

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



stephrembklyn



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*
Deacon Anthony Stucchio, *Permanent Deacon*

August 30, 2020
Twenty-Second 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

Faith Formation Office

Third Floor of Academy

718-745-7486

stephremreligious@gmail.com

*Online registration for Faith
Formation Class through
the Parish Website*

St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 ♦ 718-833-1440 ♦ 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 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.

August 30, 2020

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Dear Parishioners,

On the Feast of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, (Thursday, August 20th), as I sat quietly in the sacristy meditating on the life of St. Bernard and on the focus of his many writings and sermons, I was filled with great admiration for this saint whose writings are as relevant today as they were in his lifetime. He truly was the last of what we can call the early Church Fathers and was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1830.

One of the very fascinating aspects of his writings was the relationship of the Trinity. In fact, one part of my reflection brought me to appreciate the fact that the Trinity is more than three persons, since through Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity, You and I also became a member of the Trinity through our relationship with Jesus, the Son of the Father, the second person of the Trinity who sent the Holy Spirit to invite us into that Body of Love.

Jesus Christ therefore becomes the guest of our hearts. He keeps our hearts fortified by the Testimony of the Witness of our Faith and more especially by Jesus himself who rose from the dead for our justification. By Jesus himself who ascended to the Father for our protection. By Jesus himself who sent the Holy Spirit as our consolation. By Jesus himself who will return for our fulfillment.

St. Bernard in some of his writings has shown us that Jesus showed His mercy on Calvary. He showed His power by rising, and did it all for me, for us. I (we) can proclaim with very loud voices that Jesus did it for me. I belong to Jesus. Jesus is Lord. I belong to the Kingdom of God, where Our Blessed Mother reigns as Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Much Peace,

Msgr. Theo

Support for our Sisters and Brothers of Beirut, Lebanon

Bishop DiMarzio has asked for a special collection to be taken up throughout the Diocese of Brooklyn, for our Sisters and Brothers in Beirut, Lebanon. We will take up the Special Collection this weekend. Please place your donation in the basket by the Weekly Collection Box.

In addition to our financial support, let us continue to prayer for the people of Beirut, especially the Christian community which has been struggling.

Thank you in advance for your generous support and prayers!





St. Ephrem Parish Faith Formation News!

Children’s Faith Formation Registration

Thank you to all who have already registered for our Parish Children’s Faith Formation (Religious Education) Program.

Registration at:

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 are planning in consultation with the Diocese how Children’s Faith Formation will take place in the 2020-2021 Pastoral Year. The Bulletin these past several weeks provided information about the resources we will use and the guidelines we must follow. Of course, the safety of all is our greatest concern. If you have not seen this insert, please visit our website and either click on Announcements or Bulletins. The document has been available since August 2nd. Your patience is appreciated. As soon as our plan is approved it will be published.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



The R.C.I.A. process is designed for adults who have never been baptized, perhaps been baptized in another faith, or baptized Catholic but never received Eucharist and Confirmation. This is an opportunity to explore life in the Catholic Community, have a companion on your faith journey, and prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, and/or Eucharist, and Confirmation). What can you do to help someone who seeks to be a part of the Catholic Church? Accompany them to Mass; encourage them on the journey; introduce them to other parishioners. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about RCIA, contact S. Mary Ann at (718)745-7486 or stephremreligioused@gmail.com.

“Always remember this:

Life is a journey.

It is a path, a journey to meet Jesus.”

Pope Francis



Spring 2020 Sacrament News!

Due to the COVID19 Pandemic, the sacraments traditionally celebrated in the spring were postponed. We are happy to announce Bishop DiMarzio has set forth guidelines regarding the celebration of these sacraments.



Sunday, September 13th at 10:00 a.m.

Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation for Adults (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist)

Shanee and Wendi, our candidates for full initiation, and William, already baptized but needing to complete his initiation will be with us. They have continued to meet virtually with our R.C.I.A. Team in preparation for this day. This celebration would have ordinarily taken place during the Easter Vigil. The wait is over! Please keep them in your prayers in the weeks ahead.

Weekends of September 19th & 20th and 26th & 27th

5:00 p.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12 Noon

First Holy Communion



Thirty-seven children of our parish will be welcomed to the Table of the Lord for the first time. Again, the children participated in virtual instruction and even had a virtual retreat. Each Saturday children have been coming to church to celebrate First Reconciliation. Our communal celebration had been postponed in mid March. In order to maintain social distancing, each mass has six families assigned. As has been our practice, we will still need to complete the reservation form on our parish website indicating which mass you will attend. You will notice the 12 Noon mass has been added to the schedule. Please hold all these families in your prayers.

Our Teens Prepare for Confirmation!



Under the direction of our Youth Minister, Mr. Rob Cote, our teens have been participating in a hybrid blended retreat experience discovering the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit in our midst. The retreat will culminate on Saturday, October 4th. Bishop Witold Mroziewski will be with us on Saturday, October 17th to confer the sacrament. More details to come!



Mass Schedule

**We will resume our regular
Mass Schedule
on
September 12 & 13, 2020**

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12 Noon & 5:00 PM

Daily Mass: Monday through Friday: 7:00 AM & 8:45 AM

Confessions: Saturday's at 3:30 PM



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**Mass
Intentions**

**Mass Intentions for
September, 2020**

to

December 31, 2020

Are available.

Announced Mass Available

**There are 131 Weekday Masses Available
(Monday through Saturday)**

**7:00 AM Masses—76 are available.
8:45 AM Masses—55 are available.**

**There are 48 Weekend Masses Available
5:00 PM Saturday Vigil—17 are available.**

**8:00 AM Sunday—15 are available.
10:00 AM Sunday—7 are available.
12 Noon Sunday—10 are available.**

**Mass Intention request to: stephremrectory@aol.com or
Calling the Rectory Office
Monday to Thursday 9:00 AM to 12 Noon & 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 week of August 30, 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 29, 2020

Joan Cross

Vigil Mass 5:00 PM

Peter James Carlin
Carol Lenz
Carmela Bruni

Sunday, August 30, 2020 at 10:00 AM

God's continued blessings on America
And the World
Roberto & Manuel Sandoval
Gregoria & Ofelia Rutti
For the People of St. Ephrem Parish

Monday, August 31, 2020

Pietro Nesta

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

For Guo Dong Shi to have Peace

Wednesday, September 2, 2020

For Guo Dong Shi to have Peace

Thursday, September 3, 2020

The O'Kane Family
For Guo Dong Shi to have Peace

Friday, September 4, 2020

Rocco Steo
For Guo Dong Shi to have Peace

Saturday, September 5, 2020

Alan Marcus

Vigil Mass 5:00 PM

For the People of St. Ephrem

Sunday, September 6, 2020 at 10:00 AM

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.



Bread and Wine

In Loving Memory of:

Peter A. Carlin

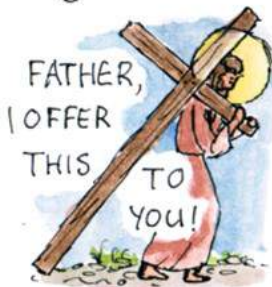
And

Peter J. Carlin

Requested by Margaret Carlin

About the author: Archdiocese of New York

If you want to be my disciple...



What would you think if your best friend told you that you would have to die if you wanted to stay friends? In today's Gospel reading Jesus told the Apostles that if they wanted to be like Him they would have to take up their crosses and follow Him.

Jesus was teaching them that this world is only a preparation for Heaven. If we make sacrifices for love of God then we will be ready for Heaven. Jesus opened the gates of Heaven to us by dying out of love for God the Father and for us. We get little crosses every day when things make us unhappy. If we offer them to God with love, they are like dying a little bit, and they prepare us for Heaven.



Sometimes we think that we need nice things or to be with fun people if we want to be happy. It's easy to forget that we will never be completely happy here. Next time you feel unhappy, remember that it's a cross that can help you get to Heaven!

Answers to Match-up: 1D 2C 3E 4B 5G 6A 7F
Answer to maze on Front: Take up your cross and follow me.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 30th, 2020



What did Jesus say that the people would have to do to be His disciples? Find your way through the maze and then use the letters from that path to fill in the blanks.

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself"

Matthew 16 21-27



August 23, 2020 66 Envelopes \$1,730.00

We Share (Online Giving) 39 Families \$2,010.00

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	August 19, 2020
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	238
Amount Pledged	\$1,353,057.00
Paid to Date	\$571,048.64
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	140
Amount Pledged	\$77,270.00
Paid to Date	\$66,144.00

WE ARE THE CHURCH, TOGETHER