

Everyone is welcome to join us via Zoom.us
06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Zoom meeting opens at 6:00 PM.

The link to join the meeting is

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

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)

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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>

Additional Instructions and Preparation

- When 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, Gay, 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.

Gathering Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

GC 317

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.
2. O come, O Wisdom from on high,
Who orders all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice!...
3. O come, O come, great Lord of might,
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law,
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice!...
4. O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,
From ev'ry foe deliver them
That trust your mighty power to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice!...
5. O come, O Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice!...
6. O come, O Dayspring from on high
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice!...
7. O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
And be for us our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice!...

Text: Veni, veni Emmanuel; Latin 9th C.; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH during the Gathering Hymn

Sign of The Cross & Greeting

Penitential Rite

Opening Prayer

Word

Reading I

Isaiah 7:10-14

Responsory

All the Earth, Proclaim God's Glory

GC 552

All the earth, proclaim God's glory. Sing with songs of love.
Music, dancing, new songs rising, God of beauty, God of splendor,
God of wonder and love.

1. Loving kindness to all nations. Peace across the land and sea.
Harps and cymbals sound the message, blend in harmony.

All the earth...

2. For the God of living splendor, God of mighty deeds,
keeps the promise to the faithful, breathing Spirit's peace.

All the earth...

3. Pour on us new clean water. Cleanse, refresh our souls.
Give to us a willing spirit. Heal us, make us whole.

All the earth...

Text: Mark Friedman and Bobby Fisher, b.1952, 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

Reading II

Romans 1:1-7

Acclamation (sung)

Alleluia

GC 198

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-24

Nicholas Calamusa

Homily

Nicholas Calamusa

General Intercessions

Please respond, "Emmanuel, hear our prayer."

Preparation of the Altar & the Gifts**Hymn:** **Comfort, Comfort, O My People****GC 326**

1. Comfort, comfort, O my people,
 Speak of peace, now says our God;
 Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 Mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
 Speak unto Jerusalem
 Of the peace that waits for them;
 Tell of all the sins I cover,
 And that warfare now is over.
2. Hark, the voice of one who's crying
 In the desert far and near,
 Bidding all to full repentance
 Since the kingdom now is here.
 O that warning cry obey!
 Now prepare for God a way;
 Let the valleys rise to meet him
 And the hills bow down to greet him.
3. O make straight what long was crooked,
 Make the rougher places plain;
 Let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits his holy reign.
 For the glory of the Lord
 Now o'er earth is shed abroad;
 And all flesh shall see the token
 That his word is never broken.

Text: Isaiah 40:1-8; Tr̂stet, tr̂stet, meine Lieben; Johann Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

Eucharistic Prayer

Adapted from Marianne Duddy-Burke's Prayer for Mary of Magdala, 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:

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 mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own and filled them with longing for a peace that would last forever and for a justice that would never fail.

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

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

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

He took bread and blessed you, God of all creation: He broke the bread among his disciples and said:

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

Presider: When Supper was ended:

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

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

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

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

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

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

Presider: When supper was ended

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

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: (sung) **Memorial acclamation** **(GC 203)**

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) **(GC 168)**
Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Greatest Prayer

(please begin “Our Ever-loving God, who art in Heaven...”)

Plainchant

The Peace

Exchanging a sign of peace, “Peace be with you.”

Communion *Everyone is welcome to receive the Body of Christ.*

Communion Hymn: Behold the Lamb

GC 823

1. Those who were in the dark are thankful for the sunlight;
We who live, we who die are grateful for this gift, thankful for God's love.
Behold, behold the Lamb of God. All who eat, all who drink shall live;
and all, all who dwell in God, shall come to know God's glory!
2. Peaceful now, those whose hearts are blessed with understanding
Of the wheat, of the wine united with God's word and the love we share.
Behold, behold the Lamb...
3. Gentle one, Child of God, join with us at this table.
Bless our lives; nourish all who hunger for this feast; shelter them with peace.
Behold, behold the Lamb...
4. Lord of all, give us light. Deliver us from evil.
Make us one; be our shield. Make still the winds that blow; cradle us with love.
Behold, behold the Lamb...

Text: Martin Willett, 1984, OCP Publications

Prayer after Communion

Sending

Blessing & Dismissal

Hymn: *Walk in the Reign, vs. 1-3*

GC 319

Close as tomorrow the sun shall appear. Freedom is coming and healing is near.
And I shall be with you in laughter and pain
to stand in the wind and walk in the reign, to walk in the reign.

1. In days to come the desert shall bloom. Rivers will run there, soon, very soon.
So what shall we fear, though death do its worst?
The word of our God is the last shall be first, the last shall be first.

Close as tomorrow...

2. Comfort each other, for pain soon must end. A day comes when lion and lamb shall be friends.
The sightless shall see then, the speechless sing songs.

The name of our God is the righter of wrongs, the righter of wrongs.

Close as tomorrow...

- 3. A curtain of fear is being torn down. Prisons are opened; the lost have been found.
So go tell the seeker what we've seen and heard:
The name of our God is the keeper of word, the keeper of word.

Close as tomorrow...

- 4. The streets of Soweto, the docks at Gdansk, Tienanmen Square, the slums of The Bronx,
When we stand together to stand against hell,
The name of this people is "Emmanuel," is "Emmanuel."

Close as tomorrow...

Text: Rory Cooney, b.1952, 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Announcements and Acknowledgement

We encourage those who are Zoom to stay on after the closing song to chat. Those at St. John's, please exit through the common room if you are staying for the social.

The current Dateline dated December 14, 2022 is [Dateline: Sam Albano Author Chat | LGBTQ Religious Archives Network Event | Year End Appeal and more](#)

Please check the **DignityNY YouTube** page or at the bottom of our website for Sunday Gospel and Homilies.

Please join us this Sunday, December 18 at church; afterwards, there will be carols and pizza after liturgy.

The Little Blue Book Advent and Christmas Seasons has arrived! Advent started on November 27, 2022. We want everyone in the community to have a book. If you are not able to pick one up at church, we will gladly ship one to you- email dignitynewyork@gmail.com with your mailing address and one will be shipped. ***There are a few books left which continue through the Christmas season.***

- [Advent Reflection Series](#)

DignityUSA invites you to participate in our Advent Reflection Series for 2022. An advent-themed reflection on the week's readings will be given, followed by group discussions. This reflection series takes place each Wednesday, November 30 through December 21, from 8pm - 9pm ET. **The reflection series is free, but registration is required. You can attend any week.** November 30, 2022 to December 21, 2022 8:00pm

[Register Now](#)

DignityNY members received the Advent appeal by email and/or mail. If you did not get a copy of the Advent appeal, email dignitynewyork@gmail.com. We hope that you will be generous.

Gay Priest John McNeill: Stories of a Passionate and Prophetic Witness

Jan 12, 2023 08:00 PM ET with Brendan Fay and Mary Hunt via Zoom

<https://lgbtqreligiousarchives.org/events/gay-priest-john-mcneill>

We continue to take measures to keep our community as safe as possible from Covid. Full vaccination is required for attendance at St. John's, and masks are now optional in the church. With the increase in respiratory illness (COVID-19, flue and RSV), we encourage you to take precautions such as masks, hand washing and social distances as feel comfortable.

If you test positive for Covid after attending one of our liturgies, you may want to consider notifying the people you were in close contact with, so they may take measures to protect their own health. If you would like assistance in doing this on a confidential basis, please contact any member of the Steering Committee.

Steering Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month (no meeting in August) at 7:30 pm on Zoom

All are welcome. Meeting ID: 857 2315 4226 Passcode: 697371

Liturgy Committee usually meets the second Monday - this December, we are meeting on December 20th - (no July meeting) at 7:30 pm on Zoom. All are welcome. The Liturgy Committee is looking for more - committee members.

Meeting ID: 952 513 812 Passcode: 998088

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

Defenders caucus (leather/kink) will have its monthly meeting on Zoom the third Monday of each month at 8 pm ET. Please let Lewis know if you are interested and you will get the link.

Volunteering at Liturgies

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer for our liturgy: help open and close the church, reader, 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.

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)

When shopping on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), you can support Dignity/New York by using smile feature which allows amazon to make contributions from a portion of the purchases you make to a charity of your choice. We are listed as Dignity New York Inc. DignityUSA also has account as Dignity Inc.

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://www.dignityusa.org/civicrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=31&chNum=709>

We encourage to become a member of DignityUSA (and Dignity/New York). By joining, you increase DignityUSA’s voice. <https://www.dignityusa.org/join>

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

To join our electronic announcements (e-Bulletin) list, send an e mail DignityNY@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 Announcements@DignityNY.org

Steering Committee members: Chris Alberti, Danny Larkin, Tom McLoughlin, James Osbourn, Lewis Speaks-Tanner, Jeff Stone and Daniel Velaquez

Friend us on **Facebook:** [Dignity New York](#)

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. (The members of the Steering Committee can be identified by the rainbow-colored name tags they wear).

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.