



DIGNITY / FORT LAUDERDALE

THE WORD AUGUST 2013

Serving the Roman Catholic GLBT Community, its families & friends in Broward County since 1986

Message from the Vice-President

The Loss of Caring

Obviously, it was not clear to the jurors in the Zimmerman trial that there was hatred, malice, or spite in Zimmerman's heart as he shot and killed Travon Martin. What does seem clear is we will never know. What is apparent though is a much deeper divide in Florida, and in America.

Arriving in Florida seven years ago I came for sun and warm weather. Since arriving a lot has happened both in Florida and across America. The recession hit with full force, retirement savings were stolen, and home values plummeted. In the process the job market fell, and the At-will employment and the job market became an increasing cover for employers. In particular, in At-will employment states like Florida, employers pressured workers, treated them like cattle, and claimed/claim it was/is a rationale for their economic survival. Let's face it, from those who have, it's all about money and power.

In the Zimmerman case the climate is ripe for hatred against races to be the next pressure point revisited. It is a good diversion. Our culture in Florida is a place where drivers don't care to use turn signals, where bullets are in the place of conversations, where police cruisers speed, and police officers are themselves caught doing all kinds of illegal activities - the likes which have never been seen before. I live in a place in Fort Lauderdale that is quite nice; however it is a place where the response to a hello is greeted with a cold stare. Is it any wonder we turn against each other? Is it any wonder in this type of culture we don't trust anyone. Is it any wonder?

Mind you, I am white. I am someone who has never had problems getting or keeping a job. I have not been racially discriminated against. I don't want to be discriminated against because I am white either. In the past, I automatically trusted

Continued on page 2

Upcoming Events:

Every Sunday 7:00 PM..... Liturgy
August 17th 5:30 PMDinner & Movie Night
Oct 8th 7:00 PMDignity USA Board Dinner

DINNER AND MOVIE NIGHT *SATURDAY, AUGUST 17TH 5:30 PM*

Our monthly outing will be held on Saturday, August 17th at 5:30 PM. We will meet at Il Mulino's next to the Gateway Theater.



Afterwards we will go and see the new movie "The Butler". If you wish to come to dinner and/or the movie, please contact George by Friday night at 954-822-6780 or at the chapter's email address Dignityftl@bellsouth.net.

Dignity/ Fort Lauderdale Inc Membership Form

Suggested Dues: \$50.00

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Email

**Make Membership check payable to:
DIGNITY USA INC.
PO Box 376
Medford, MA 02155**