



Dear friends of the Center,

May is traditionally a month of celebrations. With Mother's Day, first communions, graduations, weddings, and the Memorial Day holiday, there is much to celebrate in this season.

Here at the Center, May is a very special month for us. It was in May of 1948, when the cornerstone of the first Catholic Information Center was blessed and dedicated by Bishop Haas. We look forward to celebrating in person with many of you on Friday, May 5 for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

Since that time, the Paulists have provided innovative ministries to reach out to people in West Michigan. When first invited to the diocese in 1947, the Paulists were designated to provide inquiry classes, especially for non-Catholic spouses; today parishes offer RCIA annually. The Center was one of the first to offer organized ministry to divorced and separated Catholics; today, there are parishes throughout the diocese providing this kind of pastoral care. Finally, with the move to Cathedral Square, the Center was able to begin live streaming our programs, reaching people across the US and other countries; today there is the ongoing exponential growth in live streaming opportunities for people to explore the Catholic faith.

The Paulist Fathers and staff at the Center have been able to be on the leading edge of meeting people's spiritual needs because of friends like you. Whether you have been a friend of the Center from the very beginning or are a new friend this year, we are grateful for the partnership in the Gospel you have with us through your involvement, prayerful support, and regular financial contributions.

The founder of the Paulist Fathers, Isaac Hecker, trusted that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit would provide for "a future brighter than any past". It is not lost on me that the anniversary of the cornerstone blessing this year falls on the same day as Pentecost, celebrating the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the first disciples.

So, even as we celebrate our 75-year history, we look forward to our continued journey with you into a hope-filled future. Confident in the Holy Spirit's power and guidance, may God continue the good work begun in us and bring it to completion on the day of Christ Jesus (Phil 1:6).

Peace and all good,

Mark Mann  
Director of Programming and Institutes

## Pray for :

+Marvin Cloherty  
Mary Close  
Fr. Chuck Cunniff  
Czachorski Family  
Regina Fabbro  
Jack & Abigail Hoffman  
Mlaba Family  
+Barbara Mekkes  
Patis Family  
Perez Family  
David Pietrovitch  
+Betty Lou Storey  
Mary Vaccaro  
VanderSpek Family  
Robert & Jennifer Wilson

**May Mass for CIC  
Intentions:  
Sunday, May 14  
5:30 p.m. at the  
Cathedral**

*Please include your prayer intentions with your green envelope or email them to [cicoffice@catholicinformationcenter.org](mailto:cicoffice@catholicinformationcenter.org)*

# Institutes

**Young Adult Leadership Institute**  
Tuesdays starting May 9  
6 - 8:30 p.m. ET



For adults in their 20s and 30s who are looking for meaningful opportunities to live out their faith and values at work, with their family and friends, and in the world.

**Learn** how your strengths can change the world.  
**Lead** with passion, purpose, and presence.  
**Leap** into where God is leading you.

**Leadership Institute for Biblical Studies**  
Wednesdays, starting May 17  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. ET



Designed to help Catholics take an intelligent and spiritual approach to the Bible, institute participants will deepen their love for sacred Scripture and deep understanding of a Catholic interpretation of the Bible.

Taught by Biblical scholars, the institute provides the necessary tools to study and pray with sacred Scripture as individuals and facilitate small group Bible study.

# Programs

**Eucharist, a Mystery to be Lived**  
Thursday, May 11  
7-8:30 p.m. ET



Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ has a vertical and a horizontal aspect: it brings about communion with God and communion with our neighbor. This talk explores the relationship between the Eucharistic mystery and social justice, how the Eucharist heals and transforms us into Christ, empowering us to bring about God's Kingdom in the world.

This presentation is part of the series celebrating the National Eucharistic Revival (eucharisticrevival.org).

**Paul Fahey**, retreat leader, speaker, and co-founder of Where Peter Is and the Pope Francis Generation podcast.

Your gifts through the enclosed envelope make it possible for adults to learn, celebrate, live, and pray the Catholic Faith.

Scan the QR code to sign up for recurring monthly donations through online giving.



*Thank you!*

Scan the QR code above to RSVP for the Spring Celebration.



Follow us on Social Media for the latest updates and news.

**YOU ARE INVITED**

## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPRING CELEBRATION

**CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF THE PAULIST FATHERS  
IN GRAND RAPIDS**

**MAY 5, 5:30 - 8 P.M.  
CATHEDRAL SQUARE**

PLEASE RSVP BY PHONE OR  
ONLINE USING QR CODE



For more information, visit [catholicinformationcenter.org](http://catholicinformationcenter.org) or call (616) 459-7267

## Friendship Corner

In 2021, the Center convened a group of lay people to explore using digital media ministry to reach those we cannot physically meet. The group decided on creating a series of short videos - for Lent, Advent, and most recently Holy Week.

From writing script, coaching actors, to shooting and editing video, and then distributing the videos through various social media channels, they see this work as part of the Paulist ministry of bringing the message of Jesus to both believer and non-believer, with the desire to make meaningful connections, inviting and accepting all people into the community.

Congratulations to the members of the Digital Media Ministry Team as recipients of the 2023 Spirit of Hecker Award: Tim Bulson, Father Mike Cruickshank (staff), Eulene Freeland (staff), Patrick Herdegen, Dave & Mary Koss, Mark Mann (staff), and Kenny Williams-Buck.

## Digital Media Ministry Team

The Third  
Spirit of  
Hecker  
Awards

