

**Announcement of the 2020 Dignity/Boston Executive Board:** Our 2020 Executive Board will be announced at our Anniversary Lunch as well as at our Anniversary Liturgy. Both are next Sunday (12/8). Many thanks for those who ran and made a commitment to serve.

**Anniversary Liturgy:** Please join us next Sunday (12/8) for our Anniversary Liturgy. There will be a pinning ceremony to mark Milestone Anniversaries for members of our Dignity/Boston community. Please join us!

**Christmas Liturgy:** Our Christmas liturgy will be on Christmas Eve, 12/24, at 9:00 p.m. here at St. Stephen's. We wish all a very Merry Christmas and holiday season.

**Our own, Diane Sidorowicz:** Our longtime member, Diane Sidorowicz, has been interviewed by the LGBTQ-Religious Archive Network. Her biography and interview, both audio and transcript, has been posted to their website, <https://lgbtreligiousarchives.org/profiles> We hope you listen to her very moving story.

**St. Stephen's Appeal:** We hope that you received an envelope in the mail for our St. Stephen's Appeal. This year the appeal focuses on the St. Stephen's Youth Programs. The mission of the programs is to promote equity in education, employment and opportunity through long-term relationships with youth and their families and communities. St. Stephen's Youth Programs (SSYP) began in 1999 as the church's effort to provide neighborhood elementary students with a safe place to go when school is not in session. Today, this successful, cost effective, out-of-school time programming serves 850 young people in grades K-12+. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

The Bulletin is a weekly publication of Dignity/Boston. Listings are at the discretion of the Dignity/Boston Board. The chapter does not endorse nor will be responsible for any personal views expressed in these announcements. In unusual circumstances, such as when the Governor declares a State of Emergency because of bad weather, Dignity/Boston may cancel its events, including the regular Sunday liturgy. Cancellations will be posted on our website and recorded on our voicemail message at 617-421-1915. We will email the cancellation to the listserv. Dignity/Boston is a progressive and inclusive Catholic community for people of all sexual orientations, genders and gender identities, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex persons, our family, friends and supporters. Board meetings and Liturgy Committee meetings are open to all members of Dignity/Boston. Both groups meet monthly year-round. All meetings are announced in the bulletin, during announcements at the end of liturgy each Sunday, and at [www.dignityboston.org](http://www.dignityboston.org) To place an issue on the agenda for the next board meeting, please see Chris Lawrence, email [dignityboston@gmail.com](mailto:dignityboston@gmail.com), or call 617-421-1915. Please leave a detailed message. For bulletin submissions, send an email to Dave Houle at [houlivan@gmail.com](mailto:houlivan@gmail.com) The Bulletin deadline is every Wednesday at 9 p.m.



*gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex Catholics & allies*

## December 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent/World AIDS Day

**First Reading**  
Isaiah: 2:1-5

**Second Reading**  
Romans: 13:11-14

**Gospel**  
Matthew: 24:37-44



*"I enjoy being a messenger of God as I let people know about HIV/AIDS."*

*--Magic Johnson*

*a progressive and inclusive Catholic community for people of all sexual orientations, genders and gender identities, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex persons, our family, friends and supporters.*



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## Our Songs

**Gathering:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (317)

**Psalm:** Let Us Go Rejoicing (120—Psalm 122)

**Preparation:** Christ Be Our Light (sheet)

**Communion:** Christ Circle Round Us (sheet)

**Sending Forth:** Let This Be the Time (sheet)

*Note: Music selections may vary depending on available singers. Samples of our music can be found on the Dignity/Boston website.*

## Our Readings

Today we begin Cycle "A" Sunday readings with a focus this liturgical year on the Gospel of Matthew. The gospel today seems to paint a dire picture, but the point of Jesus' teaching is the unpreparedness of the people, not the tragedy itself. "Stay awake!" (Gospel). The prophet offers a glorious contrast: all nations will stream to the holy mountain of God's dwelling and will not raise the sword against another (Reading I). How do we bring about this vision of peace? St. Paul suggests change on a personal level as well interpersonal: putting an end to quarreling and jealousy (Reading II).

## Our Liturgy

*The glass chalices contain consecrated grape juice, for those who wish to abstain from alcohol. Gluten-free wafers are available as well.*

*Dignity/Boston continues to grow in awareness about gender diversity, and we recognize and welcome a spectrum of gender identities and expression. Unfortunately, our current hymnals do not reflect that well. As we strive to do a better job, we encourage you to change language as needed. We also encourage you to identify the pronouns you use on your name tag.*

*During our liturgy each Sunday, we ask you to please silence your cell phone.*

**Find us on:**



## Our Announcements

**Last Week's Thanksgiving Collection:** This collection raised \$1,500 for the Friday Night Supper Program. Thank you for your generosity.

**World AIDS Day:** Today is World AIDS Day, which is an international day focused on raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic. When you came in the door tonight, we hope that you took an AIDS ribbon and a prayer card. Please wear and pray as we remember those affected by HIV/AIDS as well as their families and friends.

**About Advent:** Today begins the First Sunday of Advent. Advent is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas and the return of Jesus at the Second Coming. The term is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming". The term "Advent" is also used in Eastern Orthodoxy for the 40-day Nativity Fast, which has practices different from those in the West. Advent is the beginning of the Western liturgical year. In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the Western Rite of the Orthodox Church, and in the Anglican, Lutheran, Moravian, Presbyterian, and Methodist calendars, Advent commences on the fourth Sunday before Christmas—the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day (30 November). Thank you for joining us tonight for our first Advent celebration. Here at Dignity/Boston we will again be doing a music prelude at the start of each of our Advent liturgies. We begin with the chime of the bell, in order to start our liturgy in a contemplative way.

**Voting for the 2020 Board:** Just a reminder to complete your voting for the 2020 Executive Board. Ballot counting will happen next Saturday (12/7). All ballots, paper and electronic, need to be completed in advance of the ballot counting in order to count.

**Last Night for Signup and Payment:** Tonight is the last night for signup and payment for our Anniversary Lunch at Maggiano's Little Italy. Please see Mike or Dave H. after service to sign-up and pay. It will be a wonderful event with lots great appetizers, entrees, and desserts. Maggiano's Little Italy is located at 4 Columbus Ave. in the Back Bay/South End. We hope to see you there!