

In Person Liturgy with Live Broadcast on Zoom Liturgy for the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. September 7, 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.

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.

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 Many times, the hymnals or printed materials may still contain outdated language, and we encourage you to use inclusive words that reflect your faith and dignity.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

Presider: Leanne Finamore
First Reading: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14
Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17
Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Eucharistic Prayer: #2 (If printing worship aid with announcements, print 1 - 9 and 11 -12 for today's

Eucharistic.Prayer)

If at home, have oil/balm handy for the healing service.

ORDER OF LITURGY

WELCOME:

GATHERING SONG & PROCESSION: The Summons, vs. 1-3

GC 700

- 1. Will you come and follow me If I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know And never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, Will you let my name be known, Will you let my life be grown In you and you in me?
- 2. Will you leave yourself behind If I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind And never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare Should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer In you and you in me?
- 3. Will you let the blinded see If I but call your name? Will you set the pris'ners free And never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, And do such as this unseen, And admit to what I mean In you and you in me?
- 4. Will you love the "you" you hide If I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside And never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found To reshape the world around, Through my sight and touch and sound In you and you in me?
- 5. Lord, your summons echoes true When you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you And never be the same. In your company I'll go Where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow In you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949, and Graham Maule, 1958–2019, © 1987, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Tune: KELVINGROVE, 7 6 7 6 777 6; Scottish melody; arr. by John L. Bell, b.1949, © 1987, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

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PENITENTIAL RITE:

OPENING PRAYER:

FIRST READING:

RESPONSORIAL: For You Are My God

Refrain

For you are my God; you alone are my joy.

Defend me, O Lord.

- 1. You give marvelous comrades to me; the faithful who dwell in your land. Those who choose alien gods have chosen an alien band.
- 2. You are my portion and cup; it is you that I claim for my prize. Your heritage is my delight, the lot you have given to me.
- 3. Glad are my heart and my soul; securely my body shall rest. For you will not leave me for dead, nor lead your beloved astray.
- 4. You show me the path for my life; in your presence the fullness of joy. To be at your right hand forever for me would be happiness always.

Text based on Psalm 16. Text and music © 1970, John B. Foley, S.J. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

READING:

1.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

GC 198

GC 698

GC 616

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:

HEALING SERVICE:

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY: R/: Guide Us. O God.

PREPARATION SONG: Take Up Your Cross

Take up your cross, the Savior said, If you would my disciple be;

Take up your cross with willing heart,

And humbly follow after me.

2. Take up your cross, let not its weight Fill your weak spirit with alarm; His strength shall bear your spirit up,

And brace your heart and nerve your arm.

- 3. Take up your cross, heed not the shame, And let your foolish heart be still; The Lord for you accepted death Upon a cross, on Calv'ry's hill.
- Take up your cross, then, in his strength,
 And calmly ev'ry danger brave:
 It guides you to a better home
 And leads to vict'ry o'er the grave.
- 5. Take up your cross, and follow Christ, Nor think till death to lay it down; For only those who bear the cross May hope to wear the glorious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814-1877, alt.

PREPARATION PRAYER:

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: (Can be found at the end of the worship aid. Eucharistic Prayer number is at the top of the worship aid before the Opening Song).

ALL: Preface Acclamation: Holy, Holy GC 201

Memorial Acclamation: GC 203

Eucharistic Doxology And Amen 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: Look Beyond

GC 843

Look beyond the bread you eat; See your Savior and your Lord.

Look beyond the cup you drink; See his love poured out as blood.

- 1. Give us a sign that we might believe in you. Moses had manna from the sky. Look beyond...
- 2. I am the bread which from the heavens came; Those who eat this bread will never die. Look beyond...
- 3. The bread I give you will be my very flesh; My blood will truly be your drink. Look beyond...
- 4. This man speaks harshly; who can listen to his word? We shall no longer follow him. Look beyond...
- 5. You, my disciples, will you also leave? Lord to whom can we go?

Look beyond the bread you eat; See your Savior and your Lord.

Look beyond the cup you drink; See his love poured out as blood.

See his life poured out as blood.

Text: Darryl Ducote, b.1945, 1969, 1979, Damean Music. Distributed by GIA Publications, Inc.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL:

SONG OF SENDING FORTH: Resucito, vs. 1-3

GC 432

Estribillo

Resucitó, resucitó, resucitó, aleluya. Aleluya, aleluya, aleluya, resucitó. Final: Aleluya.

Estrofas

- La muerte ¿dónde está la muerte?
 ¿Dónde está mi muerte?
 ¿Dónde su victoria?
- 2. Gracias sean dadas al Padre que nos pasó a su reino donde se vive de amor.
- 3. Alegría, alegría hermanos, que si hoy nos queremos es que resucitó.

Verses

- 1. And death now, vanished is the fear now, banished are my tears now, death has passed away.
- 2. The kingdom, praise to God, the kingdom! Raised up to the kingdom, we shall live in love.
- 3. Our gladness, blessful in our gladness, this will be our gladness, that he is alive.

Spanish text by Kiko Argüello. English tr., OCP. Text and music © 1972, 1988, Francisco (Kiko) Argüello. All rights reserved. Exclusive agent in US, Canada and Mexico: OCP.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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Announcements and Acknowledgements

We encourage those who are Zoom to stay on after the closing song to chat. Those at St. John's, please bring hymn book and any extra papers to the sacristy please exit through the common room.

Elections for the Dignity/New York Steering Committee have now begun. The Elections Committee sent ballots to all members on Saturday, September 13 at 9:00 AM. Members who have not yet voted will receive up to three reminders. If you believe you should have received a ballot but did not, please contact the Elections Committee at elections@dignityny.org.

We also encourage you to join or renew your DignityUSA membership, as membership gives you the right to vote in our local elections. Financial assistance for membership is available; please speak with Chris Alberti or email him at treasurer@dignityny.org. Assistance is available in any amount. Anyone who renews or joins between now and September 21 will receive an electronic ballot. If you are unsure whether your membership is current, please contact us at dignitynewyork@gmail.com or reach out directly to DignityUSA. If you prefer to pay by check, Chris Alberti can help process your membership.

The Steering Committee is made up of members serving two-year terms, which conclude on October 31 of the given year. Those whose terms end on October 31, 2025, are Robert Brande, James Osbourn, and Jeff Stone. Those whose terms end on October 31, 2026, are Chris Alberti, Danny Larkin, and Lewis Speaks-Tanner.

Key Dates in the 2025 Election Cycle

- **Sunday, August 24 (by noon):** Nomination Petitions became available. Candidates must gather 10 signatures to qualify.
- **Wednesday, September 10 at 7:00 PM:** Candidates' Forum conducted online via Zoom.
- **Saturday, September 13 (ballots sent):** Election Buddy ballots were emailed to all members. Members who have not voted will receive up to three reminders. Questions about ballots should be directed to elections@dignityny.org. Couples who share one email address received two distinct ballots. If you would like one ballot sent to the other person's address, please contact elections@dignityny.org.
- **Friday, September 12 (deadline to request):** Requests for paper mail-in ballots must be received by the Elections Committee. Requests may be made by emailing elections@dignityny.org (please type "MAIL-IN BALLOT" in the subject line) or by calling Ben Speaks-Tanner at 703-864-1724.
- **Saturday, September 20 (postmark deadline):** Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by this date and received no later than midnight, Friday, September 26, 2025. Please return ballots as soon as possible after receiving them.
- **Sunday, September 21, 2025 (by 11:00 PM):** Elections conclude. All votes must be submitted online by this time. Only currently enrolled members of Dignity/New York may participate in the election.

Prayers of the Community | Petitions | Prayers of the Faithful

In response to feedback from our community, we are making efforts to streamline certain elements in our liturgy. Beginning Sunday July 13th, our list of the sick, used during the prayers of the community, will be renewed. Any names that you would like to maintain on the prayers for the sick list will need to be readded. If there is someone you would like to add, please email Lewis at prayers@dignityny.org. Moving into the fall, all names will expire after two months. Please re-add people as necessary.

In the same spirit, during the prayer of the faithful, we encourage everyone to try to limit their individually spoken petitions to one per week.

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



Join us on Monday, September 22, 2025 8:00 – 9:15 PM ET/5:00 – 6:15 PM PT for a conversation about the recent LGBTQIA+ pilgrimage during this Jubilee year. The group who were part of DignityUSA's contingent for the historic pilgrimage will share their experiences and the meaning of this journey for them. They'll share memories and photos and respond to your questions. Join us for conversation about what we hope will become a regular event during Holy Years of the future! Registration is required. Register Now

We also invite you to check out some of the media coverage of the pilgrimage:

- LGBTQ+ Catholics make Holy Year pilgrimage to Rome and celebrate a new feeling of welcome - Associated Press
- LGBTQ Catholics march through St. Peter's Basilica in Jubilee rite as Vatican calendar entry stirs controversy - Fox News
- LGBTQ+ Catholics Celebrate Historic Pilgrimage in Rome Amid Growing Acceptance in the Church SSBCrack News
- LGBTQ Catholics March Through St. Peter's Basilica in Historic Jubilee Pilgrimage, Sparking Debate - Beliefnet

Donate \$50 and receive on official pilgrimage polo! Orders will be taken until October 15 and shirts will be shipped after that date.



Thank you for your support throughout this historic event. We hope to see you on Zoom on September 22.

DignityUSA Staff

New Book by Dignity/Philadelphia Founder, *Why I Remain a Gay Catholic A Spiritual Sexual Journey*

DignityUSA will be hosting an Author Talk with Paul in the Fall, so get your copy early to have plenty of time to read it! Use promo code MORRIS at checkout for 20% off. <u>Buy Now</u>

The conversation will occur on Zoom on Wednesday, **October 8, 8:00-9:15 PM ET/5:00 – 6:15 PM PT.** Registration is required. Register Now

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

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."

Support Transgender and nonbinary people by going to <u>DignityUSA.org</u> 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 welcomes new members. Speak to our Choir Director, **Norine**, if interested. • Auditions and Choir Practice will be in the choir loft at St. John's one hour before liturgy.

Liturgy Committee normally meets on 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 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 Steering Committee normally meets each month on the second Tuesday <u>via Zoom.</u> Anyone is invited to participate or observe, Steering Committee members (6) term end in 2025: Robert Brande, James Osbourn, Jeff Stone; 2026:: Chris Alberti, Danny Larkin, Lewis Speaks-Tanner. Meeting ID: 857 2315 4226; Passcode: 697371

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 for more details.

For Pride and all year long, take a look at Sean Collins' webpage, <u>Legends of Pride</u>

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

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 https://dignityusa.app.neoncrm.com/forms/donate the link below:

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://dianitynv.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: <u>Dignity New York</u>; 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/i/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/abm1zHiEP

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 usually 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

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 usually 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: (usually 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.

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 usually 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: (usually 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.

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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, and nations seek the way of peace together. The Spirit is at work when understanding puts an end to strife, when hatred is quenched by mercy, and vengeance gives way to forgiveness. For this we never cease to thank and praise you.

Presider: Now, with all the choirs of heaven, we sing the unending hymn of your praise:

ALL: 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 usually 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: (usually 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.

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 usually 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: (usually 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.

"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 usually 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 usually 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: (usually 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.