

# Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

[www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org](http://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*

March 17, 2024  
Fifth 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](mailto:FaithFormation@stephremparish-brooklyn.org)

## St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 ♦ 718-833-1440 ♦ [www.stephremcatholicacademy.org](http://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.bqpre-cana.org](http://www.bqpre-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.



## Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 17, 2024

*"If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit."*

**John 12: 20-33**

Dear Parishioners:

In today's gospel Jesus speaks in absurdity, reminding us that God is in the business of transcending boundaries and surpassing our expectations. He also reminds us that he is in the midst of transforming death. No more will it be a final end for humans. After Jesus completes the work of the crucifixion and resurrection, death is rather a moment of transition. It is a part of life rather than its end. Jesus himself contradicts himself here. He is, of course, troubled by the thought of dying. All humans are; it is not the fate for which God made us. But he accepts his impending death as the purpose for which he came to earth, and in his calm acknowledgment of this shows himself as something more than human as well. He is both fully human and fully divine.

Now is the time to remember the new covenant etched in our hearts through the waters of baptism and affirmed in the Eucharist. Christ Jesus, through his suffering, death, and resurrection, draws us into the hope of eternal life.

As Jesus prepares to walk to Calvary, Jesus shares a similar sentiment with the crowd, ***"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour."*** Jesus has broken into the world in order to heal the brokenness of the world. He has come to create a world of peace in which the lion sleeps with the lamb, and he is ultimately willing to die to make that peace a reality. It was for this purpose that he came to this hour.

As we prepare to enter into Holy Week and follow in Jesus' footsteps, for what purpose have you come to this hour? What is being asked of you, and how is the Spirit moving you to respond?

Please join us today for Hospitality Sunday in the cafeteria of St. Ephrem Catholic Academy, after each Mass. It's a great way to rekindle friendships and meet new friends.

Please see the letter from Sister Tesa and Sister Kathryn, on page 5 of the bulletin, of their decision to move out of St. Ephrem Convent.

In the Good Shepherd,

## Holy Week

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**  
Saturday, March 23rd at 5:00 p.m.  
*With Procession beginning at the Mary Garden*

Sunday, March 24th  
8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
*(Palms will be distributed at Mass)*

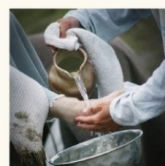
**Reconciliation Monday**  
March 25th  
2:00 pm-4:00 p.m.  
6:00 pm-8:00 p.m.



**Chrism Mass**  
*The Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph*  
Tuesday, March 26th at 4:30 p.m.  
Can be viewed via Cable at NETV

**Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday**  
Morning Prayer 9:00 a.m.  
**(No Morning Mass)**

### The Triduum



**Holy Thursday**  
March 28th

**Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 p.m.**  
*One teen will be receiving First Holy Communion*  
**The Church will remain open**  
**for private prayer until Midnight**

**Good Friday**  
March 29th

**Passion of the Lord at 3:00 p.m.**  
**Stations of the Cross at 7:30 p.m.**

**Holy Saturday**  
March 30th

**Blessing of Easter Baskets at 1:30 p.m.**  
**The Great Easter Vigil at 8:00 p.m.**  
**(There are NO afternoon Confessions.**  
**There is NO 5:00 p.m. Mass)**

**Easter Sunday**

March 31st  
8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
**Easter Egg Hunt by the Mary Statue**  
**after the 11:00 a.m. Mass**  
**Bring your basket!**





# 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



## Hospitality Sunday

March 16th & 17th



Please join us  
following each Mass,  
for light refreshments at  
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy!

*Renew old friendships & establish new ones!*



Fun for Seniors



Wind Creek Casino

April 3rd

For information & details please contact  
Frank Milea (347) 267-3644

JOIN US FOR THE

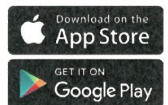
## 2024 Diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage

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



Scan to visit  
our website

For your pilgrimage schedule, visit:  
**[dioceseofbrooklyn.org/Lent](http://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/Lent)**

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



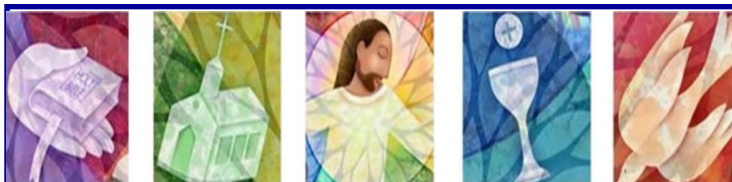
## 2024 Paschal Candle



The Paschal (Easter)  
Candle represents  
Christ the Light of the  
World. It burns for  
the entire year until  
next Easter.  
It will be by the Ambo  
for the entire Easter  
Season, and then  
placed by the  
Baptismal Font.  
It is lit for Baptisms  
and Funerals  
throughout the year.

If you would like to memorialize our  
New 2024 Paschal (Easter) Candle please  
contact the Rectory.





### 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/>



Join  
St. Ephrem Parish and  
Academy in  
celebrating  
St. Patrick.

You can march with us  
or cheer us on along the route.

Parade begins at 1:00 PM  
at 3rd Avenue & Marine Avenue

### 2024 Lucky March Calendar Raffle Winners

March 1st	\$75	Rose Mazzone
March 2nd	\$50	Fr. Christopher Heanue
March 3rd	\$100	Marge & Tony Russo
March 4th	\$50	Carmela Montanile
March 5th	\$50	Austin Milea
March 6th	\$50	Linda Cavalcante
March 7th	\$50	Martha Campbell
March 8th	\$75	Carol Ann Pallonetti
March 9th	\$50	Rich & Sara Barry
March 10th	\$100	Nancy Mazzone
March 11th	\$50	Debbie Hayes
March 12th	\$50	Kathleen McCarthy
March 13th	\$50	Clare Mazza
March 14th	\$50	Richard Baron
March 15th	\$75	Marie Zangari

Thank You to all who have participated  
in our March Calendar Raffle!  
Congratulations to the Winners!  
The next drawing is March 31st.

### 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*



### 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 is 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.



## Mass Intentions for the week of March 17, 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!**

### Saturday, March 16th

8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem  
Leonard J. Dimino  
John Riordan  
Florence & Benjamin Nigro  
Vincent J. Dougherty  
Paul A. Vallone  
Mario & Pietra Trantino  
Jean M. Faicco  
Lucy Malverty  
Dennis Malanga

### Sunday, March 17th

8:00 AM Reidy & Ryan Families  
11:00 AM Louise Montgomery

### Monday, March 18th

7:00 AM For Souls in Purgatory  
8:45 AM Carolyn Bednarek

### Tuesday, March 19th

7:00 AM Joseph Iannaci, Sr.  
8:45 AM Maria Victoria Nestico

### Wednesday, March 20th

7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM **St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Mass**  
John Riordan

### Thursday, March 21st

7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

### Friday, March 22nd

7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM Arturo Apuzzo

### Saturday, March 23rd

8:45 AM Nicholas Aldawaliby  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem  
Leonard J. Dimino  
Msgr. Theo  
Natalino Guglielmetti  
Florence & Benjamin Nigro  
Raffaella Gambardella  
Souad Kamel  
Thelma D. Juadoing  
Abigail Jean Pierre

### Sunday, March 24th

8:00 AM Michael Lepore  
11:00 AM Salvatore Bonfiglio

## MEMORIALS



### Bread and Wine

In Memory of

**The DiPretoro & Tuorto Families**  
*Requested by Their Loving Families*



### Altar Candles

In Memory of

**Gina & Francesco Giacumini**  
*Requested by Linda Gaglia & Family*



### Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of

**Frank P. Pfeifer**  
*Requested by Linda Gaglia*



Sisters of St. Joseph  
Brentwood, NY  
Uniting all in God's love



Congregation of the Sisters, Servants  
of the Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Scranton, PA

Dear Friends,

In early January of 1922, Father Richard Kennedy, founding pastor of St. Ephrem's Parish contacted Mother Casimir, the IHM Superior General at the time. Father Kennedy inquired about the possibility of missioning eight IHM Sisters to St. Ephrem's School. Mother Casimir was very happy to respond affirmatively to his request. Father Kennedy was a native of Scranton, PA and two of his sisters, Sister Pierina and Sister Mildred were IHM Sisters.

After many letters, conversations with the Diocesan Bishops and Catholic School Superintendent and Mother Casimir, the decision was finalized. On September 5, 1922, the eight sisters who were missioned to St. Ephrem's were together in their new home preparing for the start of a new school year on September 11, 1922.

For 102 years the IHM Sisters who resided in St. Ephrem's Convent were blessed by and deeply grateful for the goodness and warm hospitality of St. Ephrem's Parish and Parishioners. In 2017, the parish extended their welcome and hospitality to the Sisters of St. Joseph from Brentwood, NY who moved in and shared community with the IHM Sisters. Your welcome, as a parish community, enabled members of two religious congregations to live out their charism and mission among you. What a blessing it has been for the sisters and for the CSJ and IHM Congregations.

The CSJ and IHM Leadership teams have been discerning the wisdom of using a building as large as St. Ephrem's Convent for the number of sisters who are currently in residence. We came to the decision that it would be best at this time for the sisters to move to available CSJ and IHM housing. Between now and June, the sisters will be getting ready for the next chapter of their lives in community as they prepare to move. Know that they will be taking fond memories of you and the hospitality of your caring parish family.

Know that you are in our prayer and remembered with great gratitude.

God's blessings,

*Tesa Fitzgerald CSJ*  
Tesa Fitzgerald, CSJ  
President  
Sisters of St. Joseph

*Kathryn Clauss, IHM*  
Kathryn Clauss, IHM  
President  
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate  
Heart of Mary



March 10, 2024 179 Envelopes \$6,811.00  
Catholic Relief Services 90 Envelopes \$1,992.00  
We Share 47 Donors \$1,484.98

Attendance 525

Saturday 5:00 p.m. 105 Sunday 8:00 a.m. 110  
Sunday 11:00 a.m. 310

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](http://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 March 10, 2024

Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	249
Amount Pledged*	\$1,363,812.64
Paid to Date	\$1,268,589.31
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

### Easter Season

#### Divine Mercy

Join us for the Novena  
April 1st through April 6th  
following the 8:45 a.m. Mass.

Divine Mercy Sunday  
April 7th at the 11:00 a.m. Mass

Followed by:  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
Divine Mercy Novena & Benediction



#### Stations of Joy

Tuesdays of the Easter Season  
April 9th—May 14th  
Following the 8:45 a.m. Mass



#### Easter Bible Study

*"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead"*  
(1 Cor 15:20).

Join Fr. Nick for some time of study, reflection, and prayer with the Sunday Scriptures during the Easter Season. Sessions will meet every Thursday morning from April 4th through May 16th. Meetings will take place right after the 8:45 AM Mass in the rectory meeting room. If interested, please fill out the online form on our website or call the rectory: (718) 833-1010.



### 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
- \*Meal Plan
- \*McKinley Park Trips
- \*Arts & Crafts
- \*Tennis Lessons
- \*Special Rates for siblings
- \*Trained Counselors

Serving the Dyker Heights & Bay Ridge Community!  
Online Registration: [summerfun@stephremschool.org](mailto:summerfun@stephremschool.org)  
(718) 833-1440  
[www.stephremschool.org](http://www.stephremschool.org)



**Annual Catholic  
Appeal 2024**  
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN



Parish Goal: \$100,198.00  
Amount Pledged: \$27,515.00  
Amount Paid: \$19,966.00  
Donors: 31

**Donate and contribute  
to fulfill our Parish goals**

Scan the Code  
Or text DONATE to 917-336-1255  
Or visit: [annualcatholicappeal.org](http://annualcatholicappeal.org)

