

Summer
2026



the Voice

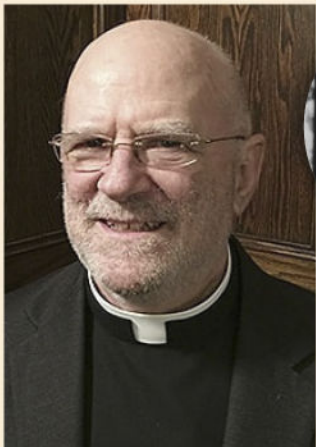
News from The Paulist Fathers Office of Mission Advancement



**Celebrating
50-Year and 40-Year
Ordination
Anniversaries**

Celebrating 50 Years and 40 Y

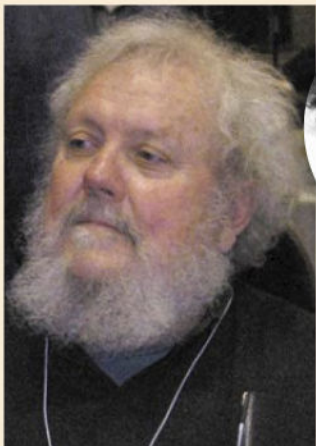
Fr. John Behnke, C.S.P.



50
YEARS

Ordained: May 15, 1976
Native Place: Syracuse, NY
Lives Today: New York City
Learn More:
Paulist.org/FrBehnke

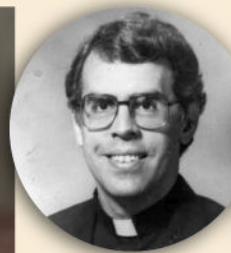
Fr. James Kolb, C.S.P.



50
YEARS

Ordained: May 15, 1976
Native Place: Philadelphia, PA
Lives Today: Lake Oswego, OR
Learn More:
Paulist.org/FrKolb

Fr. Steve Bossi, C.S.P.



40
YEARS

Ordained: May 10, 1986
Native Place: Seattle, WA
Lives Today: San Francisco, CA
Learn More:
Paulist.org/FrBossi



Our

Thank you to all of our d
2026 Annual Paulist A
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If you have not yet made
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We also are pleased to
2025 Stewardship & D
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Please read the report o

On the cover: Paulist Fr. René Constanza and Paulist Fr. James Kolb at our special Anniversary Mass on May 2, 2026, in Portland, OR.

Years



Praise be to God for the vocations and ministries of **Paulist Fr. John Behnke** and **Paulist Fr. James Kolb** who celebrated the 50th anniversary of their priestly ordinations on May 15, 1976.

Fr. Behnke and Fr. Kolb were ordained by Servant of God Terence Cooke (then cardinal-archbishop of New York).

A native of Syracuse, NY, **Fr. Behnke** has ministered in New York City; Toronto, ON; Memphis, TN; Minneapolis, MN; and Washington, D.C.

He served as our Director of Novices from 2005 to 2011 and as our Vice President from 2014 to 2022. Today, he works with the Paulist Archives in New York City.

"Being a Paulist has given me so many opportunities to reach out to others, people who have in turn touched my life," Fr. Behnke told an interviewer.

Fr. Kolb was living in Philadelphia when he joined our novitiate. He served in Alaska for the first 22 years of his priesthood, including at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks and at St. Nicholas Church in North Pole, AK.

From 2002 to 2020, he was pastor of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church in Portland, OR. He continues to live in Oregon as a senior minister.

We also pray in thanksgiving this year for the 40th ordination anniversary of **Paulist Fr. Steve Bossi**, who was ordained a priest on May 10, 1986.

A native of Seattle, WA, **Fr. Bossi** has ministered in Clemson, SC; Minneapolis, MN; Portland, OR; Washington, D.C.; Toronto, ON; Rome, Italy; and Berkeley, CA.

From 2005 to 2010, he was our Director of Formation. Today, Fr. Bossi is a senior minister at Old St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco.

"My excitement about being a priest has been the vision of Jesus Christ. His vision was: love one another, build a world of care, be patient, forgiving – all those qualities that have to do with people living with one another so they don't live against one another," said Fr. Bossi. "That's what I feel is a privileged role that a priest can play in today's world."

Thanks

Donors who have contributed to the appeal! We have been abundantly generous and support.

For a gift, or to learn more, please visit: paulist.org/apa.

We announce the publication of our **Donor Impact Report**. The report shows how our donors enable our mission and ministries.

View online at: paulist.org/Stewardship.



Paulist Fathers
Office of Mission Advancement

2025 Stewardship & Donor Impact Report





Busted Halo's 25th Birthday

We pray in thanksgiving to God for the many blessings of our media ministry **Busted Halo**, which this year is celebrating its 25th birthday.

The ministry includes the popular **BustedHalo.com** website, "The Busted Halo Show" heard weeknights on SiriusXM radio, and special projects like "Young Adult Ministry in a Box."

The milestone was marked in April in New York City with a recording of an episode of "The Busted Halo Show" in front of a live audience at the Triad Theater, and during a Mass at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle.

Busted Halo has been led by Paulist Fr. Dave Dwyer since 2004. He is pictured above with producer Krista LePard and co-host Brett Siddell of "The Busted Halo Show."



25
busted
halo
years of ministry



2026 Spirit of Hecker Awards

Thank you to all those who attended watch parties and joined us online Saturday evening, April 25, for the broadcast of our **2026 Spirit of Hecker Awards!**

Each year, the Spirit of Hecker Awards honor exemplary people who accompany the Paulist Fathers in mission and who embody the spirit of the founder, Servant of God Isaac Hecker.

The theme of this year's program was **"Building Bridges Through Charity."** During the program, Paulists at the parishes, centers, and ministries where we serve explained how their awardees build bridges in their local communities, the greater Paulist family, and the universal Church.

To watch the program, and see the list of our 2026 recipients, please visit: paulist.org/HeckerAwards.



Come & See Weekend - July 24 to 26

Could God be asking someone you know to discern a vocation to the priesthood, religious life, and missionary life?

Discerners have told us how valuable it is to hear the question **"Have you ever thought of being a priest?"** from people they trust.

Please recommend that discerners attend our **"Come & See Weekend"** being held **July 24 to 26, 2026**, at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City.

Attending a "Come & See Weekend" is a good way to learn about the discernment process as well as the Paulist mission to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all people, especially those who feel apart from the Church.

Discerners should contact our vocation director, **Paulist Fr. Ed Nowak**, at (917) **763-7899** or vocations@paulist.org, or visit beapaulist.org, to learn more.

Thank you for being an ambassador for vocations!



FROM THE DESK OF FR. RENÉ



Dear Friends,

I hope you and your loved ones are enjoying a peaceful summer. I write to you with two important prayer requests.

My first request is that you pray for the **Paulist Fathers' General Assembly** being held this June 1-12 on Long Island, NY. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our discernment and decisions regarding our community and our missionary work for the next four years.

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

Fortified by your prayers, this gathering can help us Paulists grow in personal sanctity and in zeal to cultivate pastoral ministries that serve as a source of spiritual strength, community, and welcome, particularly for those who are outside the Catholic Church.

My second request is that you pray for our country as we celebrate the **250th anniversary** of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th. As the first community of Catholic priests founded in the United States, the Paulists yearn for a nation where compassion for the needy and respect for human dignity of all people can flourish deeply.

Our founder, Servant of God Isaac Hecker, beautifully captured the synergy between our civic and religious identities, writing that an American citizen who truly understands himself "is all the more a loyal American because he is Catholic, and all the better Catholic because he is American."

Guided by this spirit, we must embrace the gospel values that make us truly patriotic Americans. We can be patriotic Catholics because the gospel infuses our daily lives with a commitment to justice, civic virtue, respect for law, and active charity. Fidelity to the gospel does not undermine love of country; it perfects it, encouraging us to work together for peace and the common good.

Just as I have asked for your prayers, you can be assured that I (and all of the Paulists) are praying for you and your intentions! May God fill you and your loved ones with joy and peace of mind.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Rev. René Constanza, C.S.P.
President, The Paulist Fathers

Below: Paulists gathered for our special Anniversary Mass on May 2, 2026, in Portland, OR.

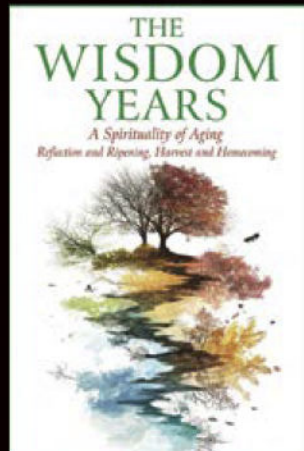
To make a contribution, please use the enclosed envelope or visit: paulist.org/apa





**PAULIST
FATHERS**

415 West 59th St.
New York, NY 10019



NEW FROM PAULIST PRESS:
**"The Wisdom Years:
A Spirituality of Aging"**
By Margaret Silf

In this new book, bestselling spirituality writer Margaret Silf invites readers to see retirement as a new beginning – an opportunity to slow down, let go, and embrace the profound gifts that come with a longer view of life.

To learn more about this and other Paulist Press titles, please visit: paulistpress.com.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FOR THE OFFICE OF MISSION ADVANCEMENT?

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**Pictured: Paulist Fr. Jimmy Hsu leading Palm Sunday Mass on
March 30, 2026, at St. Austin Church in Austin, TX.**