



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.



JULY 23 - 24, 2022
17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 30 - 31, 2022
18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES

Saturday
5:00 PM

Sunday
10:00 AM
6:00 PM

WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
7:55 AM

Tuesday and Thursday
12:05 PM



THE END OF AN ERA:



A TRIBUTE TO DAVE COUGHLIN, JANE O'CONNOR AND PEGGY LAVOIE

These past couple of months mark the end of an era at two of the most impactful programs at the Paulist Center: our **Wednesday Night Supper Club** and the **Third Saturday Breakfast**. Three stalwarts of these programs are retiring and we pause now to thank them for their outstanding service as volunteers.



Dave Coughlin and Jane O'Connor have served as chefs in our **Wednesday Night Supper Club** for 30 and 26 years respectively. During that time, Dave ran the Supper Club from 1994-1998. As one of the longest running supper programs in Boston, **Dave and Jane, along with our dedicated team of volunteers**, has served thousands of warm, healthy meals every Wednesday night for **over 50 years**. **Each week, people of all ages** - many of whom are currently unhoused, down and out, lonely, in need of the company of others, and a hot meal - **find a home here at the Center with our volunteers**.

Through power outages, blizzards, and pandemics, the volunteers of the Supper Club show up, **never missing a Wednesday in the entire 50 years**. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Supper Club switched to take-out service to ensure the safety of our staff, volunteers, and guests. Our chefs devised menus that worked best for a take-out situation, and prepared delicious and creative meals for those who came to our Chapel doors. **For their relentless commitment to show Christ's compassionate love to people who hunger, we thank them.**

The **Third Saturday Breakfast** program was the brainchild of **Peggy Lavoie**. In 1992, **Peggy realized there was a gaping need in the downtown area for a hot, nutritious breakfast on Saturday mornings**. She organized a team of volunteers and led our **Community Breakfast on the third Saturday of the month for over thirty years** handling all aspects of managing the volunteer base, ordering food, planning and cooking meals and welcoming our beloved guests. **This was truly a labor of love for her**. Like our Wednesday Night Supper Club team, the breakfast crew was steadfast in showing up. **Every Saturday at 7:00 am, they arrived at the Center to set up tables and chairs, prep and cook and serve a delicious meal**. All of it overseen by **Peggy's dedication** to ensuring those who were hungry and who had nowhere to go, had a place at the Paulist Center. From preparing the meals, to serving supper or breakfast, to distributing food at our Chapel doors, **our volunteers are our strength**.

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Welcome! If you are considering becoming a member, please fill out a membership inquiry form that can be found on our [website](http://www.paulistcenter.org). 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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And these three are extraordinary. **Dave, Jane and Peggy, THANK YOU** for giving so much of yourselves over the past 30 years. **The entire Paulist Center community applauds the work of your dedication, love and commitment to those in need. We will miss you!**



If community members have experience with cooking meals for large crowds – and even if you don't! – please contact Susan Rutkowski, susan@paulistcenter.org, to learn more about joining the amazing team here at our Wednesday Night Supper Club.



A TRIBUTE TO PAT MCCARTHY



Next to Peggy Lavoie, **one of our most committed Community Breakfast volunteers was Pat McCarthy**, who passed away a couple of months ago. **For over 25 years**, she and the dedicated group of Saturday morning volunteers, served breakfast to over 100 homeless guests on the third Saturday of every month.

Pat would never miss the date to serve **"her guys."** The mission was to serve breakfast. However, the result was so much more. **Guests and volunteers alike left fulfilled, valued and blessed.** Pat often downplayed her critical role in this mission stating, **"it's just the right thing to do,"** however this mission served and supported thousands of people in need over the years.

We thank Pat for all her years of loving, dedicated service to our program and miss her dearly.

PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE

Congratulations to our newly-elected members of the Pastoral Council: **Bob Bordone, Deb Heimel, and Greg Nash!** On behalf of the entire community, we thank them for running and for their continued commitment to our community and upcoming service in this new role, which they will **begin on September 1st**. Thanks to all for voting in the election.



We are deeply grateful also to the three members who will be completing their service on the Council as of September 1st:

- ♦ **Jeanine Mount and Tori Steinmeier** are each completing four years on the Council, during which they served as co-chairs for two years, and
- ♦ **Christopher Spicer Hankle** will be completing two years on the Council.

Our thanks to Christopher, Jeanine, Tori for all that they have done and will continue to do for our community. **Continuing Council members will be Jenn Gatchel, Ken Hamill, Amy Logan, Adrienne Murphy, and Yoojung Yang.**

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY - DINNER AND DISCUSSION

Please join Mairead and Fr. Rich for dinner and discussion about our Young Adult Ministry **following the 6pm Mass on Sunday, July 24th, up on the 3rd floor.** Those who were active in 2018-2020 but have since aged out: please join us to tell us what you appreciated most about our young adult ministry before the pandemic.



If you are new to the Paulist Center we would love to meet you and hear what draws you here!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ...

Please pray for **Florence Colangelo**, mother of community member **Fred Colangelo**, who recently passed away.



Persistent Prayer: An act of crazy compassion and reckless love

By Normand Gouin
Pastoral Minister of Liturgy and Music

So often, especially in recent times, I am approached by family, friends, and members of our Paulist Center community asking for prayers. These requests come in response to the passing of a loved one, to a sudden job loss or separation in a relationship, or to the news of a diagnosis of a terminal illness, etc.

At every Mass we pray for the growing list of concerns and needs in our world, such as the devastating effects of climate change, the war in Ukraine, the ongoing battle with the Coronavirus, racism, injustice in all its forms, and the pervasive divisiveness in our land. Yet with all that is going on, in what often seems like a futile exercise, we are often left wondering why does it seem like things are getting worse, why do these prayers seem to go either unanswered or to have no effect? We continue searching but have not found? Why does the door we keep knocking at never seem to open? I have struggled with these questions, and I bet you have as well.

As I reflected on Abraham's persistence in this weekend's passage from Genesis and Jesus' instruction to the disciple's on how to pray, I wonder if we have misunderstood what prayer is all about.

I don't believe Jesus ever intended *ask, search, and knock* as a blank check on God's account. As if prayer was a transaction between us and God! Jesus' instruction to ask, search, and knock is perfectly reflected in the prayer he taught the disciples, the prayer we have come to know as The Lord's Prayer. We are to be persistent in aligning our lives to the mercy and compassion of God, bearing witness to the presence of God in our life and relationships, opening ourselves to the gift and sufficiency of this day, freely receiving and giving forgiveness.

To be persistent in prayer means to not give up when the sands of life are shifting under our feet, when our life comes unhinged, when we are overwhelmed, when we come to the limits of our ability, or when it looks like this day is as good as it gets and all there will ever be.¹

However, beyond being persistent, I believe it is also important to note that prayer is not simply a private act. When we pray for specific concerns, needs, or situations, are we not in effect also expressing our desire for the healing and restoration of the entire Body of Christ?

To address this question, I turn to the insights of the spiritual writer and theologian, Ron Rolheiser, OMI. Rolheiser describes prayer not so much as the words one speaks or imparts but an attitude we embody that when adopted can affect the entire Body. Rolheiser states, "Central to our faith as Christians, is the belief that we are all part of one mystical body, the Body of Christ. This is not a metaphor. This body is a living organism. If this is true, and it is, then there is no such thing as a truly private action. Our prayers are health-giving enzymes affecting the whole body, particularly the persons and events to which we direct them."²

From this perspective, though we may not always be aware of or experience the fruits of our prayer, it is important to remember that trusting in the power of prayer and being persistent in prayer helps us to stay connected and concerned for one another as Christ's Body. In this sense we go from, in the words of Richard Rohr, OFM, "simply saying and offering up prayers to becoming a prayer."

In her recent op-ed in the *New York Times* on prayer, author Anne Lamont wrote, "I pray to be more like Jesus with his crazy compassion and reckless love. Some days go better than others. I pray to remember that God loves Marjorie Taylor Greene exactly the same as God loves my grandson, because God loves, period. God is better at this than I am. I lift up one of my grown Sunday school kids who is in the I.C.U. with anorexia. I beseech God to intervene, and she does, through finding my girl a great nurse later that day. My prayer says to whoever might be listening, "I care about her and have no idea what to do, but to hold her in my heart and turn her over to something that might do better than me."³

May our practice of prayer, through trust and persistence, be like a sneaky hidden antibiotic – needed precisely when it seems most useless.

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1. Michael K. Marsh, "Let us Dare to Pray (And Not Just for What We Want), from *Interrupting the Silence*, sermon, July 2019.
 2. Rolheiser, Ron, OMI, "When We Doubt the Power of Prayer", essay, www.ronrolheiser.com, September 20, 2021.
 3. Lamont, Anne, "I Don't Want to See a High School Football Coach Praying on the Fifty-Yard Line" *New York Times*, edition: July 8, 2022.

LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS*

One weekend Mass is Live-Streamed. *(available as recording at same link after the Mass)*

Sunday, July 24th YouTube [Link](#)

Sunday, July 24th Order of Worship [Link](#)



Sunday, July 31st YouTube [Link](#)

Sunday, July 31st Order of Worship [Link](#)

**We will occasionally livestream the Saturday 5pm Mass instead of the Sunday 10am Mass.
See the bulletin and **Weekly Missive** for the latest schedule.*

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 **July 23rd and 24th** we designate our gift to **St. Francis & St. Therese Catholic Worker House in Worcester, MA**. They provide housing for emergency shelter in addition to two meals a day and laundry twice a week. The program is available from anywhere between two and three weeks.

The weekend of **July 30th and 31st** we designate our gift to **EVkids**. Through the weekly after-school Tutoring Program, annual Camp in the summer, and the College Success Project for high schoolers, EVkids provides a continuum of services to help low-income, academically vulnerable children and teens (beginning in grades 4-12) succeed in school and life by systematically strengthening core academic skills, organizational habits, and other life skills.

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!

IN OTHER COMMUNITIES

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Mass General Hospital is seeking **Eucharistic ministers** to distribute Communion to patients and their families. The commitment would be for **6-8 hours per month** (either once weekly for two hours or every other week for three hours.) **Greatest need is for Monday, Friday, and Sundays.**

Parking will be validated. If you are interested in participating in this vital ministry, please reach out to **Julie Supple, Spiritual Care Provider. 617-724-8759 or jsupple@mgh.harvard.edu.**

MINISTERIAL STAFF



Rich Andre, CSP

Chuck Cunniff, CSP

Normand Gouin

Mairead Murphy

Susan Rutkowski

Patricia Simpson

PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Amy Logan

Please see our [website](#) for direct contact information.