

# Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

[www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org](http://www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org)



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



[stephremparish-brooklyn](https://www.facebook.com/stephremparish-brooklyn)

## Parish Staff

January 19, 2020  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rev. Robert B. Adamo, KCHS, *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*



### 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](mailto:stephremreligious@gmail.com)

## St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 ♦ 718-833-1440 ♦ [www.stephremcatholicacademy.org](http://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](http://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.



## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 19, 2020

**“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”**

In today’s gospel John the Baptist, not as the baptizer of Jesus, even though it may seem that way. Instead, it is to testify to Jesus—a testament that, namely, Jesus is the Son of God. This title is significant for the Gospel of John, and it appears in the closing verse of the gospel: *“These things are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.”*

So what John the Baptist testifies to in the beginning, that Jesus is the Son of God, is the entire purpose of the gospel. And all of this is done without Jesus being baptized. We would need the other gospels to learn that Jesus was indeed baptized by John. This gospel gracefully omits that detail.

St. Paul tells us that we have been baptized into Christ’s death. Mark speaks of John’s baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, which Jesus also underwent. But John the Baptist appears in the John’s Gospel not to baptize Jesus, but to testify to him, Baptism, this foundational sacrament of water, has a multiplicity of meaning and interpretations in the New Testament and also for us today. When we enter church and bless ourselves with the holy water, we are reminded that we have been baptized into Christ’s death, with the forgiveness of sins. Then we, as his followers, are to testify to him in the world. Our belief in Jesus as the Son of God gives life in his name. We live this life having undergone the paschal mystery (passion, death and resurrection of Jesus), in our own baptism from death to new life.

In the Good Shepherd,

*Fr. Robert*



January 12, 2020      259 Envelopes      \$7,361.00

We Share (Online Giving)      40 Families      \$220.00

Mass Attendance 805

713 Families Registered and Receive Envelopes

***Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!***

## St. Ephrem Centennial Campaign *Our Church, Our Prayers, Our Legacy*

**As of January 13, 2020**

<b>Parish Goal</b>	<b>\$1.25 Million</b>
<b>Number of Donors</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>Amount Pledged</b>	<b>\$1,243,110.00</b>
<b>Percent of Goal</b>	<b>99%</b>

**Thank You for your Generosity!**

*Saint Ephrem, pray for us!*



### 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!**

<b>St. Ephrem Parish Goal</b>	<b>\$99,236.00</b>
<b>Number of Donors</b>	<b>220</b>
<b>Amount Pledged</b>	<b>\$113,795.00</b>
<b>Paid to Date</b>	<b>\$109,985.00</b>

**Faith & Good Works**

## Annual Contribution Statement for 2019



**For your 2019 statement of contribution to St. Ephrem Parish, Please contact the rectory office.**



## Mass Intentions for the week

**Saturday, January 18th**  
Theresa Murray

8:45 AM  
5:00 PM  
Anna Striano  
Vincenza Tammaro  
Kang Rung TJI  
Geraldine Stokum

**Sunday, January 19th**  
8:00 AM Madeline Behette  
10:00 AM Mary & Sal Bonfiglio  
12 Noon Guisppina LoBruto  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

**Monday, January 20th to Friday, January 24th**  
Mass will be celebrated at St. Ephrem Convent  
935 Bay Ridge Parkway

*Enter through the main entrance*

**Monday, January 20th**

**No 7:00 AM Mass**  
8:45 AM Mary & James Carr

**Tuesday, January 21st**  
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM Suzanne Giangrande

**Wednesday, January 22nd**  
7:00 AM Peter D. Murray  
8:45 AM For the Children Lost by Abortion

**Thursday, January 23rd**  
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM John P. Doolan

**Friday, January 24th**  
7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem

**Saturday, January 25th**  
8:45 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
5:00 PM Anna Striano

**Sunday, January 26th**  
8:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
10:00 AM For the Intentions of Mark Costanza  
12 Noon Benny Natoli  
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:  
**Joseph A. Russo**

*Requested by Ralph, Gerry and Michael DeFilippo*

## Colds and Common Sense



*As we begin to pass through the winter months and flu season, please remember to refrain from receiving the Precious Blood from the chalice, and even exchanging the sign of peace if you are not feeling well. Your neighbor will understand and thank you..*

1921 + 2021



100th ANNIVERSARY

*Our Parish*

*Our Prayer*

*Our Legacy*

### SPIRITUALITY CENTER



**Save the Dates**  
A Lenten Retreat "Change Our Hearts" will begin Tuesday, February 25th at 1:00 pm. The remaining dates are March 3, 10, 16, 24 and 31. More information to follow.

**Spiritual Direction**  
Please call Sr. Ann at (718) 921-9518



## 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.*



## ACADEMY NEWS



**Celebrate Catholic  
Schools Week 2020**

January 26 - February 1

**#CSW1920**

**ST. EPHREM  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY**

**St. Ephrem Catholic Academy  
Celebrates Catholic Schools Week  
January 26th - February 1**

**Sunday - 10am Mass Open House 11am - 2pm**

- Registration Begins for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Monday - Career and vocation day**

- Students learn about what opportunities await them in their future.

**Tuesday - Student appreciation and Ring Day**

- 8th Grade receives their graduation rings

**Wednesday - Culture Day**

- Students go on a trip to a cultural institution.

**Thursday - Community Day**

- Students go out into the community to help our neighbors.

**Friday - Faculty appreciation Day**

- Student vs. Faculty Hockey Game

**Registration for St. Ephrem Catholic Academy**

**For the 2020-2021 School Year**

**Begins Sunday, January 26th**

**Please join us for our Open House and see the wonderful opportunities available  
for a quality Catholic Education.**

**(718) 833-1440 or [www.stephremcatholicacademy.org](http://www.stephremcatholicacademy.org)**

**St. Ephrem Catholic Academy  
*Presents***

**Designer Bag  
Bingo**



**Come & Have Some Fun,  
All Are Welcome!**

**February 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM**

**\$40.00 Per Person**

**which includes:**

**1 Bingo Card**

**(Extra Bingo Cards will be for sale)**

**Sandwiches**

**Refreshments**

**BYOB**

**RSVP by February 1st**

**For a Table or Individual Ticket**

**For information please call:**

**Tammy Fecci (917) 692-9378**

**[TLCFecci@aol.com](mailto:TLCFecci@aol.com)**

**Melisa LoFaso (917) 270-4842**

**[Mbruzzese23@yahoo.com](mailto:Mbruzzese23@yahoo.com)**



**St. Ephrem 5th Annual  
Mardi Gras Celebration  
Saturday, February 22nd**  
*Following the 5:00 PM Mass*

**The Msgr. Kain Hall  
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy**  
924 74th Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11228

DJ, Hot Food, Chips, Soda,  
Dessert, Coffee  
50/50 Raffles & Much More

**B.Y.O.B.**

Casual Attire,  
Mardi Gras Attire Optional  
**\$25.00 Per Person**  
(Adults Only)

Individual Ticket  
or  
Table Reservations Available

**No Tickets will be sold after  
February 18, 2020**  
*No Tickets will be sold at the door*

**Tickets are available for  
purchase at the Rectory  
(718) 833-1010**  
**Hope to see you there!**

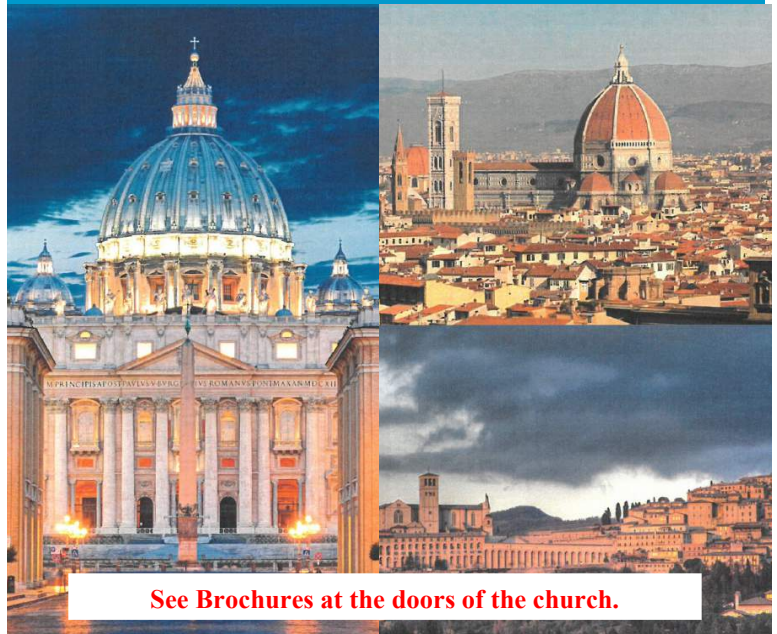
You are invited to join us on a 10-day pilgrimage to Italy!

## St. Ephrem Parish

*Fr. Robert B. Adamo, Pastor & Spiritual Director*

### March 14-23, 2021

Rome ✨ Vatican City ✨ Orvieto ✨  
Florence ✨ San Gimignano ✨ Assisi



**See Brochures at the doors of the church.**

**Estimated All-Inclusive Package  
\$3,695.00 Per Person Double Occupancy**  
**Estimated Land Only Package  
\$2,795.00 Per Person Double Occupancy**  
*Single Occupancy Available for additional cost.*

#### Travel Package Inclusions

- Round-trip economy class airfare from New York.
- U.S. departure tax; Customs user fee; security tax and all airport taxes.
- Meeting and assistance upon departure from New York JFK Intercontinental Airport.
- Deluxe motor-coach transportation upon arrival and available for the entire tour.
- Eight (8) nights' accommodations in twin rooms at first-class hotels throughout.
- Buffet breakfast daily plus a wine tasting with cold snacks and six (6) dinners, including a farewell dinner with wine and entertainment.
- Full-time tour manager throughout the entire tour, including arrival and departure transfers.
- Sightseeing with licensed, professional, English-speaking guides as outlined in the itinerary.
- Entrance fees to all sights as noted in the itinerary.
- Portage of one piece of luggage, per person, at hotels.
- Coordination of daily liturgies.
- Travel documents, travel wallet, luggage tags, name badge, and travel bag.

*Please refer to Terms & Conditions for items or additional costs not included in the package price.*

Peter's Way Tours



[www.petersway.com](http://www.petersway.com)

425 Broadhollow Road • Suite 204 • Melville, NY 11747

E-mail: [peter@petersway.com](mailto:peter@petersway.com)

800-225-7662 • 516-605-1551 • Fax: 516-605-1555



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*Thank You for your  
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smiles to so many this  
Christmas!  
Thank You!*



**hourchildren**

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**



The R.C.I.A. process 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

**Mass, Eucharistic Adoration,  
Rosary & Meditation  
Friday, January 24, 2020 at 11:00 AM  
St. Anselm Church**

*While the March for Life is taking place in Washington, DC*

**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!**

**Friendship Club**

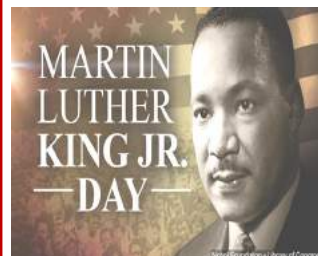
All Seniors 55 years and older are invited to join us on  
Wednesdays in the  
Msgr. Peter V. Kain Hall  
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Doors open at 10:30)  
Do you enjoy playing cards, bingo, join in the 50/50, or  
just talk to your new friends, even bring your own  
friends for a table of your own.  
We look forward to your company!!!



Youth Ministry Meeting  
**January 26th  
6:00 to 8:00 PM**

For more information email:  
stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

@stephremyouth



**On Monday,  
January 20, 2020  
In observance of  
Martin Luther King, Jr.,  
there will only be an  
8:45 AM Mass**

**The Rectory Office will be closed.**