

MID-EAST FAMILY TIES LECTURE SERIES

You are Invited to the first of two Discussions on
Mid-Eastern Roots of Christian Prayer Found in the Hymns of

✠ ST. EPHREM THE SYRIAN ✠

Pope Francis asks “how many of you pray for Christians who are persecuted?
Ask yourselves, do I pray for that brother or sister who’s in difficulty for confessing their faith?”



Join us to celebrate Advent and spiritual connectedness with our
sister parish in Jordan in Keeping the Face of Christ Alive in the Middle East.

Tuesday, December 5th at St. Mary’s Hall
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Doylestown 7:00 to 8:30pm

DISCOVER A VISIONARY THEOLOGICAL POET FROM ANCIENT SYRIA WHOSE WRITINGS ARE
AS CONTEMPORARY AND RELEVANT TODAY AS THEY WERE IN THE FOURTH CENTURY

Who is St. Ephrem? Although born in the fourth century to a Christian family, his words of wisdom are being
rediscovered with a contemporary, twenty-first century appeal. A visionary poet, deacon and Doctor of the
Church, he uses poetry and song to convey Scripture. He was a feminist of his time, writing many hymns for
womens’ choir, believing women had the right to sing out. How are we as Christians using his words today?
Are you ready to pray with St. Ephrem for our brothers and sisters here and in the Holy Land?



“Paradise is the
dwelling place of the
Church while the Church
is the dwelling
place of God.”



“Blessed are the
persecuted, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.”
Matthew 5:10

Our guest speaker, Dr. Mary Hansbury, Ph.D., will give us insight into the early Syriac Christian Church
and the legacy of St. Ephrem the Syrian through his ministry of poetry and hymns. Dr. Hansbury is an author,
lecturer and teacher of early Syriac literature and is also a trained iconographer.

You will have the opportunity to purchase and appreciate St. Ephrem’s theological poetry and hymns in the book
“*Hymns on Paradise*” at a discounted price to share with your family this Christmas.

Mint tea and Baklava will be served. All are welcome!

For more information, contact Deacon Jim at 215-262-4168 or email: deaconjimfowkes@gmail.com

*“Nothing in Creation exists in isolation, and there exists a physical and
spiritual connectedness between all of Creation.”*