

# 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*

February 10, 2019  
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.stephremcatholicacademy.org](http://www.stephremcatholicacademy.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.



## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 10, 2019

**“They left everything and followed Jesus.”**

In today’s gospel from Luke, Peter witnesses the miraculous catch of fish and begs Jesus to leave him. Knowing his own sinfulness, Peter believes he is not worthy to be in the presence of the Lord of life. Jesus has other ideas, however. Throughout salvation history we witness God’s pattern of choosing the small and weak, and yes, even sinful, to fulfill God’s plan. Jesus responds to Peter’s plea by reassuring him, “Do not be afraid.” Jesus knows our sinfulness, loves us, and calls us to follow him anyway.

So often today’s gospel is read symbolically so that the tearing nets means one thing and the great number of fish means something else. The boats near sinking is sometimes interpreted symbolically too. But it can be more fruitful simply to read Luke’s story on its own terms, without fishing for meaning so to speak.

In the life of faith we are also called to persistence and perseverance. Sometimes things seem hopeless. We have tried again and again to repair a relationship or conquer a bad habit, but to no avail. Jesus tells Peter to put out his nets into the deep for a catch, and even though he has been fishing all night and caught nothing, he acquiesces to Jesus’ request. His success is beyond his wildest imagining. He catches such an abundance of fish he must call other fishermen to partake.

Jesus provides more than enough. There is bounty with Jesus who surpasses every expectation. When experience teaches Simon that there is no hope, or no use in trying, Jesus encourages him nonetheless and provides excess. This dramatic scene captures something of the initial excitement, humility, and genuineness that often accompanies the early stages of true discipleship. It is then that we die to our own preconceived notions and our own experience and open ourselves up to the munificence of the divine. That is when our cup overflows with the good things. God wants to provide. In the face of such generosity, we can only be humble. Simon knows he did not earn this miraculous catch, but it was a free gift. May we, too, die to our own self-importance and grandiosity and recognize that the good things we have are a gift of God.

In the Good Shepherd,

*Fr. Robert*



February 3, 2019	284 Envelopes	\$9,018.00
Catholic Schools Week	155 Envelopes	\$3,107.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

**Mass Attendance 683**

**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	\$115,232.75
Paid to Date	\$113,253.75

**There are 7 Donors who have not yet fulfilled their pledge, totaling \$1,979.00. 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

8:45 AM **Saturday, February 9th**  
For the People of St. Ephrem

5:00 PM Victoria Balsamo  
Mario Gaudiuso  
Elvira D'Amura  
Esther Iqbal  
William M. Hyland

8:00 AM **Sunday, February 10th**  
Joseph Verponi  
10:00 AM Eileen M. Maguire  
12 Noon For the Intentions of Nicolette Genzale  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

7:00 AM **Monday, February 11th**  
Bill Nagy  
8:45 AM Vincent Ingenito

7:00 AM **Tuesday, February 12th**  
For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM Joseph Comisi

7:00 AM **Wednesday, February 13th**  
Nicoletta DiFilippo  
8:45 AM William M. Hyland

7:00 AM **Thursday, February 14th**  
Nicola Adamo  
8:45 AM John & Catherine Ondreicka

7:00 AM **Friday, February 15th**  
For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM Mary Nicosia

8:45 AM **Saturday, February 16th**  
For the People of St. Ephrem

5:00 PM Bartolomeo Monticciolo  
Steven Lopez  
Gilbert Bonilla  
Rose Sabatino  
William M. Hyland

8:00 AM **Sunday, February 17th**  
10:00 AM Rosaria Sciascia  
12 Noon Louis Russo  
5:00 PM Peter Carlin  
For the People of St. Ephrem

## THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

Mass Intentions  
Bread & Wine  
Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp  
Altar Flowers:  
♦ The Tabernacle Altar  
♦ Blessed Mother Altar  
♦ The Holy Family Altar

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



### Flowers at the Blessed Mother Altar

In Memory of:

*Victoria Balsamo*

*Requested by her loving daughter*



### Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:

**Rose Polizzotto**

*Requested by JoAnne & Marie Manfredi*

## 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.



*Healing  
Mass*

**Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 7:30 PM**

*Msgr. Theo, Celebrant*

**Please join us!**

"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching  
in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the  
kingdom and healing every disease and sickness."

**Matthew 9:35**



## PARISH NEWS

### 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 [stephremreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligioused@gmail.com)

### *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!!!

### **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

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

Thank you for your participation

## SPIRITUALITY CENTER



**A new Bereavement Support Group will begin**  
Monday, February 25th at 7:00 PM.

Sessions run on a 6 week cycle. If you have recently lost a loved one and would like to join the group for some compassionate listening, honest sharing & consoling prayer, please come to the Center.

### Save the Dates

**A Lenten Retreat – “Encountering Jesus’ Way of Life”**  
will begin Tuesday, March 5 at 1:00 PM. .

### **Spiritual Direction**

Please call Sister Ann 718-921-9518  
**All are welcome!!!!**



## San Alfonso Retreat House



A group of women from St. Ephrem will be attending the Women's Retreat.  
March 8th to 10th.  
\$240 per person  
*A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is necessary by February 24th*  
Space is limited.

If you would like to car pool please call  
Carol Ann Pallonetti (347) 484-9958

**To make your reservations please contact  
San Alfonso Retreat House  
(732) 222-2731**


## YOUTH MINISTRY



For more information email:

Support St. Ephrem's  
Youth Ministry

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

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

*“Wherever we may be and whatever we may do, we can always look up and say, ‘Lord, teach me to love as you have loved us.’”*  
Pope Francis, World Youth Day, Panama

## St. Ephrem Family Madri Gras

Tuesday, March 5, 2019, 5 to 8 PM  
\$5.00 per person/\$15.00 per family of 3+

For information please contact the Office of Faith Formation:  
(718) 745-7486 or [stephremreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligioused@gmail.com)

Deadline for tickets: Friday, March 1st.



# Registration for 2019-20 is now open at **St. Ephrem Catholic Academy**



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

**Don't miss out on scholarship opportunities!**

NEED-BASED TUITION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR ELIGIBLE K-8 FAMILIES

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

RECEIVED AN AWARD LAST YEAR? RE-APPLY BY MARCH 29, 2019

FIRST TIME APPLICANT? APPLY BY APRIL 29, 2019



To learn more, or schedule a visit,  
contact us at **718.833.1440**





**St. Ephrem 4th Annual  
Mardi Gras Celebration**  
Saturday, March 2nd  
*Following the 5:00 PM Mass*

**The Msgr. Kain Hall**  
*St. Ephrem Catholic Academy*  
924 74th Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11228

DJ, Hot Food, Chips, Soda,  
Dessert, Coffee  
50/50 Raffles & Much More

**B.Y.O.B.**

Casual Attire,  
Mardi Gras Attire Optional

**\$25.00 Per Person**  
(Adults Only)

Individual Ticket  
or  
Table Reservations Available

No Tickets will be sold after  
February 25th  
*No Tickets will be sold at the door*

**Tickets are available for  
purchase at the Rectory**  
**(718) 833-1010**  
**Hope to see you there!**



## Adult Choir

We are extending an invitation to come and join our Adult Choir. The generous sharing of time and talent by our choir members is truly a blessing. We encourage all who can contribute, to join us in our music ministry. Now is a great time to join us as we are preparing for Holy Week and Easter. Rehearsals are on Monday nights beginning February 25th at 7:30 pm in the church. Light refreshments are served.

## Children's Choir

Our children's choir is now accepting new members from 2nd grade through 8th grade. Any children interested in joining our choir may begin attending our weekly rehearsals beginning on Thursday, February 28th or Thursday, March 7th. Rehearsals are held weekly in the Music Room, Room 208 from 3:15-4:00 pm. The children sing on Sundays at the 10:00 am Mass twice a month.

## VOCATION NEWS

### Vocation Retreat with *Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio*



**March 1-3, 2019**

- *Encounter Jesus Christ*
- *Hear inspiring talks from Bishop DiMarzio & Seminarians*
- *Reflect on your own vocation*
- *Spend time with God*

**Immaculate Conception Center**  
7200 Douglaston Parkway  
Brooklyn, New York 11362

*For more information contact:*

*Vocation Office*  
*(718) 827-2454*  
*or*  
*vocations@diobrook.org*