



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.



APRIL 6 - 7, 2024 - 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEOPHYTE AND NEWLY CONFIRMED!

We congratulate our neophyte and newly confirmed at the Easter Vigil:
Art Lajara-Diaz and Gracy Terry.

They each received their First Holy Communion as well. **Congratulations!**

Everyone involved in the OCIA process looks forward to continuing the journey of faith with you!



OLYMPICS IN PARIS, AN EVENING SOIREE



PAULIST CENTER AUCTION UPDATES: JOIN US AT THE AUCTION!



We hope you will **join us on Saturday, April 27** for an evening of fun and community building. Come celebrate the Paulist Center!

Now's the time to get your tickets. Purchase tickets online at paulistcenter.org/auction2024 or in the **elevator lobby after all Masses.**

If you are interested in sponsoring the Auction, please go online or email us. Earn an Olympic medal by being a sponsor! Sponsors will be recognized in the program as follows:



Bronze Medal \$100-\$199



Silver Medal \$200- \$299



Gold Medal \$300 and above

The deadline for **sponsorships is Monday, April 15.**

Last but not least, you can support the Auction by buying raffle tickets for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. (The grand prize is a \$1,000 AMEX gift card.) We appreciate all your support! ***Merci beaucoup!***

Contact Auction Co-charis **Maggie Keefe** and **Mairead Nolan** at Auction@PaulistCenter.org with questions!

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (FREP) - THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Sacrament of First Holy Communion: 10am Mass
& Reception to follow in auditorium.

Grades K - 1: 6th Fl, Rm 16.

Grade 3: 2nd Fl, Seminar Rm.

Grades 4-6: 6th Fl, Rm 22.

NOTE: In observance of Patriot's Day, there is no Family Religious Education next Sunday, April 14.



The office is closed for Patriots' Day, April 15.

There will be no 11:00-11:45 am confessions or 12:05 pm Mass.

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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www.paulistcenter.org
www.facebook.com/PaulistCenter
www.youtube.com/ThePaulistCenter

LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

Sunday, April 7, 10am
2nd Sunday of Easter
(Children's First Communion)
YouTube [Link](#)
Order of Worship [Link](#)



Sunday, April 14, 10am
3rd Sunday of Easter
YouTube [Link](#)
Order of Worship [Link](#)

EASTER SEASON FLOWER DECORATING CONTINUES!

Help us continue to decorate with flowers for the Easter season in honor of a family member or friend, living or deceased. Envelopes are in the racks in the chapel and reception area vestibules.

You may also donate at the front desk during regular office hours or [online at our website](#), using the flower donation line and noting who they are in memory of and who they are from in the comment section (*please remember to do this!*).

See the [insert](#), which lists the donations we have already received. Any additional donations will be published in our Pentecost bulletin. **Thank you for helping to beautify our chapel this Easter season!**



RACIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY GROUP (RJAG)



The next RJAG meeting is **Tuesday, April 9** at 7pm via **Zoom**. For the Zoom link and/or questions, email **Tom Sharkey** at sharkey.te@verizon.net.

WE PRAY FOR OUR MUSLIM NEIGHBORS

CELEBRATING EID-AL-FITR, APRIL 9 - 10.



MAY THEY HAVE A BLESSED FEAST!

BLESSING FOR MARATHON RUNNERS



At each Mass the weekend of April 14-15, we will offer a blessing for anyone running in the Boston Marathon.

Good luck and safe health, marathoners!

IF YOU'RE A YOUNG ADULT (18-39), SCHEDULE A 1 ON 1!

Happy Easter! Whether you're a returning member, or someone new, we're so excited to have you be a part of Young Adult Ministry. If you're looking to build community, or would love to stop by and chat, please reach out to our **Young Adult Minister, Gus Kellerman**, by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/PCI-on-1>.



Wednesday Night Supper Club: We'd love for you to join us in giving back to our community at Wednesday Night Supper Club by providing meals for those who are hungry. Stop by on **Wednesday, April 17** at **5:30pm** to serve, and **7:00pm** for clean-up.

Monthly Bible Study: On **Thursday, April 25** join other young adults for a **Bible study from 6 - 7pm** in Room 13 on the 6th floor of the Paulist Center. Feel free to come by any time after 5:30pm to hang out. (We'll have Trader Joe's takis!) Please **email Gus** at youngadults@paulistcenter.org in advance that you're coming. Walk-ins are welcome!

WALK FOR HUNGER - MAY 5, 2024!

Please join the **Wednesday Night Supper Club** at the **56th annual Walk for Hunger!** The Walk started here at the Paulist Center in 1969. It is now a collaboration with Project Bread and 60% of what we raise comes back to sustain our operations each Wednesday and 40% goes towards advocacy to eliminate food insecurity.



How can you help? Create a fundraising page or make a donation here: give.projectbread.org/team/562353. We appreciate your support! And, of course, join us at the Walk on Sunday, May 5. We will meet at 8:30am in front of the Paulist Center the day of the walk.

Questions: Contact supperclubfood@gmail.com

TO DOUBT OR NOT TO DOUBT? THOMAS, WE SEE YOU!

Susan Rutkowski

Pastoral Minister of Family Religious Education and Social Justice

Poor Thomas. He missed one staff meeting and was raked over the coals for 2,000 years. Thomas is famous for having doubted the Resurrection of Jesus and for demanding physical proof of the wounds of Christ's Crucifixion. In John's Gospel when he is absent from the other Apostles after Jesus' Resurrection, Jesus appears to the ten. When Thomas hears about this later, he strongly voices his doubts. The phrase "doubting Thomas" was coined for his lack of faith. Thomas is considered something of a weak character because he had to see to believe, but I get it...he's looking for cause to believe.

I've ministered at the Paulist Center for 20 years now and I can safely say that most community members would comfortably fall into Thomas' camp....and be proud of it! We love to doubt. We love to dispute, challenge, and deconstruct all things, especially liturgical and theological. To do this, we form committees, subcommittees, sub-sub committees, use facilitators, and write long analyses. Then we talk to other community center peeps and recreate discussions we had two days, two weeks or two months ago with new and better points. Sometimes our drive to question things is the trickle-down model from staff to Center committees to after-Mass discussions, and sometimes it's from the bottom-up that starts with after-Mass dinners, is fed into committees, and ends up with the staff. Why do we overthink things? Because we're sure everyone else is underthinking them! We love to be skeptics.

I was trained at a Jesuit seminary. You enter a Jesuit divinity school with your preconceived notions tied up in a pretty bow and leave with only a scrap of that faith that you cling to while flapping wildly in the fierce winds of the institutional Church and the secular world. It feels simultaneously like the rug has been pulled out from under your feet and incredibly freeing at the same time. Twenty years later I can say thank God we were taught as theologians and ministers to be critical thinkers of our faith!

It's important to remember that doubts do not equate with unbelief. In fact, doubts are a natural part of believing. Christian theologian Paul Tillich wrote, "Doubt isn't the opposite of faith; it is an element of faith." The paradox of doubt is that we must doubt that which we believe to be the truth if we want to eventually discover the truth. Everything we've learned, believed and do in regard to all of life should be questioned if growth is to occur. This includes questioning everything about religion.

Two years ago the Jesuit publication *America* launched a national marketing campaign called #OwnYourFaith. It's a marvelous article [What if doubt is actually good for your faith? | America Magazine](#) that asks the question, what if doubt is actually good for your faith? (Thomas is yelling "yes!" somewhere!)

The insightful Brian McLaren proposes a four-stage model of faith development in which questions and doubt serve as a portal to a more mature and fruitful kind of faith. His four stages: Simplicity, Complexity, Perplexity, and Harmony, "offer a path forward that can help sincere and thoughtful people leave behind unnecessary baggage and intensify their commitment to what matters most."

But, in the end, I think most people in this community are familiar with all the above. Honestly, this is a community of people who have culled through, wrestled with, scoured over, and lived dark nights of the soul. We get it. We strive for more authentic, personal spiritual lives, even when painful, because we follow our curiosity and questions to a more honest dialogue with God and with each other. This will serve us well, as we, like Thomas, are called to step up and be church in a re-imagined way as we turn the page to the next chapter at the Paulist Center. Hopefully, many years from now, members of our institution will say, "Remember that Paulist Center Community? They questioned everything! But my gosh...their worship and their ministries and how they lived their lives...such a powerful witness to the risen Christ!"

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!***

See paulistcenter.org/give/ways-to-give for a variety of ways to give to the Paulist Center. Two options include:



Give a one-time or recurring donation using your bank account or credit card by visiting tinyurl.com/DonatePaulistCenter or scanning the QR code on this page outlined in **blue**. You can use this method for donations for specific programs, too, and, if you are a registered member with us, these donations will be included in a year-end tax statement sent to you for any donations that are tax deductible per IRS regulations. Giving by this method helps us with our budgeting and stewardship efforts.



Use **Apple Pay** or **Google Pay** by visiting donorbox.org/paulistcenter, scanning the QR code on the red cards in the pews, or scanning the QR code on this page outlined in **red**. Please note that these donations will **not** be included in any year-end giving tax records, and they solely support our general operations.

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 **April 6 and 7** we raise up **Freedom Ministries, Inc.**, an organization that provides free rides so families can visit their children in prison in facilities all over the state.

LOOKING FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Fr. Rick is in the midst of contacting several couples to invite them to join an in-person “**Come and See**” event on Thursday, **April 18** from 7 - 8:30pm in the auditorium.



We are in need of more presenting couples to share their experiences of married life with the couples who attend our monthly Friday evening and Saturday morning, afternoon sessions. The more couples who participate in this important apostolate, the less often each couple will be needed to make a presentation.

The Paulist Center is one of a few institutions in the Archdiocese of Boston that is permitted to present “**Transformed in Love**”, the Archdiocese’s Marriage preparation program. We conduct sessions in person for up to 50 couples during the months of May through October and on-line (via Zoom) from November through April.

If Fr. Rick contacts you, please respond generously by making yourselves available for this important overview of the program. **Thank You!**

HELP NEEDED

Fr. Rick needs your help with various aspects of our marriage preparation program. If you are able to help **set up refreshments** for the 50 or so couples attending our monthly in-person program, he would love your help.



In addition, if you are able to help our various sacramental and educational programs in their **administrative components** (creating certificates, preparing lists, and more...) please contact Fr. Rick at rick@paulistcenter.org.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! COMMUNITY MEETING ON MAY 11!

The Pastoral Council and Pastoral Staff invites everyone to join us for a very important community meeting the afternoon of Saturday, May 11. More details will follow in the upcoming weeks.

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

(See our [website](http://paulistcenter.org) for staff contact information.)

Pastoral Council Chair: Deb Heimel
pccouncil@paulistcenter.org

Finance Committee Chair: Mary Lesko

Worship Committee Chair: Claire Byrne
worship@paulistcenter.org