In Person Liturgy with Live Broadcast on Zoom
Liturgy for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 18, 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.

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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 Many times, the hymnals or printed materials may still contain outdated language, and we encourage you to use inclusive words that reflect your faith and dignity.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.

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Presider: **Nick Calamusa**
First Reading: **Isaiah 45:1, 4-6**
Second Reading: **1 Thessalonians 1:1-5**
Gospel: **Matthew 22:15-21**
Eucharistic Prayer: **# 7 Mary of Magdala**

ORDER OF LITURGY

WELCOME:

GATHERING SONG: 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 66: Let All the Earth **GC 65**

Let all the earth cry out in joy to our God; Let all the earth cry out in joy to our God!

1. Cry out in joy to our God, all peoples on earth,
   sing to the praise of God's name, proclaiming forever,

'tremendous your deeds for us.'

Let all the earth cry out...

2. Leading your people safe through fire and water,
bringing their souls to life, we sing of your glory,
your love is eternal.

Let all the earth cry out...

3. Hearken to me as I sing my love of our God,
who answers the prayer of my heart.
God leads me in safety, from death unto life.

Let all the earth cry out…

Text: Psalm 66:1-3, 12, 16; Marty Haugen, © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.

SECOND READING:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia **GC198**

HOMILY/REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF COMMUNITY: *R/: Guide us, O God.*

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS:

PREPARATION SONG: How Can I Keep From Singing **GC**

1. My life flows on in endless song Above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though faroff hymn That hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm, While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, How can I keep from singing?

2. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing;
It sounds and echoes in my soul; How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake…

3. What though the tempest 'round me roar, I hear the truth it liveth.
What though the darkness 'round me close, Songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake…

4. When tyrants tremble, sick with fear, And hear their death knells ringing;
When friends rejoice both far and near, How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake...
5. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his; How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake...

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899; adapted with additional text by Doris Plenn, © 1957, 1964, Sanga Music, Inc.

EUCHARISTIC 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: All Who Hunger **GC 820**

1. All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
   Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
   You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.

   Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
   Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

2. All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.
   Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
   We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
   Taste and see…

3. All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
   Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.
   Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.
   Taste and see...

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

BLESSING:

SONG OF SENDING FORTH: This Little Light of Mine **GC 513**

1. This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine,
   This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine;

This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2. Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3. Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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 OrdinaryTime; 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.

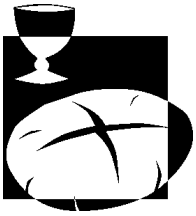
For our sake Christ opened his arms on the cross; put an end to death and revealed to us the resurrection.In doing so, Christ fulfilled Your will and has won for You a holy people.

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 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. t 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 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: *(sung by all)* 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.t 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 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: *(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, aand 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 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: *(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 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: *(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 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 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: *(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.

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The results of the Steering Committee election: Chris Alberti, Michael Lacarrubba, Danny Larkin, Lewis Speaks-Tanner, and Daniel Velasquez have all been elected The Steering Committee will need to make a determination who will serve the one year term. Last year, we only elected four people when there are five openings.

We thank Ed Fitzgerald, Ed Koenig, and Ben Speaks-Tanner for their service as the elections committee.

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There willl be a showing of **"Remembering Mychal- Priest of 9/11"** by Brendan Fay Church of St. Ignatius Loyola- Wallace Hall New York, NY Wednesday, October 21 • 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Reserve your ticket on eventbrite.com. . For more details, see Brendan Fay.

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Dignity/New York Celebrates 54 Years

Dignity/New York will celebrate its 54th Anniversary Liturgy on Sunday, October 25, 2026. We are pleased to welcome Rev. Ann Penick as our guest presider and homilist. Ann is a Roman Catholic Woman Priest and has served as one of the presiders for Dignity Washington and Northern Virginia Dignity since 2017. She was ordained a priest with Roman Catholic Womenpriests in 2011 and has also served on the DignityUSA Board. In addition to her ministry with Dignity, Ann has pastored a faith community of young families in the Washington, DC, area since 2013.

Leanne will join Ann as co-**presider** for this special anniversary liturgy.

This year's Gormley-Spokes Award will be presented to Meli Barber, President of DignityUSA. Meli has been a leader in DignityUSA for many years, first serving as Vice President and then as President. A Catholic Worker, social worker, and theologian, she has a strong background in Catholic ministry and social justice. She previously served as a director of religious education and youth ministry and has worked as a social worker. Meli holds a master's degree in theology from the University of Notre Dame and a Master of Social Work from Indiana University.

As President of DignityUSA, Meli has represented LGBTQIA+ Catholics in conversations within the Catholic Church and in the broader LGBTQIA+ community. She has been an active voice for the dignity, equality, and full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in the Church. In 2025, she led a DignityUSA delegation participating in the first Vatican-recognized Jubilee Pilgrimage for LGBTQ+ people in Rome, an event she described as historic for LGBTQ+ Catholics.

Meli has also spoken publicly on behalf of LGBTQIA+ Catholics during important moments in the life of the Church. Following the death of Pope Francis in 2025, she recognized his efforts to make LGBTQ+ people more visible within the Church while also acknowledging the continuing work needed for genuine inclusion. More recently, as DignityUSA President, she has helped guide the organization through the transition of its longtime Executive Director, Marianne Duddy-Burke.

The Gormley-Spokes Award recognizes Meli's years of leadership and her contribution to the continuing work of DignityUSA and the wider LGBTQIA+ Catholic community. We look forward to presenting the award to her as part of our 54th Anniversary celebration.

Following the anniversary liturgy, we will gather for a celebratory meal featuring **a variety of empanadas and salads, along with beverages**. We hope you will join us as we celebrate 54 years of Dignity/New York, give thanks for our community, and honor the people who continue to strengthen LGBTQIA+ Catholic ministry and spirituality.

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Prayers of the Community | Petitions | Prayers of the Faithful

On **November 15, 2026**, we will renew our list of names used during the **Prayers of the Community**. If you would like a name to remain on the list, it will need to be submitted again. If there is someone you would like to add to the list, please email Lewis at **prayers@dignityny.org**.

Going forward, names will remain on the list for **two months** and will then expire. Please remember to resubmit names as needed. The next renewal of the list will be **January 17, 2027**.

For the **Prayers of the Community**, we also encourage everyone to be mindful of the number of individual petitions offered during the liturgy. When possible, please limit your individually spoken petitions to **one per person per week**. This allows more members of our community to have an opportunity to offer a petition and helps us keep this part of our liturgy prayerful and inclusive.

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Help Preserve Our History

As DignityNY prepares to celebrate our **55th anniversary in 2027**, we are exploring a project to document our history. A book was compiled for our 25th anniversary, and now we would like to record **years 26 through 55**.

Our archival materials include many years of paper files that need to be reviewed before our archives are transferred to **The Center**. With changing technology, this new history might take the form of a book, digital collection, or another format.

Interested in helping preserve and share DignityNY's history? **See a Steering Committee member.**

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Donate via Zelle

You can now donate to **Dignity/New York** through **Zelle**.
Recipient Name: Dignity New York Inc. **Zelle Email:** treasurer@dignityny.org

Please include **your name and the purpose of your donation** in the memo.
First time? Consider sending a **$1.00 test payment** first to make sure everything is set up correctly.

Thank you for supporting Dignity New York!

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A Prayer for Pope Leo's Health and Healing

Divine Creator, source of all love and compassion, we come before you today with hearts full of hope and solidarity as we pray for the continued recovery of Pope Leo.

We ask that you surround him with your healing presence, granting him strength in body, clarity in mind and peace in spirit. May each day bring a renewed sense of vitality and a steady path toward wholeness.

May the recovery of Pope Leo be a sign of the possibility of renewal. We pray for a world where faith is a bridge to liberation and where the Church becomes a true sanctuary of welcome and justice for all.

In the name of the God who is Love, we pray. Amen.

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DignityUSA Gives a Warm Welcome to New Board Members

October 1 marked DignityUSA New Year! In addition to starting a new budget cycle, this is also when we see turnover on our Board of Directors. We want to express profound gratitude to **Chris Franke** (Texas) for his six years of exemplary service and **Jon Schum** (Massachusetts) for 4 years of impactful leadership. Both will continue to serve DignityUSA in committee and caucus leadership, for which we are also thankful.

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We also welcome three new Board members, whom we thank for stepping forward to lead: **Brian Rink** (Virginia, bottom right), **Jim Cummings** (California, top right), and **Lis Regula** (Ohio, bottom left). Please pray for them as they begin their service. And hold the entire Board in prayer during their weekend meeting, October 3-4.

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This Program Begins Next Tuesday! 40th Anniversary Conversations on the Halloween Letter

To mark the 40th anniversary of the release of the Vatican's Letter on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons on October 30, 1986 (also known as the Halloween Letter or the Ratzinger Letter), DignityUSA will be hosting a series of four conversations about this document. It marked a pivotal moment in Queer Catholic history and has set the tone for much of what has transpired in the past four decades. More details will be released in September but hold the dates!

- Tuesday, September 29: 8:00 PM ET/5:00 PM PT: The Immediate Impact of the Halloween Letter
- Tuesday, October 13: 8:00 PM ET/5:00 PM PT: Impact on Dignity and our Chapters - Part 1
- Tuesday, October 27: 8:00 PM ET/5:00 PM PT: Impact on Dignity and our Chapters - Part 2
- Tuesday, November 10: 8:00 PM ET/5:00 PM PT: The Ongoing Impact of the Halloween Letter

Register now to attend as many sessions as you can.

We encourage people to (re)read the Halloween Letter and note questions or reactions prior to the sessions.

Read Now

This program is cosponsored by the LGBTQ+ Religious Archives Network, New Ways Ministry, Pacific School of Religion Center for LGBTQ+ and Gender Studies, Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics, and Ritual (WATER), Call To Action, FutureChurch, and Roman Catholic WomenPriests. Additional cosponsors may be announced. **Register Now** See the attached poster.

A number of people have requested time for more discussion of the Halloween Letter and the feelings this series is generating. We will host a Town Hall gathering on Tuesday, November 17 at 8:00 PM ET/ 5:00 PM PT. This will be an opportunity for people to share reactions, questions and hopes for the future.

Register below to join us for the next session and the Town Hall. The next session will offer stories from Dignity Chapters who were expelled from Catholic space in the months and years following the letter's release. The final session will bring reflections on how this letter is still impacting LGBTQIA+ people, our families, the church and society. *Note: The recordings of these programs will be released once the series has concluded.*

We encourage people to (re)read the Halloween Letter and note questions or reactions prior to the sessions.

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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**

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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

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2027 Conference Logo Unveiled and Preregistration Ends November 15

Let us be light for the world / Seamos luz para el mundo.

Logo created by Daniel Velasquez of Dignity New York.

Preregistration will close November 15th. With a deposit of $100.00, you can secure your spot and get a discount off the r egistration cost.
Our conference will be held July 2-4, 2027 at Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio, just outside of Columbus. We are excited to be returning to this location, and to a state where we have three chapters of dedicated Dignity members ready to welcome us!

Preregistration is valid through April 30, 2027. We give full refunds through April 15, 2027. After that, a $50 service fee applies. We look forward to seeing you in Dublin! Preregister Now

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Check Out Francis Kercher's New *Who We Are* Zine

Check out Artist-in-Residence Francis Kercher's new zine about DignityUSA's mission. We are so grateful to share Francis' talents and our mission with the world.

A print version will be available soon at upcoming conferences and events. Read

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LGBTQ-RAN Online Gala

DignityUSA is proud to sponsor the LGBTQ Religious Archives Network's online GALA coming up on Sunday, **October 18** at 3:00pm PT/6:00pm ET.

Join this online gathering featuring inspiring messages from the honorees, a celebration of 25 years of LGBTQ-RAN's work, and an opportunity to support this mission to preserve and proclaim LGBTQ religious history for generations to come.

Register now to receive the Zoom link.

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Annual Membership Meeting-November 21

Join us on **November 21** at **2pm ET/11am PT** for our annual Membership Meeting. The DignityUSA Membership Meeting provides an opportunity for members and friends of DignityUSA to hear a report on the programmatic and fiscal accomplishments and challenges of FY 2026 (Oct. 1, 2025 - Sept. 30, 2026). Members also have the opportunity to ask questions of Board members and to share ideas. **Registration is required.** **Click here to register onlline**

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***Catholics in the South* Interest Group**

Sign up for our mailing list to stay connected with Catholics who are from or currently living in the south. You'll receive updates about our potential, developing affinity group and upcoming events for folks in or from the

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region. We'll also be sending out a brief survey in a few weeks to hear your thoughts on the topics you'd like to explore and the kinds of gatherings you'd like to see. Sign up here

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Interested in joining us for upcoming Transgender Caucus meetings and events? Subscribe to the Transgender Caucus mailing list today! ***Subscribe Now***

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More from DignityUSA

There's more to read in this week's **DignityUSA Dateline!** Not receiving *Dateline* by email? **Sign up on the DignityUSA website** to receive future issues.

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Visit the **DignityNY YouTube page** to watch our **Sunday Gospel readings and homilies**. Catch up on a Sunday you missed or revisit a homily that spoke to you.

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Join the Choir!

The Choir welcomes new members! If you enjoy singing and would like to participate in our liturgies, speak with our Choir Director, **Norine**.

Auditions and choir practice are held in the choir loft at St. John's **one hour before liturgy**.

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Join the Liturgy Committee

The **Liturgy Committee** meets on the **second Monday of each month (in November, the meeting will be on the 3rd Monday) at 7:30 PM on Zoom** (Meeting ID: **819 2042 4656**; Passcode: **613538**) for about 1 to 1½ hours. **New members are welcome!**

The committee plans weekly and special liturgies, prepares the **Presider Book and worship materials**, and helps coordinate liturgies behind the scenes. **No previous liturgy experience is necessary**—training and resources are provided. Interested? **See Lewis.**

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Steering Committee

The **Steering Committee** normally meets on the **second Tuesday of each month via Zoom** (Meeting ID: **857 2315 4226**; Passcode: **697371**). **Anyone is welcome to participate or observe.**

Current Steering Committee Members:
Terms ending October 31, 2026: **Chris Alberti, Danny Larkin, and Lewis Speaks-Tanner**
Terms ending October 31, 2027: **Robert Brande, Nick Cimato, James Osbourn, and Jeff Stone**

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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

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

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

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Friend us on **Facebook:** Dignity New York ; **Threads:** dignity_ny; **Instagram:** dignity_ny

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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..

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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.

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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