



NCPD E-News

May 2011

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Diocese of Phoenix Spring Formation Day

Diocese holds conference calls on special needs

Happy Mothers' Day ...

to all of the mothers among our numbers in ministry and those with whom we minister!



For Catholics, Mothers' Day is both a day to reach out to or recall our own mothers with love and respect, as well as another special day to think of and commemorate our connection with the Blessed Mother, the Patron and model of all motherhood. Though it only became an official holiday for the United States in 1914, the second Sunday in May remains a day in which telephone company data show there is always a record number of calls made by phone. Surprisingly, in this day of individualism, a Pew Research Center study of 3,000 adults found that 42 percent see or talk with a parent every day, and it is usually mom. Let us each remember

our mothers with prayers, maybe light a candle for them at Church, and do whatever else you know will be just the right thing that lets your mother know how much you value and love her.

Let us remember the mothers we serve who have a child with disability or have a disability themselves. Find a way this month to affirm, encourage, and provide them resources that you have come to know they need. How about starting a Parent (or Mother) Support Group, or hosting a picnic to honor mothers (parents) and use that as a chance for them to network and meet with peers who have children with disabilities, or who have disabilities themselves.

Deaf Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Boston

Lee Nagel, NCCL, shares comments on the use of texts and Deaf participation at mass

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May is Mental Health Awareness Month.

The month of May is an opportunity to raise awareness and erase stigma surrounding mental illness. What can parishes do?

- Run the series of bulletin articles available from NCPD at www.ncpd.org/ministries-programs/specific/mentalillness.
- Prayers of the Faithful for people with mental illness also on the NCPD website.
- Sunday Homilies: One Sunday have a homily at all the masses relating the Gospel to issues of support/stigma/justice/compassion for people with mental illness and after the masses have local mental health providers and support groups available for discussion. See a sample homily at www.miministry.org, on the announcements page.
- Show [Welcomed and Valued](#) DVD to parish organizations. An accompanying [discussion guide](#) is available from NCPD.
- Invite speakers to come and talk on mental health, justice and support issues, etc, to parish organizations.
- Start a support “faith” group for people with mental illness. The leader should have some training, but just as we don’t have to be an oncologist to help people with cancer to pray, we don’t have to be a psychiatrist to help people with mental illness to pray. We do have to know what are our boundaries and limits. This is a good opportunity to bring people with mental illness and family members into ministry.
- Host a Diocesan Mass celebrating the lives of people with mental illness and their families and mental health professionals.
- Uphold the dignity of the individual by using “people first” language, e.g., “people with mental illness” rather than “the mentally ill. We all want to be known by the person we are and not the disease we have. Avoid stigmatizing language that feeds stereotypes. See page 21 of the *Welcomed and Valued* [Resource Binder](#).



For other ideas check www.NAMI.org and www.mentalhealthamerica.net.

NCPD News and Notes

See Below for Our Three Upcoming Webinars: Registration Opens May 18th

Registration opens on May 18 for the three upcoming 2011 NCPD webinars. Check our [website](#) for links.

Symbolic Catechesis and Other Tools in Catechetical Ministry

Tuesday, September 13, 2011; 2:00-3:00 p.m. EDT

Presenters:

Fr. Bill Gillum, OFM Cap., M.Ed., Director of Pastoral Care, McGuire Memorial

Mary Mirrione, National Director, National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Moderator: Lee Nagel, Executive Director, National Conference for Catechetical Leadership



Threats to the Lives of People with Disability, Part II: Physician Assisted Suicide

Tuesday, September 20, 2011; 4:00-5:00 p.m. EDT

Presenters:

Richard Doerflinger, Associate Director, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

Fr. Dan Mindling, OFM Cap, Theologian, Academic Dean, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary

Sr. Janice McGrane, S.S.J., author, national presenter, disability advocate

Moderator: Jerry Freewalt, Director, Office of Social Concerns, Diocese of Columbus

How can we help? Parish Support for Veterans and Their Families

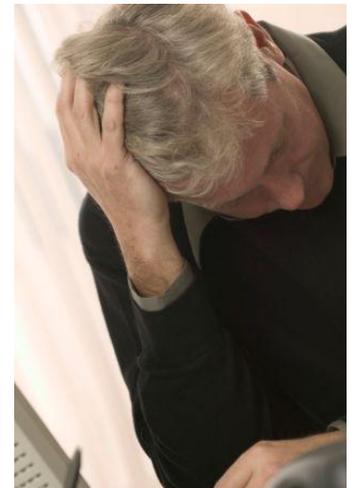
Tuesday, October 18, 2011; 4:00-5:00 p.m. EDT

Presenter:

Fr. Rick Curry, S.J., Chaplain-in-Residence, Founder, Academy for Veterans, Georgetown University

Moderator:

Peg Kolm, Coordinator, Office for Ministry with Persons with Disabilities, Archdiocese of Washington



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Dates and times are being confirmed with the presenters' schedules for our January, 2012, webinar entitled: ***Preparation of Children with Disabilities for Reconciliation and Eucharist.*** More will be available in the June E-News on this one.

Regional Meetings

An important part of NCPD's mission is to provide support for diocesan directors of disability ministry, whether they serve full time in that role, if disability ministry is only one of several areas of responsibility that is part of their full time job description for a diocese, or if they work part time. This occurs in many varied ways: through individual contacts, in trainings we provide for their catechetical and pastoral center staff upon request, through the resources we provide on our website, when we come to do an evaluation of disability ministry services in a diocese, through the E-News and our national conference calls for diocesan directors. One additional means of diocesan director support that you don't hear about in the E-News, is Regional Meetings for Diocesan Directors of Disability Ministry. These are especially beneficial, more local, usually day-long-meetings, held for those in adjoining dioceses to provide inservice on requested topics, face to face contact with peers in ministry, and opportunity to network.

In April one such gathering was hosted by Ryan Hanning (pictured at right) in Phoenix for the Southwest region. June 3, one will be hosted by Dennis McNulty in Cleveland for the Midwest. Another will be hosted November 17 by Sr. Janice Marie Johnson in Bethlehem, PA for the Mid Atlantic region. Next year we plan to have several other regional meetings and hope we can come to your region. Please contact us if you would like to host such a gathering of the diocesan directors in your nearby dioceses.



CNS STORY: Prayer service for the senses reaches out to those with disabilities.

Fr. Bill Gillum, presenter for our Tuesday, September 13, 2011 webinar *Symbolic Catechesis and Other Tools in Catechetical Ministry*, is featured with his work in this interesting article.

<http://www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns/1101263.htm>

**Donate
to NCPD**

Timeless Reflections



Don't keep me from Jesus... that's what one woman who has multiple sclerosis told her pastor recently. She uses a power wheelchair and asked for a ramp so that she could pray in the chapel...She got encouragement from NCPD.org about how other Catholics with disabilities live their faith, and live it abundantly.

Don't give up on me... that's what one young man with autism might say, if he could only speak. And his parish didn't give up. Though they had tried for years to prepare him for First Eucharist, the resources just weren't out there. After listening to a talk by a member of the NCPD Autism Task Force, the catechetical team is starting again.

Don't forget about me... that's what people living with mental illness tell us. Their mostly silent suffering, attached to the stigma of their condition, makes it hard for others to help. NCPD's Council on Mental Illness has developed a comprehensive toolkit with video, print and online materials, and an E-newsletter. Parishes are responding.

And, don't miss your chance...to support this "mighty" ministry, so-called by our Episcopal Moderator, Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and Chair of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

Did you know? NCPD generates respected resources *without any direct funding from the Church.*



to make an online donation that can transform your parish, school, school of religion and community. NCPD provides access to faith for persons with disabilities.

**Another Way to Support NCPD:
Become a Friend of NCPD**

READ MORE

Friends of NCPD contribute \$1000 annually to provide additional seed money for the projects listed above. **Become a Friend in 2011!**

Click here to be a Friend of NCPD: <http://www.ncpd.org/friends>.

Diocesan Director/ Organizational News and Notes

May's Inclusion Tip: Marsha Rivas, Diocese of Toledo's Director, Equal Access Ministries offers on "Psychiatric Advanced Directives". This is especially timely, with May being Mental Health Awareness Month. Click below for the printable sheet.



Ryan Hanning, Diocese of Phoenix Director of Parish Leadership Support, held the Diocese of Phoenix Spring Formation Day in April for 150 catechetical leaders that focused on a wide variety of disability ministry topics. Deanery clusters of leaders met as part of the conference, to network and plan for shared events. Keynoters were Janice Benton and Dr. Nancy Thompson of NCPD.

Mary O'Meara and Peg Kolm, Archdiocese of Washington (ADW) began a series of monthly, one hour conference calls in April for DRE's, catechists, parents, clergy and anyone interested in a variety of issues related to serving those with special needs in the parish and school. The first series of three sessions this spring are entitled "All Things Catechetical." The first was **Harry Dudley (pictured at right)**, Director of the Office of Religious Education, discussing the new Curriculum Guidelines and how those working with children with Special Needs fold into these new standards. In May, Daphne Pallazzi of the Joseph P. Kennedy Institute will explain the programs at Kennedy. In June, Doreen Engel, of the Catholic Schools Office will discuss Special Needs and the ADW Catholic Schools. Participants are encouraged to call in from home to be part of these call in sessions. For more information email omearam@adw.org or pkolm@adw.org.



Psychiatric Advanced Directives

As with all types of "Living Wills," Psychiatric Advanced Directives help individuals with mental illness control their future treatment if they become incapable of directing their own care. These legal documents also enable family members to assist their loved one in a crisis. Psychiatric Advanced Directives specify one's preferences for medication, inpatient care and who should be notified in case of an emergency, as well as any important information that will assist recovery. Mental health caregivers, their families and support systems, and health care providers all benefit from these directives.

- What may be included in a Psychiatric Advanced Directive?
- My medical history - what helped keep me healthy?
 - What therapies have worked for me in the past?
 - Other pertinent medical conditions I have, such as, hypertension or diabetes.
 - What medications have worked for me in the past?
 - What medications should be avoided because of past experience.
 - What are the signs and symptoms of my mental illness, and what may trigger a relapse?
 - Consent or refusal to use Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT).
 - Instructions for health care staff as to what is most helpful for my recovery.
 - With whom you may share information about my health.
 - Who will care for my children, pets and personal business while I'm ill.
 - The name of a trusted person, excluding my doctor or care providers, who will speak for me when I'm incapable (health care agent or proxy).

- What are the benefits to having a Psychiatric Advanced Directive?
- Empowerment to take control of my own health.
 - Improved communication between my doctors, therapists, my family and me.
 - More timely interventions when I'm not well.
 - Improved continuity of care among my health care providers.
 - Fewer psychiatric crises.
 - Better management of crises if/when they do occur.
 - Less chance of involuntary hospitalization.

- How is a Psychiatric Advanced Directive written and followed?
- Written when I am healthy and capable of making choices for my own treatment.
 - Witnessed by two adults who are not relatives or care providers; then notarized.
 - Given to my physician and other mental health care providers.
 - Taken effect only when I'm determined incapable by my physician or psychiatrist plus another physician.
 - Clinicians may decline the instructions if they are medically unsound, illegal or impossible because of hospital or insurance limitations.

Revised: 1/01
Sample PAD form: www.ncpd.org/ncpd/padform.pdf
National Attention Center for Psychiatric Advanced Directives: www.ncpd.org
For more information contact Marsha Rivas, Equal Access Ministries
Diocese of Toledo: 419-246-0211, marsha@equalaccess.org



Fr. Jeremy St. Martin, Director, Deaf Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Boston shared their wonderful website www.deafcatholic.org with us in an email, telling about their fundraising efforts to send a group of youth to World Youth Day (WYD). They are working hard (as you can see and hear on their website) to raise funds for the trip, especially needed to support youth from the wide variety of economic circumstances that he serves. Check out their resources for Deaf Ministry and be aware that this ministry, as well as youth ministries throughout the U.S. are trying to raise funds for those with and without disabilities to attend WYD. Be as generous as you can be to this ministry, or to others in your dioceses, with your financial support and encouragement at this time. We especially want to see students who are Deaf or have disabilities participating at WYD! Thank you in advance for your help.



Lee Nagel, NCCL shared with us his observations of comments made by Fr. Tom Margevicius of St. Paul, Minnesota from an article he read in *Zenit* by Benedictine Father Paul Gunter, a professor of the Pontifical Institute of Liturgy Rome and Consulter to the Office of the Liturgical Celebrations of the Supreme Pontiff, titled [The Use of Missals and Missalettes During Mass](#). In it Fr. Gunter made a well meant remark that a hand-held missal "remains a huge support to those who are deaf...."

Fr. Margevicius (pictured at right) is pastor of a parish with 1/3 of its members Deaf or Hard of Hearing and also has firsthand familiarity with many of the American Catholic Deaf parishes. He immediately recognized inaccuracy in that statement by Fr. Gunter and responded, "The written text is but the codification of the spoken word, and for those who speak English, written English assists in communication. But many American Deaf Catholics cannot (and never will be able to) speak English. They grew up communicating in a language—sign—for which there exists no universally-agreed-upon written form (at least not yet). Further, expecting the Deaf to read along (in an ostensibly foreign language) instead of watching the sacred rituals, asks them to direct their attention away from the more important aspect: what's happening at the altar during the Eucharistic prayer is inestimably more important than reading along in a missal...."



He then went on to explain that this is why those who serve the Deaf community almost universally prefer to pray the liturgy in sign-language rather than giving them translations to read and hope they can follow along. "No one, hearing or Deaf, can simultaneously watch what's happening at the altar and read from a book."

Those of us who are not expert in Deaf ministry but find ourselves serving Deaf families or individuals in our parishes and catechetical programs might make a similar mistake in assuming written materials can be an adequate replacement for sign language, and can benefit from these comments by Fr. Margevicius. We share them with you, with that in mind.

Mary O'Meara, Archdiocese of Washington wanted to share the news with you that New Roman Missal Interpreter Training is available online at:

http://www.adw.org/service/NewRomanMissal_InterpreterTraining.asp



Beginning on the first Sunday of Advent, our Church will begin using the new Roman Missal, Third Edition for our liturgies. Many of the words are changed and may be challenging to persons interpreting the liturgy for a Deaf catholic. This past March, an online video training series was created by a national team of experienced Deaf persons, clergy, pastoral workers, and liturgical interpreters for reference and practice while preparing to interpret the new translation of the Roman Missal into American Sign Language for the

Catholic Deaf Community.

It is important to note that this is a working draft model and focuses on the Common parts of the Mass. In addition to serving as a training tool for Sign Language Interpreters, this project will also be a valuable resource for Deaf Adult Formation classes, Small Group discussion groups, and Religious Education classes for the Deaf, and more.

For use with Sign Language Interpreters, this model is intended to communicate the concepts in the text through: Choice of appropriate ASL signs; Use of space; Directionality; Eye gaze; and Facial "expression" (affect/mood).

Bishops of the USCCB encourage participation in the World Day of Prayer for vocations, celebrated on May 15, 2011. The theme "Proposing Vocations in the Local Church" is meant to emphasize how we in the local Church identify and support young people to consider the priesthood and the consecrated life. Remember, that includes people with disabilities, too.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is inviting dioceses, parishes and organizations to link to the web site ForYourVocation.org, and to use the resources provided there. Resources include video testimonies of priests, religious, and parents of clergy or consecrated persons. One of the testimonies of a 2011 candidate for ordination to the priesthood features a young man with one leg. The Web site also offers prayers, discernment resources, lesson plans for educators and retreat material.



Government/Legislative News and Notes



USCCB WELCOMES HOUSE PASSAGE OF 'NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT' The Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) welcomed passage of the "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act" (H.R. 3) by the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill codifies a permanent, government-wide policy against taxpayer subsidies for abortion and abortion coverage, improves federal conscience protection for health care providers and entities, and closes various loopholes that give tax-preferred status to abortion...



Resources

Roman Missal, Third Edition

With the changes coming to the Mass in Advent 2011, these accommodations and special resources are now available or will soon be available for those with disabilities.



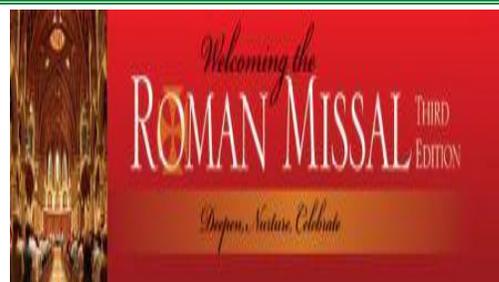
For more info on the Roman Missal, Third Edition [click here](#) or the graphic above.

- NCPD will provide the large print Revised Roman Missal by Fall, 2011, in size 24, 34 and 44 fonts, for priests and deacons who are visually impaired.
- Archdiocese of Washington now has an [ASL resource](#) on the Revised Roman Missal on their website.
- Xavier Society for the Blind is exploring with publishers which educational pamphlets to make available in alternate formats; they are at this time preparing the Revised Roman Missal in Braille.
- NCPD is exploring the possibility of having an audio version of a published pamphlet on the Revised Roman Missal provided in a podcast online.
- The topic of our NCPD's next Diocesan Director Conference Call (Thursday, June 2, 3-4 p.m. ET.) will be *The Revised Roman Missal: Sharing Known Resources for Disability Ministry and Identifying What is Still Needed*.

NCPD Resources

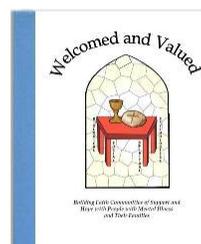
Large Print Sacramentary and Lectionary.

Through an agreement with the USCCB, the National Catholic Partnership on Disability is able to offer large print Sacramentaries and Lectionaries to priests and deacons with visual impairment. These large print materials are available in three sizes: font size 24, 34 and 44. [Click here](#) for more information.



Mental Illness Resources

Welcomed and Valued The DVD features in-depth looks at people with mental illness and how they participate in parish life. (27 minute open captioned DVD). Accompanying Resource Manual features 90+ pages of information, perspectives and tools to assist in the ministry with people with mental illness.



National Catholic Network on Mental Illness - Sign Up Now



In September, 2009, the NCPD Council on Mental Illness launched the National Catholic Network on Mental Illness (Network) to facilitate communication and sharing of resources and ideas from people interested in this ministry from throughout the US and the world. A free monthly electronic newsletter, *MI NETWORK NEWS*, is provided to Network members. Click below to sign-up for the Network--membership is free. To view previous issues click on the logo.

Sign-up!

Calendar of Events

**Sunday, May 22, 2011: 3:00 p.m.
Rockville Centre Diocesan Liturgy
Celebrating the Gifts of Persons with
Special Needs**

Presiding: Most Reverend John C. Dunne.
St. Frances de Chantal Church

[Click here](http://www.drvc-faith.org/specialNeeds.html) for flyer. Visit <http://www.drvc-faith.org/specialNeeds.html> or call Mary Anne Russo at 516 678-5800 ext. 540 for information.

**Monday, May 23 to Thursday May 26
NCCL 75th Annual Conference and
Exposition**

Atlanta, GA

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**Thursday August 18 to
Sunday August 21
Faith and Light 40th Anniversary
Pilgrimage**

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows,
Belleville, IL

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[Click here](#) for archived versions of NCPD E-News.

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