



# 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.



SEPTEMBER 9 - 10, 2023 ~ 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES

**Saturday** 5pm  
**Sunday** 10am  
6pm

### WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES

**Monday – Friday**  
12:05pm

### CONFESSIONS

**Monday and Friday**  
11:00-11:45am,  
and by appointment

## ISAAC HECKER AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

For almost 50 years this community has nominated and awarded a North American Catholic committed to peace and justice with this prestigious national award. Our first recipient was Dorothy Day! As we catch up from the delays of the pandemic, we are excited to announce the recipients and celebration dates for the following two months:

★ **October 21 @ 5pm Mass - Sr. Norma Pimentel**

Sr. Norma is the Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, and is a tireless advocate for her work with refugees and immigrants to the US. She gained international attention for her work, and for speaking out against the Trump administration, family separation policy. In 2020, she was included on *Time's* list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

★ **November 18 @ 5pm Mass - Cherylann and Len Gengel, The Be Like Brit Foundation**

This Foundation continues the compassion of Britney Gengel by serving the children of Haiti through sustaining a safe and nurturing home and to help raise the next generation of leaders. Brit's Home in Grand-Goâve, Haiti, was built to honor the memory of their daughter Britney who died tragically in the 2010 earthquake in Haiti along with 300,000 others.

## NCR JOURNALIST 9/13 ZOOM - POSTPONED

Please note: the Zoom session with National Catholic Reporter journalists **Stephanie Clary** and **Brian Roewe** on "How the US Church is handling the call of *Laudato Si'*" — originally scheduled for Wednesday, September 13 — **has been postponed.**

We apologize for the inconvenience



## "GREEN MASS" - SEPTEMBER 16, 2PM

The Paulist Center hosts the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "Green Mass" for the Boston Catholic Climate Movement. People from around the Boston Archdiocese will gather to celebrate God's creation with this special *Laudato Si'* Mass.

**Saturday, September 16, 2pm.** YouTube [link](#)  
Reception to follow. All are welcome!



## FAREWELL TO ANNA:

Our beloved **Anna Costello Duran** wraps her ministry with us at the 6pm Mass this weekend. Please join us as we send her off with a final blessing.

It's hard to believe Anna's only been on staff for 9 months, because she accomplished so much! (It must be that training she received from the Paulists when she was an undergraduate student leader at UC-Berkeley.) As our **Young Adult Minister**, she forged friendships with countless people, and helped many of them deepen their relationship with other members of the Paulist Center, with the Catholic Church, and with God. It also seemed as if every other ministry here benefitted from Anna's deep **faith**, great **enthusiasm**, and impressive **interpersonal skills**. Most notably, she and her husband **Kirk** assisted with several Marriage Preparation weekends, and she co-chaired "**Back In the Saddle**," the wildly successful Auction we had in April, with **Tara & Michael Rousseau**.

*We miss you already, Anna!  
You and Kirk head off to San Luis Obispo,  
CA with our prayers and our gratitude!  
Keep in touch!*



## FREP KICKS OFF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17!

The Paulist Center Family Religious Education Program (FREP) is a collection of programs, events, activities, and opportunities that support and encourage families as they live, pray, and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. To register your child(ren) for Grades 1-6, Jr. High, Sr. High, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion, and 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation, please use [this form](#). The fee can be paid online at [www.paulistcenter.org/Giving/Donate](http://www.paulistcenter.org/Giving/Donate). Details can be found on our [website](#).

Our kickoff for the season is on **September 17 at our 10am Mass.**

Parent/Teacher Orientation and Community Coffee to follow. Please join us!



**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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## LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

**Sunday, September 10, 10am**

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)



**Saturday, September 16, 2pm - Green Mass**

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)



**Sunday, September 17, 10am**

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)

## ADVENT - CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2023



Join our Paulist Center Music Ministry for the annual **Advent-Christmas Concert**.

Rehearsals will take place on **Thursday evenings from 7 - 9pm** this Fall beginning on **September 28**.

Those interested in singing or playing an instrument should contact **Norm Gouin** at [norm@paulistcenter.org](mailto:norm@paulistcenter.org) for more information.



## RJAG - SEPTEMBER 12

Please join us! The Paulist Center's **Racial Justice Advocacy Group (RJAG)** is always looking for new team members!

The next meeting is **Tuesday, September 12 at 7pm on Zoom**.

For the Zoom Link and information, please email **Tom Sharkey** at [sharkey.te@verizon.net](mailto:sharkey.te@verizon.net).

Hope to see you there!



## RCIA STARTING SEPTEMBER 19

Do you know someone over 18 who's considering becoming Catholic? Encourage them to reach out ASAP to **Chuck Ferrara** at [cjfbos@gmail.com](mailto:cjfbos@gmail.com), or **Fr. Rich Andre**. RCIA will be held at the Paulist Center **Tuesday evenings at 7pm, starting September 19** and continuing into May 2024. (Previously scheduled to begin on September 5). You don't have to commit to becoming Catholic — or going through the entire process — if you reach out!



## OUR DANCE MINISTRY WELCOMES ANY AND ALL!

Dance is a liturgical art that enhances our most sacred celebrations throughout the year.



If you or your child would like to take part in this vibrant ministry, please contact **Christine Tardiff** at [cetardiff@gmail.com](mailto:cetardiff@gmail.com) or see her after 10am Mass.

## ROSH HASHANAH

We pray for our Jewish neighbors celebrating **Rosh Hashanah September 15 - 17**.



May they be inscribed for a good year!

## IMMIGRANT ADVOCACY GROUP



Our Immigrant Advocacy Group (IAG) is gearing up for the fall, focusing on the **Gospel imperative of hospitality** by increasing awareness, providing direct assistance, and advocating for just and compassionate public policy. To learn more about their recent accomplishments in both direct assistance and policy, as well as an update on their current needs and upcoming plans, please check out **IAG's Summer Update**. There's a lot going on!

## ANNUAL FAMILY RETREAT CANCELLED FOR 2023

We are sorry to announce that the **annual Family Retreat, scheduled for October 7-9, has been cancelled**.

We have tentatively scheduled next year's retreat for October 12 - 14, 2024 at the Craigville Retreat Center, with the hope that some other families will be willing to step forward to help with the planning and organizing.

## CREATING A FAITH THAT HAPPENS IN US, NOT JUST AROUND US

Susan Rutkowski

*Pastoral Minister of Family Religious Education and Social Justice*

Where is the best place to get an ice cream cone? Sunday school! Next Sunday is Family Religious Education Kick-off! As the Pastoral Minister of Family Religious Education, parents ask me if they should make their children participate in religious education (even if the children are feeling a bit reluctant). While I always take a particular family's situation/needs into consideration, I virtually always advise them to participate. Why? Here are my top three reasons!

Reason #1: If you want to raise your child Catholic, it is critical for them to learn basic Catholic Doctrine, Sacred Scripture, and prayer. It's also important to assist children in creating community by bonding with other children and staying connected to people they know and care about. Religious education is a good way to practice "bringing their lives to their faith and their faith to their lives, as students strive to realize the value of God's reign in the ordinary and everyday" (Groome). If we want to be responsible, fully-formed Catholics, we have to practice!

Reason #2: As we grow, we need forums in which to grapple with our faith. The classroom is a place to bring critical thinking and reflection to our experience of God. We learn, practice what we learn, reflect back upon it, and repeat the process again and again. We create a faith that happens *in* us, not just *around* us. We want our children to develop the ability to describe and defend who they are as Catholic Christians. This takes self trust and confidence in their own experience of God.

Confidence is not just feeling good. Confidence is feeling certain about the truth of our internal lives. When we feel certain knowing what's happening inside us and can locate what we are thinking, feeling, or worrying about, we're confident. Therefore, sometimes confidence can include feeling insecure or scared. Sometimes it can involve a lack of conviction. Doubt has gotten a bad rap when it comes to theology. But doubt can be viewed "as the mother of conviction. Once we have pursued our doubts to the dust, we forge a stronger, not a weaker, belief system. These truths are true, we know, because they are now true for us rather than simply for someone else" (Chittister). This is the process of an authentic faith.

Even though women like the Marys and Martha were a core part of Jesus' original community, it took women nearly 2,000 years to express their authentic experience of God in the form of feminist theology. Its origins can be traced to a 1960s article by Valerie Saiving, "The Human Situation: A Feminine View." Saiving challenged theologies written by men for men to dismantle the patriarchal systems they created. Saiving had a self-confident moment that validated the experience of many other women and, subsequently, other minority groups in our Church. How much breadth, depth, and richness have feminist, liberation, queer, and black theologies added to our religious tradition?

A 3rd reason, particular to the Paulist Center: We have incredible teachers! Our volunteer teachers are the same people who make this community the extraordinary place it is. They are professional educators, immigration lawyers, assistant district attorneys, former religious, medical professionals, PhDs, etc. Their lived faith and ministry educates children in discipleship, in apprenticeship to Jesus. They're great at forming disciples!

Our "intentional community" moniker comes from not being a geographical parish. It takes time and energy to be here - driving, parking, public transit, etc. We invest here because we feel an affinity with a community that strives to be fully formed Catholics together. Part of that is offering safe and creative space for our children to learn the extraordinary richness of our Catholic faith to make it their own as they grow for a lifetime of connection, meaning, and purpose. If you or your children want to be a part of this, I'd love to hear from you! ([susan@paulistcenter.org](mailto:susan@paulistcenter.org)) And all community members are invited to attend our intergenerational FREP events to be teachers and leaders and share your spiritual and lived experience with our children. Here's to a mind and heart-expanding and enhancing year of religious education for our whole community!

### FEEDBACK FROM OUR LISTENING SESSION

*"I will be honest — until I was there, I didn't appreciate both the range of emotions & the profound personal impact Frank's situation has on so many people in our community.... I felt honored to be present in a space where people felt comfortable sharing opposing views with kindness."*

This is an example of the feedback we received after our listening session on August 27. At that time, members of our community gathered as the Body of the Crucified Christ to process the news that a former Director of the Paulist Center, Fr. Frank Desiderio, recently committed an act of sexual misconduct in another part of the country. If you haven't read the letter from Paulist leadership yet, you can access it at <https://tinyurl.com/4277u22s>. Heart-felt thanks to retired judge **Bonnie MacLeod** for skillfully facilitating the listening session!

We realize that some of our members will go through many stages in processing such emotionally complicated news. Please do not hesitate to reach out to a member of our pastoral staff at any time. We will be working with the Pastoral Council to determine what next steps, if any, could help our community move forward.



## SEASON OF CREATION (SOC)- SEPTEMBER 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 4

The Season of Creation is a global ecumenical celebration of God's creation. Christians around the world celebrate God's creation and work toward ecological sustainability and environmental justice, embracing Pope Francis' 2015 Encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. The Creation Care Ministry encourages you to pray and take advantage of these opportunities:

- **Wednesday, October 4, 6pm: Blessing of the Animals** (weather permitting) on Boston Common just on the other side of the fence from 5 Park Street
- **Through October 4:** a daily 90-second reflection on **God's creation and Care for our Common Home**, is available by emailing [seasonofcreationdaily@gmail.com](mailto:seasonofcreationdaily@gmail.com). Edited by our own **Peter McLoughlin**.

## STEWARDSHIP

The Paulist Center receives no funding from outside sources. All costs to operate our ministries for both members and the wider Boston community, maintain the building, and pay our staff are supported solely by your financial donations. *We are so grateful for your financial support!* **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>, or scan the QR code.
2. Text a whole dollar donation to **844-899-7511**; this will be designated as your "Weekend Offering."



## COMMUNITY GIFT

The Paulist Center gives 5% of our annual offertory to 52 other charitable organizations with missions consonant with our own. The weekend of **September 9 and 10** we raise up **Voices Center for Resilience** (formerly known as *VOICES of September 11<sup>th</sup>*) in their mission to provide resources and mental health care to the 9/11 community, as well as those impacted by subsequent tragedies in the U.S. and abroad.



## LGBTQIA COLLECTIVE



The Paulist Center is a member of the **Greater Boston Catholic LGBTQIA Collective**, which hosts a monthly online discussion for family and friends of people identifying as LGBTQIA. Topic for the Family and Friends meeting on **Sunday, September 17, 2pm**, will be "The Spiritual Practice of St Clare of Assisi: Gaze, Consider, Contemplate, Imitate". Email **Jay** at [lgbtqministry@stanthonyshrine.org](mailto:lgbtqministry@stanthonyshrine.org) for the **Zoom** link.

## WHEN PLANNING AN EVENT ...



Don't forget to please email your staff liaison to make a room reservation and copy Dorothy at [info@paulistcenter.org](mailto:info@paulistcenter.org).

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ...

Please pray for longtime member **Patricia Cross**, mother of **Caitlin Ram**.

Pat has been sick in the hospital for 3 weeks.



## Around the Community

### NEW PAULIST DEACONS

Congratulations to new Paulist deacons **Chris Lawton** and **Dan Macalinao**. They made their final promise (for life) to the Paulist Fathers on Friday afternoon, Sept 8, and were ordained Saturday morning, Sept 9 in Washington, DC. God willing, they will be ordained priests in New York City on Saturday morning, May 18, 2024!

### PROJECT RACHEL RETREAT

**A Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing**, sponsored by the Project Rachel Ministry - Archdiocese of Boston. **Saturday, September 23, 9am - 5pm; Saturday, November 11, 9am - 5pm**. Location is confidential and pre-registration is required. For more information: Project Rachel at (508) 651-3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).

**Pastoral Staff:** Rich Andre, CSP; Anna Costello Duran; Normand Gouin; Susan Rutkowski; Patricia Simpson; Rick Walsh, CSP

**Administrative Staff:** Barbara Dunay; Dorothy Messenger; Rob Smyser; Sal Whooley

**Custodial Staff:** Alvaro Enamorado; Timmy Valle

**Pastoral Council Chair:** Deb Heibel (*acting*)  
[pccouncil@paulistcenter.org](mailto:pccouncil@paulistcenter.org)

**Finance Committee Chair:** Mary Lesko

**Worship Committee Chair:** Claire Byrne  
[worship@paulistcenter.org](mailto:worship@paulistcenter.org)

(See our [website](#) for staff contact information.)