

Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org



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St. Ephrem Catholic Church Dyker Heights

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Deacon Anthony Stucchio, *Permanent Deacon*
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Mr. Robert Cote, *Youth Minister*
Mrs. Michele James, *Business Manager*
Mr. Thomas Marchesiello, *Director of Music/Liturgy*
Mr. Craig Mercado, *Academy Principal*
Mrs. Lisa Pinsky, *Parish Secretary*

March 6, 2022

First Sunday of Lent



Abbreviated Bulletin—For Full Copy
<https://stephremparish-brooklyn.org/bulletins>



Hearing Assistance
iOS & Android



Rectory Office

929 Bay Ridge Parkway

718-833-1010

Fax 718-921-5232

Faith Formation Center

Side Entrance of St. Ephrem Convent (off Bay Ridge Parkway)

718-745-7486

FaithFormation@stephremparish-brooklyn.org

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 and 5:00 PM

Weekdays Monday through Friday 7:00 AM & 8:45 AM

Saturday 8:45 AM

Rectory Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 AM—12 Noon

1:00 PM—5:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM—12 Noon

1:00 PM—4:00 PM

Saturday **No Office Hours**

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-kindle 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.



FROM THE PASTOR

First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022

***“Jesus was led by the Spirit
into the desert and was tempted.”***

Luke 4:1-13

Dear Parishioners:

In today's gospel Jesus grapples with the most basic state of humanity: temptation. Jesus, being fully human, experiences temptation just like the rest of us. ***“When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.”*** This scene is grand in scope, but it gets at the heart of Jesus' story. Do you want food? Do you want power? Do you want safety? Jesus is fasting, so he's already hungry. He's the single most powerful human to ever walk the earth, and yet his life is that of an ethnic minority in an occupied region. Even though Jesus is God, he's still bound by the political and social systems of his own time, even as he's working to upend them. So, to be met with these temptations of physical satisfaction and immediate power isn't something we should dismiss lightly. Does Jesus send the devil away? Of course. But does the devil get the chance to make his case? Yes. It should hearten us to know that Jesus, like all of us, went through the whole experience of temptation.

Jesus is alone, hungry, poised at the edge of decision making before his Father and his own truth. With perfect timing, the tempter arrives with three attractive propositions.

If Jesus would turn stones into bread, it would bring great personal and social advantages: neither he nor the poor of the land need to be hungry anymore, the tempter implies. But Jesus answers that it is not bread alone, but the word of God that is life-giving food. People of every generation must transplant the wilderness temptations into their own life and times, and the first contemporary temptation is to neglect the word of God and allow ourselves to be seduced by so many other words: texts, emails, mass media, the flood of digital information, our often mindless and heartless inner and outer conversations. The word of God feeds our deepest hungers. Our obedience to this Word is expressed in our attentive listening to its proclamation, especially in the Sunday liturgy, in our prayerful reading of Holy Scriptures, and our efforts to make this Word “living and effective” from day to day.

Today, the parish family of St. Ephrem prays for our

catechumens, Sarah and Andy, as they are preparing for the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. We send them today to the Rite of Election, to meet Bishop Brennan, our shepherd, who will call them to the Easter Sacraments. Let us continue to pray for Sarah and Andy, as they journey to become one with us through the Easter Sacraments, that they will bring to completion the good work God has begun in them.

I want to thank everyone who participated in the events this week as our Deanery welcomed and prayed with the Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis. It was wonderful to be inspired, both young and old, by this young man's life, devotion, and commitment to his Catholic faith. Blessed Carlo Acutis, prayer for us!

Finally, Mr. Thomas Marchesiello has shared with me that he will be retiring in late spring after 45 years of music ministry at St. Ephrem. Not many parishes can say they have had the dedication and talent of the same Director of Music for that long. We are very grateful to Tom for all he has done to enhance and raise our liturgies and beyond. In the weeks ahead we will begin the process of the search for a new Director of Music. More about the process will be explained as we move forward. I ask your prayers for all involved in this endeavor – both candidates and search committee.

In the Good Shepherd,

Hallow

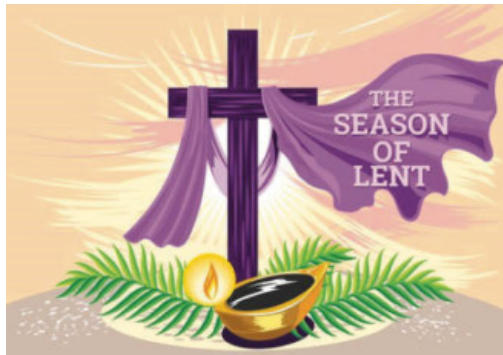
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**The Parish Family of St. Ephrem
Invites You to Join Us
on the Sacred Lenten Journey.**

*For details of all opportunities
for prayer and reflection visit:
www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org/lent*



Fridays of Lent
*Following the 8:45 am Mass
7:00 p.m. (livestream)*



Wednesday, March 16th
at 6:00 pm



*Please call the Rectory
or complete the RSVP Form at:
www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org/lent*



Wednesday, March 30th at 7:00 pm
*Please call the Rectory or complete the RSVP
Form at:
www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org/lent*

TAKE A CHANCE!

2022 Lucky March Calendar Raffle

**Drawings to be held
March 15th & 31st**

31 Chances to win!

2 @ \$200

4 @ \$100

4 @ \$75

20 @ \$50

1 Grand Prize—\$1,000

**Calendars available in
Church and Rectory!**

ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT



**San Alfonso Retreat House
Long Branch, New Jersey**

**Friday, May 20th -
Sunday, May 22nd**

**New Date due to lack of
participation in March**

\$260.00 per person



All women of the parish are invited to join in this weekend of prayer and reflection. The cost is \$260 which includes all meals (Friday Supper through Sunday Lunch).

**A non-refundable deposit of
\$50 made out to San Alfonso
is due as soon as possible.**

The balance of \$210.00 is due the day of the retreat in San Alfonso.

For more details, contact:

Carol Ann Pallonetti: ca.pallonetti@yahoo.com
as soon as possible or with any questions.

Visit: www.sanalfonsoretreats.org



Mass Intentions for the week of March 6, 2022

8:45 AM Mass, the Saturday 5:00 PM Mass and the Sunday, 10:00 AM Mass are being live streamed through our parish website. Please share and join us!

Saturday, March 5th

8:45 AM Lucy & Edwin McGuirk
5:00 PM Marie Cogan Bernstein
Frank Valenza
Dino Lamia
Deceased Members of the Hyland & Blundell Families
Millicent Patterson

Sunday, March 6th

8:00 AM For the Intentions of Sharon Perrone
10:00 AM Salvatore Bonfiglio
12 Noon Margie Todd
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

Monday, March 7th

7:00 AM Valerie F. Patterson
8:45 AM John Carr

Tuesday, March 8th

7:00 AM Joseph & Mary Patterson
8:45 AM Mikele Lepore

Wednesday, March 9th

7:00 AM Michael Klimuk
8:45 AM James Francis Ryan

Thursday, March 10th

7:00 AM Millicent Patterson
8:45 AM For the Intentions of Debra & Angel Nigro

Friday, March 11th

7:00 AM Valerie F. Patterson
8:45 AM Daniel Gallagher

Saturday, March 12th

8:45 AM Ralph Fortunato
5:00 PM Nancy & Michael Bagnato
Anthony Bagnato
Vincent Bagnato
Michael Bagnato (Grandson)
Raymond Duffy, Sr.
William Stamatis

Sunday, March 13th

8:00 AM Concetta Altieri
10:00 AM John A. Capotorto, III
12 Noon Jose Flores
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

MEMORIALS

You can honor or remember a loved one by requesting a Mass intention, Bread & Wine, Altar Candles, Sanctuary Lamp, Flowers for The Tabernacle Altar, Blessed Mother Altar and Holy Family Altar. Please contact the rectory if interested.

**Mass Book Opened for
January 1, 2022—July 1, 2022**



Requests may be made by email or by dropping off your requests in the Rectory.
718.833.1010 or stephremrectory@aol.com

Thank You!



*The sick and the homebound of
St. Ephrem Parish Family*

and our faithful departed loved ones



**CHECK OUT THE ON-LINE BULLETIN
FOR THE FULL VERSION FOR THE WEEK!**

<https://stephremparish-brooklyn.org/bulletins>

For Lenten Resources visit:

<https://stephremparish-brooklyn.org/Lent>

COVID-19 UPDATE FEBRUARY 28, 2022

The Mask Mandate regarding gatherings indoors has been lifted by the Governor.

We ask you to keep in mind those in our parish family who may be more vulnerable. Consider the dear neighbor.

Social Distancing is still required in the Church. While there are no ropes, every other pew is a good guide for seating.



Stewardship

Sharing our time, treasure and talent with others

February 27, 2022 169 Envelopes \$6,164.00

We Share Online Giving 43 Donors \$1,252.16

Attendance 458

835 Families Registered and Receive Envelopes

If you are able to send in your weekly donation, enroll in the secure online donation through our Parish website it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for those who mailed in your donation or signed up for online giving!

To learn more about ways to give, visit our parish website at: www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org
Click on 'Giving' then scroll to 'Donation.'

Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!



ST. EPHREM R.C. CHURCH PARISH STEWARDSHIP

CONNECT with us on **FACEBOOK** by searching and 'liking':

ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC CHURCH DYKER HEIGHTS.

SUSTAIN our parish offertory: Enroll in electronic giving by scanning the QR Code.
(Scroll down to Recurring Donation and click then follow directions to complete form)



Include St. Ephrem in your ESTATE PLANNING

Consider a **REASONABLE INCREASE** to your generous level of offertory support.

St. Ephrem Centennial Campaign Our Church, Our Prayers, Our Legacy

As of	February 14, 2022
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	249
Amount Pledged	\$1,372,612.64
Paid to Date	\$946,179.31
Percent of Goal	109%



Thank You for your Generosity!
Saint Ephrem, pray for us!

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Eucharistic Adoration will not take place in March and April. Stations of the Cross will take place immediately after 8:45 am Mass.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP FOOD PANTRY

We will be collecting non-perishable and non-expired food items on

**Saturday and Sunday
March 26th & 27th**

Thank you for your generosity!



Mark Your Calendar!

**May 13, 2022
Radio Bingo**

Watch the Bulletin for details.

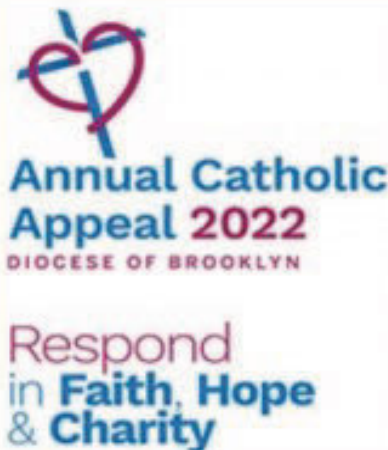


Virtual Synod
Listening Session!

Scan the Code to access the survey on-line or visit:

<https://bit.ly/3HFAcTs>

The diocese hopes to hear from you



ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC ACADEMY NEWS!

2022 SPRING GALA VIRTUAL AUCTION FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH

Help to make this event a huge success
by donating items for the Auction.

Ways to donate:

Amazon Wish List at:

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/27IYWN8OV5I41>

Donate Amazon Gift Cards any denomination

Gift Certificate or Service
for Neighborhood Business

Donations accepted through March 18th

Questions—contact: haa@stephremschool.org



Children's Faith Formation Classes

Class on March 9, 2022 in Church
Go directly to the Church.



First Penance and First Eucharist Proximate Preparation

Both the children preparing for First Holy Communion and First Penance in spring of 2022 and their parents will gather on Sunday Mornings at 11:00 am in Msgr. Kain Hall.

March 6, 2022 April 3, 2022

Families of the parish whose children attend other Catholic Schools or Faith Formation Programs but choose to receive the Sacraments at St. Ephrem should call or email S. Mary Ann to register for Proximate Preparation: 718.745.7486 or faithformation@stephremparish-brooklyn.org.

Confirmation Fall 2022

Virtual Parent Meetings

Choose One (1)

A link for each meeting sent to all families
with an eligible candidate.

Sunday, March 6th at 1:00 p.m.

or

Wednesday, March 9th at 7:00 p.m.



The Season of Lent

"Lent is for rediscovering that we are created for the inextinguishable flame, not for ashes that immediately disappear; for God, not for the world; for the eternity of heaven, not for earthly deceit; for the freedom of the children of God, not for slavery to things. We should ask ourselves today: Where do I stand? Do I live for fire or for ash?" – Pope Francis

How are you continuing to live out Lent this year? Have you let the ashes wash away and moved on or are you living an inextinguishable flame? If you have fallen, pick back up and try again. Remember that even Christ fell three times.

*"You too, dear young people,
can be joyful witnesses of his love, courageous witnesses
of his Gospel, carrying to
this world a ray of light."*

Pope Francis—World Youth Day 2013

ST. EPHREM'S BASEBALL/SOFTBALL 2022 SEASON REGISTRATION & 2021 SEASON Award Ceremony in St Ephrem Gym

Friday, March 25th
6:00 – 10:00 PM

Registration is open to boys and girls
ages 5 – 14

Registration Fee
\$100 – Instructional
\$130 - Competitive
3rd Child Free



Uniform Cost:
\$25 – Shirt
\$25- Pants

Make Check out to St Ephrem Baseball

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