



Newsletter

January 2007

Happy New Year!

Dignity & St. Ignatius Liturgy Schedules

Ravenna United Methodist Church 5751-33rd Ave NE Seattle
 First Sundays at 1:00 p.m. -- St. Ignatius Community Liturgies
 Second Sundays at 6:00 p.m. – Dignity/Seattle Liturgies

January 7,	February 4	1:00 p.m.	St. Ignatius
January 14,	February 11	6:00 p.m.	Dignity/Seattle

St. Ignatius--New Faith Community 1st Sunday Liturgies at 1:00 p.m. at Ravenna Dignity/Seattle attendance welcomed!

By Father Philip Knowles
 (Presider for Dignity/Seattle liturgies)

St. Ignatius is a new Catholic community that has begun to organize. We celebrated our first liturgy in December. For now, mass is celebrated once a month, at 1:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month, at Ravenna United Methodist Church. As we grow, additional Sunday celebrations will be added.

St. Ignatius is an open and affirming community, and the only distinction that we recognize is based on need. The plan is to affiliate with the Ecumenical Catholic Communion. The ECC is a large and growing group of parishes and communities across the United States. Its mission statement is: *We are People of God baptized in Christ and professing our faith in a living Catholic tradition. We are men and women, lay and ordained, joining together as a "communion of communities" in response to the messianic call of the Spirit to preach the Gospel of liberation and justice; to offer a refuge in Christ for those who suffer prejudice; to stand open to dialogue with others so called and, to conform our lives to the life and teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

All are welcome to join with us in establishing and growing this new Catholic community. We especially welcome those who feel that they have been made unwelcome at the Eucharistic meal in the Roman tradition. We are also looking forward to those who will offer their talents to help us grow and to celebrate our Catholic Christian faith. As a community, we seek to faithfully follow the prophetic injunction of Micah, *to do right and to love goodness and to walk humbly with God.* ▼

Bishop Patricia Friesen's Visit

By Father Philip Knowles

Bishop Patricia Friesen spoke in Seattle on November 11 and concelebrated a mass on November 12. Her visit was sponsored by Call to Action Western Washington. She spoke of a long journey into awareness of the evils of apartheid in her native South Africa. As a Dominican nun, she and her community found the social system to be incompatible with Christian values and teachings on social justice. In their schools and ministries, they found ways to challenge it, and discovered the liberation they achieved when all were free. She told this story as a way to help her audience understand the journey she has made to ordination, first as a priest and then as a bishop. As have a number of women before her, she was ordained a Roman Catholic priest by an active Roman Catholic bishop whose identity is secret because of his official standing in that church. She was ordained a bishop in a similar manner in recognition of her strengths to lead and inspire others by preaching the gospel.

She concelebrated mass with another female priest from British Columbia, an American Catholic Church priest and a Lutheran minister. Over 75 people attended and participated actively. She demonstrated by her words and actions that the Eucharistic table is truly set for a banquet and that all are welcome.

She greatly enjoyed her time in Seattle and was generous in talking to many people about her mission and hopes for the future. She plans to return here soon. She also reported that there are several women in British Columbia and in Oregon who are preparing for ordination through Roman Catholic Women Priests. Hopefully her visit inspired others to hear the call of the Holy Spirit. ▼

Official Business

Dignity/Seattle Board Members

Jim Rankin	President
Steve Kearney	Vice-Pres., Social Chair
Denise Arceneaux	Secretary, Liturgy Chair
Delia Vita	Treasurer
Paula Lavallee	At-large, Membership Chair

DignityUSA Board Members from Seattle

Paula Lavallee	Secretary
Leo Egashira	At-large, Communications

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We provide a safe environment for people to reconcile our God-given gifts of sexual orientation and our Catholic faith through gay-affirming liturgies. Being part of the Dignity/Seattle family means claiming ownership of our faith and living up to the responsibilities of that ownership.

Dignity/Vancouver BC/Dignité

Dignity/Vancouver BC 604/432-1230

Monday, January 8th. 7:30 p.m. Business meeting. Vincent & Peter. 604/325-1554.

Friday, January 19th. 7:30 p.m. Worship Liturgy. Dennis L-H. 604/430-3466.

Sunday, January 21st. 5:00 p.m. Preparing and serving dinner for members of "Friends for Life Society." Diamond Centre, 1459 Barclay St (West End), Vancouver.

DignityUSA Convention 2007

Thursday – Sunday, July 5-8 in Austin TX

Detailed information and registration forms will be mailed soon, and will be posted on <http://www.dignityusa.org>.

Deadlines:

April 1—for Scholarship assistance request

May 1—for Regular Registration Rate of \$240; \$275 after

June 11—for special rate of \$120/room (up to four persons)

Equality Day 2007

Sponsored by Religious Coalition for Equality
Monday, February 26, 2007
Washington State Capitol, Olympia

We will rally and lobby again on the Capitol steps to show support for the rights of LGBT seniors, youth, families and individuals and for Marriage Equality. With a gay-friendly Democratic Party firmly in control of the Governorship, State Senate and State House, the upcoming legislative session promises to be even more progressive than 2006's session, which finally passed the "Gay Civil Rights Bill" after 29 years of attempts. Be heard; get involved!

Schedule for Equality Day in Olympia:

9:00 a.m. Advocacy workshops

11:45 a.m. Rally on the Capitol steps.
Music by the Seattle Men's Women's Choruses

1:00 p.m. Legislative visits

Contact information:

Religious Coalition for Equality
206/930-6253
www.religiouscoalition-wa.org

Equal Rights Washington
206/324-2570
www.equalrightswashington.org

Equality Day 2007 Sponsors: American Muslims of Puget Sound * ACLU of Washington * Temple B'Nai Torah * Northwest Women's Law Center * St. Paul United Church of Christ * Call to Action-Western Washington * National Council of Jewish Women, Seattle Section * Pride Foundation * Qlaw: The LGBT Bar Association of Washington * Rainbow Center * Planned Parenthood of Western Washington * Rainier Valley Unitarian Universalist Church – Social Justice Committee

Events of allied organizations:

See December 2006 Newsletter for details

New Ways Ministry Symposium
Friday - Sunday, March 16-18, 2007
Minneapolis MN

West Coast Call to Action Conference
Friday - Sunday, April 13-15, 2007
Sacramento CA