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# DIGNITY / FORT LAUDERDALE INC. The Word

*Serving the Catholic GLBT Community, their families & friends in Broward & Miami-Dade Counties.....April 2007*

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## **From the President:**

### **Second Chances**

Who doesn't like a second chance? Whenever we mess up, we are more than pleased to get a second chance to do it right.

Easter symbolizes our second chance for eternal happiness through Christ's death and resurrection. But how many of us use this second chance? Christ left us with two great commandments – love God with our whole heart, souls and mind and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. How often do we fall short of these two goals? Many, if not all of us, do at one time or another. We sometimes put our relationship with God on a backburner as we take care of “more important” things. Or maybe we are less than kind with our words when talking about someone or when we won't lit someone cut in front of us on I-95.

During this season of Easter, let's take some time to reflect on this second chance we all have been given and see if we can put these two commandments for a happier life deeper in our hearts, souls and mind.

On behalf of the board, I want to wish all of our members and friends a Happy & joyous Easter.

George

### **ANNUAL ELECTIONS**

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. Last year, the board decided to wait until this year to hold elections since we were unable to obtain a quorum in previous attempts. Since it seems that the chapter revitalization efforts are showing fruit, we will hold our elections on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> immediately after our Liturgy.

Proxies will be mailed out to all members by April 7<sup>th</sup>. If you have not completed a proxy for the October, 2006 meeting, please complete the one mailed to you or emailed.

### **Chapter's Events**

*Every Sunday 7:30 PM .....Liturgy  
April 8<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM .....Easter Sunday Liturgy  
April 21<sup>st</sup> 6:00 PM.....Dinner & Movie Night  
April 29<sup>th</sup> .....Annual Meeting*

If you would like to run for the board, please see a board member. As of the writing of the newsletter, all four current board members plan to run. There are three positions available.

### **MOVIE NIGHT: APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup>**

Our monthly dinner and movie night will be on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at Bono Restaurant located at 2468 Wilton Dr – one block from Five Points. Most people are able to find parking in the Publix supermarket parking lot. We will meet around 6 PM.



You do not have to be a member to join us for a night of fun. And you do not have to attend both the dinner and the movie. Some people opt for one or the other. If you plan to attend, please contact George Cullen at 954-739-0003. George will call you that Saturday morning with the exact time that we will meet at Bona's.

### **EASTER LITURGY**

We will be celebrating our Easter Liturgy on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at our regular time. Fr Michael from West Palm Beach will be our celebrant. Please plan to join us for this special liturgy. Food will be served after Liturgy.

**GOOD FRIDAY**

St Maurice Church, located on Stirling Rd about 1 mile west of I-95, will have their Good Friday service at 3 and 7 PM. During both services, they will re-enact the Passion of Christ. One of our members, Chuck Smith, will again be in the play. If time allows, please attend the service and support Chuck and the other actors.

**FINAL THOUGHT**

Most people of the GLBT Community have heard of Jim McGreevey, the former New Jersey governor who came out of the closet in 2004. McGreevey, a devout Roman Catholic, had a hard time reconciling his faith with his orientation. He describes a conversation he had with a gay friend who was able to reconcile his faith with being an open gay man. "Yet somehow Curtis had grown up as a well-integrated, balanced, religious, gay man, who lived openly with his partner, Will, in the same town that he grew up – and attended the evangelical church that had nourished him as a youth. 'I don't buy the baby-and-bathwater stuff.' He once explained with typical good

humor. 'You can't accept the religion of your parents without questioning it, not if it doesn't accept you. But don't abandon it, either.' Curtis told me that he'd found a way to make his faith his own. 'The Bible says, 'Let the words in your mouth and the meditations of your heart be acceptable to God.' That's the bottom line. Forget about living up to some standard set down by preachers. If your words, your actions, and your feelings all align, then you've pleased God. My grandfather said it all the time.'"

**AN EASTER PRAYER**

Lord, You have arisen forever  
In my heart!

May the sunrise  
Remind me to shine in Your light.

May the caress of a gentle breeze  
Remind me of Your compassion.

May the fragrance of a flower  
Remind me to blossom in Your love.

May the singing of birds  
Bring a song of joy to my lips.

And in the closing of each day  
May I remember to quietly pray.

Wherever I am, whatever I do  
May my thoughts in joy return to You!

**Dignity / Ft Lauderdale Inc.**

Meeting Place: The Chapel at  
MCC Sunshine Cathedral  
1480 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Ft Lauderdale, FL  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 22884  
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33335  
Telephone: 954-463-4528  
Email: DignityFTL@aol.com

Liturgies: Every Sunday at 7:30 PM

**Board of Directors**

Nick Caputo George Cullen  
Bernie Gagnon Bill Weber

Chapter Website: [www.Dignityftl.org](http://www.Dignityftl.org)  
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