

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



Parish Staff

March 15, 2020
Third Sunday of Lent

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

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—11:30 AM

1:00 PM—6:30 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.



Third Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2020

“The Water that I shall give will become a spring of eternal life.”

In today’s gospel we accompany Jesus as he meets the woman at the well. The setting is the Samaritan town of Sychar (Shechem), noteworthy because of its association with patriarch Jacob, but the Old Testament does not mention the well of Jacob. Samaritans were not considered by Judeans to be truly Jewish, as they worshiped not only at the temple (which was in Judea) but at Shechem. Jesus tells the woman that there will come a time “when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth.” No longer will it matter whether one is at a particular place for worship.

The woman recognizes that Jesus is a prophet and Jesus himself eventually reveals to her that he is the Messiah, the Christ. Even so, she does not initially refer to him with that title herself. Instead, she goes back to her townspeople claiming that she met someone who could be the Christ. Because of her word, many of the townspeople believed in him. After Jesus stayed with them for some time, many more came to believe in him hearing him for themselves. They then claim to know that “he is the Savior of the world.” Though this is a common term in Luke and Paul, this is the only instance of Jesus being called “Savior” during his public ministry in the Gospel of John.

Thus we have a gradual coming to faith in the encounter at the well. The woman recognizes Jesus as a prophet and senses he could even be the Christ. She immediately evangelizes, spreads the good news to her townspeople. Some come to believe on her word alone, but more come to believe upon hearing Jesus for themselves. This encounter leads them to proclaim him as “Savior.” Certainly, much more could be said about the many meanings in this reading, but for the scrutiny Sundays, it seems appropriate to focus on the experience of coming to faith in Jesus.

Each of us came to faith through someone else. Each of us can recall hearing about Christ from another person who likely meant something to us. The woman at the well shared her experience with the townspeople. Many believed upon hearing, and many more heard for themselves and believed. Even the process of believing or, rather, coming to faith is gradual. Terms like “prophet” give way to “Christ” and ultimately to “Savior.” Later in the Gospel of John still more titles will be used. Jesus cannot be encapsulated by one title or in one encounter. The initial experience leaves the woman and the townspeople wanting more. Such is the life of faith. We do not have a once-and-for-all encounter. But a relationship with Jesus unfolds over time, ever deepening, ever revealing, until we encounter the cross and the exaltation. These mysteries we will ponder throughout our lives and share them with others, who will also ponder the same. This life of faith is a shared reflection on the paschal mystery.

In the Good Shepherd,

Fr. Robert



March 8, 2020 247 Envelopes \$6,832.00
 Snow Removal 65 Envelopes \$ 878.00
 We Share (Online Giving) 40 Families \$220.00

Mass Attendance 760

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	March 9, 2020
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	223
Amount Pledged	\$1,314,865.64
Paid to Date	\$407,192.64
Percent of Goal	105%

Thank You for your Generosity!

Saint Ephrem, pray for us!



How will our Parish Benefit?

St. Ephrem Parish Goal is:
\$109,682.00

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 **\$12,159.00 Thank You!**

St. Ephrem Parish Goal	\$109,682.00
Number of Donors	11
Amount Pledged	\$3,540.00
Paid to Date	\$1,165.00

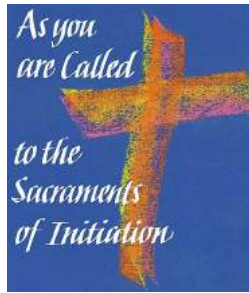
WE ARE THE CHURCH, TOGETHER



Mass Intentions for the week

- Saturday, March 14th**
 8:45 AM Gabriel Fernandez
 5:00 PM Frank Valenza
 Anna Striano
 Concetta Barrafato
 Anne Cardaci
 Giulia Peragine
 Giuseppa Bonello
- Sunday, March 15th**
 8:00 AM Peter Poggioli
 10:00 AM Jerry Mignone
 12 Noon For the Intentions of Nicolette and
 Antonia Genzale
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem
- Monday, March 16th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Jessie Doolan
- Tuesday, March 17th**
 7:00 AM Joseph Iannaci, Sr.
 8:45 AM Angelina Jabaily
- Wednesday, March 18th**
 7:00 AM Philomena Murtagh
 8:45 AM Gail Morano
- Thursday, March 19th**
 7:00 AM Sylvia & Louis Zraick
 8:45 AM Joseph Losardo
- Friday, March 20th**
 7:00 AM For the People of St. Ephrem
 8:45 AM Joseph Ligammari & Miriam Ligammari
- Saturday, March 21st**
 8:45 AM Nicola Irace
 5:00 PM Nancy & Michael Bagnato
 Vincent Bagnato (Son)
 Michael Bagnato (Grandson)
 Maria Bagnato
 Raymond Duffy, Sr.
 William Stamatis
- Sunday, March 22nd**
 8:00 AM Ilario Piscioneri
 10:00 AM For the Intentions of Evelyn Costanza
 12 Noon For the Intentions of Maria D'Alessio
 5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

The Scrutinies



These Rituals are celebrated on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent. As Easter draws near our elect and candidates of our parish, are asked to scrutinize or examine their lives so that they may successfully complete their preparation and find Christ through the Sacraments.

Next weekend March 22nd at the 10:00 AM Mass, the Second Scrutiny will be celebrated. We will pray that God gives our elect a true spirit of repentance, a fuller sense of sin and the true freedom that comes with being a child of God.

Please keep in your prayers our elect.

*Wendi Lei
Shanee A. Hansler*

1921 + 2021



100th ANNIVERSARY

Our Parish

Our Prayer

Our Legacy

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.



Lenten Daily Meditations

At the doors of our church there are the Lenten, "The Word Among Us".

Please take one for your Lenten Daily Meditations. We hope that this will be an opportunity to enhance your prayer and strengthen your relationship with God.



We will pray in the Church

Stations of the Cross

(There are no Stations this Thursday)

Friday's of Lent

**Following the 8:45 AM Mass
and at 7:00 PM**

PARISH & ACADEMY NEWS



Registration

ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Now Open!

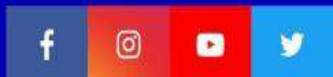


- Early Morning Drop Off (7:15 am)
- After school program (until 6 pm)
- Summer Camp
- Adobe Digital Art Classes
- Parish Sports program
- Parish Children's Choir and Bell Choir
- STEM Lab
- Orton-Gillingham Certified Resourced Room Teacher
- Latin & Greek Roots Program
- Theater on the Go! Drama Club
- Math 9
- Summer Remedial Program in Math and Reading



- Unified K-8 Writing Program
- Catholic Identity programs
- iPad program 1:1 Grades 3-5
- Chromebook program 1:1 Grades 6-8
- Art Show
- Study Hall periods for extra help
- Music classes and concerts
- Band Program
- Guidance Program
- Google Apps for education
- Computer Lab and Classes
- Full size gym and classes
- Italian classes
- Weekly clubs for outside interests

924 74th Street Brooklyn, NY 11228
 For Tours and Information call 718-833-1440 or visit our website at
www.stephremacademy.org
 Financial Aid and Scholarships Available




Friday, April 24th
7:00 PM
 St. Ephrem Catholic Academy
 924 74th Street
 Brooklyn, New York

\$35.00 Per Person Includes:
Snacks, Sandwiches, Cookies, Soda, Water,
Coffee & Tea
Available for sale:
Wine, Beer & Signature Drink

For Information & Reservations Contact
St. Ephrem Rectory (718) 833-1010
You can arrange for tables of 8 or 10 people.

Please make reservations by April 20th
No Tickets will be sold at the door

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food Pantry



We will be collecting non-perishable and non-expired food items the weekend of
March 22, 2020
Thank you again!



Christian Awareness Program (CAP)

Our next meeting is on
March 24th at 9:30 AM
 in the Marian Room
 (Rectory Meeting Room)



Feast of St. Patrick
Tuesday, March 17th

Following the 8:45 AM Mass all are invited to join us in the Rectory Dining Room for light refreshments.

Solemnity of St. Joseph
Thursday, March 19th

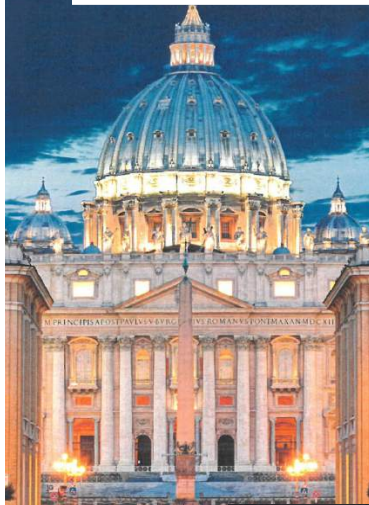
Following the 8:45 AM Mass all are invited to join us in the Rectory Dining Room for light refreshments.



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.



Peter's Way Tours



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

Lenten Dinner & Movie

Tuesday, March 24, 2020
7:00 to 9:00 PM
St. Ephrem Rectory Marian Room
Free Will Offering
RSVP by Friday, March 20, 2020
Please call the Rectory Office
(718) 833-1010



REVOLUTION OF THE HEART: The Dorothy Day Story profiles one of the most extraordinary and courageous women in American history. She was co-founder (along with Peter Maurin) of the Catholic Worker Movement that began as a newspaper to expose rampant injustices during the Great Depression. It soon expanded to become a network of houses of hospitality to welcome the poor and destitute. Over the years, Dorothy Day developed her understanding of how to follow the Biblical challenge to be "peacemakers" by resisting all forms of military intervention. She protested America's involvement in World War II and was severely criticized. Day was arrested multiple times for protesting America's nuclear buildup and she led nationwide resistance against the war in Vietnam. Now nearly a century after they began, the number of Catholic Worker houses continues to grow and the newspaper is still speaking truth to power

57 Minutes

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



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!

**HELP
WANTED!**
*Christ Needs
You*



SPIRITUALITY CENTER

Bereavement Support Group meets
March 16th at 7:00 PM

A Lenten Retreat “Change Our Hearts”
Tuesday, March 16th at 1:00 pm. Session 4 is
From Darkness to Light

The Book Discussion Group
Thursday, March 19th at 4:00 PM.
The book discussed is *To the Moon and Back*
by Karen Kingsbury. New members are welcome.

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



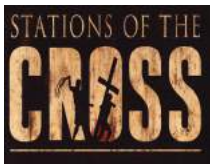
Holy Thursday Washing of the Feet

The washing of the feet during the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper is a beautiful ritual full of meaning which represents the service and charity of Christ, who came *‘not to be served, but to serve.’*

With this in mind we are asking for volunteers that would like to represent the parish family, young and old, by having their feet washed during the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, on

Holy Thursday, April 9th at 7:30 PM.
Please call the rectory if you are interested

Good Friday Stations of the Cross



We are looking for volunteers to participate in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross

April 10th at 7:30 PM

If you are interested please call the rectory.



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..



**Most Reverend
Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph. D., D.D.
Bishop of Brooklyn**

Directives for the diocese as we celebrate the liturgy during this flu and coronavirus season:

In an effort to prevent illness and in an abundance of caution, Bishop DiMarzio has issued the following:

- Please avoid greeting with handshakes
- The holy water fonts are emptied to avoid spreading of germs
- The sign of peace is suspended. After the greeting of the priest “The Peace of the Lord be with you,” we will move directly into the “Lamb of God.”
- Everyone is strongly urged to receive the Eucharist in the hand and not on the tongue. This is for your safety as well as that of the ministers distributing Holy Communion and others who receive after you.
- The cup of Precious Blood is suspended
- If you feel sick or have any flu like symptoms, Please stay home.
- Wash your hand frequently and don’t touch your face.

Thank you for your understanding during this time



Youth Ministry Meeting
Friday, March 20th at 6:30 PM

Movie Night


Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

Pizza-Popcorn-Community

Sunday, March 29th
Lenten Saints
Celebrate our Favorite Saints of Lent
6:00 to 8:00 PM

Marian Room

For more information email:
stephremyouthministry@gmail.com

 @stephremyouth