

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. Nicholas Colalella, *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*

February 25, 2024
Second Sunday of Lent



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.

Second Sunday of Lent



February 25, 2024

"This is my beloved Son."

Mark 9:2-10

Dear Parishioners:

Today's readings focus on two beloved sons of adoring parents: Isaac, the child promised to Abraham and Sarah; and Jesus, the Son of God. In the first reading, Abraham faces an unimaginable call from God to offer his son Isaac, *"your only one, whom you love,"* as a sacrifice. The same God who promised Abraham that his descendants would *be "as countless as the stars of the sky"* is now asking him to give up his only son? No doubt with an aching heart, Abraham responds to his Creator: *"Here I am!"*

Abraham displays incredible trust in God and in God's ability to fulfil promises in new, mysterious ways. God rewards Abraham's trust by allowing a ram to take Isaac's place on the altar of sacrifice. God may never ask us to make such a dramatic sacrifice, but God does ask us for complete trust. Especially in times of destruction and death, God wants us to be assured of God's steadfast love for us. We will surely be tested, and as with Abraham, God will give us the strength to persevere.

The gospel of the transfiguration also centers on a son who will be sacrificed. The cross is a scandalous and integral part of Jesus' narrative. We cannot jump to the resurrection without journeying through the pain of the cross. From the cloud, God calls Peter, James, John, and all disciples in the future to listen to God's beloved Son. Listen to his passion. Listen to his death. Listen to his glory in the world to come.

This week we begin our Tuesdays of Lent. We will gather for a Movie and a Meal, at 6:00 pm in St. Ephrem Catholic Academy's Cafeteria. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP by calling the Rectory or by completing the form on our website. I hope to see you there.

In the Good Shepherd,

2024

Lucky March

Calendar Raffle

31 Chances to Win!!!

2 Chances to win
\$200

3 chances to win
\$100

5 chances to win
\$75

20 chances to win
\$50

And

The Grand Prize of
\$1,000

Calendars available at
the rectory and the
doors of the church



Easter 2024

*"I am the Resurrection and
the Life!"*

Remember or Honor a loved one during the
Easter Season
(March 31st—May 19)
with a

Solar Cross Light

which will be placed on St. Ephrem's Lawn

Your loved one's name
will be placed on the cross.

\$50.00 per Cross

One Individual Name or Family Name.

Applications are available at the rectory and the
doors of the church

LENT

A SEASON OF REFLECTION,
RENEWAL, AND PREPARATION

Stations of the Cross Fridays Lent

Following the 8:45 am Mass
& 7:00 pm in Church



Tuesdays of Lenten

Each Tuesday we will gather to view and discuss a movie in St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Cafeteria. Help us plan appropriately by either calling the rectory or completing the registration form on our website by February 21st.

Tuesday, February 27th at 6:00 pm
with Pope John XXIII: Pope of Peace



Tuesday, March 5th at 6:00 pm
*with Pope Paul VI:
The Pope in the Tempest*



Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00 pm
with Pope John Paul I: The Smile of God



Please complete the form on our website to RSVP
www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org/len-and-beyond

"I think this is truly the most wonderful experience we can have: to belong to a people walking, journeying through history together with our Lord, who walks among us! We are not alone; we do not walk alone. We are part of the one flock of Christ that walks together."

Pope Francis, The Church of Mercy

JOIN US FOR THE

2024 Diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage

February 14 to March 27

Visit 40 churches throughout Brooklyn and Queens for a celebration of the gift of the Holy Eucharist.

**Download your FREE
Lenten Pilgrimage App.**

Use the app as your digital passport, track your progress, get up-to-date information, and join our prayer community.



The Lenten Pilgrimage App
is available for download on



For your pilgrimage schedule, visit:
dioceseofbrooklyn.org/Lent

Keep the conversation going on social media and share your pilgrimage journey using #ChristisHere, #RealPresence, #ChristinNYC, #Lent2024



Our Deanery (B9) will be hosting the Eucharistic Pilgrimage on Wednesday, Marcy 13th at St. Patrick's and on Thursday, March 14th at St. Ephrem. The Schedules for both churches can be found on the Pilgrimage Web Site.

Alejandro Monteverde's new film, "Cabriní," tells the true story of Francesca Cabriní — also known as St. Frances Xavier Cabriní — and will be released by Angel Studios on International Women's Day, **March 8th.**

"**Cabriní**" takes place in 1889 when hostility toward Italian immigrants ran high in New York. As an Italian immigrant, Cabriní was greeted by not only hostility but also crime, disease, and dangerous living conditions, especially for orphaned children. She and her religious sisters — of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus — set out on the dangerous mission to provide housing and education for society's most vulnerable.



**Through the generosity of Connors & Sullivan Attorneys at Law, they are offering a free screening on Tuesday, March 12th at 6:30 pm at the Regal UA Sheepshead Bay Theater. Limited Seating RSVP NOW:
Kristen LaBoy (718) 238-6500 ext 245 or
Kristen.laboy@connorsandsullivan.com**



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, March 10th Session VI

All should be attending mass every weekend.

PARISH AND ACADEMY HAPPENINGS



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



O.C.I.A.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Penitential Rite and Scrutinies

For those seeking initiation into the Catholic Church, the Penitential Rite and three Scrutinies are designed to help overcome their areas of weakness, and to strengthen their areas of goodness.

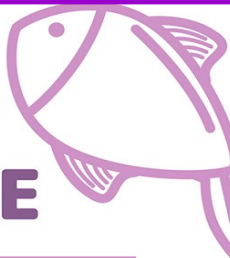
The Penitential Rite, which will be celebrated Sunday, February 25th at the 11:00 am Mass, marks the Lenten purification of baptized but previously uncatechized adults who are preparing to receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. This Rite encourages all the baptized to acknowledge their sins and failings and open their minds to the presence of Christ in their lives. Already one with us in baptism, our candidate, Russell Nickovic, seeks to complete his Initiation in the Catholic Church. He is strengthened and encouraged by your presence. He will be confirmed and receive Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Scrutinies, designed for the unbaptized, and take will place, March 3rd at the 5:00 pm Mass, March 10th at 11:00 am Mass and March 16th at 5:00 pm Mass. These rituals for the elect "are meant to uncover, then heal, all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen, all that is upright, strong and good."

This marks the movement from sin to grace, from old life to new life.

Our parish family joins with Anuhpam and Russel, in prayer, as they journey toward the Easter Sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

LENTEN FASTING & ABSTINENCE



Fasting

Ash Wednesday
Good Friday

Ages 18-59

Abstinence

Every Friday
during Lent

Ages 14+

How do we fast?

When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

Am I excused from fasting and abstinence?

Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women.

For more information on fasting and abstinence, visit usccb.org.



Mass Intentions for the week of February 25, 2024

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!

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.



Bread and Wine

In Memory of

Louis LaRocca

Requested by His Loving Family



Altar Candles

In Memory of

**The Deceased Members of
The Calderone and Kou Families**

Requested by The Calderone Family

Saturday, February 24th

8:45 AM Yolanda Corrado

5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
Leonard J. Dimino
Jerry Henderson
Leonard LoBello
Thomas Harkins

Sunday, February 25th

8:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory

11:00 AM Laura Martello Vesco

Monday, February 26th

7:00 AM John Sichenze

8:45 AM John Salvatore

Tuesday, February 27th

7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

Wednesday, February 28th

7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

8:45 AM Rosemary Tempera

Thursday, February 29th

7:00 AM Nancy S. D'Amato

8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

Friday, March 1st

7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

8:45 AM Msgr. Theo

Saturday, March 2nd

8:45 AM Maria Gorizia & Nicola Ierace

5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

Leonard J. Dimino

Joseph Sergio

Louis LaRocca

John McGrann

Anna Taibi

Concetta Mongiardo

Jean Faicco

Sunday, March 3rd

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Hyland and
Blundell Families

11:00 AM Thomas Costanza

St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Summer Camp 2024

Ages 4-12 (Campers must be 4 by the first day of camp)
Rates based on your summer schedule!

- Air Conditioned Facility
- Morning & Aftercare available
- Arts & Crafts
- Visits to McKinley Park Trips
- Tennis lessons available
- Meal Plan offered
- Special rates for siblings/paid in full

Serving campers from the
Dyker Heights/Bay Ridge
Community!

Trained counselors on hand
daily to ensure a safe & fun
summer season!

Online Registration available online!
Email us at summerfun@stephremschool.org
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
924 74th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11228
718-833-1440
(please leave email address when calling)
visit our website: www.stephremschool.org

End of Year
GIVING
Statements

2023
Contribution Statement
is available. To retain a
copy please contact the
Rectory Office.



February 18, 2024	150 Envelopes	\$5,616.00
Black & Native		
American Missions	80 Envelopes	\$1,447.00
We Share	43 Donors	\$1,337.59
Attendance 507		
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	125	Sunday 8:00 a.m. 96
Sunday 11:00 a.m.		286

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	February 20, 2024
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	249
Amount Pledged*	\$1,363,812.64
Paid to Date	\$1,267,989.31
Percent of Goal	120%

Thank You for your Generosity!
**Some pledges have been cancelled due to changing life circumstances.*
Saint Ephrem, pray for us!



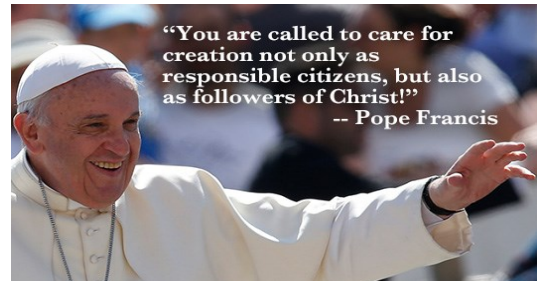
Sign Up by scanning QR Code.
Enter our Zip Code 11228
click on St. Ephrem, follow prompts

PARISH & COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



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

CARE OF GOD'S CREATION
CARE OF CREATION
 Did you know?
 Research suggests noise from shipping, oil exploration, and other underwater human activities may make it harder for dolphins to communicate and work together. (from The New York Times)



Annual Catholic Appeal 2024
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Thank you to all who helped our parish reach it's 2023 goal and beyond. The amount over goal will be returned to the parish. The 2024 parish goal remains the same. Thank you again for your generosity!

Parish Goal: \$100,198.00
Amount Pledged:
Amount Paid:
Donors:

Donate and contribute to fulfill our Parish goals

Scan the Code
 Or text **DONATE** to 917-336-1255
 Or visit: annualcatholicappeal.org