

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

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*

November 5, 2023

Thirty-First 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.



Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 5, 2023
"They preach but they do not practice."
Matthew 23:1-12

Dear Parishioners:

Today's gospel has one of Jesus' familiar reversals of our expectations for this world. He states the visible religious leaders of his time are not, in fact, in favor with God. Their misguided love for recognition and honor outweighs their love for God. They seem to hold power, and by earthly standards, they do-but they are not enacting the true power that is available to all of us. This power is God's gift and enables us to enact God's will. It doesn't look much like power, though; it rather looks a lot like servanthood. Jesus tells his followers to humble themselves, because humility is the basis of true exaltation in God's ordering of things. **"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."** This humility is found in unity, joined as brothers and sisters under one loving teacher and father and master.

Before we point fingers too quickly-and likely fall into the same hypocrite camp Jesus tells us to avoid, let us consider how Jesus approaches the scribes and Pharisees. Note, that Jesus first recognizes the truth in their teachings: **"Do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you."** Then Jesus speaks honestly and directly to the issues he sees, naming specific examples of ways their actions fall short of the law's intent. Jesus once again models how we should approach others who we believe are in the wrong.

Surely, we can all think of someone who acts a little too righteous while trying to show off their faith and presents a hypocritical message in the process. Rather than bad-mouthing them or writing them off completely, what if we were to follow Jesus' way of respectful, honest, and direct dialogue?

Thank you very much for your generosity of \$4,053.00 in helping our parish reach its goal. We are now \$6,646.00 short of our parish goal of \$100,198.00. Every donation makes a difference, none is too small. If you have not made a donation or pledge, there is still time to do so. Once again, I am very grateful for your continued support and generosity! If our parish does not reach our goal, the parish will be responsible for making up the difference.

In the Good Shepherd,

Hospitality Sunday

November 11 & 12



Please join us
following each Mass,
for light refreshments at

St. Ephrem Catholic Academy!

*Renew old friendships
and
establish new ones!*



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Adoration following the 8:45 am Mass

*In the event of a funeral,
Adoration begins after the funeral.*

Benediction takes place at 12:00 Noon.



Annual All Souls Mass

Saturday,
November 4, 2023
at 5:00 pm

*We will remember our parishioners who passed away
and had their funeral Mass celebrated at St. Ephrem.*

*You may also place a loved ones names in
The Book of the Dead by the Baptismal Font*

*"In the water of baptism they have died with Christ
and rose with him to new life.*

May they now share with him eternal glory."

Order of Christian Funerals



Annual Catholic Appeal 2023

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Parish Goal: \$100,198.00
Amount Pledged: \$89,499.00
Amount Paid: \$85,586.31
Donors: 131



**This does not include our recent
2nd Collection on October 29th.**

**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!

Classes Continue Each Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.

Need to Register? Go to:

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



Proximate Preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion

**All gatherings take place in
Saint Ephrem Catholic Academy Cafeteria
Sundays 9:30 a.m.—10:45 a.m.**

Sunday, November 19th Session III

Sunday, January 7th Session IV

Sunday, February 11th Session V

Sunday, March 10th Session VI

All should be attending mass every weekend.

Final Preparation for Confirmation Fall 2023

All Modules must be completed.

**Sunday, October 29, 2023 11:00 am-4:00 pm
Confirmation Retreat for All Candidates**

Practice in Church:

Monday, November 13th at 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 14th at 4:30 p.m.

Candidates Only

Wednesday, November 15th at 7:30 p.m.

Candidates & Sponsors

Confirmation is November 18th at 5:00 p.m.

PARISH AND ACADEMY HAPPENINGS



**The Mass Book is now open
from
January 1st to June 30th, 2024**

**Requests may be made by email or by dropping off
your requests at the Rectory.
Please call (718) 833-1010 or
stephremrectory@aol.com**

Thank You!

We are happy to announce

**Most Reverend
James Massa, D.D.**

*Auxiliary
Bishop of Brooklyn*

*will confer the
Sacrament of Confirmation
on*



Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Youth Ministry @ St. Ephrem Parish

**Middle School Youth Ministry
(Grades 5-8)**

Sunday, November 12th

Sunday, December 17th

**All events takes place at
12 Noon—1 PM**

**High School Youth Ministry
Sunday, December 3rd**

**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***

PARISH, ACADEMY AND COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



Election Day November 7th

We vote because we are citizens. But we vote conscientiously because we are people of faith. Our consciences are formed through studying Scripture and the teachings of the Church, examination of the facts, and prayerful reflection.

United States Catholic Conference of Bishops



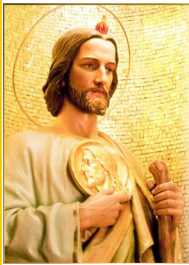
Veterans Day

Observed Friday, November 10th

No 7:00 am Mass

Rectory Closed

Thank You for Your Service!



The Parish of
Most Precious Blood-Sts. Simon &
Jude
Is Hosting
The Relic of the Arm of St. Jude
First Time Leaving Rome

**Sunday, November 26th Mass
3:00 pm**

**Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan
Celebrant**

**followed by
Veneration of the Relic until 9:00 pm**

**Sts. Simon & Jude Church
Avenue T & Van Sicklen Street
Brooklyn, New York
(718) 375-9600**



CARE OF GOD'S CREATION

CARE OF CREATION

How is climate change affecting the world?

The inspiring and eye opening documentary film: *"The Letter"* tells us through the eyes of Pope Francis and individuals on four continents whom he invites to Rome to share their stories.

**"The Letter" will be shown
Sunday, November 12th at 1:30 pm
Our Lady of Angels
Msgr. Cavanagh Room**

Discussion will follow.

9th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Please join us for our Christmas Tree Lighting



**Saturday, December 2, 2023
5:00 PM Mass followed by the
Lighting of Christmas Trees,
Blessing of the Nativity &
Light Refreshments**

**Brochures are available in the
church if you like to participate
in this Annual Event. Our
Church property will be
adorned with these beautiful
Christmas Trees so that the
Light of the World—Jesus will
shine for all to see!
This is an opportunity to honor
or remember in a special way
our loved ones.**



Saint Ephrem Christmas Card

10 Cards for \$20.00

*Limited quantities are available.
Contact the Rectory to purchase a pack.*

Mass Intentions for the week of November 5, 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, November 4th

8:45 AM Calvin Bunch
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
Leonard J. Dimino
Richard Williams
Jozef Cupela
Marybeth McGivney-Maffa
Adrienne & Frank Marciano
Antoinette Minko
Kathleen & Peter Zertuche
Debbie DeAscentiis

Sunday, November 5th

8:00 AM Raffaella Rapa
11:00 AM Graffagnino & Savarese Families

Monday, November 6th

7:00 AM Antoinette Minko
8:45 AM Teresa, Cecilia & Cosimo Cavallaro

Tuesday, November 7th

7:00 AM John Carr
8:45 AM For the Intentions of Rose Mazzone

Wednesday, November 8th

7:00 AM Valerie F. Patterson
8:45 AM **St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Mass**
Amelia Salazar

Thursday, November 9th

7:00 AM Joseph & Mary Patterson
8:45 AM Remmo Gioino

Friday, November 10th

No 7:00 AM Mass

8:45 AM Matthew A. Gilmartin

Saturday, November 11th


8:45 AM Millicent Patterson
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
Leonard J. Dimino
Alphonse Gallo
Patricia Baxter
Florence Dalton
Rocco Loccisano
Antoinette Minko
Espedito Parascandolo
Stella Kelly
Maria Ortega

Sunday, November 12th

8:00 AM Grazia Provenza
11:00 AM Mary Bonfiglio

MEMORIALS

You can honor or remember a loved one by requesting a Mass intention, Bread & Wine, Altar Candles, Sanctuary Lamp, Flowers for The Tabernacle Altar, Blessed Mother Altar and Holy Family Altar. Please contact the rectory if interested.



November 5-11, 2023

Did you know that in our country, compared to 60 years ago, there are 20,000 fewer priests and 129,000 fewer religious sisters? At the same time, the Catholic population has grown steadily. During Vocation Awareness Week, please pray that young people in today's society will hear and respond to God's call. And do your part to encourage them to consider the priesthood and consecrated life.

"Let us not forget that Christian marriage is a vocation to holiness in the full sense of the word, and that the example of holy parents is the first condition favorable for the flowering of priestly and religious vocations."
Pope Benedict XV



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



October 29, 2023 157 Envelopes \$5,143.00
 Annual Catholic Appeal \$4,053.00
 We Share 12 Donors \$ 304.00

Attendance 409

Saturday 5:00 p.m. 97 Sunday 8:00 a.m. 84
 Sunday 11:00 a.m. 228

907 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 22, 2023
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	249
Amount Pledged*	\$1,363,812.64
Paid to Date	\$1,214,679.31
Percent of Goal	120%

Thank You for your Generosity!

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

Saint Ephrem, pray for us!



FORMED®



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

PARISH & COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Altar Servers

*Welcoming
 Adults
 and
 Children
 (Grades 3 and up)*



Training Dates in Church

Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 10:00 am
 and
 Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 10:00 am

Mass of Installation

Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 11:00 am

Is God Calling You?

*Please contact the Rectory
 (718) 833-1010*

music@stephremparish-brooklyn.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society

will be here on

Sunday, November 12
 8:00 am to 12:30 pm
 In front of the Church
 (Main Entrance)



All types of clean usable clothing,
 blankets and towels will be accepted.

Jesus came to heal the whole person, body & soul

In the Church's Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, through the ministry of the priest, it is Jesus who touches the sick to heal them from sin – and sometimes even from physical ailment. His cures were signs of the coming of the Kingdom of God. The core message of his healing tells us of his plan to conquer sin and death by his dying and rising.



The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. A careful judgment about the serious nature of the illness is sufficient.

When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age.

Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 5:00 pm Mass
If you wish to be anointed please fill the card by the doors of the Church and return it back by November 5th!