

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*

March 3, 2019
Eighth 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.



Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time

March 3, 2019

“From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks.”

In today’s gospel Jesus uses a metaphor that his audience would immediately have understood: “A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit.” We might ask, what “fruit” do we bear that marks us as Christians?

The life lessons Jesus teaches in today’s gospel are similar to simple wisdom rooted in daily life and experience. When we say “the blind leading the blind,” we are echoing Jesus’ teaching. Though we mean no disrespect to the blind, the metaphor is easily grasped and understood.

And how often have we experienced the nitpicking nag who quickly points out the fault in others while conveniently overlooking his or her own. Jesus’ warning about noticing the splinter in another’s eye while neglecting the wooden beam in our own captures that sentiment well. Even so, Jesus is more adamant about us removing the beam from our own eye than simply not noticing the splinter in another.

People who are active in church, can easily be caught up in churchy things. What colors are we displaying for the season? What song is most appropriate at this time? What is the second reading and how does it connect to the first? But today we are reminded by Jesus that there are many things broader and perhaps more important than church or even religious identity. We are told not to be hypocritical, finding fault in others while overlooking our own. We are reminded to consider how one acts as an indication of that one’s character.

Jesus’ teaching and preaching was fundamental to his ministry. He was considered wise and a prophet. His understanding of human beings moved the crowds. His insight into how we behave versus how we ought to behave, capsulated in brief and memorable sayings that were profound. And certainly after his death and resurrection his teaching carried new meaning. In light of his undergoing the paschal mystery; passion, death, resurrection and ascension, he is the Son of God raised to new life. His words are more than simple wisdom. They are light and life.

In the Good Shepherd,

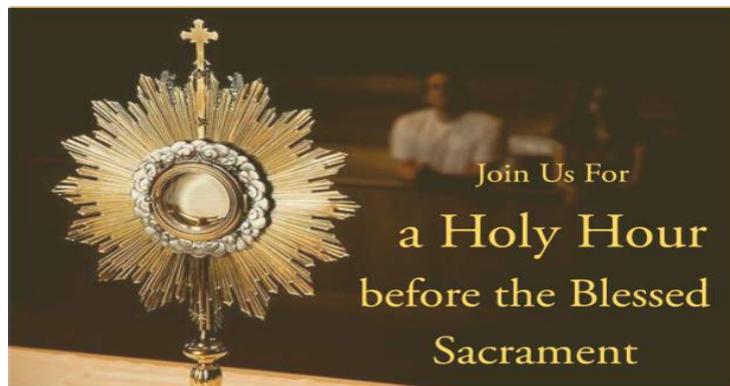
Fr. Robert



February 24, 2019	238 Envelopes	\$7,217.00
Music Ministry	109 Envelopes	\$1,848.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 649

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



HEALING
for Victims

REPARATION
for the failings of the Church

“Come to me, all of you who are weary & loaded down with burdens, & I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11: 28

**Sunday,
March 10th
Following the
10:00 AM Mass**



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 **Saturday, March 2nd**
Purgatorial Society Mass

5:00 PM Brian Joseph Decker
Dorothy & Gerry O'Neill
Robert Gencarelli
Marie Manfredo
Eleanore Mantone

8:00 AM **Sunday, March 3rd**
Salvatore Bonfiglio
10:00 AM Nicola Ierace
12 Noon Diane Ondreicka
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

7:00 AM **Monday, March 4th**
Special Intention
8:45 AM John Carr

7:00 AM **Tuesday, March 5th**
For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM Joseph & May Saba

7:00 AM **Wednesday, March 6th**
Lucy & Edwin McGuirk
8:45 AM Artur Jerzy Watroba
3:45 PM Prayer Service
7:00 PM Prayer Service

7:00 AM **Thursday, March 7th**
Edward O'Connor
8:45 AM Arlene Lieber

7:00 AM **Friday, March 8th**
For the People of St. Ephrem
8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

8:45 AM **Saturday, March 9th**
Maria Rossano

5:00 PM Alfonse Sparano
Marie Cogan Bernstein
Frank Valenza
Joseph Garrone
Marie Manfredo

8:00 AM **Sunday, March 10th**
Concetta Scicchitani
10:00 AM John Riordan
12 Noon Peter Carlin
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of: **Laura J. Poggioli**
Requested by AnnMarie Maguire



Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of: **Frances Mascari**
Requested by Martha Mascari



Ashes will be distributed

7:00 AM Mass

8:45 AM Mass

with children from our Academy

3:45 PM Prayer Service

with children from Faith Formation Program

&

7:00 PM Prayer Service



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

A Prayer for Our Church

Heavenly Father,

In every age, you have been our refuge.
Yet again and still we stand before you
asking for your protection on your holy Church.

For the victims of abuse and their families,
pour out your healing and your peace.

For the Bishops of this country,
continue to inspire their decisions,
and guide them with your Spirit.

For the thousands of good and faithful priests,
who have followed your call to serve you and your people in holiness,
sustain them by your grace.

For the faithful who are angry, confused, and searching for answers,
embrace them with your love,
restore their trust, console them with your clear Gospel message,
and renew them with your sacraments.

We place our Church in your hands,
for without you we can do nothing.
May Jesus, our High Priest and true compass,
continue to lead her in every thought and action -
to be an instrument of justice, a source of consolation,
a sacrament of unity, and a manifestation of your faithful covenant.

Grant this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



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 1:00 PM at 3rd Avenue
And 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



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!!!



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food Pantry

*We will be collecting non-
perishable and
non-expired food items
the weekend of March 9/10, 2019*

Thank you for your usual generosity !

SPIRITUALITY CENTER



Bereavement

Bereavement Support Group
Monday, March 4th at 7:00 PM.

A Lenten Retreat – “Encountering Jesus’ Way of Life”

Session 1 will begin Tuesday, March 5 at 1:00 PM.

Exploring the Sunday Readings Group
Thursday, March 7th at 10:00 AM.

Spiritual Direction

Please call Sister Ann 718-921-9518

All are welcome!!!!



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

ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations

St. Ephrem Alumne

Jacqueline Avignone, First Honors
Allie Giordano, First Honors
Shannon McLoughlin, First Honors
Alexandra Natale, First Honors

Julia Canny, Second Honors



Congratulations

St. Ephrem Alumne

Chiara Moraca, 11th Grade, Principal's List
Anne Baghdadi, 12th Grade Principal's List



DIocese OF BROKkLYN NEWS



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

As many of you know, our Diocese just published the list of 108 priests who have been credibly accused of sexual misconduct with a minor. These allegations date back as far as 1934.

The majority of these priests are already deceased. Those who are living have either been laicized or permanently removed from active ministry. The names have been published to offer greater transparency and accountability to the Church at large as well as to the general public. In this way, we hope to promote healing and justice.

The Church recognizes the pain that has been caused to those who are victims of child abuse, as well as to their families; the victims have been offered the opportunity for counseling, as well as financial reparation through the special Compensation program (IRCP). As Pope Francis has reminded us, we need to take time to listen to those who have survived this painful trauma, we need to be in solidarity with them in their suffering, and continue to work to prevent this from happening again.

We acknowledge the confusion and anger this has caused many of the faithful of the Church. Difficult as it is, we are doing everything possible to rebuild the trust.

Since 2002 and the “Charter for Protection of Children and Young People,” the Church in the United States has taken many important steps to prevent such abuse from happening in our parishes, programs and schools. Any member of the clergy with a credible allegation of sexual misconduct with a minor is removed from ministry. Also, every member of the clergy, every lay employee and volunteer who has contact with children is required to undergo a background check (which is now reviewed quarterly) as well as participate in a training program on abuse prevention. We also publicize the independent Reporting line to facilitate filing reports of abuse within our Diocese, which immediately are communicated to civil authorities. That number is: **888-634-4499**.

We ask God to watch over us, and to give us the fortitude to face the painful truth of abuse, as we move forward to work for healing and reconciliation.

STATEMENT FROM FR. ROBERT ADAMO

On Friday, February 15, 2019 the Diocese of Brooklyn released the names of clergy who had a credible allegation of abuse against a minor or vulnerable adult since 1934.

While the assignments are listed, I do not know in which assignments a credible allegation took place. The Diocese decision to release the names is a welcome and essential step as we work toward healing within the Catholic Church. Only through transparency can we find justice and help build a stronger, better future as a Church and as a community. As a parish that works to ensure a safe environment for every member of our community, we have a zero-tolerance approach to abuse and a commitment to report any allegations immediately to authorities.

This news is deeply troubling for all of us to hear, particularly for those members of our community, who may recall interactions with these individuals. I hope you will join me not just in prayer but also in support for all survivors of clerical sexual abuse.

I do apologize for any of my brothers who have committed crimes of abuse and pledge to work to provide safe environments for all to who we minister and to offer support and possibilities for healing to victims.

These have been trying times for our Church, and the body of Christ knows the suffering of its Lord in real ways. May we together pray for healing that our wounds may be transformed by the God of love.

Each morning our parishioners gather to recite the Rosary for healing and reparation. In addition, I invite you to join me in a Holy Hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, for reparation and healing on **Sunday, March 10th from 11:00 AM to 12 Noon**.

I am available for anyone who wishes to discuss this matter. Please call the rectory office for an appointment.

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



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, 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.

LENT—ALMSGIVING

Church of St. Ephrem Lenten Soup Supper

Wednesday, March 20th at 6:00 PM
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
924 74th Street Brooklyn, New York

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 March 18th
By calling St. Ephrem Rectory (718) 833-1010



CALLING ALL ALUMNI!!!

The Sisters of St. Dominic would like to invite you to an alumni gathering on Sunday, April 7, 2019 from 2pm-5pm at the Motherhouse in Amityville, New York.

Join classmates for a meet & greet with some of the Sisters who taught at your alma mater, tour the Motherhouse grounds, and gather for prayer at St. Albert's Chapel.

Tickets are \$25 per person in advance (\$30 day of event)
Proceeds will support the mission of the Sisters.

For more information, please contact 631-842-6000
Or advancement@amityop.org.

We hope you will join us for some laughter, light refreshments and good memories!!



The Life Center of New York invites you to its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 2pm at The Bishop Hughes Knights of Columbus Hall, 1305 86th Street. A donation of \$40 per person includes corn beef, and

cabbage dinner, soda bread, beer, wine, soda, and dessert. Music, raffles, 50/50. Entertainment by the Maureen O'Malley School of Irish Dance. For reservations contact the Life Center at 748-748-4492.