



ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He summoned the crowd again and said to them,
“Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters
one from outside can defile that person; but the things
that come out from within are what defile.”

- Mk 7:14-15



MASS READINGS AND INTENTIONS

FIRST READING

In your observance of the commandments of the LORD, your God, which I enjoin upon you, you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it. (Dt 4:2)

PSALM

The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord. (Ps 15)

SECOND READING

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. (Jas 1:22)

GOSPEL

“You disregard God’s commandment but cling to human tradition.” (Mk 7:8)

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The Pope’s monthly intention for:

August

The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.



Saturday, August 28 —

4:30pm Mass intentions: In thanksgiving & blessings for Fr. Aro
60th wedding anniversary blessings for Robert & Madeleine Gild
✦ Deceased members of Council #12102
✦ Carl & Joan Lorkowski by family
✦ Ken Francis by family

Sunday, August 29 —

Readings: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/
Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

11:00am Mass intentions:

Blessings for Fr. Aro by Ann Zbikowski and family
✦ Deceased members of Council #12102
✦ Oreste Centofanti by family
✦ Joseph & Carl Cubba by family
✦ George Zielinski by family
✦ Maxim Miranda (6th death anniversary)

Monday, August 30 — 9:00am Mass

Readings: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Lk 4:16-30

Mass Intentions: Jerome Tobin by Gregory Elliott

Tuesday, August 31 — 9:00am Mass

Readings: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 4:31-37

Mass Intentions: Birthday blessings for Ron Kraus by Maria Kraus
Theresa Garnham by friends

Wednesday, September 1 — 9:00am Mass

Readings: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11 [10]/Lk 4:38-44

Mass intentions: Whitney Gossett by Gregory Elliott
✦ Barbara Peterson by Ron & Maria Kraus

Thursday, September 2 — No Mass

Readings: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2]/Lk 5:1-11

Friday, September 3 — 9:00am Mass

Readings: Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2b]/Lk 5:33-39

Mass intentions: Victor Palushaj by Gregory Elliott
Wedding anniversary blessings for Tim & Bona Barth by Fr. Aro, MSFS
Birthday blessings for Rayn Herrman by Fr. Aro, MSFS
✦ Al Curtis by Kathy Curtis

Saturday readings: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8 [6]/Lk 6:1-5

Saturday, September 4 —

4:30pm Mass intentions: Parishioners of St. Ephrem

Sunday, September 5 —

Readings: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

9:00am Mass intentions: ✦ Mickey Trombley by family
For the Souls in Purgatory by the Leach family

11:00am Mass intentions: ✦ Carl Cubba by the Kuzdals

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes begin September 13!

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is on-going! Religious education classes meet on Monday evenings from 6:30pm-7:45pm, grades 1-8.

We are planning on in-person classes, however, should anything change, notification will be sent out. Registration forms are available in the parish office or on the magazine rack in the vestibule of church. Forms may also be mailed or emailed!

New to our program or have questions? Please contact the parish office at 586-264-1230 or office@stephrem.org.

Help needed!

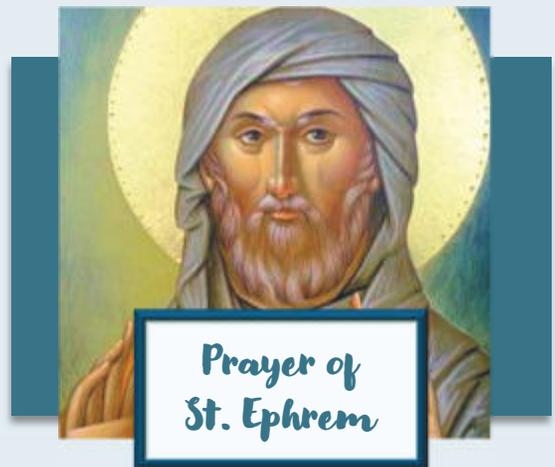
We are in need of catechists, substitute catechists, and hall monitors for our program. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help!

Liturgical Ministers/ Volunteers needed!

We are in *great* need of lectors, EMHCs, altar servers, ushers, and sacristans to help assist at our weekend and funeral liturgies. **We are also in need of help with cleaning the church on Thursdays.** Please contact the parish office at 586-264-1230 or office@stephrem.org to learn more! Training will be provided.

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

All volunteers at St. Ephrem are required to complete a background check, as well as *Protecting God's Children*, (safe environment program). Forms are available in the vestibule of church or in the parish office.



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.

(Prayed on Wednesdays at the end of Mass.)

Be at Peace

(Prayer of St. Francis de Sales)

Do not look forward in fear to the changes in life; rather, look to them with full hope that as they arise, God, whose very own you are, will lead you safely through all things; and when you cannot stand it, God will carry you in His arms.

Do not fear what may happen tomorrow; the same understanding Father who cares for you today will take care of you then and every day.

He will either shield you from suffering or will give you unfailing strength to bear it.

Be at peace, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The St. Ephrem Food Pantry has been selected for the Meijer *Simply Give* Fall campaign at the [Fraser Meijer](#).



\$10.00 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.

List of Current Needs

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.

CSA UPDATE

Our 2021 goal:
\$67,089.00

Total pledges:
\$40,290.00
 (As of 8/24/2021)

**Current shortfall from goal:
 \$26,799.00**

Dear St. Ephrem Parish family,

Our support to CSA helps to continue the good work in our Archdiocese by supporting the ministries, programs, and services that reach the people in our neighborhoods.

The CSA is one of the most efficient ways to give to our parish. Any amount raised above our goal comes back our parish without an assessment. Thus far, we are just over halfway to our goal. If we do not reach our goal, that amount still has to be paid by the parish.

Thank you for the generosity you have shown to our parish over this past year and for all who have already made their 2021 donation. We are living in challenging times, however, these sacrifices will be blessed by the Lord.

For those who have not given yet, I humbly ask that you *prayerfully* consider giving to help meet our goal. If you are unable to donate financially, please offer prayers that we reach our goal. Pledge cards are available in the church, as well as the parish office. You may also give online by visiting the website listed below. Thank you in advance for your generosity. I continue to hold you all in prayer. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions or need assistance.

With love in Christ,
 (Fr. Aro, MSFS)

Fr. Arokiaselvam Nithiyaselvam, MSFS

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

Milestone Wedding Anniversaries

Will you be celebrating a milestone anniversary (25, 40, 50, 60+ years)? Anniversary dates are pulled through ParishSOFT, but many files do not have wedding dates listed! **Please contact the parish office to make sure we have your information correct.**

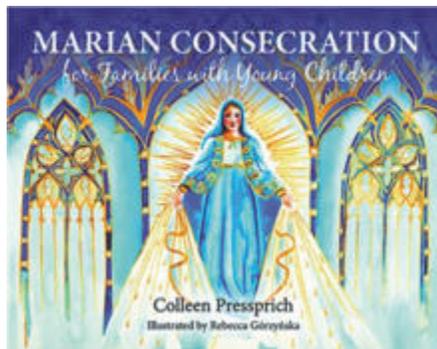
CONSECRATION FOR FAMILIES

In Unleash the Gospel, Archbishop Vigneron laid out action steps for families to grow as joyful, missionary disciples. One of those steps is: Commit to developing family prayer time. Make time to listen, share, and grow together as a family guided by the Lord in times of joy and trial. Trust and develop a relationship with the Holy Spirit. Seek out simple ways to pray that fit your family, giving primacy to the family rosary, Scripture reflection, especially the Sunday readings, and devotions. Seek out and initiate opportunities to pray with other families. (Action Step 1.3.4)

In an effort to help families grow in faith through devotions, we have partnered with author Colleen Pressprich. Her book, Marian Consecration for Families with Young Children, offers 33 reflections and unique illustrations to help families learn more about Mary, reflect on her role in their lives, and engage in discussion together. The book includes tips for parents to utilize this resource, additional information for the different titles of Mary, and possible dates to make a Marian Consecration.

The book was written for families with young children, but the reflection questions can easily be adapted if your children are older. The beautiful illustrations will speak to all ages, giving an opportunity to learn more about Mary through art. Spending time reflecting on Mary’s role in our faith allows us to see how she strives to help us grow in relationship with Jesus.

Families can visit [OSV Catholic Bookstore](#) and use the code **UTG** to purchase Colleen’s book at a discounted rate through September 17, 2021.



The book also gives suggestions for ways families can adapt the 33-day consecration to work best for their own circumstances. Colleen also provides suggestions for when to start the consecration to end on specific Marian Feast Days. You may want to begin on October 20th to have the consecration date be the Presentation of Mary. Other possibilities include starting November 6th with the consecration on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception or starting November 30th to kick the New Year off with a consecration on January 1st when we celebrate Mary, Mother of God. The possibilities are endless for families!



ST. EPHREM YEAR OF MISSION OUTREACH

Pillowcase Sundresses and Shorts

Please consider donating any size, **NEW or GENTLY USED - pillowcases and sheets.**

We also need **ANY COLOR - Double Wide Bias Tape AND 1/2 inch to 1 inch wide Gros Grain Ribbon**

Donations may be placed in the wooden box at the entrance to the church.

For more information please call the parish office at 586-264-1230.



We continue collecting trial sized items for our Blessing Bag project to benefit the homeless living in downtown Detroit.

Our Current Needs:

- Antibacterial Hand Wipes (10 sheet packs)**
- Shampoo** **Body Wash**
- Deodorant** **Shaving Cream**
- Razors** **WHITE SOCKS**

Donations may be placed in the wooden box at the entrance to the church.

MONETARY DONATIONS are very much appreciated and may be placed in an envelope marked Mercy In Action and dropped in the collection basket or brought to the parish office during business hours. *Make checks payable to St. Ephrem.*

For more information please call the parish office at 586-264-1230

Thank you for your generosity!

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: **08/18/2021**
Winning #**685**

Ted Pavlosky	\$100.00
Jack Aymen	\$25.00
Joe Wing	\$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 . If you or someone you know is ill or in need of prayer, please contact the

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

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES PARISH, WARREN, IS LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WEEKEND CUSTODIAL HELP

Assist the Head of Maintenance in the cleaning and upkeep of the parish church, the parish center building and the surrounding grounds. Provides general janitorial services.

Assists in setting up for Mass. Must be a self-starter, in good health, and willing to work in a Catholic environment, with some knowledge of Catholic parish life and practices.

Regular hours are Saturdays from 10 AM (if there is a Funeral) or 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM Sundays from 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM. (May have to work additional hours as needed and available.)

Contact: Rev. Nick Zukowski, Pastor:

frnz@smdeporres.com.

Families of Parishes

St. Ephrem is in the Central Macomb Vicariate Family 4 (Wave 2). This family includes the parishes of:

- St. Blase
- St. Ephrem
- St. Martin de Porres
- St. Michael

Please visit familiesofparishes.org for the latest information.

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

Theresa Brown, Religious Education Secretary

Email: ReligiousEd@stephrem.org

Sarah Hunt, Parish Secretary

Email: office@stephrem.org

Arthur Rauh, Music Minister

Mary Kay Reith, Special Needs Director

Mark Sulewski, Maintenance

Jim Weller, Business Manager

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](https://www.facebook.com/Knights-of-Columbus-Council-12102)

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

St. Ephrem Bulletin Online: www.parishesonline.com

Vicariate Website: www.cmvic.net

www.WujekCalcaterra.com



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