

# CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

## 2022-2023 newsletter



**Catholic Chaplain  
Lynn Cooper, DMin**

**“To what shall I compare the Kingdom of God? It is like yeast which a woman took and mixed with three measures of flour till it was all leavened.” –Luke 13:20**

This short parable guides the Catholic Chaplaincy as we seek to live into the promise of community, growing, changing, and rising together. Our God of Surprises works within us and within our world in life-giving, mysterious, and often invisible ways – transforming so much flour with just a wee bit of yeast.

Like the dough, our faith needs to be worked and the students in the Catholic Community at Tufts (CCT) are doing just that: asking hard questions about spirituality, meaning making, racial justice and what our tradition has to say about the profound inequities further revealed by the pandemic. For this reason, we define our Catholic community by our commitment to creating spaces for students to engage authentically with one another, themselves, and God.

The wider University Chaplaincy is grounded in an intentional interfaith ethic; our work begins from a place of genuine curiosity and trust. When I think of the transformation we see in our communities and in the students engaged in this work, I think of the woman in the parable. She trusts in the process and as the dough rises, she witnesses the new reality it creates. How powerful to think of this Kingdom of God in our midst, unexpectedly expanding our hearts and creating the conditions for deep and far-reaching nourishment.

I look forward to connecting more with you.

Pax et Lux,  
**Lynn Cooper, DMin**  
Catholic Chaplain

**The Catholic Chaplaincy supports sacramental and spiritual life on campus—providing innovative opportunities to deepen relationship to tradition, holding space for difficult questions, and challenging students to expand their worldview so as to live more intentionally, justly, and wholeheartedly in community.**

### Regular Programming

- Catholic Mass, Sundays at 5pm
- Community Dinners
- Weekly Catholic Spirituality Hour
- Catholic Social Teaching Series
- Christianity confronting Antisemitism series
- Fall and Spring Retreats
- Sacraments Class (RCIA, Confirmation Prep)



**Community Dinner after Mass**

### Program Spotlight: Spring Retreat

This year, we reconnected with our annual tradition of journeying to Cape Cod for retreat. The weekend was a chance to slow down and focus on deep connection. Through the making of meals and art, exploring prayer, spiritual storytelling, dwelling in the seaside, and the gift of simply being together, students renewed themselves and truly got to know one another. After these challenging years, being on retreat in community felt nothing short of miraculous.



The Catholic Chaplaincy at Tufts allows us to grow in faith at the same time we grow intellectually and socially. I like to think of it as an anchor that grounds us

when we are stressed or going through a hard time. For me, the chaplaincy is a place that feels very familiar and nourishing, literally a home away from home...I believe, no matter how hard we are working or how high we are aiming for, we need to make sure we take care of our soul—this community has helped me a lot with that since the first time I stepped on campus.

—Carolina Lopes, A23

## SUPPORT CATHOLIC LIFE AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

A vital portion of our programs are made possible by community donations. Here are some suggestions for how you can help make a difference in students' lives:

- **\$25** contributes to liturgical supplies and post-Mass fellowship refreshments
- **\$75** provides books and resources for Catholic Social Teaching and Christianity and Antisemitism Series
- **\$150** funds guest speakers and workshop leaders

To give to the Tufts Catholic Chaplaincy Fund online, please visit <http://go.tufts.edu/giveCatholic>. To discuss a major gift, endowment, or bequest, please contact our Advancement liaison Lorraine Sparrow:

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Thank you for your generosity and support.