

# 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*

November 4, 2018  
Thirty-First 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 following the 8:45 AM Mass

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.



### Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 4, 2018

***“Love the Lord your God.  
Love your neighbor.”***

In today’s gospel, Jesus “synthesizes” his entire Mosaic law into the one “Great Commandment.” The Jews knew these two commandments well. To this day, observant Jews twice daily pray the *Shema*: to love God “with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength.” The word *shema* means “hear,” from the first words of prayer, “Hear O Israel...” The text for the *Shema*, which is also inscribed in the mezuzah, the small container affixed to the door of every observant Jewish home, is found in Deuteronomy 6: 4-6, today’s first reading. The book of Leviticus outlined in great detail a Jew’s ethical and moral responsibility to “love” one’s neighbor. But Jesus is the first to weave these two ideas into a single commandment: “There is no other commandment greater than these.” The only way we can adequately express our love for God is in the love we extend to our neighbor; to do so is the beginning of the kingdom of God.

Last Saturday in Pittsburg, the horrific violence that our Jewish brothers and sisters gathered at the Tree of Life Synagogue, experienced sadden all of us. It is in a Synagogue, a Church or any house of worship that we experience truly the love of Yahweh – God’s love and mercy. May we be united together as brothers and sisters and share God’s love we all encounter. Love will always overpower hatred.

Today Jesus lets us know that the essence of the Torah (the first five books of the Old Testament), and to love one’s neighbor as oneself. The simplicity of this command is shocking to those of us who might prefer external observance demanded by prescripts and commandments. In many ways it would be easier to follow a set of do’s and don’ts rather than to “love God” and “love your neighbor.” When we love, there is no instructional booklet. There is no guide as to what to avoid or what precisely to do. Jesus’ words are meant for us too. If only we love God and love our neighbor as ourselves.

In the Good Shepherd,

***Fr. Robert***



October 28, 2018                      283 Envelopes                      \$9,055.00

We Share (Online Giving)        40 Families                              \$220.00

**Mass Attendance 845**

**1179 Families Registered and Receive Envelopes**

***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>\$101,862.00</b>
<b>Paid to Date</b>	<b>\$95,961.25</b>

**We are almost at goal! If you have not yet made a pledge or a one time donation, please consider supporting our brothers and sisters and the St. Ephrem Parish to make it’s goal.**

**We are only \$7,743.00 away from goal.**

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

### **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>\$1,062,069.00</b>
<b>Total Payments to Date by Parishioners</b>	<b>\$842,784.14</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, November 3rd

8:45 AM Cosimo Corsaro

5:00 PM Theresa Chao-Nan Kuo  
Lenore & Domenick Petito  
Joseph John Casesa  
Gilbert Bonilla  
Anne Culkin

### Sunday, November 4th

8:00 AM Mary & Jim Hamrogue  
10:00 AM Mary Bonfiglio  
12 Noon Sebastian Striano  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

### Monday, November 5th

7:00 AM Al Strynkowski  
8:45 AM John Carr

### Tuesday, November 6th

7:00 AM Pasqualina Stankus  
8:45 AM Michael & Winifred McNamara

### Wednesday, November 7th

7:00 AM Theresa Hall  
8:45 AM Pietro & Maria Corsaro

### Thursday, November 8th

7:00 AM James E. Durney  
8:45 AM Vincenzo Mazzone

### Friday, November 9th

7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM Maria Valentin

### Saturday, November 10th

8:45 AM Matthew A. Gilmartin

5:00 PM Michael Sloan  
Rosalie Grasso DiPretoro  
Angelina Femia  
Leonore Mary Petito  
Frank Tripodi

### Sunday, November 11th

8:00 AM Pat Giangregorio  
10:00 AM For the Intentions of the Maffia  
Granddaughters  
Graffagnino & Savarese Families  
12 Noon  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



### The Bread & Wine

In Loving Memory

**Gilbert Bonilla**

*Requested by Kathy McManus*



### Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of

**Jennie Mondello**

*Requested by Bruno & Rita Cavallaro & Family*



### **Altar Flowers**

**For all Veterans  
who have & continue to serve  
in our Armed Forces**

We are now offering an opportunity to  
Memorialize or Honor loved ones with flowers at

**The Tabernacle Altar  
Blessed Mother Altar  
Holy Family Altar**

*For information please contact the Rectory Office.*

## VOCATION NEWS

### **Jeremiah Project—High School Discernment Group**

Join our monthly overnights & experience Christ through  
fraternity & prayer.

**November 9th & 10th—Immaculate Conception Center**

### *Fraternitas—Middle School Students*

**Saturday, November 17th 1:00—5:00 PM**

**Cathedral Preparatory School & Seminary  
To register please contact the Vocation Office**

**(718) 827-2454**

**vocations@diobrook.org**

*Let us continue to pray for our Seminarians as they begin  
their Formation Journey and that others will open their hearts  
and respond to the Lord! Please take a card of one of the  
Seminarians by the Blessed Mother Statue and pray for him.*

**www.whatsmycalling.org**

*Saint Lucia*  
The Island of Light  
**February 14—19, 2019**  
From JFK Airport  
*Msgr. Theo*  
**\$2,450.00 per person**  
For information please call:  
**Peter's Way Tours**  
**800-225-7662**

## PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS



**St. Ephrem is hosting its  
Annual Christmas Fair  
Sunday, December 2, 2018**  
*If you are a vendor who sells only new  
merchandise, then we are the place!*

*If you bring your own table \$25.00.  
To rent a table \$50.00.*

**For information: deeb1326@aol.com**

## The Lay Carmelite Community of Our Lady of Angels Church



Is hosting an information session on  
Saturday, November 10th at 11:15 AM  
St. Joseph Center  
336 73rd Street

For information please call  
Angela (718) 234-0474

## Flu Season—Feeling Ill?



*Please be thoughtful of others and  
refrain from receiving from the cup  
and physically exchanging the  
Sign of Peace.*

## Election Day November 6th



*“We need to participate for the common  
good. Sometimes we hear: a good  
Catholic is not interested in politics. This  
by offering the best of themselves so that  
the leader can govern.” Pope Francis*

## The Book of the Dead



Will be available in our Church  
during the month of November.  
All are welcome to inscribe the names  
of your loved ones who have died  
this past year.

## SPIRITUALITY



**Bereavement**  
Bereavement Support Group  
Monday, November 12th at 7:00 PM.

Tuesday, November 6th at 1:00 PM ,  
AN INTRODUCTION to a FEMINIST INTERPRETATION of  
the BIBLE with Sister Barbara Reid, OP Ph.D. (DVD Program)

**Spiritual Direction**  
Please call Sister Ann 718-921-9518

All are welcome!!!!



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND YOUNG OF HEART



November 4th at 6 PM  
Service Project  
Faith Formation Office  
(St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Building)

For more information please email:  
stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

@stephremyouth



## St. Ephrem Friendship Club

All Seniors 55 years and older  
are invited to join us on

Wednesdays 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!!!

## St. Ephrem Friendship Club Sponsoring



**Tuesday, November 20, 2018**  
The bus departs at 9:00 AM Sharp  
\$40.00 per person & Casino gives back \$30.00  
For information please  
call Frank (347) 267-3644 till 7:00 PM  
Reservations & Full Payment by November 16th

## LETTER FROM BISHOP DIMARZIO



### Office of the Bishop *Diocese of Brooklyn*

310 Prospect Park West  
Brooklyn, New York 11215

October 29, 2018

My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

The Bishops of the United States are joining together in a commitment of prayer and reparation leading up to the Bishops' General Assembly. During those meetings, the Bishops will be making critical decisions in response to the current clergy sexual abuse crisis. With my brother bishops across our Nation, I will be dedicating myself to seven days of intensified prayer and fasting, from Monday, November 5, through Sunday, November 11. The intentions for this period of prayer and sacrifice are three-fold:

- *For the healing and support of all victims of clergy sexual abuse.*
- *For the conversion and repentance of the perpetrators and concealers of sexual abuse.*
- *For the strength of the bishops to be holy shepherds in protecting and leading our flocks from all harm.*

If you feel called to do so, you are welcome to join me in praying for these intentions. I would also be grateful for any prayers for me and my brother bishops during our General Assembly, that we may follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit in responding to the tragedy of clergy sexual abuse in the Church.

With an assurance of my continued prayers for you, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicholas DiMarzio".

Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D.  
Bishop of Brooklyn

**The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will gather for their annual Fall General Assembly, November 12-14 in Baltimore, Maryland. During the assembly, the full body of bishops will address a variety of topics most especially will be making critical decisions in response to the clergy sexual abuse crisis.**

# Altar Server Ministry Training

*Adults and Children,  
Are you being called to the Ministry of Altar Server?*

*The Altar Server's Ministry is a unique one in the Catholic Church. Other than priests and deacons, no one else is allowed to so closely play a part in the preparation of the Eucharist. Your participation as an Altar Server is special. When you serve the priests and deacons, you serve the people of God, and above all, you serve Christ.*



**Our parish is making available the Ministry of Altar Server to both Adults and Children, from Grades 3 and up.**

**If you are being called to respond to the needs of the parish as an Altar Server, please join us:**

**Training Sessions are after the 10:00 AM Mass in the Church:**

**Sunday, November 18th**

**Sunday, November 25th**

**Sunday, December 2nd**

**Mass of Installation, Sunday, December 9th at 10:00 AM**

Fr. Robert Adamo and Deacon Kevin McLaughlin, Moderators, will greet you .

***Please call the Rectory Office to register & for further information***