



Serving LGBT Catholics Since 1974

Spirituality, Equality and Justice: Nurtured in a Welcoming Catholic Community

DignityUSA envisions and works for a time when Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Catholics are affirmed and experience dignity through the integration of their spirituality with their sexuality, and as beloved persons of God participate fully in all aspects of life within the Church and Society.

***Our Volunteer Participation
Needs Your Help!***

**On the 2nd and 4th Friday
each month between 3:30 -
6:00 at the Capuchin Soup
Kitchen!**

**Please see George K. or
Denise S. if you can help.**



Capuchin Soup Kitchen

***Calendar of Events-
July 2013***

**July 7- 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
and Rosary Sunday**

July 14- 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**July 21- 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dignity Detroit Council Meeting @
4:30pm and General Membership
Meeting immediately following
liturgy**

July 28- 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Summertime, for many, if not the majority of, people is a time to relax, reconnect with family and friends and revitalize the mind, body, and soul. Many families have reunions or take vacations or just spend time being with each other. My family is no different. I've a reunion coming up and I imagine that I will either see people I haven't seen in quite a long while or will be meeting for the first time. Soon our little family will even have a chance to get out of state for a while to go to Disney! All of the preparations for the vacation and the reunion leave me wondering about two things...

Does God go on vacation? and *Pray where you're at*. No matter how hard I try to push them away, I am plagued by those two thoughts. Rather than continue to run *from* them, I decided to run *toward* them and explore them a little deeper.

Does God go on vacation? This question intrigues me. Perhaps I want God to be just like me; while on vacation I forget the problems of the world, the annoyances of life, and the demands of everyday living. I try to slow down, relax, and just have fun. Now imagine God doing all of that. Preposterous, even laughable, isn't it? I simply cannot imagine God in a swimsuit lounging around creation.

I kept wondering why the question of God going on vacation was running through my head. Then it hit me. Even though we may go on vacation, take time away from our hectic lives—God never does. God is always present, all the time, everywhere. There is never a vacation, summer break, or retirement. What this means for us is that our God truly is awesome. If God never takes a break from us, then even when we vacation, we should not take a break from God. Prayer is essential to maintain a healthy relationship with the One who created us!

All of this eventually led me to my second thought: *Pray where you're at*. On a very simple level, it could mean that we can pray and worship God no matter what physical space we are in. Now, it's nice to pray in a church but it's not the only place we can pray. I was fortunate enough to grow up just a wee bit away from Lake Michigan. As a high school student I used to spend hours by the water—walking the beach, letting the waves wash over my feet, and watching sunsets. It was quiet and peaceful; a place where I could think and be one with my God. No, I was not some "holy roller Jesus freak", but I knew the importance of developing a connection with God. The beach was, and still is, my sacred space. On another

level, "praying where you're at" means to pray your emotions. If you are happy, your prayer will reveal that. If you are sad, your prayer will reflect that as well. I am certain that every one of us has had at least one time in our lives where we haven't even felt like praying and so our prayer may have been, "God, you know what I need. I trust you'll take care of me."

As you travel about this summer, even if it's just a day trip, take time each day to talk to God. Welcome God into your life and allow the power of the Spirit to move you into making a difference in the lives of the people around you.



Claudia



**Mark your calendars for our annual
*Mass on the Grass.***

We will celebrate liturgy on the lawn adjacent to Madam Cadillac on **September 8th at our normal 6pm time. **Be sure to bring a lawn chair or blanket on which to sit!****

If you can arrive early (5pm) to assist in setting things up it would be greatly appreciated! We must carry from the chapel all the necessary items needed for liturgy.

Please see Sonja if you are able to assist with our special social that evening.

AIDS Walk Detroit



Registration is now open for the 2013 AIDS Walk Detroit through downtown Royal Oak. As always, the Walk takes place on the third Sunday of September.....this year it is September 15th. The Walk begins and finishes at the Royal Oak Farmers Market on Troy Street (one block east of Main Street) at Eleven Mile Rd.

To register, visit <http://www.aidswalkdetroit.org> and click on join a team. Enter "Dignity Detroit" and then complete your registration. There is no cost to register. There is one point in the registration process where you are asked to make a donation to being your fundraising efforts, but that is purely OPTIONAL.

Last year, we had 26 walkers and the team raised just over \$12,000.00.

Can we beat that???

Dignity Detroit meets every Sunday evening at 6:00 pm in Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove College.

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We are a 501 (c) 3 organization

**Dignity Detroit meetings:
Our meetings are open to all**

Council -

Third Sunday every month @ 4:30 pm

General Membership -

Third Sunday of January, April, July and October, immediately after mass.

DignityUSA:

P.O. Box 376

Medford, MA 02155-0376

Phone: 800-877-8797

E-mail: info@dignityusa.org

Is your membership expiring soon?

You can renew by logging on to the Dignity/USA website. If you don't have access to a computer, renewal packets are available on the back table in the Chapel for you to mail in.

Anyone who cannot afford the \$50 membership is encouraged to see any member of council for the **confidential** Angel's Fund program. All you have to do is ask!

Dignity Detroit offers community outreach for our less fortunate brothers & sisters at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit.

Our volunteer participation needs your help on the 2nd and 4th Friday each month between 3:30 - 6:00pm.

Please see George K. or Denise S. if you can help.



Thank You!!!



Ken Wojciak
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