

Financial Review of FY2023

Early in December 2023, the weekly bulletin carried the Treasurer's Report for FY2023. This included an overall view of the income and expenses for the fiscal year as well as financial tables that showed the organization's Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss Statement. These were unaudited figures at the time because the FY had only recently closed on September 30, 2023. This report is an update to that article.

Recent Audit

Every year Dignity Washington engages an accounting firm to do either a full audit or a financial review. A full audit normally entails a higher level of scrutiny by the accounting firm; but a financial review is acceptable in alternate years. These reviews are essential to any charity to show that they are being managed well. It is also a requirement when the charity participates in larger charitable drives such as the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).

Two years ago, Dignity Washington engaged a firm that specializes in performing reviews and audits for charitable organizations – **Nanette K. Miller CPA, P.C.** In FY2022, a financial review was performed by this firm. That meant that for FY2023, a full audit would be required. I am happy to say that with the help of our bookkeeper (Kevin Hennessy) the audit was completed at the earliest time since yours truly has been treasurer.

The two most pertinent documents produced by the audit are posted on the Dignity Washington website: **Audit Report and Financial Statements**, and **IRS Form 990**. We are in the process of putting the new documents on the website. For the average member of Dignity Washington, these documents will be more than you need. But I am always happy to answer questions you may have. As noted in the January board minutes, the audit went well and all of the findings were positive.

Donations

You are the lifeblood of this organization. Our revenue is directly related to Sunday contributions (30-35% of revenue), donations mailed directly from bank accounts (another 30-35%), memberships, in-kind donations, socials/events and interest on CDs and checking/savings.

Several members have set up a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly checks to be sent directly from their checking account. Others use either PayPal or PayPal Giving Fund as a method for donating. The latter allows for 100% of the donation to come to us (the former has a transaction fee withheld). Here is the direct link to the PayPal Giving Fund: [Donate with PayPal Giving Fund](#)

Occasionally we receive donations of stock directly to our account with Merrill Lynch. When this occurs, Dignity Washington sells the stock immediately so as not to "play the market." This can be an excellent way for those who have stocks that have appreciated to avoid paying taxes on the capital gains. The donor gets the full tax deduction. If you have any questions, please see me.

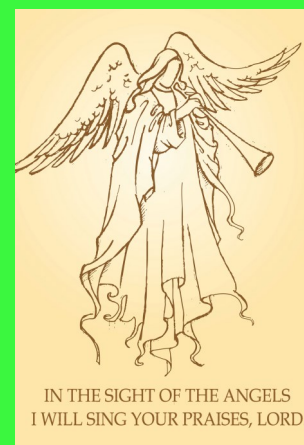
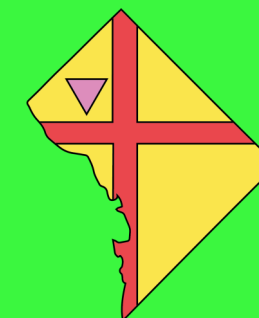
CFC

Dignity Washington has been a member of the CFC for many years. We receive between 2 and 4% of our income in this manner. Many federal employees (*as well as federal retirees*) chose to use the CFC to donate directly to charities. Over the years, the amount Dignity Washington has received has trended down, but 2023 saw a rise in the amount donated through the program. The CFC designation number for Dignity Washington is **46786**.

... peace and health,
Jake
202-460-7978 mobile

The Bulletin

Catholic Mass is celebrated *every* Sunday at 6 pm
St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
1820 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009
www.DignityWashington.org
(202) 546-2235



Our Mission

Dignity Washington (DW) is a community of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Catholics and other Christians, our families and friends. We provide a healing outreach to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Catholics and other people by affirmation that they are beloved Children of God. We gather together to establish a nurturing community of worship, blessing, celebration, ministry, spiritual development, education, and fellowship. We are a prophetic witness to the Church, to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community and to society.

Pastoral Care

Our Pastoral Care Committee assists in ministering to the needs of our community. If you have a pastoral care need, please call the information line. A member of our Pastoral Care Committee will respond to you. If you are in need of the sacraments of Reconciliation or Anointing, please see one of our priests or sacristans before or after Mass. Dignity Washington is here to help couples discerning a Holy Union or Marriage. Please contact Jake Hudson at jakeghudson@gmail.com for more information.

The Dignity Center

The Dignity Center is conveniently located at 1601 18th , NW, Suite 1, Washington DC 20009-2505. It is within a short walking distance from Connecticut Avenue and Q Street, NW and the Dupont Circle Q Street Metro exit.

Our mailing address is: Dignity Center, 1601 18th Street, NW, Suite 1, Washington DC 20009-2505



All Are Welcome

We are an inclusive community of faith, and we invite you to use whatever reverent term for God you are most comfortable with during our Liturgy. We also welcome all who share in our belief in the sacramental nature of the Eucharist to receive the Holy Communion in the hand, to observe COVID-19 best practices.

As we gather, please help us keep a sacred space for prayer and reflection by keeping a quiet atmosphere in the church. Remember to silence all cell phones, pagers, and electronic devices.

Liturgical Ministries		
2/4/2024	MINISTRY	2/11/2024
Tom Yates	Sacristan	David Friscic
Daniel Barutta	Acolyte	Daniel Barutta
Glenn Irving	Lector (1)	Rory Hytrek
Kevin Hennessy	Lector (2)	Ruthie Shipp
Tom Bower	Bread	Kevin Townsend
Bob Schmid	Wine	Jerry Path
Kevin Townsend	Grape Juice	Bob Schmid
Len Latham	Bread Baker	Henry Huot
Gil Pimentel	Greeter/Social	Peter Edwards

Stewardship		
	Budget Goal (monthly)	Actual (December)
All Income	\$10,000	\$19,500
of which is Sunday Collections	\$3,500	\$11,000
	Budget Goal (FY2024)	Actual (FY2024)
All Income	\$31,000	\$41,000
of which is Sunday Collections	\$9,000	\$15,000

If you participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), please consider contributing to Dignity Washington. Our designation number is **46786**.

Donations to Dignity Washington are tax deductible. If you would like a year-end receipt for your cash donations, please use the offering envelopes provided in the back of the church.

February Celebrations		
1 Anne Shipp	11 Ruth Shipp	
3 Wallace Beard	17 Ann Penick	
3 Joseph O'Hare	21 Adrian Safar	
7 Christopher Flow	22 Michael McCallum	
9 Peter Edwards		
Michael McMahon and Ray Valido		2/18

Tax Time
It's tax season and although tax laws have changed, if you wish to receive a statement of your donations in 2023, please contact our Office Manager by sending an email message to: dignity@dignitywashington.org or Jake Hudson at jakeghudson@gmail.com.

Save the Date: St. Joseph's Day Dinner
On Saturday, March 23, Dignity Washington will celebrate the **Feast of Saint Joseph** with its **St. Joseph's Day Dinner**, at **All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church** located at 2300 Cathedral Avenue, NW, Washington, DC (just east of Connecticut Avenue). More detail to follow.

- Jim Sweeney (202) 320-6077 Jim@TheSweeneyTeam.com
- Curt Thorstensen (847) 644-1679 curtthorstensen@gmail.com
- David Lamdin (703) 243-2350 dalamdin@gmail.com
- James Bedore (202) 667-3962 James9999@Verizon.net
- Len Latham (202) 554-0531 leonardlatham100@gmail.com
- David Friscic (301) 512-8159 d_friscic@yahoo.com

Weekly Community Calendar
Saturday, February 3
6:30 pm D/NoVa Mass and Social at ICOH
Sunday, February 4
6:00 pm Mass and Social at St. Margaret's Church
Monday, February 5
Tuesday, February 6
Wednesday, February 7
7:30 pm DW Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, February 8
Noon Pray the Rosary
7:30 pm Book Club meeting via Zoom
Friday, February 9
Saturday, February 10
6:30 pm D/NoVa Mass and Social at ICOH
Sunday, February 11
6:00 pm Mass and Social at St. Margaret's Church

Donate to Dignity Washington
We encourage you to make regular financial donations as you are able to support our in-person and online liturgical services and activities. Donate at Mass or by sending a check payable to: Dignity Washington, 1601 18th Street, NW, Suite 1, Washington DC 20009-2505. OR, go through the PayPal link found on our website. [Click here to set up a recurring or one-time donation.](#)

Committee on Aging
Dignity Washington's Committee on Aging, offers a variety of services to our brothers and sisters who are aging, or ill, and in need of some special assistance. We depend on our fellow members to keep us informed. If you know of a community member who could use some assistance and attention because of illness or aging, whether on a short or long term basis, please contact one of the members of the Committee on Aging.

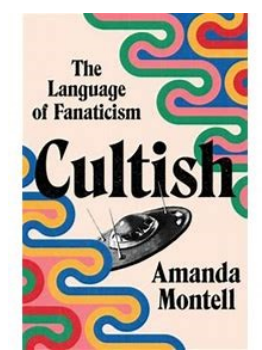
Praying the Rosary
It was said that **through prayer, our faith comes alive.** A group of the faithful comes together via Zoom each **Thursday at 12 pm** to pray the Rosary. We pray for community members and loftier goals. Please join us, too.

Zoom Link:
[Click here](#)



Book Club
The Book Club meets Thursday nights, at 7:30 pm via Zoom to discuss the book *"Cultish: The Language of Fanaticism"* by Amanda Montell.

Contact Tom Yates for information and access to the Zoom meeting at tyates02.ty@gmail.com.



Special Recognition of One of Our Own
There have been many powerful voices speaking up for LGBTQ Catholics over the years. Sometimes it's just one voice heard through the crowd. Dignity Washington just celebrated its 51st anniversary in the fall which is a testimony of the impact of a small group of people who met so many years ago to bring a ministry to the orphaned children of God.

As you may know, six people gathered in the cafeteria of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at the Catholic University of America in 1972 to start a Catholic ministry to lesbian and gay people. Recognizing that there was no Church outreach to homosexuals, they started a chapter of Dignity three years after the founding of **Dignity/USA** in San Diego. One of those six people was Sr. Jeannine Gramick. And she has been busy ever since then.

In 1977, with the late Salvatorian Fr. Robert Nugent, she co-founded **New Ways Ministry** which is a social justice center working for the reconciliation of lesbian/gay people and the Catholic Church. She maintains her involvement at New Ways Ministry and serves as Chair of the Board of Directors. Sr. Jeannine and New Ways Ministry have had a busy last several years, sensing a change in Roman winds, Sr. Jeannine and her New Ways Ministry's colleagues started a direct correspondence with Pope Francis in early 2021.

Miraculously, the Pope wrote back and called Sr. Jeannine "a valiant woman," who had suffered for her ministry. He also thanked the group as a whole for their "neighborly work." This past October, New Ways Ministry had a meeting in person at the Vatican, for a historic 50-minute encounter at the Pope's residence. Ever the practitioner of persistent relationship-building, Sr. Jeannine made sure to alter the arrangement of the room, in order to slide her chair a little closer to the Pope's.



For her 50 years of successful advocacy, ministry and influence, determination, tenacity, and inspiration Loretto Sr. Jeannine Gramick is the National Catholic Reporter's **Newsmaker of 2023**. Let all congratulate her for her tremendous work and effort.

In the photo, left to right is Matthew Myers, Francis DeBernardo, Pope Francis, Sr. Jeannine, and Robert Shine. All, save the Pope, are with New Ways Ministry.

