

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



[stephrembklyn](https://twitter.com/stephrembklyn)



[stephremparish-brooklyn](https://www.facebook.com/stephremparish-brooklyn)

Parish Staff

Rev. Robert B. Adamo, KHS, *Pastor*
Rev. Msgr. Peter V. Kain, *Pastor Emeritus*
Rev. Anthony S. Chanan, *Parochial Vicar*
Mr. Robert Cote, *Youth Minister*
Mrs. Michele James, *Business Manager*
Rev. Msgr. Theophilus Joseph, *Parochial Vicar*
Ms. Eileen Maguire, *Director of Faith Formation*
Mr. Thomas Marchesiello, *Director of Music/Liturgy*
Deacon Kevin McLaughlin, *Permanent Deacon*
Mr. Craig Mercado, *School Principal*
Sr. Ann Martha Ondreicka, O.P., *Director of the Spirituality Center*
Mrs. Lisa Pinsky, *Parish Secretary*
Mr. Thomas J. Sbordone, *Christian Awareness Program/Pastoral Care*
Deacon Anthony Stucchio, *Permanent Deacon*

Sunday, February 18, 2018
First Sunday of Lent



Rectory Office

929 Bay Ridge Parkway

718-833-1010

Fax 718-921-5232

Spirituality Center

935 Bay Ridge Parkway

718-921-9518

Christian Awareness Program

929 Bay Ridge Parkway

718-833-1143

Faith Formation Office

Office in School Room 307

718-745-7486

stephremreligious@gmail.com

St. Ephrem School

924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 ♦ 718-833-1440 ♦ Fax 718-745-5301 ♦ www.stephremschool.org

Schedule of Masses

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12 Noon, & 5:00 PM

Weekdays 7:00 AM & 8:45 AM

Rectory Office Hours

Monday—Friday: 9:00 AM—12 Noon

1:00 PM—8:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM—5:00 PM

Sunday No Office Hours

Parish Registration

All are welcomed and invited to register at the Parish Office and participate in our parish.

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 at 3:00 PM

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-ignite 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.



First Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2018

“Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels ministered to him.”

Every year the Lenten season begins in the desert. Mark’s gospel presents a brief account of Jesus’ forty days in the desert. Upon being baptized and starting his ministry, he was immediately faced with temptation. He was driven into the desert in an act of obedience to the Father. This is a time for contemplation and discernment regarding the tremendous task before him.

As a human being Jesus knew temptation; the gospel is clear about that. But for many Christians it can be difficult to imagine that Jesus was truly tempted, for he was also divine. And yet as he was fully human he was truly tempted, for he was also divine. Despite these real temptations, he overcame them. Mark does not tell us much about this period. Mark is intent to tell us in sparse text, without wasting a word, that Jesus was tempted by Satan. Jesus was fully human and experienced temptation as we do.

As Jesus was tempted we too will be tempted. Perhaps even our profound experience of faith and trust in God is tested. But after this period of testing, Jesus returns to Galilee, his home and proclaims the Gospel. In this he is a model for us, who will not live without temptation. We might have an experience of desolation that God is not with us in our trials. But like Jesus we can undergo this experience and emerge stronger, with the courage to proclaim the Gospel.

Often we know who we are called to be. Even in the midst of temptation, or desolation, we know who we are and what we ought to do. Following Christ does not mean a life on easy street without trials or perils. Quite the opposite. The Christian life is affected by obstacles, temptations, and pitfalls. As Jesus did, we are called to proclaim the Gospel, whether we do that at home, in our work place, or with friends.

I am grateful to everyone who participated in our parish Madri Gras celebration. Over 270 people gathered together and a fun time was had by all. Once again thank you for supporting our parish by participating in our events.

As we have begun our Lenten journey, our parish is offering many opportunities for you to “Come Follow Me.” There is a brochure listing for a Lenten Film Series, in addition to Stations of the Cross and our Lenten Soup Supper. Let us journey together and make the Lord the center of our lives.

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



*Please call the Rectory Office
for your 2017 Annual
Contribution Statement.*

February 11, 2018	285 Envelopes	\$ 8,548.00
Catholic Schools Week	154 Envelopes	\$2,363.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 743

Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!



Generations of Faith continues across the Diocese!

Generations of Faith Campaign Update as of January 22, 2018 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church

Campaign Goal	\$980,000
Total Pledged	\$1,071,119.00
Total Payments to Date by Parishioners	\$765,500.11
Total # Donors	197
Total Funds To Be Returned to Parish to Date	\$336,719.00

On behalf of the parish, and all of the volunteers who helped with *Generations of Faith* thank you for your prayers and support of this historic effort!

While we have completed our campaign, many parishioners are choosing to make their pledge payments to **Generations of Faith** automatically through online giving!

Enroll in online giving today!

FOLLOW THESE EASY STEPS:

1. VISIT: WWW.CFBQ.ORG/PLEDGE
2. ENTER BANKING OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION
3. CONFIRM YOUR PAYMENT METHOD, REFERENCE AND CONTACT INFORMATION
4. WELCOME! YOU ARE NOW ENROLLED FOR EASY, CONVENIENT AND FREE ONLINE PAYMENTS!

WHAT IF I NEED HELP SETTING UP AN ONLINE ACCOUNT SO THAT I CAN PAY MY PLEDGE?

To provide this service, we have partnered with Faith Direct, a leading online provider for the Church. Should you need help enrolling or if you do not have an email address, please contact them at [\(866\) 507-8757](tel:8665078757).

If you have further questions, call Catholic Foundation at (718) 965-7375, ext. 2210 and they will assist you further.



Mass Intentions for the week

- Saturday, February 17th**
 8:45 AM Dorothy Wall
 5:00 PM Mary C. O'Hara
 Paul Murphy
 Jerry Mignone
 Francesco & Paola Sorci
 Nicola Frasca
- Sunday, February 18th**
 8:00 AM Joseph Albano
 10:00 AM Joseph Giura
 12 Noon For the Intentions of Carmela Costanza
 & Nicolette Genzale
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Monday, February 19th**
NO 7:00AM MASS
 8:45 AM Vincent Ingenito
- Tuesday, February 20th**
 7:00 AM Peter D. Murray
 8:45 AM Philip Sanantonio
- Wednesday, February 21st**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Frances R. Sullivan
- Thursday, February 22nd**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 PM Angelina DiLucca
- Friday, February 23rd**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Roselyn Rainer
- Saturday, February 24th**
 8:45 AM Salvatore Circo
 5:00 PM Michael Sloan
 Paul Murphy
 Rosa & Vincenzo Comparato
 Gaetano Rizzo
 For the Conversion of Sinners
- Sunday, February 25th**
 8:00 AM Victoria Balsamo
 10:00 AM Concetta Salzano
 12 Noon Antonio Cartolano
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

*There are many Masses being offered without any intentions. You can honor or remember a loved one by requesting a Mass intention, Bread & Wine, Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp.
Please come to the rectory*



Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

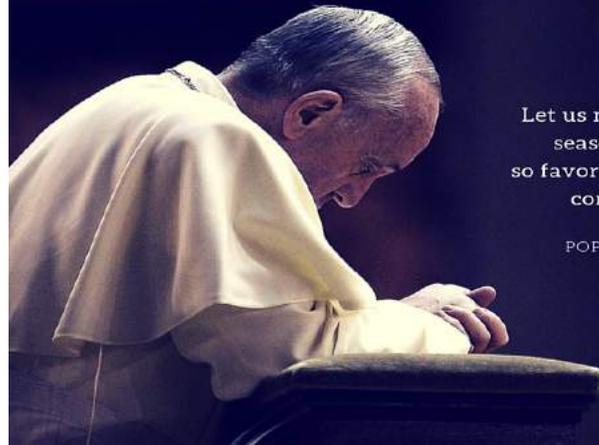
In Loving Memory of
Rosemarie Randell
*Requested by: Bruno & Rita Cavallaro
 And Family*



The Bread & Wine

In Loving Memory of
John Carr

Lent: Time For Conversion



Let us not waste this
 season of Lent,
 so favorable a time for
 conversion!

POPE FRANCIS



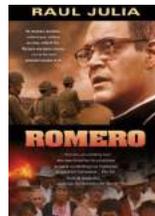
Friday's During Lent
Following the
8:45 AM Mass & 7:00 PM
All Are Welcome!

Monday, February 19th President's Day



*There will be No 7:00 AM Mass
 and
 The Rectory Office will be closed*

Lenten Film Series



Romero is a compelling and deeply moving look at the life of Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador, who made the ultimate sacrifice in a passionate stand against social injustice and oppression in his country.
 Approx. 105 minutes. Rated. PG-13
Sunday, February 25th at 1:15 PM
St. Ephrem Spirituality Center

YOUTH MINISTRY



Save the Date

Join St. Ephrem's Brooklyn Catholic Youth Day
Saturday, April 21st 9 AM - 5 PM
St. John's University

Open to all Middle School and High School Students
St. Ephrem's will join thousands of other young people from the diocese for a day of music, fellowship and faith. The bus will leave and return to St. Ephrem's parking lot. \$10 per person includes the bus and lunch.

For more information please email:

stephremyouthministry@gmail.com



@stephremyouth



SPIRITUALITY CENTER



Bereavement Support Group

A new Bereavement Support Group will begin Monday, February 26 at 7:00 PM in the Spirituality Center. Sessions are a 6 week cycle. If you have experienced the loss of a loved one and would like the compassionate listening, honest sharing and consoling prayer, please join us

Lenten Retreat:

"The Journey/My Encounter with the Community of Jesus"
Session 2 begins Tuesday, February 20th at 1:00 PM

Spiritual Direction

Sister Ann Martha (718) 921-9518

All are welcome!!!!



Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 7:30 PM

Msgr. Theo

Please join us!



DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

A Message from Bishop DiMarzio

As you are aware, the metropolitan area is experiencing a severe outbreak of the influenza that has sickened large numbers of person. While not life threatening to most cases, the influenza can be very dangerous if contracted by infants, small children, the elderly and those who suffer from chronic illness.

Due to the severity of this year's outbreak, Bishop DiMarzio has mandated that effective immediately, the distribution of the precious blood to the faithful at Mass, is suspended. This suspension will be lifted upon conclusion of this flu season.

We ask you to please use common sense precautions when attending Mass or other public functions, so the possibility of spreading this virus is minimized. If a person exhibits any signs of disease, please refrain from physically exchanging the sign of peace at Mass.

SCHOOL NEWS

REGISTRATION FOR 2018-19 IS NOW OPEN AT ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Don't miss out on scholarship opportunities!

Received a scholarship last year?

Re-apply by **March 30, 2018**

First time scholarship applicant?

Apply by **April 30, 2018**

www.futuresineducation.org

WE'RE SAVING A SEAT FOR YOU!

To learn about the benefits of a Catholic education, please contact **Principal Craig Mercado** at **718.833.1440**

924 74th Street

Brooklyn, NY 11228

stephremschool.org



Partnership with Bishop Kearney High School



PARISH NEWS

Adult Choir

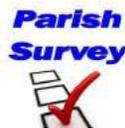


We are extending an invitation to come and join our Adult Choir. The generous sharing of time and talent by our choir members is truly a blessing. We encourage all who can contribute, to join us in our music ministry. Now is a great

time to join us as we are preparing for Holy Week and Easter. Rehearsals are on Monday nights beginning February 26th at 7:30 pm in the church. Light refreshments are served.

St. Ephrem Friendship Club

All Seniors 55 years and older are invited to join us on Wednesday's in the Msgr. Peter V. Kain Hall 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Doors open at 10:30) Do you enjoy playing cards, bingo, join in the 50/50, or just talk to your new friends, even bring your own friends for a table of your own. We look forward to your company!!!



We would like to know how we can serve you better at St. Ephrem. Please take a brief moment to fill out our Parish Survey, by visiting our website at: www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org

or by filling out a paper survey found by the main doors of our church and placing it in the box.

Thank you for your cooperation!

The Parish Pastoral Council of St. Ephrem



Christian Awareness Program (CAP)

Our next meeting is on **February 27th at 9:45 AM** in the Rectory Meeting Room

YEAR OF VOCATIONS

Brooklyn Deanery #4 Project
for Year of Vocations



Curtis Stephan: Hearing God's Call

An evening of song
and testimony!

Monday, February 26th, 2018 7:30pm

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
2805 Fort Hamilton Parkway, Brooklyn
(the Ft. Hamilton Pkwy stop on the F or G subway)

With Special Guest:

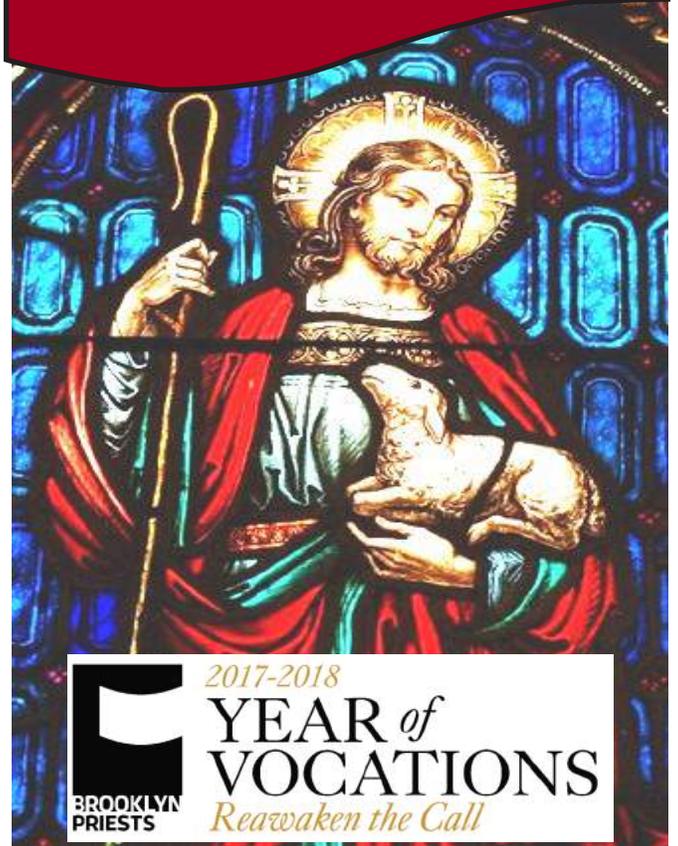
Guerin Catholic HS Music Department;
Noblesville, Indiana

From all across the world to your parish, Curtis has led prayer and worship, witnessing to the power of God's love, and calling forth the voice of the next generation of disciples.



YEAR OF VOCATIONS DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN 2017-2018

*"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you."
John 15:16*



2017-2018
**YEAR of
VOCATIONS**
Rearwaken the Call

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS



Lord of the Harvest, we petition you as you have instructed us to ask for more laborers to serve in the vineyard of your Church. You have told us that the harvest is rich and laborers are few and we experience this great need in the face of the challenge of the New Evangelization.

We ask the Holy Spirit to inspire young men and women to seriously consider vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Help all of us to be effective instruments to encourage and support those whom you are calling to serve and lead the Church of Brooklyn and Queens in the future.

Lord, you told the Apostles to put out into the deep. We ask for the grace and courage to respond to your call as we pray and work for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

We ask this in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Great High Priest, Amen.

Nicholas DiMarzio

Jeremiah Project

High School Discernment Group

Monthly overnights & experience
Christ through fraternity & prayer

March 2nd—4th

From Friday at 5:30 PM to Saturday at 1:00 PM

To register for this weekend please contact:

Vocation Office
(718) 827-2454
vocations@diobrook.org

Holy Hour for Vocations

*St. Athanasius
2154 61st Street*

*Friday, March 9th
7:30 pm—10:00 pm*

Guest Speaker:

*Sr. Shirlee Tremont, MPF
The Shrine Church of St. Bernadette*

