

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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Mr. Craig Mercado, *Academy Principal*
Mrs. Lisa Pinsky, *Parish Secretary*

March 27, 2022

Fourth 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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27, 2022

“Your brother was dead and has come to life again.”

Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

Dear Parishioners:

Today's gospel is well known for the value it places on welcoming those who have turned away. **“This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”** However, it is worth looking at where Jesus stands when he shares this parable: in the midst of tax collectors and sinners. Jesus isn't preaching to faithful Jews; he preaching to a group of people whom the faithful Jews want nothing to do with. By physically aligning himself with sinners, Jesus delivers his message in a way that the Pharisees find threatening. They are used to avoiding sinners and keeping themselves “clean” by staying away from those who threaten their holiness. Jesus does not espouse this mindset. He goes into a crowd of sinners and shares a story of a sinner being accepted.

How do you think the father in this parable felt during the time that his son was away? Do you think the father turned all of his attention to the second, faithful son? Do you think the father thought and prayed about his far-off son? “While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion.” His father saw him coming before he had arrived. Perhaps the father was even waiting. Perhaps he had been waiting a long time. Jesus does not stand in a crowd of faithful to welcome home sinners. He goes to the sinners, seeing them even though they are a long way off.

This week we celebrate the second scrutiny at the 10:00 am Mass with Sarah and Andy who will be baptized, confirmed and receive Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. The readings (Cycle A) focus on ‘light.’ We hear of the man born blind, one who has lived in darkness his whole life. In St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Ephesians:

Brothers and sisters:
You were once darkness,
but now you are light in the Lord.
Live as children of light,
for light produces every kind of goodness
and righteousness and truth.

As we pray for Sarah and Andy to be children of the light, may we also pray for ourselves to be more light than darkness, be people of hope and peace.

Thank you for your generosity to the collection for Ukraine. The amount of \$4,615.00 which includes \$330 from the soup supper has been sent to the Diocese and will be forwarded.

Today is the Bay Ridge St. Patrick Day Parade. The Parish Family of St. Ephrem will be marching together. I hope you can join us either marching with us or cheering us on along the parade route. We will gather at 12 Noon at 3rd Avenue and Marine Avenue. I look forward to seeing you today.

In the Good Shepherd,



Annual Catholic Appeal 2022
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

St. Ephrem Parish Goal is \$100,198.00

These funds support ministries and programs in our diocese. These include: Retired Priests, Seminarians, Catholic Charities, Catholic Migration, Youth Ministry, Hospital Chaplaincy, School Chaplaincy, Respect Life and Faith Formation, Catholic Schools and Scholarships.

No funds from the Annual Catholic Appeal are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

All funds received over our assigned goal will be returned to our parish.

Ordinarily, we average 175-180 donors each year. We have 835 parish families receiving envelopes. Imagine if each family contributed something to the Annual Catholic Appeal. Will you be counted in that number?

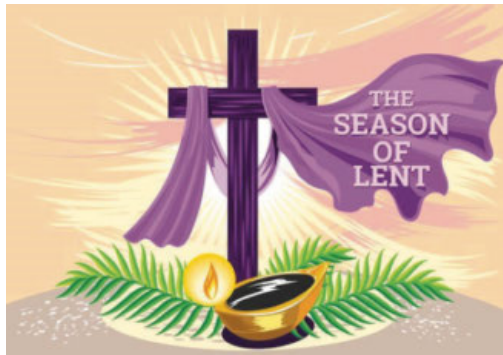
Received as of March 21, 2022

**Donors 46
Pledged \$32,330.00
Paid \$17,255.00**

I am forever grateful to all who gave in last year's Appeal. Today I humbly ask you to consider giving to the 2022 Annual Catholic Appeal.

To see Bishop Brennan's Message go to:

<https://catholicfoundationbq.org/ACAVideo/>



**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/len*



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



&



Wednesday, March 30th at 7:00 pm
***Please call the Rectory or complete the RSVP
Form at:***

www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org/len



Monday, April 11th
Reconciliation Monday
2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

TAKE A CHANCE!

2022 Lucky March Calendar Raffle Winners

March 1st	Rich & Sera Barry	\$50
March 2nd	Barbara & Philip Marchese	\$50
March 3rd	Donald Cassamassino	\$50
March 4th	Michele Harris	\$75
March 5th	George Carlisle	\$50
March 6th	George Carlisle	\$100
March 7th	Kim Meyer	\$50
March 8th	Peter & Donna Brown	\$50
March 9th	Rene Lamberti	\$50
March 10th	Joann DiMeglio	\$50
March 11th	Joseph D'Amato	\$75
March 12th	Joe Loccisano	\$50
March 13th	Marge & Tony Russo	\$100
March 14th	Rich & Sera Barry	\$50
March 15th	Daniel Harris	\$50

**Thank You to All Who Have
Participated in Our
March Calendar Raffle!**



Pray for Ukraine!



Mass Intentions for the week of March 27, 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 26th

8:45 AM Rae Esposito
5:00 PM Gus Fischetti
Rose & Robert Perro
Mary Mann
For a Special Intention
For All the Souls in Purgatory
Deceased Members of the
Guthinger & Juckiewicz Families

Sunday, March 27th

8:00 AM Millicent Patterson
10:00 AM Dino Lamia
12 Noon Joseph Losardo
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem

Monday, March 28th

7:00 AM Valerie F. Patterson
8:45 AM Giuseppe Dominjanni

Tuesday, March 29th

7:00 AM Joseph & Mary Patterson
8:45 AM Antoinette & Joseph Bonanni
(Anniversary)

Wednesday, March 30th

7:00 AM Millicent Patterson
8:45 AM Domenick Iannizzi

Thursday, March 31st

7:00 AM Pietro Nesta
8:45 AM Paul Leo Ryan

Friday, April 1st

7:00 AM Ben & Florence Nigro
8:45 AM Francesco Iannelli

Saturday, April 2nd

8:45 AM Domenico Mazzone
5:00 PM Louis DiPretoro
Helen & Edward Ryan
Nancy D'Amato
For the Conversion of sinners
John Diana

Sunday, April 3rd

8:00 AM Florinda Arnao
10:00 AM Louis Offitto, Sr.
12 Noon Andrea LaRocca
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.

Bread and Wine

In Memory of:

Marie & Domenick Iannizzi



*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.





March 20, 2022	193 Envelopes	\$7,028.00
Second Collection	Ukraine	\$4,615.00
Landscaping	103 Envelopes	\$1,719.00
Easter Flowers	44 Envelopes	\$808.00
We Share	42 Donors	\$2,128.79

Attendance 547

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 Centennial Campaign Our Church, Our Prayers, Our Legacy

As of	March 7, 2022
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	249
Amount Pledged	\$1,372,612.64
Paid to Date	\$946,804.31
Percent of Goal	109%

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



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.

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**

More details next week.



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



Scan the Code



**Annual Catholic
Appeal 2022**
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

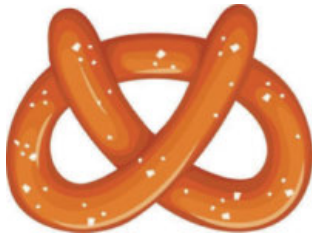
**Respond
in Faith, Hope
& Charity**





The Story of the Pretzel

Share the story of how pretzels originated in Europe during the Middle Ages. A monk was making unleavened bread for Lent with flour and water because eggs, milk, and lard were not consumed in the Lenten fast. The monk twisted some dough into the shape of people praying with both arms folded across their chest. He called them *pretiola*, the Latin word meaning "little reward" and gave them to children who were learning to say their prayers. Make or enjoy pretzels this week.



"The world must be educated to love Peace, to build it up and defend it." - Pope Paul VI, 1968

ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC ACADEMY NEWS!

ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC ACADEMY
FUNDRAISER PAINTING PARTY!
FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022 @ 7:30PM
PINOT'S PALETTE
7518 13TH AVENUE

COST: \$50 PER PERSON
(INCLUDES SUPPLIES)
YOU MAY PARTICIPATE IN PERSON
(LIMITED AVAILABILITY/FIRST 42 PEOPLE
REGISTERED) OR VIRTUALLY

Please RSVP by Wednesday, 3/23 and send payment via Venmo to @stephrem or by check directed to the HAA, along with the names of attendees, whether you will be attending in person or virtually, and an e-mail address where you can be reached.

Any questions can be sent via e-mail to
haa@stephremschool.org.



Children's Faith Formation Classes March/April Calendar:

March 30th	4:00 pm	School
April 6th	4:00 pm	School
April 13th	Holy Week No Class	
April 20th	Easter Break No Class	
April 27th	4:00 pm	School



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.
April 3, 2022

Confirmation Fall 2022

Proximate Preparation Sunday Gatherings

Sunday, March 27th
April 3rd, May 1st & 15th
10:00 a.m. Mass followed by 11:00 a.m. Gathering

Called to Mercy Modules

Module 1	Due March 31st
Module 2	Due April 30th
Module 3	Due April 30th

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



CALLING ALL ALUM

St. Ephrem School's 100th anniversary is quickly approaching! We have some wonderful things planned including a reunion this spring. Scan the QR code to read all about it.



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