



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 27-28, 2024 - 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WEEKEND IN-PERSON MASSES

Saturday
5pm

Sunday
10am
6pm

WEEKDAY IN-PERSON MASSES

Monday – Friday
12:05pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday and Friday, 11:00-11:45am, and by appointment

YAM HOSTS COMMUNITY POTLUCK - THIS SUNDAY, JAN 28!



This Sunday, our Young Adult Ministry (YAM) will host a potluck in the auditorium after the 6pm Mass, open to **all** who bring a dish (**not just young adults**)! Sharing a meal as a community is a wonderful opportunity to connect, reflect, and celebrate the new year. If you forget to RSVP, bring a dish or stay after to clean up!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PAULIST ASSOCIATES!

This weekend, they are renewing their annual promise to embody the ideals of the Paulists in their daily lives!



Mary Burke
Paula Cuozzo
John Domino
Carol Geyer
Denis Hurley

Peter Kelley
Barbara Lapinkas
Mary Lesko
Susan Santos

Patty Simpson
Mary Sullivan
Kathy Ward
Bev Young

★ ★ ★ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7: JOIN US FOR THE AUCTION KICK-OFF! ★ ★ ★

The Auction is the biggest fundraiser of the Paulist Center year, and it's a lot of fun! We are extremely grateful to members **Mairead Nolan** and **Maggie Keefe**, who have agreed to **co-chair the Auction** this year.

It takes a village to pull off a successful Auction. Please join us **online** for the official **Auction Kick-Off Meeting** at 7pm on **Wednesday, February 7**. That night, meet the various committee chairs, hear about the many opportunities to help, and, most fun of all, help us pick this year's theme!

<http://tinyurl.com/Auction2024Kickoff> Meeting ID: 862 2057 2607 Passcode: 369677

If you can't make the meeting, please reach out to Mairead & Maggie at auction@paulistcenter.org.

And don't forget to mark your calendars: the 2024 Paulist Center Auction will be on the evening of **Saturday, April 27!**

REPRISE: "UNDERSTANDING NARRATIVE & NUANCE IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE"

We continue to pray for deep, lasting peace to break out in the Holy Land, where all people will have the opportunity to flourish.



Please join us **after the 10am Mass next Sunday, February 4** as we welcome Jerusalem-based **Jared Goldfarb** among us to discuss "**Understanding Narrative & Nuance in Israel/Palestine**." Jared spoke to more than 40 PCC members in late November, but sadly, the violence has continued since then. While Jared is visiting the United States, we have the opportunity to talk with him in person.

We have more details in the electronic Missive, which you can access on our website.

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 10-11: ANOINTING OF THE SICK

February 11 is the **World Day of the Sick**. (It's also the anniversary of the first appearance of Mary to St. Bernadette in Lourdes, France in 1858.)

We will **celebrate the Anointing of the Sick** with anyone who wishes to receive the sacrament **after each Mass on the weekend of February 10-11**. For more information on this beautiful-but-widely-misunderstood sacrament, we recommend visiting <https://bustedhalo.com/video/anointing-of-the-sick-who-its-for>.



Welcome! If you are considering becoming a member, please fill out a membership inquiry form that can be found on our [website](https://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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LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

Saturday, January 27, 5pm

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)

Sunday, February 4, 10am

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)

*While we usually livestream the 10am Sunday Mass,
we will **livestream 5pm Saturday** instead
on the weekend of **January 27 - 28**.*



PARENT PREPARATION FOR INFANT/CHILD BAPTISM

The Paulist Center offers a preparation session on **Saturdays, from 10am - 12pm**. The next three (3) dates are **March 9, April 13, and May 11**, in the 2nd floor Seminar Rm/Chapel.



Expecting parents are invited to attend before their child is born/adopted.

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

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Interested in receiving the Sacrament Of Confirmation? **In-person Confirmation classes for adults** will be held on 5 consecutive **Thursdays** at the Paulist Center, 6th floor, Rm 22.

Class dates:

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4.

The classes will be from **7-9pm**.

For more information and to sign up please contact Fr. Rick at rick@paulistcenter.org.



MARRIAGE PREPARATION NEEDS YOU!

Please consider helping Fr. Rick and our small team of volunteers in making our "**Transformed in Love**" sessions memorable and useful to all who come to us.



We ask that any couple who can join us, share just **one Saturday afternoon a year!** That's all.

In the cold and flu season from November through April we will conduct our sessions on-line.

In the **warmer months**, we will require that all attendees come to the **Center** for this retreat-like experience and to then join us for our Saturday evening Vigil Mass at the end of the day.

This outreach to the Greater Boston Area has been a significant revenue producer for the Center as well as a model for young adults who seek to enhance their spiritual lives.

Please contact Fr. Rick at 617 948 2424 or rick@paulistcenter.org.

INTERGENERATIONAL RJAG SESSION

Over 100 community members joined us for our 3rd intergenerational session of the year, this time hosted by our Racial Justice Advocacy Group (RJAG). Children and adults alike enjoyed and read aloud a book written by MLK, Jr's niece, Angela Watkins, and watched a clip of MLK, Jr's "**I Have a Dream**" speech.



RJAG member, **Mary Skinner**, enthralled us with her own personal account of being at this historic speech in Washington, DC in August 1963. What a treat to hear her personal account of her and her family's efforts to work for racial justice during the 1960s. *Thank you, Mary!*



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ...

Please pray for **Maureen Nash**, sister of community member Kathleen Kerr, who passed away last week.

Kathleen appreciates our prayers for her sister, herself and their families.



CREATION CARE MINISTRY

The next Creation Care ministry meeting will be on **Monday, February 5 at 5pm on Zoom**. For the Zoom link

email: paulistcentercreationcare@gmail.com.

All are welcome.



SACRAMENTS: GRACES FOR THE JOURNEY AHEAD

Fr. Richard R. Andre, CSP

Director

This weekend, a number of our elementary students begin their preparation for First Holy Communion. On Tuesday night, those in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (formerly known as RCIA) will be discussing grace and the Holy Spirit. Therefore, it seems like a good time to talk about sacraments.

Some members of our community are familiar with *The Baltimore Catechism*, the standard Catholic school textbook in the United States from 1885 until the late 1960s. One of the *Catechism's* lessons known to generations of U. S. Catholic schoolchildren was: **"A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace."**

While the *Catechism's* teaching is true, I use a different mantra when I talk about the sacraments with children and adults alike: **Sacraments are not rewards for a job well done; they are graces for the journey ahead.** It's easy to understand why receiving a sacrament often feels like a moment of *completion*. We usually ask people to participate in some sort of preparation process beforehand, and we often throw a party immediately afterwards. But sacraments are better understood as *beginnings*.

It may help to apply this idea to each specific sacrament. At an infant's baptism, our main focus is on the child receiving the grace to become a Christian disciple. Reconciliation is more about being strengthened for the journey of faith ahead than about paving over the potholes in the road already traveled. It's commonly said that Eucharist is a medicine for sinners, not a reward for saints. Confirmation is about **God** confirming the faith of the disciple, rather than the disciple confirming their faith in God. Most recipients of the anointing of the sick report sensing God's presence, peace, and Providence as they face their illness. At weddings, couples ask God for the grace necessary to uphold their lifetime commitment one another. An ordination is not a seminary graduation party; it's asking God to bestow the minister with the pastoral gifts necessary for the tasks ahead.

Of course, sacraments are not the only way we receive grace in our lives. We are born with the Holy Spirit already residing deep within us, and individual people have deep, transformative experiences at all kinds of moments throughout their lives. Someone may truly experience God's grace by seeing a rainbow or through a deep conversation with a friend, while another person may not perceive a spiritual dimension to such a moment. What sets the seven sacraments apart from these other experiences is our belief that they are *efficacious*. No matter how flawed the minister or the recipient of the sacrament may be, we believe that Christ's grace is always present.

The great German theologian Karl Rahner – who, although he is not yet canonized, I consider to be one of my patron saints – has suggested that the Church itself is a sacrament. Even though the Church is comprised of fallible people, it is an outward sign that was instituted by Christ, and through it, the world receives efficacious graces for the continuing journey.



THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who made a pledge or submitted their contact information & prayer requests to the Annual Paulist Appeal! The APA helps the Paulists to prepare students for priesthood, to sustain national ministries, and to care for senior priests. It also builds connections between the Paulist Center and the larger community of people connected to the Paulists throughout the world.

If you would still like to donate or get on the Paulist Fathers' contact list, please visit paulist.org/apa.

Thanks again!

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. ***We are so grateful for your financial support!***

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>, or scan the QR code.
2. Text a whole dollar donation to **844-899-7511**; this will be designated as your "Weekend Offering."



COMMUNITY GIFT

The Paulist Center gives 5% of our annual offertory to 52 other charitable organizations with missions consonant with our own. These organizations receive an equal amount from our annual offertory.

The weekend of **January 27 and 28** we raise up the **Church in Latin America** which provides support for pastoral projects in financially poorer dioceses in Latin America and the Caribbean.

TAX LETTERS HAVE BEEN MAILED

If you donated to the Center in an identifiable and tax-deductible way in 2023, look for your tax letter in the mail. Please note tax letters for distributions from retirement accounts and donor-advised funds should come from your institutions, not from the Center. Auction donations were issued separate letters back in the spring. Auction purchases are generally not tax deductible as goods and services were received in return for payment. If you have any questions or note any potential errors, please email **Patty Simpson** at patty@paulistcenter.org and she will be glad to get back to you. ***Your stewardship to the Center in all forms (time, talent and treasure) is greatly appreciated and the generosity on which the Center runs!***



CALL FOR MUSICIANS

The Paulist Center Music Ministry Program is already gearing up for the celebrations of **Holy Week**.



Singers and instrumentalists are invited to consider joining us for this year's **Triduum** (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil).

Rehearsals will be held on **Thursday** evenings **beginning on February 8** from **7-9 pm** in the Chapel.

Please contact **Norm Gouin** at norm@paulistcenter.org for more information on how to get involved.

SUPPORTING OUR LGBTQIA MEMBERS

The Paulist Center continues to embrace and support our beloved LGBTQIA members and their families & allies. While the Worship Committee is still discerning how we can most pastorally offer blessings to same-sex couples as outlined in the new Vatican document ***Fiducia Supplicans***, we recommend articles written by **Lisa Sowle Cahill** (on the **Outreach.faith website**) and **Brian Flanagan** (for the **New Ways Ministry** blog).

In the mean time, any same-sex couple is welcome to ask either of our priests for a private blessing.



ROSARY CIRCLE LINK HAS CHANGED BACK

The Paulist Center Rosary Circle link has changed back to the old link; here is the link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/487503158?pwd=aVFZb3BWNFBiQzZMSXdhbm03NUozUT09>

We meet **every Monday at 7:30pm on Zoom**
All are welcome.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

We recommend a **joint letter** issued by Cardinal Robert McElroy of San Diego and Archbishop John Wester of Santa Fe on Wednesday, January 17.

It condemns Hamas and calls for an **"immediate and total ceasefire" in Gaza.**

Pastoral Staff: Rich Andre, CSP; Normand Gouin; Gus Kellerman; Susan Rutkowski; Patricia Simpson; Rick Walsh, CSP

Administrative Staff: Barbara Dunay; Dorothy Messenger; Rob Smyser; Sal Whooley

Custodial Staff: Alvaro Enamorado; Timmy Valle

(See our **website** for staff contact information.)

Pastoral Council Chair: Deb Heimel
pccouncil@paulistcenter.org

Finance Committee Chair: Mary Lesko

Worship Committee Chair: Claire Byrne
worship@paulistcenter.org