Autumn
2026

the Voice

News from The Paulist Fathers Office of Mission Advancement



MISSIONARIES of HOPE

Missionaries of Hope

The Fruits of our 2026 General Assembly



We are very grateful to all of our parishioners, benefactors, and friends who prayed over the past year for the success of our quadrennial **General Assembly**.

The General Assembly Report and a companion discussion guide are both available online at **assembly.paulist.org** for everyone to read and download.

From the report:

" ... In our synodal process leading to the General Assembly, many expressed that there is a recognizable Paulist 'way of being' that points toward a deeper spiritual anchor. Upon reflection on the recurring patterns in Paulist life and ministry, this recognizable Paulist way of being that animates us and serves as a deep spiritual anchor is this: **Paulists are missionaries of hope.**

“By this we mean an enduring hope born of the Holy Spirit, sustained by confidence that the Crucified and Risen Christ is already present, and that God is always at work in the joys, questions, struggles, and sufferings of the people of our age.

"This **charism of hope** is firmly rooted in the life of our founder, **Servant of God Isaac Hecker**. Hecker’s own restlessness was not simply a private spiritual search. His desire for truth, his longing for God, and his eventual entrance into the Catholic Church and founding of the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle reveal a fundamental instinct: that the deepest aspirations of the human person find their fulfillment in the mystery of Christ, and that the Holy Spirit is continually drawing all people into communion. ... "

The current articulation of the **Paulist mission** is the steadfast proclamation of hope in the world:

- Reaching out to those on the peripheries
- Building bridges across division
- Awakening the missionary vocation of all the baptized

Please continue to pray for all the members of our Paulist family as we seek to be **Missionaries of Hope**!



Our Two New Novices

Erick Tatro and Robert Howley





We pray in thanksgiving to God for **Erick Tatro** and **Robert Howley**, our two new Paulist novices who "signed in" at Hecker House, our seminary in Washington, D.C., in August.

Erick lived in New York City where he was a parishioner at our mother church, the Church of St. Paul the Apostle. He was associate director of publications for Regeneron Pharmaceuticals.

He holds a Ph.D. in cellular and molecular pathology from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and a Bachelor of Science from The Ohio State University.

Robert comes from Royal Oak, MI, where he was first vice president, director of accounting, and head of SEC reporting for Flagstar Bank.



He holds a Master of Science in accounting and a Bachelor of Arts, both from Michigan State University. He also is a Certified Public Accountant in the State of Michigan.

To learn more about Paulist Fathers Vocations, please visit: **beapaulist.org.**

Our 2027 Pilgrimages



We are excited to announce that we are planning two pilgrimages for 2027:

From November 3 to 12, Paulist Fr. René Constanza (our president), **Paulist Fr. James DiLuzio**, and **Paulist Fr. Chris Malano** will serve as chaplains for a **pilgrimage to France**.

The pilgrims will walk in the footsteps of saints as they pray at Notre-Dame Cathedral, the Basilica of Sacré Cœur, the Chapel of the Miraculous Medal, Chartres Cathedral, the childhood home of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, and (for three nights) in Lourdes.

To learn more about the pilgrimage to France, and to register, please visit: **paulist.org/pilgrimage**.

From August 3 to 10, Paulist Fr. Chris Lawton, Paulist Fr. Dan Macalinao, and **Dr. Dave de la Fuente** (pastoral associate at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle) will serve as chaplains for a pilgrimage for young adults (ages 18 to 39) to the next **World Youth Day** in Seoul, South Korea.

WYD SEOUL 2027

We hope the pilgrimage will enable the young adults to grow in faith and encounter a Church that is wider and more hopeful than they imagined.

To learn more, register, or make a contribution in support of pilgrimage scholarships, please visit: **wyd.paulist.org**.

Annual Paulist Appeal
Participation is Growing!

Thank you to everyone who has made a gift to the **2026 Annual Paulist Appeal!** We are pleased to report that the number of participating households has increased again this year.

Percent of Participating Households as of October 29, 2026:

Our Parishes and Centers	Households	Percent Participating
Cathedral of Saint Andrew and Catholic Information Center. Grand Rapids, MI	1066	23.3%
Church of St. Paul the Apostle, New York, NY	1676	11.4%
Immaculate Conception Church, Knoxville, TN	383	30.8%
Paulist Center, Boston, MA	1283	9.5%
Old St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco, CA	633	11.9%
Old St. Mary's Church, Chicago, IL	1213	15.3%
Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Community, Los Angeles, CA	132	11.5%
St. Austin Church, Austin, TX	1555	17.2%
St. Gregory the Great Church, San Diego, CA	4158	6.1%
St. Patrick's Catholic American Parish, Rome, Italy	73	39.7%
St. John XXIII University Parish, Knoxville, TN	309	22.0%
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Horseshoe Bay, TX	466	19.7%
University Catholic Center at UCLA	343	6.1%

Our 2026 participation is still growing, of course!
Every gift, regardless of size, makes a difference! If you have not yet made a gift, please contribute at: **paulist.org/apa.**

Make a Tax-Wise Gift Through Your IRA

If you are age 70 and six months (or older), you can support the **Annual Paulist Appeal** through a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

A QCD allows you to:

- Satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)
- Avoid federal income tax on the gifted amount
- Direct your IRA dollars to ministry

Up to $108,000 per year may be given directly from your IRA.

To learn about setting up a QCD, please visit: **paulist.org/qcd** or contact the Paulist Office of Mission Advancement at **(212) 586-2074** or **development@paulist.org**.

From the Desk of Fr. René



Dear Friends,

I pray that you and your loved ones are enjoying a beautiful autumn!

In this issue of *The Voice*, you will read about the outcome of our quadrennial General Assembly held earlier this year.

Thank you to all who kept this historic gathering in your prayers—I believe those days bore great fruit!

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

The Assembly was one of the most profound experiences I have had as a Paulist. It was a time of open dialogue, fraternal support, and challenge. Most of all, it was filled with hope and an unwavering confidence in the Holy Spirit.

During our gathering, we sought a contemporary articulation of our charism, spirituality, and mission. The recovery of our Paulist charism as **"Missionaries of Hope"** resonated deeply with our delegates—grounding us in Pauline spirituality and the profound hope with which our founder, Servant of God Isaac Hecker, imbued our mission.

In our current climate across the nation, the virtue of hope is needed now more than ever. True hope is not a passive optimism; it must be firmly rooted in the proclamation of the Gospel, a message of God's limitless love meant for all people. As Paulists and partners in mission, we are called to bring this enduring **Hope** to a world searching for healing, unity, and truth.

The charism of the Society has not changed but the Assembly sought to offer fresh language, born from our Constitutions and the Scriptures, to help us Paulists and our collaborators communicate our charism, mission and spirituality better today.

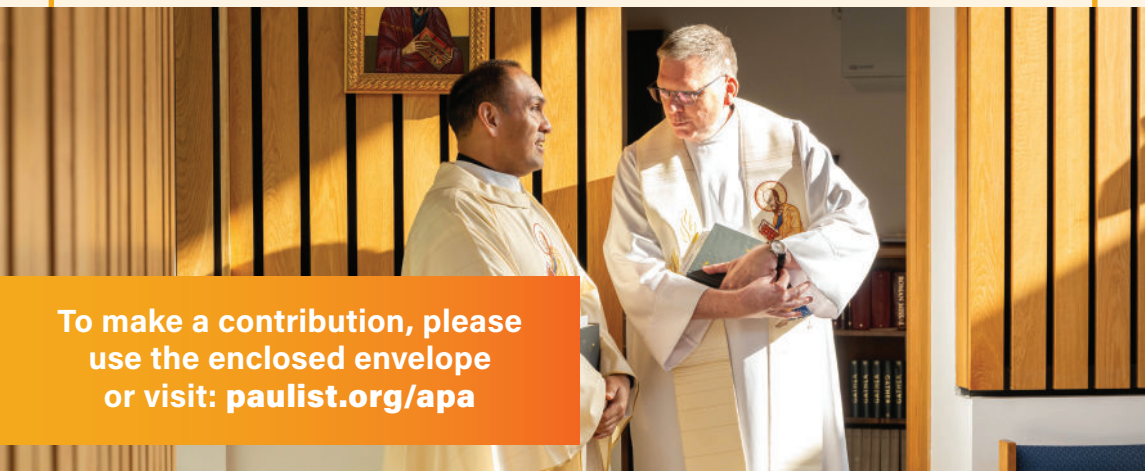
Please keep us in your prayers as this important work continues!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father René.

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

P.S. I also want to express my sincere thanks to all of you who have supported the **2026 Annual Paulist Appeal**. Your tremendous generosity is such an inspiration to all of us!



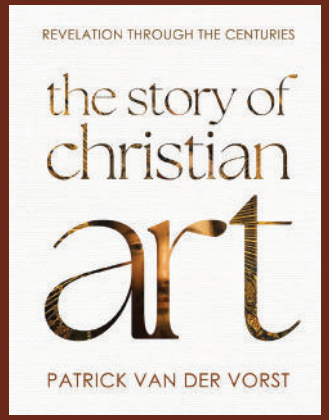
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Pictured: Paulist Fathers gathered in Huntington, NY, during our 2026 General Assembly.
Please look inside this issue of "The Voice" for details about the General Assembly and more news!



A NEW BOOK FROM PAULIST PRESS:

"The Story of Christian Art: Revelation Through the Centuries"

by Patrick van der Vorst

With stunning reproductions of major artworks on nearly every page, this book guides the reader through thousands of years of artistic inspiration and achievement.

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

Questions or Comments for the Office of Mission Advancement?

Paul Snatchko, Director of Communications: media@paulist.org
Development Team: development@paulist.org
(212) 586-2074 ▪ paulist.org ▪ @PaulistFathers