



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.



FEBRUARY 24-25, 2024 - 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

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

PRAY FOR THE PAULIST FATHERS AND FOR EVERYONE THEY SERVE



Please read an important letter from Fr. René Constanza, President of the Paulist Fathers, inserted in this bulletin. (You can also find the letter at paulist.org/letter.) René explains that the Paulists are discerning which ministries they can best continue to support, in light of the continued decline in the number of Paulist priests available for full-time ministry. While the Boston Paulists have faith-filled optimism that the Paulist General Council — and the lay people advising them in this process — will discern that the Paulist Fathers have the resources to continue staffing the Paulist Center, there is no guarantee. The Paulist Center Community, along with all the people throughout the United States and in Rome who share in Paulist ministry, will sit in a time of uncertainty for the next several weeks. We believe the decisions will be made by the end of March, with withdrawals from any foundations the Paulists can no longer support happening by the end of the year.

We realize that this news likely stirs up a mix of strong emotions, including anxiety about the future of the Paulist Center. Members of the Pastoral Staff and the Pastoral Council will be available after each Mass this weekend to answer questions as best as they can. In the meantime, let us pray for one another in the Paulist Center Community and for all people around the world who benefit from Paulist ministry, for the Paulist General Council as they make heart-wrenching decisions, and especially for all lay people who work with the Paulists (including the staff of the Paulist Center) who face economic instability. With the help of Paulist Center staff, Fr. Rich will respond to a detailed questionnaire from the General Council. He will strongly advocate for the Paulist Fathers continuing their ministry at the Paulist Center. **Please email the Pastoral Council** at pccouncil@paulistcenter.org by Sunday evening, February 25 with your suggestions on what you believe are the most important aspects of the Paulist Center that he should include in the response.

SAVE THE DATE — SATURDAY, APRIL 27 — FOR THE 41ST PAULIST CENTER AUCTION,

"THE OLYMPICS IN PARIS: AN EVENING SOIREE"



Olympics in Paris
AN EVENING SOIREE

2024 Paulist Center Auction
April 27, 2024 - 6:15 PM

The Auction is the biggest fundraiser of the year, and it's a really fun time! Fill out the insert in the bulletin (or find the form at paulistcenter.org/Auction2024) for how you can help us to make the Auction a gold-medal success right now.

- ★ Sponsor the Auction!
- ★ Volunteer!
- ★ Donate an item to be auctioned off!
- ★ Order your event tickets online!
- ★ Suggest vendors that we should ask for donations!

Thanks for your support!

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY HOSTS COMMUNITY POTLUCK - THIS SUNDAY, FEB 25!

This Sunday, Young Adult Ministry will host a **Community potluck** in the auditorium after the 6pm Mass. Open to **all** who bring a dish (*not just young adults*). **The theme is Comfort Food**, so bring a dish that makes you feel at home! Young Adult Ministry is a community of young adults (18-39 years old) focused on living out our faith through community, service, and spirituality. If you're interested in learning more, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/PCI-on-1> to schedule a **1:1 conversation** with our **Young Adult Minister, Gus**.



LENTEN FAMILY SOCIAL - SUNDAY, MARCH 3 AT 11:15AM IN THE AUDITORIUM



All families are invited to join this social to connect with other families, learn about Lent, and participate in a Lenten craft. Lenten booklets specifically for children, teens, and parents will be available at the social. For more information please contact **Susan Rutkowski** at susan@paulistcenter.org.

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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LIVE-STREAMED MASS LINKS

Sunday, February 25, 10am

2nd Sunday of Lent

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)



Sunday, March 3, 10am

3rd Sunday of Lent

YouTube [Link](#)

Order of Worship [Link](#)

LENT AT THE PAULIST CENTER - 2024



Here at the Paulist Center the richness of our liturgical celebrations, the many prayer and faith sharing opportunities, and most especially our commitment to being companions and witnesses to those preparing for sacraments of Easter, are all ways for us to enter fully into this time of reflection, recommitment, and renewal – a chance for us to remember who we are and where we have come from and why.

For detailed information on how to enrich your Lenten journey, be sure to check out all our **Lenten offerings and liturgy schedule at: www.paulistcenter.org/lent2024**.

LENTEN PRAYER SERVICES ON THE NEXT 4 WEDNESDAYS

Please join us for the second of four **Online Lenten Prayer Services** this coming **Wednesday, February 28** at 7:00pm led by our LGBTQIA Ministry. The next two online services will be held on **March 6**, and **March 13** at 7pm.

Zoom link is tinyurl.com/LentenPrayer2024



On **Wednesday, March 20**, please join us **in the Chapel** for a **Lay-led Service of Reconciliation and Reflection** at 7:00pm.

An opportunity for Individual Confession will be available.

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**, at the Paulist Center in the 3rd floor Library and in the 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, 7-9pm** at the Paulist Center in Rm 22 on the 6th floor.

Class dates: **March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4**.



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

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (FREP) - SUN, FEB 25

There are no classes this Sunday, February 25 due to the winter break.

HOPES

Fr. Rick Walsh, C.S.P.

Associate Director

As Fr. Rich mentioned on page 1, I have “faith-filled optimism” that the Paulist Fathers will continue to staff the Boston Paulist Center.

I’m coming up on my 9th month of ministry here at the Paulist Center since returning from my New York City adventure. I am so grateful for the opportunity given to me by Paulist President, Fr. René Constanza to be with you again.

And as I have been growing or gestating spiritually these past eight months, I thought I’d like to share what are three hopes I have for our Paulist Center Community in what I believe will be in the months and years to come. These three hopes pertain to the mission of the Paulists that focus on ecumenism, reconciliation and evangelization.

I’d like to begin by sharing with you a meaningful self-description of the Paulists that was heard years ago: “A Paulist is a priest who serves His God by serving those outside the Church.” This description has long been applicable to our local Paulist foundation here on Park Street.

While the Catholic Church has changed and adjusted itself over the many years since the Second Vatican Council, the Paulist Center has evolved as well and both, I’m sure, will continue to do so with an open-minded, open-hearted stance toward the Holy Spirit.

As a Paulist foundation we are called to seek out those who have never really known Christ and His teachings. Primarily we need to pay attention to ourselves and our spiritual enrichment. We need to strengthen and deepen our relationship with Christ, with the larger Body of Christ - the Church, and with one another.

If we are not attentive to our individual and shared life of prayer, we will not be able to bring others to Christ. We can recover and extract those gems of our Catholic faith and share them with all those we meet as we go about our daily lives. As Fr. Isaac Hecker once wrote of the Paulists: “Our power will be in presenting the same old truths, in new forms, fresh new tone and air and spirit.”

And so one hope I have is for us to maintain unity with the institutional Church while displaying and offering a unique approach to Catholicism that might be attractive to the many “Nones” and/or otherwise disinterested or apathetic persons living in the greater Boston area.

As a Paulist faith community, we are called to seek common ground with those who identify as Christian but who perch themselves on a different branch of our large family tree. Similarly, we engage with those of other religious traditions.

So another hope is that we will find more opportunities to labor in the vineyard together, to pray together and to offer classes on Church history, ecumenism and other faith traditions.

In our workplaces, shopping, and neighborhoods, we encounter and offer a listening ear and compassionate heart to those who have “retired” from their Catholic faith and who could benefit from a well-deserved and sincere apology.

Hope number three then is that we will invite people to the Paulist Center where folks can experience healing and reconciliation with the Church as it is expressed by our community.

When I think of each of these mission directives, I can’t help but have an image of a bridge. Ours is a bridge-building and bridge-maintaining and bridge-repairing ministry. And with this vocation as Paulist Center Catholics, we will have to accept the fact that there will be tension as bridges inherently use tension to stay standing over deep canyons and sometimes turbulent waters.

I will share more in the weeks and months to come.

Yours/His,
Fr. Rick



CREATION CARE MINISTRY

The next Creation Care ministry meeting is on **Monday, March 4 at 5pm on Zoom**. For the Zoom link please email: paulistcentercreationcare@gmail.com. *All are welcome!*

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!*

See paulistcenter.org/give/ways-to-give for a variety of ways to give to the Paulist Center. Two options include:

Give a one-time or recurring donation using your bank account or credit card by visiting 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. Giving by this method helps us with our budgeting and stewardship efforts.



Use **Apple Pay** or **Google Pay** by visiting donorbox.org/paulistcenter, scanning the QR code on the red cards in the pews, or scanning the **QR code 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 other charitable organizations with missions consonant with our own. These organizations receive an equal amount from our annual offertory. The weekend of **February 24 and 25** we raise up **Catholic Relief Services in their continuing relief efforts to support areas of Turkey and Syria devastated by last year's earthquakes**. Should you wish to make an additional contribution, there are envelopes in the pews marked "Special Collection" - please make checks payable to "Catholic Relief Services" and notate Turkey and Syria earthquake on the check memo.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION NEEDS YOUR HELP!



Fr. Rick is preparing to contact several couples to assist this important ministry to the Archdiocese of Boston. We are looking at having several couples offer as little as **two hours of their time once per year**. This will be a great opportunity to meet other couples at the Paulist Center and help develop a much-needed and worthwhile outreach to those preparing for marriage.

You don't have to wait for **Fr. Rick** to reach you. Please call him (617-948-2424) if you are able and willing to join him and other couples.

Around the Community

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN:

Come to the Massachusetts State House on **Saturday, March 2** as part of the national **Poor People's Campaign!**

Founded by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1967, PPC will march & rally to bring the demands of poor & low-wealth people for *living wages, healthcare, housing, education, environmental justice, and voting rights* directly to our lawmakers.

The actual rally is scheduled for **11am to 1pm**, but organizers are asking people to **arrive by 9:30am**.

Please **RSVP here**.



GREATER BOSTON INTERFAITH ORGANIZATION:



Our Racial Justice Advocacy Group invites other Paulist Center Community members to **Greater Boston Interfaith Organization's** housing justice rally at the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center in Roxbury at 3pm on **Sunday, March 3**. An expected 1,500 people will make urgent appeals to state leaders about *public housing, affordable home ownership and rentals, and housing assistance for individuals returning from incarceration*. More info at bit.ly/gbiomarch3. Register as a guest of **Hillel Bnai Torah**, and email **Tom** at sharkey.te@verizon.net to let him know that you're going.

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](http://paulistcenter.org) for staff contact information.)

Pastoral Council Chair: Deb Heimel
pccouncil@paulistcenter.org

Finance Committee Chair: Mary Lesko

Worship Committee Chair: Claire Byrne
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