



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.



FEBRUARY 21 - 22, 2026

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

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

LENTEN FAITH SHARING GROUPS:



Please join us for this prayerful, community-building opportunity as we again convene small faith sharing groups for **five sessions between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday**.

We will use the Ignatian Solidarity Network's Lenten series, ***Stubborn Hope***, which provides daily reflections to "nourish our faith to build a more just world."

Groups will meet weekly at the Center, or via Zoom, as detailed below. **To register for a group, or for questions, email smallgroups@paulistcenter.org.**

Saturdays (Feb 21 - March 21)

In Person 3:15 - 4:45 p.m.

Facilitator: Barbara Lapinskas

Young Adult Ministry:

Sundays (Feb 22 - March 22)

In Person 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Gus Kellerman

Mondays (Feb 23 - March 23)

Via Zoom 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Mary Sullivan/Lev White

Thursdays (Feb 26 - March 26)

Via Zoom 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

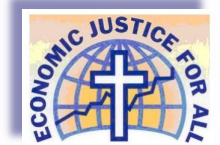
Facilitator: Jonathan Yu-Phelps

Participants will sign up with ISN to receive brief daily written and audio reflections via email, featuring a wide range of contributors. (There is no charge for the series.) Visit ***Stubborn Hope*** or scan this code to learn more and to receive the reflections. We hope you will join us!



PRAYER AND ACTION IN TROUBLED TIMES: THIS SUN, FEB 22

Please join us this Sunday after the 6pm Mass to hear about the encyclical, ***Economic Justice for All***, a landmark pastoral letter by US Catholic Bishops applying Church teaching to the economy, emphasizing that moral principles - not just market forces - must guide economic life. It calls for protecting the poor, ensuring just wages, and upholding human dignity. **Raúl E. Zegarra**, a community member and Assistant Professor of Roman Catholic Theological Studies at Harvard Divinity School, will lead the sessions. **This Sun, Feb 22 at 7pm in the 3rd Fl Library. Pizza will be served.**



PROTECTING HUMAN DIGNITY IN PRAYER AND ACTION: SPOTLIGHT ON MIGRATION



TUESDAYS IN LENT ON ZOOM

All that we do in the service of justice is a form of prayer. Whether we march, accompany our neighbors, organize, attend training, write letters to our legislators, carry banners, speak out, or witness – all these activities are prayer in action, where we do this to make real God's call for justice and mercy. We are witnessing a period in history when we must speak out boldly and collectively in support of justice.

Join us for six weeks of Lent for - **Zoom Prayer in Action - Tuesdays at 7:30pm, Feb 24 through March 31** to pray and organize around the injustices our immigrant brothers and sisters are facing.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/O5o0KuEQ9C5aoRIBfj2mw>

We'll start with a prayer and then hear what others have been doing, receive training in non-violent protest, and meet partners for justice activities.

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

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

LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINK

Sunday, February 22, 10am

1st Sunday of Lent

YouTube [Link](#)



Order of Worship [Link](#)

WORSHIP MATTERS

February 22, 2026, Issue #18

LITURGICAL YEAR: Lent - A Season of Return

By the year 330, the early Church had already embraced a forty-day Lenten season — a sacred period set aside to prepare hearts for the mystery of Easter. From its earliest beginnings, Lent has never been merely about sacrifice or deprivation. Beyond being a time of purification and preparation for those entering the Church through Baptism, it is a season to renew our commitment to living the Resurrection of Jesus in our own time and place.

Considered the three pillars of Lent, the practices of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving are spiritual disciplines that, at their heart, are about relationship — our relationship with God, with ourselves, and with others. Through prayer, we open ourselves to the many ways God is revealed in each moment and encounter. Through fasting, we become more aware of how easily we are driven by distractions and impulses — whether from screens, societal pressures, or personal expectations. Fasting reminds us of our innate capacity to choose. It empowers us to step away from automatic responses and make conscious decisions about our actions and habits. Through almsgiving, or acts of generosity, we recognize our connectedness to others and become more sensitive to their needs, especially those who are marginalized or forgotten.

Across these six weeks, grounded in the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are also invited to slow down and look inward — to examine our hearts and to ask again who this Jesus is, and what his life, death, and resurrection truly mean for our lives today.

It is a time of *re-cognition*, or *re-knowing* — to, in the words of Richard Rohr, “return to the Garden, where our true Center lies in the life of God.” It is a time to discover anew that before fear, before our endless striving for control, before believing we were not enough, we were created whole and free. Lent invites us to rediscover that original blessing — to trust that our identity begins not in failure, but in love.

It is a season of remembrance — or more deeply, *re-membering*: reconnecting heart and mind to the way of Jesus. To follow him is to “do this in memory of me” — to wash the feet of others, to love without counting the cost, and to recognize that blessedness is found in humility, compassion, and our shared belonging with all creation.

And Lent calls us to awaken: to resist the relentless prodding of the egoic mind and rest in the ever-present power of the Spirit. It is a process of conversion, lived out through daily practice: attentive to God’s presence in this breath, in this moment, and in this encounter.

Lent gently reminds us that renewal begins not by striving harder, but by returning home — to God, to ourselves, and to one another.

WORSHIP



MATTERS



FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (FREP)

There are **NO Religious Education Classes this Sunday, February 22** due to school vacation. Have a great break! Classes resume March 1.

First Communion Gathering - March 1

The next First Communion gathering will take place on **Sunday, March 1** in the auditorium from **11:15am to 12:30pm**. Please email Susan Rutkowski, susan@paulistcenter.org, with any questions.

43rd Annual Paulist Center Auction
Set Sail Together: A Mediterranean Journey
Saturday, May 2 - 6:15pm

Step aboard and set sail on an unforgettable evening inspired by the beauty and romance of the Mediterranean! We hope you'll join us for the Paulist Center's largest annual fundraiser in support of our ministries and operations.



You can help make our Auction a winds-at-our-back triumph!

If you can assist by donating an item, sponsoring, or volunteering your time, please see our **2026 Auction Page**. Please contact **Auction Co-chairs Maggie Keefe** or **Jordan Johnson** with any questions or ideas at Auction@PaulistCenter.org.



HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

2026 marks a milestone in the United States, the 100th anniversary of federal recognition for Black Americans. Our Racial Justice Group will share a poem from a Black artist each week this month.

This week we celebrate **Maya Angelou**.

Still I Rise

By Maya Angelou

You may write me down in history
With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you?
Why are you beset with gloom?
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells
Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns,
With the certainty of tides,
Just like hopes springing high,
Still I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?
Bowed head and lowered eyes?
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,
Weakened by my soulful cries?

Does my haughtiness offend you?
Don't you take it awful hard
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines
Diggin' in my own backyard.

You may shoot me with your words,
You may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness,
But still, like air, I'll rise.

Does my sexiness upset you?
Does it come as a surprise
That I dance like I've got diamonds
At the meeting of my thighs?

Out of the huts of history's shame
I rise
Up from a past that's rooted in pain
I rise
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear
I rise
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear
I rise
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
I rise
I rise
I rise.

A LENTEN SATURDAY: PRAYER AMIDST RESISTANCE IN TROUBLED TIMES
MARCH 21, 9AM - 2PM, THE PAULIST CENTER

These months are propelling some to activism, prayer, or a stunned and frozen state - sometimes all in the same day. Join us for pause and prayer that's: A time to look inward and bear witness to one another's experiences. An opportunity to share how you're called to meet the moment. A time to embrace Lent as we point towards hope together.

\$20 donation - if you are able - to cover lunch. Please bring something to share for a morning treat. We'll have coffee and tea available. Community members **Emily Spicer Hankle** and **Sonia Caus Gleason** will facilitate. Contact sonia@soniacausgleason.org with questions.

Please click this link to register: <https://forms.gle/CJvLnzX6YelFraEV6>



CREATION CARE MINISTRY INVITES YOU TO - JOIN US FOR A GREENER LENT

Again, this year, the Creation Care ministry invites you to direct your traditional Lenten practices of **Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving** toward Care of Creation and the Poor, with **Greener Lent**, a *Laudato Si'*-inspired Lenten program.

Last year more than 20 Paulist Center members joined almost 400 people nationwide committing to:

PRAY - for the poor most affected by the climate crisis;

FAST - choosing one of several options to sacrificially eat more sustainably; and

CONTRIBUTE - any amount (perhaps money saved by eating less beef) to the building of life-giving water wells in two dioceses in sub-Saharan Africa.

Signing up takes only a few minutes; you provide your name, choose how you want to fast, and select Paulist Center as your parish. Participants receive periodic reports on how much carbon footprint has been reduced.

Sign up and learn more at greenerlent.org (Note: Scroll down to sign up.)



Greener  Lent



PARENT PREPARATION FOR INFANT/CHILD BAPTISM

The Paulist Center offers an infant/child baptism preparation session for expecting parents and prospective Godparents.

The next session is on **Saturday, March 14 from 10am - 12pm** in the 3rd Fl Library/Chapel.

To register for the session, please contact **Fr. Rick** at rick@paulistcenter.org

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 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, 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.



Use **Apple Pay** or **Google Pay** by visiting donorbox.org/paulistcenter, scanning the **QR code** on the red cards in the pews or 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 **February 21 - 22** we raise up **Catholic Relief Services** in their mission to assist the poor and vulnerable overseas.

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

Administrative Staff: Barbara Dunay; Liz Framski; Deb Heimel;
Dorothy Messenger; Rob Smyser; Sal Whooley

Custodial Staff: Alvaro Enamorado; Timmy Valle

Pastoral Council Chair: John Domino
pccouncil@paulistcenter.org

Finance Committee Chair: Mary Lesko

Worship Committee Chair: Barbara Lapinskas
worship@paulistcenter.org

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