

# Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

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



## Parish Staff

February 23, 2020  
Seventh 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.



**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**February 23, 2020**

**“Love your enemies.”**

Jesus tells us that, as Christians, we are not simply to eschew revenge, but instead to will and act for the good of our persecutors, tormentors, and enemies. How is this possible? In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus offers the guidelines by which he will live his life of perfect, self-giving love and holiness. From the cross he will pray for his crucifiers: *“Father, forgive them, they know not what they do”* (Luke 23:34). The teachings of Jesus are hard. They call us to strip away all hatred and anger in order to be the people we have been created to be made in the image and likeness of the living God. And when it seems impossible, we can rely on Christ within us, the one who prayed for his executioners, to lead the way to forgiveness and healing.

Jesus invites us to pray for one’s persecutors rather than hate them. All too often feelings of exclusion and division can rise up in the face of persecution, which is certainly understandable. Striking back in the face of persecution is a natural human response. But the way of Jesus calls his disciples to the lofty goal of praying for those persecutors. Few people have lived up to this ideal, but those who have, are known for it, including Martin Luther King Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, and the Dalai Lama. If we treat with kindness only those who treat us with kindness, we are merely living the values of the world. Jesus demands that we are “perfect,” meaning pure in our devotion to God. Then we will be known as his disciples.

Admiring Jesus is easy to do. He was a gifted teacher, who lived an ethical life. His sayings inspire us, to say nothing of his death and resurrection. Yet, merely admiring Jesus is not what we are called to do. As disciples, we are to follow him. The Sermon on the Mount is addressed to us. His words should certainly challenge us and our basic attitudes toward life. It’s much easier to be evangelized by the modern culture with values of the world. And many of these values are not bad, such as treating with kindness those who treat us with kindness. But Jesus has another way. We are to pray for our persecutors. We are to turn the other cheek. In the face of such injunctions, we may choose to admire Jesus for his simple advice, which quietly concluding that is not the way the world works. Jesus would agree. He calls his disciples to be salt for the earth, leaven for the world. The conclusion of this journey is not “to get ahead” but to die on a cross. But then comes the promised resurrection. Such is the paschal mystery, which is to be lived, not merely admired.

In the Good Shepherd,

*Fr. Robert*



February 16, 2020                      250 Envelopes                      \$6,864.00

We Share (Online Giving)              40 Families                      \$220.00

Mass Attendance 655

740 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	February 11, 2020
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	212
Amount Pledged	\$1,303,052.64
Paid to Date	\$373,682.64
Percent of Goal	104%

**Thank You for your Generosity!**

*Saint Ephrem, pray for us!*



**Annual Catholic  
Appeal 2019**  
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

**Thank you to the 222  
parishioners who have paid  
\$111,395.00. Since our goal  
was \$99,236.00, the parish  
will receive \$12,159.00  
over goal.**

**Thank you very much for  
your generosity!**

**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!!!



## Mass Intentions for the week

**Saturday, February 22nd**  
 8:45 AM Vincenzo Cammilleri  
 5:00 PM Anna Striano  
 Rita Pagone  
 Darryl Kimble  
 Primo & Anthony Massaia  
 For the Intentions of Carolyn Vella

**Sunday, February 23rd**  
 8:00 AM John Chin  
 10:00 AM For the Intentions of Steven Torres  
 12 Noon For the Intentions of Carmela D'Alessio  
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

**Monday, February 24th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Loughran Family

**Tuesday, February 25th**  
 7:00 AM Philip Sanantonio  
 8:45 AM For the Intentions of James Francis Ryan

**Wednesday, February 26th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Barbara Gencarelli  
 3:45 PM Prayer Service  
 7:00 PM Prayer Service

**Thursday, February 27th**  
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem  
 8:45 AM Anna Castellano

**Friday, February 28th**  
 7:00 AM Edward O'Brien  
 8:45 AM Elder Family

**Saturday, February 29th**  
 8:45 AM O'Kane Family  
 5:00 PM Anna Striano  
 Rita M. Lento  
 Jesus Betances

**Sunday, March 1st**  
 8:00 AM James Smith  
 10:00 AM Salvatore Bonfiglio  
 12 Noon Michael Iannelli  
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem



## Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:

**Rita Pagone**

*Requested by St. Ephrem Catholic Academy  
Board Members*



## Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of

**All Deceased Souls**

1921 + 2021



*Our Parish*

*Our Prayer*

*Our Legacy*

100th ANNIVERSARY

## 100th Anniversary Gala

Sunday, October 25, 2020

2:00 PM

El Caribe Country Club

5945 Strickland Ave, Brooklyn, New York 11234

# Save the Date

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



## Wednesday, February 26th

Ashes will be distributed  
In Church

7:00 AM Mass

8:45 AM Mass

*with children from our Academy*

3:45 PM Prayer Service

*with children from our Faith Formation Program*

7:00 PM Prayer Service



We will pray in the Church

Stations of the Cross

*Thursday, February 27th  
at 1:30 PM*

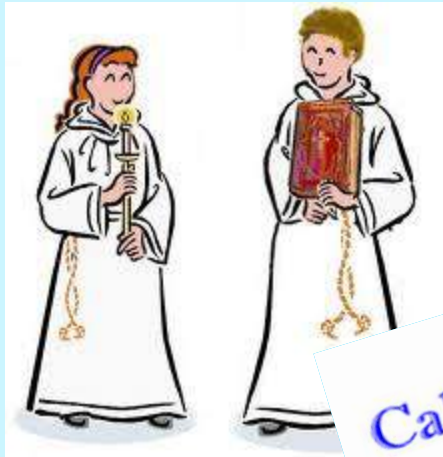
With the Children of Our Academy

&  
*Friday's of Lent*

Following the 8:45 AM Mass

And at  
7:00 PM





Called to *Serve*

You can manage your schedule through our online App

## Liturgical Ministers Needed

*Altar Servers (Ages 8 to Adult)*  
*Choir Members (Adult & Children)*  
*Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion*  
*Lectors*  
*Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers)*



**Is God calling you to serve?**  
**Please call the Rectory Office for more information.**

**Altar Servers Only:**  
**There are three training sessions that you must attend**  
**Sundays February 23rd, March 1st & March 8th**  
**following the 10:00 AM Mass**

Church of St. Ephrem  
**Lenten Soup Supper**



Wednesday, March 4th at 6:00 PM  
St. Ephrem Catholic Academy  
924 74th Street Brooklyn, New York

**There will be a free  
will offering:**

In order to make proper arrangements  
Please R.S.V.P. by  
By calling St. Ephrem Rectory (718) 833-1010



St. Ephrem  
Grandparents Association  
March 8th at 1:00 PM  
Marian Room  
(Rectory basement)  
All grandparents are  
invited!



Youth Ministry Meeting  
March 8th  
6:00 to 8:00 PM

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!

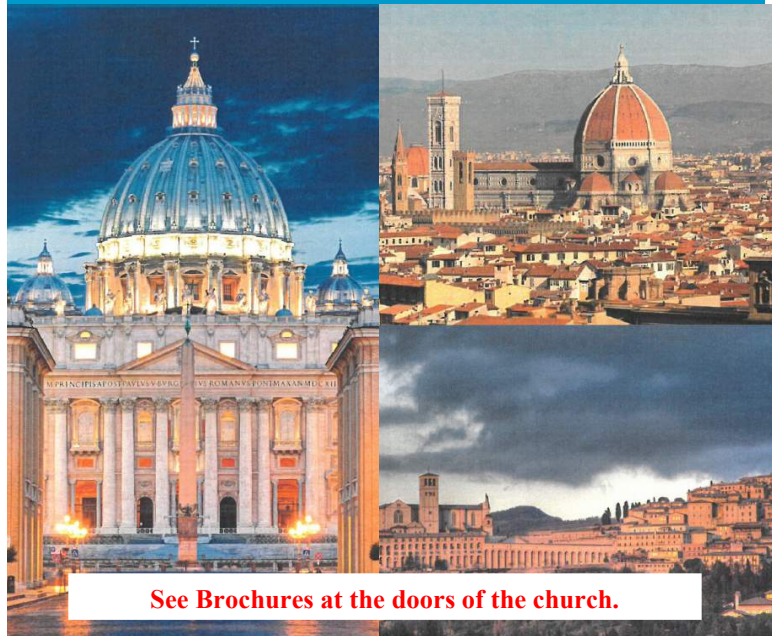
You are invited to join us on a 10-day pilgrimage to Italy!

**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.*



www.petersway.com

425 Broadhollow Road • Suite 204 • Melville, NY 11747

E-mail: peter@petersway.com

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



## PARISH NEWS

### Celebrate the Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade with St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

**Sunday, March 22, 2020**

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 welcome to join us!*

### The 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:

Sandwiches, Irish Soda Bread,  
Soda Water & BYOB

Only a limited number of tickets available.

First come, First Served.

#### For Tickets contact:

**Mary Donnelly**  
917-816-3733

**Brian Cassidy**  
917-803-8176

### Annual Contribution Statement for 2019



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

### SPIRITUALITY CENTER



**Bereavement Support Group** meets  
Monday, March 2nd at 7:00 pm.

**A Lenten Retreat "Change Our Hearts"**  
Tuesday, February 25th at 1:00 pm. Session 1 is  
**Repent and Believe the Good News.**

**Bereavement Deanery Corner**  
**St. Patrick Parish**  
Sister Jeanne Elaine at  
718-238-2600 x178

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



### Colds and Common Sense



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

### San Alfonso Retreat House

A group of women from  
St. Ephrem will be attending the Women's  
Retreat.

March 20 to 22

\$240 per person

*A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is  
necessary by February 24th*

Space is limited.



If you would like to car pool please call  
Carol Ann Pallonetti (347) 484-9958

**To make your reservations please contact  
San Alfonso Retreat House (732) 222-2731**



### CALLED BY NAME: Exploring Lay Ministry in our Church Today

**TUESDAYS MARCH 3, 10, 24\* 2020**

**7:00 PM to 8:30 PM**

**St. Ephrem Rectory Meeting Room (Marian Room)**

**To Register:** Contact Lisa at Saint Ephrem Rectory  
at (718)833-1010 or [stephremreligouised@gmail.com](mailto:stephremreligouised@gmail.com) by Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

*\*The hours for this final session will be 6:30 pm to 9 pm -  
to include a Lenten dinner and movie followed by discussion.  
Five LLF credits will be given upon completion of the course.*