

# 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

Very Rev. Robert B. Adamo, V. F., 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*

August 2, 2020  
Eighteenth 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](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

#### Temporary Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday 10:00 AM, Weekdays Monday through Saturday 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.



**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**August 2, 2020**

***“They all ate and were satisfied.”***  
**Matthew 14: 13-21**

Dear Parishioners:

After three weeks of hearing Jesus preach and teach in parables, we now move into the next chapter of Matthew's gospel, one in which Jesus performs the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Unlike some of the parables from last week and the week before, which are found only in Matthew, the story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes is in each gospel, and in both Matthew and Mark the miracle happens twice!

The connection to the Last Supper are four verbs which serve as the link between the multiplication story and Jesus' actions the night before he died. In both settings, Jesus *takes* bread, *says a blessing*, *breaks* the bread, and *gives* it. The Eucharistic association is clear.

Bread is such a simple but profound sign. It does not occur naturally, but requires human effort. Grain must be crushed to form flour. Flour is mixed with water or some other liquid to form dough, and the dough must be leavened with yeast to rise. Then the baking begins and we finally have a loaf of bread, sustenance that will fill us up and last. The human effort required to make bread is significant, and it involves time, all of which perhaps explains why so many of us simply buy bread today. Even so, there are not many things that taste better than a good loaf of homemade bread.

When we consider that Jesus multiplied the loaves so that all could eat, Jesus foreshadowed his own Last Supper and the eucharistic gift he would leave his followers. As a result, even today we take bread, bless it, break it, and give it. In so doing we celebrate and consume Jesus himself, who was broken for us and given to us. As we are sustained on our earthly journey by the Eucharist, we live the paschal mystery.

Throughout the pandemic, especially from March 16<sup>th</sup> through June 29<sup>th</sup> when there was no public Mass, many longed to receive the Eucharist. As public Mass resumed and the reception of Holy Communion, many became emotional just to be in our church in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and receive him in the Eucharist. Still some are not able to come to church and are joining us through Live-Streaming and receiving Spiritual Communion. The Lord is always with us and there is never a fear of scarcity – there is always enough to satisfy the hunger of all.

In the Good Shepherd,



## *St. Ephrem Parish Faith Formation Religious Education*

There are many questions and be assured, we are hard at work for the answers!  
What we do know is Faith Formation/Religious Education will happen at St. Ephrem.

The Diocese of Brooklyn has provided guidelines for all parishes to implement for the coming year:

1. Faith Formation/Religious Education is to be a 'Blended Learning' model. This model is a combination of on-line (distance learning) and at times face to face meetings.
2. All parishes are to select a Program that provides both printed text and e-book with resources.
3. Parishes are to provide on-line Registration for Faith Formation/Religious Education Programs.
4. All State, City and Diocesan Safety Guidelines are to be adhered to at all times. There will be smaller class sizes to allow for social distancing when and if we do meet face to face.

### *We Are Companions on a Journey!*

Pope Francis reminds us,

*"The family is the place where parents become their children's first teachers of the faith."*

This is not a new concept You might recall the commitment you made at your child's baptism, 'to be the first teacher for your child in the faith.' St. Ephrem's Faith Formation Program has and will continue to provide assistance and resources to enhance this journey in faith.

Our Catechists have been busy exploring our new resource and learning how to conduct on-line meetings with your family—you and your child. Training continues through August and September. We are so grateful to all who have made this commitment.

### *Resources:*

We will continue to use Sadlier Publishing.



Grades 1 through 6 will use **Christ In Us**, their new blended learning resource.

Visit: <https://www.sadlier.com/religion/ciu-experience>

Grades 7 & 8 will continue with the texts they have used with on-line resources and blended learning as well.



**What's Next?** Registration at: [www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org](http://www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org)

Visit the parish website as soon as possible. In the menu click on 'Religious Education.' Then click on the drop box, 'Religious Education Registration.' Complete the form and click submit. That's it! Your registering now helps us prepare for what is needed both in materials and personnel. Fees will be collected in September. We will keep you informed as more details are confirmed. Watch the bulletin!

Stay safe in these summer days!

## How St. Ephrem Parish is Sanitizing?



After each Mass we are sanitizing with an Electrostatic Sprayer Machine, using a Hospital Grade Disinfectant.

There are Hand Sanitizing Stations at each entrance.



Practicing Social Distance in the pews and for the reception of Holy Communion.

### In the Process of:

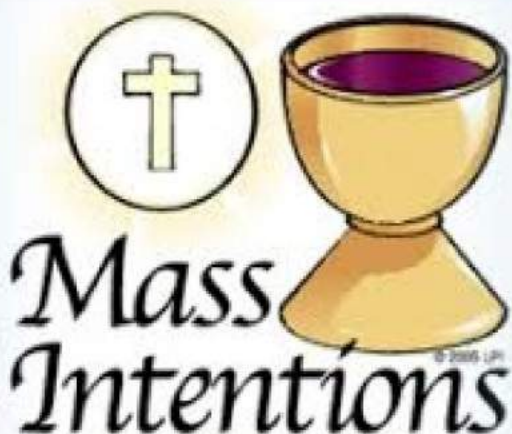


Our six A/C units are equipped with MERV 6 Filters. In addition we are adding iWave-C Commercial Air Cleaner (Air Purifiers) to each unit



We are in the process of installing: Automatic touchless toilet seat with plastic seat cover; automatic soap dispenser; automatic faucet; and an automatic Ultraviolet disinfecting light.

All of these efforts are being done to protect everyone. Yes, at a considerable cost to the parish.



Mass Intentions

for

July 1, 2020

to

December 31, 2020

Are available.

Mass Intention request to: [stephremrectory@aol.com](mailto:stephremrectory@aol.com)

or

Calling the Rectory Office

Monday to Thursday 9:00 AM to 12 Noon and 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Friday's 9:00 AM to 12 Noon

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

## 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](http://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.**



## Mass Intentions for the week of August 2, 2020

**Stage 2: On Monday, June 29, 2020 of Reopening for Daily 8:45 AM Mass ONLY 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 ONLY 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!**

### Saturday, August 1, 2020

Ralph Trocchio

### Vigil Mass 5:00 PM

Pietro Nesta

### Sunday, August 2, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Dennis McCarthy  
Anthony Saggese  
For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

### Monday, August 3, 2020

John Carr

### Tuesday, August 4, 2020

Carol Lemmon

### Wednesday, August 5, 2020

Elizabeth Milea (5th Anniversary in Heaven)

### Thursday, August 6, 2020

Filomena Mazzone

### Friday, August 7, 2020

Frank Osso

### Saturday, August 8, 2020

Lina Mascia

### Vigil Mass 5:00 PM

Dr. Antonio Rinaldi

### Sunday, August 9, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Arthur Nelson  
Jack Dinkel  
Joan Hughes  
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.**



The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace.

— Pope Francis —

*About the author: Archdiocese of New York*

# Jesus Feeds The Five Thousand

They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. Matthew 14:20 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 14:13-21 (NIV)



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

LEFT	BASKETFULS	LANDED	FOLLOWED	LOAVES
THANKS	CROWDS	TWELVE	HEALED	FISH
ATE	FOOD	SATISFIED	JESUS	SICK
FOOT	PEOPLE	LATE	TOWNS	BOAT

*“They all ate and were satisfied.”*

Matthew 14:13-21



July 26, 2020      70 Envelopes \$2,464.00  
 July 19, 2020      7 Envelopes \$ 350.00  
 We Share (Online Giving) 36 Families \$1,290.00  
 740 Families Registered and Receive Envelopes

**If you are able to send in your weekly donation or enroll in 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	July 26, 2020
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	237
Amount Pledged	\$1,353,057.00
Paid to Date	\$551,772.64
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 You!**

St. Ephrem Parish Goal	\$109,682.00
Number of Donors	134
Amount Pledged	\$74,860.00
Paid to Date	\$61,264.00

**WE ARE THE CHURCH, TOGETHER**