



# 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.



OCTOBER 7 - 8, 2023

27<sup>TH</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

## INTERGENERATIONAL FREP EVENT - NEXT SUNDAY

All are welcome to join us in the auditorium **next Sunday, October 15 at 11:15am** for our first **intergenerational event** of the year!

Our intergenerational events are a **collaboration** of our **Family Religious Education Program (FREP)** and our **social justice ministries** at the Paulist Center. Four times a year, one of our justice ministries hosts an event to bring together the wisdom of our FREP children and the adults of our community.

Please join us to learn about, and share ideas about, the challenges and responsibilities the issue of immigration presents as our **Immigration Advocacy Group (IAG)** hosts the first session on October 15.

**Community Coffee** will kick off the event!



## ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Do you know a Catholic over 18 who made their first communion, but was never confirmed? Encourage them to reach out to **Fr. Rick Walsh** at [rick@paulistcenter.org](mailto:rick@paulistcenter.org).

Classes will take place on 5 Thursdays, starting **October 19 through November 16, 7 - 9pm**. Classes will be held at the **Paulist Center, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Room 22**.



We'll celebrate **Adult Confirmation** later this fall.

**NO FREP CLASSES THIS SUNDAY DUE TO THE HOLIDAY. CLASSES RESUME OCTOBER 15.**

**THE PAULIST CENTER WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, IN OBSERVANCE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY. WE WILL NOT HAVE MASS OR CONFESSIONS THAT DAY.**

## WELCOME ABOARD, GUS!

We've hired **Augustus "Gus" Kellerman** as our new **part-time Young Adult Minister!**

Originally from Batesville, Indiana and coming to us with a Bachelor of Arts in Religious & Medieval Studies from Fordham University, Gus has just begun his Master of Divinity studies at Harvard.

All young adults over age 18 (including those who have "aged out" of the group in recent years) are welcome to come meet Gus at our monthly young adult dinner on **Sunday, October 29 after the 6pm Mass**. Also, he'll be joining other young adults in volunteering at the **Supper Club from 4pm onwards on Wednesday, October 18**. Welcome aboard, Gus!



## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY EVENTS

### Wednesday, October 18: Supper Club!

Every Wednesday night since 1969, the Paulist Center has fed our hungry sisters and brothers a sit-down meal with dignity. Volunteers are always welcome, but our young adults try to help especially on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

**Come at 4 pm to help set up, at 5:30 to help serve the meal, or at 7 pm to clean up.** Who knows? Maybe Gus will be available to go out to dinner with you afterwards!

### Sunday, October 29: Dinner & Discussion

We'll have our next Young Adult monthly dinner **after the 6pm Mass on Sunday, October 29**.

This is a chance to meet Gus and tell him about your hopes and dreams.

While our group has been limited to people ages 21-39 in recent years, we'll be exploring the possibility of providing opportunities over a larger age range. Anyone over 18 is welcome to come to this dinner, including those who "aged out" of the group during the pandemic.

**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.

PAULIST CENTER BOSTON  
5 PARK STREET  
BOSTON MA 02108

PHONE 617-742-4460  
FAX 617-720-5756  
EMAIL [INFO@PAULISTCENTER.ORG](mailto:INFO@PAULISTCENTER.ORG)

[WWW.PAULISTCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.PAULISTCENTER.ORG)  
[FACEBOOK.COM/PAULISTCENTER](https://FACEBOOK.COM/PAULISTCENTER)  
[TWITTER.COM/PAULISTBOSTON](https://TWITTER.COM/PAULISTBOSTON)  
[INSTAGRAM.COM/PAULISTCENTER](https://INSTAGRAM.COM/PAULISTCENTER)

## LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

**Sunday, October 8, 10am**

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)



**Sunday, October 15, 10am**

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)

### RJAG - OCTOBER 10

The next **Racial Justice Advocacy Group (RJAG) meeting** will take place **via zoom** on **Tuesday, October 10 at 7 pm**. Please join us as we are always looking for new team members! Please email **Tom Sharkey** at [sharkey.te@verizon.net](mailto:sharkey.te@verizon.net) for the zoom link information.



### NEXT VIRTUS TRAINING AT THE PAULIST CENTER - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

**D**ue to new regulations issued by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, we need **every** volunteer — including money counters and members of social justice advocacy groups — to go through **VIRTUS training**, fill out a Massachusetts Criminal Offender Record Information (**CORI**) form, plus fill out/acknowledge receiving a few other items that we will email about after the October VIRTUS session.

**VIRTUS** is a national program to educate people on how to protect children and vulnerable adults from those people who might wish them harm. We would like everyone over age 18 in the Paulist Center Community to complete VIRTUS training at some point, whether or not they volunteer with a ministry. Everyone who is a volunteer must complete the VIRTUS training at least once in their lifetime **before the end of November**, or we cannot allow you to volunteer anymore.

The Paulist Center is hosting a training session **12 - 3pm, Sunday, October 29**, facilitated by our own **Rachel Rumely** and **Lucia Papile**. **Pre-registration is needed and spots are limited**. We ask you to pre-register as soon as possible to be sure all of our members who wish to attend this session will have a slot. Pre-register [here](#).

- On the left side of the page, click on “First-Time Registrant”
- Then “Begin the registration process”
- From the pull-down menu, choose “Boston, MA (Archdiocese)” only
- Follow the rest of the prompts
- Choose October 29, 2023, 12 pm at the Paulist Center when asked which workshop you want to attend

If you can't make it on October 29, to find other locations:

- Click on this link: [other training dates/locations in the Archdiocese](#)
- On the left side of the page click on “First Time Registrant”
- Select “View list of sessions”
- Select “Boston (Archdiocese)”

Those already VIRTUS trained other than at our session this past June (we have what we need if you attended here in June) will need to **provide us with a copy of your completion certificate before the end of November**. Please send a copy of your completion certificate to **Patty** as soon as possible. To get a copy of your certificate, go to [www.virtusonline.org/virtus/virtus\\_help\\_faq.cfm](http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/virtus_help_faq.cfm) and look for "Printing Certificates/Attendance Credit" under the **Frequently Asked Questions**.

Each volunteer must fill out a **CORI** before being allowed to volunteer and annually thereafter. It's a form that gives the Archdiocese of Boston permission to request a name-based criminal background check from the state of Massachusetts. Fill the CORI out in the sacristy before or after Sunday Mass or in the receptionist's office during the week. You will need to show a state-approved ID (such a valid driver's license or passport) to a staff member as part of filling out the form.



Thanks for your understanding with this additional paperwork, as we try to make our Church and our world as safe as possible. If you have questions or concerns, please contact **Patty**.

## A FAVORITE SAINT

Fr. Rick Walsh, CSP

*Associate Director*

Note: The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birth of St. Thérèse was celebrated on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

I want to share with you a true story of a most remarkable communication I had in my prayer to St. Thérèse of Lisieux, known as the Little Flower.

When I first answered “the call”, I didn’t think too much about what kind of priest I might want to be as I grew up apart from Catholic schooling and I only knew the diocesan priests at my local parish - St. Albert the Great in East Weymouth.

So, upon entering the St. John’s Seminary College in Brighton in my junior year, I was fairly ignorant about many ecclesial notions and vocabulary. I made friends with one of the men who had some things in common with me, including having an older brother die prematurely. My brother was killed in 1980 in a car accident and my friend’s brother was killed in the midst of a drug deal gone bad.

Early on, some of the more pious students introduced a prayer card with an image of a nun on it who was holding a bouquet of roses. They talked excitedly about a certain novena that could be prayed to this saint who had the habit (pun intended) of answering prayer requests that were brought to her. The way a person knew that she heard their prayer and promised to assist was that the petitioner would receive a sign of a rose or roses. We were told it would be something unusual about the way the rose would appear.

This tradition goes back to when the 24 year old saint was on her deathbed, (her suffering from TB lasted for more than a year!) when she told the sisters gathered around her that she would spend her time in heaven “showering the earth with roses”. Apparently, after Thérèse passed away, some of the sisters must have tested her with prayer requests and sure enough, each received a rose in some fashion.

The other reason for her popularity in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was that she was the first declared saint that we had a photograph of!

After being given the prayer card, the first thing I thought to myself was, “What’s a novena?” After learning the instructions were given on the back of the prayer card, I read them. The petitioner was to pray for nine consecutive days (hence the word novena) 5 Our Father’s, 5 Hail Mary’s, 5 Glory Be’s along with a lovely little rhyming prayer asking:

“Dear St. Thérèse please pick me a rose from your heavenly garden above  
and send it to me with a message of love.  
Tell God to grant me the favor I thee implore  
and tell Him each day I will love Him more and more.”

But there was a catch in the instructions, which I thought to be a bit absurd. The prayers were to be said before 11am each day! I remember boldly thinking to myself, “Well what happens after 11am? Is this her coffee break and she just can’t listen to any more prayers?”

But I decided to pray for my friend’s brother whose death was not what one would call a moment of grace – seeking to sell or buy drugs.

So I began to dutifully pray the novena. However, on day four and then again on the sixth day, I almost forgot to say the prayers before 11am! I quickly said them under my breath in the middle of classes on ecclesiology and New Testament studies. I didn’t very much relish the thought of having to start all over again if I missed a day of prayer, so I struck a bargain with this young saint. (Admittedly, it was a one-sided deal.) I told her that I would stop praying this novena on the 7<sup>th</sup> day. One week would have to suffice for her to pluck a rose and send it to me. I called this shortened novena a “Septima”.

But I had another concern. “When am I going to receive this heaven-sent rose? Will I get it within a month, a year, or will I be 88 years old when my rose arrives?”

I told St. Thérèse I would give her one week from the 7<sup>th</sup> day of prayer. As the days went by, my curiosity grew as to whether I would get a rose. ...

***[I just reached my essay limit of 500 words at the start of this sentence, so if you are reading this on a hard copy, you will need to go to our website to see what followed. Here is the link: [paulistcenter.org/category/pastoral-reflections/](http://paulistcenter.org/category/pastoral-reflections/)]***

## 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. These organizations receive an equal amount from our annual offertory.



The weekend of **October 7 and 8** we raise up **Voice of the Faithful (VOTF)**, a lay organization that works to provide a prayerful voice, attentive to the Spirit, through which the Faithful can actively participate in the governance and guidance of the Catholic Church.

## \* PRESENTATIONS OF THE ISAAC HECKER AWARD \*

**Saturday, October 21 at the 5 pm Mass**

**Presentation of the Isaac Hecker Award to Sr. Norma Pimentel, MJ:**

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's family separation policy. In 2020, she was included on Time's list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

**Saturday, November 18 at the 5 pm Mass**

**Presentation of the Isaac Hecker Award to Cherylann & Len Gengel,  
The Be Like Brit Foundation**

The Be Like Brit 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.

## 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. The next meeting is on **Sunday, October 15 at 2pm**. Email Jay at [lgbtqministry@stanthonyshrine.org](mailto:lgbtqministry@stanthonyshrine.org) for the Zoom link.



## Around the Community

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Cardinal Seán O'Malley invites all couples celebrating their **10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries** to join him for **Mass at 3pm on Sunday, October 29 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston.**

During the Mass, couples will renew their vows and receive a special blessing.

Family & friends are invited, too. Registration & more info: [bit.ly/WeddingAnnivMass](https://bit.ly/WeddingAnnivMass).

**Pastoral Staff:** Rich Andre, CSP; Normand Gouin; Gus Kellerman;  
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 Heimel  
[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.)