

# 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*

January 20, 2019  
Second 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.



## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 20, 2019

*“Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee.”*

In antiquity marriage celebrations followed a pattern, as reflected in today’s gospel. One such cultural element that is still followed today is that the best wine is served before a lesser quality wine. Such norms are the background setting for Jesus’ first sign, as narrated by the Gospel of John.

According to this gospel, not only is Mary present at the beginning of Jesus’ ministry, but she will be present at the cross too, accompanied by the Beloved Disciple. For the Gospel of John, the emphasis is on Jesus to such a degree that the other characters do not even have names!

And this is a good point for us. Namely, our emphasis should be on Jesus and his true identity. It is easy to be drawn away from him and look to novelties or curiosities. But in John’s gospel we have stories of seven signs that Jesus performs, each revealing his identity as Son of God, the Word made flesh. We need to look no further. For the disciple, and certainly for the evangelist, the focus is on Jesus for he is the incarnation of the Word of God and his words are life eternal.

According to today’s gospel reading Jesus attended a wedding feast and we can probably assume this was not his first or last wedding feast. In the shortest of all the Bible verses, according to many translations, the Gospel of John later tells us, “And Jesus wept.” This is to say that Jesus was a human being rather than a divine puppet. He experienced emotions from celebrating at a wedding to weeping at the death of a friend. Ultimately, he faced death itself, as each of us will. By undergoing his passion and death, which led to resurrection and life, he gives us the promise of life eternal. In Jesus, divinity became humanity thus exalting humanity to the divine. The paschal mystery nourishes our faith with the knowledge that our own personal death will lead to eternal life because of what God has done in Christ.

From this first sign in Cana we can gather that the kingdom is like a wedding feast where the wine will never run out and the joy grows ever deeper.

Next week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, beginning with the 10:00 AM Mass. I hope you can join us to celebrate the wonderful things that are happening at St. Ephrem Catholic Academy. Immediately, following the mass, you can take a tour of our Academy and see our new Science Lab and meet our outstanding faculty and dedicated Administration. Come and see the exciting academic curriculum and academy.

Congratulations to the students of St. Ephrem Catholic Academy for a wonderful performance of “Legally Blonde Jr.” You did an outstanding job!

In the Good Shepherd,

*Fr. Robert*



January 13, 2019	249 Envelopes	\$7,123.00
<i>The Tablet</i>	68 Envelopes	\$1,030.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 732

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	225
Amount Pledged	\$115,207.75
Paid to Date	\$113,197.50

**There are 8 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>	
<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>\$846,192.81</b>
<b>Total # Donors</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>Total Funds already paid to the Parish to Date</b>	<b>\$336,719.00</b>



## Mass Intentions for the week

8:45 AM **Saturday, January 19th**  
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

8:00 AM **Sunday, January 20th**  
Frank Pologruto  
10:00 AM Alvira Russo  
12 Noon For the Intentions of Harry Genzale  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

**Monday, January 21st**  
**NO 7:00 AM MASS**  
8:45 AM Michael Holmes

**Tuesday, January 22nd**  
7:00 AM Peter D. Murray  
8:45 AM For the children lost by abortion

**Wednesday, January 23rd**  
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM John P. Doolan

**Thursday, January 24th**  
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM Esther Iqbal

**Friday, January 25th**  
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM Antonio Alaimo

**Saturday, January 26th**  
8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

5:00 PM Ann Arnao  
Paul Abdilla  
Nancy O'Sullivan  
Frank Pologruto  
Kim Marie Cavatlo magno

8:00 AM **Sunday, January 27th**  
Christine Wiseman  
10:00 AM Dolph Mascari (10 year Anniversary)  
12 Noon For the Intentions of Steven Torres  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



### Altar Flowers In Memory of:

**Elvira D'Amura**

*Requested by her loving friend, Louise*

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.*



### Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:

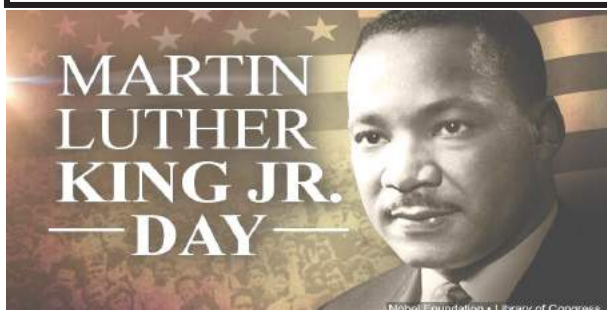
**Teresa Poggioli**

*Requested by Oliver Maguire*

## Annual Contribution Statement for 2018



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



**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 21 at 7:00 PM  
in the Spirituality Center. .

**Save the Dates**

**A Lenten Retreat – “Encountering Jesus’  
Way of Life”** will begin Tuesday, March 5 at 1:00 PM.  
The remaining dates are March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9.  
More information will follow.

**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

**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)



## ACADEMY NEWS



Celebrate Catholic  
Schools Week 2019  
January 27 - February 2  
#CSW19

### Catholic Schools Week at St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Open House January 27<sup>th</sup> 11am

Catholic Schools Week celebrates Catholic education. The annual event is filled with fun and games for students and teachers. From career day to cultural day students are exposed to the world around them. The festivities kick off with 10am Mass on the 27<sup>th</sup> followed by an open house for parents and parishioners. Come see all that makes St. Ephrem great. From our new STEM lab to our ELA learning lounge there is so much new at St. Ephrem you really need to see it to believe it. Weekly events include:



**Sunday:** Open house 11am

**Monday:** Career day. Student get in idea of their future by meeting the people who do those jobs today

**Tuesday:** Students appreciation day. A dress down day filled with fun, games and a few surprises. 8<sup>th</sup> grade gets their class rings in a celebration with the whole junior high.

**Wednesday:** Community day. Students reach out to our community to give back to those who have given so much to us.

**Thursday:** Culture day. Students go on a cultural field trip to get a view of the world around them.

**Friday:** Faculty appreciation day. Students and faculty square off in their annual athletic showdown.



We are proud of all that St. Ephrem Catholic Academy is and we can't wait to see you there so you can celebrate with us!

### 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)

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



924 74th Street

Brooklyn, NY 11228

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





# HeartShare

HUMAN SERVICES OF NEW YORK

Dear Fr. Robert & Parishioners of St. Ephrem,

Thank you for your generous support of our 2018 Toy and Gift Drive. Thanks to your donation of toys and gifts we were able to provide over 2,000 individuals we support with gifts this holiday season. Through the combined efforts and generosity of individuals like you, our 2018 drive was one of the most successful to date.

At HeartShare, we support thousands of individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities, youth in foster care and families in crises annually. We are the family they turn to when they need help. We are the family they turn to when they don't have one of their own. We are the family that supports them every step of the way. When you support HeartShare, you help some of New York's most vulnerable live full and vibrant lives you support our family— you support our family.

You not only make a difference for our family—you are part of it. Thank you for all that you do. You truly make a difference.

Sincerely,

*William R. Guarinello*  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## 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](http://svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org).

## Feeling Ill?



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

## Baseball/Softball Registration



Sunday, January 20th, 2019  
11:00PM-2:00PM

Sunday, January 27th, 2019  
11:00PM-2:00PM

Registration is open to boys and girls ages 5-14.

For more information you can contact  
Sylvester Sichenze at 917-692-1367  
John Lavelle at 718-440-2245  
John Reilly at 347-225-4286



## Catholic Schools Week

**January 27, 2019**  
**10 : 00 AM Mass**  
**Academy Open House & Registration**  
**begins at 11:00 AM**  
**All Are Welcomed!**