



***In Person Liturgy with Live Broadcast on Zoom
First Sunday of Lent, March 9, 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: Bob Anthony
First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13
Gospel: Luke 4:1-13
Eucharistic Prayer: #Community

ORDER OF LITURGY

WELCOME:

GATHERING SONG & PROCESSION: Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley **GC 393**

1. Jesus walked this lonesome valley;
He had to walk it by himself.
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him;
He had to walk it by himself.
2. We must walk this lonesome valley;
We have to walk it by ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us;
We have to walk it by ourselves.
3. You must go and stand your trial;
You have to stand it by yourself.
Oh, nobody else can stand it for you;
You have to stand it by yourself.

Text: American Folk Hymn

GREETING:

PENITENTIAL RITE:

OPENING PRAYER:

FIRST READING:

RESPONSORIAL Psalm 91: Be with Me **GC 85**

Be with me, God, when I am in trouble, be with me, God, I pray.

1. You who dwell in the shelter of our God, Most High,
who abide in the shadow of our God,
say to our God: 'My refuge and fortress,
the God in whom I trust.'

Be with me, God...

2. No evil shall befall you, no pain come near,
for the angels stand close by your side,

guarding you always and bearing you gently,
watching over your life.

Be with me, God...

3. Those who cling to the Lord live secure in God's love,
lifted high, those who trust in God's name,
call on the Lord who will never forsake you.
God will bring you salvation and joy.

Be with me, God...

Text: Psalm 91: 1-2, 10-11, 14-15; Marty Haugen, © 1980, GIA Publications, Inc.

SECOND READING:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Return to God

GC 389

GOSPEL:

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:

Be near us, O God

PREPARATION: Tree of Life

GC 397

1. Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,
In your death we are reborn,
Though you die in all of hist'ry,
Still you rise with ev'ry morn,
Still you rise with ev'ry morn.
2. Seed that dies to rise in glory,
May we see ourselves in you,
If we learn to live your story
We may die to rise anew,
We may die to rise anew.
3. We remember truth once spoken,
Love passed on through act and word,
Ev'ry person lost and broken
Wears the body of our Lord,
Wears the body of our Lord.
4. Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,
Come inflame our hearts anew,
We may all your joy inherit
If we bear the cross with you,

- If we bear the cross with you.
5. Christ, you lead and we shall follow,

Stumbling though our steps may be,
One with you in joy and sorrow,
We the river, you the sea,
We the river, you the sea.

Lenten Verses:

General : Light of life beyond conceiving,
Mighty Spirit of our Lord;
Give new strength to our believing,
Give us faith to live your word.

1st Sunday : From the dawning of creation,
You have loved us as your own;
Stay with us through all temptation,
Make us turn to you alone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

PREPARATION PRAYER:

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Introductory Dialogue as in the standard Order of Liturgy. Based on Reconciliation II.

ALL: Preface Acclamation: *Holy, Holy*

GC 291

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 294

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 308

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

COMMUNION HYMN: Let Us Break Bread Together

GC 832

1. Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees;

When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees;

When I fall...

3. Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees;
When I fall...

Text: American folk hymn

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

SONG OF SENDING FORTH: Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door

GC 395

Somebody's knockin' at your door; Somebody's knockin' at your door;
O sinner, why don't you answer? Somebody's knockin' at your door.

1. Solo: Knocks like Jesus,
All: Somebody's knockin' at your door;
Solo: Knocks like Jesus,
All: Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.
2. Solo: Can't you hear him?
All: Somebody's knockin' at your door.
Solo: Can't you hear him?
All: Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner...
3. Solo: Jesus calls you,
All: Somebody's knockin' at your door.
Solo: Jesus calls you,
All: Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner...
4. Solo: Can't you trust him?
All: Somebody's knockin' at your door.
Solo: Can't you trust him?
All: Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner...

Text: African-American spiritual

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

All music used with permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-700554

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-700554. All rights reserved.

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 the 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@dianitvusa.org.

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 6:15 pm**. This will be broadcast on Zoom as well. 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 are available is available at the welcome table. There is limited supply. If you would like to have the book mailed to your home, email dignitynewyork@gmail.com and let us know the number of books you need, your name and address.

Dignity/NY invites you to journey through lent this year with Vincent Van Gogh. Our theme for Lent 2025 is **hope**. Van Gogh paid close attention to detail in his artwork. He had a great ability to notice beauty in the world around him and reflect that beauty on a canvas. As LGBTQIA Catholics, Van Gogh's work gives us an opportunity to reflect on hope, forgiveness, and finding beauty in

darkness. ***Vincent Van Gogh and the Beauty of Lent*** is a devotional with reflections for Ash Wednesday, each Sunday in Lent, and Holy Week.

- [Van Gogh Digital](#) may be downloaded and read on a phone, computer, or tablet. In this version, the painting titles (underlined) are directly hyperlinked. If you click on any painting title, it will open a web page where you can view the painting.
 - Here are some [Tips for iPad/iPhone usage](#).
- [Van Gogh Print](#) may be used to print a physical copy of the devotional booklet at home.
 - [Printing instructions](#) will help you print and assemble the booklet.
 - [Van Gogh Links](#) can be used on a phone or computer, alongside the printed devotional booklet, to access links to all of the paintings mentioned.

The files can be found as a file with the Announcement & Worship Aids

[Announcements & Worship Aid](#)

DignityNY celebrates Women's History Month which highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. This year's theme for the month is "Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations,

International Women's Day' is March 8th, which got its start in Europe in 1911 after German activist Clara Zetkin suggested such a day in 1910.

Women in the Military:

Women have been involved in the U.S. military since 1775, originally in the civilian fields of nursing, laundering, mending clothing and cooking.

[Deborah Sampson](#) was one of the first women to enlist while disguised as a man. She was unhappy with her limited role in the [American Revolution](#). She served in a light infantry unit, fighting in many battles. Injuries put her in a hospital where her secret was discovered. Her commanding officer, General John Paterson, honorably discharged her and thanked her for her service.^[74]

Many women contributed to the [American Civil War](#), through nursing, spying, and fighting on the battlefield. For example, Belle Royd began her career as a spy and messenger at age 17. By age 20, she became famous in the United States and was dubbed the Cleopatra of the Confederacy. As a spy, she provided confederate leaders with valuable information. She was arrested multiple times and imprisoned. Eventually, she was banished from federal soil and was told she would receive a death sentence if she were caught on federal soil again.

What Makes Cathay Williams An American Hero: Though over 400 women served in the Civil War posing as male soldiers, Williams was the first African American woman to enlist and the only documented woman to serve in the United States Army, while disguised as a man, during the Indian Wars. Williams is also the only known female Buffalo Soldier. Williams' determination to serve her country demonstrates the extraordinary feats women have accomplished simply trying to live their lives. [from the U.S. National Parks Service]

Loretta Walsh was asked if she would enlist in the Naval Reserve Force as a chief yeoman. She immediately agreed. On March 21, 1917, after procuring and modifying a male chief petty officer's uniform, Loretta Walsh made history by enlisting in the Naval Reserve -- the first woman to officially enlist in the military, and also the first female chief petty officer.

She became the first of more than 12,000 women to serve in the military during the war.

Although women served previously in the Army and Navy as military nurses, they did so without rank. For the first time, women who were not nurses were allowed to enlist in the Navy and Marine Corps. A handful of women also served in the Coast Guard. Negative public opinion and hesitant military leaders limited

women's roles, but the country needed their skills to pursue the war effort and to move male soldiers out of office jobs and onto the battlefield. From an archived page of the U.S. Department of Defense

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!

Update: Security at the Conference

At its recent meeting, DignityUSA's Board of Directors approved funds to hire private security for our conference. We are currently working with the hotel and security firms familiar with the property to develop the best plan. We believe it is important to do what we can to create a space where all can be protected and comfortable. Please contact conference2025@dignityusa.org with any questions or concerns.

If this is important to you, you can help sponsor our security efforts and other aspects of our conference.

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@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.

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.”

DignityUSA Board of Directors Nominations Now Open

Nominations for serving on the DignityUSA Board are now open! Here's what you need to know:

- Nominations for the DignityUSA Board of Directors are open through April 15, 2025.
- We will be electing a president, vice president, and 3 at-large Board members this year.
- You may nominate yourself or someone else!

Learn more about serving

[On the Board](#)

[As President or VP](#)

If you're ready to nominate yourself or someone else, visit our Nomination Form.

[Nomination Form](#)

Questions? Contact maryb@dignityusa.org or vicepresident@dignityusa.org.

Things You Can Do

DignityUSA Member Recommendations

This week, we have some recommendations about what they are doing to engage the present, challenging moment we find ourselves in:

- Limiting news consumption
- Taking social media breaks, using social media less, and/or blocking contacts that feel toxic or unhelpful to them
- Making sure exercise is part of their daily routine
- Scheduling a weekly meal with a couple of good friends
- Scheduling regular walks/runs outdoors
- Reading or rereading favorite authors
- Meditation and prayer
- Volunteering with an immigrant service organization

Take Action to Protect Trans Passport Access

Advocates for Trans Equality encourages everyone to submit comments to the U.S. Department of State on passport applications to make your voice heard on anti-trans changes.

[Take Action](#)

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

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.

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.

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

+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>

