

dignity san francisco

Spirit

"Lord Send Out Your SPIRIT!"

Dear Members and Friends,

This season brings us holidays and events of every possible component of human experience: Halloween, Dia de los Muertos, All Saints Day, Election Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Christmas, New Year's. *We hope that you will spend some time with us at Dignity San Francisco to partake of our community and Eucharist as we struggle and celebrate God's love for us as family.*

JOHN BROWN

&

JOE CURTIN,

Co-CHAIRS



CELEBRATING

OUR SEXUALITY

AND LOVE AS

GIFTS FROM GOD

• Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Join us on Sunday, December 12 in celebrating the Fiesta de Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe. Starting at 5:30pm, there will be a Liturgy in her honor, followed by a Mexican style dinner, musical performance, flowers and decorations, all sponsored by Dignity's People of Color Support Group. All are welcome to this Dignity tradition.

• Christmas Eve Liturgy

We will have our Christmas Eve (Dec. 24th) liturgy at Seventh Avenue Church. Our starting time will be **9:15pm.**

Following the liturgy we invite you to our **dessert pot luck social**, as has been our recent tradition. Please make your plans early to join us for this celebration.

• Budget Issues

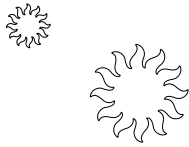
We are approximately 10% behind in collection income for the year to date. We ask for your generosity over the holiday season to continue to fund the work our chapter does for the community!

• Quarterly Membership Meeting

There will be an important general membership quarterly meeting following liturgy on Sunday, January 30th. **IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE OBTAIN A QUORUM (25% OF ACTIVE MEMBERS) FOR THIS MEETING.** We will be voting on the final version of our new bylaws, which must be in effect for the March elections. We hope everyone will join us for this important meeting.

• Newly Titled Benevolence Fund

Our chapter's Benevolence Fund (formerly the co-chair's discretionary fund) will be up and running thanks to your generosity in early 2005. **This fund will be reserved for members who have urgent unmet financial need in providing basic necessities for themselves and their families** (food, rent, insurance and utilities). The money for this fund will come exclusively from a second collection each 5th Sunday of the month (except for the first collection, which will come from a special collection November 14th) and from future fund-raising events. **The next collection for this will be on Sunday, January 30th.** The fund will be administered similar to other local >



“Forgiveness is the answer to the child’s dream of a miracle by which what is broken is made whole again, what is soiled is made clean”

– Dag Hammarskjöld,
Former Secretary General to the United Nations

BOARD OF DIRECTORS +

Co-Chairs, John & Joe

Secretary, Marian Hernandez

Treasurer, Jack Fahy

At-Large Members,

Henry Chau

John Chavez

Neil Christensen

Gino Ramos

Victoria Valencia

Women’s Group Coordinator,

Marian Hernandez



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Bay Area churches-members can request assistance, and they are expected to replace the money that they are given as soon as they are able so that it will be available for future members’ needs. We will report details of the fund with future treasurer’ reports.

• **Soulforce San Francisco Witness**

DignitySF took part in a witness held by Soulforce, in front of the Archdiocese of San Francisco Chancery on Tuesday, November 9. It was held in anticipation of the National Bishop’s conference in Washington D.C. and was **part of a nationwide response to emphasize the need for compassion and equality when dealing with the issues of LGBT Catholics.** We had 15 friends and members of Dignity present in the morning, about 3 in the afternoon. Soulforce had a productive meeting the next day with the Archdiocese Office of Communications. You can log onto their website for any recent reports on these actions, at www.soulforcesf.org.

• **Annual Thanksgiving Feast**

Our traditional Dignity Thanksgiving celebration was on Sunday, November 14th. We hosted 45 people for this special annual community meal. The Board of Directors prepared our dinner in lieu of a Second Sunday Supper. Special thanks to all those responsible for making this beautiful community event possible!

• **Pax et Bonum**

Yes, it’s that time of year again – Joe Curtin initiated the Pax et Bonum committee with its first meeting, on Sunday, November 7th. Please help us to plan this year’s event – **several new ideas have been introduced, including using the event as a co-fundraiser for Dignity and potentially other charitable organizations,** so your input is needed. The next committee meeting date is TBD.

• **Member News**

Our own Dignity member **Richard Cardarelli** was professed as a member of the Franciscan

order in the Anglican faith tradition on Saturday, November 6th. Some of his DignitySF family were present. He expressed his thanks for that presence and support. A very big congratulations to Richard!

Joe Fahy, father of Dignity SF treasurer Jack Fahy, passed away on October 22nd. Our hearts and condolences go to Jack and his family.

Donations in Joe’s name can be sent to:

Alumni Fund Class of 1941
C/O Development Office
College of the Holy Cross
1 College Street
Worcester, MA 01610

Thanks to those Dignity San Francisco members who staffed the information booth at the Castro Street Fair on October 3rd. We had several people express interest in joining and sign up for information packets or to order our David and Jonathan icon.

• **Reminders and Thank-yous**

The Dignity Board meetings are now held on the Third Sunday of the month at 2:30pm 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.

We wish you blessings this autumn, rest and restorative time with your family and friends, and look forward to the challenges of advocating strongly for the rights (marriage and otherwise) of all LGBT persons and for change within our church.

Peace,

John and Joe, your co-chairs