



**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.**

**See Daniel Cuschieri for more information.**



**Calendar of Events  
June 2015**

**7<sup>th</sup> – Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ & Detroit PRIDE**

**14<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**21<sup>st</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time and Council Meeting At 4:30**

**28<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

## **Frankly Speaking**

**A single thank you seems so inadequate. Here are a million thanks!!!!**

**Thanks to everyone who played a part in our 41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Both the Dinner/Dance and the Liturgy were events to be remembered. We had just over 100 individuals at each one. The Silent Auction/Raffle was an overwhelming success and the After-Mass social was a feast to behold. Again, thanks to all involved.....from planning to execution. Only 12 months left before we do it again!!!**

**As June 30th rapidly approaches, I want again to thank Marylou Tumas and Daniel Cuschieri for their service to Dignity Detroit as Secretary and Community Involvement Chair respectfully, the last two years. Both did an amazing job in light of everything going on their lives.**

**Finally, I want to officially welcome back our Vice-President, Claudia W. and welcome our new Secretary, Carolyn Shalhoub and our new Community Involvement Chair, Michael Frontiera. Knowing them as I do, all three will do a bang-up job.**

*Frank*



This month we celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. It has been said that this feast, established in 1264 by Pope Urban, originally had a two-fold focus: emphasis of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist *and* the living, breathing community as the Body of Christ. The latter meaning somehow got lost through the years. I could explore in this column the theological concepts of the Real Presence and Transubstantiation, but that's not what I think this feast is entirely about. Instead, I'd like to give you my perspective on the Body of Christ.

I grew up in a fairly traditional Catholic family. My dad taught in one of the local Catholic grade schools, my mom was a nurse in the local Catholic hospital, and my brother, sister, and I attended Catholic elementary and high schools and Catholic colleges/universities. We went to Mass on Saturday evening; my father was either a lector or Eucharistic minister, my brother was an altar server, and I always had my hand in the music somehow. We were part of the Body of Christ. After Mass, we went home for a family meal and then we traveled to my Grandma and Grandpa's home for dessert. We did this every Saturday, without fail. It was tradition.

You could tell we were a Catholic family alright. When most kids used their imaginations and played “school”, we played “Mass”. My grandparents set up the card table for us on the porch and let us use the old family Bible. In the spirit of fairness, each of us got to have a turn at being the priest. We used grape juice for wine and Necco wafers for hosts. (I always used the chocolate Necco wafers!) I imagine it was pretty comical for our parents and grandparents because we really knew all the words to Eucharistic Prayer II (from the Sacramentary not the Roman Missal) and would correct “Father” if he/she messed up. What we learned at Mass spilled into our everyday lives; we were still the Body of Christ.

This love for Liturgy carried over into our adult lives. We were, however, like normal teens who often fought our parents about going to mass. No matter what reasons we gave for not wanting to go—“It’s too early.” “It’s too boring.” “I don’t get anything out of it.”—our folks always trumped us with, “As long as you live in our house...” I look back now and am glad they didn’t cave in to our whining. Today, I enjoy Liturgy because I come face to face with the living, breathing, dynamic Body of Christ. Yes, the Real Presence of Christ is in the Eucharist, but the real presence is also in the people who make up the Body of Christ—the Church.

So why is this feast day important and significant for us? As the Body of Christ we come to Liturgy to be nourished by the Body of Christ (both the Eucharist and the people). Whenever we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, let’s remember all that we believe in, not only in the Real Presence in the Host but also Jesus’ Real Presence in us too. Jesus nourishes us, so that we can nourish others. We are the Body of Christ. When we recognize that, maybe the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ will become appreciated again.



*Claudia*



## Mark your calendars!

### After Mass Social Reminder

You can send me your name and phone number if you would like to provide the after mass social. We count on people to take turns for our fellowship. All you have to do is bring food item(s) and we will take care of the rest of the set up. [PatrickSharpe@Outlook.com](mailto:PatrickSharpe@Outlook.com)



The Monthly Meet Ups are being planned and an email blast will go out when they are finalized as well as a post on our Facebook Page. Like us on Facebook for periodic updates!

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

8425 W. McNichols @ Wyoming

Contact us at:

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Website: [www.dignitydetroit.org](http://www.dignitydetroit.org)

**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!!!**



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