



# 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.



FEBRUARY 4 - 5, 2023  
5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES		WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES
Saturday	Sunday	Monday – Friday
5pm	10am 6pm	12:05pm

## IN MEMORIAM: FR. CHARLIE MARTIN, CSP

**W**e are sad to announce that our friend, **Paulist Father Charlie Martin**, passed to eternal life Friday morning, January 27, after a brief illness.



Charlie was from the New England area and had ministerial stints as both Superior of the local house and on the staff of the Paulist Center before retiring here in 2011.

He was a regular member of our worshipping community, a daily Mass presider and a faithful participant in the local Paulist Associates' gatherings.

Charlie's Mass of Christian burial was at the Paulist Center on Saturday, February 4 at 11am.

The link to his obituary is here:

[paulist.org/who-we-are/bio/fr-charles-martin/](http://paulist.org/who-we-are/bio/fr-charles-martin/)

**Please remember Charlie, his Paulist brothers, and his extended family in your prayers.**

## FREP

**F**irst Communion Rite Of Enrollment will take place next Sunday, February 12 at the 10am Mass. Please join us in praying for and supporting the thirteen children who will celebrate their first holy communion this year on May 13.

**R**eligious Education Classes will observe **winter Rbreak on both Sunday, February 19 and Sunday, February 26.** There will be no classes either of those weekends.

## WE'RE HAVING AN AUCTION!!!! VOLUNTEER KICK-OFF MEETING AND SAVE THE DATE

**A**fter a three year pandemic halt, we are **VERY Excited** to announce our Auction will be returning on Saturday evening, April 29.

**Please mark your calendars and plan to volunteer or attend!**



**A kick-off meeting, for anyone interested in volunteering, will be held on Zoom on Thursday evening, February 16 at 7pm.**

Please email **Anna** at [anna@paulistcenter.org](mailto:anna@paulistcenter.org) if you would like to receive the link. **Those who attend the meeting will help choose our theme!**

**Thank you to Tara and Michael Rousseau for agreeing to co-chair, Dave Coughlin for agreeing to head up the meal, Ben Markham for returning as our auctioneer, and to the many others, past and new volunteers and attendees, who we hope will make this the fun and fund-raising community-building event it has always been!**

**Stay tuned for more information and plan on attending the kick-off meeting by requesting the link!**

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ...

**P**lease pray for community member **Mary Claire Ballou, her husband, Bill, and her family**, who are mourning Mary Claire's passing to eternal life this past Sunday.



**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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## LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

Sunday, February 5, 10am

[YouTube Link](#)

[Order of Worship Link](#)



Sunday, February 12, 10am

[YouTube Link](#)

[Order of Worship Link](#)

## COMMUNITY COFFEE - FEBRUARY 12

Our Community Coffee **next Sunday, February 12**, is sponsored by the **Creation Care ministry**. Come have a snack and socialize!

There will be information related to sustainable practices, advocacy opportunities, solar panels, and creation care in general for those who are interested.

There will be no formal presentation, just information available to browse and **Creation Care ministry volunteers** to speak with and answer questions.



## RACIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY GROUP



The next meeting of the **Paulist Center's Racial Justice Advocacy Group** will be held on **Tuesday, February 14 at 7pm via Zoom**.

Please email **Tom Sharkey** at [sharkey.te@verizon.net](mailto:sharkey.te@verizon.net) for meeting link and information.

## YOUNG ADULT MARDI GRAS DINNER

All those 21-39 years old are invited to the young adult community dinner following the 6pm mass on Sunday, February 19.

Join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor for fellowship and conversation.

We'll celebrate Mardi Gras with some games and prepare for Lent with reflection and prayer.

If you can, [please RSVP here](#). We look forward to seeing you and growing together in community! For more information, please contact **Anna Costello Duran**, our Young Adult Minister, at [anna@paulistcenter.org](mailto:anna@paulistcenter.org).



## SUPPER CLUB SEEKS GREETERS

The Wednesday Night Supper Club seeks Greeters for our guests. Greeters welcome guests at the front door.

It is a 1-hour shift every three weeks. Shift begins at 5:45pm.

If interested, please email [susan@paulistcenter.org](mailto:susan@paulistcenter.org).

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**  
**MALACHI 3:1-4, HEBREWS 2,14-18, LUKE 2:22-40**

**Fr. Ed Nowak, C.S.P.**  
*Associate Director*

On February 2<sup>nd</sup> each year, the church celebrates the ancient feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the temple. Luke records this event in his Gospel account to show that Jesus was very much a part of human history and religious traditions. Five times in the Gospel, Luke mentions that Jesus was raised according to the Law of the Lord. The offering made by Mary and Joseph of two young pigeons was known as the offering of the poor. If a family could afford to do so they were supposed to offer a lamb and a pigeon but since lambs were expensive, the poor could substitute another pigeon for the lamb. Luke's intent is for us to know that Jesus was born into a family where the budget was tight. Jesus grew up knowing how hard it was to make ends meet.

According to the author of the letter to the Hebrews, it is the very real and human experiences of Jesus that are important for our salvation. Jesus became fully human so that our humanity could be redeemed. We are told that since he himself was tested through what he suffered, he can help us who are tempted. Jesus knows firsthand of our very human struggles to be faithful in living the life of love that God calls us to. Jesus can offer us compassion since he himself knows how hard it is not to give in to our human weaknesses.

There is a *Dennis the Menace* cartoon that I believe captures the essence of what the author of the letter to the Hebrews is telling us. As Dennis is kneeling and saying his prayers before going to bed, one can imagine him recounting all the trouble that he got into that day. The cartoon shows him finishing his prayer by saying..."So I figure you'll understand having a boy of your own." That's just it; God does understand. And because God understands our difficulties even better than we do, God will give us exactly what we need to overcome our problems. God's solutions may not be exactly what we expect; but they will be exactly what we need.

Simeon was given what he needed to fulfill his life. God revealed to him His Son Jesus. On his part, Simeon was open to experiencing God's revelation even in the form of a helpless infant. Because of his life of prayer, Simeon was very much in tune with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. His prayerfulness enabled him to recognize the infant Jesus for who Jesus truly was. Simeon proclaims that Jesus will be a revealing light to the Gentiles. Because Jesus is our light, we traditionally celebrate this feast with the blessing of candles that will be used for prayer in the coming year. We bless and recall that it is Christ our Light who is the ultimate source of light to dispel all darkness.

On the Catholic Engaged Encounter weekend, there is a prayer service Saturday night that incorporates this image of light dispelling darkness. The reflection on how a candle spends itself to give light to a darkened room emphasizes how love must give of itself to bring Christ's light to the world. As our candles burn, they can remind us that Jesus himself gave his very life to be our light.

With our electric lights today it is easy to take for granted the power it takes to dispel the darkness. That is until the power fails. When we do not have electricity, it is then that we most realize how dependent we are to having electricity to light our way. Even when the power is out, I habitually walk into a dark room and flip the light switch before realizing what I am trying to do. We depend a lot on electric lights to dispel the physical darkness. God wants us to be just as dependent on Jesus to dispel our spiritual darkness. Unlike our reliance on electricity which can be interrupted, Jesus our spiritual light is always present and available to us in prayer and through the support of others.

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Each of us has the responsibility of being a child of Jesus our Light. In baptism we were given a candle and told to walk always as a child of the light. What does it mean to walk always as the child of the light?

Robert Fulghum tells of a time that he attended a seminar of Greek culture on the Island of Crete, led by the Greek philosopher, teacher and politician Alexander Papaderos. At the end of the two-week session, Papaderos himself closed the last meeting by asking the usual, "Are there any questions?" For a moment there was silence, then Fulghum asked, "Dr. Papaderos, what is the meaning of life?" Laughter filled the room and people stirred to go home. Papaderos raised his hand. There was silence. Looking intensely at Fulghum, he said, "I will answer your question." Taking his wallet out of his pocket he retrieved a mirror the size of a quarter. He told how, as a small boy, he found the small fragment of mirror on the road where a German army motorcycle had been wrecked. The mirror became a new toy. He was fascinated by the ability to reflect light into the darkest places. Papaderos then said, "As I grew older I learned that reflecting light is not just a child's game. It is a metaphor for what I might do with my life. I came to understand that I am not the light or the source of the light, but I can reflect the light. The light-truth, understanding, knowledge- is always there, but it will not shine into the darkest places unless I reflect it. I have come to understand this as the meaning of life." With that bold statement, Papaderos took his mirror and redirected the light of the sun onto the faces of the participants of the seminar.

We connect with the light of Christ through our daily prayer. Our daily prayer can guide us to where that transforming light best needs to be directed to the world around us. Each of us is called to combat the darkness of fear, hatred and violence by shining the light of Christ's peace, love and hope into all those dark places in the world. When we do this, the light of Christ will truly be a revealing light for all the world to see.

## 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 **February 4 and 5** we raise up **Bethany House Ministries**, an organization that provides support to prisoners, ex-prisoners, and their families.

### **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!*



**MINISTERIAL STAFF:** Rich Andre, CSP  
Normand Gouin  
Susan Rutkowski

Anna Costello Duran  
Ed Nowak, CSP  
Patricia Simpson

**PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR**  
Amy Logan

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