



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 between 3:30 - 6:00p.m.

For more information see Michael Frontiera



**Calendar of Events
September**

6th - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**13th - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
AIDS Walk Detroit**

**20th - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Council meeting;
Mass on the Grass/End of
Summer Potluck**

27th - 26th Sunday of ordinary time



Frankly Speaking

This month I am writing to all of you to remind you of the importance of your membership in Dignity Detroit.

We exist because you exist. As the saying goes, there is strength in numbers, and lately our numbers are shrinking. In the month of September alone, we have 20 members whose membership will expire --- that is just about 25% of our current membership. Next month, there are eight (8) more individuals with memberships that expire.

PLEASE consider renewing your membership in a timely fashion. If you are ever unsure when your membership expires, please contact a member of Council and we can check for you. If for whatever reason you cannot afford the \$50.00 membership fee (\$10 automatically comes back to your Detroit chapter), we do offer scholarship funds for membership from our "Angel Fund". **All discussions regarding the Angel Fund are held in the strictest confidence, so please let me know if you need assistance with your membership renewal.**

The Angel Fund applies to not only individuals who wish to renew their membership, but it is also there for folks who wish to join for the first time.

We are here for you.....and need you!!!!

Frank



I thought of my son, Liam, as I read the words from the Epistle of James that we will hear on Sunday, September 13, the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time. What struck me most in that reading are the words I have bolded.

*What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?
Can that faith save him?*

***If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day,
and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give
them the necessities of the body, what good is it?***

So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

We have always tried to impress on Liam the importance of helping others in tangible ways. For a number of years he collected empty pop cans and bottles and used the money to buy toys for the kids at Children's Hospital. As part of his current religious education program, every family is asked to do a family service project, and so this year we made "Blessing Bags." Michelle saw the idea for this on Pinterest and thought that it would be a good project for us. A Blessing Bag is simply a plastic Ziploc type bag filled with toiletries and nonperishables that you keep in your car to give to the homeless person you may encounter on the corner as you travel about.

The bags we made up contain water, breakfast bars/biscuits, apple sauce, cheese and crackers, pretzels, lifesavers, mints, peanut butter, trail mix, first aid kit, tissues, notepad and pen, antibacterial wipes, plastic spoons, and napkins. Additionally, we've included a note of encouragement and a list of social service agencies in Oakland and Wayne counties.

As a community we do a lot to help those less fortunate than ourselves and I know that the recipients of our good will are appreciative. All this being said and with Council's approval, we will have a Dignity Service Project and make up some blessing bags to keep in our cars. There will be a sheet in the foyer during the after-mass social for you to place your name next to any items you can donate. After all the necessary items are collected we will, as a community, create our own assembly line after mass and put all the donations together in the Blessing Bags. Then you will all be invited to take a couple of them to distribute to the person in need. **Our goal...100 Blessing Bags!**

As we continue our ministry to our disadvantaged sisters and brothers, pray that God will use us to be a blessing for others. Please watch for the sign-up sheet in the foyer, and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask me.



Claudia



Mark your calendars!

Monthly Meet Up for September

Where: 37th Annual Michigan Renaissance Festival,
12600 Dixie Highway, Holly MI 48442

When: Saturday, September 19th, Shamrocks &
Shenanigans weekend, 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Advanced tickets: Adults \$19.95, children 5-12 \$11.50 available at Kroger, Walgreens, Menards & Goodwill. More information at www.michrenfest.com

Annual Mass on the Grass & Summer Potluck Picnic



Sunday, September 20th.
There will be sign-up sheets for set-up, clean-up and potluck items so start thinking of what to bring.

AIDS Walk Detroit

This year's Royal Oak AIDS Walk will take place on Sunday, September 13th. If you haven't registered to join the Walk as a member of the Dignity Detroit Walk team, please consider doing so. There is one small difference this year...there is a \$25.00 registration fee. If, for whatever reason, you cannot walk with us please think about sponsoring the team with a tax deductible donation. Please visit www.aidswalkdetroit.org to pledge your support or to register to walk.



42nd Anniversary Celebration

Our 42nd Anniversary Celebration will take place the weekend of May 14-15, 2016. Our Annual Dinner/Dance will be on Saturday evening, May 14th and our Anniversary Liturgy will follow on Sunday, May 15th (also the Solemn Feast of Pentecost).

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

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Please see Michael F. if you can help.

Thank You!!!



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.

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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