



ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC CHURCH

38900 DODGE PARK RD; STERLING HGTS, MI | 586.264.1230 | OFFICE@STEPHREMS.ORG

SUNDAY, JULY 11, 2021

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. The Twelve drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them. - Mk 6:7, 13



MASS READINGS AND INTENTIONS

FIRST READING

The LORD took me from following the flock, and said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."
(Am 12:15)

PSALM

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85)

SECOND READING

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him.
(Eph 1:3-4)

GOSPEL

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. (Mk 6:7)

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The Pope's monthly intention for:

July

Social Friendship

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.



Saturday, July 10 —

4:30pm Mass intentions: Healing for Marie Kurczak by Aggie Antonucci
 Birthday blessings for Sharon Leonardi
 ✦ Alsin Wiliam by the Sabetti family
 ✦ Vincenzina Cristiano by Rosina Giovanazzo and daughters

Sunday, July 11 —

Readings: Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/
 Mk 6:7-13

9:00am Mass intention: Parishioners of St. Ephrem

11:00am Mass intentions: Blessings for Catherine Ishioka and family

- ✦ Wayne Edward McBain (birthday blessings) by wife, Donna
- ✦ David Hill by Pat & Jan Little
- ✦ Lois Epifanio by Jim Epifanio
- ✦ John Naughton by family

Monday, July 12 — 9:00am Mass

Readings: Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8 [8a]/Mt 10:34—11:1

Mass Intentions: Baptismal anniv. blessings for Gemma Leonardi
 ✦ Fr. Thomas Vazhayil, MSFS (Deceased 6/8/21)

Tuesday, July 13 — 9:00am Mass

Readings: Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34 [cf. 33]/Mt 11:20-24

Mass Intentions: ✦ Fr. Pakki Das, MSFS

Wednesday, July 14 — 9:00am Mass

Readings: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7 [8a]/Mt 11:25-27

Mass intention: Anniversary blessings for Joseph & Barbara Houbeck
 ✦ Kathleen Wojas by Ken & Mary Ann Warner

Thursday, July 15—No Mass

Readings: Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27 [8a]/Mt 11:28-30

Friday, July 16— 9:00am Mass

Readings: Ex 11:10—12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18 [13]/Mt 12:1-8

Mass intention: 50th wedding anniversary of John & Theresa Lee

Saturday readings: Ex 12:37-42/Ps 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15/Mt 12:14-21

Saturday, July 17 —

4:30pm Mass intentions: ✦ Ted Rost by wife, Camille

- ✦ Emmanuel Nelson Olympio (3rd anniv. on 7/18/21) by sister, Florita Newton
- ✦ Carl Cubba by Aggie Antonucci
- ✦ Alsin Wiliam by Sabetti family
- ✦ Bienvenido Fajardo, Sr. and ✦ Maximo Fajardo, Sr. by Kraus family

Sunday, July 18 —

Readings: Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34

9:00am Mass intentions: Birthday blessings for Cecilia Hunt

- ✦ Helen Swantek by Joseph
- ✦ Dave Hill by Bill & Michelle Trospen
- ✦ John Jarzyna by Mark & Kim Renshaw

11:00am Mass intention: Parishioners of St. Ephrem

"I am not my own; I have given myself to Jesus. He must be my only love." – St. Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us!
(Feast day: July 14)

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Reflection for the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We have just heard St. Paul remind us that we are an integral part of God's mysterious plan of salvation. Think for a moment about the wonderful truths he tells us about ourselves. Like the prophet Amos and the Twelve in the gospel, we are ordinary people.

Yet Paul tells us, in the eyes of God who made us, we are special:

- before the world came into being, God has chosen us in Christ to be holy
- because God loves us, he has destined us to be his adopted children in Christ
- in Christ, we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing
- in the blood of Jesus, our sins are forgiven; we are redeemed
- the riches of God's grace have been lavished upon us
- God has revealed to us in Jesus his mysterious plan of salvation
- we are chosen by God to praise his glory
- we have been sealed with the Holy Spirit as God's possession
- the Spirit within us is the sure promise of our inheritance – life with our God forever.

No matter how ordinary we may appear in our own eyes or in the eyes of the world around us, our God has made us special – each of us, all of us. And God sends us into the world, as Jesus sent the Twelve, to announce that good news of God's gracious love to everyone we meet.

God wants us to live in a way that shows that we have understood what God has done for us – that we treasure the work in grace in us. How we choose to live today and everyday reflects what we believe about ourselves. If I believe I'm ordinary, then I don't have much to bring to others. If I believe that God's grace makes me and others special, then I have something worthwhile to bring to others, and they to me.

God has given each of us a destiny – an inheritance. Our God made us to be holy as God is holy. How we choose to live our daily lives will give honor and praise to our God who has loved us and chosen us in Jesus. As we place our hope and trust in Jesus, and try to follow the inspirations of the Spirit within us each day, we are being led home to our Father's house.

May the words we have heard from St. Paul today help us to remember who we really are. The mercy and grace of our loving God has made us so.

(Source: The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales,
North American Province)



Feast Day: July 16

The origins of this feast reach all the way back to the Old Testament. In the book of Kings, we read the story of the prophet Elijah. Much of his prayer, fasting, and public ministry occurred from Carmel, a mountain in Israel. Christian hermits -- seeking solitude -- made their homes on the mountain during the first millennium. Over time, the hermits assembled into a community and were given a Rule of Life. They named their church after Mary -- Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Political upheaval forced the Carmelite order out of the Holy Land and into Europe, where they established monasteries for both men and women across the continent. Many great saints and doctors of the Church have come from the Carmelite order, including St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Edith Stein. Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Pray for us!

Three Day Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

(Prayer to be said for 3 consecutive days)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven.

Oh, Blessed Mother of the Son of God; Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity.

Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me you are my Mother.

Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity. (Mention your request here)

There are none that can withstand your power.

Oh, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (say three times).

Holy Mary, I place this prayer in your hands. (say three times).

Amen.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Sponsored by the Knights of
Columbus Council #12102

NEXT SUNDAY,
July 18, 2021

8:00am—2:00pm
in the Activity Center

To schedule an appointment, please
call **1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)** or visit RedCrossBlood.org
(sponsor code: **stephrem**).

Come to give July 7-31 for your chance to
win gas for a year, a \$5,000 value! There will
be 3 winners. Terms and conditions apply;
visit rcblood.org/fuel.

The men of our parish, 18 and
older, are invited to join the
Knights of Columbus of our parish!
If you're interested in helping those
in need, serving our parish,
growing in faith, then joining St.
Ephrem's Council #12102 of the
Knights of Columbus is the
organization for you! With the
pandemic, we have been unable to
hold regular membership drives,
but new membership is still on-
going! General meetings take place
at 7:30pm on the second
Wednesday of the month. Please
consider joining our council. For
more information, visit kofc.org, or
contact Grand Knight, Doug Elsey
at 586-264-1230.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The St. Ephrem Food Pantry has been selected for the Meijer *Simply Give* Fall campaign at the Fraser Meijer. Donation cards are available at the back of church or at the Fraser Meijer store. If you are unable to go to the store, cash donations are accepted in the parish office (or place in a separate envelope in the collection basket.) Pantry volunteers will go to the Fraser Meijer to make the donation for our pantry. **Double match days are on August 14 and 28!**

together, we can help end
hunger in our community.

SIMPLY give

St. Ephrem Food Pantry*

Purchase \$10 donation cards now through
10/2/21 to provide food to your local
food pantries for families in need.

meijer

visit meijercommunity.com for more details

***Cards must be purchased at the
Fraser Meijer (15/Utica)**

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Non-perishable food donations may be left in the
donation bin in the vestibule of the church.

Thank you for your support!

Aldi and Dollar Tree gift cards*

Rice, Juice, Chicken ramen noodles, Tuna
(Albacore, if possible), Diapers (size 6)

*Gift cards are used by our food pantry to help supplement items that
are needed each week to serve our pantry clients. We cannot accept
clothing or household items.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL - (CSA)

Our 2021 goal:
\$67,089.00

Total pledges:
\$35,224.00
(As of 7/6/2021)

Current shortfall from goal:
\$31,865.00

Please help us reach our goal!

What is the Catholic Services Appeal (CSA)?

The CSA is a yearly appeal from the Archdiocese of Detroit. Each parish is assessed a mandatory amount per year. The gifts given through each parish to the CSA fuels the wider Church of the Archdiocese of Detroit to carry out our mission and ministry. All donations given to the CSA help our parish reach that amount assessed to us.

Once we reach our goal, any amount received above our goal will come back to the parish. ***The CSA is one of the most efficient ways to support our parish as any amount raised over the goal comes back to our parish assessment-free and does not affect our CSA goal for next year.***

Pledge cards have been mailed to parishioners by the Archdiocese of Detroit, however additional pledge cards are available in the parish office. All pledge cards and donations should be mailed directly to the AOD address provided with the CSA material. *(The return envelope has a Minnesota address – this is the correct address. The Archdiocese has a processing partner that processes all CSA gifts.)*



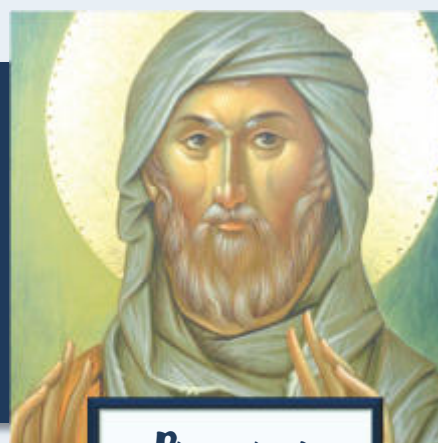
**Pledge securely online by
visiting: stephrem.aodcsa.org.**

As with the physical pledge card, the option is given to select a one-time donation or set-up payment options.

For more details about the CSA and to see the list of ministries the CSA supports, visit:
www.aod.org/catholic-services-appeal

Please contact the parish office with any questions.

Thank you to all who have made their 2021 CSA pledge! Your support is greatly appreciated!



**Prayer of
St. Ephrem**

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen.

Liturgical Ministers needed!

We are in great need of Lectors, EMHCs, Altar Servers, Ushers, and Sacristans to help assist at our weekend liturgies. Please contact the parish office at 586-264-1230 or office@stephrem.org to learn more! Training will be provided—training dates will be announced soon!

For current ministers that have not been scheduled yet, please contact the parish office if you are able to begin serving again.

Announcements

The general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation expired on March 13, 2021. Archbishop Vigneron grants these particular dispensations for the following groups:

- Those who are ill or whose health would be significantly compromised were they to contract a communicable illness;
- Those who care for the sick, homebound or infirmed or someone in a high-risk category;
- Pregnant women;
- Those age 65 or older;
- Those who cannot attend Mass for other reasons (such as a lack of transportation or being turned away because of capacity limits); and
- Those who have "significant fear or anxiety of becoming ill by being at Mass."

As a reminder, anyone who exhibits flu-like symptoms or believes they might be asymptotically carrying COVID-19 or another communicable illness also are asked not to attend Mass "as an act of justice and charity" toward others. To read Archbishop Vigneron's full letter, please visit: www.aod.org/comehometohope. To read the updated policies from the Archdiocese, please visit www.aod.org/emergencyresponse

- All non-liturgical activities, (excluding food pantry), remain suspended until further notice. This includes all parish and support groups.

Parish Raffle

Draw date: **06/30/2021**
Winning #**291**

Rich & Fran Walden	\$100.00
Joseph Swantek	\$25.00
Lynn Wofford	\$25.00

Congratulations!

WE PRAY FOR...

The faith community of St. Ephrem keeps in prayer all those who have asked for our prayers. Each Wednesday during Holy Hour, we pray for those listed below. If you or someone you know is ill or in need of prayer, please contact the

• Randy Clarke	• Milovanovic	• Floyd
• William C. Frey	• Gladys Mosey	• Jankowski
• Anna	• Phyllis Marek	• Thomas Sutton
• Masakowski	• Krista Mertzner	• Sarah
• Ben	• Hafner	• DeSchryver
• Pannecouck	• Bob Gryebet	• Linda Billette
• Paul & Maryann	• Rick Gryebet	• Angelina Ferris and family
• Bourgeois	• Christian & Nicholas	• Gloria
• Teresa Yester	• Harting	• Czerniakowski
• Philip Mistretta	• Robert Bryant	• Richard & Anna Kasak
• Gerry Miranti	• Patty Lulek	• Alfred Newton
• Mary Jane & Michael Ziskie	• Sandra Moleski	• Jenny Galka
• Kent Culpert	• Sophie	• Riley Faith
• Pete Ishioka	• Moreton	• Sharon Kuzdal
• Marcia Godawa	• Debbie	• Doris Hagedon
• Richard & Elaine Jaye	• Dombrowski	• Garrett Adams
• Izabel	• Louis Barnard	• Donna Daldine
• Randazzo	• Neill Sladkin	• Karen
• Philip	• Phoebe Hough	• Rothenhauser
• Kwiatkowski	• Jeanie Quinn	• Robert
• Joan Bogel	• Joseph Prill	• Kwiatkowski
• Hailey Petty	• Mary Prill	• Ronald & Sylvia
• Luciana & Marisa Purtil	• Lori Cornelius	• Kokesh
• Madeline	• Marie Hagedon	• Jim Mrenza
• Hafner	• Alice LoPiccolo	• Dennis Braman
• Matthew	• Melissa Hunt	• Marle
• Hafner	• Theresa Pierce	• Newberry
• Tina Walker-Witulski	• Lucy Glinka	• Marie Kurczak
• Noreen Kuzner	• Carol Girolamo	• Valentine
• Renee Calado	• Glenn Porth	• Menrath
• Debbie Vido	• Steve Sadecki	• Shannon
• Edgar Lee	• Jerry Parka	• Menrath and
• Buckner	• Michael	• Crystal
• Jacqueline	• Rydzewski	• Wanda
• Irene	• Bobby Cobb	• Tarnowski
• Homnstrieter	• Carol Carr	• Donald
• Dawn Moss	• Sue Weatherly	• Sanborn
• Kay Melnick	• Richard	• Chester
• Dorothy Welch	• Ruemenapp	• Grabinski
• Bernice Rynski	• Roy Buzalski	• Ninoska
• Sally Gray	• Anna Buzalski	• Berbesi
• Cheryl Linder	• Malcolm	• Sadya
• Deborah Baranski	• Scofield	• Neumann
• Michael Gray	• Tim Ries	• Peggy
• Sonia	• Agatha Tovar	• DiMercurio
• DeChausse	• Maggie Leahy	• Nick Cirenese
• Kathleen	• Bob Leahy	• Fr. Blondell
• Wojerski	• Viktor Gjonaj	• Roy Clason
• Glenda Lavigne	• Praela Gjonaj and family	• Marty Oglenski
• Nick Schwartz	• Nicole Peltier	• Randy Berry
• John Busch	• Ike Rabafe	• Ken Mosey
• Melissa Kashat	• Elaine Rainko	• Thomas Breen
• Daniella Kashat	• Robert Sheets	• Thomas
• Ruth Sullivan	• Denise	• Composto
• Susan Lill	• LaForest	• Mitchell Brand, Jr.
• Michelle	• Jason Warner	• John Renaud
• Trosper	• Eileen Albers	• Vera
• Maya	• Jeff Coon	• Rydzewski
	• Anthony	
	• Leonard	
	• Magdalene	
	• Gehring	

Religious Education

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is on-going. Registration forms are available in the parish office. New to our program? Please contact Rob Leonardi.

Help needed!

While we're awaiting to see if our program will be in-person or virtual, we are in need of catechists, substitute catechists, and hall monitors for our program. Please contact Rob Leonardi at RobL@stephrem.org or 586-264-1230.



Dressed Dolls from 2019

Goodfellow Dolls

Thank you to all who have volunteered to take a doll to dress. All the dolls have been claimed!

Please return your dressed doll(s) to the parish office (or Arlene Lickey) by no later than Sunday, August 1st. Thank you again!

St. Ephrem Parish Directory

ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC CHURCH
38900 Dodge Park Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

PARISH OFFICE: 586-264-1230

Parish E-mail: office@stephrem.org

Parish Website: www.saintephremchurch.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday*: 8:30am-5:00pm

(*Office opens at 9:30am on Wednesdays) Friday: 8:30am-Noon

Closed on Saturday and Sunday

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE:

(Masses first come, unless otherwise noted.)

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9:00am

Saturday: 4:30pm **Sunday:** 9:00am and 11:00am

Confession schedule: **Wednesday:** 8:00am-8:45am,

Saturday: 3:30pm-4:25pm and by appointment

Baptisms: Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements and obtain preparation dates.

Weddings: Please contact the Parish Office at least six months (one year if not a registered parishioner) to arrange for marriage preparation.

Wedding dates are not set by the Parish Office.

PARISH STAFF:

(Fr. Aro, MSFS)

Rev. Arokiaselvam Nithiyaselvam, MSFS

Administrator

Email: FrAro@stephrem.org

Rob Leonardi, MAPS; Parish Catechetical Leader

Email: RobL@stephrem.org

Sarah Hunt, Parish Secretary

Email: office@stephrem.org

Arthur Rauh, Music Minister

Theresa Brown, Religious Education Secretary

Mary Kay Reith, Special Needs Director

Jim Weller, Business Manager

Mark Sulewski, Maintenance

Bulletin articles are due ten days in advance. Please email items for consideration to office@stephrem.org.

Knights of Columbus

Msgr. John T. Gordon Council #12102 – Grand Knight: Doug Elsey

To join, visit www.kofc.org — **Our Council's Facebook Page:**

Knights of Columbus Council #12102

Facebook: [St. Ephrem Catholic Church](https://www.facebook.com/StEphremCatholicChurch)

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Vicariate Website: www.cmvc.net

www.WujekCalcaterra.com



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