

# 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, *Academy 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*

September 23, 2018  
Twenty-Fifth 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

Third Floor of Academy

718-745-7486

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

## St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

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



**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 23, 2018**

*“The Son of Man is to be handed over ...  
Whoever wishes to be first will be the servant of all.”*

Conflicting hopes and expectations of the long-awaited “messiah” crash in today’s gospel.

A somber Jesus speaks obscurely of the death and resurrection awaiting him in Jerusalem, while those closest to him argue about their own greatness and status in the Messiah’s reign. It must have been quite a conversation among the disciples to cause such a strong reaction from Jesus! Many of the Jews of Jesus’ time dreamed of a messiah who would restore their nation’s political peak as it was under David, but Jesus explains to them (yet again) that the Messiah’s reign will be a kingdom of spirit and conversion in which humble service, not wealth and influence, will be exalted. Jesus makes clear the great contradiction of discipleship: Do you wish to be first? Then become last. Do you seek to attain greatness? Then become small. Do you want to be masters? Then become the servants of those you wish to rule.

To emphasize the point, Jesus picks up and places a little child in the midst of these would-be masters. A child has no influence in the affairs of society. Just the opposite is true: a child needs everything. To be “great” in the reign of God, Jesus says, one must receive the “child,” and become self-giving.

The parent’s love for a child is a true reflection of Christian love and service. The parent does not count the cost of late nights, extra food on the table, additional expenses, or the anxiety that can naturally come with a child. Instead, motivated by love, the parent moves beyond oneself to care for another. We are called by Jesus to behave in a like manner to others. We do not treat them as children, but we are to serve without counting the cost, to give without expecting anything in return.

Often either in past and in the modern world relationships are governed by a mutual beneficence or, more crassly, favor trading. Laws have been established to prevent the most egregious forms of this behavior, but it happens nonetheless at multiple levels. Though we are in the midst of the world, as Christians we are to have a different standard. Christians are to be of service. This kind of action may seem out of place. The maxim “Nice guys finish last” has more than a ring of truth to it. But Jesus reminds us today, “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be last of all and the servant of all.” The message is difficult to hear and more difficult to follow. For most of us they are not the values we see lived every day. But by enacting them we bring about the kingdom of God on earth.

In the Good Shepherd,

*Fr. Robert*



September 16, 2018                      280 Envelopes                      \$9,228.00  
St. Elizabeth Seton                      146 Envelopes                      \$1,886.00  
We Share (Online Giving)              40 Families                              \$220.00

**Mass Attendance 683**

**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!**

<b>St. Ephrem Parish Goal</b>	<b>\$104,459.00</b>
<b>Number of Donors</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>Amount Pledged</b>	<b>\$101,182.00</b>
<b>Paid to Date</b>	<b>\$89,521.75</b>

*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>\$819,500.46</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, September 22nd**  
 8:45 AM Helen Dunn
- 5:00 PM Mario D. Sbordone  
 Margaret Pinsky Dietrich  
 Special Intention for Fr. Robert  
 For the Intention of Jo-Anna Perrone  
 Gilbert Bonilla
- Sunday, September 23rd**  
 8:00 AM Mary Bonfiglio  
 10:00 AM Victoria Balsamo  
 12 Noon Michael A. Iannizzi  
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Monday, September 24th**  
 7:00 AM Esther Mutone  
 8:45 AM Victoria Balsamo
- Tuesday, September 25th**  
 7:00 AM For the Intentions of Maria Alaimo  
 8:45 AM A Special Intention for Sr. Marie Antoinette
- Wednesday, September 26th**  
 7:00 AM Theresa & Peter Murray  
 8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Thursday, September 27th**  
 7:00 AM Rose Crowe  
 8:45 AM Joseph & Raffaella Losardo
- Friday, September 28th**  
 7:00 AM Louis Offitto, Sr.  
 8:45 AM Maria Gorizia & Nicola Ierace
- Saturday, September 29th**  
 8:45 AM The Vellucci & Ballaro Family
- 5:00 PM David M. Durney  
 Audi Vurkio  
 Vita DePetro  
 For the Intentions of Jo-Anna Perrone  
 Pietro V. Puleo
- Sunday, September 30th**  
 8:00 AM John Vellucci  
 10:00 AM Caterina & Giuseppe Sama  
 12 Noon James Hayes  
 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 Angelina Spagnolo

*Requested by The Durso & Albanese Family*



### Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of  
Angelina Spagnolo

*Requested by The Durso & Albanese Family*



## 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 Catholic Academy

Welcomes you to  
Catholic High School  
Information Day

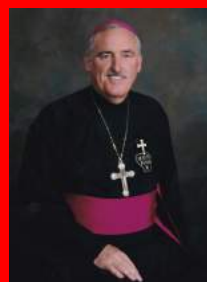
*Sunday, September 23rd  
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Msgr. Kain Hall*



## Silver Circle

Support the Retired IHM Sisters

For information please contact:  
Sister Mary Jane at (718) 833-1555



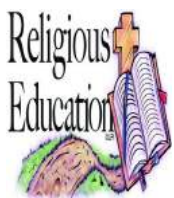
We are happy to Announce that  
The Sacrament of Confirmation  
will be conferred on

Thursday, October 11, 2018  
at 4:00 PM

Bishop Neil Tiedemann,  
Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn  
Celebrant



## FAITH FORMATION



All children who do not attend Catholic School should register for religious education classes beginning in first grade. Our religious education classes meet on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm. Diocesan regulations require that all children attend two full years of religious education before first Communion and then attend religious education classes faithfully each year until Confirmation, presently celebrated in the fall of eighth grade. If you need to register or re-register your children, please contact us at 1(718)745-7486 or email us at: [stephremreligiously@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligiously@gmail.com)

We will be happy to set up an appointment that is convenient for you. Classes begin on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to walking in faith with you and your family as together we pass on the Catholic faith to the next generation.

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



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, contact Eileen Maguire at 1(718)745-7486 or [stephremreligiously@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligiously@gmail.com)

## SPIRITUALITY



### Bereavement

A new Bereavement Support Group will begin **Monday, September 24 at 7:00 PM.**

#### **St. Patrick Parish**

Sister Jeanne Elaine at 718-238-2600 x178

#### **Our Lady of Angels Parish**

Judy Chiarichiaro at 718-748-1164

#### **St. Ephrem Parish**

Sister Ann Martha at  
**Bereavement Support Group**  
718-921-9518

### Mini-Retreat

**Monday, October 15th at 9:30 AM**, Sister Ave Clark, OP will give a Mini-Retreat on "Parables of the Heart." See flyers in church for more information.

**Tuesday, October 2**, AN INTRODUCTION to a FEMINIST INTERPRETATION of the BIBLE will begin at 1:00 PM in the Spirituality Center with Sister Barbara Reid, OP Ph.D. (DVD Program)

### **Spiritual Direction**

Please call Sister Ann  
718-921-9518

All are welcome!!!!



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES



St. Ephrem Teen Club will hold Registration on **Wednesday, September 26th in the Academy Cafeteria 7-8:30 PM**

**WE NEED YOU**  
TO SHARE THE FAITH

**Are you interested in passing on our faith to the next generation?**



Children in grades 1 through 7 meet each Wednesday afternoon from 3:30 to 4:45 PM to be informed about the

beliefs and traditions of our Catholic Faith, to share faith experiences and to be transformed by the love of God. Parents are the first educators in the ways of faith; catechists assist and support what families are already doing.

**If you think you might be a catechist, please contact Eileen Maguire at the Faith Formation Office at (718) 745-7486 or [stephremreligiously@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligiously@gmail.com) Classes for prospective catechists will be available to accommodate your schedule.**



St. Ephrem Basketball Registration is **Wednesday, September 26th Academy Cafeteria 7-8:30 PM.**

For more information email [STEPHREMBASKETBALL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STEPHREMBASKETBALL@GMAIL.COM). If you are looking to volunteer as a coach or assist with the concession stand, please call Brian Cassidy at 917-803-8176



For more information please email:

[stephremyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:stephremyouthministry@gmail.com)



@stephremyouth

## PARISH/ACADEMY/COMMUNITY NEWS

### *Immaculate Heart of Mary R.C. Church*

Presents

Parish Mission: Walking The Sacred Path with  
DAN SCHUTTE

Monday, September 24th  
Tuesday, September 25th  
Wednesday, September 26th

Mini mission follows 8:45 AM Mass  
Extended presentations 7:30 PM

Free Will Offering

For more information:  
(718) 871-1310 ext. 14 • music@ihmbrooklyn.org



Dan has been composing music for worship for more than 30 years, including extensive collaboration with the St. Louis Jesuits. His more recent pieces exhibit an enduring ability to reach into people's hearts and draw them into prayer. He is one of the best-known, most prolific and influential composers of music for the liturgy today.



Fun for Seniors

### Friendship Club is back!!!

All Seniors 55 years and older are invited to join us on  
**Wednesday, September 26th 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!!!

Norwegian Christian Home  
And  
"Right at Home" Home Care  
Presents  
"Learning about Dementia"



We are proud to present to our community, the opportunity to take part in an informative and supportive program which seeks to educate and console those who are experiencing and/or living with a loved one afflicted with Dementia or Alzheimer's Disease.

Join us on Wednesday, October 3rd at 7:00pm  
1250 67th Street  
Brooklyn, NY  
For further information contact Rev. Bill Redekop at  
718-306-5641

### Children's Choir & Bell Choirs



Our wonderful Parish Children's Choir and Bell Choir, which is open to all children of the parish from grades 3-8, are returning again this September. The children will begin their new season with registration and rehearsal on Thursdays

September 27<sup>th</sup> from 3:15-4:00PM. Those who choose to join the Bell Choir continue their rehearsal from 4:00-4:30. The children sing and ring bells at the 10:00AM Mass, just about every other Sunday and will learn basic music skills and vocal techniques while having fun. Some highlights of the fall season include the Thanksgiving Eve Mass when the children join with the adult choir to sing and the Christmas Eve 5:00PM Mass when they sing with multiple instruments.

**We are happy to Announce that  
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy has opened.**



**Bishop James Massa,  
Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn  
Will celebrate Mass on  
Monday, October 1st at  
8:45 AM with the School  
Community. Bishop will bless  
our new Academy. Light  
refreshments will follow.**

**All are welcome to join us!**



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



FALL FUNDRAISER

# ST. EPHREM FEVER ON SATURDAY NIGHT

DRESS TO IMPRESS IN YOUR DISCO BEST!

Featuring

**DISCO  
UNLIMITED**

**Live Show**



**\$50 Per Person  
Includes:  
Sandwiches, Snacks, Beer,  
Wine, Soda & Water.**

**For Information &  
Reservations Contact  
St. Ephrem Rectory  
(718) 833 -1010  
You can arrange for  
tables of 8 or 10 People**

**Two live shows  
1 Hour and 15  
Minutes Each**

**Dancing  
Best Costume Prize  
50/50 Raffle**

**Saturday, October 27, 2018**

**7:00—11:00 PM**

**St. Ephrem Catholic Academy**

**924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228**

**Please make your reservations by October 22nd**

**No Tickets will be sold at the door.**