

# 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

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*

April 12, 2020

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord



### 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—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](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

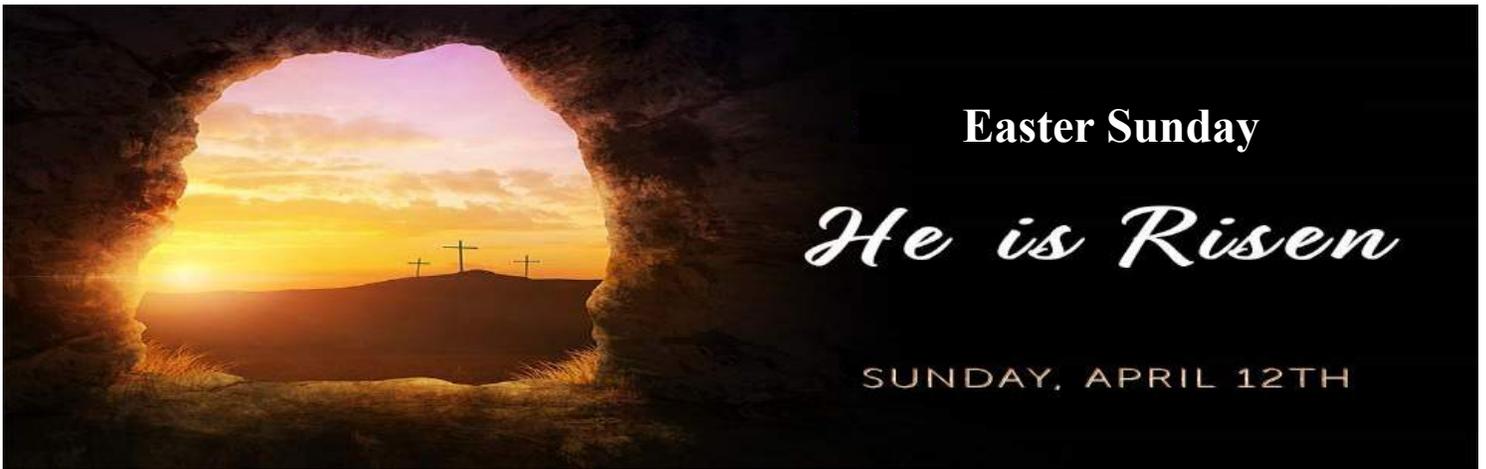
To make arrangements for communion to be brought to any parishioner who is seriously ill or confined to the house, or if they wish to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. To see a particular Staff Member, please call for an appointment.

## 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.



## **Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

***“He has been raised from the dead and is going before you to Galilee.”***  
**Matthew 28: 1-10**

Dear Parishioner,

The stone has been rolled away by an angel from heaven, after a great earthquake, and the guards, posted by Pilate himself, were left in a daze. Matthew presents Easter Sunday morning in a very dramatic way. The earth itself shook. And Jesus himself appeared like lightning, to the women, Mary Magdalene and to “the other Mary.”

The risen Christ has appeared to these women first. They are told to relate the good news to the others—that Jesus is risen and they will see him in Galilee. Jesus did not appear to Peter or the Beloved Disciple, or the other disciples. Who were with Jesus from the beginning. The distinction of being the first witness of the Risen Christ is Mary Magdalene and the other Mary. Jesus chooses those whom he wills. And we, too, are witness to his presence in the world.

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary journeyed to the tomb on Easter morning with anxiety that the stone would be too heavy and keep them from the body of Jesus. Upon their arrival they see the stone is rolled back. Immediately they fear thieves have taken the body of Jesus. Mary calls out to the man in the garden, “Where have they taken him?” Upon hearing his voice she recognizes the Risen Lord. The two Mary’s immediately go to alert the other disciples.

Nothing can keep us from God, not Coronavirus or even death itself. It is not the force of human hands that removes stone. It is the love of God. On Easter morning we come face-to-face with the empty tomb and know the proclamation from St. Paul: *“neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”* (Romans 8: 38-39)

Even COVID-19 can not separate us from the Love of God, nothing can. Certainly, we are experiencing Easter in a very different way. The Risen Christ will let the sun shine again. Jesus tells the women, *“Do not be afraid”* but go and spread the word and deed. Jesus is speaking to us today, *“Do not be afraid.”* He is with us at this time. Jesus is the Light in this time of isolation and darkness. We are no longer slaves to darkness. Instead we are “children of light.” Just as the new paschal candle is lit, representing Christ in our midst, may our lives always bear witness to the victory of light over darkness.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Blessed Easter. Please be assured of my continued prayers.

In the Good Shepherd,



# The Two Feet of Love *in Action*

“The conscience is called by this social teaching to recognize and fulfill the obligations of **justice** and **charity** in society.”

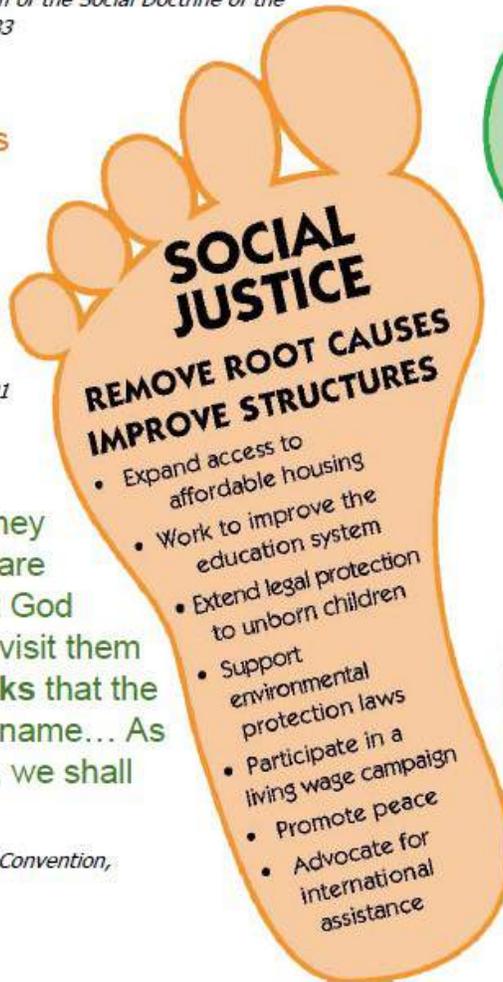
—Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, no. 83

“**Social justice**. . . concerns the social, political, and economic aspects and, above all, the structural dimension of problems and their respective solutions.”

—Compendium, no. 201

“To [those who lack what they need to live a dignified life] are proclaimed glad tidings that God loves them...and comes to visit them through the **charitable works** that the disciples of Christ do in his name... As we can read in Matthew 25, we shall all be judged on this.”

—Pope Francis, Address to Pastoral Convention, 6/17/13





## Mass Intentions for the weeks of April 12, 2020

As of March 16th there are no public celebrated masses throughout the Diocese of Brooklyn.  
The priests' of St. Ephrem will be  
celebrating private mass and fulfilling these Mass Intentions.

All Masses are being live streamed through our parish website.  
Please share and join us!

**Sunday, April 12, 2020 –Easter Sunday**  
10:00 AM

Matthew O'Connor  
Mary & Sal Bonfiglio  
Mary Antico

**Monday, April 13, 2020**  
Thomas O'Kane

**Tuesday, April 14, 2020**  
Lillian O'Brien  
Tony Grbic

**Wednesday, April 15, 2020**  
Mary Nicosia

**Thursday, April 16, 2020**  
James Longo  
Bill Hyland

**Friday, April 17, 2020**  
Vincent Golden  
Willie Giordano

**Saturday, April 18, 2020**  
Peter Ursino  
Joseph Braganza

**Sunday, April 19, 2020**  
**Divine Mercy Sunday**

10:00 AM Mass followed by  
Adoration, Novena to Divine Mercy, and Benediction

Edward Beneduci  
Richard Racioppi, Sr.  
Emilia Longo  
For the People of St. Ephrem

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion.

The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

### Spiritual Communion Prayer

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in  
the Most Holy Sacrament.**

**I love you above all things and I desire to  
receive you in my soul.**

**Since I cannot at this moment receive  
you sacramentally,**

**Come at least spiritually into my heart.**

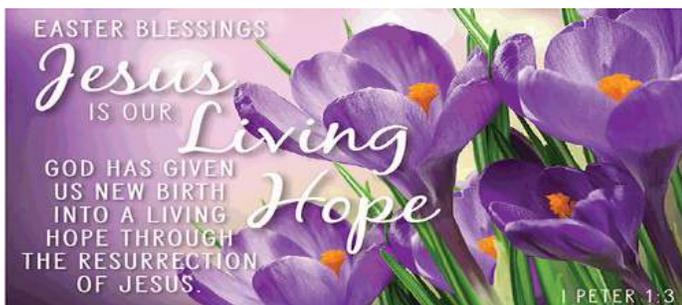
**I embrace you as if you were already there**

**And unite myself wholly to you.**

**Never permit me to be separated from you.**

**Amen.**

*About the author: Archdiocese of New York*



*Seven Acts of Love in a time of Coronavirus*

1. Call some who is lonely
2. Check on someone who is old or sick
3. Keep your distance (social not spiritual)
4. Listen to public health officials
5. Pray for doctors
6. Wash your hands
7. Stay home



**Pope Francis**

**Prayer for protection from Coronavirus**

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas - we who are put to the test - and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



**A PRAY AMID A PANDEMIC**

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders. Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

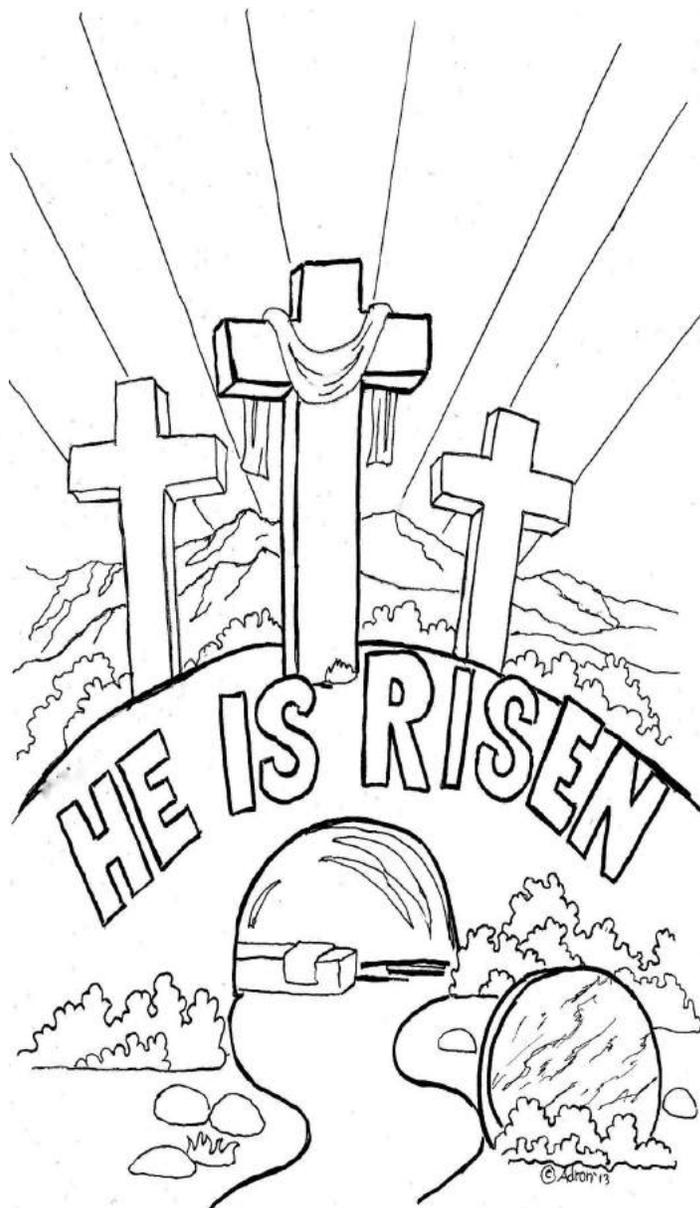
*Kerry Weber is an executive editor of America Magazine*

Easter Word Search

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ANGELS  
APOSTLES  
BETRAYAL  
BLOOD  
CALVARY  
CROSS  
CROWN OF THORNS  
CRUCIFIXION  
DARKNESS  
DEATH  
EARTHQUAKE  
EASTER  
GOLGOTHA  
HIGH PRIEST  
JESUS CHRIST  
JOSEPH  
JUDAS ISCARIOT  
KING  
LAMB

MARY  
NAILS  
PASSOVER  
PIECES OF SILVER  
PIERCED  
PILATE  
RESURRECTION  
ROBE  
ROMANS  
SACRIFICE  
SIMON OF CYRENE  
SOLDIERS  
SON OF GOD  
SPEAR  
STONE  
TEMPLE  
THIEVES  
THREE DAYS  
TOMB



SundaySchoolResources.co.uk



Sharing our time, treasure and talent with others

March 22, 2020	23 Envelopes	\$1,855.00
March 29, 2020	30 Envelopes	\$1,145.00
Easter Flowers	18 Envelopes	\$260.00
Landscaping	3 Envelopes	\$90.00
Catholic Relief	16 Envelopes	\$290.00
We Share (Online Giving)	46 Families	\$3,855.00

740 Families Registered and Receive Envelopes

**If you are able to send in your weekly donation or enroll on the secure online donation through our website it would be greatly appreciated.**

**Thank you for those who mailed in your donation or sign up for online giving!**  
Thank You!

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

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

As of	April 8, 2020
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	225
Amount Pledged	\$1,317,865.64
Paid to Date	\$435,896.63
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

St. Ephrem Parish Goal	\$109,682.00
Number of Donors	74
Amount Pledged	\$38,945.00
Paid to Date	\$17,598.00

**You!**