

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

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*

June 28 2020
Thirteenth 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



**"Whoever does not take up his cross is not worthy of me.
Whoever receives you, receives me."**

Matthew 10:37-42

Dear Parishioner,

The second part of today's gospel focuses on hospitality and the reward for offering it. Jesus talks of the reward of receiving a prophet, a "righteous man," and of giving a "little one" a drink of water. In each instance the person who provides hospitality will be rewarded for his or her efforts.

Think back when you might have been invited to a dinner or a party, which might be a while ago! You may have spent time thinking about what kind of gift to bring. Now

we are being invited back to the Table of the Lord. The gift we bring is ourselves. May the Body of Christ strengthen us and give comfort in the days ahead.

Monday, June 29th we begin Stage 2 (Weekday Mass) in our diocese. Our weekday Mass Schedule will be **8:45 AM Daily Mass ONLY**. Stage 3 (Sunday Mass) will begin on **Saturday, July 4th with the 5:00 PM Vigil Mass and Sunday, July 5th with the 10:00 AM Mass ONLY**. It is imperative that you consult the guidelines on page 5 and I ask you to please follow them out of love and respect for one another. It is with great joy we welcome you back home!

You may have been wondering about the celebration of First Holy Communion. All sacraments that were to be celebrated this spring have been postponed throughout the diocese due to the pandemic. For us this included First Holy Communion and the Easter Sacraments (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation), normally celebrated at the Easter Vigil with the adults of our parish who were engaged in the R.C.I.A process. These will be rescheduled in Stage 4 in the Diocese of Brooklyn. Bishop DiMarzio has not as yet set a date for the implementation of Stage 4.

On Monday, June 22nd, Eileen Maguire and Rob Cote welcomed the children of our parish who have been preparing to receive First Holy Communion to a Virtual Communion Retreat. Each family had received a 'retreat bag' filled with activities earlier in the week. Together with their families, Eileen led the children in prayer and discussion. Rob, our very own 'tech expert,' provided the invitation and link for each family to join the retreat and even streamed a VHS video that has been part of our traditional preparation. So even while unable to meet physically nothing has been lost. We look forward to the day when we welcome them to the Table of the Lord where they will receive Jesus in Holy Communion. We continue to pray for these children and their families so that they may continue to grow closer to Jesus each day.

At this time I would like to thank all those who are part of our Faith Formation Team. Our parish is blessed with both staff and volunteers who have continued to reach out to both children and adults during this most unusual time. Each of you have made all the difference in our parish family. Thank You! Just a reminder to those families who have missed the opportunity to respond to emails and calls, especially our Confirmation Candidates, to please reach out to Eileen Maguire and Teresa Swenson as soon as possible. Again, all families are encouraged to consult our bulletin and watch the website for news regarding Faith Formation. Registration for Fall 2020 has begun.

Tomorrow, June 29th, we welcome Elvin Torres, a 3rd Theology Seminarian for the Diocese of Brooklyn at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary. Elvin will be with us for his seven week summer assignment. I am sure you join me in welcoming Elvin and making him feel part of the parish family.

During this time let us be attentive to God's voice speaking to us through one another. Let us be centered on God to hear the small voice of those who do not feel welcomed and to recognize injustice. May we use our gifts and talents to speak for and stand up with the "little ones" in our society.

Lord you know our hearts. Show us how to follow you as a faithful disciple welcoming the "little ones." Lord, show us how to pick up our cross and follow you as we live out the Gospel!

In the Good Shepherd,

Handwritten signature of Fr. James J. O'Connell in black ink.



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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Robert B. Adamo".

Rev. Robert B. Adamo
Pastor





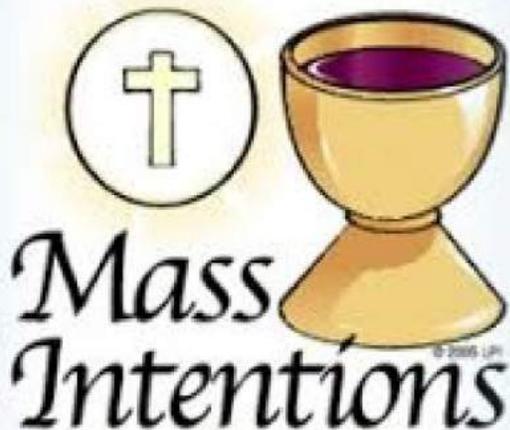
Elvin Torres

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.



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 a 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.

**The Most Reverend
Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D.
Bishop of Brooklyn**
is pleased to announce
The Ordination to the Priesthood
of
**Reverend Gabriel Agudelo
Reverend Nestor Martinez
Reverend Peter Okajima
Reverend Dragan Pusic**



**On Saturday, June 27, 2020
11:00 AM**

The Ordination will be televised on NET-TV

Everyone is invited to participate “virtually” by viewing the Mass on NET-TV

**Spectrum Channel 97
Optimum Channel 30
Fios by Verizon Channel 48**

*Prayer of Consecration of a Priest
Roman Pontifical*

Come to our help, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God; you are the source of every honor and dignity, of all progress and stability. You watch over the growing family of man by your gift of wisdom and your pattern of order. When you had appointed high priests to rule your people, you chose other men next to them in rank and dignity to be with them and to help them in their task; and so there grew up the ranks of priests and the office of levites, established by sacred rites. In the desert you extended the spirit of Moses to seventy wise men who helped him to rule the great company of his people. You shared among the sons of Aaron the fullness of their father's power, to provide worthy priests in sufficient number for the increasing rites of sacrifice and worship. With the same loving care you gave companions to your Son's apostles to help in teaching the faith; they preached the Gospel to the whole world.

Lord, grant also to us such fellow workers, we are weak and our need greater. Almighty Father, grant to these servants of yours the dignity of the priesthood. Renew within them the Spirit of holiness. As co-workers with the order of bishops may they be faithful to the ministry that they receive from you, Lord God, and be to others a model of right conduct.

May they be faithful in working with the order of bishops, so that the words of the Gospel may reach the ends of the earth, and the family of nations, made one in Christ, may become God's one, holy people. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

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 (Mass Times Tab) or by calling the Rectory Office.** **Church will remain open for Personal and Private Prayer Monday through Saturday until 2:00 PM.**

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 SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020.** **Reservations to attend is necessary through our parish website (Mass Times Tab) or by calling the Rectory Office.** **Church will remain open for Personal and Private Prayer on Sunday's until 12 Noon.**

“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.

CONFESSIONS:

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is 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).

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.

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.



Mass Intentions for the weeks of June 28, 2020

Stage 2: On Monday, June 29, 2020 of Reopening for Daily 8:45 AM Mass ONLYLY begins. Limited Capacity of 25% . Reservation to attend is necessary through our parish website (Mass Times Tab) or by calling the Rectory Office.

Stage 3: On Saturday, July 4th, Vigil 5:00 PM Mass and Sunday, July 5th, 10:00 AM Mass ONLYLY begins. Limited Capacity of 25%. Reservation to attend is necessary through our parish website or by calling the Rectory Office.

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

Sunday, June 28, 2020

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

Monday, June 29, 2020

Sts. Peter and Paul
Margaret Quigg

Tuesday, June 30, 2020

John Costello
In Thanksgiving of
Msgr. Theo's Successful Transplant

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

For the Intentions of Ann Ryan
For the Intentions of Patrick Sullivan

Thursday, July 2, 2020

For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

Friday, July 3, 2020

St. Thomas the Apostle
For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

Saturday, July 4, 2020

For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

Vigil Mass 5: PM

For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 AM

For the Intentions of:
Frank & Judy Chiarchiaro
(50th Anniversary)
John LoBianco
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



The Rewards of Service

"Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward." Matthew 10:40-42 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Matthew 10:40-42

Find the hidden words. The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. When you locate a word, draw a circle around it.

F S D M R K A C D P P Q A P Q
 V M I H I P L Z X R P W W R I
 O A S P G N I X W O H E X O P
 Z J C C H L T S X P F L L P O
 T S I U T O T Q Y H E U R H O
 Q R P C E I L O R E R R W E X
 C F L U O W E K T T L E R T M
 J V E P U W C S D R K W I P V
 G I V E S C G B R E W A R D W
 Z S M T N O J Z H C A R N U B
 A I I R F L S I Z E J D X D L
 O I X U O D W M H I A Z W L O
 V W A T E R A C N V J X K M S
 J M V H B V C J V E E P G V E
 W E T T R U T H K S J P Y M M



CENICAP/ISTOCKPHOTO

"Whoever does not take up his cross is not worthy of me. Whoever receives you, receives me."
 Matthew 10:37-42

GIVES	LITTLE	LOSE	PROPHET	RECEIVES
PROPHET	CUP	WATER	DISCIPLE	REWARD
REWARD	TRUTH	TRUTH	RIGHTEOUS	COLD

Stewardship
Sharing our time, treasure and talent with others

June 21, 2020	28 Envelopes	\$856.00
June 14, 2020	25 Envelopes	\$1,015 .00
<i>Feast of St. Ephrem</i>	14 Envelopes	\$290 .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	June 25, 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	\$55,204.00

You!