



Paulist Center Boston

Attentive to the Holy Spirit and nourished by vibrant liturgy, we are a Catholic community that welcomes all, fosters healing and reconciliation, and acts for justice.



NOVEMBER 27 - 28, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 4 - 5, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES

Saturday **Sunday**
5:00 PM 10:00 AM
6:00 PM

LIVE-STREAMED MASS

Sunday 10:00 AM

WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
7:55 AM
Tuesday and Thursday

12:05 PM

LESSONS AND CAROLS ON BOSTON COMMON - DECEMBER 12TH @ 1PM

Join the Paulist Center Music Ministry for *With Joyful Hope: A Service of Readings and Carols* on the Boston Common, Sunday, December 12th at 1:00pm as we come together to pray, reflect, and raise our voices in song during this holy season of joyful expectation.



If you plan on attending, please let us know by completing the registration form [here](#).

We will have enough chairs available for those who registered, but please bring a chair if you are coming without registering.



Please remain after the service to socialize and reconnect with friends. Individually-wrapped snacks and drinks will be offered.

No rain date. Check the Center website and Facebook page by 11:00am the day of if weather is questionable.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & DECORATIONS

Help us decorate with a poinsettia plant and other Christmas decorations in honor of a family member or friend, living or deceased. Suggested donation is \$10.



You can contribute at the front desk during the week from 10:30am-4:30pm; by using the envelopes marked "Flower Donation" in the pews; or go to [Donate Online](#) on our website, and use the Miscellaneous Donation Category and note that it is for "decorations" and note "in honor of, or in memory of" in the space provided.

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (FREP) 2021-2022

Registration is open for this year of faith formation. Please go to www.paulistcenter.org, then click on **Exploring Our Faith**, then **Youth Faith Formation (ages 0-18)** for more information and to register. Our third class, December 5th, is virtual at 10:45am and in-person at 12:15pm at the Charles River Reservation. Please contact Susan Rutkowski at susan@paulistcenter.org or 617-948-2426 for more information. First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion-preparation and celebration of the sacraments will be offered in the winter/spring of 2022. More information about the sacraments to follow.

Welcome! If you are considering becoming a member, please fill out a membership inquiry form that can be found on our website. You may also call the Reception Desk at 617-742-4460. After returning the form, a staff member will contact you.



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Prayer Request ...



Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Jane Paine**, mother of longtime Paulist Center member Bob Paine, and

Joan Smith, longtime member of the Paulist Center Community, both of whom died this last week.



May they rest in peace!

There will be a memorial Mass for Joan Smith, Sunday, November 28th, 12pm at the Center and all are invited.

LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

The Sunday 10am Mass is Live-Streamed.
(available as recording at same link after 11:15am)

November 28th YouTube [Link](#)

November 28th Order of Worship [Link](#)

December 5th YouTube [Link](#)

December 5th Order of Worship [Link](#)



★ 2021'S VIRTUAL JESSE TREE ★



Every Advent at the Paulist Center, we host a **Jesse Tree** in our **Mary Alcove**. The Jesse Tree is a way of preparing for the coming of Jesus on Christmas Day. Jesse was the father of King David. The Jesse Tree is named from the Scripture passage from the Book of Isaiah. [Isaiah 11:1-10]

Typically, community members take a symbol or tag off the tree to purchase a gift or gift card for the agencies and/or the individuals and families with whom they work: **SS Francis & Therese Catholic Worker House, The Agape Community, CrossRoads Family Shelter**, and this year, we are adding **Afghan refugee families** to our list of recipients.

For the sake of Covid safety measures, we are hosting a virtual Jesse Tree again. We still do not want to physically take in and deliver the large amount of gifts we typically do each year. Instead, **we are asking that you send in or drop off a gift card if you feel so moved.** Our agencies have identified the **following gift cards** that would benefit their work, individuals and/or families.

Most popular are MasterCard/Visa/Amex because they offer people the flexibility to purchase in lots of different places.



- MasterCard
- Visa
- Amex
- Target
- Star Market
- Trader Joe's
- Dunkin Donuts
- Amazon
- Market Basket

If you would like to support the Jesse Tree this year, you can:

Drop off gift cards at our front desk
during the week from 10:30am-4:30pm

or

Mail to: Paulist Center
Attn: Jesse Tree
5 Park Street, Boston, MA 02108

If you have questions, please contact **Susan Rutkowski** at susan@paulistcenter.org or 617-948-2426.



CREATION CARE MINISTRY - ADVENT

Emmanuel means “God is with us.” During Advent, the Creation Care ministry invites you to prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ birth with simplicity. As ‘we wait in joyful hope,’ we can actively demonstrate our appreciation for the gift of God’s creation.

Each weekend, we will share a reflection, suggestions for action, and examples of what Paulist Center members are doing to ‘prepare the way of the Lord.’ These stories about making personal changes to help the earth will inspire others, support others trying to make changes and are a reason to celebrate.

Please keep telling us your stories.

WEEK 1



Reflection: From Pope Francis’ *Laudato Si’*: “Christian spirituality proposes a prophetic and contemplative lifestyle, capable of deep enjoyment free of the obsession with consumption.”

A return to that spiritual simplicity allows us:

- to stop and appreciate the small thing
- to be grateful for opportunities which life affords
- to be spiritually detached from what we possess
- not to succumb to sadness for what we lack

Suggestion: Simplify your Christmas

- simplifytheholidays.org has dozens of ideas on how to do it, including experiential gifts, coupons for your time/skill, donations, food, DIY/homemade
- <https://newdream.org/resources/more-fun-less-stuff-gift-catalog> a catalog of gift ideas
- <https://www.becomingminimalist.com/simple-christmas-links> for a lot more Christmas ideas

Paulist Center members say:

- My husband and I compost, recycle, and reprocess/refurbish items. Our 3 daughters grew up wearing “recycled” clothes and as adults all 3 buy and wear recycled clothes with a sense of pride. We recycle everything. We grow organic vegetables.
- I bought an electric car and took advantage of the substantial state and federal tax breaks that were available. I found that electric cars are responsive, fun, and great for driving around the local area.



WEEK 2

Reflection: from Genesis 1 “And God saw everything that God had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”

Suggestion: For Advent, Focus on Simplicity. How?

- Have Clear Priorities
- Practice Detachment
- Serve Others

These ideas are expanded with examples in the Catholic blog - “For Advent, Let’s Focus on Simplicity”: [Link](#)

Paulist Center members say:

- My thoughts about gift giving have changed. Most of us have too much stuff and not enough time. For people who are lonely I offer conversation and a visit, for people who are too busy I give my time to complete a task.
- I’ve become pretty devoted to composting in the past couple of years, and now I can’t imagine not doing so. The City of Cambridge makes it easy, providing bins and weekly pick-up, and our neighborhood library has free composting bags for patrons. I’m happy to see all the green bins lined up on our street on trash day and have to admit I’d feel guilty now if I weren’t joining in. How can I not save food scraps, peels, rinds, coffee filters, egg shells and the like? I’m hopeful that somewhere soil is enriched.

SPONSORING AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILIES - DONATIONS NEEDED!

The Paulist Center and St. Cecilia Catholic parish have together established a **POWIR** (*Parishes Organized to Welcome Immigrants and Refugees*) site to sponsor two Afghan families - one with 6 members and another with 8 members.

This responsibility involves many things, but **our biggest challenge is to raise \$15,000 by Wednesday, December 15th** to pay for the initial expenses of housing, food, clothing and other necessities until certain government benefits become available. At this time, we are waiting for the final assignment to come through Catholic Charities, but we are told families could arrive any week now.

Paulist Center and St. Cecilia representatives met for the first time eight weeks ago. Since then we have recruited 40 volunteers to work with the families welcoming them; introducing and orienting them to housing, education, health care, public transportation and more; teaching them English, registering their children in school, providing transportation, and performing many more tasks.

In addition, the Paulist Center/St. Cecilia partnership has reached out to additional faith communities including the Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston; St. Ignatius Catholic Church at Boston College; The Islamic Center of Boston; the Islamic Circle NE; and St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church in Roxbury; all of whom have agreed to join the effort, although not at the full partnership level.

To successfully sponsor these families, contributions are urgently needed. If you would like to contribute financially, **[donations can be mailed to:](#)**

Catholic Charities of Boston

275 West Broadway

Boston, MA 02127

Please make your check payable to: *Catholic Charities* and,
on the *memo line*, write *Paulist Center/St. Cecilia POWIR, Afghan*

[To donate online,](#)

- Please go to the Catholic Charities of Boston website: www.ccab.org
- Click the "DONATE" button
- Under Designation select "OTHER"
- In the space provided under "OTHER" enter: *Paulist Center/St. Cecilia POWIR, Afghan*
- Fill out contact/billing information



POWIR is a program of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information, use this [link](#).

For more information on donations and/or on volunteering with our families, please contact:

Ed Marakovitz of our Immigration Advocacy Group

edmarakovitz@yahoo.com, 617-306-9726.

WAYS OF GIVING

Our “Community Gift” is the Paulist Center’s tradition of **giving away 5% of our weekend offerings**, averaged out over the year, to a group outside of ourselves. **We are so very grateful** for your support during this time of uncertainty and financial challenge.

The weekend of **November 27th and 28th** we designate our gift to **Retired Women Religious** in recognition of the important role religious sisters have had in the Archdiocese of Boston and to help provide for their retirement and health care needs.

The weekend of **December 4th and 5th** we designate our gift to the **Humanitarian Respite Center operated by Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley**. The Center cares for immigrants and refugees and responds to families in crisis - those who have no food, no security, no access to showers, or other basic necessities.

Two ways to give to the Paulist Center:

1. To make a one-time or recurring donation to the Center using your bank account or credit card, click on this link: <https://tinyurl.com/DonatePaulistCenter>
2. Giving by text: Text a whole dollar donation amount to **844-899-7511**; this will be designated as your “Weekend Offering.”

 *thank you* 

CALENDAR YEAR-END GIFTS TO THE CENTER WARMLY WELCOMED

As you are likely aware, your financial gifts are key to the Paulist Center’s financial sustainability. While we will not bombard you with Giving Tuesday requests, please know that we warmly welcome calendar year-end gifts, which are very helpful to our budget every year. If you wish to donate **stock**, please be in touch with **Patty Simpson**, patty@paulistcenter.org or **617-948-2428**, for specifics on our legal name, tax ID and account information for transfers.



Thank you for ALL you give in so many ways to the Center!



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR OUR 2021 ISAAC HECKER AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE!

Now that we have thoroughly celebrated our 2020 Hecker Award winner, Fr. Bryan Massingale, **we are moving on to accepting nominations for our 2021 winner!** To submit a nomination, please review the guidelines at www.paulistcenter.org and click on the **guidelines link**. All nominations and/or questions, should be directed to **Susan Rutkowski**, susan@paulistcenter.org, **617-948-2426**. Thank you in advance for putting forth your nomination!



MINISTERIAL STAFF

Chuck Cunniff, CSP	Normand Gouin
Michael McGarry, CSP	John Morton
Susan Rutkowski	Patricia Simpson

Pastoral Council Chair

Amy Logan

Please see our website for direct contact information.

