

**Executive Board Meeting:** The next meeting of our Dignity/Boston Executive Board is next Sunday (12/15) from 1:45 to 3:45 p.m. here at St. Stephen's. This is a joint meeting of the 2019 and 2020 Board. All are welcome to attend.

**Liturgy Committee Meeting:** The next meeting of our Dignity/Boston Liturgy Committee is next Sunday (12/15) following our liturgy here at St. Stephen's. All are welcome to attend.

**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 8, 2019 Second Sunday of Advent/Anniversary Liturgy

**First Reading**  
Isaiah: 11:1-10

**Second Reading**  
Romans: 15:4-9

**Gospel**  
Matthew: 3:1-12



*"Baptism is faith in action."*

*--Watchman Nee*

*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:** All is Ready (sheet)

**Psalm:** Every Nation (sheet)

**Preparation:** You Weave a Story (sheet)

**Communion:** Here At This Table (sheet)

**Sending Forth:** City of God (618)

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

## Our Readings

Two prophetic voices dominate today's readings. The prophet Isaiah's soaring poetry heralds the emergence of a new leader, full of the Spirit of God, accompanied by an era of remarkable harmony and peace (First Reading from Isaiah). The unconventional John the Baptist heralds the coming of the Promised One and preaches authentic change and reform (Matthew's Gospel). Finally, St. Paul is inspired by the hope and patience of those who have preceded him, and urges mutual acceptance and perfect harmony among believers (Second Reading from Romans).

## 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

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

**About Advent:** Today is the Second 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 (11/30). 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.

**Announcement of the 2020 Dignity/Boston Executive Board:** Our 2020 Executive Board was announced at our Anniversary Lunch and will be announced again tonight during our Anniversary Liturgy. Many thanks for those who ran and made a commitment to serve.

**Anniversary Liturgy:** Thanks for joining us for our Anniversary Liturgy. There will be a pinning ceremony to mark Milestone Anniversaries in our community following tonight's service.

**Second Collection:** Next Sunday's (12/15) Second Collection will benefit the St. Stephen's Youth Program. You'll notice information about the Youth Program under the St. Stephen's Appeal writeup on the back page of this Bulletin. Thank you, in advance, for your generous contribution. Since we're doing both an appeal and second collection for this work, we hope to present St. Stephen's with a sizeable check just in time for Christmas and the new year. If you're writing a check, please make it payable to Dignity/Boston. Dignity will then write one larger check for St. Stephen's. Thanks again!!