



THE PAULIST CENTER

Pastoral Council Candidates

Summer 2023

André Boudreau

My name is André Boudreau. After an initial visit 10 years ago it took another 9 years to become a member. I was attracted to the Paulist Center for the social outreach and manner which members are active in the operations of the Center. Last September, after joining, I was not expecting to look towards a leadership role at the Paulist Center so quickly, but life moves in mysterious ways.

Before Covid I was an active member of Most Precious Blood in Dover. In the past 30 years I have worked at different times for different parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston. Last year as Covid restrictions started lifting, my family began searching for a parish to continue the sacraments of initiation. I revisited and joined the Paulist Center because I wanted my children to experience the many aspects of a religious life found here at the center combined with the many activities within the Paulist Center community.

After my two children recently received First Communion I began to think about more ways I could assist at the Paulist Center. I believe my unique background in running a small business based in construction and maintenance, and serving the Archdiocese of Boston in different parishes has helped me to understand the complexities of dealing with many different people. My previous experience years ago assisting the Dominican Fathers in their Vocations Office and my leadership roles in Boy Scouts of America has allowed me to live a life of service to others. Being able to serve the Paulist Center in worship, helping others as they work for social justice, and building a vibrant community is a natural progression of my life experience thus far. I look forward to actively assisting the Paulist Center grow into the future.



John Domino



I served as a member of the Pastoral Council for the four years from 2014 to 2018, and Chairman for 2 years. It was a wonderful experience and helped me to meet so many members of the Paulist Center and to gain a better understanding of just how special the Paulist Center Community is. After a 5-year hiatus, I am again seeking your support to be a member of the Pastoral Council for another 2-year term.

My wife, Marylou, and I feel lucky to have the Paulist Center as our spiritual home where we can be part of a community that celebrates, promotes, lives, and teaches Catholicism and Christianity in a way that aligns with our values. We are drawn to the Center's openness and acceptance of all people and are energized by its social justice mission and its many charitable endeavors supporting the greater needs of the local community.

I continue to be inspired by the rich history of the Paulist Center in founding the Walk for Hunger, as well as its outreach to divorced Catholics and the LGBTQ+ community, its advocacy for immigrants, racial justice, Care of our Common Home, and our sister community in El Salvador. While serving on the council, I would hope to challenge us to not only continue this work, but to start new initiatives that will also make a difference in the lives of our neighbors here in Boston and throughout the world for many years to come.

In addition to my time on the council, I have taught the Confirmation class for the past 3 classes, become a member of the Paulist Associates, and served as Chairman of the Paulist Father's Capital Campaign in 2022. Along with Marylou, I have served as a greeter at the 5pm Saturday Mass, worked as Check-In chair for the Auction, and walked with the Paulist Center team in the Walk for Hunger.

I look forward to your support and another opportunity to serve on the council. Thank You!

Julia Forest

I have been a member of the Paulist Center for thirteen years. I first came here looking for pastoral counseling, as I was dealing with the loss of a brother. Not only did I find the counseling for which I was seeking, but I found a whole community of people that were outside my family and the disabled community, who really valued me as a person and not someone who was to be pitied and cared for. I have been through a lot over the years--both emotionally and physically, but I always had my faith and the Paulist Center community to lean on. Now, I am in a place where I can give back to the community that was always there for me. I would gratefully appreciate the opportunity to serve.

I am a member of the Rosary Circle and I attend the LGBT+ group during Lent.



Marie Glenn



If the Pastoral Council is looking for fresh blood, they can hardly get fresher than mine. I became a formal member of the Paulist Center only this March, and as to longstanding volunteer commitments, I have none.

Indeed, the only connections I can trumpet are my participation in the Monday night Rosary Circle, the Lenten “Busy Person’s Retreat,” and my laps around the Common on the Paulist’s Walk for Hunger team.

So why, then, am I putting myself forward for the Pastoral Council? Selfless magnanimity is one reason. The Council asked to grow the slate of candidates to 2X the number of seats. I have a head. Why not offer it up, even if only for chopping block purposes?

The other reason cuts deeper. I believe deeply in the Paulist’s social justice mission. Growing up in the suburbs, I knew of the Center’s leadership in advocating for immigrants, the working poor and those marginalized. The inclusive dialog and welcoming LGBTQ+ ministry set the Center apart—in some cases, quite notably apart—from other Catholic communities. It’s not for nothing that Oscar Romero was named a patron saint of the Paulist’s. That move, along with the greater freedom I now have to travel into Boston, pointed my shoes toward the red doors on Park Street where I have been attending services this past year.

I wield a pen for a living. I have ghost-authored five business books published by McGraw Hill, and work as an external writer for McKinsey and Boston Consulting Group. Previously, I was head of marketing for the high tech, media and entertainment division of KPMG.

Apart from work, I mentor others. Moved by the mission of Visitation House in San Antonio, which takes a full-circle approach in supporting single mothers and their children, I’ve sought to emulate that model in my own informal way, and have worked closely with two women and their families over the past six years.

U2’s Bono said, “Love is the realizing of potential in others.” I believe many of the barriers that stand in the way of love’s potential are addressable and removable. It’s on us to do that work.

Chris O'Rourke

I have been involved with the Paulist Center since 1986 when I began attending liturgy here. I became a member in 1990. Over the years, I have been involved with a number of lay ministries at the Paulist Center. I was active in the Center's AIDS Outreach Ministry that provided monthly liturgies and occasional retreats for persons with AIDS. I was involved for a number of years with the RCIA. I currently serve both as a lay preacher and on the Worship Committee.

I have always been drawn to the Paulists' outreach to divorced Catholics, to women, to GLBTQ+ individuals – people who have not always felt welcome in their local parish or in the larger Church. My experience of the Paulists is that they welcome the gifts of the people they serve and invite us to collaborate with them in their work of evangelization, and reconciliation. The Paulists have now embarked upon a new initiative to address the toxic polarization that afflicts both our society and our Church. The Pastoral Council and the larger Paulist Center community have an opportunity to join the Paulists in this work. I believe that my work as a psychotherapist and spiritual director, which involves accompanying people with different lived experiences and beliefs, enables me to bring some of these skills to the work of the Pastoral Council.

As a faith community emerging from the Covid 19 pandemic, we have hard work before us: how do we as a local church develop, and deepen one another's faith and discipleship of Christ? How do we become a place of ever-greater welcome to those who seek God? How do we become a community that works for justice? As a spiritual director, I am convinced that if we are to be renewed as a community, we must be people of prayer. As a member of the Pastoral Council, I will support and work to develop the Center's efforts at creating opportunities for vibrant worship and the spiritual formation of our community.



Jo Schnitz



Hello, my name is Johanna “Jo” Schnitz, and I am interested in serving on the Paulist Center Community’s Pastoral Council. A current resident of Jamaica Plain, I have been blessed to be a part of this energized and giving community for the past nine years. *(Fun fact: though I am not originally from MA, my parents attended mass at the Paulist Center decades ago. I had not even known this until I told them I’d begun attending.)* For most of these nine years, I have served the community through our music ministry and have recently begun volunteering at Wednesday Night Supper Club. I have, also, been fortunate to engage and collaborate with various members of the Community through my former participation in the Young Adult ministry, decorating “skills” at the annual auction, and collaborations in solidarity with the Second Chance Justice Campaign for William Allen. I have long admired the contributions and commitment of those, both formally and informally, working within the Paulist Center and wish to contribute my own experiences and insights in support of the Community. Through my years of experience as an educator and my current role in workforce development, I bring with me a passion for social justice, listening, problem-solving, and continuously working to better ourselves and our community, particularly for those most in need. If you would like to know more about me or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at johannaschnitz@gmail.com.

Julie Sloan

Thank you for considering me as your nominee for the Paulist Center Pastoral Council. My name is Julie Sloan and I've been a member of the Paulist Center, along with my husband JB, since 2002. Both my children, Isabelle and James, have grown up here and my youngest will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in June. During these last 20 years I've had the chance to participate on Lev White's lectoring team and as a volunteer teacher in Little People's Program, FREP, first communion and as a co-lead of the monthly family & youth liturgies.

During the pandemic, I served as one of the women-leads on the planning team for "Zoom Family Liturgies." We were driven to continuously respond, reflect, adjust, and take action to connect our community and support our youth during those challenging times. Through this experience, we gained valuable insights into the importance of evolving our faith, community, and connections for both our children and adults. I have found much needed support, inspiration and joy in the act of being community for and with each other.

I am choosing to run for Pastoral Council because I would like to learn and engage with the other facets of the Paulist Center. I especially aim to support the work in helping our youth develop a sense of belonging among all of us at the Paulist Center.

Outside of the Center, I have worked for over 20 years with the Boston Public Schools as a teacher, teacher educator and currently, as an instructional coach.



Yoojung Yang



I am grateful for having had the opportunity to serve on the Pastoral Council at the Paulist Center these past two years. As my term nears its end, I am encouraged by the Holy Spirit to continue to serve another term should I have the opportunity again.

Since moving to Boston in 2015 as a single, 30-something-year-old female in pursuit of a better life both professionally and personally, I have found my spiritual home at the Paulist Center. Now that I am an almost 40 year old married and with a child, the need for this spiritual home for my family has never felt more compelling in my life. There is a certain sense of an “ownership” to try to take care of this home and its people, so that others who seek it can also find a meaningful connection as I have. Particularly as I reflect on my role as a council member, I think it is important that I bring the perspective of my demographic - the working mothers/parents of young children and, more specifically, those that aren’t from Boston and also are in the racial and ethnic minority in this New England Catholic community. It is one of many important voices that represent the Paulist center community and I would be so privileged to be one on the council.

Thank you for considering my candidacy.