

***Dignity/New York Liturgy In Person & Broadcast on Zoom  
Solemnity of the Epiphany , January 7, 2023***

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 to make sure you are in the room as liturgy begins.***

***Zoom 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.

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**MESSAGE FROM DIGNITYUSA:**

**Fond greetings** to all of you as you gather in person and online for the first time since early December. We recognize and honor that there may well be heightened emotions of excitement to be back together, anxiety about the level of safety for those who come together, and conflicted feelings for those who cannot be present or who choose to participate online given the recent threat. We are grateful to each of you for being part of the Dignity New York and DignityUSA communities.

**Once again, as representatives of DignityUSA**, we extend special thanks to the Steering Committee members and others who have been in the forefront of managing the response to the threat that was received. You have acted with profound concern for the safety

and spiritual needs of your community, and have represented all of us so well in your interactions with your host community, law enforcement, and public officials. You have given a great deal of time and psychic energy, listened well, and have helped to validate a range of reactions to a hateful threat. You ensured that the community continued to have a way to gather, and that the liturgies offered over the last few weeks were as rich and beautiful as always. You have acted as good and faithful servant-leaders, demonstrating wisdom and compassion.

**We trust that this liturgy** and those that follow will, indeed, provide safe and supportive space for all who seek the blessings of prophetic spiritual community that you have built over 50+ years. We pray along with you for all in need of this community, and for those who object to our right to gather. As we celebrate the wonderful feast of the Epiphany, we continue to live in the hope and wonder of Christmas, and trust that these themes will be expressed beautifully in your liturgy tonight.

**Meli Barber, President**

**Marianne Duddy-Burke, Executive Director**

**WELCOME:**

**OPENING HYMN: We Three Kings of Orient Are**

**GC 373**

1. We three kings of Orient are,  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain,  
Moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to the perfect Light.

2. Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold we bring to crown him again;  
King forever,  
Ceasing never,  
Over us all to reign.  
O star of wonder...
3. Frankincense to offer have I;  
Incense owns a Deity nigh,  
Prayer and praising  
Gladly raising,  
Worshiping God on high.

O star of wonder...

4. Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gath'ring gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing,  
Bleeding, dying,

Sealed in the stone cold tomb.

O star of wonder...

5. Glorious now behold him rise,  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Heav'n sings, 'Hallelujah!'  
'Hallelujah!' earth replies.

O star of wonder...

Text: Matthew 2:1-11; John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891

### **SIGN OF THE CROSS & GREETING:**

### **PENTITENTIAL RITE:**

### **OPENING PRAYER:**

**FIRST READING:**                    **Isaiah 60:1-6**

**RESPONSORIAL:**   **Psalm 84: Happy Are They**

**GC 77**

Happy are they who dwell in your house, O Lord, who dwell in your house, O Lord.

1. My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the Lord.  
My heart and my flesh cry to the living God.

Happy are they...

2. The sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest;  
Your altars, O Lord, my King and my God.

Happy are they...

3. Happy are they who abide in your house.  
You are their strength, your praises they will sing.

Happy are they...

Text: Psalm 84:2, 3, 4, 5-6; Thomas J. Porter, 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.

**SECOND READING:**                    **Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**        *Alleluia*

**GC 198**

**GOSPEL READING:**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

**Bob Anthony**

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:**

**Bob Anthony**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:**      *Emmanuel, hear our prayer.*

**PRESENTATION HYMN:**

**Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow**

**GC 360**

1.      There's a star in the East on Christmas morn,  
          Rise up, shepherd, and follow,  
          It will lead to the place where the Christ was born,  
          Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Follow, follow,  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow,  
Follow the Star of Bethlehem,  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

2.      If you take good heed to the angel's words,  
          Rise up, shepherd, and follow,  
          You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds,  
          Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Follow, follow...

Text: Traditional

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:**

*(Based on Reconciliation II)*

*Introductory Dialogue as in the standard Order of Liturgy.*

*Preface Acclamation: Sanctus*

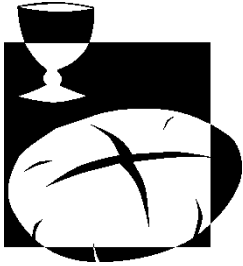
**GC 201**

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power, God of might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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 faith.

*Memorial Acclamation*

**GC 203**

When we eat this bread, when we drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

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:**

*(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 of Christ.*

**COMMUNION HYMN:      Brightest and Best**

**GC 379**

1.      Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

2.      Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,  
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Brightest and best...

3.      Shall we then yield him, in costly devotion,  
Odors of Edom, and offerings divine,  
Gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine?

Brightest and best...

4.      Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would his favor secure,  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
Dearer to God are the pray'rs of the poor.

Brightest and best...

5.      Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Brightest and best...

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.

**EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

**CONCLUDING HYMN:** Once in Royal David's City *Video*

GC 372

1. Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.
2. He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.
3. And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honor and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden  
In whose gentle arms he lay.  
Christian children all should be  
Kind, obedient, good as he.
4. For he is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day like us he grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew:  
And he feels for all our sadness,  
And he shares in all our gladness.
5. And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heav'n above:  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he has gone.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## Announcements and Acknowledgement

For those who attended (or did not attend) this Sunday's liturgy, please give feedback to the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee, which meets this Tuesday at 7:30 pm via Zoom, will discuss the security measures and report back to the community.

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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 while exiting through the common room if you are staying for the social.

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

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**DignityNY 2023 Advent Appeal. There are still opportunities to contribute. We thank you for the generosity. To get to the Donate to a Chapter option on [DignityUSA.org](https://DignityUSA.org), use the "Ways to Give" tab or go the [DignityNY.org](https://DignityNY.org) and click "Donate Now"; select "Dignity New York" as the chapter.**

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**[Donate to the DignityUSA 2023 Advent Appeal!](#)**

November 28, 2023 | by DignityUSA | Donate to DignityUSA's Advent Appeal to help us continue our mission of championing respect and justice for all sexual orientations, genders and identities within the Catholic Church and beyond.

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**[Preregister for DignityUSA's 2025 Conference to Get a Registration Discount!](#)**

November 21, 2023 | by DignityUSA | Preregistration is now open! Secure your spot and get a discount off the registration cost.

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2024 DignityNY Calendars are now available at the back of church. The calendars are religious with all the saint days and Sundays are marked on them. Thank Hector for his generosity.

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**Save the Date: Online Gathering 2024**

2024 Online Gathering Keynote Speaker: Jason Steidl Jack

We're pleased to announce our 2024 Online Gathering, to be held on March 16 from 2:00pm - 4:30pm ET/1:00pm - 3:30pm CT/12:00pm to 2:30pm MT/11:30am - 1:30pm PT. Theologian and author of the book "LGBTQ Catholic Ministry: Past and Present, Jason Steidl Jack, will be our keynote speaker. This will be a memorable event; so we hope you'll join us. Registration will be available in January—so stay tuned!

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**You're Invited: Liturgy of Affirmation**

Call To Action and their Alternatives Working Group are delighted to extend a special invitation to you for the Liturgy of Affirmation!

When: Sunday, January 7, 2024 (Feast of the Epiphany)

Time: 4 p.m. ET / 3 p.m. CT / 2 p.m. MT / 1 p.m. PT

The liturgy will feature testimonies and storytelling, prayer, music, and fellowship.

Registration is required using the DignityUSA website and go to the current Dateline

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Sandy Thezan has a fundraising goal of \$3,000 as she takes the plunge for the 2024 Special Olympics NY. The Polar Plunge donations will support NY Special Olympics athletic training. Here is the link to donate: <http://events.nyso.org/goto/Sthezan>



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

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New Vatican Document Opens Some Sacraments and Roles to Transgender, Gay Catholics:  
LGBTQIA+ Catholic Group Calls this "Encouraging" Is the title article on DignityUSA website. Check  
out the work DignityUSA is doing!

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

[Watch Keynote](#)

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Jeff Stone has copies for sale of Sam Albano's book: *God's Works Revealed: Spirituality, Theology,  
and Social Justice for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Catholics*. See Jeff if interested.

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Support Transgender and nonbinary people by going to [DignityUSA.org](http://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.

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**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](mailto:Volunteer@dignityny.org)

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**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.

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**Liturgy Committee** will meet the second Monday 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

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**Steering Committee** meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm on Zoom.  
All are welcome. Meeting ID: 857 2315 4226 Passcode: 697371

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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](mailto: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 or Tom McLoughlin 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](http://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)

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

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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](mailto: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](mailto: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. (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.

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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

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Dial by your location

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 231 599 312      **Password: 333 333**  
Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/231599312>