

Summer
2023



the Voice

News from The Paulist Fathers Office of Mission Advancement

Our New
Paulist
Father



Ordination Mass 2023



Buoyed by the prayers of family members, friends and brother Paulists near and far, **Paulist Deacon Eric Hernandez** was ordained a priest during a Mass on Saturday morning, May 20, 2023, at our mother church, the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City.

His Eminence, Cardinal Robert McElroy, Bishop of San Diego, was the ordaining bishop.

In his homily, Cardinal McElroy said, "The priesthood is a life filled with immense joys. But it also has great moments of hardship and struggle. Both the joys and the hardships are essential to any priest who seeks to be an icon of Christ, whose disciples we are."

"For a true shepherd could only understand the pain of his people if he shares in it — and shares also the mercy of God which brings constant hope amidst even the greatest suffering."

"For out of this pastoral solidarity comes the essence of the priesthood and the joy that the Gospel portends for you and for us this day."

Fr. Eric's Mass of Thanksgiving, or "First Mass," was celebrated during the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 21, at St. Paul's. Paulist Fr. Mike Kallock, our director of novices and associate director of formation, was the homilist.

Fr. Eric hails from Corpus Christi, TX. He earned a B.A. in philosophy with a minor in religious studies from Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi.

During his college years, he was involved in campus ministry and young adult ministry.

He joined our novitiate on August 26, 2017, and made his First Promise on August 31, 2018. He made his Final Promise on September 2, 2022, and was ordained a transitional deacon on September 3, 2022.

In his first priestly assignment, Fr. Eric is serving as an associate pastor at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew in Grand Rapids, MI. 🇺🇸





The Mission Field

The Paulist Fathers are missionaries.

And moving to a new assignment in the mission field is a regular part of the missionary life.

This summer, several Paulists made such a move. They are:

Paulist Fr. Eric Andrews became pastor of the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City.

Paulist Fr. Gregory Apparcel became the Paulist Fathers' procurator general to the Holy See and associate pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic American Parish in Rome, Italy.

Paulist Fr. Matthew Berrios became pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic American Parish in Rome, Italy.

Paulist Fr. James DiLuzio became director of the Paulist Associates while continuing to serve as director of the Paulist Office for Ecumenical and Multi-Faith Relations.

Paulist Fr. Bill Edens entered senior ministry. He will continue to live at the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Grand Rapids, MI.

Paulist Fr. Eric Hernandez became an associate pastor of the Cathedral of Saint Andrew in Grand Rapids, MI.

Paulist Fr. Bart Landry became pastor of St. Gregory the Great Church in San Diego, CA.

Paulist Fr. Edward Novak became the Paulist Fathers' vocation director.

Paulist Fr. Steven Petroff became director of formation at Hecker House, the Paulist seminary in Washington, D.C., and superior of the Paulist Fathers based in Washington, D.C.

Paulist Fr. Gerard Tully become associate pastor of St. Gregory the Great Church in San Diego, CA.

Paulist Fr. Mark Villano became associate pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Community in Los Angeles, CA.

Paulist Fr. Rick Walsh became superior of the Paulist Fathers who are based in Boston, as well as associate director of the Paulist Center in Boston.

In announcing these assignments, our president, Paulist Fr. René Constanza, said, "I want to thank all those transitioning to a new role this summer for their openness to the Holy Spirit. My prayers and support accompany all of you!" 🙏

Lay Advisory Board

Inspired by the models of “synodality” at work in the Church, the Paulist General Assembly resolved that a committee of five non-ordained persons be formed to give advice to the Paulist leadership before each General Council meeting. The term of service for the lay advisory board members is two years with the possibility of a two-year extension.



The five people who began serving on the lay advisory board in January are:

Erin Falbo of Denver, CO. She is senior director of formative enterprises at the Fellowship for Catholic University Students (FOCUS).



Jonathan Lewis of Washington, D.C. He is vice president of customer service at Catholic Faith Technologies.




Br. Ernest Miller, FSC, of Philadelphia, PA. A De La Salle Brother, he is director of the Adrien Nyel Project, which promotes the vocation of teacher and the quality formation of young Lasallian educators.



Dr. Elsie Miranda of Pittsburgh, PA. She is director of accreditation and diversities at the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada.



Dr. Susan Timoney of Washington, D.C. She is an associate dean and associate professor in the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America.

Please pray for these men and women as they share their ideas with the Paulist Fathers. *Come, Holy Spirit!* 


Lasting Impact

Each year, the Paulist mission is greatly strengthened by bequests in wills.

To make a bequest, a good first step is to speak with an attorney or financial advisor. The basic language to include in a will is:

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath (insert dollar amount, description or percentage of estate) to the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle, dba Paulist Fathers, a religious organization located at 415 West 59th St., New York, NY 10019, Federal Tax ID #13-1624092, for their general use and purpose."

If you name the Paulist Fathers as a beneficiary in your will, please notify Kami Crary, our associate director of development, at (212) 586-2074 or kcrary@paulist.org.

Please know that we are incredibly grateful for generosity expressed in such an impactful and lasting way. 



FROM THE DESK OF FR. RENÉ



Dear Friends,

I hope this summer has been a blessed and relaxing time for you and your loved ones!

On August 3, during his opening address at World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal, Pope Francis made a powerful statement that I want to share with you.

The pope said, "In the Church, there is room for everyone. Everyone. In the Church, no one is left out or left over. There is room for everyone. Just the way we are. Everyone. Jesus says this clearly. When he sends the apostles to invite people to the banquet which a man had prepared, he tells them: 'Go out and bring in everyone,' young and old, healthy and infirm, righteous and sinners. **Everyone, everyone, everyone!** ... The Lord does not point a finger, but opens his arms. ... He embraces us all. He shows us Jesus on the cross, who opened his arms wide in order to be crucified and die for us."

My brother Paulists and I heartily agree! In fact, Pope Francis' words align closely with the mission priorities established by the Paulist General Assembly in June, 2022.

Thank you for all the ways you have been our **partners in mission** to propose the Catholic faith to people beyond the Church walls, and to accompany Catholics who feel apart from the Church.

Through your prayers, volunteer service, and financial contributions to the Annual Paulist Appeal, our "Hope for the Future" campaign, and other initiatives, you – our parishioners, friends and benefactors — have enabled all that we do.

You and your loved ones are always in our prayers!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Father René".

Very Rev. René Constanza
President, The Paulist Fathers

P.S. I have been overwhelmed by your generous response to this year's Annual Paulist Appeal! The number of first-time donors has been especially inspiring. If you would like to support the appeal, and have not yet done so, please visit:
paulist.org/apa.



Esta carta se puede leer en español en:
paulist.org/espanol



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PROMISES MASS & DIACONATE ORDINATION

We are pleased to announce that Paulist seminarians **Chris Lawton** and **Dan Macalinao** are slated to make their Final Promises to the Paulist

Fathers during a 5:30 p.m. Mass on **Friday, September 8**, at Notre Dame Chapel at Trinity Washington University in Washington, D.C. At the same Mass, our other seminarians will renew their promises.

The following morning, on **Saturday, September 9**, Chris and Dan are to be ordained transitional deacons by Cardinal Wilton Gregory of Washington, D.C., during a 9 a.m. Mass in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

All are invited to attend these liturgies. To join the Masses online, or for more details, please visit: paulist.org/Promises.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FOR THE OFFICE OF MISSION ADVANCEMENT?

Paul Snatchko, Director of Communications: media@paulist.org

Development Team: development@paulist.org

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Pictured: Paulist Fr. Eric Hernandez, center, surrounded by friends after his Mass of Thanksgiving (or "First Mass") on May 21, 2023, at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City. Look inside this issue of "The Voice" for details about Fr. Eric's ordination as a priest.