
DIGNITY / FORT LAUDERDALE INC.

The Word

October 2008



Serving the Roman Catholic GLBT Community, its families & friends in Broward & Miami-Dade Counties since 1986

Reflections on Hope

Hope - to desire with expectation of obtainment (*Merriam- Webster Dictionary*).

Why is it that we humans need hope? Are we that unhappy with our present situation that we need to long for an improved condition? Or is it that we believe in general that life can be better, either in the here and now or in the afterlife? When Jesus came along he preached a message of change, but who was to initiate that change? It turned out that wanting something better begins with us individually. We need to do those things to bring about change. We try to put things in perspective by loving God first and then loving one another as we love our self. We can do that by nurturing and sustaining our relationships, supporting justice issues, and bringing peace and respect to where we live and work. Maybe hope can turn into reality.

If you do not hope, you will not find what is beyond your hopes.

- *St. Clement of Alexandria*

Chapter's Events

Every Sunday 7:30 PM..... Liturgy
October 5thSolidarity Sunday
October 18th 6:00 PM Dinner & Movie Night
October 25th 7:00 PMSocial at George's home
OCTOBER 26th 8:30 PMANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 26th 8:30 PM.....BOARD ELECTIONS

Next Month:

November 2nd 7:30 PM...Annual All Saints/All Souls
Candle service.
November 9th 7:30 PM..... Veteran's Day liturgy
honoring GLBT vets

Coming Up in Future Months:

December 14th 6 PM Christmas Potluck before Mass

January 2009 One Day Retreat...Date & Place to be announced, look for more details in future newsletters.

July 2-5, 2009, more 40th Anniversary National Convention in San Francisco information on the website.(<http://www.dignityusa.org/node/852>)

Hope is a state of mind, not of the world. Hope, in this deep and powerful sense, is not the same as joy that things are going well, or willingness to invest in enterprises that are obviously heading for success, but rather an ability to work for something because it is good.

- *Vaclav Havel*

-- *Bill Weber*



Solidarity Sunday is dedicated to the memory of the many who lost their lives through violence because of who they were or who they were perceived to be. May their deaths not have been in vain. Let us work together to end verbal and physical violence against anyone, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders!

Wear a rainbow ribbon every day to show your support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons!

Solidarity Sunday is a faith-based anti-violence initiative. Because we understood that, contrary to popular belief, most Catholics are appalled by anti-gay attacks, DignityUSA initiated Solidarity Sunday in 1995 as a way of making our opposition to anti-gay violence visible.

Solidarity Sunday is held every year on the Sunday before October 11 (National Coming Out Day). The next Solidarity Sunday will be on **October 5, 2008**.

Solidarity Pledge:

I will work for civil and human rights for all people, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgender. **Civil rights are not special rights.**

I will seek to stop jokes and unkind language about anyone, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgender when spoken in my presence. **Words that hurt and bigotry are not funny.**

I will speak out against any slander, debasement, lies or dehumanization of anyone, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgender, including when spoken by political or religious leaders. **Violent speech leads to physical violence.**

I will work to stop physical violence against anyone, including violence against gays, lesbians, bisexuals or the transgender. **Violence against any person is violence against all people.**



Dignity's own, Ted Dvoracek is starring in Terrence McNally's SOME MEN at Rising Action Theatre in Oakland Park through Nov 2, 2008. Don't miss it!

**CALLING ALL MEMBERS!
ANNUAL BOARD NOMINATIONS**

Dignity Fort Lauderdale's Annual Meeting and Annual elections will be held after our liturgy on the last Sunday of October, **October 26, 2008 at 8:30 pm**. All members are encouraged to attend. If you are interested in serving on the board or would like to nominate a current member that is willing to serve on the board, please notify any of the current board members. Any member unable to attend the annual meeting should submit a voting proxy prior to the meeting.

OCTOBER DINNER & MOVIE NIGHT

On Saturday, **October 18th**, we will hold our monthly dinner & movie night at California Pizza Kitchen, 2301 N Federal Hwy Ft. Lauderdale, 33305.



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 on Saturday morning with the exact time that we will meet at the restaurant.

October Social at George's New Home!
The October Social on Saturday, **October 25th** will be held at George Cullen's new home at 340 NE 45 Ct, Oakland Park Fl. Take I-95 to Commercial Blvd East. Go to NE 4th Ave (second right after Andrews Ave.) Go down 4th Ave to the end which is 45th Ct and turn right. The house will be on your left a block down. People should park where they can. Cost for this fund-raiser is \$15.

THE DIGNITY PRAYER

Oh God, we, as members of Dignity pray that we will make decisions which are rooted in the uniqueness of our ministry as Sons and Daughters of a loving God, choosing actions which are defined as living-giving and displaying the courage and commitment to revitalize our spirituality and energize our message. We pray this in the name of that loving Redeemer, Jesus. Amen.

TAKE A MINUTE TO JOIN DIGNITY!

Last year, Dignity USA initiated cost-saving measures to keep the organization viable. Now it's our turn. Dignity is the only voice for the Catholic GLBT Community. Please consider joining Dignity with your tax-deductible fee. Just complete the application below and mail it and your check for \$50.00 to the address on the membership form.

If you are already a member, please consider making an additional donation.

We wish to thank all of our members who are current with their dues and to all members and friends who have been generous each Sunday during the collection.

Dignity / Ft Lauderdale Inc.

Board of Directors

Nick Caputo
George Cullen
Dick Rogers
Chuck Smith
Bill Weber

Newsletter Editor: Terry Brennan

**Meeting Place: The Chapel at
MCC Sunshine Cathedral
1480 SW 9th Avenue
Ft Lauderdale, FL**

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 22884
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33335**

Telephone: 954-463-4528

Email: DignityFTL@bellsouth.net

National Website: www.DignityUSA.org

**Liturgies: Every Sunday at 7:30 PM
Annual Dues \$50.00**

**Dignity/Ft Lauderdale Inc is a 501(C)(3)
Organization as defined by the Internal
Revenue Service.**

DIGNITY/ FT LAUDERDALE INC MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Make membership check payable to:

DIGNITY USA INC.

P O Box 376

Medford, MA 02155

Single Dues (\$50.00)