DIGNITY
BOSTON

www.dignityboston.org dignityboston@gmail.com

BULLETIN – May 30, 2026

HAPPY PRIDE

Our Pride: Dignity Events, Collaborations, and Community

Dyke March

Dignity Boston encourages you to support our community by attending Boston Dyke March 2026. The March believes in anti-capitalist, intersectional gender liberation and welcomes all who feel the same. It is a grassroots Pride event that is mask required, ASL interpreted as well as wheelchair, stroller, and scooter accessible. An accessibility vehicle is available for those who need a ride for some or all of the March. It is Friday, 6/5 at 6:00 p.m. at the Parkman Bandstand on Boston Common. For even more information, click here.

All Are Welcome Mass

The Paulist Center will host a mass at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, 6/5 as part of Pride weekend in Boston. It is through the Greater Boston LGBTQIA Catholic Collective of which Dignity Boston is a part. Please come and enjoy the social following the service.

Dignity Participates in the Boston Pride for the People Festival/Parade

The purpose of the Boston Pride for the People Parade is to commemorate the brave LGBTQ+ people who risked their lives and humanity for the lives of our queer community as well as to continue to advocate for equity and inclusion for LGBTQ+ people, especially those who face intersecting forms of oppression. Dignity will be participating in the march/parade. We will also be staffing a table at the festival. This is Saturday, 6/6, one week earlier than usual to accommodate scheduled World Cup activities in Boston the following weekend.

Dignity Boston Pride Liturgy and Celebratory Meal

Please join us on Sunday, 6/7 at 5:00 p.m. for the Dignity Boston Pride Liturgy. Following our liturgy we will be celebrating with our Dignity community with a catered meal. There will be a celebratory cake as well! Consider wearing one of your favorite Dignity Boston t-shirts to the liturgy.

Dignity Co-Hosts Boston City Hall Pride

Dignity Boston has signed on to co-host the annual Pride Celebration at Boston City Hall on Wednesday, 6/10 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at City Hall Plaza. We have representation from our Dignity Boston Executive Board. Last year 300 community members joined the event. If you'd like to attend, please email dignityboston@gmail.com.

Colleges of the Fenway Pride Block Party

Dignity Boston will be staffing a table for the Colleges of the Fenway Pride Block Party on Wednesday, 6/10 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Wentworth Institute of Technology (550 Huntington Ave. in Boston). The event will include fun activities, free food, a drag show, and tables staffed by community partners. Come on by! If you'd like to help staff our table, please email dignityboston@gmail.com

Boston Gay Men's Chorus

Join the Boston Gay Men's Chorus (BGMC) for "Rise", from Stonewall to the dance floor, *RISE* is a celebration of resistance, resilience, and radical joy. With anthems of courage and liberation, BGMC honors the journey of our community and the voices that inspire us to live out loud. This is your call to action — and your invitation to the party. It's a two-hour show with an intermission. Performances are Saturday, 6/6 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, 6/7 at 3:00 p.m. with both performances at Jordan Hall. There is also a performance in Groton, MA at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, 6/14 at the Groton Music Center. You can go and still be back in time for Dignity at 5:00 p.m. Here's the link to order your tickets. Click here.

Pride Across the Bay State

Here's a good sampling of Pride across Massachusetts starting this weekend in some locations and running as late as September in other locations.

Arlington Townwide Pride and Queer Market
Big Queer Worcester Weekend
Cape Ann Pride
Fall River Pride
Franklin Celebrates with Pride
Greater Lowell Pride
Lower Cape Pride
Nashoba Valley Pride
New Beford Pride
North Shore Pride
Out on the Block Pride (Framingham)
Pillow Pride (Becket)
Pride on Martha's Vineyard
Plymouth Pride
Pride South Coast
Provincetown Pride

Our Liturgies

Sunday Liturgies

Sunday, 5/31
Remote
Liturgy of the Word
Zoom Only
Trinity Sunday
5:00 p.m. EDT

Sunday, 6/7
In-Person
Eucharistic Liturgy
@St. Stephen's
Live Streaming via Zoom
Corpus Christi/Pride
5:00 p.m. EDT

Sunday, 6/14
In-Person
Eucharistic Liturgy
@St. Stephen's
Live Streaming via Zoom
11th Sunday Ordinary Time
5:00 p.m. EDT

Our President's Message

From the Desk of Ron, Dignity Boston President

Dignity Boston T-Shirts! The T-shirts have been printed and are now available. We ask you to please email dignityboston@gmail.com to arrange to get your shirt. If you have not ordered a T-shirt, they are still available in a variety of sizes and colors. Email us as soon as possible to get your favorite size and color.

Conservational Tip: I learned this at Pinewoods Music and Dance Camp in Plymouth. When using paper towels to dry your hands after washing, shake your hands out vigorously 10 times before grabbing a paper towel; you'll only need one.

Another Walk: You know about the Walk for Hunger and Strides for Action. I'm also doing a third walk this spring, the Marfan Foundation's Walk for Victory at Christopher Columbus Park on 6/14. While I am retired from clinical practice, I still do some writing, teaching, mentoring, research, and advocacy. My specialty is genetic and cardiac conditions in children, especially aneurysms and connective tissue syndromes. I have been involved with the Marfan Foundation for most of my career and still serve on their Professional Advisory Board. Last weekend I took a quick trip to Vancouver, British Columbia; it was a beautiful weekend in a beautiful city. I got to have a nice dinner with Julia, Erina, and Bloom. The trip was for a conference where I gave two talks — one for medical professionals and the second for patients and families affected by genetic aortic and vascular conditions. I was reminded that an important part of my career was education — teaching medical professionals and patients/families about these conditions. The Walk for Victory helps to raise funds to save lives and improve the quality of life for individuals with genetic aortic and vascular conditions. Please consider supporting my walk. Check out my fundraising page to see some COOL pictures: https://give.marfan.org/fundraiser/7320342.

Our Meetings

Upcoming Board and Liturgy Committee Meetings

Dignity Boston Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, 6/11
7:00 p.m. EDT
To attend a board meeting as a guest, email dignityboston@gmail.com
Meeting minutes and treasury reports are available per request.
All are Welcome!

Dignity Boston Liturgy Committee Meeting
Sunday, 6/21
following our Remote Liturgy of the Word service
All are welcome!

Our Social Justice Work

Strides for Action

Tomorrow (5/31) is Strides for Action which builds on the legacy of AIDS Walk Boston. Participants can walk, run, and/or donate. By doing so, you'll contribute to expanded access to LGBTQIA+ health services including gender-affirming care and HIV treatment/prevention as well as supporting groundbreaking research and advocacy efforts. Our Dignity Boston Strides for Action team has been registered but there's still plenty of time to enter the walk/run and/or donate to a Dignity Boston participant. Below are the links for the individual team members and the team donation link. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Ron Lacro
Matt McNeff
Jane Powers
David Russo
Jon Schum
Team Link

Our Remembrance

Two-Part Celebration of Life and Remembrance for Bill Gilligan

On the weekend of Saturday, 6/13 and Sunday, 6/14 there will be two remembrance events for our longtime Dignity Boston member, Bill Gilligan.

On Saturday, 6/13 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Edward Sullivan Funeral Home in Burlington, there will be a sharing of memories of Bill's life.

On Sunday, 6/14 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Saint Stephen's Church in Boston, there will be a liturgy (our normal 5:00 in-person Eucharistic service with live streaming via Zoom) as well as a reception and refreshment hour (starting at 6:00 p.m. or as soon as liturgy ends). Please join us and share your remembrances of Bill.

Here is a link to Bill's obituary which includes not only the obituary, under the "Obituary & Events" tab, but pictures of Bill with family and friends under the "Tribute Wall" tab.

Be sure not to miss the great video tribute to Bill as well right after the obituary in the link below.

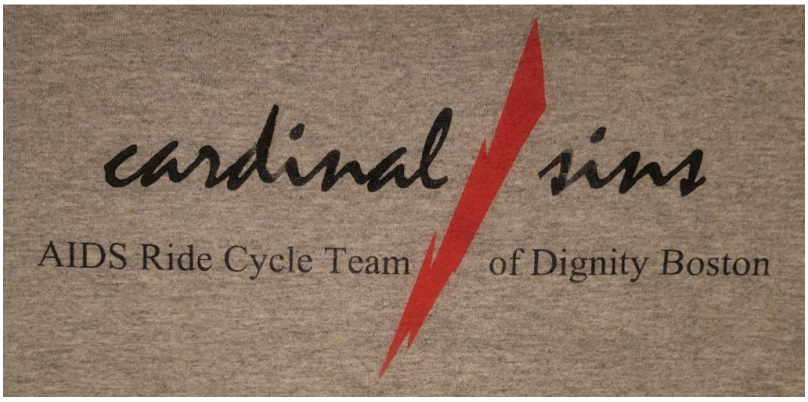
https://sullivanfuneralhome.net/tribute/details/4465/William-Gilligan/obituary.html#tribute-start

We celebrate the life of our always treasured member, Bill!

Our History

Did You Know?

…about the Cardinal Sins. No, not the ones they teach you about in Catholic school, but the riding team of Dignity Boston raising money for HIV/AIDS programs. Thanks to the initiative and leadership of Tony A. members of Dignity Boston started participating in the different fundraising events starting in 1997. Tony's impetus for his initiative was the recent HIV+ diagnosis of a very close friend. But as he says "eventually this effort developed a life of its own quite beyond my participation." First there were the Palotta Rides from Boston to NY, then the Red Ribbon rides from Western Mass to Boston, and more recently, Harbor to the Bay (H2B) which went from Boston to Provincetown. The Cardinal Sins have been part of all these rides since 1997, until the last H2B in 2023. And what about the name - Cardinal Sins? Prior to the rides, Dignity Boston had a volleyball team called "Cardinal Sins." Tony thought the name was perfect. He proudly says: "I stole it." Dignity Boston never faltered in its level of



energy and commitment to these fundraising events and so many people participated, helped, and/or donated. For Chris L. “Cardinal Sins was much more than the riders. So many volunteered as SAG teams, at the Pit Stop, checking in riders, part of the crew, cheerleading, and on the board of the organizing group” (SAG, which stands for “Support and Gear”, is the name that was given to the vans that went around assisting the riders or picking up those who needed a break or who couldn’t go on). As Jane P says: “At least one team member rode every year until the last H2B in 2023.” The energy of doing it with other people was a plus, and the support from all of Dignity Boston was exceptional. Dignity Boston riders were often, if not always, in the top 10 fundraising teams. It is hard to calculate now how much money Dignity Boston raised overall, but most think it was over $150,000. We made our mark and were well recognized in the community. Dignity Boston has also had a long history with the AIDS Walk which raised money for AIDS Action (which became part of Fenway Health around 2015.). We have always had a team of walkers for this fundraising effort. The Walk is now called Strides for Action which raises money for Fenway Health’s programming for HIV services and other LGBTQ related health matters. This year the Walk is on 5/31 and Dignity Boston has a team of 5 (as far as we know): David, Matthew, Ron, Jon, Jane. There is still time to donate at our team page: https://stridesforaction.org/.

Thank you to all who have participated, in any way, in the Rides and the Walks through all these years. Dignity Boston, an example of faith in action.

The photo includes (left to right): Tony A., Steve H., Kevin M., Chris L., Brian R., Dan R., Bill G., Peggy B., Chris C., MA L., Randy S., and Phil S.

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

Our Parent DignityUSA

Study Group 9 Report

During the two official meetings of Delegates to the Global Synod of the Catholic Church that occurred in 2023 and 2024, no consensus could be reached on LGBTQIA+ issues. These and several other "controversial" issues were referred to Study Group 9, one of 10 working groups that met through the end of 2025 to try to develop next steps on critical concerns that were not completed by the full assembly. The final report of Study Group 9 was released 5/5/26. Rather than proposing changes to doctrine or pastoral practices that impact our community, the document outlines how our global church should work towards addressing the concerns raised throughout the Synod process, and long before. While many groups offered great praise for this report, especially for the response to the testimonies of two married gay men that were included, DignityUSA's reaction was more nuanced. What we believe is most significant is a call for reversing the way moral doctrine is developed. The Study Group members call for listening to and learning from the experience of LGBTQ+ people and our families, rather than beginning with moral principles. This is very consistent with what Dignity has been calling for over our decades of ministry and witness. However, it is unclear how this is to be implemented, and how bishops' conferences and others will be held accountable for doing this. It was also troublesome that the current Christian anthropology of male-female complementarity that lies at the root of much current teaching was cited and unchallenged. We also have concerns that, of the thousands of pages of testimony from our community submitted from around the world, the report cites testimony of two western males. DignityUSA's response can be found by clicking here. We also held a national Town Hall on May 26, 2026 and will send a summary of issues raised in that event to the Synod Secretariat soon after. (A recording of this meeting should be available by early June.

The preceding was written by the Executive Director of DignityUSA, Marianne Duddy-Burke.

Our Conversations

Listening Night

Please join us on Thursday, 6/25 at 7:00 p.m. for an online community listening night. Our President, Ron Lacro, will give a State of the Chapter summary and we will be looking for your input.

Our Community

Join Dignity Boston Community Members Robin and Mike in Concert

Polymnia Choral Society will have its final performance of the season by saluting Broadway. Join Dignity members, Robin and Mike, for "Polymnia Goes to Broadway". Sing along to your favorite and familiar Broadway tunes from Broadway's hit shows. It's Saturday, 6/6 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Melrose's Memorial Hall at 590 Main St. in Melrose. For more information, click here. For tickets, click here. It promises to be a "Wicked" good time! See what I did there!

Our Collections

May Collection

Our May collection supports SpeakOUT Boston, an LGBTQIA+ speakers bureau that voices the personal stories of the queer community with a heavy focus on the stories of our trans siblings. To donate, click here.

June Collection

Our June collection benefits Strides for Action. There's a thorough write-up about Strides for Action on p. 6. You can contribute directly to a team member with the links provided on p. 6, directly to the team with the p. 6 link, or use the basket at church to drop in money or a check starting with our 6/7 liturgy. 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 labeled and available at the back of the church during church and moved to the Information Table in the social hour after liturgy for Second Collection donations. 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

Community Blessings

From time to time, Dignity Boston has blessed members of the community who are embarking on a particular mission, journey, or life transition. Some examples of this have included blessing a Dignity Boston team before a fundraising event, those making a geographical move, or those attending a Dignity conference or making an important trip on behalf of Dignity. If you have an upcoming significant transition, we invite you to send an email to dignityboston@gmail.com to request such a blessing at an upcoming virtual or in-person liturgy.

Check Out Our Information Table

Dignity Boston and DignityUSA have lots of information vehicles including but not limited to Dateline (the DignityUSA newsletter), emails through our listserv, the semi-monthly Bulletin, and our Information Table in our social hall at St. Stephen's where you'll find printed copies of our latest Bulletin as well as other materials. Check it out when you visit Dignity Boston in person next time around.

Subscribe to the DignityUSA Monthly Newsletter

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

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 an 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. To find out how you can help, see Alice or contact her at 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.

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.

Please contact dignityboston@gmail.com if you have any items that you would like to suggest for our next Bulletin (6/15/26) by Noon on Saturday, 6/13.