



# 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.*



**MAY 2 - 3, 2026**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**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**

## **FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (FREP)**

While formal religious education classes are over for the year, there are still plenty of family activities to participate in!

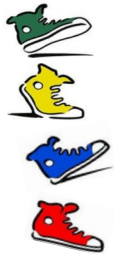


### **Set Sail Together - A Mediterranean Journey** **The Paulist Center Auction! this Saturday May 2**

If you would like to help out at the Auction this Saturday, May 2, between 6:00pm and 8:00pm, please contact Susan Rutkowski at [susan@paulistcenter.org](mailto:susan@paulistcenter.org).

We need:

- raffle ticket sellers,
- servers,
- runners, and
- cleanup crew



### **Walk for Hunger** **this Sunday May 3:**

Please join us at 8:30am for a blessing in front of the Chapel and then for the 3 mile Walk for Hunger in the Boston Common. Depending on how quickly you walk, you should be able to squeeze in some of the 10am Mass.



### **First Communion - Rehearsal and Sacrament** **Saturday May 16:**



The First Communion rehearsal will take place on Saturday, May 16 from 10am to 12pm in the Chapel.

### **Sunday May 17:**

The sacrament will take place the following day, Sunday, May 17, at our 10am Mass. Reception will follow in the auditorium.

**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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[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, May 3, 10am

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



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

## WORSHIP MATTERS

May 3, 2026, Issue #24

### RITUAL & SYMBOL: Water of Life: The Sprinkling Rite

Along with light and fire, oil, bread and wine, water is one of the primary symbols of our Christian faith. This is not surprising, as water is essential for all life. From the beginning of creation, it reveals both God's creative power and sustaining presence.



Throughout salvation history, water emerges as a powerful and dynamic sign. Its force is seen in the great flood through which Noah and his family are saved, and in the parting of the Red Sea, where the Israelites pass from slavery to freedom. The psalms speak of waters that both threaten and console, giving voice to our longing for God. In the New Testament, water takes on deeper meaning: in the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, in his washing of the disciples' feet, and in the water flowing from his pierced side on the cross—signs of new life poured out for the world.

For us as Christians, our entrance into the Body of Christ begins with water. Whether poured over us or entered through immersion, the waters of Baptism mark us as participants in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. In these waters, we are both buried with Christ and raised with him—freed from sin and reborn into new life.

Throughout the Easter season, the Church invites us to return to this foundational grace. Week after week, the Sprinkling Rite recalls our baptism. While it may be used at other times during the liturgical year, during the Easter season it replaces the Penitential Act as a communal remembrance of who we are and whose we are.

As the blessed water is sprinkled over the assembly, we feel its touch—cool, refreshing, alive. In that simple encounter, we are drawn back into the very mystery it signifies. Water cleanses and renews; it restores and gives life. Yet it also carries a deeper invitation: to let go of what no longer gives life, to die to the old self, and to be renewed in the light of Christ's resurrection.

In this way, the waters of Baptism are never just a memory. They are a living reality, continually calling us to conversion, to renewal, and to a deeper participation in the life of Christ. Each drop reminds us that we are claimed, loved, and sent forth—renewed again and again by the grace that flows from the heart of God.

## WALK FOR HUNGER - THIS SUNDAY, MAY 3

Please join the Wednesday Night Supper Club at the 58<sup>th</sup> annual Walk for Hunger this Sunday, May 3. It started at the Paulist Center in 1969 and is now a collaboration with Project Bread. 60% of what we raise is a major funding source for Supper Club and 40% goes towards advocacy. How can you help?

- ◆ Join us on May 3 for the Walk.
- ◆ Create a fundraising page.
- ◆ Make a donation here:

<https://give.projectbread.org/team/809754>.

We appreciate your support!



## CELEBRATION IN MEMORY OF JANE O'CONNOR - THIS SUNDAY, MAY 3



The 6:00pm Mass this Sunday, May 3 will be celebrated in memory of The Fabulous Jane O'Connor... on the occasion of her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

There will be birthday cake after Mass in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Library.



We hope you will be able to join as we celebrate a wonderful woman ...

## LESSONS FROM CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS - LAST SESSION - MAY 17

The last session of our Catholic Social Teaching series is Sunday, May 17 at 7 pm. It will be led by the talented Dr. Raúl E. Zegarra, Community member and Asst. Prof. of Roman Catholic Theological Studies at Harvard Divinity School.

Dr. Zegarra will focus on *Dilexi te: I Have Loved You (Leo, 2025)* for our final gathering. We will meet in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl Library - pizza will be served. Please join us!



## FAMILIES PLANTING TREES! SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, MAY 30

Our very last Family Religious Education activity is planned as an intergenerational session with our Creation Care Ministry team on Saturday, May 30 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Together, with Catholic Climate Covenant, the Catholic Cemetery Association, and along with *Speak for the Trees, Boston*, we will help plant 10 trees in Roslindale and Mattapan. This is an activity for all ages!

We need strong teens and adults to dig and plant and we need smaller children to fill holes and help spread mulch. *Speak for the Trees, Boston* is designing specific child friendly activities for the day.

We hope you'll join us by planting, preserving and advocating for trees in under canopied, underserved neighborhoods to combat climate change and address environmental justice.



## SPIRIT OF HECKER AWARDS

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Pastoral Team members **Susan Rutkowski, Norm Gouin** and **Deb Heibel** for being **honored by the Paulist Fathers at the Spirit of Hecker Awards**. Last Saturday evening, April 25, they received a "**Spirit of Hecker Award**" in recognition of their tremendous efforts this past year in keeping the Center's programming and administrative systems running while updating new internal systems, evaluating future staffing needs, and helping the community to develop a pastoral plan. They did all this while maintaining a positive and uplifting office environment.

A recording of the awards program can be watched on our social media, YouTube and online at <https://paulist.org/heckerawards/>



## ALL ARE WELCOME MASS

The Paulist Center will host a **Mass at 6:30pm on Friday night June 5<sup>th</sup> as part of Pride weekend in Boston.**



The Paulist Center is a member of the Greater Boston LGBTQIA Catholic Collective and we invite everyone to come worship with us on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

## 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.



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 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 **May 2 - 3** we raise up **Project Bread's Walk for Hunger**, whose mission is to alleviate, prevent, and ultimately end hunger in Massachusetts. The Walk for Hunger is the major funding source for our Wednesday Night Supper Club.

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

**Administrative Staff:** Deb Heibel; Dorothy Messenger; Rob Smyser; Sal Whooley

**Custodial Staff:** Alvaro Enamorado; Timmy Valle

**Pastoral Council Chair:** John Domino  
[pccouncil@paulistcenter.org](mailto:pccouncil@paulistcenter.org)

**Finance Committee Chair:** Mary Lesko

**Worship Committee Chair:** Barbara Lapinskas  
[worship@paulistcenter.org](mailto:worship@paulistcenter.org)

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