



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.

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 - 6:00.

See Daniel Cuschieri for more information



Capuchin Soup Kitchen

**Calendar of Events
April 2014**

6th - Fifth Sunday of Lent

13th - Palm Sunday, Council and General Membership meeting

20th - Easter Sunday

27th - Second Sunday of Easter

Who is it you are looking for? John 20.15



As I was looking ahead at the Gospel for Easter and the 2nd Sunday of Easter something struck me as funny—not funny as in “ha ha”, but funny as in odd. The Gospel for Easter is John 20.1-9...Mary of Magdala goes to the tomb of Jesus, finds it empty and runs to tell Peter and another disciple who also investigate the site and find Jesus gone. On the 2nd Sunday of Easter, we again hear from John 20.19-31...Jesus appears to the disciples and we hear the once unbelieving Thomas declare about Jesus *My Lord and my God*. What struck me as

strange is that we *don't* hear what I shall call the “missing verses” from John 20. We hear the entirety of John 20 **with the exception of verses 10-18!** So, here's what's missing:

Then the disciples returned home.

*But Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb and saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet where the body of Jesus had been. And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken my Lord, and I don't know where they laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? **Who is it you are looking for?**” She thought it was the gardener and said to him, “Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni,”* which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, “Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary of Magdala went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and what he told her.*

Those “missing verses” are not heard during *any Sunday* of the Easter season! (If you attend liturgy on Tuesday of the Octave of Easter [Easter Tuesday] you will hear them proclaimed.) I think the one sentence I've highlighted, **Who is it you are looking for?** is important for each of us to consider! In John's Gospel the very first thing Jesus says after his resurrection echoes the first thing he says at the beginning of the Gospel. The question begs an answer.

In your life are you looking for Jesus? Are you able to see him in the faces of the people who sit next to you in church? Can you see him in the eyes of the homeless woman begging for money on the corner? Is he making an appearance in the kid sitting next to you in class? Can you look past the outer appearance and recognize Jesus in the single parent, the gay person, the divorced, the lonely, the disabled, those who cry out to be noticed?

The fact of the matter is this: Jesus continues to be present to us every day...are we looking for him?



-Claudia



Anniversary Celebration Silent Auction

During the past several Anniversary Dinner/Dance Celebrations, we have held a Silent Auction/Raffle to not only help defray the costs of the Dinner/Dance, but to add to the festivities. At our upcoming 40th Anniversary Dinner/Dance on Saturday, May 31st we will once again have a Silent Action/Raffle.

If you are a business owner, good friends with a business owner, or a very frequent patron of a local business, you can help make the Auction/Raffle an enormous success. Gift baskets, gift cards, etc. are all welcome.

Attached to this newsletter is an appeal letter with all the details and a donation form to be filled out. All donations will be recognized in the program to be distributed at the Dinner/Dance. All forms must be turned in by May 1st so that we can adequately plan the layout of the program book and facilitate the layout of the Auction/Raffle items. The actual items are not needed until the week of the Dinner/Dance.

Trying to be as politically correct as possible, the Auction/Raffle is meant to be a fundraiser, not a garage sale for items you no longer need.

If you have any questions, please contact Denise Smith or Frank D'Amore.



Tax ID: 382406909

February 8, 2014

Dear Business Owner,

Dignity Detroit is a ministry that promotes spiritual growth within the straight, gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender community of Metropolitan Detroit. In addition to our weekly Liturgies, our organization conducts/funds several outreach programs every year. In 2013 those efforts included: partial funding of the IHM AIDS Ministry Outreach Program in South Africa; volunteering on Fridays at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen; conducting clothing, food and personal hygiene collections; supporting and participating in the Race for a Cure and AIDS - Walk Detroit and most recently, another very successful Christmas Giving Tree program that benefited families in the parishes of our presiders.

On the weekend of May 31st and June 1st of 2014, Dignity Detroit will celebrate its 40th Anniversary of ministry. Our theme this year: ***It is Good for Us to Be Here.*** The celebration begins on Saturday, May 31st, with our annual dinner dance. Over 150 people will be in attendance that evening. As a part of the festivities that night, we will be having a Silent Auction. The proceeds from the auction assist Dignity Detroit with the funding of our many ministries and out-reach programs.

We are asking for your support to help make our auction a success. You can assist us by making a donation of goods, or services to be auctioned off. Your name, the name of your business as well as the address of your business will be listed on the auction item as well as in the program booklet that will be distributed to all who attend the dinner dance event. We will send you an acknowledgement of your donation and, since Dignity Detroit is a 501(c) 3 tax exempt organization, a receipt of your requested value for your income tax purposes.

To ensure that all information will be received before the program goes to press, please respond before Thursday, **May 1, 2014.**

Please help us keep our proud tradition of love and service alive and growing. We hope that you will be able to step forward and help ensure the success of the Silent Auction. To make a donation, or for further information please contact Frank D'Amore at (313) 530-6715.

Most gratefully,

Dignity Detroit Council

Dignity Detroit
40th Anniversary Silent Auction
Response Form

(please print)

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Contact Person: _____

Item Donated: _____

If item can be mailed, please mail them to: Dignity Detroit
Attn: Anniversary Committee
P. O. Box 558
Royal Oak, MI 48068

If item needs to be picked-up, please call Frank D'Amore at (313) 530-6715.



6:30 P.M. Cocktails
7:00 P.M. Dinner
Park Place
23400 Park St
Dearborn, MI 48124

**It's Good for
Us to be Here**

**Dignity Detroit
40th Anniversary
Dinner Dance
Saturday
May 31, 2014
Tickets: \$50.00**

Tickets **NOW** Available

Ticket Deadline: Sunday, May 18, 2014
(No tickets available at the door)

**Guest Speaker:
Rt. Reverend Bishop
Gene Robinson**

First Gay Episcopal Bishop, Retired

Ticket Order Form:

Name: _____

No. of tickets @ \$50.00 _____

Address: _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Please mail to: Dignity Detroit
P O Box 558
Royal Oak, MI 48068

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

8425 W. McNichols @ Wyoming

Contact us at:

Postal Mail: P.O. Box 558, Royal Oak, MI 48068-0558

Voice-mail: 313-278-4786

E-mail: dignitydetroit74@yahoo.com

Website: www.dignitydetroit.org

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!

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

Please see Daniel C. if you can help.

Thank You!!!



Ken Wojciak
Interior/Exterior Painting
Free estimates
313.319.7712
kwojciak2007@comcast.net