

# Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

[www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org](http://www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org)



[stephrembkyln](https://twitter.com/stephrembkyln)



[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*

January 13, 2019  
The Baptism of the Lord



### 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

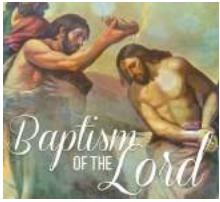
To make arrangements for communion to be brought to any parishioner who is seriously ill or confined to the house, or if they wish to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. To see a particular Staff Member, please call for an appointment.

## 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.



## The Baptism of the Lord

January 13, 2019

***“When Jesus had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened.”***

Baptism of an infant or adult can bring much joy, celebration, and love among family and friends. The baby or adult is welcomed into the Christian community, a community of grace, support, and encouragement in the face of all that life can bring. The Baptismal Ritual action has its roots not only in Jesus but in John, “the Baptist” who was so named precisely because of this action he performed at the Jordan River. The early followers of Jesus recognized that Jesus’ own ministry began after he was baptized by John, a story first recounted in the Gospel of Mark, which states that John preached a baptism of “forgiveness of sins.” This story is echoed in today’s gospel from Luke as well.

As indicated by the gospels, the ministry of Jesus began at or shortly after his baptism. And Luke shows that the Holy Spirit was active at this time, descending upon Jesus “in bodily form like a dove.” This is meant to show the supernatural and it is something we will notice throughout his gospel: Luke shows Jesus at prayer more than any other evangelist.

When we are about to make an important or life-altering decision we certainly pause to give it some thought. Before accepting a new position, a big move, or making a commitment to someone or something we likely ask God’ guidance and wisdom. Some state simply that this is a prayer. And it seems Jesus did the same: he prayed before he embarked on his ministry.

If Luke is certain to show us that Jesus prayed, we are sure to see this as an example for our own lives. We are to pray. Significantly, Luke does not tell us what Jesus prayed only that he prayed. And this has ramifications for us too. We are to be a people of prayer, who consult and communicate with the Almighty, seeking direction, guidance, wisdom, and insight before embarking on our way.

When we pray we imitate Jesus and the relationship he lived with the Father. We also imitate the early Christians. We recognize that prayer is not limited to the liturgy or to formal recitation of memorized texts. Instead, it is a reflection of the relationship we have with God.

Today we pray for those who have been baptized and welcomed into our faith community.

In the Good Shepherd,

*Fr. Robert*



January 6, 2019	278 Envelopes	\$9,104.00
Diocesan Mission	162 Envelopes	\$1,768.00
January 1, 2019	172 Envelopes	\$4,549.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

**Mass Attendance January 1, 2019 394**

**Mass Attendance January 6, 2019 778**

**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!

St. Ephrem Parish Goal	\$104,459.00
Number of Donors	223
Amount Pledged	\$114,307.75
Paid to Date	\$112,097.50

**There are 10 Donors who have not yet fulfilled their pledge, totaling \$2,210.25. St. Ephrem will only receive what has been paid above the Parish Goal.**



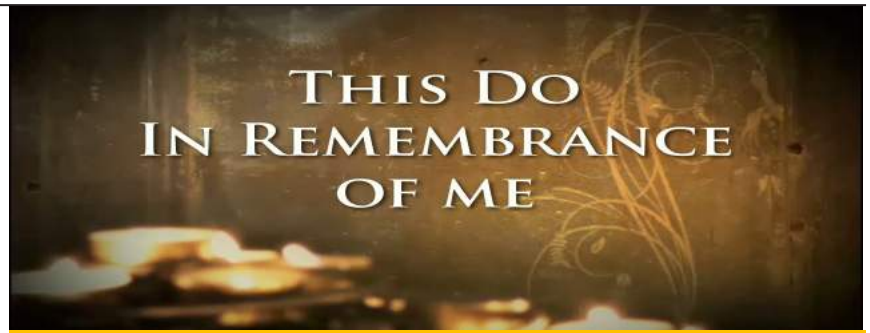
**Generations of Faith continues across the Diocese!**

<b>Generations of Faith Campaign Update as of May 15, 2018 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church</b>	
Campaign Goal	\$980,000.00
Total Pledged	\$1,062,069.00
Total Payments to Date by Parishioners	\$846,192.81
Total # Donors	198
Total Funds already paid to the Parish to Date	\$336,719.00



## Mass Intentions for the week

- Saturday, January 12th**  
 8:45 AM Julia Tricamo  
 5:00 PM Louis Diaferia  
 Elliot Rampulla  
 Alan & Betty Chalkley  
 Lester Burgess  
 Elvira D'Amura
- Sunday, January 13th**  
 8:00 AM Kevin Walsh  
 10:00 AM Salvatore, Giuseppe & Antonia Baio  
 12 Noon For the Intentions of Mark Costanza  
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Monday, January 14th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Eileen M. Maguire
- Tuesday, January 15th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Mary Nicosia (30th Anniversary in Heaven)
- Wednesday, January 16th**  
 7:00 AM John & Michael Reilly  
 8:45 AM Sally Tarantino
- Thursday, January 17th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Esther Iqbal
- Friday, January 18th**  
 7:00 AM Theresa Murray  
 8:45 AM Nanthan Marra & Antoinette DiCrescento
- Saturday, January 19th**  
 8:45 AM Azea Braganza (Birthday in Heaven)  
 5:00 PM Alice & John Campbell  
 Marta & Pasquale Florio  
 Vincent Campbell  
 Frances, Rose & Diana Florio  
 Deceased Members of the Campbell Family
- Sunday, January 20th**  
 8:00 AM Frank Pologruto  
 10:00 AM Alvira Russo  
 12 Noon For the Intentions of Harry Genzale  
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



Mass Intentions  
Bread & Wine  
Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp  
Altar Flowers

*There are still many opportunities available.  
Please come to the rectory*



### Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:

**Elivira D'Amura**

*Requested by her loving friend, Louise*

## Annual Contribution Statement for 2018

END OF YEAR  
**GIVING**  
STATEMENTS

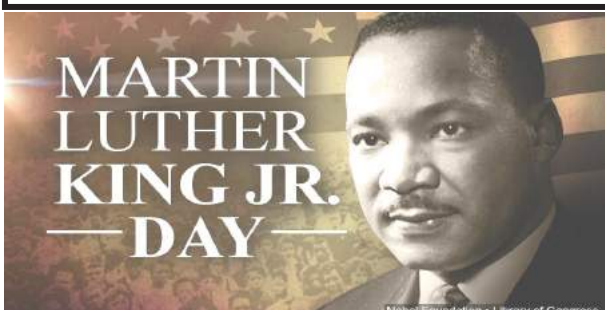
For your 2018 statement of contribution to St. Ephrem Parish, Please contact the rectory office.

This is a prayer we must pray every day "Holy Spirit, make my heart open to the word of God, make my heart open to goodness, make my heart open to the beauty of God every day."

Pope Francis



**On Monday, January 21, 2019  
In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Therefore there will only be an 8:45 AM Mass  
&  
The Rectory Office will be closed.**



**ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC ACADEMY**

**St. Ephrem Catholic Academy  
Presents**

**Designer Bag  
Bingo**



**Come & Have Some Fun,  
All Are Welcome!**

**February 1, 2019 at 7:00 PM**

**\$40.00 Per Person  
which includes:  
1 Bingo Card  
(Extra Bingo Cards will be for sale)  
Sandwiches  
Refreshments**

**BYOB**

**RSVP by January 25th  
For a Table or Individual Ticket**

**For information please call:  
Tammy Fecci (917) 692-9378  
TLCFecci@aol.com  
Melisa LoFaso (917) 270-4842  
Mbruzzese23@yahoo.com**

**SPIRITUALITY**



**Bereavement Support Group**

Monday, January 14th at 7:00 PM  
in the Spirituality Center. .

**Exploring the Sunday Readings Group**

Thursday, January 17th at 10:00 AM.

**Spiritual Direction**

Please call Sister Ann 718-921-9518

**All are welcome!!!!**



**YOUTH MINISTRY & PARISH NEWS**



For more information email:

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

 [@stephremyouth](https://www.instagram.com/stephremyouth)

**St. Ephrem Friendship Club**



**Fun for Seniors**

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!!!

**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 (718) 745-7486 or [stephremreligious@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligious@gmail.com)



## Children who will be 5 in 2019 are



to explore *all* that is **Kindergarten** at

### St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

To learn more, or schedule a visit, contact

**Principal Craig Mercado**

718.833.1440

**Let your child take flight on the wings of a values-based education!**

Serving Students of All Faiths

Tuition assistance available for eligible families  
Apply by April 29th at [www.futuresineducation.org](http://www.futuresineducation.org)



924 74th Street

Brooklyn, NY 11228

[stephremacademy.org](http://stephremacademy.org)

Join us for an  
Open House  
Sunday  
January 27  
11:00 AM to 1:30 PM

## Tuition Assistance Available 2019-2020

Financial aid is available for eligible students in grades K to 8, who attend a Brooklyn or Queens Catholic School or Academy.

*Families must meet Financial eligibility requirements and be registered/enrolled for 2019/2020 order to be considered. No consideration will be given for a family who has not completed the enrollment process. Only completed financial aid applications will be considered.*



### TO APPLY

Starting January 14, 2019 go to [www.futuresineducation.org](http://www.futuresineducation.org)  
From the main menu, click SCHOLARSHIPS and then APPLY



### SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

March 29, 2019—Families who received an award last academic year  
April 29, 2019—New Families



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please visit: [www.futuresineducation.org](http://www.futuresineducation.org)



Dear Father Adamo  
& Generous People of St. Ephrem Parish,

Gratitude for your goodness to Hour Families!  
May 2019 be graced with peace and joy.

Sister Tesa



OUR  
Lady OF  
Perpetual  
Help FOOD  
PANTRY

Dear Friends of St. Ephrem Parish,

On behalf of all of us at OLPH's Food Pantry I want to thank you for your support during Thanksgiving food project. We were able to provide 70 of our families with turkeys, chickens, and additional food for their Thanksgiving family meals.

We hope that this new year will bring you and all those associated with your donation of this additional food for our pantry bring many blessings in this new year.

Respectfully in Christ,

Sister Lucille Aliperti, CSJ  
Pastoral Associate / Food Pantry Director

### 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.



### Feeling Ill?

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

### The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with their flock,  
the work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost,  
to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the prisoner,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among people,  
to make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman