

January 2012 Disability E News

Dear Parish Advocates and Ministry Partners, January is

National Mental Wellness Month
National Birth Defects Prevention Week

Prayers of the Faithful . . .

That people of all abilities be lovingly supported in living out their Christian calling to serve the community, we pray. . .

That our community and churches be free from the fear, stigma and prejudices about mental illness, we pray. . .

For a schedule of the Prayers of the Faithful for the whole year, [please click here](#) to download the schedule. You may want to share this with the person at your parish who does the Prayers of the Faithful. My thanks go to the Tutaj family for compiling this.

Passing this on from the National Catholic Partnership with Disabilities (NCPD).

NCPD said it all. We are blessed to have all of you who work for and with individuals with disabilities.

**Happy New Year!
Peace and grace for every day of it
from the NCPD Staff!!**

When we think of you
And the work you do
We are blessed.

As we talk with you
And learn the tremendous things you do
We know the world is blessed.

As the days of 2012 pass
And challenges come your way
Be assured of our prayers.

May our website, resources and time
Be as a fountain of graces
Poured out for you.

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Update on the Disability Office's recent Building a Culture of Life Workshops and the five initiatives/ministries

In November, Life Affirming Ministry/Initiatives workshops, **Building a Culture of Life**, were held throughout the Diocese. The purpose of the workshops was to introduce the Disability Office's five initiatives/ministries: **Be Not Afraid; Christian Formation Support; Christian Support Groups/Social Clubs; Disability Awareness for Youth; and Mental Illness Awareness**. In February, information about the five initiatives/ministries will be on the Disability website.

For more information about the five initiatives/ministries, contact Nita Grignol at 804 622-5260 or at ngrignol@richmonddiocese.org

Eucharistic Prayer for Masses with Children

This will be found missing from the Roman Missal, 3rd Edition. In the 2008 revision of the Missal, these Eucharistic Prayers, which had been around and used for the past 37 years, were omitted, though they are still considered appropriate for use specifically in masses with children as the primary participants such as parish children's masses, masses celebrated with



children with disabilities, at grade school masses, or for First Holy Communion masses. The U.S. bishops' conference will soon publish a new edition of them that includes the newer version of the words of consecration as they appear in all the other Eucharistic prayers of the Roman Missal, Third Edition. It is likely that they will soon be retranslated in their entirety according to the newer translation principles, as noted in an article entitled "Revealing overlooked Roman Missal changes" by Barry Hudock - OSV Newsweekly, 12/11/2011.

[READ MORE](#)

National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities (NCPD) Autism Task Force Update

We are happy to announce that during the November NCPD Governance Board meeting they authorized the Autism Task Force (ATF) to continue work for another year under the Education Committee. Many of the recommendations made to the Board by the ATF were approved for action by the task force. Others will be taken on by other entities within the organizational structure. We want to thank all on the ATF for their very hard work this year.

Does the religious education publisher of the series used in your parish R.E. program provide support for inclusion of students with disabilities?

The data collected from the nearly 500 parish responses to the survey by NCPD's national Autism Task Force indicated that 74% of them used their parish core curriculum materials with adaptations for use with children on the autism spectrum and with other disabilities that require learning accommodations. If you are part of that 74%, do not assume that you will be "on your own" in developing and making those adaptations. Your publisher might already have online or other resources to assist you. Go to their website and search for terms like "disability ministry resources" or other key words. Where indicated on the website "contact us with questions," do it! Click on that link and let them know that you are their customer using (name the specific text and series) who is trying to make adaptations for a child with identified learning needs and ask them what resources they can provide.



When NCPD met with all of the publishers at a meeting we convened in Atlanta last year, they all said that they very rarely hear from catechists or catechetical leaders with that kind of request. The more people who reach out and request help from their text book series publisher to adapt their materials, the more they will be motivated to create and provide online or other resources to fill that need. There was a substantial interest by publishers in learning which might be the best medium, how they could be provided and what kind of resources could be helpful. Your

request will help them determine or update their response. Note: If they refer you to the simple ideas provided for some lessons in the catechist/teacher's manual that many series include, assure them that is good and to continue it, but to expand that with additional online resources.

Other Directors/Organizations News

Interested in attending the International Eucharistic Congress in Ireland next June?

The Archdiocese of Washington and Chicago & Scorby Travel Present...

**50th International Eucharistic Congress &
Custom Tour for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
June 12-24, 2012 Dublin Ireland**



Mary O'Meara, Archdiocese of Washington asks, "Are you are interested in attending the International Eucharistic Congress next June? We need to find 15 more people by the end of the month to make this Pilgrimage viable!! "

Don't DELAY!! If you are interested please contact Mary O'Meara at omearam@adw.org

For more information on the Congress itself, please visit <http://www.iec2012.ie/>
For more information on the Deaf Track of the Congress please visit:
<http://icfdeafservice.org/>

Mental Health Ministries Newsletter

Susan Gregg-Schroeder, Mental Health Ministries provides excellent resources through their electronic newsletter called Mental Health Ministries e-Spotlight. In the Winter 2012 edition, she writes: "A NEW YEAR: A TIME OF HOPE AND NEW BEGINNINGS. Yes, it is that time of year when we take stock of where we have been and look forward to what is to come in the New Year. We are living in uncertain and challenging times in our personal lives, in our nation and in our world. George Iles wrote, 'Hope is faith holding out its hand in the dark.' To this end, Mental Health Ministries will continue to live out our mission to help faith communities find ways to bring hope and light to persons living in darkness." Click here to see the full newsletter.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Introducing a New Series on Prenatal Diagnosis*

****Individuals who are interested in the developing Richmond Be Not Afraid Ministry which provides peer ministry support to families who are receiving a poor prenatal diagnosis (PPD) may find this series very enlightening and helpful.***

Below is a link to the first in a series of emails we will share over the next 12 months offering “Monica’s picks” of interesting articles regarding research and/or features about prenatal diagnosis. You will note that we offer both a link to the article as well as a brief description of the topic. Please let us know if you have questions. Click below for more information.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Tracy Winsor, Be Not Afraid, NC and Monica Rafie, BeNotAfraid.net were presenters on the NCPD webinar *Threats to the Lives of People with Disabilities, Part I: Prenatal Diagnosis of Lethal and Non-lethal Conditions and Disability*

The One Flock, One Shepherd DVD

Mary Anne Russo, Associate Director: Ministry with Persons with Special Needs, Office of Faith Formation, Diocese of Rockville Centre. The DVD One Flock, One Shepherd has been posted at www.drvc-faith.org/specialneeds.html . Now on Youtube, as well! Congratulations for getting the message “out there”, Mary Anne!!!

[CLICK HERE](#)

January's Inclusion Tip: Ministering to Difficult People.

from Marsha Rivas, Diocese of Toledo's Director, Equal Access Ministries



Happy New Year! Please open one of the attachments at this link for the first Inclusion Tip of 2012: *Ministering to Difficult People*. Thank you for all you do to joyfully serve the least of your brothers.

Click "**Tip Sheet**" button for more information.

For more information contact Marsha Rivas, Equal Access Ministries Diocese of Toledo 419-244-6711

mrivas@toledodiocese.org

To view this "**Tip Sheet**", please go to this link

<http://www.ncpd.org/ministries-programs/specific/tipsheets>

USCCB & Federal Legislative News

Social Security Update

The latest edition of the newsletter is posted online.

You can read the newsletter in its entirety by clicking on the link below.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Ministries extend compassion to those who've had abortions

Out of 53 million legal abortions performed in the United States in the last 40 years, about 10 million of the women identified themselves as Catholics. "The numbers are staggering," Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo said at the November meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Church's response to

them is one of compassion with an invitation to healing. To read the rest of this article by Maryann Gogniat Eidemiller about Catholic organizations that help women heal through the sacraments and by letting them know they are forgiven, from OSV Newsweekly, 1/15/2012, click here:

[MORE DETAILS](#)

Announcing Medicaid.gov

The Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) is pleased to announce the initial launch of <http://medicaid.gov/>, the first Federal government website devoted to the policies -- and the people -- of Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). This website is the culmination of efforts at the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services to revitalize and reorient the information the Federal government makes available about these programs. As part of our commitment to transparency and information sharing, *Medicaid.gov* brings to the forefront the items that States, the health policy community and other stakeholders have said they care about most, including: our Federal policy guidance; lists of pending and approved waivers; highlights of our Affordable Care Act implementation efforts; State-specific program information and data; and improved search capabilities.

Virginia Catholic Conference

General Assembly 2012 is in regular session through March 10th.

Catholic Advocacy Day in Richmond is Thursday, January 26, 2012, You can make a difference by joining our Bishops and other Catholics from around the state advocating for protection of life, the poor, immigrants, marriage, parental choice in education, religious freedom and other critical issues. To obtain the 2012 Legislative Agenda and to get information on registering for Catholic Advocacy Day (also in Spanish) go to www.vacatholic.org

Resources

Resources for Persons with Disabilities for Roman Missal, Third Edition



[MORE DETAILS](#)

Catholic Reading Materials For Those For Whom Normal Print Is Difficult

Submitted by Cathy Morrison, Disability Advisory Commission Member

Are you or someone you know hungry for Catholic reading materials but have a sensory or physical difficulty that makes it challenging to read normal print materials? Xavier Society for the Blind provides spiritual and religious materials to those with visual difficulties, reading disabilities or physical problems handling print materials. As the national Catholic lending library for those with such issues, the society provides books and magazines in various formats: large print, audio and Braille. This is all for free to those who qualify for these services. To apply one only needs to go to their website or contact the society by phone or mail for the application. In addition to basic data, a certificate of need from a qualified professional or agency is requested.

Among the resources provided are the New Roman Missal and the Holy Bible on CD, a lending library of books and a range of popular Catholic magazines which can be sent in various formats or the audio version downloaded to one's computer and transferred to an MP3 player, iPod or other listening device.

To contact the society:

XAVIER SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

154 East 23rd Street New York, NY 10010

Phone: 1-212-473-7800 Toll-Free: 1-800-637-9193

E-Mail: clientservices@xaviersocietyfortheblind.org

Web-Site: www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org

Upcoming Events in the Diocese of Richmond

January 26, 2012 Faith Inclusion Network (FIN) “Gifts of the Heart Celebration”

at First Presbyterian Church of Norfolk, 6:00-7:15 pm - Buffet reception and silent auction; 7:15-8:30 pm - Evening Program

Tickets can be purchased on line at www.faithinclusionnetwork.org and come join all the fun on the 26th.

NAMI Central Virginia's family support group. Parents, spouses, siblings and other family members are always asking/looking for support groups to help them manage living with a relative with serious mental illness. The group meets on the 2nd & 4th Mondays from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm at the First English Lutheran Church, 16023 Monument Ave (Stuart Circle). Contact To-Shera 804 715-5028, friend.toshera@gamil.com or Myia – 804 715-5098, mjohnson865@yahoo.com

NAMI Virginia Beach Peer to Peer, Basics, and MESA Classes

Peer to Peer will begin on February 14th at 5:30 rather than January 17th.

BASICS class starting on January 5th at 6:30 and a daytime BASICS Class that starts on February 1st at 10:30 am.

MESA class begins February 15th.

For Peer to Peer contact Kay Ashby at 285-8362. For BASICS and MESA contact Carolyn Wood at 3850802.

Disability Parish Advocates

My thanks to all the Parish Advocates who attended and helped with the Building A Culture of Life workshops held the first two weeks of November.

My apologies go to Kim McInnis, Parish Advocate, Our Lady of Nazareth (OLN), Roanoke, for omitting her name in the November E News. Kim helped coordinate the White Mass at OLN.

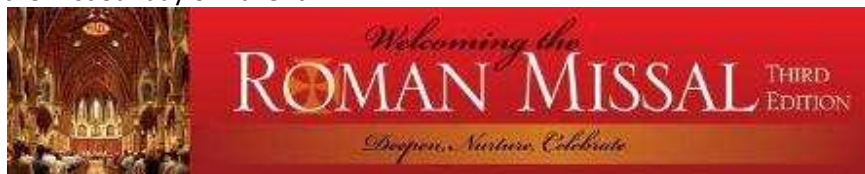
One of the coordinators, Keith Nesbitt, for the Church of the Resurrection's White Mass also coordinates an organization that provides group home environments for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Keith reported that the Holy Angels Church made it possible for this group to host their annual staff and resident Christmas party there. In addition, Holy Angels has recently agreed to "adopt" this organization as one of their ministries. Thank you Keith and Holy Angels parish.

Keith is the Associate & Community Life Director for the cluster parishes in the Portsmouth area.

Resources

Resources for Persons with Disabilities for Roman Missal, Third Edition

This NCPD web page with resources for the Roman Missal to support Disability Ministry has been assembled for your convenience. It contains a variety of resources that you will need as the Church prepares to implement the Revised Roman Missal with its new language for the Mass on November 27, the first Sunday of Advent.



Program Meetings

Outreach In Love, a Catholic based religious education program designed for the intellectually and/or physically disabled meets, on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings at St. Edward

the Confessor, Richmond. It is open to all faiths and all ages. For more information contact Joan Congable Mckay at 804 501-0022 (home), 804 387-1756 cell or email at outreachinlove@yahoo.com

Respite in Love Program, respite care for individuals with disabilities who reside with their families. For information on both programs call Joan Congable Mckay at 804 501-0022 (home), 804 387-1756 cell or email at outreachinlove@yahoo.com



Living in Holland Support Group for families with children with disabilities meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament, Norfolk. All families, regardless of their church affiliation, who have children with disabilities, are invited. For more information on this, please contact Karen Jackson at DaCapomusic@cox.net or 757 423-4027.

Living in Holland Support Group, Salem, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help has had several meetings. For information on the meeting times, contact Ellen Tutaj at loumar71@yahoo.com.

Young Life Capernaum, a program for young people with intellectual and physical disabilities meets the first 3 Mondays of the month at Holy Family Church in Virginia Beach. For more information, contact Sue Stefonowich via email at parishadvocate@gmail.com.



Young Life Capernaum, Roanoke meets once a month. For information, contact Our Lady of Nazareth, Roanoke at (540) 774-0066.

Other

Assisi House which will be located on the property of the Church of the Ascension, Virginia Beach is in the planning stages. For information on this go to www.assisihouse.org. Assisi House will be a group home for 8 individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities who need 24/7 supervised care.

To learn more about Assisi House, click here

http://www.richmonddiocese.org/disabilities/documents/Assisi_House.pdf

A **L'Arche** home is in the formation stages for the Richmond/Glen Allen area. If you would like to be on their email list for information, please contact, Marybeth Meacham 804 273-9533/ marybethmeacham@me.com, Cheryl Emory 804 [747-4486](tel:747-4486)/ cherylemory@comcast.net. L'Arche communities are caring homes where persons with and without disabilities live with comfort, spirituality, and respect. To learn more about the L'Arche Home, see the Catholic Virginian article <http://www.catholicvirginian.org/archive/2008/2008vol84iss4/pages/article2.htm>

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