

CHURCH OF ST. EPHREM, BROOKLYN, NY

From the Pastor's Desk



Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 3, 2016
"Peace be with you."

Today's gospel shows us why the resurrection makes all the difference in the world. When the risen Lord appears to the disciples locked away behind closed doors, fear is allayed by peace, sin is allayed by forgiveness, doubt is allayed by Presence, unbelieving is allayed by seeing believing. The Lord comes to the disciples a first time on that first Easter Sunday evening when Thomas is not present. Thomas makes known quite clearly to the other disciples what he needs in order to believe that Jesus is alive. He must encounter, see, touch –put his finger and hand in the wounds that he expects to see on Jesus' body.

A week later, when Thomas is present, Jesus appears to the disciples again, and responds to Thomas's unbelief. Jesus is not angry with Thomas for not believing he does not judge him. He simply invites: here, see, touch, and believe. Seeing-believing –for Thomas and for us-is not merely an exercise in intellectual assent, but a practical encounter played out through our acceptance of the risen Life that is offered us. We know to whom and what our belief is directed: to Jesus and the gift of risen Life. We know how we receive risen Life: through Jesus' gift of the breath of the Holy Spirit dwelling within us. Jesus' resurrection is a divine pledge of "life in his name." Risen Life is God's divine Life transforming who and how we are. Resurrection makes all the difference – for us, for all of creation.

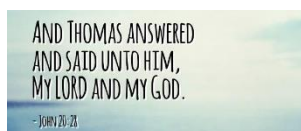
Today Divine Mercy Sunday we put our trust in the Lord. This is a special day, especially during this Jubilee Year of Mercy, in which we experience the Mercy of God. Pope Francis reminds us of God's Mercy:

Jesus' attitude is striking: we do not hear the words of scorn, we do not hear words of condemnation, but only words of love, of mercy, which are an invitation to conversation. "Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again." Ah! Brothers and Sisters, God's face is the face of a merciful father who is always patient. Have you thought about God's patience, the patience He has with each one of us? That is His mercy. He always has patience, patience with us, He understands us, He waits for us, He does not tire of forgiving us if we are able to return to Him with a contrite heart. "Great is God's mercy," says the Psalm.

— Angelus on March 17, 2013

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



church support

March 20 th , 2016	396 Envelopes	\$10,692.00
Easter Gift to the Church:	267 Envelopes	\$12,340.00
Easter Flowers	148 Envelopes	\$ 2,027.00

We Share (Online Giving) 8 Families \$200.00

Mass Attendance: 1,265

Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!



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



Our Parish Goal \$104,459.00
Amount Pledged: \$44,220.00
110 Donors
Paid to Date: \$26,762
Reached 42.3% of Goal

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

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



JUBILEE OF MERCY

December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016

"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



Movie of Mercy – Entertaining Angels

Tuesday, April 12th at 7:00 PM

A DVD presentation (1hr. & 51mins.) on the life of Dorothy Day, a native New Yorker. During the Depression, she vows to house the homeless, feed the hungry, and tend to the sick.

Please call the Rectory to reserve your seat.



St. Ephrem Church will be collecting non-perishable food items for the OLPH Food Pantry after all weekend Masses, April 16th and 17th. Thank you for your usual generosity!!!!

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER/DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" - Jn 20:27-28

Mass for the Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 2nd:

8:45am Purgatorial Society Mass
5:00pm Mary E. Durney
Mary & Carmine Calderone
Colleen Hickey
Filomena E'Gidio
Dennis Cascio (Living)

Sunday, April 3rd:

8:00am Clara Calabrese
10:00am Anne Lamia
12:00pm Louis Offitto, Sr.
3:00pm Divine Mercy Mass
5:00pm For the People of St. Ephrem's

Monday, April 4th:

7:00am Deceased Members of the Sichenze, Amplo & DeMaio Families
8:45am Francesco & Michael Iannelli

Tuesday, April 5th:

7:00am Margaret Kenny
8:45am Giuseppina & Vincenzo Spangolo

Wednesday, April 6th:

7:00am Mary Patricia Meyer
8:45am Giuseppina & Battista Sacco

Thursday, April 7th:

7:00am Liana Bonanni
8:45am Erasto Fernandes

Friday, April 8th:

7:00am Theresa Murray & Sylvia Razzano
8:45am Vincenzo Sperrazza

Saturday, April 9th:

8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory
5:00pm Frances Gambino
Joseph Francis Martin, III
Peter James Carlin
Clistina Boireau
Onofrio Lomangino

Sunday, April 10th:

8:00am Lawrence Morrish
10:00am Dume Pocina
12:00pm Frances Gambino
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, Marisa & Rita Schievello, Maria Concetta Conte Bedessi, Maureen Cashman



BREAD AND WINE

THE BREAD AND WINE FOR ALL MASSES THIS WEEK HAVE BEEN DONATED IN LOVING MEMORY OF ANDREA LaROCCA, REQUESTED BY, THERESA & CHARLES LaROCCA.



THE ALTAR CANDLES AND THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNING FOR THE WEEK HAVE BEEN DONATED IN LOVING MEMORY OF FRANCESCO & MICHAEL IANNELLI, REQUESTED BY, ELIZABETH IANNIZZI.

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.*



MADELINE T. SCOTTO MEMORIAL ESTATE SALE



All proceeds will benefit students attending St. Ephrem School, through the Madeline T. Scotto Scholarship Fund.

April 17, 2016 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
St. Ephrem Old School Hall

Cash only

BYO Bag and Best Offer

St. Ephrem Senior Citizen Club



Many thanks to those who completed the survey about re-starting our Friendship Club. Anyone interested in helping to re-start the club is invited to a planning meeting on Wednesday, April 13th at 1:00 PM in the Rectory Meeting Room. For more information, please contact Fr. Jim.

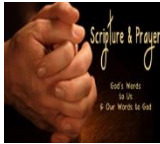
EVENTS AT THE SPIRITUALITY CENTER



Bereavement Support Group

A new Bereavement Support Group will begin Monday, April 11th at 7:00 PM in the Spirituality Center. Sessions run on a 6 week cycle. If you recently lost a loved one and would like to join the group for some compassionate listening, honest sharing, and consoling prayer, please come to the Center. Individual (one on one) sessions are available on request.

The 12 Keys to Spiritual Vitality Program – Session 7 “Let Go of Anger and Other Inner Turmoil” will be held Tuesday, April 5 at 1:00 PM. All are welcome.



Scripture Group meets Thursday, April 7th at 9:30 AM. New members are welcome.



Spiritual Direction

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



ATTENTION ALL ENGAGED COUPLES GETTING MARRIED AT ST. EPHREM'S CHURCH

On Wednesday, April 20th at 7:30pm in the church, we will have our annual Wedding Music Night.

Here you will have the opportunity to listen to all of the music selections, the singers and the different instruments available for your wedding ceremony. This is the **ONLY** night for 2016.

5th Annual St. Ephrem Summer Camp



Come join us for a summer full of fun!!!

Park visits, activities, weekly trips, water games and much more!! Camp begins on Monday, July 11th and ends

Thursday, August 18th. For more information, call 718-833-1440.

Camp is open to all children, Pre-K to 6th Grade (September, 2016)

Registration for our Camp & Enrichment Program
Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 2:45 PM
St. Ephrem School Cafeteria



El Camino Movie Showing

As proposed during Fr. Jim's presentation last fall about his pilgrimage walk across Spain to the tomb of St. James the Apostle, the movie about the walk, called The Way, will be shown on Sunday, April 17th

at 1:15 PM in the Rectory Meeting Room. All are welcomed and those interested in attending are asked to reserve a seat by calling the parish office at (718) 833 – 1010. For more information, contact Fr. Jim.



An Evening of Doo-Wop

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:

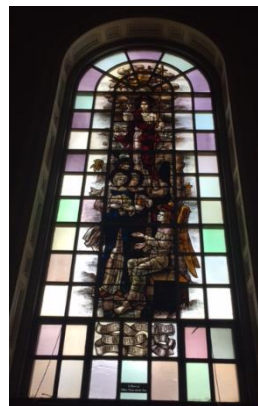
Sandwiches, Snacks, Beer, Wine & Soda

**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.**

**Understanding & Appreciating
Our Beautiful Church Windows**



As the sun moves into the northern sky, it is a good time to view in detail our beautiful church windows. An hour-long group viewing and discussion of the windows will take place on Sunday, April 10 at 1:15 PM.

Those interested in participating are asked to register at the parish office and it's okay to search for the elephant in the church before

the discussion. For more information, contact Fr. Jim.

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

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Comments:
