

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



stephrembklyn



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*

June 21 2020
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Parishioner,

As we have now entered Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar, we will be reading primarily from Matthew's Gospel (Cycle A), accompanying Jesus throughout this story, growing in our knowledge of and awareness of him.

In today's gospel we hear Jesus say to his disciples three times in some variations of "fear not" or "do not be afraid." The disciples, which includes us, are to be fearless. The basis of this gospel is to place our trust in God. Jesus is encouraging his disciples not to give into fear, which can be so easy at times. Especially during this time of pandemic we certainly can identify with the disciples and be fearful. Jesus is speaking to us "do not be afraid." It is only trusting in God, who knows all, that we will get through this together.

I am happy to welcome Sister Mary Ann Ambrose, CSJ to the parish staff as Director of Faith Formation. Please see page 3 for more information. I would also like to welcome Elvin Torres, a Seminarian for the Diocese of Brooklyn, in 3rd Theology studying at St. John XXIII National Seminary. Please see page 4 for more information.

Many have been asking, "When will Bishop DiMarzio allow the reopening of churches for Liturgical Celebrations?" I just received some guidelines, as of June 18th.

GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING THE CHURCHES FOR LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Stage 2: Limited Capacity of 25% for Daily 8:45 AM Mass ONLY - **MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2020. Reservations to attend is necessary through our parish website or by calling the Rectory Office.**

Stage 3: Limited Capacity of 25% for Sunday Mass SATURDAY VIGIL AT 5:00 PM & SUNDAY 10:00 AM ONLY - **SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 4, 2020 AND JULY 5, 2020. Reservations to attend is necessary through our parish website or by calling the Rectory Office.**

"I give you a new commandment.: Love one Another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples; if you love one another."

John 13:34-35

The following directives are to be observed:

1. The elderly and all who are health-compromised MUST stay home.
2. If you are not feeling well or sick in any way, you MUST stay home.
3. If you could, please take your temperature at home and anything above 100 degrees - please stay home.
4. A face covering **must be worn at all times** while in Church.
5. Please clean your hands thoroughly either by water and soap or hand sanitizer.
6. Please maintain social distancing (6 feet apart).
7. Please sit in designated areas which are marked for your convenience, (families and households are permitted to sit together).
8. There are no missals or worship aids available.
9. Please refrain from touching any statues and devotional objects.
10. And, please adhere to all directives by ushers/volunteers/staff.
11. There will be a single offering basket by the Baptismal Font, in which you can place your offering.
12. There will be no entrance or recessional processions.

HOLY COMMUNION:

It is strongly recommended that the faithful receive Holy Communion in the hand. This is for the safety of those receiving Holy Communion and of the minister of Holy Communion.

Please open the palm of your hand so that the Host will be allowed to "fall" (reverently) into your hands to avoid any physical contact. Please disinfect hands before receiving Holy Communion. The communicant should come before the Minister of Communion with the mask on for the dialogue ("*The Body of Christ, Amen.*") and then, moving to the side, lower the mask and consume the Eucharist and replace the mask.

Stage 4: CELEBRATIONS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATIONS

These celebrations will take place in Stage 4. They will be celebrated at an appropriate time following all the guidelines that will be issued later for these celebrations.

Mass will continue to be Live-Streamed through our website: www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org

On March 13th Bishop DiMarzio dispensed the faithful of the Diocese of Brooklyn from Sunday/Holy Day Mass obligation until further notice.

In the Good Shepherd,





CHURCH OF SAINT EPHREM

929 Bay Ridge Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11228
718-833-1010 • Fax: 718-921-5232

June 15, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to announce that S. Mary Ann Ambrose, a Sister of Saint Joseph for 37 years, will be joining us as Director of Faith Formation on September 1, 2020. S. Mary Ann will work with Teresa Swenson, Assistant in the Faith Formation Office, the Catechists, children, and their families. She will also work with Rob Cote and the Confirmation Program as well as Tom and Karen Mucci, the RCIA Team.

While most of Sister's experience is as Director of Faith Formation, S. Mary Ann has taught grades 5 through 8 for seven years at St. Cecilia School, Greenpoint. S. Mary Ann comes with 29 years of parish ministry experience in diverse communities in both Brooklyn and Queens: Queen of All Saints, St. Michael-St. Edward/St. Ann-St. George, Christ the King and, most recently, Immaculate Heart of Mary. S. Mary Ann has served on many Diocesan Committees and currently is a member of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission. In addition, S. Mary Ann is an instructor in the Diocesan Training of Liturgical Ministers.

Please join with me in welcoming S. Mary Ann to the parish family of St. Ephrem. I am so grateful to Eileen Maguire and Teresa Swenson who have already included S. Mary Ann in the conversations planning for the coming pastoral year. We are engaged in a collaborative process the Diocese has begun to explore possibilities for the fall whether that be distance learning, blended learning, or classroom instruction in our Faith Formation Program. S. Mary Ann will be working with the Diocese, St. Ephrem Faith Formation Team, and Catechists to prepare for the fall. I am sure that S. Mary Ann will continue to build upon the wonderful Faith Formation Program that is established. Sister may be reaching out to you for information, questions, or support. Thanking you in advance for supporting and assisting S. Mary Ann any way you can.

In the Good Shepherd,

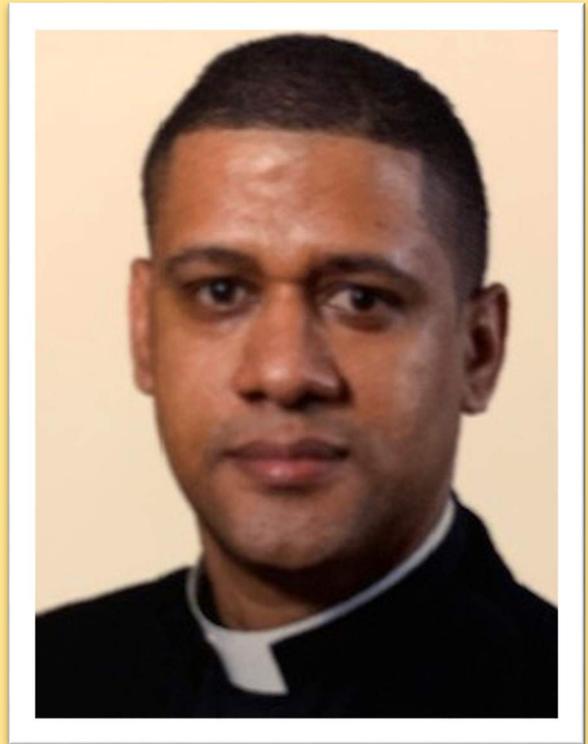
Rev. Robert B. Adamo
Pastor





Elvin Torres

Seminarian for the Diocese of Brooklyn
3rd Theology
Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary



Bishop DiMarzio has assigned Elvin to our parish for his Summer Assignment. Elvin will arrive on Monday, June 29th, for his 7 week assignment.

I am sure you will join me in welcoming Elvin to our parish family and provide him with a wonderful experience.



Altar Flowers

*In Loving Memory
Of
Lucy & Edwin McGuirk
Requested by
Their Loving Daughter*



Flowers at the Holy Family Altar

*In Memory of:
John Riordan
Requested by
His Loving Family*

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH

Phase I

Bishop DiMarzio has given permission, in the Diocese of Brooklyn, to reopen our churches. He has done so with the assistance of a special task force, that he assembled, which is led by Former Director of Emergency Management for New York City, Mr. Joseph Esposito, while abiding by government directives.

The reopening of St. Ephrem Church:

1. Begins on Tuesday, May 26, 2020
2. The Church will be open every day from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Please ONLY use entrance on Bay Ridge Parkway to enter

NO MORE THAN 10 PEOPLE AT ALL TIMES!
If there are 10 people, please wait outside or come back. Thank You!

The Church will be opened for the following:

(Mass will not be celebrated publicly and Holy Communion will not be distributed):

1. Personal and Private Prayer
2. Funeral Services (Funeral outside of Mass)
3. Baptisms
4. Weddings

While the Church is opened for Funeral Services, Baptisms, and Weddings, there are limitations and this will be discussed with the family, on a case to case basis and consultation with the Office of the Chancellor. Please remember, government and diocesan directives will be honored.

The following directives are to be observed:

1. The elderly and all who are health-compromised **MUST** stay home.
2. If you are not feeling well or sick in any way, you **MUST** stay home.
3. If you could, please take your temperature at home and anything above 100 degrees please stay home.
4. A face covering must be worn at all times while in Church.
5. Please clean your hands thoroughly either by water and soap or hand sanitizer.
6. Please maintain social distancing (6 Feet apart).
7. Please sit in designated areas which are marked for your convenience, (families and households are permitted to sit together).
8. Please refrain from touching any statues and devotional objects.
9. And, please adhere to all directives by ushers/volunteers/staff.

Confessions:

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered on Saturday's at 1:00 PM., by the Divine Mercy Chapel. The priest will be in the confessional and we ask that the penitent sit in the pew that is indicated. You **MUST** wear a face covering or mask and practice social distancing (6 Feet apart).

Mass will continue to be Live-Streamed through our website:
www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Prayer to Address the Sin of Racism

We pray for healing to address
The persistent sin of racism
Which rejects the full humanity
Of some of your children,
And the talents and potential You have given.

We pray for the grace to recognize
The systems that do not support
The dignity of every person,
That do not promote respect
For those who are seen as other,
Who bear the legacy of centuries
Of discrimination, fear, and violence.

We pray for graced structures
So children of color in Flint, and all children,
Have access to clean water and health care.

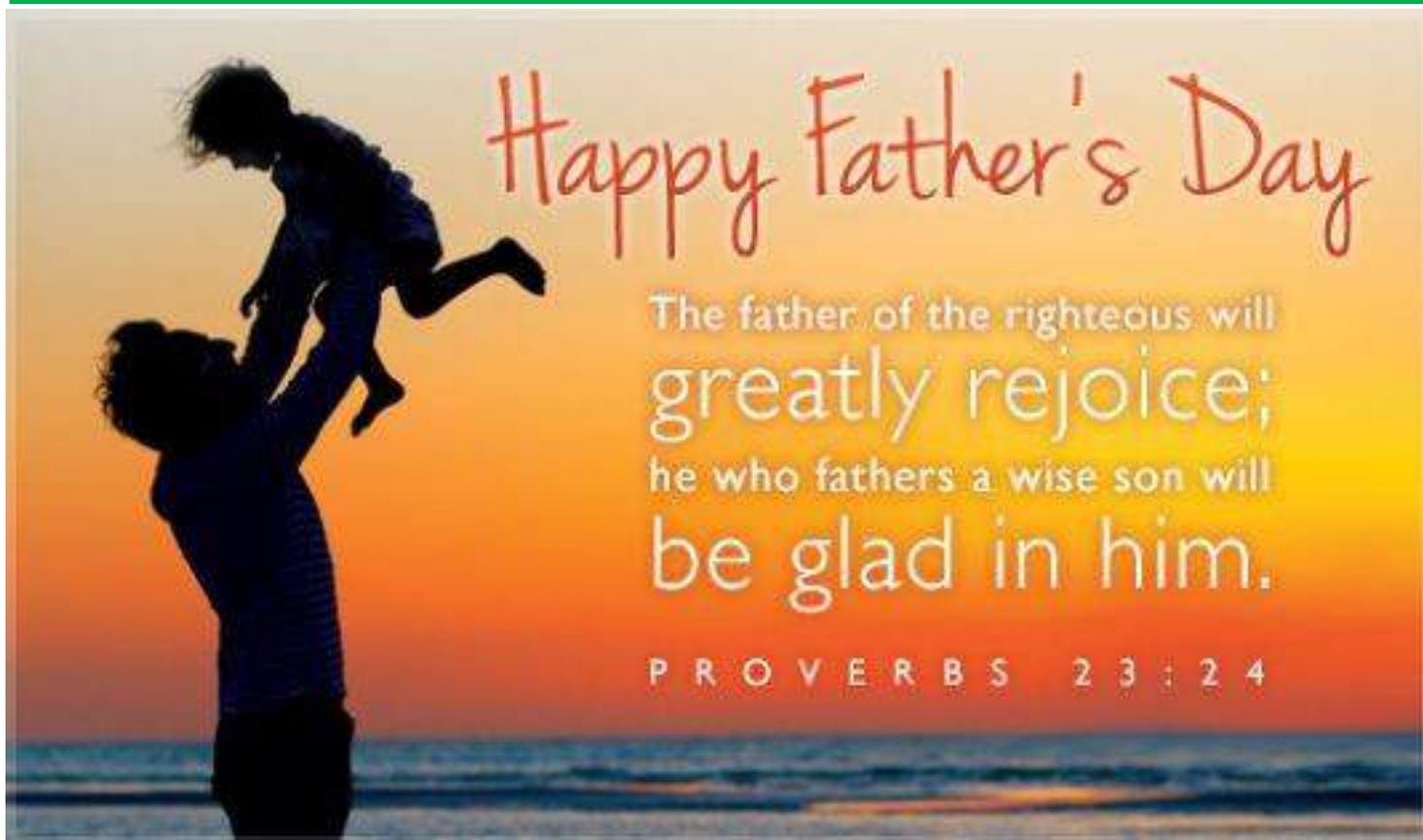
We pray for graced structures
So children of color in Mississippi, and all children,
Have quality education that will allow them to develop their gifts.

We pray for graced structures
So children of color in Camden, and all children,
Have homes where families can live in dignity and security.

We pray for graced structures
So children of color in Chicago, and all children,
Can grow up without fear, without the sound of gunshots.
Lord of all, we ask you to hear and answer our prayers.

Give us eyes to see how the past
Has shaped the complex present,
And to perceive how we must create
A new way forward,
With a new sense of community
That embraces and celebrates
The rich diversity of all,
That helps us live out your call to reject
The sin of racism, the stain of hate,
And to seek a compassionate solidarity
Supported by Your grace and Your love.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



On Tuesday, May 26th

Mass Intentions

for

July 1, 2020

to

December 31, 2020

Will be available.

Since our staff is working remotely please email your Mass Intention request to:

stephremrectory@aol.com

or

Please call the rectory or leave a message and someone will return your call.

You can make your Mass Intention Offering through our website at the "Ways to Give" tab or by mail.



Mass Intentions for the weeks of June 21, 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, June 21, 2020

Father's Day

Emily Marchesiello
Joseph Losardo
Deceased Members of the Lawless Family
Maria & Frank Capodocasa
Joseph Mondiello (10th Anniversary)
Joseph Braganza
Father's Day Remembrance
Domenick Mazzone
Vincent Ingenito
For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

Monday, June 22, 2020

Father's Day Remembrance
Matthew O'Connor

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Father's Day Remembrance
Matthew A. Gilmartin

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

Father's Day Remembrance
Catherine (40 years) & John Ondreicka

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Father's Day Remembrance
Salvatore Alaimo

Friday, June 26, 2020

Father's Day Remembrance
Giuseppa LaRocca

Saturday, June 27, 2020

Father's Day Remembrance

Sunday, June 21, 2020

Elvira & Harry D'Amura
The DiPretoro & Tuorto Families
Raymond Duffy
Roseann McNulty
John J. Ialeggio
For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

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

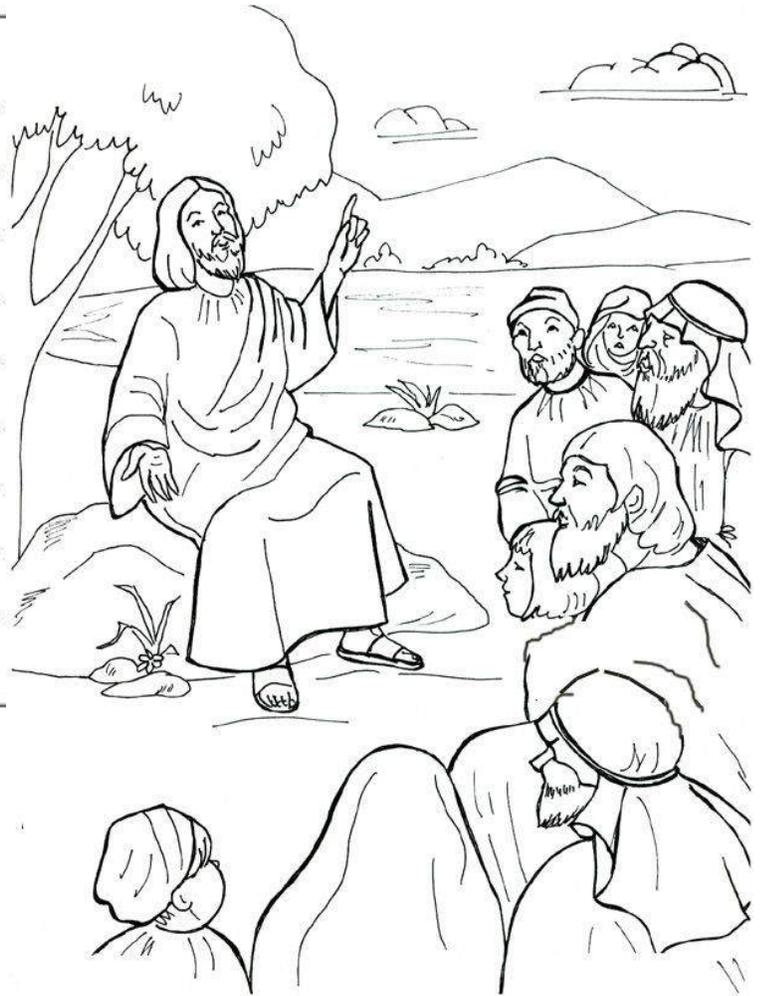


**Do not be afraid of making
decisive choices in life.
Have faith; the Lord will
not abandon you!**

Pope Francis

PARISH NEWS

T	G	H	I	L	D	A	Y	I	A
H	S	O	U	S	A	N	Y	F	D
G	E	W	L	D	N	D	R	O	E
I	D	H	O	E	A	A	A	W	S
L	E	I	P	R	I	F	E	L	T
Y	C	S	K	D	R	L	L	L	R
A	L	P	I	N	L	A	C	I	O
D	A	E	H	U	F	E	P	K	Y
A	R	R	O	H	R	A	P	S	T
S	E	S	P	I	H	W	O	S	E



AFRAID

CLEAR

DARK

DAYLIGHT

WHISPERS

KILL

SOUL

DESTROY

SPARROWS

PENNY

HEAD

HUNDREDS

“Do not be afraid of those who kill the body. .”

Matthew 10:26-33



Sharing our time, treasure and talent with others

June 14, 2020 35 Envelopes \$1,293.00
 June 7, 2020 19 Envelopes \$968 .00
 Feast of St. Ephrem 25 Envelopes \$409 .00

We Share (Online Giving) 63 Families \$3,950.00

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	May 26, 2020
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	237
Amount Pledged	\$1,353,057.00
Paid to Date	\$512,930.64
Percent of Goal	108%

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	127
Amount Pledged	\$73,355.00
Paid to Date	\$54,494.00

You!