

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org

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

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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*

March 10, 2019
First Sunday of Lent



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.



**First Sunday of Lent
March 10, 2019**
*“Jesus was led by the Spirit
into the desert
and was tempted.”*

In today’s gospel Luke gives us an elaborate version of Jesus’ temptation. Jesus dialogues with the devil. To each of the devil’s temptations, some supported by Scripture, Jesus retorts with Scripture. The scene is almost one of a theological debating club.

By this story Luke tells us a number of things, not least of which is that Jesus was tempted by the devil. They also indicate that even the devil can quote Scripture. In other words, it is not enough merely to know the Scripture and have the ability to quote them.

As a master story teller, Luke concludes the episode with three words that set the stage for later drama, namely, that the devil departed from him “for a time.” We know that this was not to be the last encounter between the devil and Jesus. This first encounter with its triple temptations ultimately would lead to the Last Supper, the agony in the garden, the passion, and the cross.

Human beings are faced with temptations that concern our well-being (bread), our own power and glory (kingdoms of the world), or the limits of God’s power (throwing oneself off the parapet of the temple). Jesus overcame each of these temptations with the power and knowledge of Scripture, and secure in his relationship with God as his son. As Jesus faced such fundamental temptations we shouldn’t be surprised by temptation either. However, in Luke’s telling there might be a slight disservice to the reader. For our temptations will likely not come in the physical personification of the devil. But we will be tempted, nonetheless, by appeals to our well-being, our own power and glory, and what we would consider the limits of God’s power. If we, like Jesus, can be assured of our relationship with God, secure in our loving relationship with the divine, we can overcome temptation as well. Though the devil left Jesus for a time, he did return. And it was then that the ultimate temptation faced Jesus. Then he trusted in God to the point of death, only to be raised up to new life.

We, too, are called into the desert of Lent. For forty days we embrace fasting, prayer, and almsgiving so as to empty ourselves in order to be filled anew with the abundance of God.

Last Saturday evening, over 200 people gathered for our annual Mardi Gras celebration. Thank you to all who supported our event. It was a great celebration filled with fun, prizes, food and dancing.

In the Good Shepherd,
Fr. Robert



March 3, 2019	282 Envelopes	\$9,210.00
Snow Removal	121 Envelopes	\$1,709.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 729

1179 Families Registered and Receive Envelopes
Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!



**Annual Catholic
Appeal 2019**
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

How will our Parish Benefit?

**St. Ephrem Parish Goal is:
\$99,236.00**

You may notice that our parish goal has been reduced. This as a result that our weekly collections have gone down due to less attendance at weekly Masses. Once we exceed our goal, then we will receive 100% of all funds raised above goal.

Last year we received back **\$8,794.75 Thank You!**

St. Ephrem Parish Goal	\$99,236.00
Number of Donors	4
Amount Pledged	\$1,626.00
Paid to Date	\$716.00

Faith & Good Works

How Your 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal Gift Will Be Used:

- \$2,700,000 Vocation Support**
- \$2,500,000 Catholic Schools & Faith Formation**
- \$1,600,000 Catholic Charities & Parish Assistance**
- \$700,000 Welcome the Stranger**
- \$500,000 Chaplaincies in Schools, Prisons & Hospitals**

Your gift allows the Church to share faith and do good works in Brooklyn & Queens.



Generations of Faith continues across the Diocese!

Generations of Faith Campaign Update as of February 16, 2019 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church	
Campaign Goal	\$980,000.00
Total Pledged	\$1,045,969.00
Total Payments to Date by Parishioners	\$886,611.82
Total # Donors	198
Total Funds already paid to the Parish to Date	\$336,719.00



Mass Intentions for the week

8:45 AM	<u>Saturday, March 9th</u> Maria Rossano
5:00 PM	Alfonse Sparano Marie Cogan Bernstein Frank Valenza Joseph Garrone Marie Manfredo
8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12 Noon 5:00 PM	<u>Sunday, March 10th</u> Concetta Scicchitani John Riordan Peter Carlin For the People of St. Ephrem
7:00 AM 8:45 AM	<u>Monday, March 11th</u> For the People of St. Ephrem Dominick & Eleanor DeLorenzo
7:00 AM 8:45 AM	<u>Tuesday, March 12th</u> For the People of St. Ephrem Joseph Rando
7:00 AM 8:45 AM	<u>Wednesday, March 13th</u> For the People of St. Ephrem Guiseppina Lobrutto
7:00 AM 8:45 AM	<u>Thursday, March 14th</u> Michael Clark Giulia Peragine
7:00 AM 8:45 AM	<u>Friday, March 15th</u> For the People of St. Ephrem John Riordan
8:45 AM	<u>Saturday, March 16th</u> For the Intentions of Diana Boutross
5:00 PM	Jessie Doolan Arthur Watroba Robert Gencarelli Susan Sexton Evonne & Chaffic Boumoussa
8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12 Noon 5:00 PM	<u>Sunday, March 17th</u> Joseph Iannaci, Sr. Eileen M. Maguire Lucy Coluccio For the People of St. Ephrem



Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:
Dominick & Eleanor De Lorenzo

Requested by their grandchildren & greatgrandchildren



Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of:
Dominick & Eleanor De Lorenzo

Requested by their grandchildren & greatgrandchildren

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES



We will pray the
Stations of the Cross
Thursday's of Lent at 1:30 PM
With the children of Our Academy

Friday's of Lent
Following the 8:45 AM Mass & 7:00 PM

Church of St. Ephrem Lenten Soup Supper

Wednesday March 20th at 6:00 P.M.
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
924 74th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.

There will be a free will offering to benefit



A soup Kitchen & Shelter for homeless young women and their infants.

**In order to make proper arrangements
Please R.S.V.P. by Monday, March 18th
By calling: St. Ephrem Rectory (718) 833-1010**

Lenten Daily Meditations



At the doors of our church there are the Lenten, The Word Among Us. Please take one for your Lenten Daily Meditations. We hope that this will be an opportunity to enhance your prayer and strengthen your relationship with God.

PARISH NEWS

Celebrate the Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade with St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

Sunday, March 24, 2019

Parade Mass at 9:00 AM at St. Patrick's Church,
Brooklyn, New York

Parade begins at 12 Noon at 3rd Avenue & Marine
Avenue

*St. Ephrem Catholic Academy and Parish will be
marching in the parade all are welcomed to join us!*

St. Patrick Celebration Continues 3:00 PM-7:00
PM

Msgr. Kain Hall, 924 74th Street,
Brooklyn, NY 11228



Live Music
Brooklyn's Own Canny Brothers
Band

\$25 Adult \$20 per child
Includes Entertainment:

Corned Beef Sandwiches, Irish
Soda Bread, Soda Water & BYOB

Only a limited number of tickets available.
First come, First Served.

For Tickets contact:

Mary Donnelly Brian Cassidy
917-816-3733 917-803-8176

SPIRITUALITY CENTER



Bereavement Support Group
Monday, March 11 at 7:00 PM.

A Lenten Retreat
"Encountering Jesus' Way of Life"
will begin Tuesday, March 12 at 1:00 PM.

Book Discussion Group meets Thursday, March 14 at 4:00 PM.
The book, *Beneath A Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan will be discussed.

Spiritual Direction

Please call Sister Ann 718-921-9518

All are welcome!!!!



PARISH NEWS

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!!!

YOUTH MINISTRY



For more information email:

Support St. Ephrem's
Youth Ministry

stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

 @stephremyouth

Youth Group Meeting
March 17, 2019 at 6:00 PM
Faith Formation Office



Brooklyn & Queens Catholic Youth Day

Saturday, March 30th
9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Space is limited

Please register by emailing
stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

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



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

PRE-K 3 FULL AND HALF DAY PRE K 4 FULL DAY

Get the academic start your child needs to succeed with a moral foundation

Call for tours and info 718-833-1440



PARISH NEWS



Feast of St. Patrick
Sunday, March 17th

Following the 10:00 AM Mass all are invited to join us in the Academy's Cafeteria for light refreshments .

Solemnity of St. Joseph
Tuesday, March 19th

Following the 8:45 AM Mass all are invited to join us in the Rectory Dining Room for light refreshments.



**Pilgrimage to:
Medjugorje, Austria,
Prague & Poland
with
Fr. Anthony Chanan
September 9th—19th
\$3,395,00**

**For information please call
(718) 445-9377 or (212) 676-9070**



**Welcome
Bishop James Massa
Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn**

**Sunday, March 31, 2019
Bishop Massa will celebrate the
12 Noon Mass.**

After mass Bishop Massa will meet with members of our Parish Council, Parish Trustees, Finance Council, and Parish Staff.

We will discuss the developments and challenges facing the Diocese and our parish.

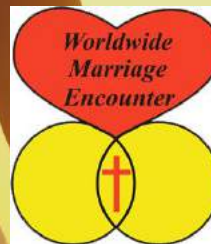
**Pope Francis
Anniversary of Installation,
Supreme Pastor
of the
Universal Church
March 19th**



*O God, who in your providential design
willed that your Church be built
upon blessed Peter,
whom you set over the other Apostles,
Look with favor, we pray, on Francis, our Pope
and grant that he,
whom you have made Peter's successor,
May be for your people a
visible source and foundation
of unity in faith and of communion.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.*



DEANERY NEWS



**Marred Couples are invited to
learn ways to grow their
Sacrament of Marriage
By improving their
communication skills.**

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Brooklyn Special for Married Couples
2 day Non-Residential Weekend
Saturday & Sunday, April 6th & 7th
St. Patrick Church
Brooklyn, New York**

**To register or for more information:
go to wwme.org or call (718) 423-6434**