



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 Tabaczynski.



**Calendar of Events
June**

4th - Ferndale Pride

5th - 10th Sunday of Ordinary time

12th - 11th Sunday of Ordinary time and Motor City Pride

19th - 12th Sunday of Ordinary time and council meeting

26th - 13th Sunday of Ordinary time

Frankly Speaking

I cannot begin to express my thanks to everyone who helped make our 42nd Anniversary Celebration as special as it was.

Our annual Dinner/Dance started the festivities on Saturday, May 14th. Just under 130 people dined, danced, and made our Silent Auction/Raffle extremely successful. Patrick and Denise checked folks in, Allen and Jim coordinated the Auction/Raffle, Joe and Steve did their creative magic once again on the tablescapes and once again Dave helped out wherever needed. The biggest thanks goes to those who were able to attend. From all indications everyone enjoyed themselves.

Our Anniversary Liturgy, our real essence of our being (ministry to the LGBTQ community) was one of the most special liturgies in our 42 years. Our organist Kevin, the choir and our guest trumpeter lead the way with their talents and voices. Five (5) of our clergy were in attendance. The sanctuary has never looked more stunning thanks to Aaron and Michael.

What a beautiful team effort to mark not only our 42 years of existence, but also the Solemn Feast of Pentecost.

When one stops and really thinks about it, we are truly ***Companions in Faith***.



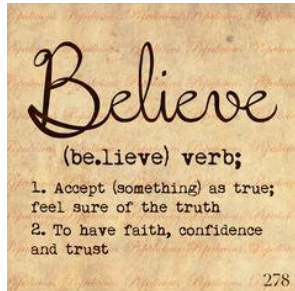
The Dignity Young Adult Caucus is sponsoring it's biannual Leadership Conference, scheduled for July 29-31 in Chicago. This conference brings together an energized group of young adults from across the country to be in community and develop leadership skills. This is also a wonderful opportunity for individuals without a home chapter to meet fellow members and non-members. For more information visit:

<https://dignityusa.org/dyacretreat>

Do You Believe?

Like most people, I like watching movies. I particularly enjoy a good comedy or even some of the recent “kids” animated movies. I like the fact that sometimes I can just watch and laugh, and let the troubles of the world go by the wayside. But have you ever watched a movie that touched you deeply and resonated with you for a long time? I watched one of those kind of movies recently with the kids with whom I work. Do yourself a favor and rent *Do You Believe?*

The following is a description for the movie’s website:



A dozen different souls—all moving in different directions, all longing for something more. As their lives unexpectedly intersect, they each are about to discover there is power in the Cross of Christ ... even if they don't believe it. Yet.

*When a local pastor is shaken to the core by the visible faith of an old street-corner preacher, he is reminded that true belief always requires action. His response ignites a faith-fueled journey that powerfully impacts everyone it touches in ways that only God could orchestrate. More than a movie, it's a question we all must answer in our lifetimes: **DO YOU BELIEVE?***

So we’re all sitting/relaxing/lounging in the youth room eating pizza and watching the film when, all of a sudden, I jump up and yell, “Holy Mary, Mother of God...that’s my church!” I think I scared a few kids when I did that. I quickly paused the movie and spat out, “You are not going to believe this! The church in that last scene is the church I went to in my hometown, Muskegon! That’s the church in which I was baptized, received my First Communion, and was Confirmed! My family worshipped there every week and I eventually helped with the music there! Unbelievable!”

That church is Sacred Heart and I have very fond memories of my time in the elementary school there and all the cool liturgies of the 70’s (Do you remember *They’ll Know We are Christians by Our Love or Sons of God?*). That building and the people who worshipped there were very instrumental in my faith development. They welcomed the young people with open arms and appreciated, or perhaps tolerated, our guitar masses...complete with tambourines!

When I got home that evening after the film, I researched it a little more. It was shot in three Michigan locations: Muskegon Heights, Ludington, and Manistee. I got shivers when I read that. I have familial connections to all those places. Imagine my surprise when I read that some of the church scenes were filmed at St. Stanislaus in Ludington. That was my Dziadzia and Busha’s (dziadek and bubcia) or great grandparents’ parish! I recall going to mass with them and wondering how they knew what was going on. Liturgy was in Polish and I, apparently, forget that was their native language. I even recognized some of the places in Manistee; my great aunt and uncle lived there!

So why did the movie touch me so deeply? Yes, the story line was good. Yes, the message was powerful. But above all of that, the film brought me back to my roots. Those places where it was filmed gave me pause as I remembered all people who were so influential in my faith journey and development...my parents, grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles and all the people of those wonderful parishes.

Do I Believe? You betcha I believe and I thank God for all those brought me up in the faith and those who continue to walk with me on my journey!



Claudia

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

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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 Michael T. if you can help.
Thank You!!!



Ken Wojciak

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