



**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 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month between 3:30 - 6:00p.m.**

**See Daniel Cuschieri for more information.**



**Calendar of Events  
April 2015**

**5<sup>th</sup> - Easter Sunday**

**12<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**19<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter  
Council meeting at 4:30pm  
General Membership meeting after liturgy**

**26<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

## Frankly Speaking

The “Walk” Season is fast approaching. Race for the Cure is the first. Click on the link below and join team Dignity Detroit. Whether or not you collect monetary sponsorships, walk in support of those who have lost the battle with breast cancer and just as important, those who have survived. For further information, please contact Denise Smith.



Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>      Chene Park, Detroit      [raceforthecure@karmanos.org](mailto:raceforthecure@karmanos.org)      248.304.2080

Then in September, it is AIDS Walk Detroit in downtown Royal Oak. Registration is now open. One change this year is a \$25.00 registration fee. Here again, whether or not you collect monetary sponsorships, walk in support of those who have lost the battle with HIV/AIDS, those living with HIV/AIDS and just as important, the family and friends of those affected/infected with HIV/AIDS. For further information, please contact Frank D’Amore.



Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>      Downtown Royal Oak      [www.aidswalkdetroit.org](http://www.aidswalkdetroit.org)      248.399.WALK



### 41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration Update

In February, we conducted our annual contest for submitting possible themes for our Anniversary Celebration. This year we had three submissions. The names of the individuals making the submission were removed (to prevent any bias) from the documents and Council reviewed the themes and the winner is.....

Honoring our Past...Embracing our Future

Dignity Detroit, since its humble beginnings in the “Pink Palace” in 1974, has had a wild, exciting, and faith-filled ride! We were blessed to have the support of both Msgr. Clement Kern and the gracious parishioners of Most Holy Trinity Parish in Corktown for 23 years! In 1997 we were welcomed into the fold of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (I.H.M. Sisters) and the family of Marygrove College.

Through the years we have experienced both highs and lows and we honor those moments in time:

- ✘ Our founding on May 11, 1974
- ✘ Our first liturgy on May 19, 1974
- ✘ Our last liturgy at Most Holy Trinity on May 25, 1997
- ✘ Our first liturgy at Marygrove College on June 1, 1997
- ✘ Our newsworthy 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
- ✘ Protests against our community
- ✘ Strong and vocal support of our allies.
- ✘ Strong support of many dedicated clergy
- ✘ Outreach to a plethora of community organizations including Ruth Ellis Center, Freedom House, Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Affirmations, AIDS Walk Detroit, and Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.
- ✘ Piles and piles of Christmas gifts, Halloween candy, hygiene kits, clothing, and canned goods all donated to local charities
- ✘ Awesome traditional Catholic liturgies

As we celebrate 41 years of ministry we look forward to and embrace whatever the future may hold for us. We ask God’s blessings on us, our priest-presiders, the I.H.M. Sisters, the faculty and staff of Marygrove College, and on all who have loved and supported us on our journey.

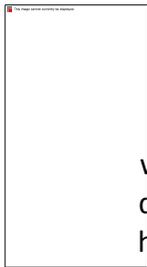
Happy 41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Dignity Detroit!

*Claudia Welbes*

I wonder...

I wonder what it would have been like to be present at the resurrection. How would I respond? What would I say? Who would I tell?

Each Gospel tells the story of the resurrection a little differently and I think it is interesting to see how each author interprets the events. Let's take a brief look at what they say.



Mark tells us that Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices in order to anoint the body of Jesus. According to religious law, these women could not anoint Jesus on the day he died. The Sabbath began at sundown on Friday and no work was allowed; therefore Jesus could not be anointed. This is why the women waited until the Sabbath ended to do the work they were called to do. When they reach the tomb of Jesus they begin to wonder who will roll back the huge stone that covered the entrance, but when they looked up they saw that it had already been moved. When they enter the tomb, they notice a young man, presumably an angel, who tells them that Jesus has been raised. Additionally *they are told that they should announce to the disciples that Jesus will meet them in Galilee*. Next we see that *the women run from the tomb trembling with fear and saying nothing to anyone*.

I wonder if I would have responded in the same way as the women. Would I, too, be fearful? Would I keep this news to myself or would I shout it to everyone I encountered?

It is obvious that the writer of Mark had a profound influence on the authors of Matthew. The story of the resurrection, among other stories, is almost identical. Once again, the women travel to the tomb and stumble upon an angel who had rolled away the stone from the entrance. The angel tells them that there is no reason to be afraid because Jesus has been raised just as he said. The women, as in Mark's Gospel, are to tell the disciples that Jesus will meet them in Galilee. After this, *the women flee and are fearful yet overjoyed; they will announce all they have heard and seen to the disciples. While they are on their way, Jesus meets them and they embrace his feet as a way to pay homage*.

I wonder if I would have felt fearful, yet overjoyed at this good news. What would I have said when I met Jesus? How would I communicate all of these wonderful occurrences to the disciples?

Luke, too, was influenced by the authors of Mark, yet his story has some distinct differences from the others. There are still the women who go to tomb and are greeted by an angel. They were still a bit frightened. Now the differences begin to appear: *the women return from the tomb and announce everything to the 11 apostles and the disciples. The apostles and disciples, with the exception of Peter, did not believe a word they said*.

I wonder how frustrated I would be if no one believed me. Would I have been like the apostles and disciples and doubted the entire story? Or would I have been like Peter who immediately ran to the tomb to see everything for himself?

John tells us that Magdalene went to the tomb, saw that the stone had been removed and went to tell Simon Peter and another disciple that the Lord had been removed. Those men, in turn, go running to the tomb, *saw that it was empty and believed*. Notice that it does not say **what** they believed. The author of John does tell us, though, that they did “not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead.”

I wonder...what would I have believed? Would I have understood that Jesus was to rise from the dead? Or would I have believed that someone took the Lord from the tomb? Would I have been like the disciples who simply returned to the safety and security of home?

Thomas Garlitz, who publishes *Peace Connections*, has a few parting questions for us: *As disciples today how do we respond to the news of Christ's resurrection? Are we like Mary Magdalene, our hearts longing to love and to be loved but still feeling lost and unsure? Like impetuous, impatient Peter, do we observe all the trappings, all the outward signs and symbols which tell us that something happened on Easter but we didn't quite get it? Are we like John, definitely committed and believing but hazy in our beliefs, not grounded in scripture? Or are we running scared, seeking safety in the comfort of our regular routine, knowing Christ is alive but if he shows up too close to home, what will we do then?*

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!! Alleluia!!



*Claudia*



**Mark your calendars!**

### **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 41st Anniversary Dinner Dance on Saturday, **May 16th** 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!

All donations will be recognized in the program to be distributed at the Dinner Dance. All forms must be turned in by April 20th 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 Patrick Sharpe, Jim Carlin or Frank D'Amore.



Dignity Detroit  
41<sup>st</sup> 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 contact Frank D'Amore at  
[frankdamore@dignitydetroit.com](mailto:frankdamore@dignitydetroit.com)

Dignity Detroit 41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary  
Dinner Dance  
Saturday, May 16, 2015  
Tickets: \$50.00

**“Honoring Our Past....Embracing Our Future”**



6:30 p.m. cocktails

7:00 p.m. dinner

Park Place, 23400 Park Street, Dearborn, MI 48124

Tickets available now. Deadline: Sunday May 2, 2015

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Ticket order form to return

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, St. Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of tickets @ \$50.00: \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

**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](mailto:dignitydetroit74@yahoo.com)**

**Website: [www.dignitydetroit.org](http://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](mailto: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 - 6:00.**

**Please see Daniel C. if you can help.**



**Thank You!!!**



**Ken Wojciak**

Interior/Exterior Painting

Free estimates

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