

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

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*

March 24, 2019
Third 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.



Third Sunday of Lent

March 24, 2019

“If you do not repent, you will all perish as they did.”

When Jesus tells the crowd in today’s gospel that they must repent lest they perish, he is

speaking of a spiritual death rather than a physical one. In the ancient world, and perhaps even our own, many accidents or tragic events were explained by appeal to the gods, or God. It was understood that bad things happened to bad people; in other words, if something bad happened to someone, it’s because that someone did something bad. Good people lived lives that were blessed and filled with good things. A tragedy or accident nearly guaranteed that the victim was somehow at fault, had reaped the tragic remuneration for what he had sown. Much of the Old Testament, especially the Torah (first five books of the Old Testament), provides the foundation for this view. But there are other books, for example, Job, that question it.

At the time of Jesus, when a tragic event happened at Siloam or when Pilate desecrated Jewish blood, the popular idea was that these people somehow had it coming. They must have done something bad for which they were punished. Jesus however, interprets these events differently. He does not see this as a just, punishment for some hidden sin. Instead, he tells those who are self-righteous in their arrogance that the same will happen to them unless they repent. The period of time they have between witnessing the tragedy that occurred to others and the unknown time of their own death is a time for repentance. And the parable Jesus gives them underlines this point. The parable also subtly informs the audience that they have not been producing the fruit of good works. They have been given a limited amount of time to repent, but if that doesn’t happen they, too, will be cut down like the barren fig tree, like those who suffered the tragedy at Siloam or desecration at the hands of Pilate. The message of today’s gospel can be summarized on one simple word: Repent!

A tragic and untimely death has a way of focusing our attention. Unfortunately, when we lose someone dear to us suddenly we become painfully aware of how short our life is, how precious are the days that we have been given. Too often our lives are occupied with simple tasks rather than profound meaning. There are daily chores to do, people who rely on us to do our part. But today’s gospel reminds us that the time we are given is short and may come to a conclusion quickly and without warning. The time we have on this earth is for repentance and subsequently for doing the will of God. When we see tragedy strike others it can be easy for some to explain away the circumstances to poor decision making on their part, or plain bad luck. We might even become a bit proud at our own more fortunate and prudent decision making not recognizing the many close calls we have certainly faced. But the time we are given is not for arrogance or pride. Tragedy can happen to any of us without warning. The gospel is a call for us to appreciate the limited time we have on earth, to respond generously to the needs of others, and to walk humbly.

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



March 17, 2019	301 Envelopes	\$8,051.50.00
Landscaping Support	155 Envelopes	\$2,090.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 759

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	66
Amount Pledged	\$64,258.00
Paid to Date	\$45,963.00

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 March 15, 2019 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church	
Campaign Goal	\$980,000.00
Total Pledged	\$1,047,969.00
Total Payments to Date by Parishioners	\$892,152.49
Total # Donors	198
Total Funds already paid to the Parish to Date	\$336,719.00



Mass Intentions for the week

- Saturday, March 23rd**
 8:45 AM Peter Reyes
 5:00 PM Mildred Sparano
 Kathleen O'Connor
 Marie Manfredo
 Alfred Festa, Sr.
 Susan Sexton
- Sunday, March 24th**
 8:00 AM For the Intentions of Patty Giugliano
 10:00 AM Rosemarie Lombardi
 12 Noon Mary Lou Doolan
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Monday, March 25th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Robert Gencarelli
- Tuesday, March 26th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Rae Esposito
- Wednesday, March 27th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Joseph Losardo
- Thursday, March 28st**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Luigi & Olinda Bonici
- Friday, March 29th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM John Riordan
- Saturday, March 30th**
 8:45 AM Domenick Iannizzi
- 5:00 PM Nancy & Michael Bagnato
 Vincent Bagnato
 Michael Bagnato (Grandson)
 Raymond Duffy, Sr.
 William Stamatis
- Sunday, March 31st**
 8:00 AM Maria Agostino
 10:00 AM Eileen M. Maguire
 12 Noon Francesco Iannelli
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:
Rae Esposito

Requested by Her Loving Niece, Betty



Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of:
Domenick Iannizzi

Requested by His Loving Sister, Betty

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

Lenten Dinner & Movie

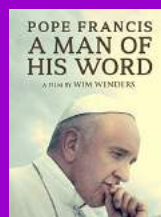
Tuesday, April 2, 2019
7:00 to 9:00 PM
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Cafeteria
Free Will Offering
RSVP by Monday, April 1st
Please call the Rectory Office (718) 833-1010



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.



Wim Wenders' new documentary, "Pope Francis - A Man of His Word," is intended to be a personal journey with Pope Francis, rather than a biographical documentary about him. The pope's ideas and his message are central to this documentary, which sets out to present his work of reform and his answers to today's global questions. From his deep concern for the poor and wealth inequality, to his involvement in environmental issues and social justice, Pope Francis engages the audience face-to-face and calls for peace.
96 Minutes

Sixth Anniversary of Pope Francis' Election

ACADEMY NEWS



St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
Will be holding open registration for
2019 Summer Camp

Wednesday, April 10th
Thursday, April 11th
3:00 to 4:30 PM
Academy Cafeteria

Camp dates July 1, 2019 through August 9, 2019
Accommodating Ages 4-12
Rates based on
3 days, 5 days & full 6 week enrollment

Early drop off & aftercare
available for an additional rate

For information
summerfun@stephremschool.org

SPIRITUALITY CENTER



Bereavement Support Group
Monday, March 25 at 7:00 PM.

A Lenten Retreat
“Encountering Jesus’ Way of Life”
will be held Tuesday, March 26 at 1:00 PM.

St. Patrick Parish
Sister Jeanne Elaine at 718-238-2600 x178
Our Lady of Angels Parish
Judy Chiarchiaro at 718-748-1164

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



**Brooklyn &
Queens
Catholic Youth
Day**

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

Please register by emailing
stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

Grandparents Retreat

*Are you a grandparent?
...praying for your grandchild
...introducing them to your Catholic faith
...worried for them in today's world*



**St. Joachim & Anne, the parents of Mary
and the grandparents of Jesus.**

Together we will explore the vocation of grandparents!

**Join us for a retreat to learn, share,
and pray with one another.**

Sunday, April 7th 1:00 to 3:00 PM
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Cafeteria

Lunch will be served.

RSVP by Wednesday, April 3rd
(718) 833-1010 or
stephremyouthministry@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

St. Ephrem Home Academy Association Presents Ladies Night Out

Spring gala 2019

Saturday, April 6, 2019

7:00pm-11:00pm

St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
Monsignor Kain Hall
924 74th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11228

Tickets: \$45 per person

Includes

Dinner, Wine, Raffles,
Door Prizes, Dancing,
Photo Booth and Fun
BYOB

For information & Tickets contact:
Jamie Merced at jdmerced@gmail.com
or (718) 501-5127

Special \$45 Raffle Package Includes:

30 White Tickets (Tier 1)
10 Pink Tickets (Tier 2)
10 Yellow Tickets (Tier 3)

Please note that the
mandatory fundraising requirement
is \$90 per family.

To meet your fundraising requirement,
you must purchase two tickets
or a ticket and a raffle package.

PARISH NEWS

**HELP
WANTED!**
*Christ Needs
You*

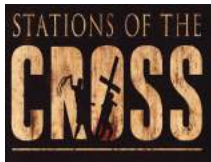
Holy Thursday Washing of the Feet



The washing of the feet during the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper is a beautiful ritual full of meaning which represents the service and charity of Christ, who came 'not to be served, but to serve.' With this in mind we are asking for volunteers that would like to represent the parish family, young and old, by having their feet washed during the Mass of the Lord's Supper, on

Holy Thursday, April 18th at 7:30 PM.
Please call the rectory if you are interested

Good Friday Stations of the Cross



We are looking for volunteers to participate in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross
April 19th at 7:30 PM

If you are interested please call the rectory.



**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.**

DEANERY NEWS

**RADIO
BINGO**

Hosted by

**Where
'Name That Tune'
Meets Bingo!**

**Friday, May 3rd
7:00 PM**
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
924 74th Street
Brooklyn, New York

DJ @ WORK

**Worldwide
Marriage
Encounter**

**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**

\$35.00 Per Person Includes:

Snacks, Sandwiches, Cookies, Soda, Water,

Coffee & Tea

Available for sale:

Wine, Beer & Signature Drink

**For Information & Reservations Contact
St. Ephrem Rectory (718) 833-1010
You can arrange for tables of 8 or 10 people.**

**Please make reservations by April 26th
No Tickets will be sold at the door**

**Prizes
50/50 Raffle
Basket Raffles**