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DignityHouston

Your home away from home for LGBTQ+ Catholics and allies.

DignityHouston promotes an active spiritual life and a reaffirmation of the faith of the Roman Catholic Church by providing its members religious, sacramental, educational, social, and recreational services.



hineni –

Here I am!

If you missed the **Pride Interfaith Service** on June 25th, take a moment, right now, to jot yourself a note to be sure not to miss it next year. It was a massive celebration in the inspiring Rothko Chapel this year, but it would have been immensely exhilarating in



From your President

June was an incredibly busy month for DignityHouston. The Board of Trustees got to work trying to finally set our finances in good order. We hired an accountant to work through everything. We released a whole series of press releases.

any environment.

A Black transgender Pentecostal woman. A Sunni Muslim Lesbian who graced us with poetry in her native Arabic and translated it for us. A University of Houston gay dreamer. A Cambodian Baptist Lesbian. A Buddhist. A gay Black guy who had finally come out as an atheist. And the list goes on. All of their voices blended together in a symphony of fellowship, in the innate understanding that faith in ourselves and our supreme being, however we may define that, is what makes us a part of all humanity.

The two things that really stood out for me came from a female Rabbi. The first is the Jewish saying, "The whole world is a very narrow bridge; the important thing is not to be afraid."

DignityHouston, by all accounts, had a highly successful presence at the 2015 Houston LGBTQ Festival.

In the process, we developed all kinds of great promotional materials. And much more.

July won't bring any rest, though.

We're just gearing up for our Annual Membership Meeting in September. We'll have a number of amendments to our Articles of Incorporation and By Laws for our members to consider in addition to the election of the Board of Trustees who will carry us into the future. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Trustees or know someone who would be a good Trustee, please send us an email at info@dignityhouston.org. Remember! You must be a member of DignityUSA 30 days before the September meeting in order to

The second was the Jewish word *hineni*, which is often translated as *Here I am!* It's the word that Abram said when the angel called him as he stood over Isaac with a dagger in hand. It occurs 23 more times in stories of Jacob, Esau and Joseph. It means more than simply physical presence. It means "I am here with all of my being, physically and spiritually, ready to do what I need to do and fully present in the moment." My friends, if we can say *hineni* to each other, we can survive anything.

You made Gay Pride a success!

Many thanks to all those who signed up for our newsletter at the 2015 LGBTQ Gay Pride Festival.



vote at the meeting! If your membership isn't current, go to [DignityUSA](#) right now to bring it up to date.

Marriage equality



Equality at Last!

Kelly, one of our long-time friends and members said, "Now, I'm real." Kelly has been married to Pat for quite a few years, a marriage that wasn't recognized in Texas until June 26th. Now, Kelly's marriage and hundreds of others have become real! Some folks are still saying, "We've been together for a lot of years, what difference does marriage make?" Take a moment to look at these links and find out:

You helped make the Festival an astounding success! Now, come by and celebrate with us every Saturday at 5:30 pm at the Montrose Center, 410 Branard, Room 114.

2015 DignityUSA Convention Seattle

George, Brent, Mike and hundreds of others are at the DignityUSA 2015 Convention in Seattle. Be sure to come by for our Liturgy on Saturday, July 11th to find out what's going on in Dignity through the U.S.

Fortunate Families 
Catholic Parents of LGBT Children

Fortunate Families in Sugarland

Don't forget that the future Fortunate Families of Sugar Land/Houston will be holding their

- [Overview of Federal Benefits Granted to Married Couples](#)
- [Marriage Equality: Facts at a Glance](#)
- [Gay Marriage Benefits](#)
- [Marriage Equality for LGBT Elders](#)
- [Economic Benefits of Gay Marriage](#)

We had a great time celebrating Marriage Equality and July 4th. Hope you'll drop by on Saturdays and join us.



Elections are coming! Don't forget!

In order to vote in the September elections for your Board of Trustees, you must be a member of DignityUSA thirty days before the elections. Be sure to go to

first meeting on July 11, 2015. If you know any Catholic families with LGBTQ+ children, be sure to have them call (518) 694-5508.

Don't forget to join us!

Every Saturday at 5:30 pm for our Liturgy followed by great eating at a local restaurant.

We're always at 401 Branard St., Room 114, Houston, Texas 77006.

[DignityUSA](#) to join if your membership isn't current. Or pick up a membership application at the next Saturday Liturgy.

DignityHoust on Listens



We all love our Liturgy at DignityHouston, but we also love to have fun together. This month, we're interested in exploring new activities. Please take a moment to complete our short, five-question [survey](#) about the type of activities you'd like to see at DignityHouston.

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