

**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-  
February 2015**

**1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary  
Time**

**8<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary  
Time**

**15<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary  
Time**

**18<sup>th</sup> - Ash Wednesday Liturgy  
and distribution of ashes at  
7:00pm**

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

## Frankly Speaking

I wish to express my gratitude for the prayers, phone calls, text messages, cards, general good wishes and overall concern during the last several weeks. I am still recuperating from my spinal fusion but am scheduled to return to work on Monday, February 2, 2015. Special thanks to the surprise visit by Fr. Randy Phillips who brought Eucharist to me. I also wish to express my gratitude to my colleagues on council who took over and did so in a very productive manner as well as those of you that were involved in making the chapel so beautiful for the holidays.

Those of you fortunate enough to attend one of our liturgies during the Christmas season were treated to a beautiful, elegant worship space. Those responsible know who they are and how grateful we are all to them for sharing their unique talents.

I am very happy to report that my surgical procedure was successful! I have some minor discomfort in the surgical area but the severe nerve pain that I was experiencing is completely gone. I do have to say a special "thank you" to my partner Rick. I am not an "easy" patient and required a great deal of attention...a personal attribute of which some of you may be unaware. He did a great job keeping me on the road to recovery.



## March Madness

Dignity Detroit will once again sponsor our March Madness Raffle this year. The actual raffle will take place on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday) during the After-Mass Social. Three cash prizes to be awarded will be \$500.00 (1<sup>st</sup>), \$250.00 (2<sup>nd</sup>) and \$100.00 (3<sup>rd</sup>).

As we have done historically, we are asking members, friends and general supporters to take at least one book of thirty tickets to sell or purchase. If all tickets are sold or purchased, you need only turn in \$25.00 as our gratitude for your generosity and support. Keep in mind that expenses associated with the raffle exceed \$1,200.00 so if you would like to send in the entire \$30.00, or make an additional donation, please feel free to do so.

One-half of the proceeds of the raffle will be donated to the IHM Sisters for their use. The other half will be deposited into the Dignity Detroit treasury to fund future projects.

Your anticipated generosity is gratefully appreciated!

# Lent



Gosh, it just seems as if we finished the Christmas Season and we are now beginning Lent! As a Catholic faith community, we jump wholeheartedly into this season as we anticipate and prepare for the greatest feast of our Liturgical year...Easter.

As we begin thinking about Lent, it is necessary to cover all the “business” of this Liturgical time:

- We will decorate the chapel for Lent on Sunday, February 15 immediately following our Liturgy. Aaron and Michael (who coordinated Advent/Christmas environment) will be leading our effort so please be sure to lend them a hand after Liturgy on February 15.
- Ash Wednesday Liturgy and the distribution of ashes will take place on Wednesday, February 18 at 7pm.
- The Lenten regulations regarding Fasting and Abstinence are as follows:
  - ✘ Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In addition, all Catholics 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.
  - ✘ Fasting as explained by the U.S. bishops means partaking of only one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted at breakfast and around midday or in the evening—depending on when a person chooses to eat the main or full meal.
  - ✘ Abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, milk products or condiments made of animal fat.
  - ✘ Abstinence does not include meat juices and liquid foods made from meat. Thus, such foods as chicken broth, consommé, soups cooked or flavored with meat, meat gravies or sauces, as well as seasonings or condiments made from animal fat are not forbidden. So it is permissible to use margarine and lard. Even bacon drippings which contain little bits of meat may be poured over lettuce as seasoning.
  - ✘ Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.
- We will decorate the chapel for Easter on Sunday, March 29. This is the same day as the March Madness Raffle so we will begin the transformation of the chapel immediately after the drawing. Please consider staying a bit to help out.
- Little Black Books will be available on the back table as you leave chapel on February 15. These booklets, provided for you at no charge, offer you wonderful daily reflections. You’ll be surprised at how much you learn by devoting a mere 10 minutes a day to reading this booklet.



" \_\_\_\_\_ "

No, we did not forget to put a title on this article. The fact is that we do not have a title.....YET! At the end of February, we will fill in the blank with the theme of our 41st Anniversary Celebration. Forty-one years of ministry to the LBGT community of the metropolitan Detroit area. Our celebration is set for the weekend of May 16-17, with our annual dinner/dance on Saturday, May 16th and our Anniversary Liturgy on Sunday, May 17th.

Put your thinking caps on.....ask the Holy Spirit for inspiration....then put pen to paper. Please submit a paragraph or two explaining your submission. The author of the winning theme will receive two free tickets to the Dinner/Dance!

Please submit your entry to Frank D'Amore either in person on a Sunday evening or through E-mail at [frankdamore@dignitydetroit.com](mailto:frankdamore@dignitydetroit.com)

Entry submission deadline is Sunday, February 22nd. Good luck.....



## 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.

### **February 2015 Meet Up**

**When:** Saturday, February 7 at 5:00 p.m.

**Where:** Meridian Winter Blast in Campus Martius

Meet inside the Compuware Building. Admission: donate 3 canned food items or 1 children's book or \$2 (Benefiting Matrix Human Services)! There will be music, warming areas, ice sculpture, ice skating, and food.

### **March 2015 Meet Up**

**When:** Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.TheHenryFord.org)

**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.

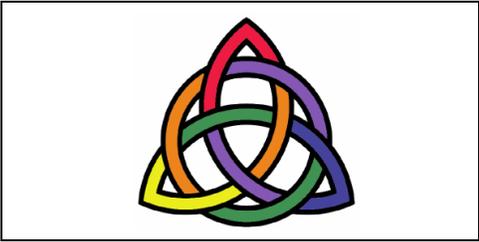
Anyone who cannot afford the \$50 membership is encouraged to see any member of council for the **confidential** Angel's Fund program. All you have to do is ask!

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

**Thank You!!!**



**Ken Wojciak**  
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