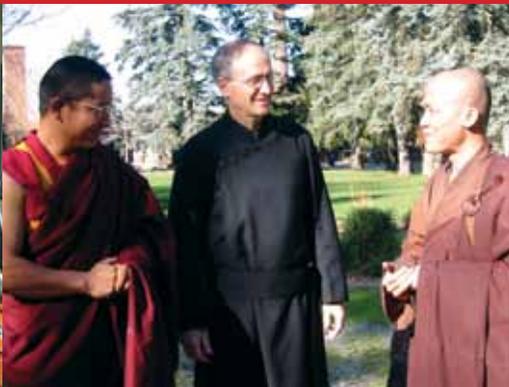


MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE

Giving the Gospel a Voice Today





PAULIST FATHERS
GIVING THE GOSPEL A VOICE TODAY

GREETINGS FROM THE PAULIST PRESIDENT

The Paulist Fathers are a missionary community which from the beginning has been a strong and effective voice for evangelization, conversion and renewal for the people of North America. In recent decades we have also tried to reach out to inactive Catholics, foster unity among Christians, and provide an atmosphere of respect and collaboration among people of all world religions.

The Paulist Fathers continue to give the Word of God a voice. We accomplish this in so many ways: one-on-one contact; preaching and teaching; video; the printed word; radio; and the Internet.

In the words of our founder, Father Isaac Hecker, "We strive to meet the needs of the church in the present age."

I invite you to discover the rich history, solid mission and many great works of the Paulist Fathers, our lay colleagues and members of our worshipping communities. All of these efforts have been guided by the Holy Spirit, inspired by the example of St. Paul and built upon the legacy of Father Hecker.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

V. Rev. John F. Duffy, CSP
President of the Paulist Fathers



Welcome

Purpose



MISSION STATEMENT OF THE PAULIST FATHERS

We give the Word of God a voice in pulpits and print, on radio and television, on the Web and the wide screen.

We search out those who have no church home, and welcome home those who have been away.

We share the passion of St. Paul for unity in faith and solidarity in mission among all the baptized in the body of Christ.

We build bridges of respect and collaboration with people of other world religions.

We welcome people of diverse racial and cultural backgrounds in our parish, city center and campus worshipping communities.

We preach the Gospel calling for all the children of God to be treated with dignity and justice.

We claim Isaac Hecker as our founder, the Holy Spirit as our primary guide, St. Paul as our patron and laity as our valued partners in mission.

We are Paulists. Missionaries to North America.

WHO ARE THE PAULIST FATHERS?

We seek to meet the contemporary culture on its own terms, to present the Gospel message in ways that are compelling but not diluted, so that the fullness of the Catholic faith may lead others to find Christ's deep peace and "unreachable quietness."

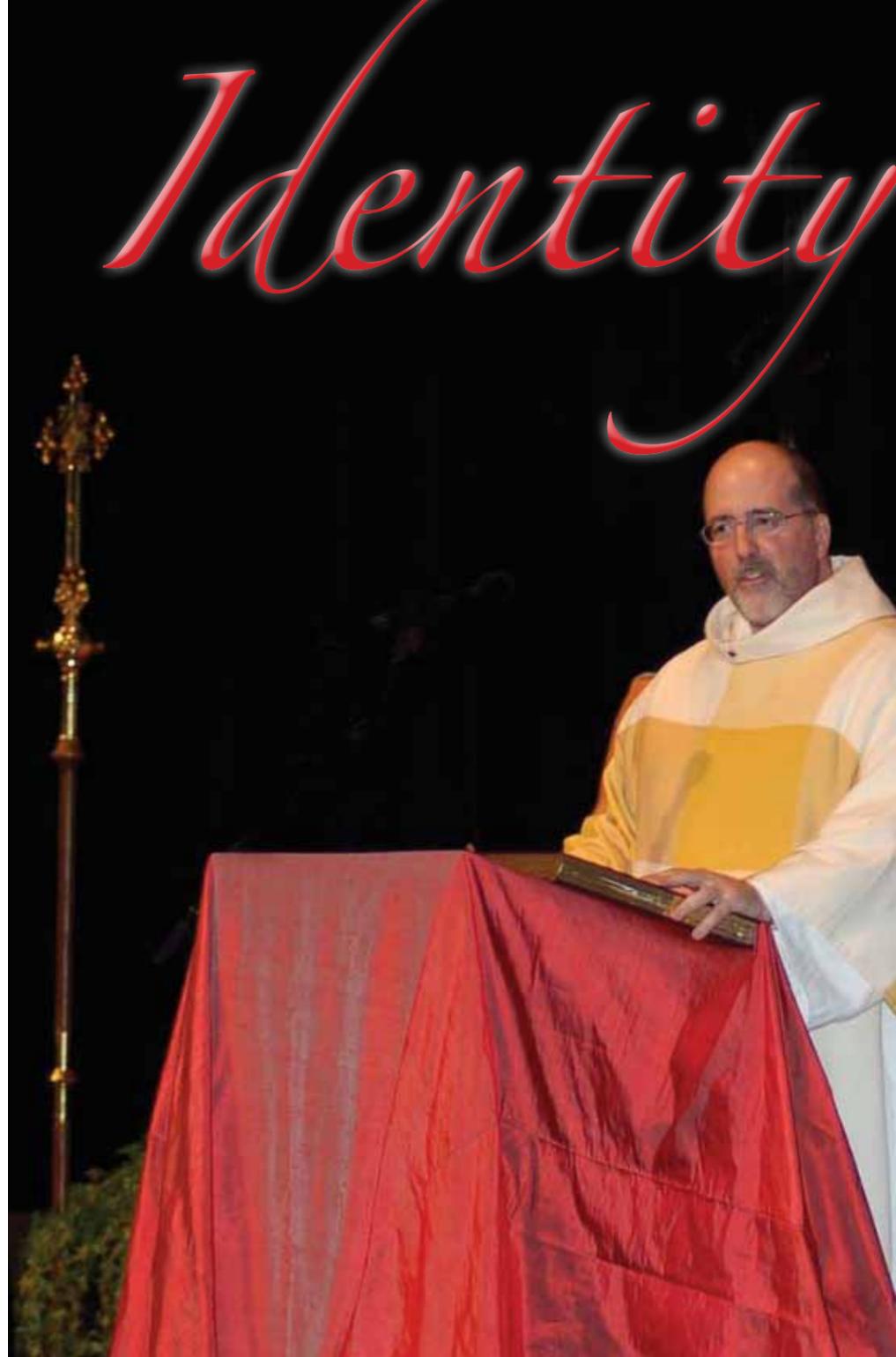
Paulists do not condemn culture, nor do they try to conform the Gospel to it. Rather, we preach the Gospel in new ways and in new forms, so that the deep spiritual longings of the culture might find fulfillment in Jesus Christ. To this end, Paulists use printing presses, movie cameras, radio and Web servers to give voice to the words of Christ – the Word made flesh – to a new generation of Americans.

The founder of the Paulists, Isaac Hecker, was a spiritual seeker, a wandering soul. He lived for a time in Transcendentalist utopian communities where he consulted the leading thinkers of his day. Though a seeker, he became a man of conviction: once he found truth in the Catholic Church, he gave his whole life to it. His only desire was to proclaim this truth to others so that they too could find their true selves as North American Catholics.

Today our Paulist family grows, joined by Associates and lay collaborators in foundations throughout North America. The Holy Spirit continues to enliven the vision of Father Hecker through our hearts and voices as we seek out those who desire healing, reconciliation and work toward Christian unity and dialogue with those of other religions.

We give the Gospel a voice today!

Identity





FATHER HECKER: VISIONARY, MISSIONARY

Isaac Thomas Hecker was born in New York City on December 18, 1819, the third son and youngest child of John and Caroline (Freund) Hecker. Ordained a Redemptorist priest in 1849, he founded the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle in New York on July 7, 1858.

The society was originally established to renew believers and evangelize non-believers in order to convert North America to the Roman Catholic Church. Father Hecker sought to evangelize Americans using the popular means of his day, primarily preaching, the public lecture circuit and the printing press. He founded the monthly publication, "The Catholic World," in 1865.

Father Hecker's spirituality centered on the action of the Holy Spirit upon the soul and the need to remain attentive to the prompting of the Spirit in the great and small moments of life. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Father Hecker labored to establish a dialogue between faith and culture, which he believed would lead to an American Catholicism whose vitality and optimism would transform the world.

In the latter years of his life, Father Hecker suffered with dark nights of the soul that varied in intensity; this was combined with the physical problems of a weak heart and leukemia. While emotionally and physically overcome at moments, Father Hecker remained faithful through his sure belief in the Holy Spirit.

"God is now visiting me with the profoundest desolation of spirit. Yet I never knew that God would permit me to come so near to him and love him as I have," Father Hecker wrote.

On December 22, 1888, as the Paulist community gathered around his bed in prayer, Father Hecker raised his hand, making the Sign of the Cross in blessing, and died.

On January 27, 2008, Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York declared Father Hecker a Servant of God, thereby officially opening his cause for sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church.

ST. PAUL: CONVERT, DISCIPLE, APOSTLE

Our identity has been linked from the start not with our founder but with one of the earliest Christian saints. Why did Father Hecker and his four companions choose St. Paul as their namesake, patron and model? Paul possessed at least three characteristics that clearly resonated with Father Hecker's own experience:

CONVERSION: As Saul, Paul was a person called to conversion. The vision of Jesus he encountered on the road to Damascus shattered the single-minded clarity that had ordered his direction. He required the guidance of a Christian named Ananias to help him understand the strange new thoughts and yearnings that had entered his heart. However reluctant and fearful Ananias may have been, he welcomed Paul and confirmed his faith in the Christ he had once persecuted. A convert himself, Father Hecker sought to provide seekers of his own time with the hospitality and invitation to conversion with which Ananias had greeted the blinded Saul.

DISCIPLESHIP: Conversion became for Paul a lifetime of learning to live in the light of Christ. This is no easy task for any Christian, nor was it for Paul. His letters reveal his gratitude for the friends who walked the journey with him, and for the support and challenge a community of believers provided. His intense outer activity was fueled by a fire within. Father Hecker no doubt read Paul's letters and discovered a kindred spirit whose words evoked his own desire to live a spiritual life while deeply involved in a world of action. Hecker urged the Paulists to be, before all else, persons of prayer.

APOSTLESHIP: After his baptism Paul spent nearly every conscious moment sharing the good news, using whatever means of travel and communication that were available to him. His life showed ingenuity, courage and perseverance in the face of frustration and hardship. Even his failures, imprisonments and exiles became opportunities to bring the message of Christ to someone who had not yet heard it. Father Hecker must have mined the life of Paul for lessons of consolation and inspiration as he faced his own triumphs, trials and disappointments. During his long years of illness, Father Hecker gained the wisdom that Paul achieved in prison: that faithfulness is the greatest testimony to the gift of faith.





Evangelization

SHARING THE WORD

All Christians are called by baptism to share the Good News of Christ.

Although almost all Paulist ministry can be seen under the broad umbrella of evangelization, the Paulists have sponsored the **Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association** (PNCEA) with a particular focus on evangelization.

The Paulist Fathers established the Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association in 1977 to build up the body of Christ by equipping Catholics to evangelize. We provide practical and user-friendly programs and resources to Catholic (arch)dioceses, parishes, and individuals, helping them to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to inactive Catholics and to those with no church family. PNCEA has also offered online symposiums, training and conventions.

Openings is the Paulist Fathers ministry to young and emerging visual artists based in New York City. This evangelization ministry is rooted in the Catholic experience of faith, a faith that relies on the experience of the God in whom we “live and move and have our being.”

Paulist New England Outreach and the *Northwest Paulist Center for Evangelization and Reconciliation* are regional ministries that assist parishes and their representative groups to reach out to the unchurched, welcome back those who have drifted away and deepen the spiritual life of active Catholics through a variety of programs and gatherings.

A number of Paulist priests also offer days of reflection, retreats and parish missions.

HEALING THE HURT

The causes of suffering, division and conflict are many. The source of healing and reconciliation is one: God.

The Paulist Fathers are committed to a ministry of reconciliation through listening, sacramental healing and dialogue. This ministry is multi-faceted with invitations to the wider church and society, to parish communities and to individual Catholics, whatever their pastoral situation.

Reconciliation is the restoration of communion between those whose bonds of mutual belonging have been impaired or even severed. Reconciliation is based on the principle that what is common among human beings ought to prevail over every discord. This should especially be the concern of Jesus' disciples. Through our common Baptism, we are called to bring healing and to work for unity within the church and throughout society.

Paulist Reconciliation Ministries engage the faithful in a healing ministry in Paulist foundations and their immediate regions. Paulists and their lay collaborators reach out in caring ways to various groups: alienated Catholics; divorced and separated Catholics; the gay, lesbian and transgendered community; those affected by the abuse crisis; victims of racism; and women disaffected from the church, to name a few.

The following programs are sponsored by the Paulist National Reconciliation Office:

- **Landings** reaches out to inactive Catholics and empowers laity to welcome them home. In parishes, groups of six to eight active Catholics join together with two or three who are returning. Over the course of ten weeks, group members listen to one another as they reflect on the Creed and tell their faith stories.
- **Awakening Faith** is a small group process which invites inactive Catholics to return to the Church. The meetings foster theological reflection, prayer and honest sharing in a setting of hospitality and acceptance.
- **The Big Question** engages participants in a process of forgiveness, based on the documentary film of the same name. After a screening of the film, participants explore five steps of letting go of anger, resentment, revenge and work toward becoming a more forgiving person. The format takes different shapes: parish missions, days of recollection or weekend retreats.



Reconciliation

Dialogue



DEEPENING RELATIONSHIPS

Paulists are committed to working for unity among Christians and for respect, understanding and collaboration with followers of other world religions.

The goals of ecumenism (the work for Christian unity) are unity in: the essentials of the faith, sacramental life, worship and common mission. Dialogue and joint service characterize interreligious initiatives.

Paulists are generally involved in ecumenical and interfaith networks in their respective ministry settings: campus ministry associations, city-wide or neighborhood councils of churches, interfaith community organizations offering services on behalf of the needy.

The Paulists may be the only community of apostolic life that has designated a coordinator of ecumenical and interfaith relations for its own community. **The Paulist Office for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations** offers a quarterly online newsletter, ecumenical parish missions titled *Gospel Call*, intra-Christian and interfaith retreats, workshops, seminars, a monthly article sent to religious newspapers, books, talks in parish settings, participating in dialogues and a presence at both ecumenical and interreligious national and international events.

Paulists are involved in full-time ecumenical and interfaith ministry at places such as the *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops* in Washington, D.C., and the *Tantur Ecumenical Institute* in Jerusalem.

Paulist Press contributes to ecumenical and interfaith efforts through its publication of an impressive list of titles relating to Christian unity and interfaith understanding.

ENKINDLING THE FAITH

Busted Halo® is the Paulist ministry and media outreach to Catholics in their 20s and 30s.

We help young adults explore their spirituality, listen to and encourage one another, discover the rich depths of Catholic tradition and connect to communities of faith where their unique gifts will be respected and used, and where they will find support on their journey towards God.

Busted Halo® also promotes ministry with young adults in Catholic parishes and dioceses across North America. We help local communities of faith better incorporate those in their 20s and 30s into the lay mission of the church in society. We continue to seek out new ways to make the connection between young, spiritual seekers and the community of the church.

The Paulist Fathers offer many tools to minister to young adults, but none showcases the Paulists' dedication to meet today's young adults on their terms better than *BustedHalo.com*, the leading Catholic Web site for young adult spiritual seekers, and *The Busted Halo® Show with Father Dave Dwyer*, broadcast daily on Sirius XM Satellite Radio's The Catholic Channel (Sirius 159/XM 117).





Campus Ministry

LEARNING WITH SPIRIT

Among the earliest apostolates taken on by the Paulists, at the invitation of several bishops, was ministry to Catholic communities on and surrounding secular university campuses.

As the 19th century blended into the twentieth, the church had to face the rise of large state universities – Catholics would attend these institutions, but who would help Catholics maintain faith and grow in spirituality in the face of an often anti-Catholic secular teaching agenda?

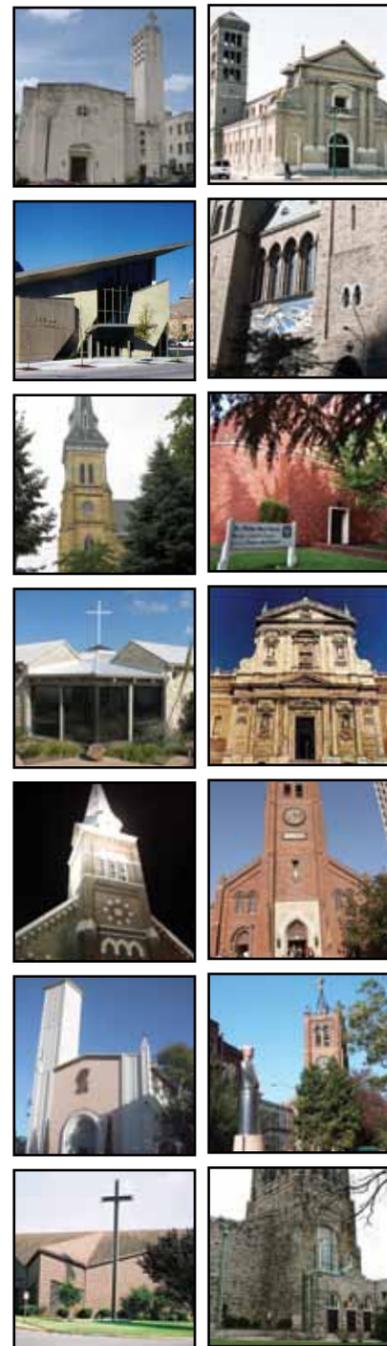
The Paulists were a natural fit for ministry on university campuses because of our extensive reputation, even 100 years ago, of helping people understand faith in modern, clear words.

Paulists formed “Newman Centers” – as they were called after Cardinal John Henry Newman, the great English intellectual and theologian – which could serve as worship and gathering spaces for Catholics. Paulists were among the early pioneers of outreach of Catholic students attending large secular universities.

Today Paulists continue this ministry at some of the most important university settings: St. Luke University Parish at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich.; University Catholic Center at the University of Texas in Austin; Newman Hall-Holy Spirit Parish at the University of California at Berkeley; St. Thomas More Newman Center at The Ohio State University in Columbus; Blessed John XXIII University Parish at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville; University Catholic Center of the University of California at Los Angeles and St. Lawrence Church and Newman Center at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

These campuses, with tens of thousands of students, have chapels filled with Catholic students who are growing in faith as they earn their undergraduate and graduate degrees.





CALLING PEOPLE TOGETHER

For the first 40 years of Paulist history, all ministry was done from New York City, where the Paulists founded and served at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, located on Manhattan's Upper West Side beginning in 1858.

In 1898, the Paulists began expanding to other cities where centrally-located parishes served as bases for mission outreach and influence for urban areas.

The Paulists now serve the faith communities of St. Austin, Austin, Tex.; Old St. Mary's, Chicago, Ill.; Cathedral of St. Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich.; St. Paul the Apostle Chapel, Horseshoe Bay, Tex.; Immaculate Conception, Knoxville, Tenn.; St. Paul the Apostle, Los Angeles, Calif.; St. Augustine, Memphis, Tenn.; St. Patrick, Memphis, Tenn.; Church of St. Paul the Apostle, New York, NY; St. Philip Neri, Portland, Ore.; Church of Santa Susanna, Rome, Italy; Old St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco, Calif.; Holy Family Chinese Mission, San Francisco, Calif.; and St. Peter, Toronto, Canada.

Paulists serve in parishes so they can model what a parish committed to mission might look like. Paulists do not see their task as only serving their parishioners, but also being a source of renewal and evangelization for a whole area.





QUENCHING THE THIRST

After World War II the Paulists began a unique ministry – outreach to people seeking for faith in the centers of some of our largest cities. Paulists knew that sometimes people wanted to inquire about the faith, but with a privacy and anonymity as they began their exploration.

In New York, Baltimore, Boston, Toronto, Grand Rapids, San Francisco, Chicago and Los Angeles, the Paulists opened these centers where people could explore the Catholic faith and, if they chose, begin a course of instruction to enter the church. Thousands of people were brought into the church during these decades.

Today most parishes have the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults process of conversion, so Information Centers do not play the same role as 30 years ago.

However, Catholic Information Centers – including the Paulist Center and Paulist New England Outreach in Boston, Mass.; the Paulist Centre for Catholic Evangelization in Toronto, Canada; the Catholic Information Center in Grand Rapids, Mich.; and the Paulist Northwest Center for Evangelization and Reconciliation in Portland, Ore. – play an important role in providing leadership for Catholics in these regions in areas of evangelization, ecumenical outreach and reconciling Catholics who wish to return to the practice of their faith.



LIVING THE CHARISM

For many years, the Paulist Fathers have worked together with lay people in their foundations and ministries.

To allow them to have an even more intimate connection with the Paulist Fathers, the Paulists created the **Paulist Associates** program. Men and women – even Christians from other denominations – are invited to freely associate themselves with the Paulist spirituality and charism by making a commitment to embody the Paulist mission in their daily living.

With these associates, the charism of the Paulists - as outlined in the Mission Direction Statement on Page 4 - is extended beyond the limited membership of the Paulist community itself.

Adult Christians are invited to explore and experience the Paulist community and charism as a Paulist Associate.

Becoming an associate involves a discernment period consisting of an informational meeting, a retreat, and a six-session formation program which explores various themes of Paulist spirituality and mission. Following the discernment period, those who wish to make formal application to be a Paulist Associate may do so. Those who are approved for membership make a one-year commitment to the associate group, a commitment which is renewed annually.



Vocations



ANSWERING THE CALL

To answer the call to the priesthood is to begin a lifelong journey. It is a process that happens on many levels: responding to God's grace, acquiring a habit of prayer and reflection, and learning theology and other skills required to become an effective priest in a complex world.

How does someone prepare for life as a Paulist? The Paulist formation program is designed to help men discern the mystery of God's grace and calling revealed through dialogue, growth, responsibilities and service.

A one-year novitiate on the campus of St. Paul's College in Washington, D.C., beginning in August of each year, serves as initiation into the life of the Paulists. There the novice learns about the spirituality, history and ministry of the community. He prays, reflects, writes, reads and serves as he discerns his call to the Paulist way of life. At the end of the year, he makes first promises as a Paulist.

During a four-year program of theological studies, the young Paulist deepens his grasp of Scripture and church teachings. He has the choice of study at either The Catholic University of America or the Washington Theological Union. The seminarian's spirit and vocation are strengthened by the Eucharist, the community's regular rhythm of morning and night prayer, retreats and conferences.

Between his second and third years of theology, the Paulist-in-training takes a year off from his studies to do pastoral work. Stationed at a Paulist parish, campus or information center, he has the opportunity to experience firsthand the life of ministry.

At the beginning of his final year of theology, he makes a lifelong commitment to the Paulist community by making his final promise. Shortly after his commitment, he is ordained a deacon. After one more year, he is eligible to be ordained a priest. With the support of his Paulist community and the personal resources he has acquired in the period of formation, and by the indispensable grace of Christ, the new priest becomes a missionary to Main Street, putting the Gospel and contemporary culture into dialogue with one another, and bringing forward old truths in new fresh, new forms for people of the 21st century.

Stewardship



FUELING THE MISSION

The Paulist mission, inspired by the Holy Spirit, is to be an agent of Gospel change: reaching out to those who are yet to know God's unfailing love and mercy, building new relationships with people of other faith traditions, and ministering to Catholics who have been away from the church.

Fund raising is much more than passing the collection plate on Sunday. From the perspective of Scripture, it is a ministry. It is a way of announcing our mission and inviting people to participate in that mission. Fund raising is a very concrete way to help advance the Reign of God in our time.

That is the Paulist approach to fund raising. The mission and ministries of the Paulist Fathers would not be possible without the prayerful generosity of so many supporters. Each gift is a share in the important work of the community. Through the prayerful generosity of our faithful benefactors, the Paulists are able to carry out their mission of evangelization, reconciliation, ecumenism, inter-religious dialogue and outreach to young adults.

The Annual Paulist Appeal not only funds these ministries, but also supports seminarians while they are being educated and formed as Paulist priests. The Annual Appeal is also crucial for the support of our senior priests, many of whom have officially retired but continue their ministry in parishes, missions, and through their daily prayers.

The Annual Paulist Open, hosted by St. Paul the Apostle Chapel in Horseshoe Bay, Tex., brings together Paulists and supporters from across North America for a wonderful weekend of golf, camaraderie and relaxation. This event highlights the life-changing ministries of the Paulists, and brings financial support from across the continent.

In addition to supporting the Paulists through our direct mail campaigns, Internet appeals, and the Annual Paulist Appeal, Mass enrollments, memorial gifts and remembering the Paulists in wills are excellent ways to support the Paulist mission.

More information about the many ways to support the Paulist Fathers is available at www.paulist.org/give.



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Follow the Paulists on Twitter, Facebook and My Space!

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