

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



[stephrembklyn](https://twitter.com/stephrembklyn)



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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*

July 5, 2020
Fourteenth 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:

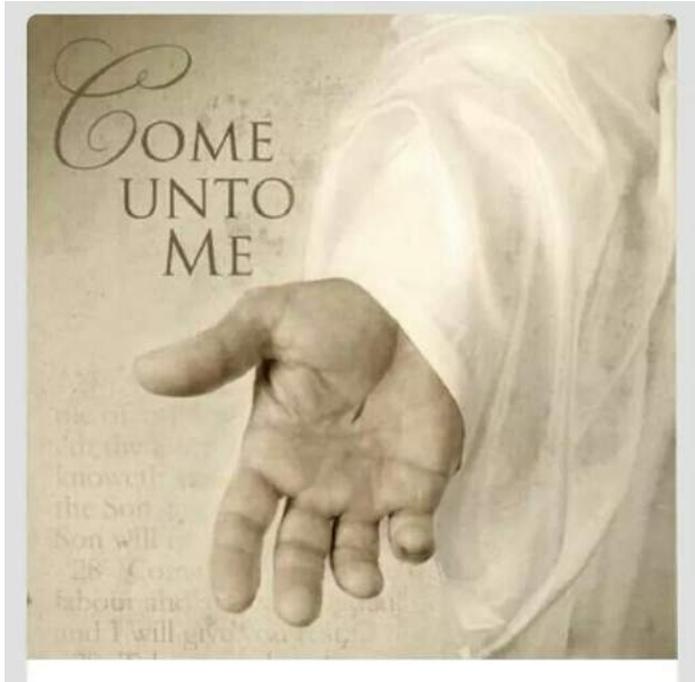
Responding to the spiritual and physical needs of the community through service and charity.

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.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 11:25-30

“I am meek and humble of heart.”



Dear Parishioners,

As we journey with Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew, we encounter him teaching, preaching, praying, and praising. In today's gospel, he seems to do all at once! The passage opens with Jesus addressing God as ***“Father, Lord of Heaven and Earth.”*** This is the belief we profess in the Nicene Creed when we say, ***“One God, Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.”*** It also is meant that the Father is the Lord of all creation. The relationship between

the Father and Son is intimate and dynamic. Jesus beckons the disciples into this relationship with the invitation ***“come to me.”*** The term “yoke” that follows would have summoned up the image of Mosaic Law. Of course, a yoke is a type of wooden harness, bar, or frame used to keep oxen or cattle driving in the same direction, at the urging of a master. In the New Testament, Jesus' ways are also referred to as a yoke.

Jesus tells his disciples that he himself is the ***“yoke, meek and humble of heart.”*** The rest he promises comes from following his ways, his attitude, his dispositions, and his general way of being in the world. The disciple is yoked to Jesus, and the disciple finds this to be a lightness in his or her way of being. The yoke is not burdening or overbearing.

When we are followers of Jesus, when we absorb his attitudes, our lives will not be burdened but filled with joy or, as Pope Francis might refer to it, joy of the gospel.

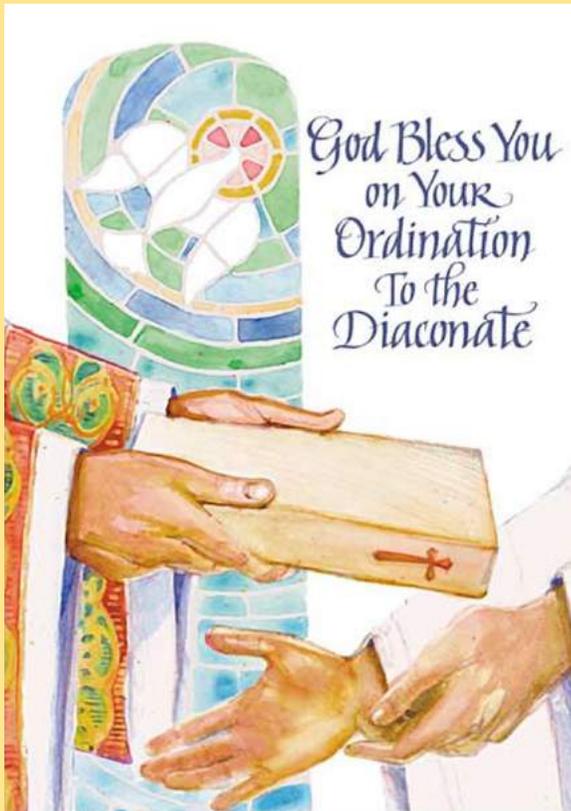
Bearing a yoke would not seem to be an enjoyable experience. But Jesus gives us this image in today's gospel reading and nearly weakens it. The yoke of Jesus, the one who is meek and humble of heart, is itself easy; the burden is light. This seems to be a different image than ***“take up your cross and follow me.”*** In today's gospel, we learn that when we are a true disciple of Christ, we conform to the person himself. So conformed, we find any burden not to be a burden at all.

To live the paschal mystery with Christ is to live with the knowledge that we are his. He has already won the victory. Secure in this relationship with him, we need only act as he would in the world, as another Christ to serve the needs of those around us. Any setback or death we experience will find new life due to the same Christ we serve. This is good news, and a spiritually rewarding way to live the paschal mystery.

On Monday, we began Stage 2 (Daily Mass), it was great to welcome home those who were able to attend. This weekend, we begin Stage 3, (Sunday Mass), I also look forward to welcoming you back home as well. We continue to pray that everyone's efforts and working together will get us through this time.

In the Good Shepherd,

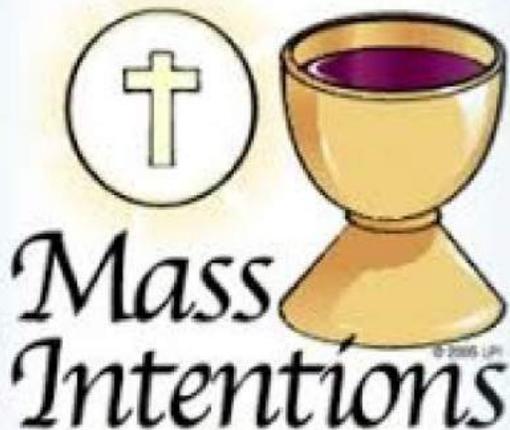
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. James J. Adams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Elvin Torres
to be Ordained a Deacon
July 11, 2020
St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral
Live Streamed on NET-TV



Mass of Thanksgiving for Deacon Elvin Torres
Sunday, July 12, 2020 at 10:00 AM



Mass Intentions
for
July 1, 2020
to
December 31, 2020
Are available.

Mass Intention request to: 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

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 weeks of July 5, 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!**

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

Monday, July 6, 2020

John Carr

Tuesday, July 7, 2020

Peter Murray

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

Brigid & Thomas O'Kane

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Lucy & Edwin McGuirk

Friday, July 10, 2020

For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

Saturday, July 11, 2020

Saint Benedict, Abbot

For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

Vigil Mass 5:00 PM

Saint Benedict, Abbot

Mario Mignone

Sunday, July 12, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Benedetto (Benny) Monticciolo

Anthony Saggese

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



PARISH NEWS

Matthew 11: 25-30

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

Find the following words in the puzzle.
 Words are hidden → and ↓.

CHILDLIKE	HIDDEN	REVEALED
EARTH	LABOR	SON
FATHER	LEARNED	WISE
HANDED OVER	LORD	
HEAVEN	PRAISE	



“I am meek and humble of heart.”

Matthew 11:25-30



June 21, 2020 33 Envelopes \$1,175.00
 June 28, 2020 53 Envelopes \$2,178.00
 Peter's Pence 34 Envelopes \$756.00

We Share (Online Giving) 35 Families \$1,575.00

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	\$527,415.64
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	129
Amount Pledged	\$74,155.00
Paid to Date	\$56,062.00

You!