

dignity san francisco

Spirit

"Lord Send Out Your SPIRIT!"

Dear Members and Friends,

Holiday greetings from your co-chairs! It's been an exciting end to 2003, culminating most recently with the Massachusetts Supreme Court's ruling supporting same sex partnership/gay marriage. We can celebrate as well as hope and pray that the spirit of justice and equality become even more vibrant in our New Year ahead.

Our gracious thanks go to all those involved with the **Dinner for Marty's Place** fundraiser co-sponsored by Dignity/San Francisco, Defenders San Francisco, St. John of God Parish and Seventh Avenue Church. **Slightly over \$2,500 was raised for this worthy cause**—Marty's place provides a residence for those living with HIV/AIDS who otherwise would be homeless. The Board of Directors of Marty's was well represented and thanked us on behalf of their members and the seven current residents. The highlights of the evening included the masterful cooking of Richard Clinton and his crew, the address by Fr. Richard Purcell of Marty's, the wonderful music provided by Paul Riofski and Veronica and the many wonderful items offered in the silent auction. Rumor has it that one of your co-chairs was successful in their bid for the "Gay Play" version of "Twister" and will be putting it to good use soon!

If you missed the dinner but would like to send a contribution to Marty's Place you can do so c/o Aurora Dawn Foundation, P.O. Box 401076, San Francisco, CA 94140.

Other notable events over the last month have included the **Healing of the Sick** liturgy on October 26th, the **Dia de los Muertos** liturgy and celebration on November 2nd and the Second Sunday liturgy and **Thanksgiving Supper** on November 9th. Thanks to all those who made these events possible and to those who attended—we had a large turnout of 45 for our traditional Thanksgiving meal, and a special thanks to the kitchen crew for accommodating so many on such short notice.

A short reminder that Dignity Board meetings are now held on 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.

Our most exciting event this coming month will be our Second **Christmas Eve Mass at the Center** on Market Street. This is the central venue for the Transgender, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual community in San Francisco. We are thrilled to be going back there after last year's successful event, with an even bigger celebration planned. We will be sharing the building this year and will be starting at 8:30pm with our liturgy on the top floor followed by a reception. Please spread the word and plan on attending and inviting some of your friends. It is crucial to our community that we celebrate the presence and liturgical life of the Dignity

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JOHN BROWN

&

JOE CURTIN,

Co-CHAIRS

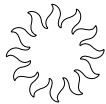


CELEBRATING

OUR SEXUALITY

AND LOVE AS

GIFTS FROM GOD



First they ignore you...

Then they laugh at you...

Then they fight you...

Then you win.

— Mahatma Gandhi

BOARD OF DIRECTORS +

Co-Chairs, John & Joe

Secretary, Gilberto Gonzalez

Treasurer, Jim Remer

At-Large Members,

Henry Chau

Neil Christensen

Vladimir Maldonado

Victoria Valencia

Women's Group Coordinator,

Trudy Guella



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community as a committed witness for catholic spirituality as sexual minorities and for queer spirituality in the Catholic Church. Let's make our presence known! We also ask that you be as generous as possible during the December collections as we have updated our tithing list and would like to support these organizations as much as we can. We will publish a list of our tithing recipients in the next newsletter.

Some of our other exciting upcoming events include the Liturgy celebrating **Our Lady of Guadalupe** (bilingual mass and special reception) on December 7th, our regular **Second Sunday POTLUCK Supper** on December 14th, our **Board Meeting** prior to liturgy on December 21st, liturgy and **Blessing of Committed Relationships** on December 28th and our **Epiphany Liturgy** and next **Quarterly Meeting** on January 4th. The upcoming Board Meeting and Quarterly Meeting are especially important, as we will be reviewing, approving and presenting our budget for the upcoming calendar year 2004.

We look forward to your joining us as we continue to celebrate our 30 years of worship, witness and service as bisexual, lesbian, gay and transgender Catholics and members of Dignity/USA.

• **Volunteer Opportunities** •

The **Pax et Bonum Committee** is looking for volunteers to help plan Dignity's annual awards dinner, to be held in late March or April. The first meeting of the committee will be Sunday, December 7th at 4 pm at Seventh Avenue church. All are welcome to attend.

The Election Committee needs members to plan and run the annual election for the Board of Directors. **To volunteer for these committees, please contact Joe Curtin at (415) 621-0120.**

Please also consider service on the Board of Directors of Dignity/San Francisco. In March, both the **Secretary and Treasurer positions will be open, as well as those of at-large directors.**

• **Calendar of Upcoming Events** •

Sunday Dec. 7: Our Lady of Guadalupe Liturgy and Celebration; Pax et Bonum Committee Meeting, 4:00pm

Monday, Dec. 8: *Taize Service*, co-sponsored by Dignity/SF & St. John of God Parish, @ St. John of God, 1290 5th Avenue at Irving Street

Sunday, Dec. 14: *Second Sunday Supper*, following Liturgy

Sunday, Dec. 21: *Worship Committee Meeting*, 3:30pm, @ 7th Ave.; Board of Directors Meeting, 2:30-4:30pm, @ 7th Ave.

★ **Wednesday, Dec. 24:** *Christmas Eve Liturgy @ the LGBT Center*, 8:30pm, 1800 Market Street

Sunday, Dec. 28: *Feast of the Holy Family & Blessing of Committed Relationships*; Birthdays/Anniversaries for December, including cake, following Liturgy, @ 7th Ave.!

Sunday, Jan. 4: *Membership Committee Meeting*; Regular Sunday Liturgy; *Quarterly Membership Meeting*, following Liturgy, 7th Ave.

Monday, Jan. 5: *Taize Service*, co-sponsored by Dignity/SF & St. John of God, @ St. John of God

Sunday, Jan. 11: *Second Sunday Supper*, following Liturgy

Sunday, Jan 18: *Board of Directors Meeting*, 2:30-4:30pm, @ 7th Ave

Sunday, Jan 25: Birthdays/Anniversaries for January, including cake, following Liturgy!

Sunday, Feb. 1: Regular Sunday Liturgy

Monday, Feb. 2: *Taize Service*, co-sponsored by Dignity/SF & St. John of God, @ St. John of God

Sunday, Feb. 8: *Second Sunday Supper*, following Liturgy

Sunday, Feb. 15: *Board of Directors Meeting*, 2:30-4:30pm, @ 7th Ave

Sunday, Feb. 22: Regular Sunday Liturgy

Sunday, Feb. 29: Birthdays/Anniversaries for February, with cake!

★ **Sunday, Mar. 7:** *Annual Membership Meeting and Board Elections*, following Liturgy

Vaya con dios! John and Joe, your co-chairs

dignity san francisco



Meditation

...ON THE 99 BEAUTIFUL
NAMES OF ALLAH

(Prayed in the cause of peace
with our Muslim brothers and sisters
during our liturgies
from June through November 2003)

The Patient	al-Sabur
The One	al-Wahid
The Opener	al-Fattah
The Giver	al-Muqaddim
The Witness	al-Shahid
The Restorer	al-Mu'id
The Compassionate	al-Rahman
The Provider	al-Razzaq
The Guide	al-Hadi
The Most Strong	al-Qawiyy