

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 11 2018
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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.



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11, 2018

“The leprosy left him, and he was made clean.”

After many weeks we have come to the conclusion of the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark in today’s gospel. What a whirlwind it has been. From the opening sentence announcing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, son of God, to John the Baptist, the calling of disciples, casting out demons, healing the sick, including Simon’s mother-in-law, preaching in synagogues, and now concluding with the healing of someone with lepers, the story has been like riding a roller coaster. We reach new heights and move swiftly from episode to episode.

The cleansing of the leper is a climactic moment in Mark’s gospel. By just touching the leper Jesus challenges one of the strictest proscriptions in Jewish society, which today’s first reading from the Book of Leviticus gives us the context for understanding the social and religious repulsion of lepers.

The leper is one of the heroic characters of Mark’s gospel, along with such figures as the poor widow who gives her only penny to the temple and the blind Bartimaeus. The leper places his entire trust in Jesus. For him, there is no doubt: this Jesus is the Messiah of hope, the Lord of life. His request for healing is more than a cry for help—it is a profession of faith: “you can make me clean.”

Jesus’ curing of the leper shocked those who witnessed it. Jesus did not drive the leper away, as would be the norm, because the leper, according to the Mosaic law, had no right to even address Jesus; instead Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. Jesus did not see an unclean leper but a human being in desperate need.

Consider what Jesus does after healing the leper. He sends the cleansed leper to show himself to the priest “and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed.” This leper’s healing is a sign to the Jewish establishment, represented by the priest: that the Messiah has come and is present among you.

This weekend we will be burying the “Alleluia.” This week we enter into the Season of Lent and will not be singing the Alleluia again until we rejoice at Jesus’ resurrection!. We will journey with Jesus through the desert, His suffering, death and resurrection, giving us new life and once again we will sing Alleluia at Easter!

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



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

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| February 4, 2018 | 273 Envelopes | \$ 8,655.00 |
| Catholic Schools Week | 142 Envelopes | \$2,943.00 |
| We Share (Online Giving) | 40 Families | \$220.00 |

Mass Attendance 696

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 10th
 8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 5:00 PM Mario Gaudio
 Paulina Ashiagbor
 Maria Misseri
 Steven Lopez
 Paul Murphy

Sunday, February 11th
 8:00 AM Herminio Colon
 10:00 AM Barbara Maffia
 12 Noon Vincenza & Vincent DeLuca
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

Monday, February 12th
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Eileen Fitzpatrick

Tuesday, February 13th
 7:00 AM Dean Arnica
 8:45 AM Nicoletta DiFilippo

Wednesday, February 14th
 7:00 AM Peter & Theresa Murray
 8:45 AM Christopher Greaney (1st Anniversary)
 3:45 PM Prayer Service
 7:00 PM Prayer Service

Thursday, February 15th
 7:00 AM Grace Corley
 8:45 PM Mary Nicosia (100th Birthday in Heaven)

Friday, February 16th
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM John Carr

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 Carmela Costanza & Nicolette Genzale
 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

Philip Sanantonio

Requested by: The Calderone Family



Burying the Alleluia

As we prepare for the Lenten Season, we will not be singing Alleluia, our song of Joy. In the forty days of Lent, our period of deep reflection, let us think about how we can follow Jesus more closely, until we sing our song of Easter Joy—Alleluia!

What is Lent?

Lent is a season of 40 days, which begins on Ash Wednesday. It comes from the word 'Lenten' which means 'spring.' It is a time of repentance, reflection, and self-examination and a time to focus on your relationship with God. The Church has given us regulations on abstinence and fasting from food during Lent, but there are also many other things we can, and should **fast** and **feast** on. **Think about:**

- Fasting** from judging others & **Feasting** on the Christ within them
- Fasting** from discontent & **Feasting** on gratitude
- Fasting** from anger & **Feasting** on patience
- Fasting** from worry & **Feasting** on trust in God
- Fasting** from complaining & **Feasting** on appreciation
- Fasting** from bitterness & **Feasting** on forgiveness
- Fasting** from gossip & **Feasting** on silence

Friday's During Lent

*Following the
8:45 AM Mass & 7:00 PM*



**With the children of our parish
Thursday, February 15th at 1:30 PM
All Are Welcome!**

Ash Wednesday Schedule

February 14, 2017



*Ashes will be distributed during the
7:00 AM & 8:45 AM Masses
And
Prayer Services
3:45 PM & 7:00 PM*

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



Youth Group

Sunday, February 11th at 6 PM
Rectory Meeting Room
Grades 6-9

Faith Formation Family Madri Gras Night

Monday, February 12th 5:30—8 PM
*Service hours available

Save the Date

Brooklyn Catholic Youth Day
Saturday, April 21st 9 AM - 5 PM

Join us for one night or for every event.
For more information please email:

stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

 [@stephremyouth](https://www.instagram.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 I begins Tuesday, February 13th at 1:00 PM

Exploring the Sunday Readings

Thursday, February 15th at 10:00 AM

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

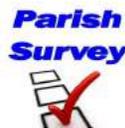
time to join us as we are preparing for Holy Week and Easter. Rehearsals are on Monday nights beginning February 26th at 7:30 pm in the church. Light refreshments are served.

Children's Choir

Our children's choir is now accepting new members from 2nd grade through 8th grade. Any children interested in joining our choir may begin attending our weekly rehearsals beginning on Thursday, February 8th or Thursday, February 15th. Rehearsals are held weekly in the Faculty Room on the 3rd Floor from 3:15-4:00. The children sing on Sunday's at the 10:00 Mass twice a month.

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!

5 **The Parish Pastoral Council of St. Ephrem**

YEAR OF VOCATIONS

THE WORLD TELLS US

**TO SEEK
SUCCESS,
POWER AND
MONEY;
GOD TELLS US
TO SEEK
HUMILITY,
SERVICE AND
LOVE**

POPE FRANCIS



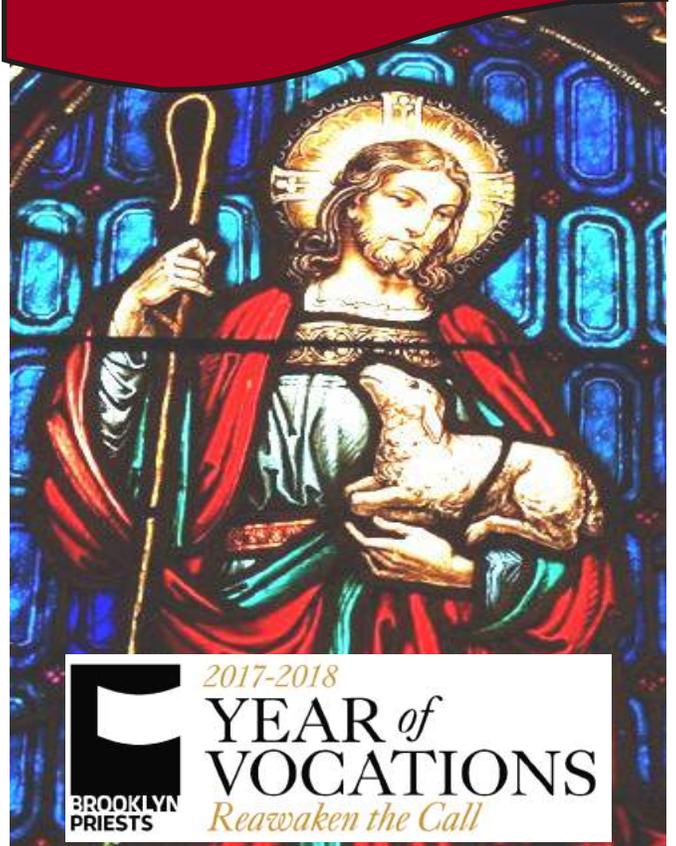
"Passage through Death to Life" Following Jesus through Lent

An invitation to young adult women
Saturday, February 17, 2018
10:00 AM—4:00 PM
Sister Barbara O'Dea, DW, Presenter

Daughters of Wisdom Intercultural Community
94 East 24th Street, Huntington Station, NY 11746
For information
bsassonedw2@aol.com
or call (631) 470-4896 or (347) 567-3997

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

BROOKLYN
PRIESTS

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



Permanent Diaconate Information Sessions

Information for men who feel called to the permanent diaconate

Diocesan Office
310 Prospect Park West
Brooklyn, New York 11215

Thursday, February 15th
7:00 –9:00 PM

To attend one of these above sessions, men must first have spoken with Fr. Robert, the Pastor, and register for the desired date.

"Serve one another in love." Galatians 5: 13