



***In Person Liturgy with Live Broadcast on Zoom
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 23 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: Marta Colomer
Homilist: Rev. Dr. Jose Roman
First Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Gospel: Luke 6:27-38
Eucharistic Prayer: #

ORDER OF LITURGY

WELCOME:

GATHERING SONG & PROCESSION: Sing Out, Earth and Skies

GC 499

1. Cantor: Come, O God of all the earth:
All: Come to us, O Righteous One;
Cantor: Come, and bring our love to birth:
All: In the glory of your Son.

Sing out, earth and skies!

Sing of the God who loves you!

Raise your joyful cries!

Dance to the life around you!

2. Cantor: Come, O God of wind and flame:
All: Fill the earth with righteousness;
Cantor: Teach us all to sing your name:
All: May our lives your love confess.

Sing out...

3. Cantor: Come, O God of flashing light:
All: Twinkling star and burning sun;
Cantor: God of day and God of night:
All: In your light we all are one.

Sing out...

4. Cantor: Come, O God of snow and rain:
All: Shower down upon the earth;
Cantor: Come, O God of joy and pain:
All: God of sorrow, God of mirth.

Sing out...

5. Cantor: Come, O Justice, Come, O Peace:
All: Come and shape our hearts anew;
Cantor: Come and make oppression cease:
All: Bring us all to life in you.

Sing out...

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950, © 1985, GIA Publications, Inc

GREETING:

PENITENTIAL RITE:

OPENING PRAYER:

FIRST READING:

RESPONSORIAL Psalm 103: Our God is Kind and Merciful

GC 100

The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful.

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all my being bless God's name;
bless the Lord, and forget not God's benefits.

The Lord is kind...

2. God pardons all your iniquities, and comforts your sorrows,
redeems your life from destruction and crowns you with his kindness.

The Lord is kind...

3. Merciful, merciful, and gracious is our God;
slow to anger, abounding in kindness.

The Lord is kind...

Text: Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8; para. by Marty Haugen, © 1983, 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: What Wondrous Love Is This GC 627

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul;
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb
who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.
3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on!
And through eternity I'll sing on.

Text: Alexander Means, 1801-1853

PREPARATION PRAYER:

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:

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: Preface Acclamation: *Holy, Holy*

GC 228

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:

Memorial Acclamation:

GC 230

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.

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: I Myself Am the Bread of Life

GC 824

Refrain

I myself am the bread of life.

You and I are the bread of life,

**taken and blessed, broken and shared by Christ
that the world might live.**

**1. This bread is spirit,
gift of the Maker's love,
and we who share it know that we can be one:
a living sign of God in Christ.**

**2. Here is God's kingdom
given to us as food.
This is our body, this is our blood:
a living sign of God in Christ.**

**3. Lives broken open,
stories shared aloud,
become a banquet, a shelter for the world:
a living sign of God in Christ.**

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

SONG OF SENDING FORTH: Lift Every Voice and Sing see below

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chast - ening rod,
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty;
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

let our re - joic - ing rise, high as the lis - tening skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast, by thy might, led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our peo - ple sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

WORDS: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938), alt.
 MUSIC: J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954)

LIFT EVERY VOICE
Irregular

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered,
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee,

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

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.

DignityUSA is pleased to announce that our 2025 Conference website and registration are now available! Join us July 4 - 6 in Dublin, Ohio.

[Conference Website](#)

Ready to register? Go directly to the registration form and reserve your spot today.

[Register Now](#)

Unable to attend or are you attending and looking to support our conference in other ways? Check out our sponsorship form and **donate by May 1** to be acknowledged in our program!

[Sponsorships](#)

Would you or your chapter or organization like to purchase a program ad? We have several options available. You can also get a text greeting, tribute or memorial included.

[Program Ads](#)

For scholarship information, conference merchandise, hotel and travel information, visit dignity2025.org.

Questions? Feel free to contact us at conference2025@dianityusa.org.

DignityNY will march in the St. Pat's for All Parade, March 2, 2025 at 12 noon, 43rd St and Skillman Ave, Sunnyside, NY. Tom McLoughlin and Lewis Speaks-Tanner plan to be there if you need to find our space to line up.



Ash Wednesday Service will be online only - The Center did not have a room available. The service will begin at 6:00 pm Wednesday, March 5, 2025 using the Sunday Zoom liturgy link. There will be ashes available at church the next two Sundays for people to pick up for use at the service. Let us know over the weekend if they need to be mailed to you. If you would like to read, please email dignitynewyork@gmail.com to let us know.

Lenten Evening Prayer will be on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 7:30 pm using the same Sunday Zoom link. If you would like to read, please email dignitynewyork@gmail.com to let us know.

Good Friday Service will be at the Center on April 18 at 6 :00 pm. If you would like to read, please email dignitynewyork@gmail.com to let us know.

In addition to the Little Books for Lent and Easter, we will be sending out a new Lenten weekly reflection/activity, "Vincent Van Gogh and the Beauty of Lent". We will have some paper copies available at church. The creative design by Salt Project is meant to be used anywhere - we will send it out digitally to the community. We will provide more information next week.

The Little Black Book for Lent and the Little White Book for Easter have arrived and will be available for those who want to reserve a copy. Email dignitynewyork@gmail.com if you wish to obtain a copy either for pick up at St. John's or by mail. We will gladly mail them to anyone who wishes. Let us know the number of books you need, your name and address.

Things You Can Do to Make a Difference

Given many discussions with our members who are looking for positive ways to meet these unprecedented moments, we are adding a new feature to Dateline. In this and upcoming issues, we'll share things that our members say they are finding helpful. Let us know what you're doing to take care of yourself, and to take a stand against harmful policies and actions at info@dignityusa.org.

In this issue, we have two suggestions:

DignityUSA Board member Jon Schum recommends creating a **Hope Folder**. He says:

During these days of perilous uncertainty, I've started a hope folder. We all want to hang on to hope, but it's not an easy topic to tackle in our present climate. So when I read an online article or reflection that is a genuine and heartfelt message that offers hope, I print a copy of it for future reading, especially on days when hope seems elusive. Among the writers who have nourished my hope are Richard Rohr, Diana Butler Bass, Krista Tippett, and Breath of the Spirit contributors.

Meditation is a great way to regulate feelings of anxiety or frustration. Medito is a website and app developed by the nonprofit Medito Foundation. They provide free mediation resources, as well as courses, to help individuals develop mindfulness practices that can help in times of stress.

[Visit Medito](#)

Celebrating Black History Month

DignityUSA continues to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of our Black siblings during this Black History Month.

We would like to share this wisdom from Dr. Paula S. Langford at the [Black Catholic Messenger](#). Dr. Langford shares strategies for navigating these times we find ourselves in:

[Say 'Amen': A guide for self-care in a perilous age](#)

We'd also like to share Berklee College of Music's a capella rendition of the Black National Anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing".

From the [NAACP](#):

Often referred to as "The Black National Anthem," *Lift Every Voice and Sing* was a hymn written as a poem by NAACP leader James Weldon Johnson in 1900. His brother, John Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954), composed the music for the lyrics. A choir of 500 schoolchildren at the segregated Stanton School, where James Weldon Johnson was principal, first performed the song in public in Jacksonville, Florida to celebrate President Abraham Lincoln's birthday.

At the turn of the 20th century, Johnson's lyrics eloquently captured the solemn yet hopeful appeal for the liberty of Black Americans. Set against the religious invocation of God and the promise of freedom, the song was later adopted by NAACP and prominently used as a rallying cry during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s.

It is up to all of us to lift up our Black, Brown and Indigenous siblings during this trying time. Their priceless gifts have enriched this country and helped create a better world for all people. **Racism and white supremacy are always unacceptable and are incompatible with the teachings of Christ. DignityUSA vows to fight the silencing and erasure of our Black siblings, no matter what form it takes.**

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."

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](#)

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.

Submit a Conference Theme Reflection Video by May 15

For the 2025 DignityUSA Conference in Ohio this July, we are working on a series of videos reflecting on the theme of the conference, "We Are God's People. Here. Now. Always." We are inviting you to participate, by recording a video of your reflection(s) on the theme of the conference.

The reflections should be brief--less than two minutes, and focus on what Dignity means to you and/or your community. They can reflect on the whole theme of the conference, or on the specific pieces of the theme, "God's People," "Here," "Now," and "Always." The videos should be recorded in landscape format as opposed to portrait format (framed horizontally rather than vertically), with a relatively neutral background.

Please note that submissions may be used in whole or part, and that submitting something does not guarantee use during the conference. Also note that in submitting a video, you are giving DignityUSA permission to use all or part of your submission for the conference, and in the conference livestream.

Please send the videos to Tom Yates at tyates02.ty@gmail.com by May 15. Feel free to contact Tom if you have any questions at the same email address.

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.

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

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Dial by your location

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+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 231 599 312

Password: 333 333

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

