



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.



JANUARY 7 - 8, 2023
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES
Saturday 5pm
Sunday 10am
6pm

WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES
Monday – Friday
12:05pm

LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

Sunday, January 8, 10am

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)



Sunday, January 15, 10am

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)

HOW DO WE EVEN START TO SAY THANK YOU? FAREWELL AND BLESSINGS TO SUZANNE AND JAY SAMPSON

On December 18th, we said a fond, but sad farewell to two community members who have been the backbone of many, many vital Center ministries over the decades. **Suzanne and Jay Sampson** are retiring to Suzanne's hometown of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to be closer to family.

Among the countless ministries Suzanne and Jay were involved with were **running the Auction for 10 years** (and continuing to support it in vital ways for an additional bunch of years until the pandemic), **running a Center-initiated Saturday morning tutoring program in Roxbury for almost 20 years**, **leading chapel cleanings for over 30 years**, and **being key coordinators for the Walk for Hunger, Small Groups and various other committees.**

Their most recent ministries, where the holes will be most keenly felt in the short-term, have been **coordinating the communion bread bakers**, the **art and environment efforts for the chapel** and **providing all of the liturgical dance attire and RCIA gowns**, as well as some **altar linens and curtains for the AV area.** (Anyone who sews or is potentially interested in helping coordinate the art and environment efforts, please let one of us on staff know asap!). Suzanne and Jay, we will see HUGE gaps where you have been in our space and in our ministries for so long

But **we thank you from the bottom of our hearts** for all that you gave so generously, in time, talent and treasure, to this beloved community over so many, many years.

Please know you will be in our prayers as you make this transition - and know that we hope you will find ways to come and visit us from time to time.

We will miss you, but we wish you God's choicest blessings!

Love,
Your Paulist Center Community



COMMUNITY COFFEE

We'll have a Community Coffee after 10am Mass this Sunday, January 8.

Thanks to **Jim & Kate Stewart, Nancy Kendrick, Daria O'Connor, Joanne Williams, Hildi Keary, and Helen Stein** for organizing this one! Come down to the auditorium for refreshments; stay to make new friends! Contact **Fr. Rich** if you'd be willing to organize a coffee on February 5, February 12, March 12, March 19, April 2, or April 30.



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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FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (FREP)

Here's a reminder where in the building religious education is happening after the 10am Mass this Sunday, January 8:

- Grades K-6 and RCIA are in their regular 6th floor rooms
- Junior High Youth Group is in the 3rd floor library
- Confirmation Teens are virtual this week



Reminder: FREP is off next weekend, Sunday, January 15, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

Our first gathering for First Holy Communion preparation will be on Sunday, January 29 at 11:15am in the 3rd floor library. If you need to register your child for sacramental prep, fill out the [registration form](#).

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Adult Education Committee is seeking your assistance in designing offerings to meet the interests of the Paulist Center Community.

Please take just a couple of minutes to fill out our new survey. We will be developing new approaches in response to what you tell us about your interests.

The survey can be found at this link <https://paulistcenter.org/aec2023>

Please complete this brief survey **before Friday, January 20.**



SUPPER CLUB SEEKS ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS

If you feel called to help greet, cook, serve, or clean for the guests of the Wednesday Night Supper Club, here is how to get involved.



- **Greeters**: Welcome guests at the front door; 1-hour shift every three weeks. Shift begins at 5:45pm. If interested, email susan@paulistcenter.org
- **Chefs**: No experience is required! We provide the food, the kitchen, and many hands to help. Chefs arrive 12pm – 1pm and leave when the meal is finished being prepared. If interested, please email Emily Spicer Hankle at ekayhankle@gmail.com
- **Dinner Service for Indoor Seating**: plating food; serving to guests; pouring tea/coffee; etc. Shift is 5 - 7pm, in the basement, with guests who are eating. If interested, email supperclubfood@gmail.com
- **Clean-up Ministry**: washing tables; putting away chairs; cleaning the kitchen. Shift begins at 7pm. If interested, please email supperclubfood@gmail.com

SEWING ASSISTANCE

Do you have a sewing machine and a talent to go with it? The liturgical dance ministry needs you!

When children outgrow/wear out their dance garb, and no hand-me-downs fit, new garments must be created! We are looking to build up a roster of folks who can be called upon to help as needed.

Please contact **Christine Tardiff** for details: cetardiff@gmail.com.



PASTORAL REFLECTION ON THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Fr. Ed Nowak, C.S.P.
Associate Director

While most of our secular culture packed away Christmas decorations on December 26th, our Catholic church continues the celebration until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. We usually celebrate this feast on the Sunday after Epiphany. However, because Christmas fell on a Sunday this year, we will celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on Monday January 9th.

I encourage everyone to prayerfully read the scriptures for the day:

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29, 1-2, 3-4, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3: 13-17.

Our secular celebration of a new year moves us to resolutions of living with renewed purpose. As Christians the purpose for our lives was defined for us at our baptisms; and so, on the feast of the baptism of Jesus, we reflect upon the significance of our own baptism. The baptismal experience of Jesus revealed his identity as God's beloved son; flowing from this identity was Jesus' mission of bringing the good news of God's love and care for the world. In baptism our identity as God's child was revealed, and our mission set before us.

In our baptism we were anointed as priests, prophets, and royalty to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. As a priestly people we are called to holiness and called to be channels of God's grace to others. Each of us is called to exercise our priestly role by virtue of our baptism. Even though ordained priests are the ministers of the sacraments, there are many ways of being a priest that everyone is called to do. The traditional role of a priest for the Jewish people included acting as a leader of prayer and offering God's blessings on the people. The priest was also an instrument of reconciliation between God and God's people. In various ways we too are called to be a people of prayer, to offer blessings and to be an instrument of reconciliation.

Every time someone leads a prayer or prays on behalf of others they are acting in the priestly role. When this role is fully realized, opportunities begin to present themselves for us to bless: food, things, occasions and people. There are books of household blessings for families that contain numerous blessings for all occasions.

In baptism we are also anointed as prophets. As prophets we are called to speak out against injustice and to work for peace. Prophets share God's word with others by being themselves the living word of God. As we share our faith with others, we live out our prophetic call of Baptism.

In baptism we also are anointed as royalty. As royalty we are called to exercise leadership on behalf of others and to be just stewards of the earth. Whenever we act justly toward others and promote justice in the world, we live out our royal call of baptism.

In baptism each of us is called to live as a child of the light, to listen to God's word and to proclaim our faith with words and deeds to the glory of God the Father. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that God has called each of us for the victory of Justice. God has grasped us by the hand and formed us and given us the power to be a transforming light to the world.

Our ability to live out our baptismal calling is closely connected with being aware that we are indeed beloved sons and daughters of God. The image of being tenderly loved and cared for by God is also brought out in the reading from the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah tells us that a bruised reed he will not break and a smoldering wick he will not quench. In the times that we think we are emotionally or spiritually bruised, beyond repair, or we believe our flame of faith has gone out, we are called to remember that the Lord of light and life is able to rekindle new life into a smoldering wick. When we open ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit to renew us, we can continue to be that burning light of Christ that God has called us to in baptism.

Prayer is our connection to the fire of the Holy Spirit. Prayer can bring the light of Christ's presence to the darkest parts of our lives. This is perhaps why lighted candles have been closely associated with prayer throughout the ages. A lit candle is part of our baptismal ceremony as well as part of our Eucharistic prayer.

Our ability to live our baptismal commitments is sustained and nourished in our Eucharistic celebrations. During our celebrations we gather as a community to pray for one another and the world; we hear the voice of God not from the heavens, but in the scripture proclaimed; and, we are strengthened in our commitment to follow Jesus through receiving Jesus himself in our Eucharistic bread and wine.

The transforming power of our Eucharistic celebrations enables us to truly live our baptismal identity as beloved sons and daughters of God.

COMMUNITY GIFT

Our Community Gift is the Paulist Center's tradition of giving 5% of our annual offertory to other charitable organizations.

The weekend of **January 7 and 8** we lift up **Bridge Over Troubled Waters** which provides effective and innovative services to runaway, homeless and high-risk youth.

Two ways to give to the Paulist Center:

1. To make a one-time or recurring donation to the Center using your bank account or credit card, click on this link: <https://tinyurl.com/DonatePaulistCenter>
2. Giving by text: Text a whole dollar donation to **844-899-7511**; this will be designated as your "Weekend Offering"

THANK YOU!

REST IN PEACE, SISTER ELEANOR O'MALLEY, PBVM



We received notice that former staff member, **Eleanor O'Malley**, passed away this past July. Eleanor was the **Family Religious Education minister on staff from the late 1970s through the late 1980s**. She also organized early auctions and was a lay preacher. We know that many community members remember her fondly.

Her obituary can be found here <http://alturl.com/ioqz4>

We remember with gratitude Eleanor's ministry to our community and pray she is at peace in the presence of our loving God.

PAULIST CENTER ROSARY CIRCLE INTENTION FORM

Do you have a special intention that you would like the Paulist Center Community to pray for? Our weekly **Rosary Circle** (*see below*) is happy to include your intentions (*may be anonymous*). Go [here](#) for the form.

PAULIST CENTER ROSARY CIRCLE

All are welcome to the **Paulist Center Rosary Circle**, every Monday at 7:30pm. Here's the [Zoom link](#) Meeting ID: 487 503 158 Passcode: 021078



"RICH THOUGHTS"



All of Fr. Rich's Sunday homilies are available in blog and video format at, <https://paulist.org/RichThoughts>.



MINISTERIAL STAFF: Rich Andre, CSP
Normand Gouin
Susan Rutkowski

Anna Costello Duran
Ed Nowak, CSP
Patricia Simpson

PASTORAL COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS:
Adrienne Murphy and Yoojung Yang

Please see our [website](#) for direct contact information.