

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



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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 17, 2019
Sixth 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

St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 ♦ 718-833-1440 ♦ 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 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.



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 17, 2019

**“Blessed are the poor.
Woe to you who are rich.”**

Today in the Gospel of Luke we have Jesus’ Sermon on the Plain. Luke’s Jesus preaches to a great crowd of disciples, indicating more than just the twelve. Luke begins with the four beatitudes and matches them with four woes that are frankly disturbing to the moderate, middle-class listener from the developed world.

But Luke sees it differently. Blessings are for those who are poor, hungry, weeping and those hated. For whom is this good news? Luke’s Sermon on the Plain echoes themes introduced in Mary’s *Magnificat*, Mary’s song of praise, in the opening of the gospel. The hungry are fed while the rich are turned away empty. Jesus’ values are not those of the world. To be countercultural means identifying with those who are blessed.

Luke has something to say to us today. This message is not limited to the time of Jesus. It is for us. Where do we find ourselves? In the four beatitudes or the four woes? This message is as much for us as it is for the disciples, if we dare to carry that name.

Sometimes it can be difficult to imagine why Jesus faced suffering and death. Often there is a popular idea that would have Jesus preaching only love, peace, kindness and lilies of the field. The thinking goes that in the face of such preaching he was put to death by those who were against love, peace, and kindness. Such is too simplistic an explanation.

Jesus’ preaching was certainly about love, but it was about much more. Somebody preaching love is no threat to the establishment, no threat to the powerful. Somebody preaching love can easily be dismissed as a dreamer and best left alone.

Today’s gospel gives us some of Jesus’ preaching that likely created enemies for himself. His preaching favored the poor, hungry, weeping, and hated. He upended not only ancient cultural norms and values but modern ones too. Rather than simply give a verbal pat on the head to those on the bottom rungs of society, he also pulls down the mighty and issues woes that apply just as much to us as they did to those in power in antiquity. In so doing Jesus creates enemies, not of the poor but of the powerful. It is they who will ultimately put him to death. But as we know, his suffering and death is not the end. God raises him up to glory, giving us the paschal mystery. His followers find themselves allied with those blessed by Jesus.

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



February 10, 2019	277 Envelopes	\$8,237.00
St. Elizabeth Seton	160 Envelopes	\$2,454.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 702

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!

Generations of Faith Campaign Update as of May 15, 2018 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church	
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, February 16th**
 8:45 AM Giuseppina & Nicola Chirazzo
 5:00 PM Bartolomeo Monticciolo
 Steven Lopez
 Gilbert Bonilla
 Rose Sabatino
 William M. Hyland
- Sunday, February 17th**
 8:00 AM Rosaria Sciascia
 10:00 AM Louis Russo
 12 Noon Peter Carlin
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Monday, February 18th**
NO 7:00 AM MASS
 8:45 AM Esther Iqbal
- Tuesday, February 19th**
 7:00 AM Dorothy Wall
 8:45 AM Vincent Ingenito
- Wednesday, February 20th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Calogiora Zaffuto
- Thursday, February 21st**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM William M. Hyland
- Friday, February 22nd**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM All Souls
- Saturday, February 23rd**
 8:45 AM John Chin
 5:00 PM Anne, Florence & Nicholas Infantino
 Josephine & Domenic Albergo
 Josephine & Nunzio Mauriello
 Deceased Members of the Basti & Connell Families
 Frank Rizzo
- Sunday, February 24th**
 8:00 AM Marie Manfredo
 10:00 AM Eileen M. Maguire
 12 Noon Thomas Costanza
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



Altar Flowers

In Memory of:

John Carr

Requested by his loving Wife Margaret



Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:

John Carr

Requested by his loving Wife Margaret



Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of

Gilbert Bonilla

Requested by Kathy McManus

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.



President's Day

Monday, February 18, 2019

**There will be No 7:00 AM Mass
&
The Rectory Office will be closed.**

PARISH NEWS



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



Feeling Ill?

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



Fun for Seniors

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!!!

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.

Bereavement Support Group,

Monday, February 18th at 7:00 pm

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



@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 stephremreligoused@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

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 Sunday's 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