



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 19 - 20, 2026
25TH 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

FREP KICK OFF THIS SUN, SEPT 20

Families, if you have not yet signed up for either formal religious education or sacramental preparation classes (1st Reconciliation, 1st Communion, and/or Teen Confirmation), **please do so this week!** Our kick-off liturgy and after-Mass celebration are this Sun, Sept 20 at 10:00am! After the liturgy, we will enjoy **coffee and refreshments**, **play a special version of Paulist Center Jeopardy** (yes, there's a prize, so bring your competitive self!) and announcements about this year's program.



CALENDAR & REGISTRATION FORM

FREP calendar: <https://www.paulistcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2026-2027-FREP-Calendar.pdf>

Register: <https://www.paulistcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/FREP-Registration-Form-2026-2027.pdf> You can pay the registration fee online [HERE](#) or send check to Paulist Center, 5 Park St, Boston, MA 02108.

FREP PROGRAMS

Traditional Religious Education Classes – Grade-based classes will meet approximately twice per month.

Family Pods – Families will be assigned to a group (pod) which will include children, parents and grandparents and will meet five times over the course of the year. The intention is to offer an opportunity to get to know one another better and create community learning in a smaller intergenerational group.

Parent Faith Formation – Four times a year, parents will get together during their child's class time to drink coffee, eat food, and discuss faith formation topics that interest them.

1st Reconciliation and 1st Communion (Grades 2-3)

Inclusive Confirmation Program (Grades 8-11) Our community includes neurodiverse children and teens. We will have a supportive environment with inclusive language, flexible learning spaces, and multimodal options for exploring faith.

Jr. High youth group teens, and Sr. High youth group teens, who are NOT in confirmation, will join the **Mosaic Interfaith Circles of Action** program again this year. Gatherings will be once a month on Sundays from 2- 5 PM. The first gathering is October 2 @ 2 pm.

Questions or concerns, contact **Susan Rutkowski** at susan@paulistcenter.org or 617-948-2426.

THE 2025 ISAAC HECKER AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE WILL GO TO COLLEEN SHARKA!



Please join us at the **5pm Mass on Saturday, September 26** to celebrate **Colleen Sharka, LMHC, co-founder of "CAN WE TALK" (CWT)**, a community sharing program on trauma and healing based at the Social Impact Center of Roxbury Presbyterian Church.

In 2014, Colleen partnered with Rev. Liz Walker to co-found CAN WE TALK, and developed the program's curriculum and built its network of sites nationwide; as of May 2025, CWT operates in 20 locations across six states and Washington, D.C. Since 2014, CWT has offered urban neighborhoods a peer-centered path through trauma, helping individuals move from surviving to actively helping others heal.

At a moment of deep polarization and daily violence in our communities, Colleen's work offers a model for healing that is spiritually rooted, clinically sound, and empowering. Isaac Hecker was committed to faith in action — Colleen Sharka lives that same commitment today.

Please join us on September 26 at the 5pm Mass to celebrate Colleen Sharka! A reception will follow.

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
Facebook.com/PaulistCenter
youtube.com/ThePaulistCenter

LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINK

YouTube [Link](#)

Sunday, September 20, 10:00 am
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Order of Worship [Link](#)

LITURGY AND MUSIC

Called to Proclaim the Word?

Have you ever considered serving as a lector at the Paulist Center? Proclaiming Scripture at Mass is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your relationship with God's Word, share your gifts in service to the community, and grow in faith alongside other ministers.

Join us for a **Lector Ministry Information Session on Tuesday, September 22 or Tuesday, September 29 at 7:30 PM on Zoom**. Come learn more about the ministry, formation, and what it means to serve as a proclaimer of the Word. There is no commitment—just an invitation to listen, learn, and discern!

To sign up for one of the sessions please fill out this [Lector Information Form](#), or scan QR code.

Tues, Sept 22, 7:30pm

[Link](#) to Zoom session

QR Code



Tues, Sept 29, 7:30pm

[Link](#) to Zoom session

QR Code



Youth Liturgical Ministry Program

We are excited to once again invite the young people of our community to share their gifts through the **Youth Liturgical Ministry (YLM) Program!** Young people are invited to serve as **lectors, liturgical dancers, musicians, and audio-visual ministers** at designated YLM Masses throughout the year.



Participating in YLM is a wonderful way for our young people to become more actively involved in the life and worship of our community, deepen their faith, develop their gifts, and experience the joy of serving alongside others.

Interested? Please complete the [YLM Interest Form](#) using the link or QR code provided. New and returning participants are warmly welcome!



Festival of Readings and Carols — Call for Musicians

Come, share your voice and make music with us! Preparations are beginning for the Paulist Center's annual **Festival of Readings and Carols**, and we invite singers from throughout our community to join the Festival Choir.

Rehearsals are **Thursdays from 7:00–9:00 PM in the Chapel, beginning September 24**, with performances on **Saturday, December 12 at 8:00 PM and Sunday, December 13 at 2:00 PM**.

Whether you are a longtime member of our Music Ministry or have been thinking about joining for the first time, we would love to have you! Come experience the joy of making music together and helping create this beautiful celebration of Scripture, prayer, and song.



Interested in participating? Please fill out the [Musician Information Form](#) using the link or QR code provided.

For more information please contact Norm Gouin at norm@paulistcenter.org.



A.I. ETHICS THROUGH A CATHOLIC LENS: CAN A.I. BE ETHICAL?

Sunday, September 27, 7pm at the Paulist Center

In a world increasingly driven by algorithms, what does it truly mean to love our neighbor? As artificial intelligence (A.I.) reshapes our society, how do we ensure it serves the common good rather than leaving the most vulnerable behind?

Join us for an intriguing discussion at this first in a series of seminars on Catholicism and the ethics of A.I. We will look at tech through the framework of Catholic Social Teaching—exploring how ancient wisdom can help us guide tomorrow's tools.

Dr. Raúl Zagarra will introduce the historic new papal encyclical, ***Magnifica Humanitas***, which directly addresses the protection of human dignity and labor in the age of automation.

Richard Geruson, lecturer at Harvard Divinity School, will dive deeper into our moral obligations to harness technology for human liberation and systemic fairness.

<https://bulletin.hds.harvard.edu/ai-harms-are-not-ethically-inevitable/>

Following these two dynamic presenters, the evening will open up to a robust Q&A session with YOU! —the public.

Doors Open: 6:45pm **Refreshments:** Will be served.

We hope to see you there as we explore how to build a more just and inclusive future!



SEASON OF CREATION 2026 - SEPTEMBER 1 - OCTOBER 4

St. Francis Day at Agape Community – Saturday, October 3, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Every year the **Agape Community** <https://agapecommunity.org>, a non-violent, sustainable faith community founded in 1982, celebrates St. Francis Day with a gathering for individuals and communities committed to Peace and Justice. This year, on Saturday, October 3 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, long-time non-violence activist Shane Claiborne will lead the morning session. Marysol Castro, an immigrant attorney and Maritza Cruz, an anti-racism activist, will lead the afternoon session. (Click on the above link to learn more about AGAPE and the event.) Agape Community, founded by Hecker Award winners Suzanne and Brayton Shanley, has carried the faith torch of love and justice for many years. Consider traveling with others from the Paulist Center and come celebrate, connect and learn! Questions, email paulistcentercreationcare@gmail.com

The Crisis in Plastic – Sunday, Oct 4 11:30am, Auditorium



Plastics are a grave and growing threat to human health. The harms from plastics fall most heavily upon the most vulnerable. These harms can be prevented through the same types of intelligent, evidence-based interventions that we have used to control air pollution, reduce lead poisoning, and protect ourselves and our children against other environmental dangers. - actions that place protection of the vulnerable and advancement of the common good above short-term gain.” Session led by **Philip J. Landrigan, MD, MSc, FAAP**, a pediatrician, epidemiologist and Professor at Boston College where he directs the Global

Observatory on Planetary Health. Dr. Landrigan's research examines the impacts on human health, especially children's health, of hazardous exposures in the global environment. He co-chaired the *Lancet* Commission on Pollution and Health, which found that pollution causes 9 million deaths per year. He led the Minderoo-Monaco Commission on Plastics and Human Health, which found that plastics cause disease, disability and premature death at every stage of their life cycle. He is now co-leading The *Lancet* Countdown on Health and Plastics. He serves as Editor of *Annals of Global Health* and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

WORLD MIGRANTS DAY - SEPTEMBER EVENTS

The Paulist Center Immigrant Advocacy Group (IAG) invites you to two local prayer events celebrating World Migrants Day (Sept 27), a feast of the global church honoring migrants and refugees.

Dying of Hope: 6pm, Fri, Sept 25

Emmanuel College Chapel, Eisner Administration Building

400 The Fenway, Boston

An annual prayer vigil sponsored by the Sant'Egidio Communities, honoring the thousands of men, women, and children who lose their lives seeking a better life. The evening offers space for reflection, affirming human dignity and fostering solidarity.

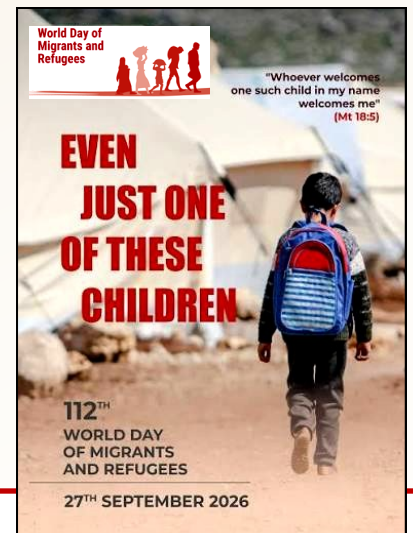
World Day of Migrants and Refugees Prayer Service: 6pm, Sat, Sept 26

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

1548 Blue Hill Avenue, Mattapan Square

Cosponsored by St. Katharine Drexel and Our Lady of Mount Carmel parishes. Using the USCCB national prayer service as a guide, we bear witness and support our neighbors, inviting migrants and refugees — especially young people — to share their testimonies.

No registration necessary. Questions: paulistcenterimmigration@gmail.com



FALL ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Looking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? This course is for Catholics who received First Communion, but not Confirmation.



Classes will be held **6:30 to 8:00pm** on 4 Thursday evenings (non-sequential):

- **September 24th**
- **October 1st, 15th, 29th**

We will meet at the Paulist Center in Room 22 on the 6th floor.

Please contact **Fr. Rick** at rick@paulistcenter.org to register

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: tinyurl.com/DonatePaulistCenter, or scan the **QR code** in **blue**. This method can also be used for donations for specific programs, and, if you are a registered member, 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**: donorbox.org/paulistcenter, scan the **QR code** on the **red** cards in the pews or on this page. 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.

Sept 19 - 20 we raise up My Life My Choice, an organization that envisions a world where no person is bought or sold.

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

Executive Director: Colleen Burns

Administrative Staff: 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.)