



In Person Liturgy with Live Broadcast on Zoom
Liturgy for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 23, 2026
Everyone is welcome to join us in person at St. John's or on Zoom
06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Zoom meeting opens at 6:00 PM.

You can always find the Zoom link for our liturgy on our website at www.dignityny.org. In the liturgy booklet, the link appears near the end of the announcements and just before the Eucharistic Prayers.

When you join us on Zoom, you will first enter a waiting room. We encourage you to come a few minutes early so that you are ready as liturgy begins. For everyone's safety, please be sure that your name is clearly entered so our hosts can recognize you and welcome you into the gathering.

As you arrive, we invite you to share your name, the pronouns you use, and where you are joining from in the chat. In this simple way, we make visible the many places and people who together form the Body of Christ.

If you would like, you may print or save the liturgy booklet to use again in future weeks. Each Eucharistic Prayer is marked at the top of its page (Community, #2, 7, 8, 9, or 10), and the page that follows will let you know which prayer we are using for that week's liturgy.

Dignity/New York gathers as a faith community of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Straight Catholics, along with our friends and companions on the journey. We celebrate the goodness of every person and welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. All are invited to share fully in our liturgies, and all are welcome to the table of Christ to receive the Body and Blood at Communion. At this time, our community is led by lay presiders whom we have called forth to guide us in prayer.

As a progressive and inclusive Catholic community, we are mindful in the language we use. For example, when we pray the Greatest Prayer—what many may know as the Lord's Prayer—we use the words "All-loving God" rather than "Our Father." Many times, the hymnals or printed materials may still contain outdated language, and we encourage you to use inclusive words that reflect your faith and dignity.

In the same spirit of inclusivity, our community has also chosen to continue using the language of the Mass as it was prayed before the 2011 revision of the Roman Missal.

Presider: Nick Calamusa
First Reading: Isaiah 22:15, 19-23
Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36
Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20
Eucharistic Prayer: # 7 Mary of Magdala

ORDER OF LITURGY

WELCOME:

GATHERING SONG: As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

GC 663

1. As a fire is meant for burning
With a bright and warming flame,
So the church is meant for mission,
Giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs,
But to build a bridge of care,
We join hands across the nations,
Finding neighbors ev'rywhere.
2. We are learners; we are teachers;
We are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers;
We are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions,
We would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, list'ning Spirit,
We would live to God's delight.
3. As a green bud in the springtime
Is a sign of life renewed,
So may we be signs of oneness
'Mid earth's peoples, many hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens
When a storm is past and gone,
May our lives reflect the radiance
Of God's new and glorious dawn.

Text: Ruth Duck, b.1947, © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

GREETING:

PENITENTIAL RITE:

OPENING PRAYER:

FIRST READING:

RESPONSORIAL Psalm 138: God, Your Love is Eternal

GC

133

God, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I give thanks to you, O God,
with all my heart, with all my soul.
I will sing your praise with the angels.
I will worship in your temple.

God, your love is eternal...

2. I give thanks to your holy name,
for all your kindness and your truth.
When I called, you answered me,
and you built up strength within me.

God, your love is eternal...

3. The Lord God is exalted, yet he sees you, he sees me.
And his kindness endures for ever,
O forsake not the work of your hands.

God, your love is eternal...

Text: Psalm 138:1-2, 3, 7; Roy James Stewart, © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.; refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL

SECOND READING:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

GC198

HOMILY/REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF COMMUNITY:

R/: Guide us, O God.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS:

PREPARATION SONG: I Bind My Heart

GC 668

1. I Bind my heart this tide To the Galilean's side
2. I bind my soul this day To the brother far away,
3. I bind my heart in thrall To the God, the Lord of all,
4. I bind myself to peace, To make strife and envy cease;

- 1, To the wounds of Calvary, To the Christ who died for me.
- 2, To the sister near at hand In this town and in this land.
- 3, To the God, the poor one's friend, And the Christ whom he did send,
- 3, O God, knit thou sure the cord, Of my thralldom to my Lord.

Text: "Thralldom," The Tryst, 1907, Lauchlan McLean Watt, 1853-1931

Tune: Suzanne Toolan, SM, b. 1927, ©1979, Resource Publications, Inc.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: *(Can be found on pages 6 - 12. The Eucharistic Prayer number /name is at the top of the worship aid before the Opening Song).*

ALL: Preface Acclamation: Sanctus GC 201

Memorial Acclamation: GC 203

Eucharistic Doxology And Admin. GC 168

THE GREATEST PRAYER: GC 183
(please begin "Our Ever-loving God, who art in Heaven...")

THE PEACE:

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD: *Lamb of God* GC 207

COMMUNION: *Everyone is welcome to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.*

COMMUNION HYMN: Let Us Be Bread GC 816

Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, broken and shared, life for the world.
Let us be wine, love freely poured. Let us be one in our God.

1. I am the bread of life, broken for all. Eat now and hunger no more.
Let us be bread...

2. You are my friends if you keep my commands, no longer servants but friends.
Let us be bread...

3. See how my people have nothing to eat. Give them the bread that is you.
Let us be bread...

4. As God has loved me so I have loved you. Go and live on in my love.
Let us be bread...

Text: Thomas J. Porter, b.1958, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

BLESSING:

SONG OF SENDING FORTH: Guide My Feet GC 707

1. Guide my feet while I run this race, Guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!
2. Hold my hand while I run this race, Hold my hand while I run this race,
Hold my hand while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!
3. Stand by me while I run this race, Stand by me while I run this race,
Stand by me while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!
4. I'm your child while I run this race, I'm your child while I run this race,
I'm your child while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!

5. Search my heart while I run this race, Search my heart while I run this race,
Search my heart while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!
6. Guide my feet while I run this race, Guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Text: African-American spiritual

ANNOUNCEMENTS (found at the end of this document)

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The Eucharistic Prayer - Community

(Based on Eucharistic Prayer II)

(Preface below is for Ordinary Time; otherwise it varies)

Presider : All-loving God, it is our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere, to give You thanks through Your beloved son Jesus Christ.

Christ is the Word through whom You made the universe, the Savior You sent to redeem us. By the power of the Holy Spirit Christ was born of the Virgin Mary.

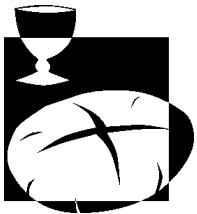
For our sake Christ opened his arms on the cross; put an end to death and revealed to us the resurrection. In doing so, Christ fulfilled Your will and has won for You a holy people.

And so, with one voice we proclaim your glory as we sing:

*Preface Acclamation: **Holy, holy, holy...***

God of power and tenderness, we praise you through your Son, Christ Jesus, who comes in your name.

Jesus is the Word that brings salvation, the hand you stretch out to sinners, the way that leads to your peace.



Eternal God, we had wandered far from you, but through your beloved One, you have brought us back. You gave him up to death so that we might turn to you and find our way to one another. And so we celebrate the reconciliation Christ has gained for us.

We ask you to sanctify these gifts by the power of your Spirit, as we now fulfill Jesus' command.

While he was at supper on the night before he died for us, Jesus took bread into his hands and gave you thanks and praise. He broke the bread, gave it to the disciples and said: Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my Body, which will be given up for you. **(PAUSE)**

At the end of the meal, Jesus took the cup and giving thanks to you, said: Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me. **(PAUSE)**

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Memorial Acclamation (sung) (varies usually by liturgical season)

Eternal God, your only One has entrusted to us this pledge of love. We celebrate the memory of Jesus' death and resurrection and bring you the gift you have given us, the sacrifice of reconciliation.

Fill us with the Spirit through our sharing in this meal. May the Spirit take away all that divides us. May this Spirit keep us always in communion with our pope, our bishops, the leaders of our community, and the people of God everywhere. Make your church throughout the world a sign of unity and an instrument of your peace.

You have gathered us here around the table of our Savior, in communion with Mary, Mother of God, and all the saints and all those who have gone before us in faith. In that new world where the fullness of your peace will be revealed, gather people of every race, every language, and every way of life to share in the one eternal banquet with Jesus our Savior.

Eucharistic Doxology And Amen

Eucharistic Prayer #2

*Adapted by Fr. Joseph McOscar, from ICEL, An Original Eucharistic Prayer
Introductory Dialogue as in the standard Order of Liturgy.*

Presider: Blessed are you Strong and Faithful God. All your works, the height and the depth, echo the silent music of your praise. In the beginning, your word summoned light; night withdrew, and creation dawned. As ages passed unseen, waters gathered on the face of the earth and life appeared. When the times at last had ripened and the earth grown full in abundance, you created in your own image humankind, the crown of all creation. You gave us breath and speech, that all the living might find a voice to sing your praise. So now, with all the powers of heaven and earth, we chant the ageless hymn of your glory.

ALL: Holy, holy, holy...

Presider: All Holy God, how wonderful the work of your hands! You restored the beauty of your image when sin had scarred the world.

ALL: As a loving parent tenderly gathers their children, you embraced a people as your own and filled them with longing for a peace that would last forever and for a justice that would never fail.

Through countless generations your people hungered for the bread of freedom. From them you raised up Jesus, the living bread, in whom ancient hungers were satisfied. He healed the sick, though he himself would suffer; he offered life to sinners, though death would hunt him down. But with a love stronger than death, he opened wide his arms and surrendered his spirit.

Presider: God most gracious, let your Holy Spirit move in power over us,

ALL: And over our earthly gifts of bread and wine, that they may become the Body and Blood of Christ. On the night before he met with death, Jesus came to table with those he loved.

He took bread and blessed you, God of all creation: He broke the bread among his disciples and said: Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my Body, which will be given up for you. **(PAUSE)**

Presider: When Supper was ended:

ALL: Jesus took a cup of wine and gave thanks to You, God of all creation; He passed the cup among his disciples and said:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it: this is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me. **(PAUSE)**

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: *Memorial Acclamation (sung) (varies usually by liturgical season)*

Presider: God most Holy, we commemorate Jesus, Your Beloved One, as we offer this sacrifice.

ALL: Death could not bind Him up, for You raised him up in the Spirit of Holiness and exalted him as the Source of all creation. May the coming again of Christ in glory find us ever watchful in prayer, strong in love, and faithful to the breaking of the bread.

Presider: Rejoicing in the Holy Spirit, your whole Church offers thanks and praise, together with our Pope, our bishops, our Dignity leaders and all those who minister among your people, and those whose gifts and vocations are not yet recognized by your Church on earth.

ALL: We pray for ourselves here present and for all whose lives bring hope to this world. God of the living and the dead, awaken to the undying light of pardon and peace those fallen asleep in faith, especially those we remember in our hearts.

Presider: We pray for those who have died alone, unloved and unmourned. Gather them all into communion with Mary, the Mother of God, and with all your Saints.

ALL: Then, at last, will all creation be one and all divisions healed, and we shall join in singing your praise through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

ALL: *(usually sung by all; varies)* Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God (O God most holy) for ever and ever. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer #7

*Adapted from Marianne Duddy-Burke's Prayer for Mary of Magdala liturgy, 2002
Introductory Dialogue as in the standard Order of Liturgy.*

Presider: It is right that we give you thanks and praise, loving God. You created this world, that you called good, and invited us to become its stewards. Even when we betrayed your trust, you chose to call us back to yourself, over and over again.

ALL: Your Word has been spoken throughout human history through those you called as prophets---some whom we would disregard, but whom you empowered with your passion for our salvation. As we gather around this table, we once again recall your breaking into our world, for our redemption, and your calling forth unlikely prophets to reveal your truth.

Presider: In joyful thanksgiving for your constant, faithful love, we join our voices in an unending hymn of praise:

ALL: *Holy, holy, holy...*

Presider: In one of your peoples' darkest times, you raised up a light for all to see. While they were persecuted and enslaved by conquerors, you fulfilled a nation's longing for a Messiah who would defeat the powers of oppression. You gave us Jesus, who walked among us, trying to teach us to see as you see, to love as you love, to be as you are.

ALL: Jesus listened to the cries of the people, aching for freedom. He healed those bound by cruel disease. He answered those who were burdened with questions. He challenged those enslaved by the Law to understand its true teaching. He fed those who hungered, and awakened deeper thirsts.

Presider: He gathered a community around him, close friends with whom he shared all that God made known to him. It was with these closest friends and followers that Jesus shared a final meal.

ALL: As we come together in memory of that meal, we pray that God's Spirit will come upon these gifts, that they may become the Body and Blood of Christ. We remember how, on the night before he died, Jesus was at table with those he loved. He took bread and blessed you, God of all creation. He broke the bread, shared it with his friends and said, "Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my Body, which will be given up for you." **(PAUSE)**

Presider: When supper was ended

ALL: Jesus took a cup of wine, and gave thanks to you, God of all creation. He passed the cup among his friends and said, "Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me." **(PAUSE)**

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: *Memorial Acclamation (sung) (varies usually by liturgical season)*

Presider: We celebrate this feast in memory of Jesus, our brother and Savior. We honor the memory of those who shared his earthly ministry, and became the first bearers of the sacred Christian tradition, which has been passed through the ages and is now entrusted to us. We treasure our faith in the resurrection, and the new life birthed in us.

ALL: God Most Holy, keep us faithful to your dreams for us, faithful to your Word alive in us. Help us to hear your voice calling each of us to discipleship and to service in your name. Strengthen us to follow your call, despite sanction, ridicule, and rules that may seem to limit the possibilities before us.

Presider: We pray in thanksgiving, O God, that you have brought us into loving community. We are thankful for those who have worked throughout the years to create this community, for those who gather with us today, and for those who will join the circle in days to come. We recall those whom we love who are no longer with us, and pray for the peace of their souls. We pray for all who seek the fullness of your vision here on earth, and for everyone who works for fuller justice in our world and our Church.

ALL: May the vision of unity that Jesus put forth to his disciples be fulfilled in our day. Let this meal nourish us to go into the world to heal and serve one another in the service of your Word. All of this we ask through Christ, our Savior.

ALL: *(usually sung by all; varies)* Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God (O God Most Holy), for ever and ever. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer #8

*Adapted from ICEL, "Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation II"
Introductory Dialogue as in the standard Order of Liturgy.*

Presider: Compassionate One, all-powerful and ever-living God, we praise and thank you through Christ Jesus for your presence and action in the world. You are a God of love and mercy, always ready to forgive. We constantly fall short of your vision for us--we stumble, we falter, we hurt one another--and you invite us again to trust in your mercy.

ALL: In the midst of conflict and division, we know it is you who turn our minds to thoughts of peace. The Spirit changes our hearts: enemies begin to speak to one another, those who were estranged join hands in friendship, and nations seek the way of peace together. The Spirit is at work when

understanding puts an end to strife, when hatred is quenched by mercy, and vengeance gives way to forgiveness. For this we never cease to thank and praise you.

Presider: Now, with all the choirs of heaven, we sing the unending hymn of your praise:

ALL: *Holy, holy, holy...*

Presider: God of power and tenderness, we praise you through Christ Jesus, who comes in your name. Jesus is the Word that brings salvation, the hand you stretch out to sinners, the way that leads to your peace.

ALL: Eternal God, we had wandered far from you, but through your beloved One, you have brought us back. You gave him up to death so that we might turn to you and find our way to one another. And so we celebrate the reconciliation Christ has gained for us.

Presider: We ask you to sanctify these gifts by the power of your Spirit, as we now fulfill Jesus' command.

ALL: On the evening before his suffering and death, Jesus took bread into his hands, he blessed you, and broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples with the words:

Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my Body, which will be given up for you. **(PAUSE)**

Presider: After supper,

ALL: Jesus took the cup and giving thanks to you, said:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me. **(PAUSE)**

Presider: Eternal God, your only begotten One has entrusted to us this pledge of love. We celebrate the memory of Jesus' death and resurrection and bring you the gift you have given us, the sacrifice of reconciliation. And so together, we proclaim our Easter faith:

ALL: *Memorial Acclamation (sung) (varies usually by liturgical season)*

Presider: Fill us with the Spirit through our sharing in this meal. May the Spirit take away all that divides us. May this Spirit bless our Dignity community, and bring us to that day when we will share this table with N., the bishop of Rome. Keep us in communion with all who serve and lead your people. Make your church throughout the world a sign of unity and an instrument of your peace.

ALL: You have gathered us here around the table of our Savior, in communion with Mary, Mother of God, and all the saints. We pray for our departed family and friends whom we commend to your mercy. In that new world where the fullness of your peace will be revealed, gather people of every race, language, and way of life to share in the one eternal banquet with Jesus our Savior.

ALL: *(usually sung by all; varies)* Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, O God Most Holy, forever and ever. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer #9

Presider: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

ALL: From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a parent cares for their children, you would not forget us.

Presider: Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with the saints and angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

ALL: *Holy, holy, holy...*

ALL: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Presider: Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

ALL: Then the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to You, broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:

“Take this all of you, and eat it. This is my Body, which will be given up for you.” (Pause)

Presider: As supper was ending,

ALL: Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to You, gave it to his friends, and said:

“Take this all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting Covenant. It will be shed for you and for all. so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.” (Pause)

ALL: *Memorial Acclamation (sung) (varies usually by liturgical season)*

Presider: Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to You our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. May the Spirit take away all that divides us.

ALL: You have gathered us here around the table of our Savior, in communion with Mary, Mother of God, and all the saints and all those who have gone before us in faith. In that new world where the fullness of your peace will be revealed, gather people of every race, every language, and every way of life to share in the one eternal banquet with Jesus our Savior.

ALL: *(usually sung by all; varies)* Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer #10

*“Healing,” by Fr. Diarmuid O’Murchu, used with his permission.
Introductory Dialogue as in the standard Order of Liturgy.*

Presider: Gracious God, source and sustenance of life, redeeming presence to the pain and brokenness of our world, Holy Spirit, who enlivens and inebriates all that exists, we beseech your healing power upon us and upon all we pray for today.

ALL: Down through the ages, you rescue us from darkness. You light up our ways with wise and holy people. You restore our lost fortunes and you revive our dwindling hope.

Presider: For all you bring to our lives, and for all we seek amid pain and suffering, we acclaim your love and greatness, and we join with all creation to sing our hymn of praise:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy... *(varies usually by liturgical season)*

Presider: Source of our health and wholeness, healer of body, mind, and spirit, we bring before you the darkness of our world, and the pain and suffering of your people.

We seek to be healed and made whole; we seek to be reconciled and united; we seek peace in our hearts and in our world.

We ask you to awaken anew in our hearts the empowering grace of your abundant Spirit, who infuses these gifts of bread and wine with the transforming energy of life, to nourish and sustain us in our time of need.

That same bread, Jesus took and broke, to restore the unity of our broken world.

ALL: Jesus blessed you, God of healing and hope, then, along with the cup, Jesus shared the bread with those at table saying:

Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my Body which will be given up for you. *(Pause)*

Presider: Then offering the cup of libation, poured out for the liberation of all,

ALL: Jesus gave thanks and shared the cup in a spirit of mutual solidarity saying:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it: this is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me, *(Pause)*

Presider: In faith and hope we are sustained, In grace our dignity reclaimed, In praise we thank our God.

ALL: *Memorial Acclamation (sung) (varies usually by liturgical season)*

Presider: As we gather around this Eucharistic table, we recall God's blessing and love from ages past, and we celebrate anew the gift of life which we share among us at this Eucharistic feast.

May the Spirit of life and wholeness, who transforms the gifts we present, transform us, too, that we may be refreshed in our inner being and be empowered to bring mercy, love and healing to those whose lives we touch.

ALL: The bread we break and the cup we share are symbols of our world of abundance where all are invited to partake of the fullness of life. But that life we often impede by our greed and selfishness, and by our exploitation of other people.

So grant, that in union with all peoples, living and dead, we may strive to create a world where suffering and pain are diminished, where justice and peace are restored, and where all people can live in health and wholeness, united in acclaiming the God of life, whose abundance is offered to each and to all, until God's reign arrives in the fullness of time.

Presider: This prayer we make in the name of our healing and nurturing God, through, with and in whom we offer these gifts, sources of life, love and goodness, now and forever.

ALL: *(usually sung by all; varies)* Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God (O God Most Holy), for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements and Acknowledgements

We encourage those who are Zoom to stay on after the closing song to chat. Those at St. John's, please bring hymn book and any extra papers to the sacristy please exit through the common room.

Are you a member of DignityUSA - DignityNY?

One easy way to tell is whether you received a DignityUSA ballot at the end of May to vote for members of the national Board of Directors.

Our chapter currently has 66 members, although some memberships have recently expired. If your membership has lapsed, we will be reaching out to invite you to renew. We never want cost to be a barrier to participation in our community. If membership dues present a financial hardship, assistance is available.

- Individual membership: \$60 per year
- Couple membership: \$120 per year

If you are unsure about your membership status or whether you have already renewed, please contact Chris Alberti, Lewis Speaks-Tanner (at this email address), or DignityUSA at operations@dignityusa.org.

As chapter elections approach, now is a wonderful time to renew your membership. Active DignityUSA membership is required to run for the Steering Committee and to vote in chapter elections.

Chapter Steering Committee elections are coming up. The election notice is going out to current member and expired members for whom we have mailing addresses. Elections are at the end of September. Nominations will close at the candidates forum which will be held in person this year with live broadcast on Zoom. There are 4 seats that are two year term and 1 seat with a one year term if 5 or more people run.

Nomination Petitions will be available Sunday, August 23 by 4 pm in special Nominations email.

- Candidates Forum after liturgy on September 13, 2026; It is in-person and via Zoom. Nominations must be in by the start of Candidates Forum (the mailed Elections Notice had the wrong ending date for nominations).
- Electronic Ballots sent out by Monday, September 14, 2026
- Last day to request a mail in ballot is September 14, 2026
- Mail in ballots must be postmarked by September 26, 2026
- Electronic Election ends at 11 pm EDT on September 27, 2026

Steering Committee members (consists of 7 people: those who's term ends October 31, 2026: Chris Alberti, Danny Larkin, Lewis Speaks-Tanner. And those who's term ends October 31, 2027: Robert Brande, Nick Cimato, James Osbourn and Jeff Stone.

Prayers of the Community | Petitions | Prayers of the Faithful

On November 15, 2026, our list of the sick, used during the prayers of the community, will be renewed. Any names that you would like to maintain on the prayers for the sick list will need to be re-added. If there is someone you would like to add, please email Lewis at prayers@dignityny.org. Moving forward, all names will expire after two months. Please re-add people as necessary. The next refresh date will be February 7, 2026.

In the same spirit, during the prayer of the faithful, we encourage everyone to try to limit their individually spoken petitions to one per week.

History Book project to celebrate our 55th anniversary in 2027. A group compiled a book for our 25th anniversary. We have the archival history in a storage bin and before we give the Center our archives, it would be great to have years 26 through 55 recorded by combing through paper files. Certainly, media has changed so it might take different forms. If you are interested in either project, see a Steering Committee member.

You can now donate to Dignity New York Inc. through Zelle. Use Dignity New



York Inc with treasurer@dignityny.org as the correct to send donations. Include your name and reasons for the donation in the email line. Suggestion: to ensure that you set everything up accurately, do a test by sending \$1.00.

Special Request for Attendees of the 1989 Dignity Conference

A special request: Did you attend the 1989 Dignity conference in San Francisco? Did you save materials from that event? We are seeking a copy of the powerful **Liturgy of Lamentation** from that event for a series marking the 40th anniversary of the Letter on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons. If you have it, please contact execdir@dignityusa.org.

Help Church Leaders understand the LGBTQIA families. In early October, the Vatican has invited the presidents of all national bishops' conferences and leaders of Eastern churches to a synodal meeting to mark the 10th anniversary of Amoris Laetitia. These church leaders are being asked "to proceed, in mutual listening, to a synodal discernment on the steps to be taken in order to proclaim the Gospel to families today, in light of Amoris Laetitia and taking into account what is currently being done in the local Churches" according to the invitation.

The invitation to the meeting also says that those gathered will spend time "welcoming the lived experiences of families; sharing concrete stories of life." However, apart from a brief reference to cohabiting couples, it is clear that the meeting's framework is aimed at addressing heterosexually married couples with children and prioritizes the needs of these families.

In an effort to remind those organizing this gathering, as well as its attendees that our church must embrace a wide variety of family configurations, DignityUSA invites our members and friends to submit stories from the full range of families that include LGBTQIA+ people. This can include parents, siblings, grandparents and relatives of LGBTQIA+ people, LGBTQIA+ people who are raising or have raised children who come into the family in a variety of ways, LGBTQIA+ who want to share their experiences of their birth families, LGBTQIA+ people who are family caregivers, LGBTQIA+ people who have created chosen families that do not reflect "traditional" models, and more.

We invite you to send a written testimony, an audio recording, or a video, in any language, with your story to [this form](#). You can use your name(s), pseudonym(s), or no name at all. Pictures are welcome but not required. **All materials must be received by September 12, 2026.**

[Submit Your Story](#)

DignityUSA will compile these stories from our community and submit them to the meeting's attendees. This is our way of providing testimony from LGBTQIA+ Catholics and our family members to church leaders on the realities and needs of our community. It is another opportunity for us to participate in the synod process, and to engage with the leaders of our church worldwide. We urge you to share this invitation with your members and encourage their participation.

Thank you for considering this invitation. We look forward to the richness of the stories we will receive.

Dignity Young Adults present: **Rooted Within: Remembering and Living in Your Worth** A reflective and engaging event on dismantling misconceptions and designing resilient self worth. With a discussion led by Ciara Mislán, a grounding practitioner and motivational speaker. Sunday, August 30, 2026, 12 pm EDT to 1:30 EDT. RSVP by August 23, 2026 to dyacteam@dignityusa.org.

Register for Q Christian Fellowship's Catholicism and Sexuality Group

Led by Dignity Young Adult's co-leader Sam Barnes, the Catholicism and Sexuality group is a 10-week guide created by Q Christian Fellowship in collaboration with DignityUSA. This group is designed to explore the intersection of Catholic theology and LGBTQIA+ identity in an affirming and inclusive way. The guide encourages participants to engage in discussions that help reconcile their faith with their experiences of sexuality and gender, drawing upon the rich traditions and philosophies of the Catholic Church. Each week covers different topics, such as the connection between body and soul, deconstructing harmful narratives and integrating personal faith and identity. Through reflection and conversation, the group provides a supportive environment for LGBTQ+ Catholics to navigate their spiritual journeys while embracing their identities as beloved children of God. [Register Here](#)

Sisters of Charity of New York/Braver Angels "Depolarizing Ourselves" Workshop

Our friends at the **Sisters of Charity of New York's Immigration Working Group** are pleased to co-sponsor a **Braver Angels "Depolarizing Ourselves" Workshop** on **Wednesday, October 14, from 7:00–8:30 p.m. (ET)** via Zoom. This interactive workshop is designed to help participants navigate political and social differences with greater understanding, respect, and empathy.

Together, we will explore how to:

- Recognize our own "inner polarization."
- Communicate across political differences without stereotyping or demonizing others.
- Foster more respectful conversations in our families, workplaces, parishes, and communities.
- Build bridges while remaining true to our own values.

Whether you are new to Braver Angels or have participated before, this workshop offers practical tools for anyone seeking to promote dialogue, healing and the common good.

Wednesday, October 14 7:00–8:30 p.m. ET Online via Zoom [Register Here](#)

Call to Action 50th Anniversary Conference

DignityUSA members are invited to join our friends at Call To Action for their 50th Anniversary Conference, *Forged in the Fire: We're Still Here*, taking place November 6–8, 2026, in Linthicum Heights, Maryland. The conference will feature keynote speakers Sr. Simone Campbell and Dr. Craig Ford, along with inspiring workshops, prayer, inclusive liturgies, and opportunities to connect with Catholics committed to justice, reform, and inclusion. DignityUSA members receive **15% off registration** by using the discount code **CTAPartners** when registering. [Register Now](#)

DignityUSA 2027 Conference 'Theme' and Pre-registration

DignityUSA's Board of Directors has officially approved the theme for our 2027 Conference: ***Let us be light for the world / Seamos luz para el mundo.***

"At a time when there is so much darkness," said DignityUSA President Meli Barber, "the inclusive, prophetic community that Dignity offers is greatly needed. We look forward to bringing together people whose joy and truth shine forth and helping to bring even more brightness to the world."

Our conference will be July 2-4, 2027, at the Embassy Suites Columbus/Dublin in Dublin, OH. We've worked hard to keep the gathering as affordable and accessible as possible, including securing the same hotel room rate from 2025: \$149/night, plus tax, for up to four people per room. The rate also includes a full breakfast and evening reception each day.

Preregistration is now open once again! A \$100 deposit reserves your spot and guarantees the lowest available registration rate. Full registration will open in early 2027, and pre-registration remains fully refundable through April 1, 2027.

Mark your calendars now and come help us bring even more light into the world together! [Preregister Now](#)

Interested in joining us for upcoming Transgender Caucus meetings and events? Subscribe to the Transgender Caucus mailing list today! [Subscribe Now](#)

There are other articles in this week's DignityUSA Dateline. If you do not receive in your email, signup on DignityUSA website.

Please check the **DignityNY YouTube** page for Sunday Gospel and Homilies

THE CHOIR welcomes new members. Speak to our Choir Director, **Norine**, if interested. • Auditions and Choir Practice will be in the choir loft at St. John's one hour before liturgy.

Liturgy Committee normally meets on the second Monday at 7:30 pm on Zoom. ***There will be no meeting in August.*** All are welcome. The Liturgy Committee is looking for more committee members. Meeting ID: 819 2042 4656 Passcode: 613538

We are recruiting a few more people for the Liturgy Committee. The monthly meeting has been the second Monday lasting about 1 hour to 1 1/2 hours. Prior knowledge of liturgy is helpful but not necessary. We would train and/or point you to materials that will help you. Other responsibilities may include certain liturgies have a liturgy committee present as the behind the scenes person and helping to put together liturgy materials for weekly liturgy in print and online. See Lewis if interested.

The Steering Committee normally meets each month on the second Tuesday via Zoom. ***There will be no meeting in August. Anyone is invited to participate or observe,*** Steering Committee members (consists of 7 people: those who's term ends October 31, 2026: Chris Alberti, Danny Larkin, Lewis Speaks-Tanner. And those who's term ends October 31, 2027: Robert Brande, Nick Cimato, James Osbourn and Jeff Stone. **Meeting ID: 857 2315 4226; Passcode: 697371**

Come to the Table: Catholic Worship for All - 3rd Sunday of the month • 10:30 am to 12 Noon. For more information, email Patricia Russell at ComeToTheTable@DignityNY.org

DefendersUSA Leather & Kink caucus, meets the third Tuesday of each month via Zoom at 8:30 pm ET. Talk to Lewis Speaks-Tanner for more details.

The Trevor Project

Crisis intervention and mental health services for those ages 13-24 <http://www.thetrevorproject.org/>
Crisis hotline: 866-488-7386 (for those ages 13-24)

Trans Lifeline (US) 877 565-8860 www.translifeline.org

The Dignity/New York community enjoys and values your company in the celebration of our liturgy each week. Donations to Dignity/New York can be made by using the "Donate Now" located on our website or use the link below: <https://dignityusa.app.neoncrm.com/forms/donate>

We encourage to become a member of DignityUSA (and Dignity/New York). By joining, you increase DignityUSA's voice. <https://dignityusa.app.neoncrm.com/forms/membership>

For more information about DignityNY or to view our **calendar**, visit our website **home page** at <https://dignityny.org/>

To join our electronic announcements (e-Bulletin) list, send an e mail dny@dignityny.org, or use the link on our home page.

To submit items for consideration for distribution via our electronic announcements postings, send them to dignitynewyork@gmail.com

Friend us on **Facebook:** [Dignity New York](#) ; **Threads:** [dignity_ny](#); **Instagram:** [dignity_ny](#)

DIGNITY/NEW YORK IS A SAFE SPACE. Feel free to greet those around you and to social, remembering to respect every person's comfort level. If anyone breaches your comfort level, please let a member of the Steering Committee know..

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS AT LITURGY. In keeping with our Safe Space policy, Dignity/New York is a place where privacy is respected. Our policy of many years is that the taking of photos or videos during liturgy or the social is not allowed without permission being given in advance by the Steering Committee. In these cases, the community will be notified in advance, and will be told where and when cameras will and will not be allowed to shoot. Personal or small group photos should be taken or posted to social media only with the permission of each person involved.

The link to join the meeting is

<https://zoom.us/j/231599312?pwd=bHJMT1NZOEtERE1oOTQwdS84NU45Zz09>

You will be put into a waiting room. Please join before liturgy begins so that you can participate.

For those joining by phone or through an app, you will need meeting ID and password:

Meeting ID: 231 599 312 Password: 333 333

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,231599312# US (New York)

+13126266799,,231599312# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 231 599 312 **Password: 333 333**

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abm1zHjEP>