

From the Pastor's Desk



First Sunday of Lent
February 14, 2016

*“You shall worship the Lord, your God,
and him alone shall you serve.”*

In today's gospel, the encounter of Jesus with "the devil" parallels our own encounters with "the devil." By resisting the devil's temptations to act as "the Son of God," Jesus fully embraces his human identity. By resisting the devil's temptations to act against who God created us to be, we fully embrace our human identity. Jesus chooses not to misuse his divine power, taking up the mission for which he was sent. We choose not to act against the divine Life God has bestowed upon us, taking up the mission on which we have been sent.

When we are tested by temptations, our faith is put to the test, too, and we are faced with a choice of who we are and how we want to live. Lent is a time to examine our choices. Lent is a time to grow in who we are.

For us, though, our desert is the demands of everyday living and our salvation is found on the cross. Each day we take up our cross and lay down our life for the sake of others, we are building strength to resist temptation and come to greater well-being. Our simple acts of kindness are helping us resist temptations. Our doing well whatever the task at hand helps us resist temptation. Our complimenting another or offering a word of encouragement helps us resist temptation.

We don't have to go out into a desert to find temptation! But we do need God's nearness to resist it. And that God has promised us.

In today's bulletin you will find the Annual Financial Report for the past fiscal year, September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015. You may notice that we lost money on our investments and due to extraordinary repairs and maintenance. We have had our challenges. I thank you for your continued generosity with your time, talent and treasure.

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



February 7 th , 2016:	466 Envelopes	\$13,450.00
Second Collection:		
	Catholic Education 138 Envelopes	\$1,380.00
We Share (Online Giving)	7 Families	\$203.00

Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!



<u>Parish Goal:</u>	\$980,000.00
<u>Amount Pledged:</u>	\$1,096,984.00
<u>Paid to Date:</u>	\$361,036.19

Your generosity to our Diocese and to our Parish continues to make a difference. Thank You!

December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016



JUBILEE OF MERCY

“We constantly need to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a well spring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it.”

Pope Francis

Stations of the Cross



We will gather to pray the Stations of the Cross Friday, February 19th at 7:30 PM in church.



Meditation on the Shroud of Turin

Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 PM in the Church



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



*The devil said to him, "All this will be yours, if you worship me."
Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve." - Lk 4:6a, 7-8*

Mass for the Intentions Week

Saturday, February 13th:

8:45am Nicoletta DiFilippo
5:00pm Nick Adamo
Mario Gaudioso
The Deceased Members of the Tevington & Burecke Families
Lisa Lombardi (Living)
For the protection of all life in China

Sunday, February 14th:

8:00am Patrick & Nora Murray
10:00am Matthew Rhinehart
12:00pm Frances Gambino
5:00pm For the People of St. Ephrem's

Monday, February 15th: (Presidents Day)

NO 7:00AM MASS

8:45am Catherine Dorney

Tuesday, February 16th:

7:00am For the People of St. Ephrem's
8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, February 17th:

7:00am John Carr (Living)
8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, February 18th:

7:00am James Campbell
8:45am In thanksgiving for St. Blaise

Friday, February 19th:

7:00am Vito Gentile
8:45am Vincent Ingenito

Saturday, February 20th:

8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory
5:00pm Peter J. Carlin
Steven Lopez
Mrs. Josephine DeFina
Anthony Guerriera
Frank Valenza

Sunday, February 21st:

8:00am Theresa Canny
10:00am Kate & Slavko Levacic
12:00pm Eileen Fitzpatrick
5:00pm For the People of St. Ephrem's



Pietro Scarso, For the recovery of Christina Flood, Baby Girl Cameron King, Thomas Stephen Ryan, Paul Murphy, Vinny Amato, Edward O'Connor, Adrienne Jacobs, Miriam Ligammari, Patrick Curran, Orazio Arrabito, Silvia Gutierrez-Lopez



BREAD AND WINE

THE BREAD AND WINE FOR ALL MASSES THIS WEEK HAVE BEEN DONATED IN LOVING MEMORY OF THEODORE CARIDI, REQUESTED BY, THE CARIDI FAMILY.



ALTAR CANDLES

THE ALTAR CANDLES AND THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNING FOR THE WEEK HAVE BEEN DONATED IN LOVING MEMORY OF YONG SUN FALCONE, REQUESTED BY STEVEN FALCONE AND FAMILY.



Registration for September 2016 is ongoing. Please call the School Office at 718-833-1440 to make an appointment for Early Nursery, Nursery, Pre K, K and grades 1-7. Parents must bring the following—baptism

certificate, birth certificate, immunization record, most current report card/State Test scores for grades 1-7. \$200.00 application fee per child (check/money orders only). All fees are non-refundable. Children must be present at registration for an interview with the principal or faculty member. *Please note: Registration will be scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am-10:30am and 1pm-2pm by appointment only.*



R.C.I.A.: Rite of Election

This weekend at the 10 AM Mass we will celebrate the Rite of Election. Jane Peck, a catechumen, will celebrate the Rite of Election with our faith community, here at Saint Ephrem as she begins her final period

of preparation and purification leading to her full initiation in the Catholic Church at Easter. With the assurance of our blessings and prayers, Jane will be presented to Bishop DiMarzio at Diocesan Rite of Election celebrated at Bishop Ford High School on Sunday afternoon, February 14th. Please remember in your prayers - Jane, her sponsor and catechists and all those who will come into the Catholic Church at Easter.



Adult Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation for Adults is celebrated on the Feast of Pentecost on Sunday, May 15, 2016. If you have been Baptized and received First Holy Communion, and would like to be Confirmed please call the Rectory Office.

FEBRUARY EVENTS AT THE SPIRITUALITY CENTER



A Lenten Retreat – “HAVING MERCY”
 Session 2 will be held Tuesday,
 February 16 at 1:00 PM. All are
 welcome.

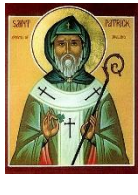
Spiritual Direction



Please call Sister Ann at the Spirituality
 Center at 718-921-9518 for information
 or to make an appointment.



You are invited to Bishop Kearney’s
 Gift Auction/Card Party on March 3,
 2016 at Dyker Beach from 7pm-11pm.
 To register or to make a donation please
 contact Lorraine Macca, at Lmacca@kearneyhs.org or
 718-236-6363 ext. 246.



Our Lady of Angels Church is hosting a
 St. Patrick/St. Joseph Celebration on Sunday, March
 6th at 2:30pm, featuring Anthony
 Kearns. For reservations call
 718-836-7200.

USHERS

Ushers are in great need of
 people to volunteer!! If you
 are interested in joining our
 Ministry, please find an Usher after the Mass you
 attend and leave your name and contact information.

Diocese of Brooklyn Annual Catholic Appeal 2016
Share the Joy of the Gospel

We are encouraged in a special way in this 2016
 Annual Catholic Appeal to share the Joy of the
 Gospel: by teaching and modeling Christian values;
 by practicing works of mercy, charity and
 consolation; by giving to the ACA whose ministries
 and services share our Catholic faith throughout
 Brooklyn and Queens.

Our Parish Goal \$104,459.00

All monies collected over goal is return to St. Ephrem Parish.

Last year we participated in the Generations of Faith Capital
 Campaign, which incorporated the Annual Catholic Appeal. As
 we begin the Season of Lent we are being asked to consider the
 needs of our brothers and sisters in our diocese.



**An Evening of Doo-Wop
 Classical Songs & Dancing**

Featuring

John Kuse & The Excellents
Singing Brooklyn's Doo-Wop
 National Anthem: “Coney Island Baby”

**The Fabulous Duet:
 Vinnie Medugno & Charlie Poveromo**

Saturday, April 23, 2016
7:30 PM to 10:30 PM
St. Ephrem School – Msgr. Peter V. Kain Hall

\$50 Per Person Includes:

Sandwiches, Snacks, Beer, Wine & Soda

**For Information & Reservations Contact
 St. Ephrem Rectory (718) 833 – 1010**

You can arrange for tables of 8 or 10 people.

Please make reservations by April 15th
No Tickets will be sold at the door.



MSGR. THEOPHILUS JOSEPH
 AND FR. RICHARD BRETONE
 FOR A MASS OF HEALING AT
 ST. EPHREM CHURCH
 FEBURARY 25TH AT 7:30PM.
 ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

CHOIR SCHEDULE

2/21	12:00 Mass	Adult Choir
2/28	10:00 Mass	Children's Choir
	12:00 Mass	Adult Choir



**The Rectory Office will be closed
 on Monday, February 15th in
 observance of Presidents' Day.**
There will be No 7:00 AM Mass

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ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: **Church of St. Ephrem**

CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

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Comments:
