

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*

November 10, 2019
Thirty-Second 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.



Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 10, 2019

*“He is not God of the dead,
but of the living.”*

In today’s gospel the Sadducees present a ridiculous scenario to Jesus in the hope that it will trip him up. But Jesus cuts through to the heart of their question about the resurrection of the dead. Do we really believe that God has authority over life and death and the ability to bring life from death? Jesus is about to live his certainty in the resurrection by submitting to death. He knows, as he tells the Sadducees, that God is God of the living – there is no death to him.

Today’s gospel is one of the few stories where we hear Jesus’ thoughts on the question of resurrection. Of course, one of the reasons it’s so interesting is that we know he will experience resurrection after a humiliating public death less than a week later. Though resurrection is a central element of Christian faith, it continues to be debated through the centuries. Even the apostle Paul had issues with preaching the resurrection, as the longest chapter in any of his letters (1 Cor. 15) deals entirely with the topic, while some of the Pastoral Letters indicate that other Christians continued to misunderstand resurrection. And the Apostolic Fathers also address the issue, as do many others in every century including our own.

What do we believe about resurrection? How does this central element of our belief animate our daily life? How is our life different because of this promise? We proclaim the paschal mystery: suffering and death ultimately lead to joy and new life.

St. Augustine famously said in a sermon: *“We are talking about God. What wonder is that you do not understand? If you do understand, then it is not God.”* Our faith in God is not about perfect understanding or knowledge, but about radical trust in the king of the universe, the God of the living.

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



November 3, 2019	237 Envelopes	\$7,698.00
Elizabeth Seton	124 Envelopes	\$1,773.00
All Saints Day	135 Envelopes	\$2,073.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 689

713 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	204
Amount Pledged	\$105,624.00
Paid to Date	\$97,592.38

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 October 29, 2019 at St. Ephrem R.C. Church	
Campaign Goal	\$980,000.00
Total Pledged	\$1,045,969.00
Total Payments to Date by Parishioners	\$933,982.18
Total # Donors	198
Number of Donors who completed Pledge	134
Total Funds already paid to the Parish to Date	\$442,560.09



Mass Intentions for the week

- Saturday, November 9th**
 8:45 AM All Souls
 5:00 PM Angelina Femia
 James E. Durney
 Elaine Capper
 Brian Joseph McLaughlin
- Sunday, November 10th**
 8:00 AM Martin Murray
 10:00 AM Mary Bonfiglio
 12 Noon Graffagnino & Savarese Families
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Monday, November 11th**
 No 7:00 AM Mass
 8:45 AM Antoinette Papaleo
- Tuesday, November 12th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Maria & Pietro Corsaro
- Wednesday, November 13th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Giuseppina LoBrutto
- Thursday, November 14th**
 7:00 AM Kilus White
 8:45 AM For the Intentions of Rose Mazzone
- Friday, November 15th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM The Campbell Family
- Saturday, November 16th**
 8:45 AM For the Intentions of James Francis Ryan
 5:00 PM Sebastian Striano
 Gregory Emmett
 Brian McLaughlin
 Michael Liberth
- Sunday, November 17th**
 8:00 AM Frances Rauso
 10:00 AM Raymond Duffy
 12 Noon Croce Carluzzo
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



You can honor or remember a loved one by requesting a Mass intention, Bread & Wine, Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp and Flowers for The Tabernacle Altar, Blessed Mother Altar and Holy Family Altar. Please come to the rectory if interested.



Altar Flowers
In Loving Memory Of
Sean & Marcella



St. Ephrem Grandparents Association
 November 17th at 1pm
 Marian Room
 (Rectory basement)

Topic: Vocation of Grandparents
 Bonus Topic: Advent activities with your grandkids
 All grandparents are invited!



100th ANNIVERSARY

Our Parish

Our Prayer

Our Legacy

Save the Date

100th Anniversary Gala
 Sunday, October 25, 2020
 2:00 PM
 El Caribe Country Club
 5945 Strickland Ave, Brooklyn, New York 11234

If you are interested in being part of one of the 100th Anniversary Committees please call the Rectory Office.



Monday, November 11th
 There will be no 7:00 AM Mass &
 Rectory Office will be closed.

PARISH NEWS

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK



**Saturday, November 16th
at the 5:00 PM Mass**

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is both “a liturgical and a communal celebration.” In the family home, hospital, or church, members of the Body of Christ gather for the sacramental rite led by a priest. The Penitential Rite followed by the Liturgy of the Word and sacramental anointing of the sick can inspire and comfort both those who are ill and their family and friends who are gathered. (CCC, nos. 1517-18).

Anointing of the Sick is the sacrament that is received by those who are ill or suffering or elderly. By the sacred anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ. The sick person receives the Holy Spirit’s gifts of strength, faith, peace, and courage, and his or her suffering is united with the suffering of Christ for the building up of the Church.

(CCC, nos. 1520-23).

The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament.

If you wish to be anointed please place your completed card in the collection basket or drop off at the Rectory.



The Book of the Dead


Will be available in our Church during the month of November.

All are welcome to inscribe the names of your loved ones who have died this past year.



Support St. Ephrem’s Youth Ministry

For more information email:
stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

 @stephremyouth

CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD



Each Sunday we have a special children’s liturgy at the 10 AM Mass. Under the direction of our children’s liturgy catechists, children in grades K through 4 are invited to listen to the Gospel and discuss and engage in an activity appropriate to the age which relates to its message. If you are not already doing so, please consider joining us each week for Eucharist. We’d love to have you be part of our faith community and the younger children will enjoy sharing God’s Word with other children. CHILDREN’S LITURGY FOR GRADES K - 4 EVERY SUNDAY AT THE 10 AM MASS!



SPIRITUALITY CENTER

A DVD Program

**“Meet the Real Mary Magdalene”
will be held Tuesday, November 12th at
1:00 PM.** Session 6 is “The Gospel of
Jesus and Contemporary
Fictional Portrayals.”

Bereavement Support Group

Monday, November 18th at 7:00 PM a new Bereavement Support Group. 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 and consoling prayer, please come to the Center.

Individual (one on one) sessions are available on request.

Save the Date

An Advent Retreat

“An Advent Journey”

With Fr. Michael Himes (DVD Program) will be held on Tuesday December 3rd & 10th and Monday, December 16th at 1:00 PM. The topic for Session 1 is “*The Second Coming is NOW.*”

Spiritual Direction

Please call Sister Ann at the Spirituality Center at 718-921-9518 for information or to make an appointment.



Fun for Seniors

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!!!

5th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting



Please join us for our Christmas Tree Lighting

*Saturday, December 14th, 2019
5:00 PM Mass with both our
Adult & Children's Choirs*

*Followed by the Lighting of
Christmas Trees & Light Refreshments*

Brochures are available in the church if you like to participate in this Annual Event. Our Church property will be adorned with these beautiful Christmas Trees so that the Light of the World—Jesus will shine for all to see! This is an opportunity to honor or remember in a special way our loved ones.



Christian Awareness Program (CAP)

Our next meeting is on
November 19th at 9:30 AM
in the Marian Room
(Rectory Meeting Room)

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN NEWS



**Diocese of Brooklyn
Vocation Office**

**Jeremiah Project
High School & College Discernment Group**

But the Lord answered me, "Do not say, 'I am too young.' To whomever I send you, you shall go; whatever I command you, you shall speak."

November 22—23, 2019
Immaculate Conception Center
7200 Douglaston Parkway
Douglaston, New York 11362

To register please call or email the Vocation Office
(718) 827-2454 or cdost@diobrook.org



The hope of the poor shall not perish for ever

2019

Pope Francis has asked all to observe the
Third World Day of the Poor.
November 17th.

“The hope of the poor will not perish forever.”

Commenting on the present world situation, Pope Francis, decries a world in which the poor are marginalized, often made to be excluded from the consciousness of the majority of the non-poor. Pope Francis hopes that observance of the **World Day of the Poor** raises the consciousness of all members of the Church that the poor are our sisters and brothers, ensuring that no one feels like a stranger or outcast.

On Wednesday, November 27th at 7:00 PM our parish will gather to celebrate our Thanksgiving Mass. We invite you to bring non-perishable & non expired food items for the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food Pantry.

Together we respond to Pope Francis' call to help our sisters and brothers in need.

Christmas Cards for Ghana



If you would like to send a Christmas Card to the students of

**St. Catherine's High School
Ghana**

There are cards at the main doors of the church.

If you like to participate, please sign a card and drop it in the box.

Thank You!

Permanent Diaconate Information Sessions



Information for men who feel called to the permanent diaconate will be held:

Diocesan Office
310 Prospect Park West
Brooklyn, New York 11215

Wednesday, December 4th
7:00-9:00 PM

To attend one of these above sessions, men must first have spoken with Fr. Robert, the Pastor, and register for the desired date

"Serve one another in love." Galatians 5: 13

ACADEMY NEWS



"Be An Angel" to a St. Ephrem Student

The "Be An Angel Program" is one of the ways Futures In Education, a Diocesan organization, provides a student with need-based scholarship the chance for a St. Ephrem

parishioner to change the life of a child through the gift of a Catholic education. There are different ways one can help: partial tuition assistance starting at \$1,500.00 per year.

(St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Annual Tuition is \$4,975.00 per student.)

Please prayerfully consider assisting a child from St. Ephrem Catholic Academy.

For more information please call the academy office at (718) 833-1440.



You can help our Academy by saving your Box Tops. For each Box Top our Academy receives 10 cents. Please bring your Box Tops to the Rectory or place them in the box located in the cafeteria.

For the New Box Tops app: Download the latest version of the Box Tops app, scan your receipt and St. Ephrem Academy will

PASTORAL CARE



Are you homebound? Are you or someone you know sick? Are you or someone you know going into the hospital or a nursing home or rehabilitation?

Please let us know!

Would you like us to send a card, visit, bring Holy Communion, or be in contact for any need—such as a walker, cane, homemaker or housekeeper.

Please contact: Tom Sbordone
Christian Awareness Program (CAP) Office
718-833-1143

We will be happy to assist you!

"I was sick & you visited me.."

Matthew 25:36

Flu Season—Feeling Ill?



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