



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.



JANUARY 20-21, 2024 - 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES

Saturday 5pm
Sunday 10am
6pm

WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES

Monday – Friday
12:05pm

CONFESSIONS

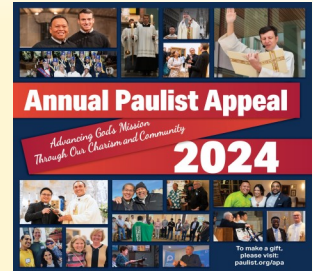
Monday and Friday, 11:00-11:45am, and by appointment

THIS WEEKEND: THE ANNUAL PAULIST APPEAL

This weekend, we welcome back **Fr. Ed Nowak** to preach the Annual Paulist Appeal! Ed served on the Paulist Center staff 2022-2023. The appeal is the Paulist Fathers' main fundraiser of the year.

Funds raised are used to advance the Paulist mission priorities, including:

- providing tools for healing broken relationships and having hard conversations
- going beyond the church walls
- inviting more women into leadership and ministry
- appreciating and using the gifts of people of color in the Church
- caring for senior Paulist Fathers
- recruiting the next generation of Paulists



To learn more about the mission priorities, or to make your financial gift, please see the Annual Paulist Appeal brochure or visit paulist.org/apa. Regardless of your ability to give, please pray for the success of the appeal. Thank you for your consideration and support of the Paulist Fathers! We are so grateful for your involvement!



INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAM ON RACIAL JUSTICE

This Sunday, **January 21**, is our **3rd Intergenerational Event** hosted by our **Racial Justice Advocacy Group (RJAG)** so all FREP classes will meet in the auditorium after 10am Mass. **RJAG** will lead a conversation anchored in the book: *Love Will See Us Through*, written by MLK, Jr.'s niece,

Angela Watkins. Here's the link: <https://www.amazon.com/Love-Will-See-You-Through/dp/1416986936>

The format will follow other intergenerational events in that a facilitator will read the book and lead a table discussion on two follow-up questions creating an artifact to share with the overall group at the end. **Special Highlight: a brief presentation from freedom rider and RJAG member, Mary Skinner, who was at the "I Have a Dream Speech" in Washington DC in August 1963!** Our intergenerational events are part of our FREP curriculum for grades K-6 and Jr. High. Our Sr. High teens are always encouraged to join!

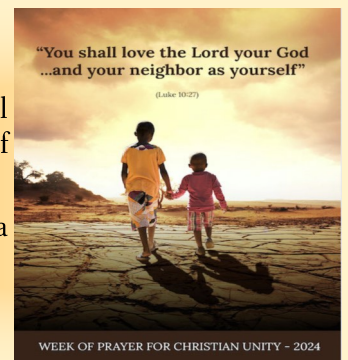
PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY - THURSDAY AT 7 PM

We're hosting a prayer service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at 7pm this Thursday, **January 25**. We're jointly planning it with the **Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. Paul**, and we hope to be joined by people from a variety of Christian denominations.

This year's theme, based on Luke 10:27, was chosen by ecumenical leaders in Burkina Faso, West Africa.

Please join us and invite your friends!

There will be a light reception afterwards, sponsored by **Unite Boston**.



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY HOSTS POTLUCK - SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Next Sunday, the Young Adult Ministry will be hosting our monthly potluck in the auditorium after the 6pm Mass, open to all who bring a dish (**not just young adults**). Please RSVP by January 26 at <http://tinyurl.com/y3d2mndm>. If you forget to RSVP bring a dish or stay after to clean up!

Welcome! If you are considering becoming a member, please fill out a membership inquiry form that can be found on our [website](http://paulist.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, January 21, 10am
Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

YouTube [Link](#)
Order of Worship [Link](#)



Saturday, January 27, 5pm
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YouTube [Link](#)
Order of Worship [Link](#)

LAST CALL FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION



This is a reminder to **register** your child for our first holy communion preparation program that begins next **Sunday, January 28 from 11:15am to 12:30pm.**

This is a meeting for both parents and children looking to celebrate their first holy communion on Sunday, April 7 at the Paulist Center.

For questions, please contact **Susan Rutkowski** at susan@paulistcenter.org.

1st Communion Important Dates

1/28 @ 11:15am – 12:30pm	1 st Gathering	3/24 @ 11:15am	Seder Potluck (*Tentative)
2/4 @ 10am Mass	Mass Rite of Enrollment	4/6 @ 10am – 12pm	Rehearsal
3/10 @ 11:15am – 12:30pm	2 nd Gathering	4/7 @ 10am Mass	Celebration of Sacrament

SIGN UP FOR LENTEN SMALL GROUPS LAST CALL - BY THIS SUNDAY NIGHT, JANUARY 21!

We are excited to convene Lenten small groups for 5 sessions between Ash Wednesday (February 14) and Palm Sunday (March 24) if we can make the logistics work! We hope most of these will be in-person meetings in people's houses, or possibly online if people can offer their Zoom accounts, and possibly a few groups meeting at the Center dependent upon space availability.

Fill out the form at tinyurl.com/PCCLentenGroups2024 by **THIS Sunday night, January 21** and we will endeavor to create groups and inform everyone of the plans by January 31.

No groups will be offered on Wednesday evenings because there will be Zoom prayer services offered by our LGBTQIA group for the entire community; or on Sundays immediately following the 10am Mass because there are not spaces available during religious education classes.

We will be using the book ***Mercy, Not Sacrifice* by Paulist Mark-David Janus**. The Paulist Press link for hard-copy and e-book is available [here](#). Order to receive in time for Ash Wednesday, February 14. (Used copies may also be found online.)

We look forward to many folks participating in this prayerful, community-building Lenten opportunity.

Any questions, please reach out to **Amy Logan** at alogan940@gmail.com.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ...



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Eileen Kneeland**, sister of community member Maria Cataldo-Cunniff, who passed away after a long illness.

Maria and her family appreciate your prayers.

"A SAINT FOR OUR TIMES"

Over the past 15 years, the Paulists and their collaborators have collected and digitized the writings of Isaac Thomas Hecker, the founder of the Paulists. This was done as part of the Archdiocese of New York's cause for Hecker's canonization. The following is the speech that Cardinal Timothy Dolan gave to the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops on November 13, 2023, formally asking them to forward the work of the cause to the Vatican. Immediately after the speech, the bishops approved the motion.

My brother bishops, it is my honor to propose for your endorsement the canonization cause of the Servant of God, Father Isaac Thomas Hecker. As many of you know, his life is a classic American story: the son of immigrants, raised by a single mother, Isaac Hecker didn't have it easy. After surviving smallpox as a child, he worked his way through school and helped provide for his family. Seeing the plight of his fellow New Yorkers, he became politically active, striving to eliminate poverty and injustice. He quickly became disillusioned with politics, though, and began asking the bigger questions: Who is God? What is truth? Why are we here? Like a modern-day Augustine, his restless heart was searching. He studied and visited various movements, and would have recognized himself in the many young people today who claim to be spiritual but not religious. His openness to the truth soon brought him to reckon with the claims of Catholicism. Here, the yearning of his heart met the rigor of his mind, and he found himself home.

He could not keep the joy of his conversion to himself, however. Like those apostles on Pentecost, he was on fire to share this good news with everyone. For the rest of his life, Isaac Hecker maintained a deep devotion to the Holy Spirit, whom he trusted to guide his ministry. His zeal led him firstly to the Redemptorists, and later to found the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle. His patron was well-chosen, as Fr. Hecker set out like St. Paul to win the world for Christ. He was a multi-media missionary: in the parish missions he preached, the lectures he delivered, the books he published, the periodicals he founded, the countless columns he penned, Fr. Hecker worked tirelessly to proclaim the Word of God. His purpose was twofold: to make the Catholic faith appealing and accessible to a skeptical and at times hostile population, and to educate and encourage Catholics in their own faith, enabling them to become ambassadors for Christ. In all of this, Fr. Hecker resisted the polemical and controversial tone of some of his fellow apologists. Rather, he sought an apostolate of attraction, to propose the faith with clarity and charity, always assuming the goodwill of those whom he addressed.

Fr. Hecker's efforts were animated by a deep sense of hope in the future of America: despite the divisions that even then were tearing the country apart, Fr. Hecker believed that the Catholic Church was uniquely positioned to heal and unite the American people, reminding us all of our universal sonship in Christ. In the face of a skeptical Old World, Fr. Hecker believed that America's founding principles formed a fertile field for the faith. With the Church unfettered to propose her beliefs in the marketplace of ideas, he had every confidence that the truth would prevail. His confidence and trust in the Holy Spirit cast out all fear. This was not the false optimism of rose-colored glasses, but the conviction of faith seen through the bright light of truth, and the fire of love. Fr. Hecker was convinced that when the Holy Spirit renews the individual soul, that soul would help build up the Church, and the Church would then sanctify the world. His faith ought to inspire us as we call upon that same Spirit to fill our hearts, and to renew the face of the earth. I ask the prayers of this Servant of God as we strive to continue his own missionary work in this vineyard of America, sharing his joy and his steadfast loyalty to the Church that he called home, and I ask for your endorsement, brother bishops, that the Church may soon raise to the altars this Servant of God, a son of our shores, and a saint for our times.

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 **January 20 and 21** we raise up the **Paulist Fathers** in their **Annual Paulist Appeal** - to support vocations outreach, seminarian preparation, care for senior Paulists, and missions. If you wish to make an additional donation, brochures/envelopes will be in the pews. **Please make checks payable to the "Paulist Fathers".**

Everyone is encouraged to go to paulist.org/apa to submit a prayer request to the Paulists, whether or not they are able to make a financial donation.

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF LGBTQIA PERSONS - MONTHLY MEETING

A consortium of seven Boston Catholic communities (including the Paulist Center) hosts a support group for family and friends of LGBTQIA persons at **2pm** on the **3rd Sunday of every month**.

The topic for the 2pm meeting on **January 21**:

Visio Divina, "sacred seeing", is an ancient form of Christian prayer in which we allow our hearts and imagination to enter into a sacred image, in silence, to see and listen to what God is saying to us.

Please email lgbtqministry@stanthonyshrine.org for the Zoom link.



Around the Community

"BUILDING A WORLD WITHOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS: AN URGENT IMPERATIVE."

At 2-4 pm on **Saturday, January 27**, Pax Christi USA hosts a free online discussion with Archbishop John C. Wester, author of a groundbreaking pastoral letter on nuclear disarmament; Dr. Ira Helfand, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War/Back from the Brink; and Marie Dennis, Catholic Nonviolence Initiative/Pax Christi International. More information (including registration) at <https://paxchristiusa.org>.

BOSTON CATHOLIC YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT

At 9:30 am - 4 pm on **Sunday, January 28**, Catholic high school students from around the metropolitan area will gather at BC High School (150 Morrissey Blvd) to gain leadership skills in becoming more effective environmental stewards, leaders, and advocates.

The day starts with Mass, includes lunch, and there is no cost.

To access the registration form, click [here](#) or find the link in the January 19 & 26 editions of the Missive at paulistcenter.org.

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

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