

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



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



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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 25, 2018
Second 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.



Second Sunday of Lent
February 25, 2018
“This is my beloved Son.”

Today’s gospel is Mark’s account of the transfiguration of Jesus. In the vision witnessed by Peter, James, and John on the mountain, Jesus fulfills both the Law of Moses and the Prophet Elijah. This story is a turning point moment in Jesus’ relationship with his disciples. In this extraordinary vision, Peter, James, and John perceive the divinity that is affirmed by the voice heard in the cloud. Though overwhelmed by fear, the three disciples realize that they have entered a new chapter in their journey with Jesus.

Throughout Israel’s history, God revealed his presence to Israel in the form of a cloud. On the mountain of the transfiguration, God again speaks in the form of a cloud, claiming the transfigured Jesus as his own Son.

As they make their way down the mountain, Jesus urges the three not to tell anything of what they had just seen. Whatever they would say would only confirm the popular misconceptions and false expectations of an all-powerful Messiah who comes to avenge Israel’s humiliation and restore Judaism’s political fortunes. The mission of Jesus the Messiah is to proclaim the kingdom through the cross and resurrection, concepts Peter and the others still do not grasp.

Mountaintop experiences are rare, and we cannot stay there, as much as we would like. The Scriptures give us a glimpse into that reality. Without warning Jesus was transfigured. The encounter with the divine often happens that way, without warning. And it seems that as soon as we have the encounter, it is over, and we are left to descend the mountain. We can share Peter’s desire to commemorate the event. It seems natural to erect a monument or some marker so we may return to this place of encounter again and again. But that is not to be. The three are left wondering what the experience means, and what Jesus’ saying about rising from the dead might mean. Of course, this experience and Jesus’ saying will become clear in hindsight, after the crucifixion and exaltation.

And this is a model for us of how the paschal mystery is lived. We have peak experiences followed by moments of wonder and discernment. In fact, such experiences may be rare, even as they were for these disciples. And the Christian life is not all wonder and discernment, as meaning develops gradually and in light of unfolding events. We stay faithful to Jesus and accompany him in the peak experiences and also in the struggle to discern meaning.

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



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

February 18, 2018 **255 Envelopes** **\$ 7,139.00**
Black & Indian Missions **147 Envelopes** **\$2,509.00**
We Share (Online Giving) **40 Families** **\$220.00**

Mass Attendance 628

Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!



How will our Parish Benefit?

St. Parish Goal is:
\$104,459.00

Once we exceed our goal, then we will receive 100% of all funds raised above goal. Last year we received back \$6,140.00. Thank You!

*Answer the Call to:
 Feed the hungry
 Welcome the stranger,
 Visit the sick & Imprisoned,
 Honor our elders,
 Celebrate the Eucharist & Educate & make disciples of all nations!*

Through your donation to the **2018 Annual Catholic Appeal.**

Answer the Call



The 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal helps support the works of our Church throughout Brooklyn & Queens in ways no one parish can accomplish alone. By participating in the Annual Catholic Appeal it supports the above mentioned ministries.



Generations of Faith continues across the Diocese!

Generations of Faith Campaign Update as of February 19, 2018 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church	
Campaign Goal	\$980,000
Total Pledged	\$1,071,219.00
Total Payments to Date by Parishioners	\$777,639.11
Total # Donors	197
Total Funds To Be Returned to Parish to Date	\$336,719.00



Mass Intentions for the week

Saturday, February 24th
Salvatore Circo

8:45 AM
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

Monday, February 26th
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM Josephine Mauriello

Tuesday, February 27th
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM Rosina Dastoli

Wednesday, February 28th
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM Rosemarie Randell

Thursday, March 1st
7:00 AM John Mollica
8:45 PM Angelina DiLucca

Friday, March 2nd
7:00 AM Rose Lefande
8:45 AM Nicola Irace

Saturday, March 3rd
8:45 AM Purgatorial Society Mass

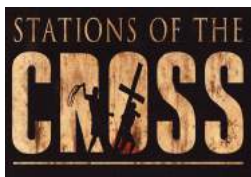
5:00 PM Paul Murphy
Deceased Members of the Pologruto Family
Joyce Clark
Michael Cennamo

Sunday, March 4th
8:00 AM Frances Mascari
10:00 AM Salvatore Bonfiglio
12 Noon Mary Rizzo
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*




The Bread & Wine
In Loving Memory of
Paul Murphy
Requested by: Michele Scotto




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

With the children of our parish
Wednesday, February 28th at 4:15 PM
Thursday, March 1st at 1:30 PM

All Are Welcome!

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

March 2nd
Following the 8:45 AM Mass
(or immediately following a Funeral Mass)
Benediction 12:30 PM



God's Mercy
transforms human hearts;
it enables us,
through the experience
of a faithful love,
to become merciful in turn.

POPE FRANCIS

First Honors
Jacqueline Avignonone
Shannon McLoughlin
Alexandra Natale
Congratulations to our Alumna who attend St. Saviour High School.



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

Monday, February 26 at 7:00 PM

Lenten Retreat:

"The Journey/My Encounter with the Community of Jesus"

Session 3 begins Monday, February 26th at 1:00 PM

Exploring the Sunday Readings

Thursday, March 1st at 10:00 AM

Bereavement Support Group

St. Patrick Parish

Sister Jeanne Elaine at 718-238-2600 x178

Our Lady of Angels Parish

Judy Chiarchiaro at 718-748-1164

St. Ephrem Parish

Sister Ann Martha at 718-921-9518

Spiritual Direction

Sister Ann Martha (718) 921-9518

All are welcome!!!!



The Scrutinies



These Rituals are celebrated on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent. As Easter draws near our elect and candidates of our parish, are asked to scrutinize or examine their lives so that they may successfully complete their preparation and find Christ through the Sacraments.

Next weekend at the Saturday, 5:00 PM Mass we will pray that God gives our elect and candidates a true spirit of repentance, a fuller sense of sin and the true freedom that comes with being a child of God.

Please keep in your prayers our elect and candidates

Christina Yee

Fauziah Faid

What needs Changing in My Life?

We start to come to know that by asking for help. "Lord, help me to know what needs changing." It is often said, "Be careful about what you ask for." This is one of those requests that God must surely want to answer. Then, we have to listen. With a little bit of reflection, most of us will just begin to "name" things that make up our ordinary habits and ways of being who we are, that we aren't very proud of. Things we do and things we never get around to doing. We can "feel" the call to change our attitudes, our self-absorption, or our way of interacting with others. Perhaps a spouse, a loved one, a friend, a family member, a co-worker has told me something about myself that gets in the way of communication, that makes relating to them difficult. Maybe I don't take God very seriously. I go to Church on Sunday, and contribute my share, but I don't really take time to deal with my relationship with God. Perhaps I've let my mind and fantasy get cluttered with escapist litter. I might begin to name a number of self-indulgent habits. I may realize I rarely, if ever, hear the cry of the poor, and can't remember when I've answered that cry. It could be that dishonesty on all kinds of levels has become a way of life. One of the roadblocks in my relationship with God and others may be deep wounds or resentments from the past, things I continue to hold against others or myself.

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

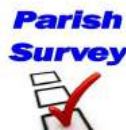


We are extending an invitation to come and join our Adult Choir. The generous sharing of time and talent by our choir members is truly a blessing. We encourage all who can contribute, to join us in our music ministry. Now is a great

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)

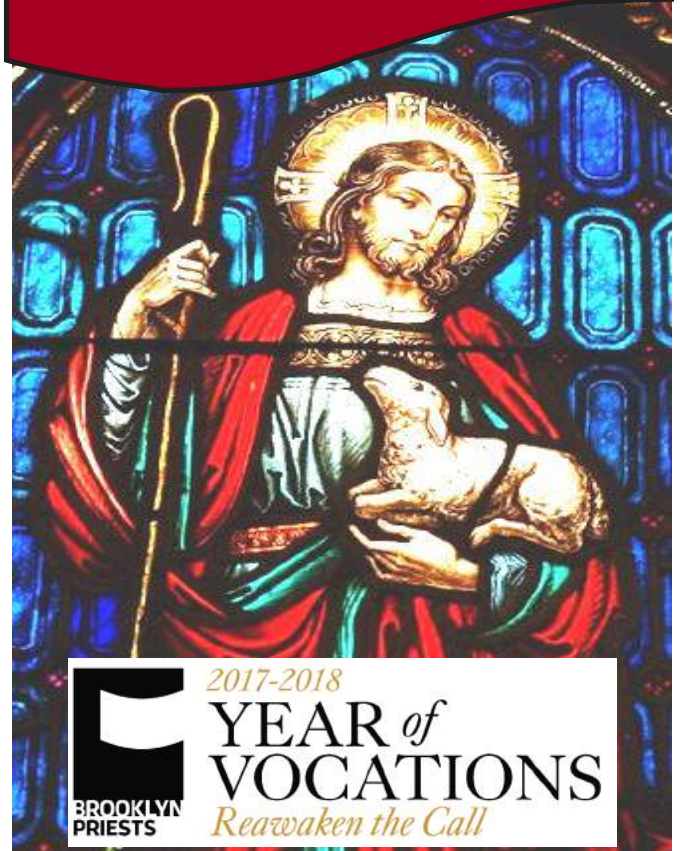
With Special Guest:
Guerin Catholic HS Music Department;
Noblesville, Indiana

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

Vocations Retreat

With Bishop DiMarzio

- ◆ -Encounter Jesus Christ
- ◆ -Hear inspiring talks from Bishop DiMarzio & Seminarians
- ◆ -Reflect on your own vocation
- ◆ -Spend time with God



March 2nd—4th

From Friday at 5:15 PM to Sunday at 12:30 PM

To register for this weekend please contact:

Vocation Office (718) 827-2454 or cdost@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

