DIGNITY
BOSTON

BULLETIN – March 30, 2026

Our Liturgies

Holy Thursday

Holy Thursday, or Maundy Thursday, is the start of the Triduum and commemorates the Washing of the Feet (Maundy) and Last Supper . This is an in-person Eucharistic liturgy at St. Stephen's with live streaming. The service begins at 8:00 p.m. EDT this Thursday (4/2).

Good Friday

Good Friday is also known as Holy Friday and Great Friday as well as Friday of the Passion of the Lord. It is a solemn commemorating of the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. Join us for this service as our Triduum continues. This is an in-person Eucharistic liturgy at St. Stephen's with live streaming. The service begins at 7:00 p.m. EDT this Friday (4/3).

Easter Vigil

Our Triduum concludes with our Easter Vigil liturgy, a nighttime celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection. Like the other services, this is an in-person Eucharistic liturgy at St. Stephen's with live streaming starting at 7:30 p.m. EDT this Saturday (4/4). Please note there is no Easter Sunday liturgy.

Sunday Liturgies

Sunday, 4/12
In-Person
Eucharistic Liturgy
@St. Stephen's
Live Streaming via Zoom
Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday of Divine Mercy
5:00 p.m. EDT

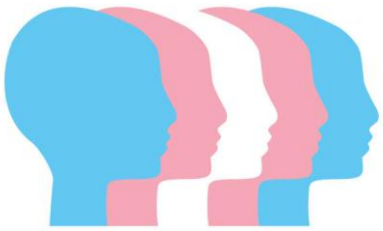
Our Collections

Collections During the Triduum

During our Holy Thursday liturgy, there will be a collection for the Friday Night Supper Program. During our Easter Vigil liturgy, we will have our usual regular Sunday collection since there will be no Easter Sunday liturgy.

Our President's Message

From the Desk of Ron, Dignity Boston President



The first week of spring welcomed Jon and me back to Boston. Our daffodils are in bloom, and we're happy to be back! With the arrival of spring, the Liturgy Committee is happy to welcome back our in-person Triduum, our first since 2019. This unique continuous liturgy begins on Holy Thursday with the Washing of the Feet, continues on Good Friday with the reading of the Passion and Adoration of the Cross, and culminates with the sensorial Easter Vigil on Saturday night. I hope you can join in-person or by Zoom. Holy Week also

brings the Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV), celebrated internationally on 3/31, to honor the achievements, joy, and resilience of trans and non-binary people, to raise awareness of anti-trans legislation and discrimination, social challenges, and violence, to advocate for trans rights, and to empower the trans community. Inside Out Faith (IOF) promotes LGBTQ+ inclusion within faith communities, fostering a space where everyone can thrive spiritually and be embraced for their authentic selves. Here's a link to resources they've collected to Pray, Read, Assess, and Act for TDOV: Inside Out Faith: Resources for TDOV Here's just one example: By Lutheran pastor and IOF interim executive director Emmy Kegler, for use in a longer Prayers of the People:

Holy God, you preserve us from trouble and sustain us with deliverance. As we mark the Trans Day of Visibility, we lift up to you the precious lives of all your transgender, nonbinary, and gender-expansive children. Renew their strength, ease their sorrows, and multiply their joy. Open our hearts to receive them as new creations in Christ, and reconcile us that we may be their best champions and advocates, marking us all as your children and siblings in Christ. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The LBGT Speakers Agency (UK) suggests these ways to celebrate TDOV:
1) Educate Yourself and Others: read books, watch documentaries, follow trans activists on social media.
2) Amplify Trans Voices: on social media, share the work of transgender content creators, activists, and artists
3) Support Trans-Led Organizations
4) Advocate for Inclusive Policies, especially in workplaces, schools, and churches
5) Use Correct Pronouns and Names
6) Attend or Organize a TDOV Event in your workplace or community
7) Show Your Support Publicly, especially if you have a business or social media platform
8) Engage with Policy Changes—write your legislative representatives, sign petitions, attend protests to amplify the call for equality.

On a more personal note, there is no better day than the Transgender Day of Visibility to reach out to trans friends, family members, and colleagues to share our concern and support.

Our Socials

Easter Vigil Social Hour with Special Potluck Breakfast

As we move from “darkness” to “light”, we will have a special “Potluck Breakfast” planned for our Easter Vigil Social Hour (4/4) following the liturgy. So far, we have such items as eggs, Danish, juice, spinach squares, and fruit on the menu. What item or items would you like to bring? Please be in contact with Dave H. at houlivan@gmail.com or see Dave at an upcoming in-person service. Thanks, in advance, for contributing!

Thank You and Save the Date

Many thanks to all who attended Robin’s “A Personal Event That Changed Your Life” social. It was a great success. Please save the date for our next social on Thursday, 4/16 at 7:00 p.m. EDT. It’s “My Favorite Vacation”. More details in our 4/15 Dignity Boston Bulletin.

Our Meetings

Upcoming Board and Liturgy Committee Meetings

Dignity Boston Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, 4/9
7:00 p.m. EDT
To attend a board meeting as a guest, email dignityboston@gmail.com
Meeting minutes are also available per request via the above email.
All are welcome!

Dignity Boston Liturgy Committee Meeting
Sunday, 4/19
following our Remote Liturgy of the Word service
All are welcome!

Our Social Justice Work

Support the Friday Night Supper Program and the Walk for Hunger

Currently, Dave Houle, Ron Lacro, and Jon Schum have signed up to join the Friday Night Supper Program (FNSP) team for the Walk for Hunger on the Boston Common on Sunday, 5/3. This is to raise money for Project Bread! Dignity Boston members will support the FNSP team. Please consider joining the FNSP team at https://give.projectbread.org/team/805536 or by making a donation to support the walk of Dave, Ron, Jon, or other team members walk:

Dave H: https://give.projectbread.org/fundraiser/7070540
Ron: https://give.projectbread.org/fundraiser/7070088.
Jon: https://give.projectbread.org/fundraiser/7103954

Other ways to support the Friday Night Supper Program include purchasing something at one of these links: Amazon 2026 Clothing Wishlist, Amazon Grocery Wishlist, or support Chris Connors in her campaign to support the CASAN (Chittenden Asylum Seekers Assistance Network): https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/fundraising/chris-connors

And thanks to all who came to our "No Kings Rally" on Boston Common last Saturday with our Dignity group and those who attended elsewhere. Also, thanks for Chris Lawrence's leadership on this.

Strides for Action

The Dignity Boston Strides for Action team, former the AIDS Walk, has been registered. If you'd like to sign up to walk, please click here. If you'd like to donate to our team, please click here. Our team captain is in place. Once again, Matt McNeff heads it up. If you'd like to donate to him for the cause, please click here. There will be more details in the Bulletin as time gets closer. Go team!!

Our Parent DignityUSA

Women of Dignity Spring 2026 Retreat

Join the Women of Dignity for the Spring 2026 Retreat “Rivers of Grace: Honoring the Flow, Crossing Thresholds” from Friday, 5/29 to Sunday,5/31 at the Siena Retreat Center in Racine, WI. Nestled on wooded grounds with an accessible lakefront, Siena is a sponsored ministry of the Racine Dominicans, inspired by St. Catherine of Siena and grounded in a mission of truth and justice. Facilitated by Marilyn Bugenhagen, Ph.D., president of Resonate & Thrive Associates LLC, this retreat offers space for reflection, connection, and renewal. Check-in is Friday, 5/29 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with dinner at 5:00 p.m. The retreat concludes Sunday, 5/31 with the program ending at 11:00 a.m., lunch at Noon, and departure by 3:00 p.m. All times mentioned are Central Daylight Time. The cost is $330, which includes the program, two nights of lodging, and six meals ($314 if not staying for Sunday lunch). You can register here. Registration closes on Thursday, 4/23.

Dignity Boston’s Own Rachel Esser Offered Reflection

Rachel Esser offered the Week three reflection in the DignityUSA Lenten reflection series. If you missed any of the segments of this series you can watch them here:

Our History

Did You Know?

…that a Dignity Boston space caught fire? In the 1980s Dignity Boston had an office space on the second floor of the Arlington Street UU Church, with an entrance on Boylston Street. During that time, we were meeting for

liturgy every Sunday in the basement of Arlington Street Church. The office had enough space for us to hold our Board and Committee meetings and to have all of our files with important papers related to the chapter including a desk, telephone, and the like. Dignity Boston used to staff the office with volunteers every night 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in case anyone called wanting information. Believe it or not, we received calls most nights. People were looking for an answer to the question "Can I be gay and Catholic?" They also wanted general information since they were not out or just coming out and were afraid. We were able to refer them to where they could get support. Others just wanted information about the "when and where" of our liturgies. One Friday night, Lourdes, who was the President that year, received a call to come to the office for an emergency. The office on the second floor was on fire. Firefighters were in and out. She had to answer a few questions and talk with the Marshall. For some strange reason, one of the gay newspapers was there also. How on earth had they gotten there so fast? Everything we had was destroyed or water damaged. All of our records about our history: newsletters, bulletins, minutes, photos, gone in a matter of minutes. We had a very nice ambo in our office that we had used for our liturgies, now charred in a few places. We still have that charred ambo in our current storage place. A piece of our history, something to help us remember that in spite of some scary times, we are still here. Eventually, it was confirmed by the Fire Department that the fire had been set. We had been the victims of arson. Nobody was ever caught for the action, although some often thought of a possible perpetrator. The community came together very quickly with a very strong response to raise funds to rebuild and refurnish our office. We took pride in making it even nicer than it was before. Ask Diane as she became the chair of the Fire Restoration project. Everyone contributed in some way. Even the lesbian and gay community, the term used at the time, outside of Dignity reached out, and we got a lot of positive press. Dignity Boston did rise from the ashes to be an even more determined and vibrant community, visible and present in Boston.

"Did You Know" is a frequent feature of the Dignity Boston Bulletin and is written by Lourdes Rodriguez-Nogues.

Our Community

Trans Day of Visibility: Across Generations

The 2nd Annual Trans Day of Visibility event from Fenway Health is happening from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, 4/4 (the official Trans Day of Visibility is 3/31). The event is located at 1340 Boylston St. in Boston. It's called "Trans Day of Visibility: Across Generations". Come and hang out, play games, make arts and crafts, and have some food. There will be board games, video games, Legos, button making, and more. There will also be a panel that celebrates trans people across generations. It's a free event for all! Please register here.

Our Reports

Monthly Treasury Reports

Our monthly treasury reports are available upon request. A summary of our finances will be published as an addendum to the Bulletin on a quarterly basis.

March Collection

Our March Collection benefits GLBTQ Legal Advocates and Defenders (GLAD Law). Through strategic litigation, public policy advocacy, and education, GLAD Law works in New England and nationally to create a just society free of discrimination based on gender identity and expression, HIV status, and sexual orientation. To donate, please click here.

April Collection

Our April Collection benefits the Lazarus Ministry at St. Anthony's Shrine in Boston. This ministry provides dignified funerals and burials for the city's most vulnerable populations, particularly those who die without known family or means. To donate, please click here. The collection basket is passed around for our Second Collections during the first Sunday that we meet in-person each month. Additional in-person liturgies will have a basket available at a specific location in the church for donations. The location of the basket will be announced at the liturgy. At our remote Liturgy of the Word, Zoom only services, the Second Collection link will be put into the chat at the beginning of the service.

Our Ongoing Announcements

Early Pride

The Boston Pride for the People, the Dyke March, the Catholic Collective All Are Welcome Mass, and the Dignity Boston Pride Liturgy will all be one week earlier this year to accommodate World Cup activities in Boston. The events run from Friday, 6/5 to Sunday, 6/7. More details soon!

Subscribe to the DignityUSA Monthly Newsletter

If you are enjoying the "Our Parent DignityUSA" section of the Bulletin, you can get even more DignityUSA information by subscribing to the DignityUSA newsletter, Dateline. Click here to subscribe to Dateline.

Contact Us!

Our Dignity Boston mailing address is: Dignity Boston, P.O. Box 262, Belmont, MA 02478. For questions, contact dignityboston@gmail.com . Please note that DignityUSA's address is: DignityUSA, 51 Pleasant St. #1107, Malden, MA 02148. The phone number is 781-309-7686.

Community Members Needed to Help

We have monthly socials that bring our community together online. If you have an idea for a topic for a social, please contact Ron, Peggy B., or Robin at dignityboston@gmail.com If you'd like to lead that event, let Ron, Peggy B., or Robin know. In addition, Dignity Boston is in need for community members to sign up to provide beverages and treats following our in-person Sunday liturgies. Sunday, 4/26 is currently in need of "angels". To find out how you can help, please see Kathy Ann or Alice or contact them via dignityboston@gmail.com

Donate In-Person or Via Mail

Please consider supporting Dignity Boston by contributing at our in-person liturgies or by sending donations to Dignity Boston, P.O. Box 262, Belmont, MA 02478. Please make your checks payable to "Dignity Boston". If it is for one of our Second Collections, please write "Second Collection" in the memo field.

Please contact dignityboston@gmail.com if you have any items that you would like to suggest for our next Bulletin (4/15/26) by Noon on Monday, 4/13.