

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, April 8, 2018
Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday



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 Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 8, 2018
“Eight days later Jesus came and
stood in their midst.”**

The gospel for today is what we might call act 2 of John’s Easter drama, if act 1 was the discovery of the empty tomb. Scene 1 takes place on Easter night.

The terrified disciples are huddled together, realizing that they are marked men because of their association with the executed Jesus. The risen Jesus appears in their midst with his greeting of “peace.” The writer clearly has the Genesis story in mind when he describes Jesus as “breathing life into them (Gen. 27), the risen Christ recreates humankind by breathing the new life of the Holy Spirit upon the surviving company of apostles.

In scene 2, the disciples excitedly tell the just-returned Thomas what they had seen. Thomas responds to the news with understandable skepticism. Thomas had expected the cross (John 11:16 and 14:5) and no more.

The climactic third scene takes place one week later, with Jesus’ second appearance to the assembled community – this time with Thomas present. He invites Thomas to examine his wounds and to “believe.” Christ’s blessing in response to Thomas’s profession of faith exalts the faith of every Christian of every age who “believes without seeing.” All Christians of every place and time who embrace the Spirit of the risen One possess a faith that is no less than that of the first disciples.

Perhaps it is something in the human condition that we do not automatically believe good news, or news that might seem too good to be true. That can be a natural defense mechanism. But today we learn that God wants to surprise us with joy. He wants us to live in the life of the resurrection. Rather than be skeptics, he wants us to be joyful in the knowledge that his love is greater than even death.

Our own experiences of loss can be transformed with the power of God’s love. The marks of loss will always be there, as Jesus’ body was marked with the signs of the cross; but something greater is in store. We can never take away the experience of loss, the experience of death, and the experience of tragedy. But those experiences, can be made new. Being made new does not mean that the loss was OK. Rather, in spite of the loss, in spite of the transgressions, and in spite of death itself, God has another reaction. He raises to new life. God transforms pain, loss, and abandonment into life, peace, and lives countless times with relationships, friendships, family, work, and even the cycles of nature. Every fall and winter is succeeded by spring and summer. New life abounds, and because of this we celebrate.

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



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

March 25, 2018	349 Envelopes	\$ 10,934.00
<i>Easter Gift to the Parish</i>	<i>261 Envelopes</i>	<i>\$14,452.00</i>
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 669

Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!



How will our Parish Benefit?

St. Ephrem 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!

St. Ephrem Parish Goal	\$104,459.00
Number of Donors	11
Amount Pledged	\$16,130.00
Paid to Date	\$6,450.00

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: *Catholic Charities; Hospital, College & Prison Chaplains; Diocesan Vocations Office; Catholic Migration Services; Parish Assistance Program; Office of Faith Formation; Bishop Mugavero Residence for infirmed clergy; Futures in Education Scholarship Foundation*

Answer the Call



Generations of Faith continues across the Diocese!

Generations of Faith Campaign Update as of March 19, 2018 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church	
Campaign Goal	\$980,000.00
Total Pledged	\$1,063,569.00
Total Payments to Date by Parishioners	\$784,016.45
Total # Donors	197
Total Funds To Be Returned to Parish to Date	\$336,719.00



Mass Intentions for the week

Saturday, April 7th
8:45 AM Purgatorial Society Mass
2:45 PM Divine Mercy

5:00 PM John Russo
Louis DiPretoro
Paul Murphy
Mary & Carmine Calderone
Salvatore Cirmia

Sunday, April 8th
8:00 AM Theresa Murray (20th Anniversary)
10:00 AM Mary DeMartini
12 Noon Michael Cennamo
3:00 PM Divine Mercy Mass
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

Monday, April 9th
7:00 AM Matthew O'Connor
8:45 AM Erasto Fernandes

Tuesday, April 10th
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM Walter Hickey

Wednesday, April 11th
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM Eleanor DeLorenzo

Thursday, April 12th
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

Friday, April 13th
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM Roberto Jimenez

Saturday, April 14th
8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
5:00 PM Winifred Fugowski
LoriAnn and Randy Lombardi
Paul Murphy
Domenick Bergamini
Faustina Maddaloni

Sunday, April 15th
8:00 AM Peter Murray
10:00 AM Tony Grbic
12 Noon Frances Gambino
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

Catholic Wedding Music Night



Thursday, April 19th
at 7:30 PM
in our Church

The evening will provide you with an opportunity to listen to all of the music selections, the singers and the different instruments available for your wedding.



The Bread & Wine

In Loving Memory of

Theresa Murray

Requested by: Marianna Murray O'Connor



Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of

Joseph Calabrese

Requested by: Bruno & Rita Cavallaro & Family

We are proud of our Alumni!



Gabrielle Bonello	12th Grade	Principal's List
Arianna Kotsatos	10th Grade	Principal's List
Genna Mascarini	10th Grade	Principal's List
Brigid McEvoy	11th Grade	Principal's List
Adam Nash	9th Grade	Principal's List
Daniel Salib	9th Grade	Principal's List
Alyssa Zillini	11th Grade	First Honors



Chiara Moraca	10th Grade	First Honors
Anne Baghdadi	11th Grade	First Honors
Ashley Walla	12th Grade	Second Honors
Gabriella Guzman	12th Grade	First Honors



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food Pantry

We will be collecting non-perishable and non-expired food items the weekend of April 22nd.

Thank you for your usual generosity !

"Let the Church always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed, loved, and forgiven."

Pope Francis



YOUTH MINISTRY



Save the Date

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

For more information please email:
stephremyouthministry@gmail.com



@stephremyouth



St. Ephrem Youth Ministry Presents...



FOOD ● FUN ● FAITH ● FELLOWSHIP
ALL NIGHT IN THE GYM!

MAY 4-5 2018

9 PM—9 AM OPEN TO ALL GRADES 6-9

RSVP BY April 29th at

STEPHREMYOUTHMINISTRY@GMAIL.COM

SPIRITUALITY & DEVOTIONS



Bereavement Support Group

A new Bereavement Support Group will begin Monday, April 16 at 7:00 PM in the Spirituality Center. Sessions run on a 6 week cycle. If you have 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.

Spiritual Direction

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

All are welcome!!!!



St. Ephrem School Presents The 2018 Golf Benefit Friday, April 27, 2018

Dyker Beach Golf Course

Registration forms are available at the exit doors of the church. Please return forms by April 12th

*For more information call
Vince Blandino at 917-453-1795*

or

John Surace at 917-572-3557



St. Ephrem Friendship Club

Wednesday, April 25, 2018
Bus departs at 9:00 AM Sharp
\$30.00 per person,
with a rebate of \$25.00
\$20.00 Slots & \$5.00 Meal

For information please call
Frank (347) 267-3644
Reservations & full payment
no later than April 23rd



SCHOOL NEWS

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



Don't miss out on
scholarship opportunities!

**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

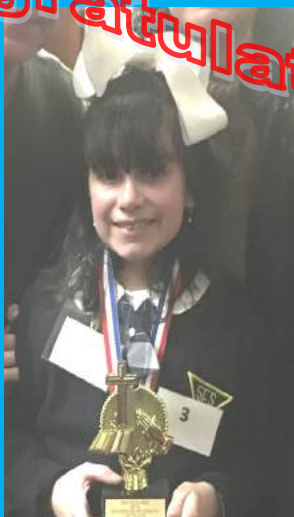


Partnership with Bishop Kearney High School



SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations



Ariana Ayala
St. Ephrem School 4th Grader
1st Place Finalist Winner Diocesan Religion Bee

St. Ephrem Summer Camp &
Enrichment



6 Weeks of Activities
July 2nd to August 10th
(Closed July 4th)

Registration is ongoing

Registration Fee:
\$65 per child or \$100 per family

New Options This Year!
3 days - \$175 per week, \$150 each additional child
5 days - \$250 per week, \$200 each additional child

Full 6-week program - \$1,500, \$1,200 each additional child
(15% discount available if paid in full by June 15, 2018)

For Information (718) 833-1440
summerfun@stephremschool.org

PARISH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Church of St. Ephrem



Friday, April 20th 7:00 PM
St. Ephrem School
924 74th Street



\$35.00 Per Person Includes:

**Snacks, Sandwiches, Cookies, Soda, Water,
Coffee & Tea**

Available for sale:

Wine, Beer & Signature Cocktail

For Information & Reservations Contact

St. Ephrem Rectory (718) 833-1010

You can arrange for tables of 8 or 10 people.

50/50 Raffle
Prizes
Basket Raffles

**Please make reservations by April 13th
No Tickets will be sold at the door**

Immaculate Heart of Mary Cancer Guild

CASINO TRIP

Atlantic City Bus Trip, Friday, April 13, 2018

Atlantic City Resorts —\$40.00

\$30.00 Return Package— Seats are still
available

Call Rosemarie Panzica at 718 853-4066

The bus departs at 9:30 a.m. in front of
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

YEAR OF VOCATIONS

Prayer for our Seminarians

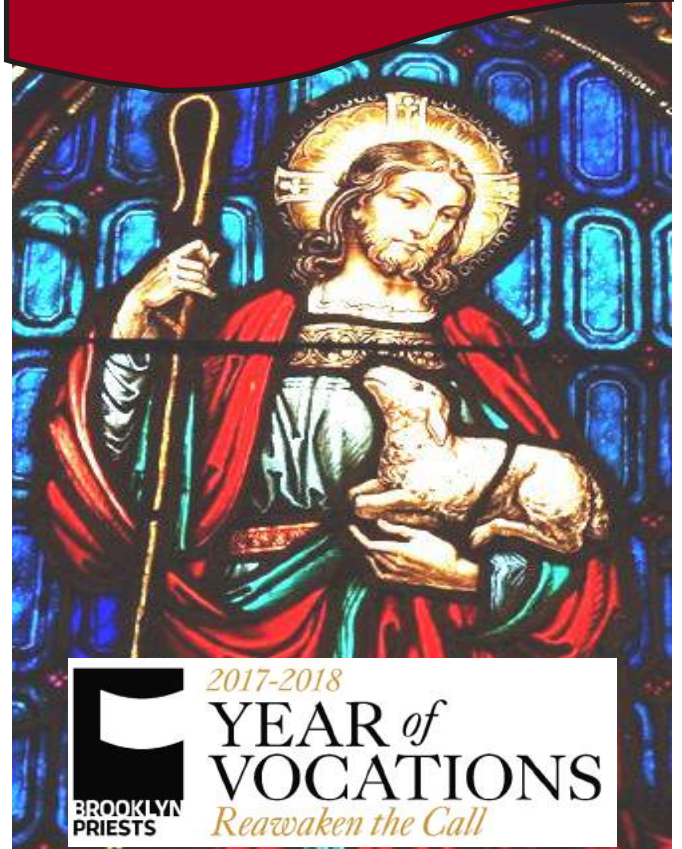
These men have answered Jesus' invitation to "Come Follow Me." Please take a Seminarian's prayer card (located in our church by the Vocation Banner) and pray for him so that he may continue in his journey toward priesthood.

*"They abandoned their nets and followed him."
Mark 1:18*

YEAR OF VOCATIONS

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*



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