



BULLETIN – March 15, 2022

Upcoming Liturgies for Lent

Sunday, March 20	Third Sunday of Lent STW	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 27	Fourth Sunday of Lent STW	5:00 p.m.

Note: A Liturgy Committee Meeting follows our 3/20 service. Healing and anointing will be part of the 3/20 service. STW=Share the Word

Palm Sunday Liturgy and Social - 4/10

The Liturgy Committee is planning to hold a two-part liturgy on **Palm Sunday, 4/10 beginning at 2:00 p.m.** with a short in-person service. This will include a reading, blessing of the palms, and procession with the palms. We will meet in Blackstone Park across the street from St. Stephen's Church, 419 Shawmut Avenue in Boston's South End. Following this service, you are invited to stay for our first informal social of the year. Participants are respectfully asked to wear a mask as we will be observing public health safety protocols. Bring a folding chair and your own beverage. The social will continue until 3:00 p.m. **Our Palm Sunday service will continue virtually at 5:00 p.m. EDT with a Share the Word liturgy.** Note the in-person service and social are weather permitting. Please watch for emails from Dignity/Boston in the event a cancellation is necessary.

Upcoming Socials

Thursday, March 24

7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

“Meeting Jesus”

Spend an hour to meet with Jesus through guided meditation and sharing what prayerfully informs each of us from our experience.

Hosts: Janie and Bob

50th. Anniversary Events!

Our Dignity/Boston chapter hopes to do a number of events this year to commemorate our anniversary, including an outdoor party or dinner in September or early October. We are looking for volunteers to help plan and put together the event. If you are interested in helping, please let us know by emailing us at dignityboston@gmail.com Also, please take a look at all we've done over our last 50 years as we've posted a timeline later in this Bulletin, this time focusing on 1972, 1973, and 1974.

Synod 2021 2023

DignityUSA is encouraging our members and friends to speak out on issues of importance to LGBTQI people and allies as part of the church's Global Synod going on now. We are offering three ways for you to participate: (1) if you will be participating in a parish or diocesan listening session, download the [guide](#) for doing so (2) participate in our online Listening session by registering now for the [March 24, 2022](#) (8:00 PM ET/5:00 PM PT) session (3) Submit your input [through our website](#). DignityUSA will be preparing an official report based on your input and submitting it to the Synod's General Secretary this Fall. Make sure your thoughts are included!

Young Adult Caucus Lenten Retreat

Calling all people ages 18-39! Are you interested in joining the **Young Adult Caucus** for its **Online Lenten Retreat** through DignityUSA? This will be held Sunday, 4/3 from Noon to 2:30 p.m. ET and is being facilitated by Brandan Robertson. If interested you may register using the following link: <https://www.dignityusa.org/civicrm/event/register?id=132&reset=1>

Weekly Discussions During Lent



DignityUSA is currently hosting a weekly discussion during Lent on the Sunday Scriptures. The program occurs each Wednesday evening from 3/9 through 4/13 at 8:00 p.m. EDT. Participants are welcome to join for a single session or the entire series as their schedule permits. Please register using the following link:

<https://www.dignityusa.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=131&noFullMsg=true>

More From DignityUSA

In addition to the information above on the Young Adult Caucus, the Synod, and the Lenten discussions, DignityUSA has much more happening including information on the 25th Biennial Conference in San Diego, the attempt by the Diocese of Marquette, MI to ban LGBTQ+ people from receiving the sacraments, the recruitment of candidates for the upcoming DignityUSA Executive Board, and the welcoming of our new manager of Operations and Mission Services. Check it all out at the following websites:

www.dignity.usa

<https://www.dignityusa.org/civicrm/mailing/view?id=2261&reset=1>



1972

50th Years

2022

As Dignity Boston prepares to celebrate our 50th anniversary we look back to the past and reflect on the important milestones in our history. Today we look at 1972 – 1974.

1972

The United Church of Christ becomes the first major denomination to approve the ordination of someone who is openly gay.

Dignity develops Statement of Position and Purpose; National President Joe Gilgamesh tours cities where there is interest in Dignity, including Boston.

December 3, 1972: Dignity/Boston meets for the first time at Randolph Country Club as an outgrowth of the group Catholic Homophiles.

1973

Dignity/Boston moves to St. Clement's Church.

***The Boston Globe Magazine* runs a feature on gay Catholics and Dignity/Boston.**

Dignity/Boston members Paul Diederich, Fr. Tom Oddo, and Jack Hart elected National President, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively, at the First National Biennial Convention in Los Angeles.

Dignity/Inc. (precursor to Dignity/USA) National Office moves to Boston.

The Reverend Ray Broshears, a gay minister, makes national news when he marries a lesbian couple in San Francisco.

1974

Dignity/Boston's first retreat held at the Christian Formation Center in Andover.

The American Psychiatric Association agrees not to classify homosexuality as a mental disorder.

The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court decriminalizes consensual sexual conduct between adults who had a "reasonable expectation of privacy."

The U.S. Congress fails to pass the "Equality Act of 1974," which would have amended the 1964 Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination based on "sex, marital status, and sexual orientation."

Elaine Noble of Massachusetts becomes the first openly gay person to win election to a state legislature.

Dignity national officers lead Boston delegation in New York gay pride parade.

National Coalition of American Nuns and National Federation of Priests Councils issue statements supporting civil rights for and opposing discrimination against homosexual persons.

Keep an eye out for more Dignity/Boston timeline information in future Bulletins!

Our Collections

Donate Via PayPal

You can support Dignity/Boston by sending your donations via [Pay Pal](#)! Once logged in and on the site, please select "send" and then search for "DignityBoston@gmail.com".

Donate Via Mail

You can also support Dignity and its second collections by sending donations to: Dignity/Boston, PO Box 170428, Boston, MA 02117-0408. Checks can be made payable to: Dignity/Boston. If it's for the Second Collection of the month, write "Second Collection" on the memo line. We'll then write just one check and will forward to the organization.

March Collection:

Our second collection for March focuses on Ukraine. Please consider donating to British Red Cross - Ukraine Crisis Appeal. Your donation could help someone affected by war receive food, water, first aid, medicines, warm clothes and shelter. You can donate using this [link](#): The second collection that was originally planned for this month and listed in the last Bulletin will be scheduled later this year.

Let Us Know About Your Donation: When you donate each month, let us know by filling out the google form!

<https://forms.gle/sz55Ycd2MHQcAhg6A>

Please email Dave H. at houlivan@gmail.com if you have any items that you would like to suggest for the next Bulletin (3/30/22) by Monday, 3/28/22 at 12 Noon.