

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 24, 2019
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



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.



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

November 24, 2019

“Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Today’s gospel tells us that Jesus was given the title of “King” by Pilate, or at least by the Romans who crucified him, as they were the ones who would have had the authority and responsibility for placing any sign about the cross.

In Jesus’ final moments on the cross he is surrounded by people calling out, “Save yourself.” The rulers, soldiers, and even one of the criminals being crucified at his side repeat this taunt. In their words we might hear an echo of the temptation Jesus underwent at the very beginning of his ministry, when the devil asks him to change rock into bread to fill his hunger, or to throw himself from the parapet of the temple and be saved by angels. Jesus refuses, of course. Our king is not interested in saving himself. Throughout his ministry Jesus multiplies bread and fish to satisfy the needs of others. He heals physical and spiritual maladies. The second criminal understands and makes a request Jesus immediately grants. “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus lives a life poured out for others from the very beginning to the very end. Even now our king stands ready, not to save himself, but to save us.

Two thieves on either side of Jesus have remarkably different attitudes toward Jesus. One reviled Jesus, prodding him into saving himself and them. The mockery from the bystanders wasn’t enough. Jesus faced mockery from one of his fellow condemned criminals. The other places his faith in Jesus with a simple request to “remember me when you come into your kingdom.” That request denies a faith statement that Jesus is a king. Not only will Jesus remember him, but he promises to be with him in paradise that day. There seems to be no “descent into hell” in Luke’s understanding. That very day Jesus and the thief will be in paradise.

Our call is to recognize Jesus’ kingship as well, though knowing it is a kingdom not of this world. The paschal mystery gives us hope that upon death Jesus is in paradise without a pit stop along the way. Death leads to new life. And Jesus will bring others with him as they too experience the paschal mystery, suffering, death and resurrection.

In today’s bulletin you will find our Financial Report for the fiscal year of September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019. Today, I am presenting this report to you and sharing with you its results. I ask you to please review it and if you have any questions feel free to contact me. In addition, there is information regarding the vision for our Capital Campaign, *Our Church, Our Prayer, Our Legacy*, in preparation for our 100th Anniversary. I ask you to review the information that was mailed to your home or review the information in today’s bulletin. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and our parish. St. Ephrem Pray for Us!

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



November 17, 2019	241 Envelopes	\$7,043.00
Landscaping	135 Envelopes	\$1,879.00
We Share (Online Giving)	40 Families	\$220.00

Mass Attendance 770

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	206
Amount Pledged	\$106,734.00
Paid to Date	\$100,429.30

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 23rd**
 8:45 AM Clara Calabrese
 5:00 PM Rose & Louis Di Pretoro
 Vincenzo Peragine
 Madeline Behette
 Kathleen O'Connor
- Sunday, November 24th**
 8:00 AM Frances L. Marciano
 10:00 AM Rita Anderson
 12 Noon Thomas & Julia Costanza
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Monday, November 25th**
 7:00 AM Pasquale & Rose Mascarini
 8:45 AM Ann Boutross
- Tuesday, November 26th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM The Frascilla Family
- Wednesday, November 27th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Giovanni Micelotto
 7:00 PM John Riordan
- Thursday, November 28th**
No 7:00 AM Mass
 8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Friday, November 29th**
No 7:00 AM Mass
 8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Saturday, November 30th**
 8:45 AM Frank Calabrese
 5:00 PM George Haggar
 Elise Rupolo
- Sunday, December 1st**
 8:00 AM Frances L. Marciano
 10:00 AM Salvatore Bonfiglio
 12 Noon Michael Pratt
 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.



Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:
Harry & Mary Arnold
Requested by Pat Arnold



Flowers at the Blessed Mother Altar
In Memory of:
Rose & Louis Di Pretoro
Requested by
Their Loving Children & Grandchildren



Altar Flowers
In Loving Memory
Of
Sean & Marcella



100th ANNIVERSARY

Our Parish

Our Prayer

Our Legacy



SPIRITUALITY CENTER

Bereavement Support Group
 Monday, November 18th at 7:00 PM.

Spiritual Direction

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



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.

ST. EPHREM CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2019

St. Ephrem RC Church Statement of Income and Expenses For the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2019

Ordinary Income

Sunday/Holy Day Collections	\$ 464,853	
Christmas and Easter Gifts	51,727	\$ 516,580 (Total Collections)
Votive Shrines	15,687	
Rental Income Convent/Senior Priests	79,190	
Rental Income Other	23,056	
Religious Education	31,507	
Parish Programs/Events	5,424	
Clergy Fund (Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, Etc.)	38,535	
Other Auxillary Receipts	582	
Poor Boxes/St. Vincent de Paul	3,124	
Fundraising (net expenses)	<u>48,279</u>	245,383 (Total Other Ordinary Income)

Total Ordinary Income

761,963

Ordinary Expenses

Salary & Expense Clergy (Medical, Pension Fund, Etc.)	223,759	
Religious Stipend	36,500	
Salaries (organist, singers, choir etc.)	93,237	
Employee Benefits & Taxes	69,043	
Rectory Household Salary & Expenses	104,977	
Fuel & Electricity	48,404	
Insurance - Parish Buildings	89,865	
Diocesan Assessments	56,179	
Ordinary Maintenance & Repairs - Salary & Expense	139,830	
Convent Expenses	48,029	
Office Salary and Expenses	173,110	
Altar Supplies (Includes the Tablet)	36,180	
Religious Education Program - Salary & Expense	83,325	
Parish Programs/Events	47,815	
Donations to Other Parishes/Org.-Charity**	126,831	**Includes \$125,000 donated to new Academy
Misc Expenses	<u>5,499</u>	1,382,581 (Total Ordinary Expenses)

Income (Loss) From Ordinary Operation

(620,618) *

** Please note that our Ordinary Income does not cover our Ordinary Expenses*

Extraordinary Income

Annual Stewardship Appeal	4,299	
Donations/Grants	74,000	
Campaign (Generations of Faith)	105,316	
Interest & Realized Gains(Losses), net expenses	4,337	
Unrealized Gains(Losses)	(10,389)	
School Rental	<u>806,163</u>	983,725 (Total Extraordinary Income)

Subtotal Income (Loss) from Ordinary Operation + Extraordinary Income

363,107

Major Repairs & Renovations:Total	333,422
(Church) new ramp deposit,	
(Rectory) roof, entrance gate	
(Academy) elevator upgrades, new front entrance	
(Old school building) façade	
Interest on Loans	62,265

395,687 (Total Extraordinary Expenses)

Net Income(Loss)

\$ (32,580)

Diocesan Second or Special Collections & Payments

\$ 37,837

Saint Ephrem Centennial Campaign *Our Church, Our Prayer, Our Legacy*

St. Ephrem Church's Centennial Campaign is officially underway! We will celebrate our 100th anniversary during the 2020-2021 pastoral year.

In honor of this milestone and to address our pressing needs, we have embarked on a **\$1.25 million capital campaign** called *Our Church, Our Prayer, Our Legacy*.
100% of the proceeds will stay at our parish.

Thank you to all families who have already generously committed to our campaign. We are excited to report we have received pledges totaling **\$617,000.00** from only **51 families, representing 49% of our goal.**

We need participation from all parishioners to reach and exceed our goal and make this a true success. Last week, you received a campaign letter, brochure, and pledge card in the mail. I invite you to review our plans and prayerfully make a commitment.

Pledges can be fulfilled over a five-year period.

Please return your pledge card to the Rectory this week or place it in the collection during mass. If you have any questions, please call the Rectory at (718) 833-1010.



Saint Ephrem, pray for us!

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.



Thanksgiving Mass

Wednesday, November 27, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Join us around the table of the Lord to give thanks for all the blessings we have received. We invite you to bring non-perishable food items for Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Food Pantry



*On behalf of the Parish Staff
We wish you a Blessed Thanksgiving!*

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAY

December 3, 2019

Consider making St. Ephrem your charity for this day! Thank You!

The Rectory Office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and on Friday, November 29th. There will be no 7:00 AM Mass on Thanksgiving Day and on Friday, November 29th



Our Advent Giving Trees will be available for the first weekend in Advent, November 30th & December 1st. Please take one of the gift giving tags, which indicates a gift for an infant up to a

teenager, or an adult.

The gifts will provide much happiness to the children of Hour Children and adults of Heartshare.

Please return all gifts NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM Mass on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

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.