Mass and Confession Schedule
(in MIT Chapel)
Sunday 9:30 AM, 1:00 PM, 5:00 PM
Monday & Wednesday 7:30 PM**
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 12:05 PM**
Confession after Mass - except Mon. (7 PM)
**When classes are in session

TCC wishes all a blessed, safe and joyous Holiday Season and break!

The last Sunday Masses will be TODAY, December 16, and will resume on January 13.

Weekday Masses end on Thursday, December 20, and resume on February 4.

Give TCC a Christmas Gift: As is well known, the Tech Catholic Community is supported entirely by students, alumni, and parents—the Archdiocese of Boston cannot provide any money for the chaplaincy. The easiest way to give is through the TCC website: http://tcc.mit.edu/www/donations.html. Please be generous, and consider making an automatic monthly donation.

SEEK: Ever been to an international Catholic conference? Want to experience Catholic fellowship with over 15,000 college students during winter break? Then SEEK is for you! SEEK is a 5-day Focus conference that will be held from January 3rd-7th in Indianapolis, Indiana this year. The theme of the conference is "What are you seeking?", and the conference is designed to facilitate an encounter between you and Christ. If you are not Catholic, are interested in becoming Catholic, or just want to learn more about your faith, then this conference is for you! A link to the site is www.SEEK2019.com. For questions, email Gregory Giangiordano, one of the Focus missionaries, at gregory.giangiordano@focus.org

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<td>Mass: 9:30 AM, 1 PM, 5 PM</td>
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<td>Donuts in W11 following Third Advent</td>
<td>7:30 PM: Mass</td>
<td>8 PM: Adoration &amp; Confession</td>
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Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) and Course in the Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith: Fr. Moloney is offering a class in the fundamentals of the Catholic faith on Sundays from 2:45-3:45 PM in the Small Dining Room of W11. For more info contact Fr. Moloney dmoloney@mit.edu.

Bible Studies: Our undergraduate studies will end for the semester after Sunday, 12/16, and will resume during IAP. If you are staying on campus during IAP and are interested in participating in our Bible studies, please email focusmissions@mit.edu

“What do I live for?” Resumes on January 8! Reflect on our daily experience and on our values/needs. Italian food will be provided! Tuesdays from 7pm to 8pm @ the Student Center, Private Dining Room #3. For more info: Elisa: elisap@mit.edu

Want to join the Choir? For details, visit bit.ly/mit-tcc-choir or email Piotr Suwara (suwara@mit.edu).

BBMSK (Back Bay Mobile Soup Kitchen): We serve homeless communities in Back Bay and Cambridge giving out socks, sandwiches, and a friendly presence to folks we come across on the street. When? 6:00 PM on Tuesdays at W11 or 6:00 PM on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays in front of St. Clement’s Shrine. For more info, visit bbmsk.org

Song & Stillness: Taizé @ MIT at 8 pm Sunday evenings in the MIT Chapel. Taizé prayer is a contemplative evening prayer service, including readings from scripture, candlelight, meditative singing, and time for silence. All are welcome!

Integrity@MIT: Resuming in January! Do you have trouble staying chaste? Are you tired of confessing sexual sins again and again? Join a peer support group of Catholic men struggling for chastity. Contact integrity@mit.edu for more information and times of weekly meetings.

The following programs have ended for this semester:
- Melchizedek Group for Priestly Vocations
- Women’s Discernment Group for Religious Life
- Grad Student Group Dinner followed by Adoration
- Spaghetti Supper
Our Spiritual Journeys Continue during Vacations

Vacations can be a time of significant spiritual growth—or of spiritual backsliding! We have more time to pray and study the faith than during the school year—but we also lose the spiritual community and the routines we’ve developed at MIT that support our Catholic life here. It’s important to take some time at the beginning of a vacation to plan out a schedule for the days and weeks, one that reflects our priorities: God first, our neighbors and families second, our selves third, and our work and everything else in the fourth place. Here are some suggestions:

**Putting God in the first place:**
Go to Mass over break. You have to go to Mass on Christmas, January 1, the Epiphany, and on every Sunday when you are home—these are Holy Days of Obligation. It’s also not a bad idea to try to go more often. The eight days after Christmas make up an octave (liturgically, it’s as though there are eight days of Christmas, not just one), and there are a bunch of big feast days right after Christmas (Holy Innocents, St. Stephen, St. John). Make the effort to go be with our Lord (He’s the reason for the season, after all).

Go to confession at least once. Again, when you have more time, there’s less of an excuse not to take care of these important spiritual needs. Typical temptations on breaks are to gluttony, sloth, and (if your family knows how to push your buttons) anger. But we can always confess a lack of love for Christ when we become aware of it.

Examine your conscience daily/Keep a spiritual notebook or journal. The best time to examine your conscience is usually at night. This is always a good practice, but especially when we’re outside the comfort of our routines, we need to take a look at our day and ask, “What did I do well from God’s perspective today, and what did I do poorly? What can I do better tomorrow?” Write your thoughts somewhere—in a spiritual journal or your phone—and review them before you go to confession.

Consider going on a spiritual retreat. We usually need a few days to get away from everything and take stock of our spiritual lives. Vacations often present a convenient time to do this.

Read the Bible. If you’ve never read a book of the Bible from start to finish, now is a good time. Start with a Gospel, then the Acts of the Apostles, then other books of the New Testament, and the Old Testament. Shoot for at least five minutes each day.

Study your faith. Read the Catechism for a few minutes each day (the fourth part, on prayer, is a good place to start). Check out classic spiritual works (*The Imitation of Christ, The Story of a Soul*), biographies of saints, Church history or whatever interests you. Check out the resources on FORMED.ORG (our code is: J8VGDK).

Feast on feast days! These are the times God wants us celebrating, so have fun!

**Loving your families and neighbors:**

Make time to talk to your parents. You’ve been away in a world that they can’t really understand, and you’ve changed in ways that they might not notice. Now that you’ve left home you have to be more intentional about nurturing your relationships with your family, especially your parents. Reintroduce yourself to them. Go out for coffee or a walk, and talk about your dreams, your fears and aspirations—and ask them about theirs. Show them how much you’ve matured in the last few months, and work out a new, more adult, way of relating to them.

Have a mentality of serving your family. Volunteer to make your bed, do the dishes, drive your little sister to the Mall. Look for ways to make their lives easier, as a concrete way of keeping the fourth commandment.

Do some act of service. Plan on doing the corporal or spiritual acts of mercy while on break. One good idea is to go through your stuff, and donate to charity all the things you haven’t needed in the last year.

I wish you all a Blessed Christmas, and I will see you in the New Year!

*Fr. Moloney*