday, October 11th

7:00 AM Gabriella Maria Shammas
8:45 AM **St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Mass**
For the Intentions of Antonio & Cindy Cavallaro

Thursday, October 12th

7:00 AM Nancy S. D'Amato
8:45 AM Lucy & Edwin McGuirk

Friday, October 13th

7:00 AM Florence & Ben Nigro
8:45 AM Vincenza Iannizzi

Saturday, October 14th

8:45 AM Kang Young Chi
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
Leonard J. Dimino
Rose & Mike Giumento
Loretta Thulin
Deborah DeAscentiis
Robert Bernardinello
Tony Grbic
Dorothy Lennon
Ralph Reed

Sunday, October 15th

8:00 AM Gabriella Polizzi
11:00 AM Jim Richardson

MEMORIALS



Altar Flowers
In Loving Memory of
Lucy & Edwin McGuirk
*Requested by their loving daughter
Lucy McGuirk*



**Flowers at the
Blessed Mother Altar**
*In Memory of
Deceased Members of the
Iannizzi Family*

**October Month of the Rosary
Dedicated to
the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**The Rosary is prayed
Monday-Saturday
8:15 AM in the Church.**

**Previously Recorded Rosary
will be Live-Streamed through the
Parish website each evening at 7:00 PM
Please share and join us!**



Fun for Seniors

**St. Ephrem Friendship Club
Wednesday's 10:30 am—2:00 pm
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Msgr. Kain Hall**

Seniors 55+ are welcome to join the Friendship Club and participate in the fun!!! Yearly Membership is \$15.00. Do you enjoy 50/50 raffles, bingo, Casino Trips, Luncheons, Senior Prom, Card Games, coffee, cake, and so much more, this is the club for you.

For any questions, please free to call Frank 347-267-3644

St. Ephrem Friendship Club
sponsors
Wind Creek Casino, Bethlehem, PA



Wednesday, October 18, 2023

**The bus departs at 8:45 am sharp
\$40.00 per person, with \$25.00 Slot Free Play
No Refunds**

**For information please contact Frank (347) 267-3644
Reservations & full payment by October 11, 2023**



October 1, 2023 156 Envelopes \$6,082.00

We Share 15 Donors \$ 422.11

Attendance 379

Saturday 5:00 p.m. 80 Sunday 8:00 a.m. 91
Sunday 11:00 a.m. 208

889 Families Registered and Receive Envelopes
If you are able to send in your weekly donation, enroll in the secure online donation through our Parish website it would be greatly appreciated.

To learn more about ways to give, visit our parish website at: www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org

Click on 'Giving' and follow prompts.

Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!

"Lord, grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

Saint Francis of Assisi

St. Ephrem Centennial Campaign Our Church, Our Prayers, Our Legacy

As of October 2, 2023

Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	249
Amount Pledged*	\$1,363,812.64
Paid to Date	\$1,214,254.31
Percent of Goal	120%

Thank You for your Generosity!

**Some pledges have been cancelled due to changing life circumstances.*

Saint Ephrem, pray for us!



ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE FOOD PANTRY

We will be collecting non-perishable and non-expired food items on

October 14th & 15th

Thank you for your generosity!



ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC ACADEMY NEWS!



All 8th Graders hoping to attend Catholic High School **MUST** Register for the TACHS Exam!

Visit: <https://tachsinfo.com/>

**St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
High School Fair**
Thursday, October 12th at 6:00 pm

This is a great opportunity for 6th, 7th, & 8th graders to discover and explore more than one dozen Catholic High Schools in the Metropolitan Area.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



St. Ephrem Liturgical Ministers
Please join us for
Prayer & Meeting

Saturday, October 14, 2023

3:30 pm in the Church

A personal email was sent to you for your response.

For those not currently serving, if God is calling you to serve in a ministry in our parish. Please call the rectory.

Columbus Day
October 9, 2023

There will be no 7:00 am Mass
The Rectory Office will be closed.



Pray for Ukraine!

FORMED®



Sign Up by scanning QR Code.
Enter our Zip Code 11228
click on St. Ephrem, follow prompts