



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 T.



**Calendar of Events
August**

7th- 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

14th-20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**21st-21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dignity Council Meeting**

28th-22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



This month we celebrate Mary's Assumption into heaven. It is one of three feasts of Mary that are Holy Days of Obligation for Catholics in the United States. January 1 is the feast of Mary, the Mother of God, and December 8 is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven has long been held as an important Catholic Christian belief.



As legend has it (since the Assumption is NOT recorded in scripture) when Mary felt her time on earth coming to an end, she sent word to all the Apostles. They were out preaching the Good News of her Son 'to all the corners of the world' as Jesus had commanded them. When they received her message, of course they paid their respects to their new congregations and disciples and left so as to hurry to her side. After long sea voyages and treks over land, they arrived just in time to say goodbye and pray with her one last time. Then she died. (It must be noted, however, that the Church has never definitively said whether or not Mary died before she was assumed into heaven.)

Only Thomas was late. He had been delayed by some way or another, and had been travelling day and night since to try and catch up. But he was too late. When he finally arrived, hot and travel stained, he was grief-stricken to learn that she had been laid to rest in a tomb. He wept bitterly, and begged the Apostle's permission to open the tomb so that he could see her beloved face. At first, the other Apostles were reluctant. After all, she had been dead for three days, and it was a hot country. Finally, they yielded to his tears and rolled away the stone.

To their amazement, the tomb was filled with flowers all giving off a sweet fragrance. They felt happier and healthier just smelling the beautiful scent that came wafting out of that tomb.

Where they had placed her body was only her shroud, filled with more flowers. Her body had been carried up to heaven by her Son and the angels, to join her soul.

<http://www.domesticchurch.com/CONTENT.DCC/19980701/SAINTS/ASSUMPTION.HTM>

This belief, that Mary was taken into heaven both body and soul, has been an accepted belief and celebration since the 5th century. In 1568, Pope Pius V made the Feast of the Assumption a holy day for the entire Church.

I want to make an analogy...

Because the Assumption of Mary into Heaven is not Biblical, the Gospel we have for today points to Mary as the perfect vessel who carried our salvation...she was chosen by God to bring healing and wholeness to a sick and broken world. Make sure you understand this...Mary, who was conceived without sin, brought Jesus (salvation) to us...a sinful people.

And yet, here we are...an imperfect, broken vessel also called by God, chosen by God to continue what began with Mary. As Christians we are compelled to take Jesus out of this chapel and into our everyday lives. Through our words and through our actions we are to witness to the presence of a God who is with us and loves us unconditionally. Like Mary, we, too, can proclaim the greatness of God.



Claudia



AIDS Walk Detroit

Sunday, September 25th is the date. Royal Oak Farmers Market is the place. The 2016 AIDS Walk Detroit is just around the corner. The Dignity Detroit Walk team currently has five (5) members and has already raised in excess of \$3,700.00. To be part of our Walk Team, simply visit www.aidswalkdetroit.org and click on **JOIN A TEAM**. Enter your name and information and you are ready to go. If for whatever reason, you cannot walk with us, PLEASE consider sponsoring our Walk team with a financial donation. All funds raised by our Dignity Walk Team will go directly to the Help Emergency Lifeline Program (H.E.L.P.). Help us make a difference in the lives of the men, women and children living with or suffering from this horrible disease. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Frank D'Amore (frankdamore@dignitydetroit.com).

A Moment with Michael



As you all know, we have worked with the Pope Francis Center in the past during our hygiene drive. Well, now the center is need of Men's socks. For entire month of August, ending on Sunday, August 28th, we will be holding a sock drive for the center. They are in need of plain white men's socks. If you could, please bring a pack of socks to mass with you, and I will make sure they get delivered to the center. Any sock donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you all in advance. I know the center will be thankful, and just think of all the individuals that will now have clean socks to wear. God bless you all!

Truly,
Michael

Mark your calendars for our annual *Mass on the Grass*.



We will celebrate liturgy in the courtyard on September 18th at our normal 6pm time. **Be sure to bring a lawn chair or blanket on which to sit!**

If you can arrive early (5pm) to assist in setting things up it would be greatly appreciated! We must carry from the chapel all the necessary items needed for liturgy.

Please see Dave Cutting if you are able to assist with our special social that evening!

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.

Dignity/USA:

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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Thank You!!!



Ken Wojciak

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