



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.



DECEMBER 3 - 4, 2022

2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES

Saturday
5:00pm

Sunday
10:00am
6:00pm

WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES

Monday – Friday
12:05pm

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Thursday, December 8 is the patronal feast day of the United States!

Please join us for one of four celebrations:

Vigil: Wednesday, December 7 at 7pm (with music).

Thursday, December 8 at 7:55am, 12:05pm, and 5:15pm (no music).



Light Dawns On A Weary World

Our annual Advent-Christmas Concert, *Light Dawns On A Weary World*



Saturday, December 10, 7:30pm - [Link](#)

Sunday, December 11, 2:00pm - [Link](#)

The Christmas Story, a celebration of dance, drama and music, **begins the Sunday program.** Instead of selling tickets, we're taking up a freewill offering. We'd appreciate if you'd **donate online** in advance.

NOMINATIONS FOR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Jenn Gatchell has to step down from the Pastoral Council 6 months before her term ends, due to family circumstances frequently taking her out of state. **We thank Jenn for her generous service these past 3.5 years!** We're 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** 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.** (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.**



WE WANT YOU!

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 "Flower Donation" envelopes in the pews; or go to [Donate Online](#), and choose [Flower Donation](#) and note that it is "in honor of, or in memory of" in the space provided.



JESSE TREE/GIVING TREE

The Jesse Tree, the Paulist Center's Advent Giving Tree, is up in the Mary Alcove. This is an opportunity to buy gifts for families at Crossroads Family Shelter; the Catholic Worker House in Worcester; the Agape Community; and families that come to our food pantry and supper club. 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.** Gift cards are requested by many agencies as they afford people the dignity to choose what they'd like. Gifts can be dropped off at the Food Pantry or mailed to Susan at the Center. Please do not leave any gifts under the tree or anywhere that is unsecured.



CREATION CARE MEETING - DECEMBER 4



The Creation Care ministry will be meeting this Sunday, December 4, with representatives from St. Anthony's Shrine, Arch Street, and GreenRoots, a group working for environmental justice in and around Chelsea.

All are welcome. **Gather in the Chapel at 11:15am.**

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.



PAULIST CENTER BOSTON
5 PARK STREET
BOSTON MA 02108

PHONE 617-742-4460
FAX 617-720-5756
EMAIL INFO@PAULISTCENTER.ORG

WWW.PAULISTCENTER.ORG
FACEBOOK.COM/PAULISTCENTER
TWITTER.COM/PAULISTBOSTON
INSTAGRAM.COM/PAULISTCENTER

LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

Sunday, December 4, 10am

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)



Sunday, December 11, 10am

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)

COMMUNITY COFFEE

Please join us for **Community Coffee** this **Sunday, December 4**, in the auditorium after the 10am Mass! We **THANK** our volunteers:

Jim and Kate Stewart
Nancy Kendrick
Daria O'Conner
Joanne Williams
Hildi Keary
Helen Stein



CALL FOR 2022 HECKER AWARD SUBMISSIONS

Since 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 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 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.**

PAULIST ASSOCIATES MEETING

The Paulist Associates are now meeting on Zoom at 7pm on Monday, December 12 (*not in person at 7pm on December 14*). Their meetings are not open to the general public, but if you'd like to learn more about the Associates, check out their national [website](#). To explore becoming an Associate, call the Paulist Center office, (617) 742-4460, and we'll put you in contact with Carol Geyer.

RACIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY GROUP MEETING



The Racial Justice Advocacy Group (RJAG) will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 13 at 7pm by way of Zoom. RJAG is a relatively new ministry at the Center focused upon promoting racial equity through events and programs within our Community and also action hours and events that engage civic leaders in Greater Boston. We seek to build an ever-growing group who can together be a catalyst for positive efforts to address systemic racism in our society. We welcome your joining us or checking us out. If interested, please contact Tom Sharkey at sharkey.te@verizon.net for more information and for the December 13 meeting's Zoom link.

LIGHT DAWNS ON A WEARY WORLD

Normand Gouin

Pastoral Minister of Liturgy and Music

Here at the Paulist Center, one could easily describe the past few months as a time of “returning.” In September, our *Family Religious Education Program* returned to in-person classes. In October, the *Wednesday Night Supper Club* started serving meals again in our auditorium. Gradually, we have begun to have more and more in-person meetings and have also held a few Community Coffees while attendance numbers at Mass have increased steadily over the past few months. As we emerge from a time of isolation and separation, our community has begun to re-emerge, to re-engage, and to experience the light of hope and renewal.

On December 10 and 11 our community will come together for another “return” event. The Paulist Center music ministry will present *Light Dawns on a Weary World*, our first Advent-Christmas Concert in three years. We will also have the return of our liturgical dance ministry’s pageant “A Christmas Story.” This is an opportunity for us to pause, to take a break from the frenetic pace of this time of year, to reconnect, to join in song, and reflect upon the words and images that emerge in this season.

Our program will feature fourteen songs, a combination of familiar hymns and less familiar songs from newer composers from various places around the world. In the first part of the program, we will hear John Michael Trotta’s powerful work “Veni, Veni Emmanuel.” A piece conceived as a dialogue between supplicants and the creator, a combination of old and new, juxtaposing a personal longing for something still to come, with steadfast assurance of something ever-present.

Later in the program we will raise our voices and sing, “Awake, awake and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning. Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.” A new day breaks. The light and warmth of the sun spreads into our world, into our lives. “In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing, as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.” Into our darkest night, we receive the promise of light and peace.

Mary Louise Bringle’s advent hymn opens with these words, “Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people’s dignity. Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.”

How can light and peace be promised? We all have experienced its opposite. We know conflict. We have gone to bed longing for a new day to break. If anything, it seems that war and division is certain. So what is this promise? Jesus’s first words to his disciples following his resurrection were the promise, “Peace be with you.” This was not a promise that they would be free of fear or that they would never again experience discord. It is true, strife is certain. The promise of God’s light and peace is stronger. In Christ, death has been defeated. In Christ, love is stronger than hate. We experience peace when we live with the awareness of this power and promise, even in the midst of all that rages around us.

We close this year’s program with the familiar and time-honored carol by Dan Kantor, “Night of Silence.” “Cold are the people, winter of life, we tremble in shadows this cold winter night. Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, flowers that will echo the sunrise...breathless love awaits darkened souls, soon will we know of the morning.” May this season of returning – of re-awakening – be a time of grace and renewed hope, drawing us deeper into the story of the One who came to be with us!

CREATION CARE - 2ND WEEK OF ADVENT

For Advent, the Creation Care ministry invites you to prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth with simplicity.

Reflection: from Genesis 1 "And God saw everything that God had made, and behold, it was very good."

Suggestion: Simplify your Christmas gift-giving. Here's a [15 page catalog of gift ideas](#)

Or, check out "[Becoming Minimalist - The Helpful Guide to Simple Christmas Links](#)"

A Paulist Center member says: *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.*



ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE



We will host a **communal reconciliation service at noon on Saturday, December 17**, with at least three Paulist priests available to hear individual confessions. If you haven't come to this service in recent years but are thinking of coming this year, please leave an anonymous message at **617-742-4460**, and we'll make arrangements to have additional Paulist priests available.

COMMUNITY GIFT

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

The weekend of **December 3 and 4** we lift up **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 to **844-899 7511**; this will be designated as your "Weekend Offering"

THANK YOU!

INTERESTED IN BEING A LECTOR?

We are rebooting our lector teams starting in January!

If you would like to explore newly serving in this ministry at the Paulist Center, please contact our **Pastoral Minister of Liturgy and Music, Norm Gouin** at norm@paulistcenter.org to discuss the possibility. There will be lector ministry formation and orientation sessions held in mid- January.



GRAPHIC DESIGN HELP

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.



MINISTERIAL STAFF: Rich Andre, CSP
Ed Nowak, CSP
Patricia Simpson

Normand Gouin
Susan Rutkowski

PASTORAL COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS:
Adrienne Murphy and Yoojung Yang

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