

# Church of St. Ephrem

929 Bay Ridge Parkway ♦ Brooklyn, New York 11228

[www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org](http://www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org)



[stephrembklyn](https://twitter.com/stephrembklyn)



St. Ephrem Catholic Church Dyker Heights

## Parish Staff

Very Rev. Robert B. Adamo, V. F., KCHS, *Pastor*  
Rev. Anthony S. Chanan, *Parochial Vicar*  
Rev. Msgr. Theophilus Joseph, *Parochial Vicar*  
Deacon Kevin McLaughlin, *Permanent Deacon*  
Deacon Anthony Stucchio, *Permanent Deacon*  
Sr. Mary Ann Ambrose, C.S.J., *Director of Faith Formation*  
Mr. Robert Cote, *Youth Minister*  
Mr. Michael Phillips, *Academy Principal*  
Ms. Adele Rapelye, *Director of Music/Liturgy*  
Mrs. Michele James, *Business Manager*  
Mrs. Lisa Pinsky, *Parish Secretary*

September 17, 2023

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



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](mailto:FaithFormation@stephremparish-brooklyn.org)

### St. Ephrem Catholic Academy

924 74th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 ♦ 718-833-1440 ♦ [www.stephremcatholicacademy.org](http://www.stephremcatholicacademy.org)

### Schedule of Masses

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM  
Sunday 8:00 AM, and 11:00 AM  
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 or via parish website above.

### 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](http://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.



**Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**September 17, 2023**

*"I say to you, forgive not seven times, but seventy-seven times."*

**Matthew 18: 21-35**

Dear Parishioners:

In today's gospel, Jesus calls us to radically generous forgiveness, a magnitude of forgiveness far above Peter's guess at what generous forgiveness should be. Again, God's logic is not ours; this not a transaction that makes sense on human terms. This is one more way that we are called to imitate God, whose mercy is boundless and to whom we owe much more that we are owed. Imitating God in forgiveness is about making us bigger; it expands our hearts so that we may participate more fully in God's life and triumph and joy. But as we saw last week, this call to generous forgiveness doesn't mean we can't have boundaries. While most of us can stand to be more forgiving, God does not will for us to put up with true abuse. Forgiveness in such cases does not mean returning to an abuser with a blank slate and allowing the abuse to happen all over again; it might instead mean coming to a place of understanding even if the relationship cannot be restored.

Jesus poses a tall task. Forgiveness is rarely easy. The need for it only comes about because of harm inflicted on another. Forgiveness reminds us that we are far from perfect. Pain is part of our realities. Given the sensitivities surrounding forgiveness, let us consider a few key points about the type of forgiveness advocated by Jesus.

Jesus calls his disciples to forgive their sisters and brothers "from your heart" a practice of transformation. Forgiveness is not about forgetting, despite what the popular adage says. A real harm has been perpetrated. Jesus would never want a person to put themselves back in an abusive or dangerous situation. Rather, the act of forgiving frees a person to begin healing. Forgiveness does not always happen overnight. Sometimes the response is immediate, like when the king in today's gospel forgave the servant on the spot. But oftentimes, forgiveness is a longer process of acknowledging the harm, working through the feelings and thoughts that were provoked, and praying for God's help.

Today we celebrate Catechetical Sunday, when we reflect on our baptismal call to share our faith with one another. As parents the Church reminds us that "they are the first teacher of the faith." As Christians we are challenged to share our faith with each other filled with His love and mercy! Today we honor those of our parish who share their faith as Catechists in the parish Faith Formation Program or in our Academy. May we continue to support one another with prayer!

In the Good Shepherd,

**St. Ephrem Fever on Saturday Night**

Featuring

**DISCO UNLIMITED**

Live Show



**\$55 Per Person Includes:**  
Sandwiches, Snacks, Soda & Water.  
**BYOB**  
For Sale Wine & Beer

For Information & Reservations Contact  
St. Ephrem Rectory  
(718) 833 -1010  
You can arrange for  
of 8 or 10 People

**Two live shows  
1 Hour and 15  
Minutes Each**



Amazon Wish List  
QR Code



**Saturday, October 21, 2023**

**7:00—11:00 PM**

**St. Ephrem Catholic Academy**

**924 74th Street**

**Brooklyn, New York 11228**

Please make your reservations by October 16th

**No Tickets will be sold at the door.**



**Annual Catholic Appeal 2023**

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Parish Goal: \$100,198.00

Amount Pledged: \$86,689.00

Amount Paid: \$76,770.65

Donors: 124



**Donate and contribute to fulfill our Parish goals**

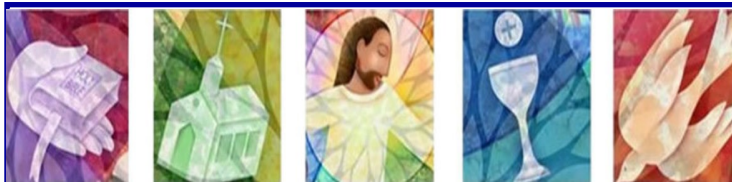
Scan the Code

Or text DONATE to 917-336-1255

Or visit: [annualcatholicappeal.org](http://annualcatholicappeal.org)







## St. Ephrem Parish Faith Formation News!

### Children's Faith Formation



Registration for  
2023-2024  
Continues OnLine

<https://stephremparish-brooklyn.org/faith-formation-news/>

Then click on **Registration**  
in **Side Bar**

You must complete the **Registration Form**  
and **Submit** to complete the process.

As of June 18th

One Child: \$160

Two + Children: \$210

Payment can be made on-line by clicking on  
"GIVING" then "WELCOME"  
then go to **FUND** and scroll down to  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FEES.**

## PARISH AND ACADEMY HAPPENINGS



8201 13th Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11228  
(718) 837-3400

All are welcome

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass  
With special guest celebrant

The Most Reverend  
**Jean-Marc Micas**  
Bishop of Tarbes—Lourdes

Monday, September 18, 2023 at 5:30 pm

*The Shrine Church of Saint Bernadette, was established in 1937. It was the first shrine in the western hemisphere dedicated to St. Bernadette. This established a special connection with the sanctuary in Lourdes, Frances.*

*First time ever in the history of St. Bernadette's parish, it is hosting the Bishop of Lourdes.*

*Please join us!*



*The O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian  
Initiation of Adults*

*Adults needing both Eucharist  
(Communion) and Confirmation or if  
interested in becoming Catholic can  
also reach out to S. Mary Ann at  
[sma@stephremparish-brooklyn.org](mailto:sma@stephremparish-brooklyn.org)*

HELLO  
September

St. Ephrem Children's  
Faith Formation begins  
Wednesday, September 20th  
**Details to Follow!**

### DRIVING TO CHURCH?

#### HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARKING ON PROPERTY

- ◆ The School Yard (entrance on 74th Street) can accommodate many cars.
- ◆ If using yard behind rectory, it is best to use designated parking spaces along the building.
- ◆ Please do not block entryway to school building.
- ◆ Do Not Block driveway entrance.

*Thank you for your consideration!*



As we prepare for back to school, teachers are preparing classrooms and lesson plans. Hallow offers this prayer for teachers: Father, Pope Francis reminds us that "Education is an act of love that illuminates the path for us to recover a sense of fraternity, so we will not ignore those who are most vulnerable." This school year, may I be an instrument of your fraternity-building here on earth. And may I always be mindful of the most vulnerable among us, in whatever form that vulnerability takes. Amen.

**PARISH, ACADEMY AND COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS**

**Piano Lessons with Ms. Adele**



1. Playing piano helps to develop self-esteem and confidence.
2. Studies have shown a correlation between playing a musical instrument and improved classroom performance.
3. Studying piano has also been shown to improve memory — particularly verbal memory — and build good habits like focus and perseverance, diligence and creativity.
3. Playing relieves stress and increases positivity.
4. Playing increases hand-eye coordination and dexterity.
5. Playing improves the ability to multi-task
6. And ... studying and playing piano is FUN!

Our Parish Music Director, Adele Rapelye, will be offering piano lessons at reduced tuition rates for St. Ephrem Academy students. For more information you may email: [pianowithmsadele@gmail.com](mailto:pianowithmsadele@gmail.com)

Or you may call the St. Ephrem Parish Office and leave a message: (718) 833-1010

**COMING THIS FALL! SAVE THE DATES!**

Join Us for a Video Discussion Series

IN PREPARATION FOR THE  
DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

**THE EUCHARIST**

**SEPTEMBER 21ST SACRED MEAL**  
**SEPTEMBER 28TH SACRIFICE**  
**OCTOBER 5TH REAL PRESENCE**

**10:00 AM AND REPEATED AT 7:00 PM**

*We hope you will be able to join us for this Adult Faith Formation Opportunity as we continue to participate in the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival.*



**Tell our Advertisers you saw their Ad in our Bulletin!**



**Join Our St. Ephrem Music Ministry**

September is a time of new beginnings and our St. Ephrem Music Ministry is preparing for a new season of sacred music. Please prayerfully consider joining our parish choir. You are very welcome to be a part of our group and your voice will add greatly to sung prayer at our Masses and liturgical celebrations.

Sacred music touches hearts, changes lives and helps to spread the message of the Gospel. Music is a vital part of how we relate to God. It is how we come to understand at a deeper level what goes beyond words, what our relationship is with the Divine, and how we are shaped together as a community of faith. Music takes us to a deeper, higher plane that encourages and motivates us, and nurtures our souls. Choirs inspire and guide worshippers at Mass in prayer and in praise.

And there are practical benefits to singing. Studies have shown that singing relieves stress and increases positivity. It enhances energy levels, improves the immune system, strengthens muscles and increases lung capacity. Singing also improves concentration, memory and attention span.

This choir season, our rehearsals will take place on Sunday mornings at 9:30, and we will sing at the 11:00 Mass on most weekends. Please come and join us beginning Sunday morning, September 17 at 9:30, or any Sunday morning afterwards.

If you are undecided, consider joining us just for some special events. We will partner with the Diocesan Choir, presenting a mini-concert at St. Ephrem on October 19, and we begin preparing the glorious music of Christmas in early October.

For additional information, please feel free to speak with our music director, Adele, after any of our weekend Masses, or you may email [Music@stephremparish-brooklyn.org](mailto:Music@stephremparish-brooklyn.org).



**St. Ephrem Youth Choir Come Sing With Us!**

- Do you like to sing?
- Do you enjoy meeting and interacting with other students?
- Do you want to learn more about music?
- Do you want to inspire and encourage others by beautiful and prayerful singing?

Every student in Grades 2 through 8 is invited to join our St. Ephrem Youth Choir. We will rehearse on Mondays after school until 3:45 p.m. and we will sing for special events, concerts, school Masses and selected Sunday Masses.

**First rehearsal: Monday, September 18 in the School Music Room**

**For Parents:** Singing is important because it builds self-confidence, promotes self-esteem, always engages the emotions, promotes social inclusion, supports social skill development, and enables young people of different ages and abilities to come together successfully to create something special in the arts.

**St. Ephrem Youth Choir**

Please return this form to the St. Ephrem School Office, or to the St. Ephrem Church Office, or email the requested information to Ms. Adele at [Music@stephremparish-brooklyn.org](mailto:Music@stephremparish-brooklyn.org).

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



## Mass Intentions for the week of September 17, 2023

8:45 AM Mass, the Saturday 5:00 PM Mass and the Sunday, 11:00 AM Mass are being live streamed through our parish website. Please share and join us!

### Saturday, September 16th

8:45 AM Frank Karpeles  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem  
Leonard J. Dimino  
Nicholas DiPretoro  
Alfred & Anna Ingenito  
Anne Ligammari  
Den Doc Larsen  
Gloria M. Arroyo-Lopez  
Alphonse Gallo  
Mary Nolan

### Sunday, September 17th

8:00 AM Mary Callaghan  
11:00 AM For the Intentions of Very Rev.  
Robert B. Adamo

### Monday, September 18th

7:00 AM Joseph & Mary Patterson  
8:45 AM For the People who died in the Maui Fire

### Tuesday, September 19th

7:00 AM Millicent Patterson  
8:45 AM Luis Vanga

### Wednesday, September 20th

7:00 AM Valerie F. Patterson  
8:45 AM **St. Ephrem Catholic Academy Mass**  
Isabella Mezzina

### Thursday, September 21st

7:00 AM Clara Calabrese  
8:45 AM For the Intentions of Pam Regan

### Friday, September 22nd

7:00 AM Joseph & Mary Patterson  
8:45 AM Michael A. Iannizzi

### Saturday, September 23rd

8:45 AM Lorenza Maggiore  
5:00 PM For the People of St. Ephrem  
Leonard J. Dimino  
Elvira D'Amura  
Florence, Nicholas & Anne Infantino  
Josephine Mauriello  
Dolores Gurin  
Lena Corbi

### Sunday, September 24th

8:00 AM Victoria Balsamo  
11:00 AM Mary Bonfiglio

## MEMORIALS



### Altar Candles

In Memory of

**Michael Liberth**  
*Requested by his loving family*



### Bread and Wine

In Honor of:

**Tony & Marge Russo**  
*Requested by The Dougherty's*



### Flowers at the Blessed Mother Altar

*In Honor of*

**Tony & Marge Russo**  
*Requested by The Dougherty's*



**Sing with the Diocesan Choir!**  
**Don't just sit in the stands, be out in the infield!**  
Contact [SVaughan@diobrook.org](mailto:SVaughan@diobrook.org) for details



**Diocesan  
Eucharistic  
Revival**



**SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday, October 7, 2023  
Maimonides Park, Brooklyn

**Bring the  
entire family!**

"WHOEVER EATS THIS BREAD WILL LIVE FOREVER"



September 10, 2023	159 Envelopes	\$5,880.00
9/11 Maintenance	57 Envelopes	\$1,024.00
We Share	46 Donors	\$2,256.35

Attendance 345

Saturday 5:00 p.m.	131	Sunday 8:00 a.m.	87
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	127		

907 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.**

To learn more about ways to give, visit our parish website at: [www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org](http://www.stephremparish-brooklyn.org)  
 Click on 'Giving' and follow prompts.

Thank you for your generosity to St. Ephrem Parish!

*"We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do."*

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

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

As of	September 5, 2023
Parish Goal	\$1.25 Million
Number of Donors	249
Amount Pledged*	\$1,363,812.64
Paid to Date	\$1,169,989.31
Percent of Goal	109%

**Thank You for your Generosity!**

*\*Some pledges have been cancelled due to changing life circumstances.*

**Saint Ephrem, pray for us!**



**Fun for Seniors**

**St. Ephrem Friendship Club**

Season starts Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Every Wednesday 10:30 am—2:00 pm

924 74th Street, Msgr. Kain Hall

Seniors 55+ are welcome to join the Friendship Club and participate in the fun!!! Yearly Membership is \$15.00. Do you enjoy 50/50 raffles, bingo, Casino Trips, Luncheons, Senior Prom, Card Games, coffee, cake, and so much more, this is the club for you.

For any questions, please free to call Frank 347-267-3644

**ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC ACADEMY NEWS!**

**2023**

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN**



924 74TH ST BROOKLYN  
 NY 11228  
 718-833-1440



- Strong Catholic Identity
- Small class sizes
- Dedicated faculty that provide personalized attention
- Orton Gillingham
- IEP friendly
- Extracurricular activities (such as Architecture)
- Algebra I and Living Environment
- Strong sports program
- STEM through Lab Learner
- Art, Digital Art, Theater, Music, and Band
- Incorporating technology into all that we do

LEARN MORE AT:  
[STEPHREMSCHOOL.ORG](http://STEPHREMSCHOOL.ORG)

**HURRY! APPLY TODAY!**

*Pray for Ukraine!*

**FORMED**

Sign Up by scanning QR Code.  
 Enter our Zip Code 11228  
 click on St. Ephrem, follow prompts

