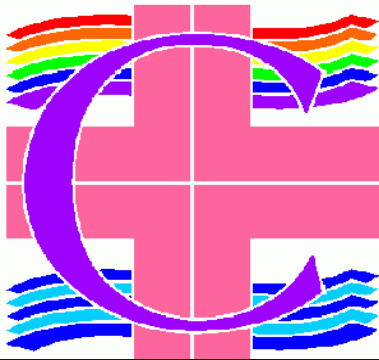


JANUARY 2009

Comunidad

MINISTRY WITH LESBIAN AND GAY CATHOLICS, ST. MATTHEWS'S CHURCH, LONG BEACH, CA



Mark Your Calendar

Comunidad meets the first Tuesday of each month. We have a social time from 7:00-7:30 pm, with the program starting at 7:30. We ordinarily meet in St. Matthew's Meisel Hall.

January 6, 2009

Comunidad New Year's Mass with Installation of Officers

February 3rd

Dr. Sheilah Jones on the history/theology of Marriage

March 3rd

Fr. Emery Tang, OFM, on Change of Heart for Lent

April 7th

Holy Week Seder Meal

May 5th

Cinco de Mayo celebration

Planning ahead...

October 16th-18th, 2009

Annual Comunidad Retreat

For additional information please e-mail us or call Chris at 562-987-5191 or Ray (en Espanol) at 562-590-9309. You may also visit www.comunidadlb.org

Questions? Comments? Ideas? E-Mail us at: comunidad@comunidadlb.org

Our Next Gathering: Tuesday, Jan. 6th at 7:00 pm
St. Matthew's Meisel Hall, 672 Temple Avenue (at 7th Street)
Join us for our annual New Year's Mass with Installation of Officers.
Mass will start at 7:30 pm in the church.

HAVE A HAPPY & BLESSED NEW YEAR!

We have some great speakers and events planned for 2009! Please see the side bar and check our website regularly for upcoming Comunidad topics and social events. It won't be as good without YOU!

WORDS FROM OUR BISHOPS

In October, members of our Comunidad Steering Committee sent a letter to all the active bishops in California in which we respectfully expressed our concerns over their support of Proposition 8 and related LGBT issues. You may read our letter as well as responses received to date from the bishops of Los Angeles and San Francisco under the "Blog" section of our website, www.comunidadlb.org. You are also welcome to comment there on these various statements. We will keep you apprised of future responses and developments.

A BIG CHRISTMAS THANK-YOU KISS!

THANK YOU to those Comunidad members and supporters who gave so generously of your treasure and time while we collected donations after all Masses the first three weekends of December. More than \$3,000 was collected and contributed to Catholic Charities, helping to make the holidays happier for less-fortunate families in our parish. God bless you!

BY DEEPENING THEIR SPIRITUAL LIFE, GAYS AND LESBIANS CAN TURN WHAT THEY OFTEN SEE AS THE CURSE OF GAYNESS, THE CURSE OF BEING IN EXILE, INTO SPIRITUAL GOLD BY REALIZING THAT IN PROPORTION AS THEY ARE EXILES IN THIS WORLD, THEY BELONG EVER MORE DEEPLY TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

REV. JOHN J. MCNEILL