

# Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

[www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org](http://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, June 24, 2018**  
**The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist**



### 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](mailto:stephremreligious@gmail.com)

## St. Ephrem School

924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 ♦ 718-833-1440 ♦ Fax 718-745-5301 ♦ [www.stephremschool.org](http://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](http://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.



## The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

June 24, 2018

“John is his name.”

Luke, in today’s gospel, is the only voice in the New Testament telling us about the family relationship between Elizabeth and Mary, making Jesus and John the Baptist cousins. Should we be surprised that each child was a charismatic preacher, attracting crowds, challenging religious and political leaders, and paying the ultimate price for their actions? What kind of relationship did Mary and Elizabeth have? What were their conversations to have resulted in the raising of two such sons? How did they act with one another and with their children? Perhaps surprisingly, we don’t hear much about either Zechariah or Joseph. Luke tells us more about the women, and their influence on the lives of Jesus and John.

As Luke tells the story, Elizabeth was three months pregnant when Mary received the news that she would bear a son. Liturgically speaking this feast is thus three months later than the annunciation (March 25) or six months prior to Christmas. The new born John is a herald of the Messiah, even by his very birth. Like the marvelous conception and birth of Jesus, John too has something marvelous surrounding his conception and birth. Like the forebears in faith, Zechariah and Elizabeth are too old to have children. But God had other plans.

Today we consider the role of family in our own upbringing and that of John and his cousin Jesus. It has been said that the family is the domestic church. It is there that children first learn the faith, first learn what is important, what is a priority. And actions certainly speak more loudly than words. How a family acts indicates its priorities. A nourishing faith life, which is so important for so many in finding meaning in daily life, is often nurtured first in the family. May our families be places of safety, nourishment, love, care and faith.

Churches are often the points at which significant life moments are ritualized, like baptism, marriage, or a funeral. Our faith can be nourished by such events, but also by the daily activities of life.

For Elizabeth and Mary, too, their faith was nourished by the joys of a new born with all the hope and promise that brought. On this day we recognize how fundamentally human our relationship with God is. Through the sacred event of a birth, which we know ultimately leads to death, hope springs eternal and we live again the paschal mystery.

Today at the 12 Noon Mass we welcome persons with disabilities and the deaf, through Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens. I am sure you join me in welcoming our brothers and sisters to our parish community.

In the Good Shepherd,

*Fr. Robert*



June 17, 2018                      242 Envelopes                      \$8,167.00  
Guatemala Collection                      \$1,942.00  
We Share (Online Giving)                      40 Families                      \$210.00

Mass Attendance 621

*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	176
Amount Pledged	\$87,502.00
Paid to Date	\$62,732.75

*Thank you for your continued generosity to help our brothers and sisters through these ways:*

*Catholic Charities; Hospitals,  
College & Prison Chaplains;  
Diocesan Vocations Office;  
Catholic Migration Services;  
Parish Assistance Programs;  
Office of Faith Formation;  
Bishop Mugavero Residence for infirmed clergy;*

### Answer the Call



**Generations of Faith continues across the Diocese!**

<b>Generations of Faith Campaign Update as of May 15, 2018 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church</b>	
<b>Campaign Goal</b>	<b>\$980,000.00</b>
<b>Total Pledged</b>	<b>\$1,063,769.00</b>
<b>Total Payments to Date by Parishioners</b>	<b>\$800,122.79</b>
<b>Total # Donors</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>Total Funds To Be Returned to Parish to Date</b>	<b>\$336,719.00</b>



## Mass Intentions for the week

**Saturday, June 23rd**  
 Matthew A. Gilmartin  
 8:45 AM  
 5:00 PM Frank & Maria Capodicasa  
 Dr. Tom Nerney  
 Joseph F. Mondello (8th Anniversary)  
 Stephen Affatigato  
 Douglas J. Kennedy

**Sunday, June 24th**  
 8:00 AM Agnes Vaz  
 10:00 AM Raymond Duffy  
 12 Noon Giuseppa LaRocca  
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

**Monday, June 25th**  
 7:00 AM Edward J. Durney (40th Anniversary)  
 8:45 AM Salvatore Alaimo

**Tuesday, June 26th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Thomas P. Sarro

**Wednesday, June 27th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Antonio & Elena DiMatteo

**Thursday, June 28th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Concetta Immacolata Mongiaro

**Friday, June 29th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Pasquale Sestito

**Saturday, June 30th**  
 8:45 AM Jack Costello  
 5:00 PM For the Intentions of Msgr. Theo  
 Roberto & Manuel Sandoval  
 Joseph Colandrea  
 Rajiv Goulab  
 Nora Randon

**Sunday, July 1st**  
 8:00 AM Doreen Delaney  
 10:00 AM Mary & Sal Bonfiglio  
 12 Noon Robert Romeo  
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



### The Bread & Wine

In Loving Memory of  
**Doreen Delaney**

*Requested by Frank & JoAnn Spadaro*



### Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of  
**Salvatore Calderone**

*Requested by The Calderone Family*



Our religious education program offers classes for children who do not attend a Catholic School for grades 1-7. These classes are held on Wednesday afternoons from

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM. Registration will take place in the Faith Formation Office. A copy of your child's baptismal certificate is required. Re-registration is also available. Early bird discount registration ends June 30th!

#### Catechists Needed:

We are always in need of extra hands. If you enjoy children and are willing to share our faith, please contact Eileen Maguire.

For information please call  
(718) 745-7486  
[stephremreligious@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligious@gmail.com)



The R.C.I.A. program is designed for adults who have never been baptized, perhaps been baptized in another faith, or baptized Catholic but never received Eucharist and Confirmation. This is an opportunity to explore life in the Catholic Community have a companion on your faith journey, and prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, and/or Eucharist, and Confirmation). What can you do to help someone who seeks to be a part of the Catholic Church? Accompany them to Mass; encourage them on the journey; introduce them to other parishioners.

*If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about RCIA, [stephremreligious@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligious@gmail.com) or call the rectory*

### Summer Super 50/50 Raffle

Once again we have our  
**Annual Summer 50/50 Raffle**  
available in church.

*Last year our winner took home \$1,530.00  
Collected to date: \$375.00*



### Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food Pantry

*We will be collecting  
non-perishable and non-expired  
food items the weekend of  
July 1st.*

*Thank you for your usual generosity !*

## YOUTH MINISTRY & HEALING



For more information please email:  
stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

 @stephremyouth

## SPIRITUALITY & DEVOTIONS



### 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

Please call Sister Ann 718-921-9518

All are welcome!!!!



## Holy Land Pilgrimage October 23rd to 31st, 2018

*Fr. Anthony Chanan*

\$3,199 from JFK Airport

For information please contact  
(718) 445-9377 or (212) 676-9070

## St. Ephrem Summer Camp & Enrichment



### 6 Weeks of Activities

July 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>

(Closed July 4<sup>th</sup>)

**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



Are you homebound? Are you or someone you know sick? Are you or someone you know going into the hospital or a nursing home or rehabilitation?

Please let us know!

Would you like us to send a card, visit, bring Holy Communion, or be in contact for any need—such as a walker, cane, homemaker or housekeeper.

Please contact: Tom Sbordone  
Christian Awareness Program (CAP) Office  
(718) 833—1143

We will be happy to assist you!

*"I was sick & you visited me.."*  
Matthew 25:36

## Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn Gives Back



St. Ephrem's could share in the profits. For donated cars, trucks or vans, running or not. The Associated Vincentian will give back to our church \$75/\$200 per vehicle. Maybe you don't have a vehicle, but a family member, friend or neighbor has an old or neglected vehicle in their driveway that they would like to dispose of.

Please call  
718-491-2525

or  
svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org.  
Thank you for your participation

# St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

Have Fun!



- Faith-based, Caring Environment
- Personalized Attention
- Early Reading and Math Skills
- Art, Music, Technology, and more

**Enroll NOW for 2018-2019**

For more information & to register contact us at  
(718) 833-1440  
[www.stephremschool.org](http://www.stephremschool.org)

**Think you can't afford Catholic School for your child?  
Please visit: [www.futuresineducation.org](http://www.futuresineducation.org)**



**WE'RE SAVING A SEAT FOR YOU!**

## Prayer for Priests



*Lord Jesus, we your people pray to You for our priests. You have given them to us for our needs. We pray for them in their needs...Let them see You face to face in the breaking of the Eucharistic Bread. Amen.*

On Saturday, June 30th, Bishop DiMarzio will Ordain to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ, Five Men for the Diocese of Brooklyn & Queens.

**Rev. Mr. Hung Xuan Cao**  
**Rev. Mr. Jose Diaz**  
**Rev. Mr. Patrick Dorelus**  
**Rev. Mr. Joseph Franklin Dutan**  
**Rev. Mr. Alessandro Giuseppe Linardi**

*Let us pray that they will be good and holy priests!*



Throughout this Year of Vocations, we are happy to share that our prayers have been fruitful. The application of Fifteen men have been accepted to the Seminary Formation Program.

*Let us continue to pray for these Seminarians as they begin their Formation Journey and that others will open their hearts and respond to the Lord!*

[www.whatsmycalling.org](http://www.whatsmycalling.org)



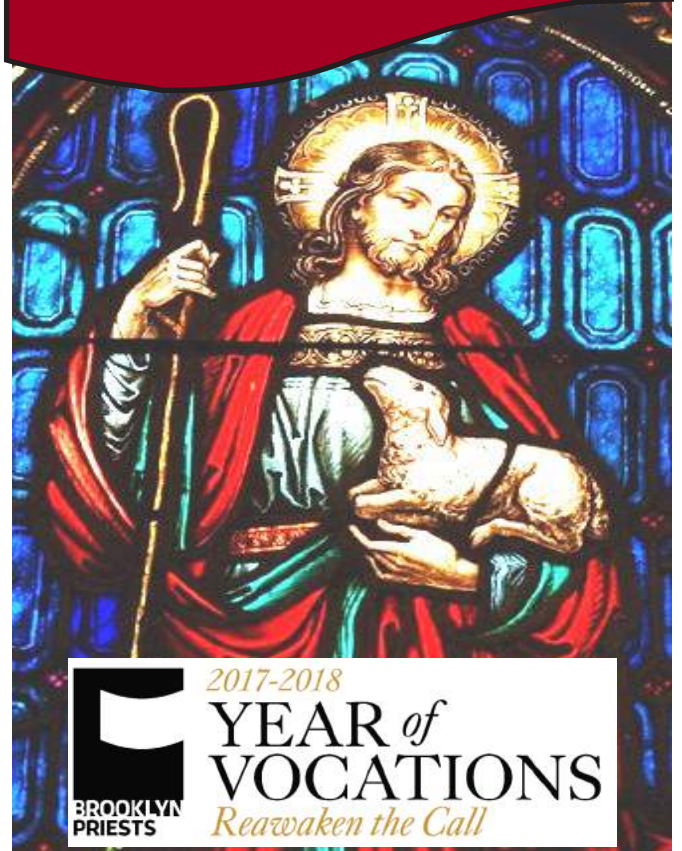
### St. John Vianney

*Was a French priest who is venerated in the Catholic Church as a saint & patron of parish priests  
Feast Day—August 4th*

**St. John Vianney, Pray for Us!**

## 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*