



***In Person Liturgy with Live Broadcast on Zoom
Presentation of Jesus- January 26 2025***

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.

Link is at the end of the announcements. When you log on for Liturgy, you will be placed in a waiting room, please log on before liturgy and make sure your name is associated at login to make sure you are in the room as liturgy begins. We will not admit anyone who has a cryptic identification for the safety of the broadcast.

Zoom Instructions and Preparation

- Before signing into Zoom liturgy, kindly type your name and where you're joining us from in your caption.
- Please be prepared to share Eucharist with us.
- We invite everyone to have bread and wine / grape juice present if you are able to and feel comfortable doing so. We are called to share in the priesthood of all believers in this Eucharistic celebration.
- Bread recipes are available on our [website Liturgy page](#).
- Mute mic and chat functions help to optimize your experience during the liturgy.

Dignity/New York gathers proudly as a faith community of Lesbian, gGay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Straight Catholics and our friends. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We welcome all to our liturgies regardless of their faith tradition, and all are invited to share in the Body and Blood of Christ at Communion. Our community has both ordained and lay presiders whom we have called forth to lead us during our liturgies.

As a progressive and inclusive Catholic community, we use gender-inclusive language. For example, you will notice that we use "All-loving God" instead of "Our Father" when reciting the Greatest Prayer. We make our best efforts to change our hymnals and printed materials as necessary, but they do not always reflect our use of gender-inclusive language. Please feel free to change any non-inclusive language as you prefer.

Also in the interest of inclusivity, our community has intentionally chosen to use the language of the Mass prior to the revision of the Roman Missal in 2011.

Presider: Brendan Fay
Homilist: Brendan Fay
First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4
Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Eucharistic Prayer: #Community

ORDER OF LITURGY

WELCOME:

GATHERING SONG & PROCESSION: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light **GC 507**

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
2. I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father.
In him there is...
3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus.
In him there is...

Text: Ephesians 5:8-10, Revelation 21:23, John 12:46, 1 John 1:5, Hebrews 12:1; Kathleen Thomerson, b.1934, © 1970, 1975, Celebration

GREETING:

PENITENTIAL RITE:

OPENING PRAYER:

FIRST READING:

RESPONSORIAL Psalm 25: To You, O God

GC 36

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul, to you, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways,
teach me your paths
and keep me in the way of your truth,
for you are God, my Savior.

To you, O Lord...

2. For the Lord is good and righteous,
revealing the way to those who wander,
gently leading the poor and the humble.

To you, O Lord...

3. To the ones who seek the Lord,
who look to God's word,
who live God's love,
God will always be near,
and will show them mercy.

To you, O Lord...

Text: Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 12-14; Marty Haugen, © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.; refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL

SECOND READING:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia*

GC 258

GOSPEL:

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:

HEALING SERVICE:

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY: *Strengthen us, O God.*

PREPARATION Where Charity and Love Prevail

GC 625

Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear
God's charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
now love God in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults
as we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well
in Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown,
let all contention cease;
Be God's the glory that we seek,
be ours God's holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst

dwells God's begotten Son;
As members of his body joined,
we are in Christ made one.

No race or creed can love exclude,
if honored be God's name;
Our family embraces all
whose Father is the same.

PREPARATION PRAYER:

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Introductory Dialogue as in the standard Order of Liturgy.

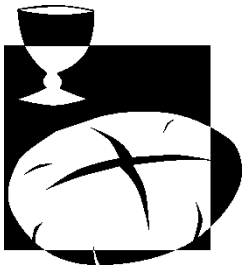
ALL: Preface Acclamation: *Holy, Holy*

GC 228

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:

GC 230

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

GC 168

Through Christ, With Christ, In Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours All-loving (Almighty) God, for ever and ever.

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen!

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 232

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

COMMUNION HYMN: Look Beyond

GC 843

Look beyond the bread you eat; See your Savior and your Lord.

Look beyond the cup you drink; See his love poured out as blood.

1. Give us a sign that we might believe in you. Moses had manna from the sky.

Look beyond...

2. I am the bread which from the heavens came; Those who eat this bread will never die.

Look beyond...

3. The bread I give you will be my very flesh; My blood will truly be your drink.

Look beyond...

4. This man speaks harshly; who can listen to his word? We shall no longer follow him.

Look beyond...

5. You, my disciples, will you also leave? Lord to whom can we go?

Look beyond the bread you eat; See your Savior and your Lord.

Look beyond the cup you drink; See his love poured out as blood.

See his life poured out as blood.

Text: Darryl Ducote, b.1945, © 1969, 1979, Damean Music. Distributed by GIA Publications, Inc.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n to earth come down!
Fix in us your humble dwelling,
All your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, source of all compassion,
Love unbounded, love all pure;
Visit us with your salvation,
Let your love in us endure.
2. Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all your life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Never more your temples leave.
Lord, we would be always blessing,
Serve you as your hosts above,
Pray, and praise you without ceasing,
Glory in your precious love.
3. Finish then your new creation,
Pure and spotless, gracious Lord,
Let us see your great salvation
Perfectly in you restored.
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we sing before the almighty
Lost in wonder, love and praise.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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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.

DignityNY Advent Appeal was mailed to members and sent by e-mail to all.. If you need a copy of the chapter Advent Appeal, we can send you a copy via email (dignitynewyork@gmail.com). Thank you for your generosity.

This Sunday right after the homily, there will be a healing service. All are welcome to come forward to receiving healing.

here will be a day retreat focused on Walking the Labyrinth at the Holy Mountain Franciscan Retreat Center at Graymoor on February 22nd, 10 am to 2 pm. The cost is \$65 and lunch is included. For additional information contact Richard Ferrara at richardferraranyc@gmail.com or 646-403-4258

Serve on the DignityUSA Board!

Nominations for serving on the DignityUSA Board for the October 2025 - September 2027 term will open in February. Now's the time to prayerfully consider how your gifts could serve our mission!

Bernárd Lynch was awarded the Freedom of the City of London on Friday, January 17. Bernárd is a longtime supporter and friend of DignityUSA and was recognized for his work as an LGBTQIA+ and HIV activist. Learn more about Bernárd and his advocacy at Raidió Teilifís Éireann.

[Listen Here](#)

Please help Sandy Thezan reach her fundraising goal of \$2,800 for the Special Olympics NY's ave you looked at all the announcements about DignityUSA's 2025 conference and wondered: 2025 Polar Plunge on Saturday, February 15th, 2025. The Polar Plunge donations will support NY Special Olympics athletic training.

The link to donate: <http://events.nyso.org/goto/2025SandyThezan>

If you would like to donate by check, please make your check payable to "Special Olympics NY," Memo: "Sandy Thezan" and mail the check to: 6 Anthony Drive; Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

If you have any further questions, please email sthezan@optimum.net or call (845) 240-1202.

"I appreciate your help in advance. No amount is too big or too small.

My best regards, Sandy Thezan"

DignityUSA Re-affirms Support for Nonbinary and Transgender People

Within an hour of taking the Oath of Office of President on January 20, President Trump announced he would be signing an executive order making it national policy to recognize only two genders. He fulfilled this promise later the same day. The executive order is sweeping, directing federal agencies to return "biological truth to the federal government," and barring access to facilities like domestic violence shelters, migrant housing, and prisons based on gender identity. It will remove the "X" option for gender on passports and other federal documents.

DignityUSA states, "It is clear that the Administration is using widespread misunderstanding of and disinformation about transgender and nonbinary people to foster division and fear. This is potentially very harmful to many already vulnerable individuals and communities. DignityUSA stands firmly with people of all genders, gender identities, and gender expressions. We welcome you in our worshipping communities, we pledge our support, and we denounce all efforts to deny your realities. We believe that nonbinary and transgender people reflect the amazing, expansive, and humbling creativity of a God of boundless love. We urge all people of goodwill to stand against every attempt to restrict the human rights of gender-diverse people."

Dignity Young Adults Retreat

We still have a couple spaces available for the retreat but space is limited. You will be added to a waitlist once we have reached 10 registrants. If you have any questions, please reach out to the DYAC team at dyacteam@dignityusa.org.

2024 Membership Meeting Now Streaming

Thanks to all who attended our Membership Meeting. The DignityUSA Membership Meeting provided an opportunity for members and friends of DignityUSA to hear a report on the programmatic and fiscal accomplishments and challenges of FY 2024 (Oct. 1, 2023 - Sept. 30, 2024). Members also had the opportunity to ask questions of Board members and to share ideas.

[Watch Now](#)

Join us July 2025!



We hope you've saved the date for our national gathering in Dublin, Ohio from July 4-7 with the theme "We Are God's People: Here, Now, Always." Registration for the conference will open in early February.

Planning is in full swing for every element of the conference, from engaging plenary sessions and meaningful liturgies to dynamic entertainment and community events. Our workshops are always a highlight, and for this conference they promise to both inform and inspire, perfectly aligning with our conference theme. Here's a sneak peek at some of what's in store.

You'll have the opportunity to discover how LGBTQIA+ individuals embody and reflect the Divine in innovative and meaningful ways. Explore the role of art as a creative response to one's experiences within God's community. Delve into the intricacies of gender-affirming health care, gaining essential insights for advocacy and support. Learn how to prioritize your well-being with vital strategies for self-care, tailored specifically for justice workers and advocates who tirelessly champion change. Finally, join us as we reimagine and expand the concept of family through a queer lens, celebrating diverse and inclusive familial bonds.

Watch for more updates in the weeks ahead, and in the meantime, you can now book your hotel room at the special conference rate of \$149 per night for up to 4 people per room plus breakfast daily and an afternoon reception.

DignityUSA at the Synod Now Streaming

Hear a report from Secretary Sam Albano and Executive Director Marianne Duddy-Burke about their work on behalf of DignityUSA during the recent Synod Assembly in Rome. They share their experiences and answer questions. This event was recorded on November 25, 2024.

[Watch Now](#)

Tax Letters

Tax letters to those who donated at least \$250 during 2024 will be mailed out by January 13. If you don't receive yours or notice any discrepancies, please contact operations@dignityusa.org.

Prayers for California

DignityUSA has been assured that all our members and friends in southern California are safe from the fires. Some had to evacuate briefly but, as of now, all are back home. Our thoughts and prayers are with all impacted, with the emergency responders, and all whose homes, communities, and lives will need to be rebuilt.

Liturgy Committee meets on the second Monday at 7:30 pm on Zoom. No meeting in August. All are welcome. The Liturgy Committee is looking for more committee members. Meeting ID: 952 513 812 Passcode: 998088

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.

Steering Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm on Zoom. No meeting in August. All are welcome. Meeting ID: 857 2315 4226 Passcode: 69737

The Gay Rights Bill digital exhibit has launched on the LaGuardia & Wagner Archives website. 25 people were interviewed for the project, which includes 100+ clips from the oral histories. The exhibit is divided into ten themes and oral histories discussing Dignity's role in the Bill are included in the "Religion" section.

https://www.laguardiawagnerarchive.lagcc.cuny.edu/EdPrograms/LGBTQ_Exhibits.aspx?Exhibit=1986-Gay-Rights-Bill

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



Zelle

For those who are unable to watch Executive Director Marianne Duddy-Burke's keynote "Learning from Dignity: 50 Years of Ministry with LGBTQ Catholics" at the Outreach Conference you can click the link below.

[Watch Keynote](#)

Support Transgender and nonbinary people by going to DignityUSA.org to sign the beloved by God Declaration. Take a moment to look up transgender history, make a donation, honor a transgender person today.

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

Volunteering at Liturgies

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer for our liturgy: help open and close the church, reader, Eucharistic minister, coordinator, sacristan or tech person, we are always looking for volunteers. Please let Larry Caputo or Lewis Speaks-Tanner know you are interested. Volunteer@dignityny.org

THE CHOIR is seeking new members. Speak to our Choir Director, **Norine**, if interested. • Auditions and Choir Practice will be in the choir loft at St. John's ½ hour before liturgy.

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 or Tom McLoughlin for more details.

For Pride and all year long, take a look at Sean Collins' webpage, [Legends of Pride](#)

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

National Suicide Prevention Hotline

24/7 hotline, staffed by trained individuals, for those in suicidal crisis or emotional distress

<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

Crisis hotline: 800-273-TALK (8255); 888-628-9454 (en español)

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

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+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>