

dignity san francisco

Spirit

"Lord Send Out Your SPIRIT!"

Dear Dignity/SF Family,

we would love to take this opportunity to extend to you and your loved ones our blessings of JOY for the remainder of the Christmas Season. May Christ dwell in your hearts and fill you with his love... for he comes *yesterday, today and always!* May you be touched by hope, believing that God's love and grace are around every corner. And, may we all allow this grace to enter into our lives so that it might break us free from our bonds!

In the new year, let us wake from our sleep and point our eyes to the horizon... working towards a better personal witness, a better community, a better church, a better world. As Father Ralph has shared, we are all called to be mirrors of justice. Do others see in us the reflection of what is right, good and inclusive?

In the upcoming months, there are opportunities in our community to take on and glimpse this "reflection" of justice... take part in the Visioning Committee's continuing exploration of where it is that we can best serve our members and our larger LGBT community, join us in listening to Sr. Jeannine Gramick bear her witness for justice in light of her "silencings", AND come share in the Defenders' Workshop as they offer us an opportunity to grow more fully into a fellowship with them... embracing greater inclusivity of our sisters and brothers.

As many of you have already heard, our Dignity/Seattle family voted overwhelmingly on September 22 to disassociate itself from the

Seattle Archdiocesan Catholic Gay/Lesbian Ministry and to leave St. Joseph Catholic Church, where it has held weekly Masses for the LGBT community, their families and friends, for over 21 years. The decision was prompted by the Archdiocese's opposition to Dignity/Seattle's increasingly gender-inclusive and same-sex relationship affirming ministry.

This may bring back memories, for many of our own longer-term members, of the events of 1988, when our home of fellowship and worship at St. Boniface Parish was denied us for similar unjust reasons. We must remember the importance of our calling to live and work for *pride, authenticity, truth* in our midst and outreach. Let this serve as a reminder that each and every time we worship at Dignity, as LGBT Catholic sisters and brothers, we are living out this protest!

• Important Upcoming Events •

January 9: Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30pm

January 10: *Defenders'* Business Meeting, call Jim Remer at 415.252.9753 for details

★ **January 13:** *Second Sunday POTLUCK Supper*, member Bob Yeargin "Bon Voyage", 6:30pm, followed by the QUARTERLY MEETING, Social Hall

January 20: *Pax et Bonum Committee Meeting*, 3:00pm, Social Hall

★ **January 27:** *Visioning Committee Meeting*, reevaluation of possible alternate sites for our community (incl. proposed Castro site @ Market & 16th), 2:00pm, Social Hall;

(continued on back)

TED MAYLATH

&

PAUL ZILLER,

CO-CHAIRS

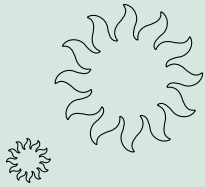


CELEBRATING

OUR SEXUALITY

AND LOVE AS

GIFTS FROM GOD



BOARD OF DIRECTORS +

Co-Chairs, (see front)

*Secretary, VACANT,
seeking a volunteer!*

*Assistant Secretary,
Jim Benedetti*

Treasurer, Jim Remer

*At-Large Members,
Neil Christensen
Joseph Curtin
Clarence Luvisi
David Turner*

*Women's Group Coordinator,
Trudy Guella*

*Office Assistant, VACANT,
seeking applicants for pay!*



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January 27 (cont.): Birthday/Anniversary Celebration (Cake!), 6:30pm, Social Hall

January 28: Membership Committee Meeting, 7:00pm, at David & Vince Phillip's home, call them at 510.522.4404 for details

★ **February 10: Second Sunday POTLUCK Supper, including a meal-time presentation by Sister Jeannine Gramick, "The Church & Homosexuality: What Your Grade School Nun Never Told You", which will include remarks about her life and ministry in the wake of the two Vatican silencings, 6:30pm, Social Hall**

February 13: Ash Wednesday; Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30pm

February 14: Defenders' Social Meeting

February 24: Birthday/Anniversary Celebration (Cake!), 6:30pm, Social Hall

Just Around the Corner...

★ **March 3: ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS!**

★ **March 16: Pax et Bonum Awards Dinner/Dance! (will verify this date in the New Year)**

In March or April: Defenders' Workshop, exact date and theme TBD, it will be a "101" Workshop

• Praiseworthy Member Service •

- Jim Benedetti, *our newest member has accepted the position of Assistant Secretary!*
- Jim Remer, *for surmounting the epic task of preparing the 2002 budget*
- Trudy Guella, *for serving as our special inspired homilist in November*
- John Chavez & Jack Fahy, *for organizing our Thanksgiving meal, and to all those, incl. those Board members who were present, for serving the meal*
- Gilbert Gonzalez, *for spearheading the Dignity/SF fundraising effort for the "LGBT Community Center"*
- Brother Dick Olsen, S.M. & Tom Kaun, *for preparing the Advent 2001 Faith Sharing Series entitled "Promise Fulfilled" for use in small faith-sharing groups*
- John Brown, *for hosting several of the Advent Faith Sharing Groups*
- John Chavez, Vladimir Maldonado, Paul Riofski, Raul Salazar *and all those who helped prepare the liturgy and reception for the Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration. Also, a special thanks to Angelo Wong for arranging the beautiful rose bouquets for Our Lady... which were lovingly distributed after the mass.*

- Chuck Lawson, Gilbert Gonzalez, John O'Daniels & Jim Paz, *for continuing our tradition of helping serve Christmas meals to those in need, at the "AIDS Emergency Fund"*
- Richard Clinton & John O'Daniels, *for providing gifts, on behalf of Dignity/SF, to approx. eight residents at "Marty's Place", a San Francisco AIDS hospice. This program is run by Fr. Richard Purcell.*

• A Fond Farewell •

We must share with you some bittersweet news. Bob Yeargin, a long-time and committed member of our community has accepted a position in Detroit, MI as an immigration judge in the INS Federal Court System. This is a wonderful opportunity for him but we will certainly be sorry to see him go. (Fortunately there's talk of him returning to the Bay Area one day.) On January 13th join us in bidding him a loving adieu and thanking him for his service and friendship over the years. We will take the opportunity during the Supper to wish him well.

Bob has been a member for almost 7 years. He was a Director-At-Large for two years; undertook the stewardship campaign for the Chapter those same two years. D/SF was fortunate to have had Bob as one of its Board Members. As a Board Member, Bob made sure we followed our by-laws and that we were fiscally responsible, and always in a polite and cooperative spirit. D/SF was in good hands with Bob on the Board. He lent his legal expertise to many efforts, including Press Releases. He has also been a consistent Ministry Team member for over 5 years. Bon Voyage Bob!

• A Loud Cry for Leadership! •

In our upcoming elections on March 3rd, the invaluable positions of **Secretary, Treasurer and three Board positions are going to need to be filled** by committed members. Two of the Board positions are 2 year terms and one is a 1 year term. We are also in need of volunteers to make up the Election Committee.

See you in 2002! TED & PAUL

ANNOUNCING:

Dignity | SF *Quarterly Meeting*

Sunday, January 13th
@ approx. 7:30pm, in the Social Hall,
1329 7th Avenue,

(following our *Second Sunday Supper* &
member Bob Yeargin "Bon Voyage")

GOALS: TO GIVE A BASIC OVERVIEW OF THE 2002 BUDGET
AND SHARE SOME GENERAL CONCERNS.

(A MORE COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET REVIEW WILL
OCCUR AT THE MARCH ANNUAL MEETING.)



We'll see you there!



HELP DIGNITY/SF SUPPORT:

THE CENTER

THE LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER OF SAN FRANCISCO

• *Dear Dignity/SF Members & Friends,*

Last summer, a number of us had the opportunity to tour the construction site of “The LGBT Community Center” of San Francisco. We were impressed by the overall architecture, the well thought-out spaces and above all, the services that The Center will be able to offer our community in the Bay Area. Those of us who saw The Center under construction shared different ideas of how to give The Center our (financial) support.

Spearheaded by member Gilbert Gonzalez's strong direction, we are happy to announce that the Board of Directors of Dignity/SF decided to proceed with supporting this fundraising effort in a very concrete way. The Board set a goal of raising \$2,500 so that Dignity/SF can have its name listed as a founding contributor to The Center. Dignity/San Francisco's name will be listed on a plaque on the permanent Donor Wall in the Center's Ceremonial Room.

The Board pledged to match members' and friends' contributions up to \$1,250, half of the total amount we need. To date we've received \$1,075 in pledges and donations of the \$1,250 we need to raise among members and friends of D/SF. We need at least \$200 more. (The Center still needs over \$2 million to be able to start the programs they would like to implement.)

Please be as generous as you can be with your pledge. Any amount you contribute will help send the message that Dignity/SF is an organization that has sought to serve the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in the San Francisco Bay Area for almost 30 years. We also look forward ourselves to sharing in some of the services and spaces that The Center will provide!

Donations can be made any time before 3/31/2001. **Payments should be made to Dignity/San Francisco** with a note that the funds you are sending are for The Center. Please email your pledge to fundsforcenter@yahoo.com. Don't forget to include your name, address and phone number. We will contact you and make specific arrangements with you regarding payment, if necessary.

Thank you very much in advance for your generosity!

The Board of Directors of Dignity/SF