



# 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 19 - 20, 2022  
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

NOVEMBER 26 - 27, 2022  
1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT

WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES  
Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 10:00am  
6:00pm

WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES  
Monday - Friday 12:05pm

## THANKSGIVING EVE MASS

Please join us on Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 7pm for the Thanksgiving Eve Mass, to give thanks to God for the year's many blessings. The Mass will include music and be live-streamed: [Link](#).



We encourage you to bring any bread to be used at your own Thanksgiving tables for a special blessing at the liturgy.

## NOMINATIONS FOR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Due to personal circumstances, Jenn Gatchell will be leaving the Council at the end of 2022.

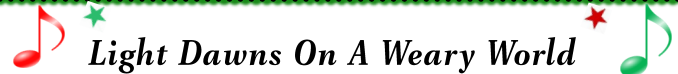
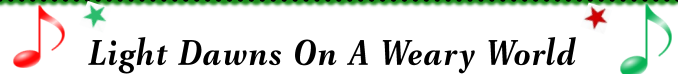
**We thank Jenn for her generous service these past 3.5 years!** We're now seeking nominations to fill out the rest of Jenn's term through August 2023, with the hope that the successful candidate will stand again for election this summer for a regular 2-year term. Since people are often shy in putting themselves forward for leadership roles, we encourage other members of the Paulist Center Community to approach a member who you think has the gifts to contribute to the Pastoral Council. Anyone who would like to run should gather 25 signatures (on paper or electronic) of other Paulist Center members and submit a one-paragraph statement on why they would like to serve, by Monday, December 5, to Adrienne Murphy, [adrienne.murphy@gmail.com](mailto:adrienne.murphy@gmail.com). (Adrienne can help you gather the signatures if necessary, too.)

Candidate statements will run in the December 10-11 bulletin. Elections will be held the weekend of December 17-18.


## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

On Sunday, 11/20, grades K-6 will meet in their regular classrooms, Jr. High Youth Group will meet in the second floor seminar room and our confirmation teens will meet in the 3rd floor library, all at 11:15 am.

No classes on Thanksgiving weekend, 11/27.

 **Light Dawns On A Weary World** 

Our annual Advent-Christmas Concert, **Light Dawns On A Weary World**, takes place Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm and Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm. See bulletin insert [here](#) for details on making free-will offerings and sponsorship donations for the concert. **The Christmas Story**, a celebration of dance, drama and music, begins the Sunday program.



## THROUGH THE ADVENT DOOR

Jan Richardson is an artist, writer, retreat leader, and minister. Her international audience is drawn to the spaces of welcome, imagination, and solace that she creates in both word and image. This year's Advent-Christmas Concert will feature both the artwork and writings of Jan Richardson.


To sign up for her Illuminated Advent Retreat, here is the link:  
<https://www.janrichardson.com/adventretreat>

## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

At all three Masses on the weekend of Nov 19-20, the Finance Council will give its Annual Financial Report.

**The good news: We finished fiscal year 2021-22 in the black, due in large part to the Employee Retention Tax Credit.**

**The bad news: We project a substantial deficit in this new fiscal year, large enough that we ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your financial giving.**



**PAULIST CENTER IS CLOSED ON NOV 24-25 FOR THANKSGIVING - NO MASSES OR CONFESSIONS.**

*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.*

## LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 10am

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)



Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 10am

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)

## NOTIFICATION OF LIVESTREAM START

It's easy to be notified every time we start a livestream! Go to our YouTube channel, click on "Subscribe," and then click on the bell icon next to the "Subscribed" button and pull down the menu to select "All."



## DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT!

Copies of *Waiting in Joyful Hope: Daily Reflections for Advent* are available at all Masses. The suggested donation (cash or electronic) for each book is \$3.

## YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY - DINNER & DISCUSSION



Young adults ages 21-39 will meet for dinner in the 3rd floor Library after the 6pm Mass on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. We'll have a brief discussion about Eucharistic Adoration, and then we'll head back down to the chapel to celebrate the devotion with exposition and benediction.

## FAREWELL TO MAIREAD

Mairead Murphy, our part-time Young Adult Minister, will wrap up her service to our community in the next few weeks. We will give her a blessing at the conclusion of the 6pm Mass on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks for all that you did in a difficult time, Mairead!

THANK YOU!

## JESSE TREE/GIVING TREE



Our Jesse Tree will go back up in the Mary Alcove on Thanksgiving weekend (November 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>) after three long years! The Jesse Tree is the Paulist Center's Advent Giving Tree. This is an opportunity for community members to buy gifts for families living at Crossroads Family Shelter; the Catholic Worker House in Worcester; the Agape Community; and some of the families that come to our food pantry and supper club. The Jesse Tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: *A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.* Jesse was the father of King David.

The Jesse Tree is adorned with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophecies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. The ornaments of the Jesse Tree tell the story of God in the Hebrew Bible, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history. If you feel so moved, please take a tag off the tree and bring the unwrapped gift back to the Center by Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

As a reminder, many of our agencies request gift cards for their guests as gift cards affords people the dignity to choose what they'd like, so while there are some specific gift requests on the tree, the majority are gift cards.



Gifts can be dropped off at the Food Pantry (1<sup>st</sup> Floor elevator lobby) or mailed to Susan Rutkowski at the Center. Please do not leave any gifts under the tree or anywhere that is unsecured.

## LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE?

**Patricia M. Simpson, MDiv**  
*Pastoral Administrator*

This weekend, we celebrate the last Sunday of the Church year, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Whenever I hear the name of this solemnity (a solemnity is the highest feast day designation in the Church), I have to admit that I cringe and think, “What would Jesus say?” 🤔 I also wonder what Paulist founder Isaac Hecker, promoter of the compatibility of American democracy and Catholicism, believer in sharing the Word in contemporary, accessible language, would say. Jesus never referred to himself as king of anything – not King of the Jews, and definitely not King of the Universe! So, while I might understand at some levels why the hierarchy in the Vatican in Rome, Italy, chose this title for Jesus and this solemnity in 1925, I think it misses the mark on multiple fronts for the world in 2022. It reminds me of Dorothy Day saying, “Don’t call me a saint. I don’t want to be dismissed that easily.” (I do like to think she might be OK with the recent naming of a Staten Island ferry after her, a daily mode of transportation for regular workers.).

Pope Pius XI declared this solemnity in 1925 in response to some nations of the world stripping the Catholic hierarchy of some of their governmental privileges (considered a form of anti-clericalism in its day). With the Church establishing the right of every individual to religious freedom in the 1960s, however, most Catholics no longer see such secularizing movements as a threat to the Church’s authority. Some in the hierarchy still consider contemporary secularization a threat to the Church today, but Pope Francis has made a push back against clericalism and its assumed privileges a main message of his papacy.

I appreciate the good things that can be accomplished by multi-national organizations such as the Catholic Church, and I still want to believe that benevolent hierarchies are one of the most efficient ways to make things work smoothly. But, while I also believe that any institution, like any individual, is not irredeemable, and that, at a macro-level, the Church is guided by the Holy Spirit, at a micro-level it has all too often been led by limited human beings, all too often making decisions that are far from benevolent. As the English historian John Dalberg-Acton (1834-1902) said to a bishop in reference to past rulers, but especially in reference to popes, “Power tends to corrupt; absolute power corrupts absolutely.” This observation led me, after a little less than a decade stint with a multi-national organization that ultimately imploded due to a few bad actors, to be drawn to smaller organizations that are closer to the people. Not that smaller organizations are immune from corruption and cannot also be in need of redemption—aren’t we all?—but to me, they offer more opportunity for hope. Thus, my preference of our chapel and small (by Catholic standards) congregation to mega-churches or cathedrals.

Egalitarianism across clergy, laity and genders, visible full and real inclusion of those marginalized by the Church (e.g. women and LGBTQIA+ persons), and inclusive language in our liturgy, vulnerability and servant leadership in our members and staff, and compassion and service to those marginalized by the Church and by society. These are Paulist Center traits that spoke loudly to me in my first liturgy and early experiences at the Center. How can we continue to push back against clerical privilege, absolute authority, exceptionalism and triumphalism and any of its trappings, including depictions of Jesus as monarch or militant, and language and behaviors that exclude or create divisions? (“Kindom” rather than “kingdom,” anyone?) How can we make Jesus’ radical and revolutionary message accessible to all, resonate in the core of our beings, and guide us in mindfully-made decisions and choices every minute of our every day? How can we form and what can we take away from our communal liturgical and other community encounters to have the vision and courage to emulate Jesus’ example of turning the unkind powers of the world upside down? I would greatly prefer a plain old 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time to lead us into Advent and the Solemnity of Jesus, Word Incarnate of God, that we celebrate on December 25th every year, a celebration of Jesus, fully human and fully divine, who chose to come and be part of our humanness, in all its broken forms. The Jesus who, in today’s gospel, hangs with and for us on the cross next to the two criminals, and promises the one that today he will be with him in paradise. A more powerful and helpful, and less cringe-worthy, depiction of the Savior of the World: Emmanuel, God with Us.

Fr. Ed's pastoral reflection for the weekend of November 26-27 will be available at <https://www.paulistcenter.org/category/pastoral-reflections/> by Wednesday, November 23.

We frequently have a need for help with graphic design. If you have the skills and would be willing to donate your services to us, please contact Patty at [patty@paulistcenter.org](mailto:patty@paulistcenter.org).

## CREATION CARE - 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT

**E**mmanuel means “God is with us.” For Advent, the Creation Care ministry invites you to prepare to celebrate Jesus’ birth with simplicity.

**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 things, to be grateful for opportunities which life affords, to be spiritually detached from what we possess, and not succumb to sadness for what we lack.”

**Suggestion:** Prepare to simplify your Christmas: Visit [simplifytheholidays.org/](http://simplifytheholidays.org/) for dozens of ideas on how, including experiential gifts, homemades, coupons for your time/skill, donations, food, etc. A Paulist Center member says: *My husband and I compost, recycle, and refurbish items we can no longer use. Our three daughters grew up wearing “recycled” clothes and now as adults all three buy and wear recycled clothes with a sense of pride.*



## COMMUNITY GIFT

**O**ur Community Gift is the Paulist Center’s tradition of giving 5% of our annual offertory to other charitable organizations.

The weekend of **November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>** we lift up **United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Boston**. UNCF Boston is charged with raising funds to support UNCF’s mission of getting highly motivated deserving students to and through college at UNCF-member institutions and more than 1,100 colleges and universities across the country.

The weekend of **November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>** we lift up **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.

**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 to **844-899 7511**; this will be designated as your “Weekend Offering”

## CALL FOR 2022 HECKER AWARD SUBMISSIONS



**S**ince 1974, the Paulist Center Community has presented the **Isaac Hecker Award for Social Justice to an outstanding North American Catholic**. Recipients of the award have included locally and nationally recognized women and men - lay people, sisters, priests, and bishops. Some have been involved in direct service to those in need, others in advocacy works and the transformation of structures and institutions. Many of the recipients have been committed to both these dimensions of social actions. **Isaac Hecker, founder of the Paulist Fathers, was particularly concerned with the growth and development of American Catholicism.** Isaac Hecker and the early Paulists devoted themselves to mission preaching, communication of the word of God. Hecker’s spirituality involved looking to the heart, listening to the spirit, and living in America. **The award was named to honor Isaac Hecker.**

**Please nominate your favorite Catholic who is committed to peace and justice, a person of faith, striving to live a life of social justice for the 2022 award. Guidelines for submissions are on our website at [paulistcenter.org](http://paulistcenter.org) under Social Justice: Hecker Award, here is the [link](#); or in the racks in the vestibule of our chapel.** Submissions should be directed to **Susan Rutkowski, [susan@paulistcenter.org](mailto:susan@paulistcenter.org) or 617-948-2426.** The award will be given in the winter. (Our 2021 winner will be announced in the next few weeks.)

**Nomination deadline is Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.**



**MINISTERIAL STAFF:** Rich Andre, CSP  
Mairead Murphy  
Susan Rutkowski

Normand Gouin  
Ed Nowak, CSP  
Patricia Simpson

**PASTORAL COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS:**  
Adrienne Murphy and Yoojung Yang

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