



# 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 6 - 7, 2025 - 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES

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

#### WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES

**Monday – Friday**  
12:00pm

#### CONFESSIONS

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

## RESPONDING TO ASSAULTS ON THE DIGNITY OF LIFE

So many in our community are gripped by anxiety; our hearts are broken.

To comprehend this present moment, we need only look to the rich history of our Catholic Social Teaching – our anchor in truth and our counterbalance to the forces that seek to deceive and destroy.



As our context has become increasingly challenging, conversations with ministry leaders and staff suggest that we find ways to build community and highlight the commonalities across our efforts. We seek to do this to support one another in the coming year, even as we discern a pastoral plan that can guide us over the years ahead.

Therefore, this upcoming year, let us keep one of the key themes of our Catholic social teaching – **the life and dignity of the human person** – front and center in all of the Paulist Center’s programming as we wrestle with the grief we experience at injustice, are nourished, empowered and transformed through our worship and plan the best ways forward to act for justice. Our hope is that this theme meets the range of the community where we are and will create opportunities for prayer, learning, and responding as this assault on the dignity of human life worsens.

Below are some of the fall & winter events to help us on this journey:

- **Prayer and Action in Troubled Times: Lessons from Catholic Social Teachings** (9/7, 10/19, 11/23, and more) Sponsored by our Immigration Advocacy Group. A year-long reflection on key documents that have challenged and inspired our faith tradition over time.
- **SUN\*Day Pilgrimage and Interfaith Service and Celebration** (9/21) – see pg 3
- **Adult Faith Formation: Lecture/book signing with Chris White on his book *Pope Leo XIV*** (9/25) - see pg 3
- **The benefits of Solar Energy** – Community Coffee led by our Creation Care Ministry (10/5) Solar energy can provide access to affordable and reliable electricity, create local jobs, and foster economic development.
- **Racial Justice Advocacy and Immigrant Advocacy Group Intergenerational Events** (10/19 & 11/2) All generations of Paulist Center Community members come together to help teach and learn from one another.
- **Adult Faith Formation Watch Party – What do we do with Christianity?** (10/24) Join us for *ReVision: What Do We Do With Christianity?*, a 3-day virtual gathering hosted by the Center for Action and Contemplation (CAC).
- **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hecker Award and all past recipients** (11/2) A celebration of all awardees committed to extraordinary work for peace and justice.
- **Festival of Readings and Carols** (12/13 & 12/14) Readings, carols, and prayers will illuminate the themes of hope, waiting, preparation, and rejoicing, grounding us during times of darkness, division, fear, and anxiety.

## WE CELEBRATE PATTY SIMPSON - NEXT SAT, SEPT 13 - 5PM MASS



Please join us next **Sat, Sept 13 at the 5pm Mass** as we celebrate **Patty Simpson** and her 32+ years of dedicated and loving ministry to our Paulist Center Community and offer her our blessing and thanks.

**Paulist Vice President**, and former Paulist Center Director during 8 1/2 of Patty’s years on staff, **John Ardis**, will preside.

*We hope you will join us to celebrate!*

**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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[paulistcenter.org](http://paulistcenter.org)  
[Facebook.com/PaulistCenter](https://www.facebook.com/PaulistCenter)  
[youtube.com/ThePaulistCenter](https://www.youtube.com/ThePaulistCenter)



## LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINK

Sunday, September 7, 10am

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

YouTube [Link](#)



### PASTORAL PLANNING UPDATE

We are grateful to the community members who joined our initial pastoral planning meetings in August. If you missed the meetings you can go to our website to review the slides that were shared, or use the link <https://tinyurl.com/Augustpastoralplanning>.

<https://www.paulistcenter.org/our-mission/> <https://www.beapaulist.org/about-us>

Next in-person community meeting: **Sun, Sept 28; Lunch: 11:15am to 12:00pm; meeting will follow.**



### FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (FREP) REGISTRATION

The registration form for our 2025-2026 year is posted on our [website](#)! Please register your child(ren) for formal religious education classes and/or our sacramental preparation programs.

Questions: contact **Susan Rutkowski, Pastoral Minister of Family Religious Education**, at [susan@paulistcenter.org](mailto:susan@paulistcenter.org) or 617-948-2426

### DO YOU LIKE TEACHING?

You can help the youngest in our community learn and grow in faith by:

- becoming a full-time religious ed teacher, or
- co-teach (share a class with another volunteer), or
- be a substitute teacher for grades 1-6.



We are seeking catechists who:

- possess a love of the Catholic faith,
- have a desire to nurture children's spiritual and religious potential,
- be able to communicate well with parents,
- prepare weekly lessons,
- be engaging, and maintain a disciplined yet fun catechetical session.

We provide you with training, materials, and support.

Weekly classes/group gatherings take place on **Sundays after the 10am Mass (11:15am - 12:15pm).**

Questions: contact **Susan Rutkowski** at [susan@paulistcenter.org](mailto:susan@paulistcenter.org) or 617-948-2426.

### YOUTH LITURGICAL MINISTRY PROGRAM (YLM) – 2025-2026

We are excited to once again offer ministry opportunities through our Youth Liturgical Ministry Program at the Paulist Center. If you're interested in getting involved, please visit this [link](#) for the [YLM Interest Form](#), or scan the [QR code](#).

#### Youth Liturgical Ministry Opportunities:

- Lector Ministry
- Assistant Sacristans
- Liturgical Dane
- Music
- Audio-Visual Ministers



#### Schedule of YLM Masses - 2025-2026

- Sunday, Sep 21
- Sun, Oct 19
- Sun, Nov 2
- Sun, Dec 7
- Weds, Dec 24 (4pm)
- Sun, Jan 11
- Sun, March 8
- Sun, April 19
- Sun, May 17 (First Communion)

## PRAYER AND ACTION IN TROUBLED TIMES: LESSONS FROM CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS



### FIRST SESSION - THIS SUN, SEPT 7, 11AM AND 7PM

Join us in a **year-long reflection** on key documents that have challenged and inspired our faith tradition over time. We will learn about them and consider what insights and actions they inspire as we face myriad assaults on social justice today. **Raúl E. Zegarra**, a community member and Asst. Prof. of Roman Catholic Theological Studies at Harvard Divinity School, will lead the sessions.

#### First session is this Sun, Sept 7 - 11am AND 7pm

- **11am** - Auditorium, Coffee and refreshments
- **7pm** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl Library, Pizza



#### Future Meeting Dates:

- Oct 19 @ 11am (Auditorium)
- Nov 23 @ 11am (Auditorium)

- Feb 8 @ 7pm (Library)
- April 12 @ 7pm (Library)

- May 31 @ 11am (Auditorium)
- June 7 - Time & Location TBA

## INVITATION TO JOIN THE PAULIST CENTER'S EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY TEAM



We invite you to serve as a Eucharistic Minister this year. Eucharistic Ministers distribute the Body and Blood of Christ during Communion. We offer two initial formation and training sessions to prepare you and build community among the ministers for the year:  
**Sun 9/14 11:30-12:30, Chapel OR Sun 10/5 11:30-12:30, Chapel**

While there's no scheduling commitment, you are asked to **arrive 20 minutes before Mass** and sign up to serve that day. This flexibility lets you serve when you're available while also ensuring we have the ministers we need. This role is open to all, including teenagers who have been confirmed.

If you have questions, email **Norm Gouin** at [norm@paulistcenter.org](mailto:norm@paulistcenter.org), or go to this [link](#) to fill out an interest form, or scan the **QR code**.



## SUN\*DAY PILGRIMAGE & PRAYER SERVICE: SUN, SEPT 21

Join us as the Paulist Center community joins an interfaith celebration of the power of Sun and Wind! **SUN\*Day is a national day of action on Sept 21, celebrating the unstoppable rise of clean energy.**

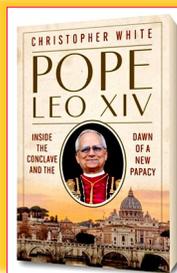


#### Three ways to participate:

- Join us at **1pm at Old South Church**, 645 Boylston St, Boston for an interfaith procession to Boston Common with music, banners, and brief prayer proclamations along the way. The procession (.9 mile) will be down Newbury St. which is closed to traffic that day.
- Join us at **2pm on Boston Common**, near the State House steps, for a 30-minute multi-faith celebration of hope.
- Join us at **12pm at St. Clement's Basilica**, 1105 Boylston St., for a light lunch, brief sending forth prayer, and a "Pilgrimage of Hope" to Old South Church.

**Join Paulist Center friends making our way to the Basilica after the 10am Mass.**

St. Clement to the Common is 1.8 miles. Alternate: take Green Line along the route, or join a procession from King's Chapel (.3 mile), at 1:30pm.



## ALL ABOUT POPE LEO XIV: A PAULIST CENTER EVENT THURS, SEPT 25 AT 7PM

**Christopher White**, who spent four years covering Pope Francis as Vatican correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter, **will be at the Center to discuss his new book and provide a behind-the-scenes look at the conclave that elected the first American Pope.**

Paulist Center member **Bill Mitchell**, a former NCR publisher, will interview Christopher, followed by audience Q and A.

Please **RSVP** here: [chriswhite.eventbrite.com](http://chriswhite.eventbrite.com).



Garden of Peace  
Isaiah 32:14-18

## SEASON OF CREATION DAILY REFLECTIONS

Once again this year the **Creation Care ministry** invites you to receive a **2-minute reflection each day** of **Season of Creation, Sept 1 thru Oct 4**.

If you have received them before, you will automatically receive the newly revised reflections again starting Sept 1.

If you would like to start receiving them, email [seasonofcreationdaily@gmail.com](mailto:seasonofcreationdaily@gmail.com)

## 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. See [paulistcenter.org/give/ways-to-give](http://paulistcenter.org/give/ways-to-give) for ways to give. Two options:



Give a one-time or recurring donation using your bank account or credit card by visiting [tinyurl.com/DonatePaulistCenter](http://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](http://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 charitable organizations with missions consonant with our own. These organizations receive an equal amount from our annual offertory.

The weekend of **Sept 6 and 7** 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.



## Around the Community

Georgetown University's Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life is hosting the conversation *'Deportations and Assault on Human Dignity'* on **Thur, Sept 11 at 6pm**. Catholic leaders have been on the frontlines speaking out and standing in solidarity with immigrants, united in a belief in the God-given dignity of all people, and faced with one of the most dramatic disruptions of the U.S. Church's life in recent decades.

The conversation is being **livestreamed**, **RSVP to get the livestream link**. RSVP at:

<https://catholicsocialthought.georgetown.edu/events/deportations-and-assaults-on-human-dignity>

### Massachusetts Faith Community - Resistance & Noncooperation Training - Sat, Sep 13, 10am - 3pm

The Massachusetts Council of Churches and Episcopal City Mission invite all of us to the **MA Faith Community Resistance & Noncooperation Training on Sat, Sept. 13, from 10 am – 3 pm at the Cathedral of St. Paul (138 Tremont St, Boston)**

This in-person gathering will equip faith leaders and community members with tools for nonviolent resistance, faithful noncooperation, and solidarity in times of crisis.

Lunch will be provided, and **registration is required**. Click [HERE](#) to Register.

**Pastoral Staff:** Normand Gouin; Gus Kellerman; Susan Rutkowski;  
Rick Walsh, CSP

**Administrative Staff:** Barbara Dunay; Deb Heimel; Dorothy Messinger;  
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**Custodial Staff:** Alvaro Enamorado; Timmy Valle

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**Finance Committee Chair:** Mary Lesko

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

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