



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 of each month (March 13th and 27th) between 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.

See Daniel Cuschieri for more information.



Calendar of Events March 2015

1st - 2nd Sunday of Lent

8th - 3rd Sunday of Lent

**15th - 4th Sunday of Lent and
Council Meeting**

22nd - 5th Sunday of Lent

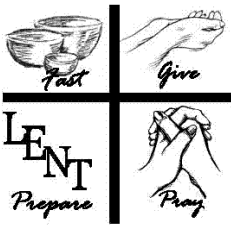
**29th - Palm Sunday & March
Madness Raffle**

What Are You Giving Up For Lent This Year?

That was the inevitable question asked around my home when I was growing up. Mind you, my parents didn't exactly expect an answer; it was mandated that my brother, sister, and I give up candy. And forget about Sunday's being "Little Easter!" We were in it for the long haul. I hated Lent.

As I grew older my parents still asked that same question, *what are you giving up for Lent this year?* Being older and wiser and a wee bit of a smart-aleck I came up with lots of different ideas. *I'm giving up school or I'm giving up cleaning my room or (just to get my parents riled up) I'm giving up being Catholic.* In the end, I gave up candy.

After I finished college and got out on my own I realized that sacrificing candy did nothing for me. Once Easter came I felt no change or conversion of heart because I didn't eat sweets. Rather, I felt sick because I gorged on candy. I don't think this is what Jesus wanted from me.



Now, over the past number of years I do something completely different and it focuses on the three (3) principles of Lent: **PRAY, FAST, GIVE ALMS.** In the lists below I offer you some practical suggestions for Lent that revolve around praying, fasting, and almsgiving. I challenge you to choose at least one from each list and do it every day. Then, when the great and glorious feast of Easter comes you will have had conversion and maybe you will continue these practices all year and not just for the 40 days of Lent.

PRAY

- For yourself and your needs
- For someone to return to the church who may have stopped coming
- For those who are mourning
- For peace
- For those in the military
- For those who are sick
- For the candidates and catechumens who will come into the church at Easter
- For your Dignity council
- For those in religious orders who spend lots of time praying for us
- For catechists who pass on the faith
- For those suffering from addictions
- For those suffering from mental illness
- For those who take care of the sick
- For foster kids
- Read the Sunday readings before coming to mass
- Read a chapter from one of the Gospels every day
- Read about the life of a saint

FAST

- From apathy
- From computers, phones, tablets, video games (for maybe one day a week)
- From gossip
- From bad attitudes
- From complaining
- From negativity
- From judging others
- From comparing yourself to others
- From bad behavior
- From being too hard on yourself

GIVE ALMS

- Write a letter (not an email) to a friend or relative
- Volunteer once a week
- Perform an act of charity every day
- Pick up litter
- Perform a random act of kindness
- Volunteer to help with the various ministries at church
- Clean out your closet and donate to St. Vincent DePaul



Claudia



Frankly Speaking

During the first fifteen days of February, we were able to increase our membership by six, yes six people. We would love to increase our total by at least six more by the end of March.

To help spread the word about Dignity Detroit, what it is, what we do, etc., we are making available our business cards and tri-fold information pamphlets every Sunday. The business cards have all of our contact information on the front and a map to Marygrove College on the back. The tri-fold pamphlet states our connection to DignityUSA, a summary of the programs that we offer, our contact information and the same map to Marygrove. We encourage everyone to take a few of each and give to them to friends or even family members to help spread the word that Dignity Detroit does exist.

As our mission statement reads, we are *Spirituality, Equality and Justice Nurtured in in a Welcoming Catholic Community*. We continue to be here for you and can be here for others as well.

-Frank



Mark your calendars!

“Random Monthly Meet-Up’s” Dignity Detroit’s Social Chair Patrick Sharpe has begun a program which will generally be one social event a month. This will give folks a chance to get together outside of the church setting. These events are for whoever wants to participate. All costs associated with the events are the responsibility of the participants.

March 2015 Meet Up

When: Saturday March 7th at 10:00 a.m.

Where: The Henry Ford Museum

Meet at the main museum entrance. Engines Exposed, explore the mechanical might of more than 40 classic rides. Free with museum admission. The Henry Ford website has more information. www.TheHenryFord.org

Hygiene Drive

Dignity Detroit will be collecting personal hygiene products throughout the Lenten season for the homeless LGBT youth at Ruth Ellis Center – please contact Daniel Cuschieri with any questions.

Dignity Detroit meets every Sunday evening at 6:00 pm
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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Please see Daniel C. if you can help.



Thank You!!!



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