

**Subject: Update**

**Date:** Thursday, October 30, 2008 1:08 PM

**From:** Mary Pearson <mary@christiangays.com>

**To:** "CGNewsletter@yahoogroups.com" <CGNewsletter@yahoogroups.com>

**Conversation:** Update

**NEW FEATURE – VIDEO CHAT ROOMS**

We have again added **Video Chat Rooms** to the website as an option for those with webcams. Of course you can also be in the Video Chat Rooms without a webcam. You will just type your messages as usual.

This is a free application and so it contains advertising. I am also limited with the options available, one of which is that we are only allowed one admin/moderator. Therefore if someone comes in to gay bash or who is looking for sex partners, the only thing you and the others will be able to do is to advise them that this is not what this chat room is about, and please could they go to a different room.

I am not expecting problems but always try to anticipate anything that could go wrong. I really depend on the Moderators in our regular chat app to keep the rooms SAFE.

If you'd like to try the Video Chat out, set up your webcam, go to the **Gay CHAT** link as usual, but once you click "I Agree" to our terms, you will be taken to a page that gives you the option of the regular text chat rooms or the video chat rooms.

If you open two browser windows, you can be in both chat apps at the same time.

I hope you enjoy!

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**NEW SPONSOR – WORLD'S FIRST GAY & LESBIAN STUDY BIBLE**

I'm delighted to share that we have a new sponsor. It is Smith & Sterling Publishing Company who are Advertising their new **World's First Gay & Lesbian Study New Testament**.

"The Gay and Lesbian Study Bible, translated from the Greek by Dr Ann Nyland, is a timely contribution to the spiritual needs of gay and lesbian followers of Christ. Dr Nyland's close examination of the source materials shows beyond doubt that there is no

textual basis in the Bible for the exclusion of same sex relations.

The Gay and Lesbian Study Bible will give heart to many who feel that sexual orientation is irrelevant to spiritual communion, and it does so by paying meticulous scholarly attention to the true meanings of the source text of all Christian faith." ~  
Dr William McDonald, University of New England

*Please go to any page on the website <http://christiangays.com/> and click on the top banner ad under the Navigation Links to read more about this revolutionary work.*

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### **PRISON MINISTRY – TWO NEW WOMEN ADDED**

Jeanie Longwell from Kentucky, and Angela Thornton from Texas have asked for friendship from our members. Angela is specifically looking for advice.

If you have time to write (snail mail) to either of these gals or to any of the others, it would be so much appreciated. They need to know that people care about them.

Please go to the **Prison Ministry** page at <http://christiangays.com/personals/prison.shtml> Pray for our inmates, and if possible, take one (or a few of them) under your wing and write to them. God will bless you for reaching out in this way. This is a much needed ministry that relies on our Volunteers to fulfill.

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### **EVENT - STOP AIDS. KEEP THE PROMISE - NOV 30, 2008 NYC**

#### **FREE Community Event**

On the Eve of World AIDS Day 2008 help New York City, United Nations (UNAIDS) World AIDS Campaign and many others, Keep the Promise in 2008

Location: The Riverside Church  
490 Riverside Drive - New York City, NY 10027

Free and Open to the Public - "All Are Welcome"  
Doors open at 4:00 pm / Program begins at 5:00 pm

For details visit their website at <http://www.wadnyc.org/>

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## **INFORMATION - PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE POSITIONS ON LGBT ISSUES**

### **From the McCain-Palin 2008 official website: Protecting Marriage**

As president, John McCain would nominate judges who understand that the role of the Court is not to subvert the rights of the people by legislating from the bench. Critical to Constitutional balance is ensuring that, where state and local governments do act to preserve the traditional family, the Courts must not overstep their authority and thwart the Constitutional right of the people to decide this question.

The family represents the foundation of Western Civilization and civil society and John McCain believes the institution of marriage is a union between one man and one woman. It is only this definition that sufficiently recognizes the vital and unique role played by mothers and fathers in the raising of children, and the role of the family in shaping, stabilizing, and strengthening communities and our nation.

As with most issues vital to the preservation and health of civil society, the basic responsibility for preserving and strengthening the family should reside at the level of government closest to the people. In their wisdom, the Founding Fathers reserved for the States the authority and responsibility to protect and strengthen the vital institutions of our civil society. They did so to ensure that the voices of America's families could not be ignored by an indifferent national government or suffocated through filibusters and clever legislative maneuvering in Congress.

*Source: [www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/95b18512-d5b6-456e-90a2-12028d71df58.htm](http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/95b18512-d5b6-456e-90a2-12028d71df58.htm)*

### **From the Obama-Biden 2008 official website: Support Full Civil Unions and Federal Rights for LGBT Couples**

Barack Obama supports full civil unions that give same-sex couples equal legal rights and privileges as married couples. Obama also believes we need to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and enact legislation that would ensure that the 1,100+ federal legal

rights and benefits currently provided on the basis of marital status are extended to same-sex couples in civil unions and other legally-recognized unions. These rights and benefits include the right to assist a loved one in times of emergency, the right to equal health insurance and other employment benefits, and property rights.

Source: <http://pride.barackobama.com/page/content/lgbthome>

**AMERICANS, PLEASE VOTE FOR OBAMA! YOUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON IT!**

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**TAKE ACTION IN CALIFORNIA - VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 8 – PROTECT MARRIAGE EQUALITY FOR ALL**

The ACLU has worked for many decades to advance the civil rights of LGBT Californians, and we're now more determined than ever to make sure that lesbian and gay couples are able to share in the security, dignity and respect of marriage in the decades to come.

At a time when so many political questions seem to divide us, it's inspiring to see so many people united around the fundamental things that matter—equality, freedom, and fairness for all. For that reason, individuals and groups across the political spectrum have lined up against Prop 8—regardless of how they personally feel about marriage.

Vow to vote no! And join ACLU members and allies across the state in taking an active part in the campaign to defeat Prop 8.

Read more at [http://www.aclunc.org/issues/lgbt/vote\\_no\\_on\\_proposition\\_8\\_protect\\_marriage\\_equality\\_for\\_all.shtml](http://www.aclunc.org/issues/lgbt/vote_no_on_proposition_8_protect_marriage_equality_for_all.shtml)

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**DEVOTION - FOR HALLOWEEN**

**Scripture**

Sing praises and give thanks to God, you saints. Psalm 30:4

## **A Word of Hope**

A few years ago I was in a store on Cedar Springs after Halloween night and wrote a check. I couldn't remember the date, so the clerk reminded me it was November 1. I said, "Oh yeah, today is All Saints Day." He looked perplexed, so I explained that Halloween is actually All Hallows Eve, or the Eve of All Saints Day. Then the clerk said, "You mean the Church is taking over Halloween, too?"

The real meaning of this holiday almost has been completely lost. All Saints Day is the time when we honor all of those who have gone before us, showing us the way we ought to live. We remember the contributions of those who made a difference in this world.

The custom of dressing up in disguise comes from the Middle Ages. They superstitiously believed that the evil spirits of those who had died who were not saints would return to earth on All Hallows, or All Saints, Eve and take the marginally good people to purgatory or hell with them. People dressed in disguises so the ghosts wouldn't recognize them.

On Sunday, we will honor those saints who have gone before us, while hoping that each of us will accept the challenge to be saints in our own way. You know, that is what the Bible calls you: saints. Most of us don't think of ourselves as saints, and most of us don't act very saintly.

If you study the word "saint" you will discover that its principal meaning is simply "One who belongs to God." How do people who belong to God act?

There was this one fellow I heard about who went to the doctor with continuous headaches. The doctor began her examination of the patient by asking all of the usual preliminary questions:

"Do you smoke?" "No," said the fellow, "I think it is a nasty habit."

"Do you drink?" asked the doctor. "No" he said, "I am a strict teetotaler."

"Do you stay out late carousing?" "Of course not", said the patient indignantly.

"Tell me" said the doctor, "Does the pain go all the way around the top of your head?"

"Yes, that's it exactly," he said. "What is wrong with me?" "Oh, it's quite simple, really. It is just that your halo is on too tight."

That is a pretty accurate image of what we picture when we think of saints. The truth of the matter is that those women and men who I have known who deserved the title saint all wore halos that were just a little tilted. They were genuinely good people who struggled like the rest of us to get better, but they didn't wait until they were perfect before entering into a relationship with God. Real saints are ordinary people who gave

up pretending they were perfect and without fault and, instead, accepted the fact that God loved them and accepted them just the way they were.

### **Prayer**

Loving God, thank you for loving me, just as I am. Amen.

### **Devotion Author**

Rev. Michael S. Piazza  
Dean & National Pastor

*This devotion is from the **Cathedral of Hope** and is used with permission. If you'd like to get these devotions sent to you daily, please subscribe to receive them at <https://www.cathedralofhope.com/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=375&srcid=206>*

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### **JOKE - THE CABBIE AND THE NUN**

A cabbie picks up a Nun.

She gets into the cab, and notices that the VERY handsome cab driver won't stop staring at her.

She asks him why he is staring.

He replies: 'I have a question to ask you but I don't want to offend you.'

She answers, 'My son, you cannot offend me. When you're as old as I am and have been a nun as long as I have, you get a chance to see and hear just about everything. I'm sure that there's nothing you could say or ask that I would find offensive.'

'Well, I've always had a fantasy to have a nun kiss me.'

She responds, 'Well, let's see what we can do about that: #1, you have to be single and #2, you must be Catholic.'

The cab driver is very excited and says, 'Yes, I'm single and Catholic!'

'OK' the nun says. 'Pull into the next alley.'

The nun fulfills his fantasy, with a kiss that would make a hooker blush.

But when they get back on the road, the cab driver starts crying.

'My dear child,' says the nun, 'why are you crying?'

'Forgive me but I've sinned. I lied and I must confess, I'm married and I'm Jewish.'

The nun says, 'That's OK. My name is Kevin and I'm going to a Halloween party.'

HAPPY HALLOWEEN !!!

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God bless,  
Mary

**Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!**

<http://www.ChristianGays.com>

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If you have any questions or concerns, please write to [mary@christiangays.com](mailto:mary@christiangays.com)

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