

Jenny Naughton, Friend
No Barriers to Christ

I met David at Congress 2006. It was about 8 months after our only child came out to us as Gay. I made a b-line to the CMLGP booth and was greeted by a tall man with white hair and mustache. I told him "I've walked past this booth for the last 10 years and said "I need to stop in there to see what it's all about." David's response to me was "And I've been waiting for you that whole time!" David introduced me to the Ministry with Lesbian and Gay Catholics. He invited me to be a part of the Leadership Committee and encouraged me to work with the Education Community, presenting at Regional Congresses and parishes throughout the Archdiocese.

David helped me start a parish ministry and when we needed to relocate to another parish, he was there. He presented at several of our parish outreach events and attended events we had (usually bringing along an entourage of supporters). He would show up at our monthly meeting now and then. He became known to our group almost like a rock star. He was so energetic and enthusiastic!

David was the one I would go to when I needed to recharge after a difficult, emotional Congress weekend. His faith and belief in the power of The Spirit was infectious. He was the hands, feet and voice of Jesus!

I will miss David's encouragement and enthusiasm for his beliefs. He was truly a courageous, gentle soul. I will miss his "hmmmm" responses.

I spoke with him on the phone prior to the March CMLGP Leadership Committee meeting. He wanted to know if I would be attending that meeting. We talked briefly about his health. I made him promise that he would be a good, compliant patient and follow his doctor's instructions. I told him "I love you, David" and he responded in kind. I'm so thankful for that last call.

Thank you, David, for your tireless love and encouragement! You are a rock star!

Javier and Martha Plascensia
Always our Children Ministry

David Kennedy a dear friend and truly a legacy of a man to our community and the journey we experienced as parents in our ministry with the families and persons of the LGBTQIA community. We met David in 2006.

To David: You will be missed but we cherish all those moments you always gave with so much love and dedication to our community. You're with our Almighty Lord now standing with your LGBTQ Flagg you were always so proud to stand by at all your functions.

Rev. Chris Ponnet, Chaplain

Catholic Ministry With Lesbian and Gay persons

I have known David Kennedy at least 30 years. David was part of our HIV/AIDS Ministry Council for the Archdiocese representing St. Matthew and San Pedro Region. He was friends to Rene Stampolis and so many of our leadership team. David was on the CMLPG Catholic Ministry with Lesbian and Gay Persons Office for the Archdiocese for these many years also as he represented St. Matthews and San Pedro Region. David and I would speak to youth and adults on HIV/AIDS or CMLGP. David spoke annually for years for CMLGP for deacons in formation and priests who were transferring to LA from around the world. At the CMLPG booth at Congress, David was there to just listen to people from around the world. The pain of so many LGBTQ+ Catholics and parents who felt the harshness of Catholic documents and for some public and family members, his voice was about the Gospel of Jesus, Always Our Children from USCCB and Pope Francis calls to God's love that is inclusive of all. I will remember David for his little white car with his portable office inside. David's love for the Church and love for his ministry and friends at St. Matthew and up north in the Bay Area. David was always at CMLGP meetings with the Archbishop advocating and giving voice to the pain and hope of so many. David loved his colorful Holy Spirit Banner and the PRIDE Banner WELCOME HOME CATHOLICS! We had amazing conversations over the years in the booths at Religious Ed Congress and regional sessions. In places having dinner, at our St Camillus parish Council and at our annual San Antonio Winery event [where he often wore his Irish Kilts](#). I was always impressed with his Gaelic and love of his heritage--we both enjoyed traditional Irish music. . We had both reflected on the recent death of our Bishop David O'Connell. And now David, our Bishop, and Tom Keep are dancing all together in Resurrection!