

ST. EPHREM CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Spirit
of the Lord
is upon me.

Luke 4:18



5400 Hulmeville Road Bensalem, PA 19020

Rectory: 215-245-1698 **School:** 215-639-9488

School Website: saintephremschool.com **Parish Website:** www.stephrem.com

Parish Email: stephrem19020@gmail.com

Office Hours: 9:00AM-4:00PM

Mass Schedule

Vigil: Saturday 5:00PM (available on our YouTube feed after 7:00pm Saturday evening.)

Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM, 12:00 Noon, 4:00PM

Tuesday through Friday: 7:00AM & 8:30AM **Mondays & Saturdays:** 8:30AM

(Special daily Mass schedule on certain national holidays; please check the bulletin as the holiday approaches.)

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month after 12 Noon Mass. Call rectory to confirm.

Weddings: Call the rectory to reserve your wedding & rehearsal at least 6 months prior to your desired date to begin the Marriage preparation.

Anointing of the Sick & Homebound: Call Sr. Mary Jane or the Rectory to arrange communion to the sick & homebound as well as the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Confessions: Saturday afternoon: 4:00PM to 4:45PM; Wednesday after the 8:30AM Mass or by appointment with a priest at the rectory.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesdays beginning at 9:00AM & concluding with Night Prayer at 7:45PM.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: 10:30AM

Parish Registration: A new parishioner may register in the parish by visiting our parish website & clicking the I'm New tab or by calling a priest at the rectory.

Parish Staff

Rev. Michael G. Speziale, Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Kenneth P. McAteer, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Timothy F. O'Sullivan, Parochial Vicar

Deacon James P. DeBow, Permanent Deacon

Deacon Edward J. Dymek,

Retired Permanent Deacon

Sister Shaun Thomas Callahan, I.H.M., Principal

Sister Mary Jane Bransfield I.H.M., 215-639-4332

Pastoral Minister to the Sick & Elderly

Ms. Shannon Donnelly, 215-639-4895, C.R.E., P.R.E.P.

Mr. Keith Tomson, 215-245-1698, Business Manager

Mr. Ronald Chanler, 267-679-6638

Liturgy and Music Coordinator

St. Ephrem Catholic

Bensalem, PA

JANUARY 26, 2025

Weekly Mass Schedule

Sunday, January 26th
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30	Sgt. Patrick F. McAullife
9:00	Ted Alwine
10:30	Pura Blanza
12 noon	St. Ephrem Parish Family
4:00	Donna McGee

Monday, January 27th

8:30	Marion Matsko
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Tuesday, January 28th

7:00	Margaret Kirgin
8:30	Janine Giuliana

Wednesday, January 29th

7:00	Marie DiGiovanni
8:30	Valerie Bardwil

Thursday, January 30th

7:00	Wilma Tunstall
8:30	Elsie Higdon

Friday, January 31st

7:00	Helen Coyle
8:30	Antoinette Pelczar

Saturday, February 1st

8:30	Maureen Jones Keifer
5:00	Shawn McCloskey

Sunday, February 2nd
Presentation of the Lord

7:30	Margaret Francano
9:00	Robert Wallace Zurlo
10:30	Gino Hagenkotter
12 noon	Frank Fricke
4:00	St. Ephrem Parish Family

Please pray for our Sick Parishioners, Family Members & Friends

E.J. RICHMOND	MARGO BODI
JOE EVANS	BABY KAIA HERBERT
BARBARA UMEK	ROSE WRIGHT
JOE MCGOWAN	NANCY SHEEHAN
HARPER CORRIGAN	CAROL HIGGINS
QUERUBIN BUELLA	MSGR. JOSEPH GARVIN
JOHN MACK	JOE WATERS
RITA MELANEY	KELLY HOLMES
KATE SOTTILE	AARON SHORT
KIMBERLY PASTOR	STEVEN INFANTE
T.J. COLLINS	COLE CANNING
NONIE RUEDA	AVA CHAZIN
ROSE ANCHARSKI	KAREN & MADISON LANTZ
VINCENT CHALELA	AMY LAWSON
GENEVIEVE RYNKIEWICZ	MARIE GREWAY
SR. MARY K. DUTKO, SSJ	ANN GAVAGHAN
BABY JASMINE SMALLEY	BOB CUMMONS
PATRICIA & MICHAEL MCGOVERN	ROSEMARIE WALDRON
SAMUEL GABRIELE	BEN STOLTENBERG
JOE TRUCKS	FRAN TOZZI
CHARLES SANFORD	BARBARA JENE URSO
ANN GOLDEN	JOHN CUNNINGHAM
KASS QUINN	BARBARA KRAVNIC
GEORGE & TED RAKOWSKI	CATHERINE GABRIEL
NOLAN ROZZELLE	SEAN MCLEAD
JAMES MOORE	ANGIE GIANPIETRO
JULIE FATE	JESSICA GRYNIEWICZ
AUBREY HUSTER	SHERLENE AYALA
ROSE GAMILS	AMANDA BILLUPS
AUBREE SMITH	DENISE ROTH
CAROLINE CATTANI	MELISSA O'MARA
ROBERT KANG	ANTHONY MARTINO, JR.
ANN KRAJEWSKI	MAUREEN SCHOFIELD
TOM CAMPBELL	RICHARD KRASOWSKI
KIM CONNOR	MARIE & JOE LERRO
TOM ZMIGRODSKI	BABY EZEKIEL MITCHELL



BAPTISMS

BAPTISMS ARE HELD THE 2ND AND 4TH SUNDAYS OF EACH MONTH RIGHT AFTER THE 12 NOON MASS. PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE PRIESTS TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS. PARENTS MUST ATTEND A PRE-JORDAN CLASS PRIOR TO THEIR CHILD'S BAPTISM. PRE-JORDAN IS HELD THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM IN CHURCH.

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR PRE-JORDAN IS REQUIRED. REGISTER FOR PRE-JORDAN BY CALLING 215-245-1698.

WELCOME OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED MEMBERS!

HAYDEN MAUREEN ANGELUCCI~ DAUGHTER OF KELLI & STEFANO
RICHARD FRANCIS NAU, IV~ SON OF DANIELLE & RICKY
EMMA KATHERINE DEEGLER~ DAUGHTER OF KELLY & MATTHEW
EMILIA EVELYN KUSHNEROCK~ DAUGHTER OF KIMBERLY & RYAN
AVA MICHELLE MONACO ~ DAUGHTER OF MELISSA & ANTHONY
MAEVE MICHELA MONACO~ DAUGHTER OF MELISSA & ANTHONY



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WEEKLY UPDATES

Collection Corner

2023 CHRISTMAS COLLECTION:
\$77,314.00



2024 CHRISTMAS COLLECTION:
\$72,747.00



2024-2025 SUNDAY ENVELOPE &
ONLINE GIVING BUDGET GOAL:
\$1,050,000



SUNDAY ENVELOPE & ONLINE BUDGET
GOAL: \$20,200.00

WEEKEND OF 1/11 & 1/12 ENVELOPE
& ONLINE ACTUAL: \$21,476.00

SURPLUS OR (SHORTFALL):
+\$1,276.00

Holy Mass

WEEKLY PRIEST SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

5:00 pm | TBA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

7:30 am | TBA

9:00 am | TBA

10:30 am | TBA

12:00 pm | TBA

4:00 pm | TBA

WHAT'S GOING ON AT ST. EPHREM THIS WEEK!

Sunday 1/26/25

- Children's liturgy of the Word 10:30 AM
- Baby Bottle Collection
- Girl Scout Cookie Sales in vestibule
- Bingo 7 PM

Monday 1/27/25

- Golf Outing Meeting 7 PM MPC
- Cheer 5:30 PM Gym
- Boy Scouts 7 PM- Cafeteria

Tuesday 1/28/25

- Adoration 9 AM to 8 PM- Convent
- Flame of Love 12 noon- Convent
- Cub Scouts 7 PM Cafeteria
- One Day at a Time 7PM MPC
- Men's Faith Sharing 7:30 PM

Wednesday 1/29/25

- Girl Scouts 6 PM Cafeteria
- Walking with Purpose 7 PM Convent
- Ephrem Eats- UNO Pizzeria
- CYO Dine & Donte- Sarappo's

Thursday 1/30/25

- Cheer 5:30 PM Gym
- Girl Scouts 6 PM Cafeteria
- OCIA 7 PM

Friday 1/31/25

- Senior Citizens Club Meeting 12 noon Marian Center
- Family Bingo

Saturday 2/1/25

- Men's Faith Sharing 7:00 AM
- Girl Scout Cookie Sales in vestibule



School Spotlight



Our SEC students, faculty, and staff have been cheering for the Philadelphia EAGLES! We wore our green proudly and enjoyed sharing team spirit! Let's go Birds!



FR. MIKE'S MESSAGE

"Catholic Schools Week & Church Survey Results"

Friends,

**"Do you want to do a good deed? *Teach the young!*
Do you want to perform a holy act? *Teach the young!*
Do you want to do a holy thing? *Teach the young!***

Truly now and for the future, amongst holy things, this is the holiest."

St. John Bosco

As we begin Catholic Schools Week, you will hear at all weekend Masses, the importance of a quality Catholic education! Please continue to pray through the intercession of St. John Neumann for good, dedicated teachers, religious sisters, lay administrators & staff, - (past, present, & future) for special parents to see the value of sending their children to Catholic school full time or through PREP/CCD. **This Wednesday, January 29th all day, go to one of our two school fundraisers - Sarappo's Pizza for CYO & Pizzeria UNO for school. Mention St. Ephrem at both restaurants and we will get 20% of the check.**

This Thursday, January 30th from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, we will be having an Open House! Check out our beautiful, newly painted school! Our current enrollment is 368 kids full time Pre-K to 8th and 150 kids who go to PREP on Sunday mornings. Next week, we will share how much we raised through TuitionCare; thank you parishioners for your continued support & prayers for our school! We truly have a special parish & a strong school! We are ONE!

Lastly, I want to share with you our results of our 1st SEC Church Survey! Thank you for your feedback & filling it out online or on paper.

Here will be the next 3 church capital projects:

2025 - Pew & Kneeler Renovation - 144 1st place votes/ 133 2nd place votes

2026 - Stained Glass Window Cleaning & Update - 99 1st place votes/
161 2nd place votes

2027 - Moving the Back Air Conditioner Outside - 91 1st place votes/
123 2nd place votes/ 154 3rd place votes

God bless!

Fr. Mike

PARISH HAPPENINGS

EST. 1943
UNO
PIZZERIA & GRILL

**EAT, DRINK &
RAISE MONEY!**

COME SUPPORT A DOUGH RAISER TO BENEFIT

St. Ephrem School

DATE:
January 29th, 2025

VALID AT:
Uno Pizzeria and Grill
801 Neshaminy Mall
215-322-6003

**UNO® will
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20%
of your check**

**DINE-IN
or
TAKEOUT!**

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 20% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking area. Valid only for the date listed above.

unodoughraisers.com

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Welcome

Thank you for your interest in
Saint Ephrem Catholic School!

We offer school tours for interested families
for our PreK Program (Ages 3&4),
Kindergarten (Age 5), and Grades 1-8.

To schedule a school tour, scan the QR code!

www.saintephremschool.com

St. Ephrem Pre-Cana

If you're an engaged couple,
whether from St. Ephrem or
another parish, join us for
our Pre-Cana in the spring
on March 1, 2025!

We have 10 married couples
who share their wisdom &
practical advice. We begin at
10:45 am and conclude with
5:00 pm Mass. Lunch is
provided; the donation is
\$125 to join us. This pays for
the refreshments, lunch,
materials, & gifts.

Call 215-245-1698 to register!




**ST. EPHREM
CATHOLIC**

St. Ephrem Parish invites you to their Spring Bereavement Support Group.

It is a support group for those whose lives have been
touched by the loss of a family member or friend.

Support Groups can give you:

- a place to provide and receive emotional support
- a place to share your story with others who are on
the same journey through grief
- a place to ask nagging questions such as:
"Is this normal?"
"How long will this hurt last?"
- a safe and confidential place to face your feelings
about loss.

Meetings are held on eight consecutive Wednesdays

beginning Wednesday, Feb. 5

at 1:00 to 2:30 PM

OR

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

in the Marian Parish Center Meeting Room.

Registration is required.

Please contact Sr. Mary Jane at mjbihm3@gmail.com with

Name:

Phone:

Session time you wish to attend:

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Legacy of Life Foundation Baby Bottle Drive Fundraiser Update!

Thank you to everyone who gave generously - helping to save lives and transform families! Your caring donation will help women experience the love and mercy they need to have the courage to choose life! May God bless you abundantly for your contribution.

Checks should be made payable to the
Legacy of Life Foundation.

You may also give online by visiting
www.legacyoflifefoundation.org or scanning the QR code.



THANK YOU for your prayerful and generous support!

About The Legacy of Life Foundation (LOLF):

We fund three crisis pregnancy centers located in Bristol, Philadelphia, and Warminster. LOLF serves over 500 families in Pennsylvania and New Jersey struggling to provide simple baby supplies for their children. But our support does not stop there! Our programs empower women during their pregnancy and for at least three years after their babies are born. In 2024, over 400 babies were spared from abortion and your donation helped make that happen!

Contact Us:

25 S. Main Street #217 | Yardley, PA | 19067
(215) 788-4051
legacyoflifefoundation.org



Thank you!

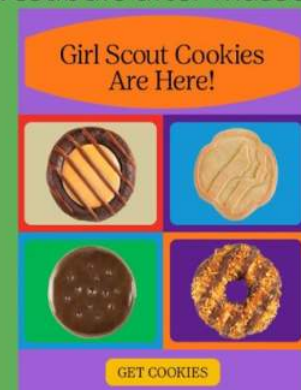
Thank you for donating Christmas cards for the patients in the "Remembering Our Neighbors in Nursing Homes and Hospitals Program." Your thoughtful cards lifted their spirits during the holidays. God bless you.



Attention golfers and non-golfers, all are invited to attend our meeting on Monday 1/27/25 at 7:00 at the Marian Center. We are preparing for the third annual St Ephrem Golf Outing on 5/17/25 at B.T.C.C. We appreciate everyone's assistance to make this golf outing a repeat success for St Ephrem capital projects. One goal is to spread the word on the golf outing to St Ephrem alumni and to more sponsors. If you have any questions, ideas and cannot make the meeting, please contact Dan Bones at Bskibones@Verizon.net.

Girl Scout Cookie Time!

Cookies will be on sale in the church vestibule after masses!



Thank you for your support!!



PARISH HAPPENINGS

Bensalem Lions Club



Lionheart Brunch

Held at

Maltese Room

2049 Bristol Pike, Bensalem, PA
(Behind Cornwells Fire Company)

On Sunday February 16th, 2025

11am-2pm

Tickets are \$40.00 each. Each adult attending will

receive \$25.00 in free play from



Proceeds will be going to making a Blind Walk in Bensalem
(Location to be determined)



ADVANCE SALES ONLY THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS FOR SALE AT THE DOOR

50/50 and Raffle Baskets

Brunch includes: Scramble Eggs, Cheese Sauce, French Toast, Bacon, Sausage, Hot Pasta Dish,
Bagels with Cream Cheese, Pastries, Coffee, Tea, Juices, Soda

For Tickets Contact Alice 267-934-1338, Cindy 215-638-4393 or any
Bensalem Lion Member



Fundraising Night!

**Join St Ephrem CYO
Wednesday (All day!)
01/29/25**

**3328 Bristol Rd
Bensalem, PA 19020**

**20% of sales to be donated to
St Ephrem CYO, please make sure
to mention them at checkout!**

Dine in or Eat out

THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF
THE AMERICAS
COURT ST. EPHREM #2230
MEET THE 1ST SUNDAY OF EACH
MONTH
AT 1:30 P.M. IN THE MARIAN
PARISH CENTER

OUR NEXT MEETING IS SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 2ND

ALL CATHOLIC WOMEN 18+ ARE
INVITED TO ATTEND

Some Important Dates Coming Soon

Can you believe that in only 38 short days from now, on March 5th, we'll begin the penitential season of Lent! If you're like most of us, Lent can take us by surprise and we end up at the last minute scrambling to come up with something to "give up" for Lent. You see while the Season of Lent is somber and penitential, the purpose of our sacrifice is to help transform our lives and turn to a new and better way of living. So here's a novel thought, instead of looking for something to "give up" or not partake of this Lent, how about considering something "to do" rather than "give up". Why not consider an activity which will enrich and "transform" our lives. An activity like a Malvern Retreat is pro-active and will enable us to know Jesus better and understand how He wants us to change our lives. Our Retreat at Malvern will take place during the heart of Lent on March 14, 15 & 16. You see, in the daily hustle bustle of our hectic world, it's very difficult to hear Jesus whispering to us. We need to pull away from everything to hear the Lord. So, how about it? Are you willing to begin to transform your life with Jesus in this Lenten Season of the 2025 Jubilee year?

If you're interested in considering a new option this Lent and/or have any questions, please complete the following coupon & place it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Rectory. You may also contact John Priole directly at 215-680-0102 or by email at jpriolejr@verizon.net Thank You!

**I would like more information about the Retreat.
Please contact me directly.**

The best time of the day to call me is _____.

The best way to contact me is by () Phone () email

Name _____

Phone _____

Email address
(Please Print Clearly): _____

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

YAMDI RETREAT

"IT WAS NOT YOU WHO CHOSE ME, BUT I WHO CHOSE YOU." (JN 15:16)

EXPERIENCE THE KERYGMA!



FEBRUARY 7 - 9, 2025 **MALVERN RETREAT HOUSE**

Retreat leaders: Fr. Stephen DeLacy, Fr. Timothy Tarnacki OSPPE, Andrea Mueller, Marisally Santiago, **MORE to be announced!**



**WHY GOD CHOSE YOU?
WHAT IS YAMDI?**

MORE QUESTIONS? SCAN TO LEARN MORE



**JOIN ARCHBISHOP PÉREZ ON PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY
FOR THE CANONIZATION OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS**

APRIL 23 - 29, 2025

FROM \$3171 PP

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING ARCHBISHOP NELSON J. PÉREZ ON PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY FOR THE CANONIZATION OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS THIS SPRING! THIS PILGRIMAGE HAS BEEN FACILITATED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND THE MALVERN RETREAT HOUSE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH VIRGINIA-BASED PROROME TOURS.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
TO REGISTER PLEASE VISIT
WWW.PROROMETOURS.COM/**

ADOP

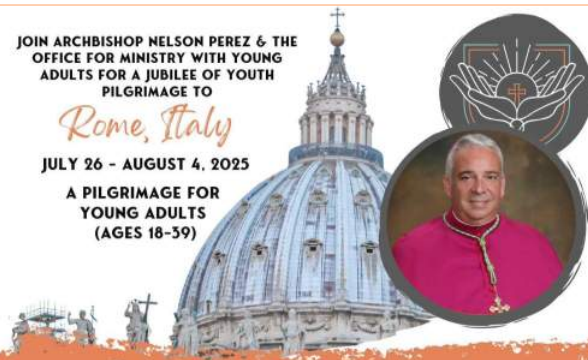
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CONTACT PROROME TOURS
DIRECTLY AT (434) 964 6352
OR BY EMAIL AT
OFFICE@PROROME.COM.**

**JOIN ARCHBISHOP NELSON PEREZ & THE
OFFICE FOR MINISTRY WITH YOUNG
ADULTS FOR A JUBILEE OF YOUTH
PILGRIMAGE TO**

Rome, Italy

JULY 26 - AUGUST 4, 2025

**A PILGRIMAGE FOR
YOUNG ADULTS
(AGES 18-39)**



JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

**JOIN US FOR THE CANONIZATION OF BLESSED PIER GIORGIO
FRASSATI, WHICH WILL HAPPEN DURING OUR PILGRIMAGE!**



www.phillyyam.org/jubilee2025/

ARISE AND CALL HER BLESSED



Presented by: Sister Sheila Galligan, IHM



**Friday,
January 31, 2025**

**8:45 am - 2:15 pm
\$60 per person***



**This retreat day
includes Mass and
lunch.**

101 111th Street, Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

For more information or to register by January 24, 2025,
call 609-964-7700 or visit www.VMbytheSea.com

*You may opt to stay overnight on Thursday, January 30 for an additional \$95.

**Local Catholic
Ministries**

[https://www.phillyevang.org/
/fire/](https://www.phillyevang.org/fire/)



KIDS' CORNER



SUNDAYKIDZ



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

S	X	W	R	E	G	I	O	N	P	O
R	S	Y	N	A	G	O	G	U	E	V
A	T	E	A	C	H	I	N	G	S	O
B	N	J	S	S	W	O	G	I	L	R
K	Q	E	C	U	I	Y	S	A	S	E
N	A	R	R	A	T	I	V	E	A	T
S	A	N	O	I	N	T	E	D	B	U
D	V	Z	L	W	E	O	G	U	B	R
Q	F	S	L	X	S	Q	K	H	A	N
J	Z	E	N	Y	S	F	L	P	T	E
Z	H	E	A	R	I	N	G	L	H	D

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