

dignity san francisco

# Spirit

"Lord Send Out Your SPIRIT!"

*Dear Members and Friends,*

Please forgive the short hiatus from the publication of the *Spirit*. Your new co-chairs are embarked on the adventure of serving the Dignity community and are still learning the ropes! We promise to be better communicators as we learn the job and get to know you and your needs better.

There have been many wonderful events in the past couple of months that we want to highlight for everyone. On May 25th we had a special liturgy and celebration honoring St. Joan of Arc as the patron/patroness of our gender variant members. Thanks to Vicky, Raul and John for their work in the kitchen to make the celebration such a success, and to our presider Father Ralph for his stirring homily.

On May 25th we also had a Board retreat focusing on the issues of communication with the members and calendaring events for the year ahead. There will be a report of the retreat at our **Quarterly membership meeting on Sunday, June 8th at approximately 7:15 pm** during our regular Second Sunday Supper. We invite and encourage all to attend!

**Board meetings have now been moved to the Third Sunday of the month at 2:30 pm** at Seventh Avenue Presbyterian to be more convenient for members (especially those who live out of town) to attend. Please come and bring your ideas with you! Your presence will improve our decision-making process and

make it more responsive to your needs and desires for the future of the chapter.

Congratulations to all of the Pax et Bonum awardees! Father Ralph and Dick Olsen were the chapter members who received awards, and State Assemblyman Mark Leno and the Drama Department of the Washington High School from Newark, California, which produced "The Laramie Project" shortly after Gwen Arroyo's murder were the community members recognized for their courage and vision in furthering the cause of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered individuals.

April was a very liturgical month with the addition of the Easter Triduum of services to our Sunday masses. Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil masses were well attended (our entire collection on Holy Thursday was given to the parish school of St. Paul of the Shipwreck, which is in financial peril. The pastor sent us a thank you note for the over \$200 and encouraged us to continue our works of charity). Good Friday we combined communities with our hosts, Seventh Avenue Presbyterian, for their Taize and Tenebrae service. If you enjoy **Taize services**, we are now combining regularly with St. John of God Catholic community for their service on the second Wednesday of each month at their church, 5th and Irving, at 7:30 pm. Finally, our evening vespers on Easter Sunday was conducted by our own choir director, Wanda Redman, and proved to be an inspirational end to our Easter weekend celebrations. Thank you,

*(continued on back)*

JOHN BROWN

&amp;

JOE CURTIN,

CO-CHAIRS



CELEBRATING

OUR SEXUALITY

AND LOVE AS

GIFTS FROM GOD

**BEGIN**



*This is now.*

*Now is, all there is.*

*Don't wait for Then;  
strike the spark, light the fire.*

*Sit at the Beloved's table,  
feast with gusto, drink your fill*

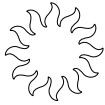
*Then dance the way branches  
of jasmine and cypress*

*Dance in a spring wind.*

*The green earth is your cloth;*

*Tailor your robe  
with dignity and grace.*

— Rumi



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS +**

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Wanda, Paul, Gino and Angelo for all of your work in preparing the liturgies.

In case you've forgotten, the **Dignity national convention** will be held this year in Las Vegas from August 7th until August 10th at the Alexis Park Resort Hotel. The program will be superb, and you can find out more about it at the link on our website [www.dignitypacific.org/san-francisco](http://www.dignitypacific.org/san-francisco), or by calling 1.800.877.8797. Another memory aid: if asked during this Easter Season if Christ is Risen, the answer (in a loud voice) is "Truly He is risen!" Also, ring any bells you have during the alleluias...

Highlights for the month of June besides the Quarterly meeting include our **special Pride liturgy on SATURDAY** (note the change of day from our usual liturgy), June 28th at 5:30 p.m. at Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Irving. We are planning on **marching** in the parade (for details contact Joe Curtin at 415.621.0120) and have both an **information and beverage booth** (for details contact David Turner at 510.522.4404). The beverage booth is an important fund raiser for the chapter, and we usually garner a new member or two from our information booth, so please sign up for a 2 hour stint for one or the other of these important efforts. You can sign a friend up as well! Thank you to David and Jim for their work on these events.

In July we will have a **special liturgy of healing for the sick** on Sunday the 13th at 5:30 p.m. — please come and invite anyone you know who may desire a special blessing for healing. The following week on Sunday, July 20th a few of us plan to do the **AIDS walk** — come and join us for this important fund raising event serving the HIV/AIDS community. We will continue our charitable mission with a **special fund raiser with St. John of God community in October**, for Marty's Place, a home for people with HIV/AIDS.

Upcoming fun events include our **Second Sunday Suppers** (every second Sunday following liturgy) and a repeat of the popular **Dignity Labor Day Camping event at Russian River**. Watch the Dominical Digest for further details!

We hope you will join us as we continue to celebrate our 30 years of worship, witness and service as bisexual, lesbian, gay and transgendered Catholics and members of Dignity, U.S.A. Vaya con dios!

**John and Joe, your co-chairs**

**• Meditation on the 99 Beautiful Names of Allah**

*Prayed with our Muslim brothers and sisters during our liturgies through May, 2003:*

The Source of Peace	<i>al-Salam</i>
The Sublime One	<i>al-Jali</i>
The Watchful	<i>al-Raqib</i>
The Loving	<i>al-Wadud</i>
The Resurrector	<i>al-Ba'ith</i>
The Equitable	<i>al-Muqsit</i>
The Distresser	<i>al-Darr</i>
The Everlasting	<i>al-Baqi</i>
The Guide to the Right Path	<i>al-Rashid</i>
The Patient	<i>al-Sabur</i>

**• Bay Area Pride Event**

**LGBT MASS 2003: Voices that Challenge**

June 13, Friday, 7:00 PM, Newman Hall Chapel

Join the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Catholics at the Berkeley Newman Center for this annual Mass. Worship with them as they celebrate the Eucharist as a people of faith and peace. Light refreshments to follow.

For more information on the group, please contact Antonio Salas at 510.663.6302 or at [LGBT\\_Newmn@yahoo.com](mailto:LGBT_Newmn@yahoo.com). All are welcome.