

CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

2023-2024 newsletter



Catholic Chaplain
Lynn Cooper, DMin

“The gifts Christ gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” -Ephesians 4:11-12

This short passage from Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians is a reminder that we are the modern-day apostles! We are called to embody Jesus’ love ethic, creating community and serving others with our gifts and callings.

The Catholic Chaplaincy at Tufts seeks to “equip the saints” by providing opportunities to ask hard questions about spiritual life, community, racial justice, and what our faith looks like in action. Through liturgy, retreats, meals, community service, the work for justice, small group conversations, and shared spiritual practice, we prepare students for a lifelong journey of faith.

The University Chaplaincy is grounded in an intentional interfaith ethic wherein we learn with and from folks from other religious and philosophical traditions, and folks from no tradition as well. That work begins from a place of genuine curiosity and trust. Our students have the opportunity to expand their religious literacy and to explore the sacrament of interfaith friendship. The saints here at Tufts are always teaching us and we as chaplains are blessed to walk beside them.

Young folks are not just the future of the Church. Young folks ARE the church right here and now. I can’t wait to meet you and learn how your gifts will shape our community!

Warmly,

Lynn Cooper, DMin
Catholic Chaplain

Regular Programming

- Sunday Catholic Mass
- Community Dinners
- Catholic Social Teaching Series
- Harvard Square Homeless Shelter Volunteer Shifts
- Christianity and Antisemitism series with the Protestant Chaplain
- Fall and Spring Retreats
- Sacraments Class (RCIA, Confirmation Prep)

Students enjoy dinner after Mass outside the chapel



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.

Program Spotlight: Sacraments Class

Each year, Lynn teaches a Sacraments Class which is designed for both students preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) and anyone who is excited to go deeper into the sacramental life of our tradition. The class meets every other Sunday during the academic year, exploring theology, scripture, spiritual practice, and lived experience. This photo captures a celebratory moment at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross as Cardinal Sean O'Malley presided over the Boston Archdiocese's Confirmation Liturgy for university students.



Lynn and Catholic students at the Confirmation Liturgy in spring 2023



Maya (top row middle) serves with fellow students at the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter

"Volunteering at the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter, I met incredible people from Tufts and the HSHS staff... The shelter became a steady part of my routine that I appreciated more every week. The easy conversations with guests, jokes with fellow volunteers, and baking she-nigans cultivated a safe, homey environment with a lovely community... I have learned so much from the HSHS staff, guests, and community, and I cannot wait to continue doing so next semester."

-Maya Fernando, A26

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 post-Mass fellowship, community dinners and liturgical supplies
- **\$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.