



NCPD E-News

December 2011

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Proposed Eligibility Changes under ACA

The staff and board of NCPD wish you a joyous Christmas and blessings in the New Year!

Tip Sheet on Happy Kids for Christmas

from Marsh Rivas, Director, Equal Access Ministries

It's typical for children to become over stimulated and stressed with all the activities surrounding the holiday season. Children with social and behavioral challenges may have the most difficulty adapting to schedule changes, visits to unfamiliar places, and introductions to new people and foods. The following tips

give parents and caregivers some ways to maintain the joy of the season. (Click below to read more).

[CLICK HERE](#)

Christmas with Autism, at Home

from Deacon Larry Sutton, NCPD Autism Task Force and Board Chair, NAFIM; Catechist

[CLICK HERE](#)

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Autism Society of America, Tips for Helping Individuals Living with Autism Have a Happy Holiday Season

While many happily anticipate the coming holiday season, families of people on the autism spectrum also understand the special challenges that may occur when schedules are disrupted and routines broken. Our hope is that by following these few helpful tips, families may lessen the stress of the holiday season and make it a more enjoyable experience for everyone involved. For more in English and Spanish, click this link: http://support.autism-society.org/site/PageServer?pagename=holiday_tips.

Holiday Visits With Autism

Preparing Holiday events, what they entail and making adjustments as situations unfold, allowing the Holiday to be enjoyable for all.

[CLICK HERE](#)

. BULLETIN INSERT: WHAT IS SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER (SAD)?

As winter approaches and the days get shorter, many people suffer with a form of depression called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). Although SAD isn't totally understood, it is a real illness with real symptoms that vary in frequency and intensity. During the darkest nights of the winter, many faith traditions celebrate religious holidays. With SAD, as with all chronic mental illnesses and normal holiday stress, our faith communities can be intentional about finding ways to encourage a healthy winter holiday season that focuses on our faith, our families and our friends. A bulletin insert/flyer, [What is Seasonal Affective Disorder \(SAD\)?](#) is available on the Mental Health Ministries Home page.

[CLICK HERE](#)

NCPD News and Notes

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. More news will follow after the holidays!

Mid-Atlantic Congress for Pastoral Leadership

Jan Benton will join other presenters and will give talks at three sessions during this exciting new Congress. A wide array of topics will be covered; Jan's will be on disability ministry. It will be held at the Baltimore Hilton Hotel in the Inner Harbor, March 8–10, 2012.

[Click here for flyer.](#)

**Donate
to NCPD**

Timeless Reflections

MORE DETAILS

Please don't miss your chance to make a year end donation...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.*

CLICK HERE

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**



Friends of NCPD contribute \$1000 annually to provide additional seed money for the projects listed above. **Become a Friend in 2012!**

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

Diocesan Director/ Partner News and Notes

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

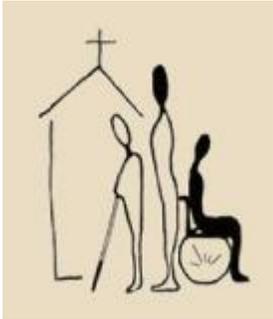
What is happening across the nation related to Deaf Catholics?

Sr. Kathleen Schipani, Administrator, PCPD/Deaf Apostolate, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Take the opportunity to read about what is happening across the nation related to Deaf Catholics. See the pictures from the recent ICDA convention and look ahead to the National Catholic Pastoral Week Conference in Boston, January 13-17, 2012. Pages 14-17 of the National Catholic Office for the Deaf newsletter *Vision* cover

the Pastoral Week Conference activities, registration forms and other resources. You may want to think about becoming a member of the National Catholic Office for the Deaf!! See the NCOD newsletter *Vision* at:

[CLICK HERE](#)



[TIP SHEET](#)

December's Inclusion Tip:

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

Tip Sheet: Happy Kids for Christmas.

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

Resources to Assist with Sacramental Preparation

Also for those who work in parishes and dioceses see the flyers for two wonderful DVD's - My First Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation at this link.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Great resources to assist with Sacramental Preparation for children who are Deaf and use American Sign Language. NCOD is currently in the production stage of the Confirmation Movie Project. Keep that effort in your prayers.

Exhibition on Down Syndrome

from Rev'd Canon Timothy M. Dombek, *Canon to the Ordinary*, The Episcopal Diocese of Arizona Beautiful. Strong. Unique. Words not often associated with Down Syndrome. After seeing photographs from an exhibition that has landed at the Dublin Arts Council, you may see things differently. This shows you how important it is to show a new image, a new frame, for people with disabilities.

[CLICK HERE](#)

USCCB and Legislative News

Comments on Proposed Eligibility Changes under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

In late October NCPD submitted comments to proposed rule-making regarding the Medicaid eligibility laws under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Click below to read the comments.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Petition in Massachusetts to legalize physician-assisted suicide

NCPD likewise issued a statement regarding the interest of people with disabilities in defeating a ballot initiative for November 2012 in the state of Massachusetts to legalize physician-assisted suicide (Petition 1112). Click below to read more.

[MORE DETAILS](#)

Protecting Medicaid across Faith Lines for People with Disabilities

On November 10, 2011, the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), United Cerebral Palsy (UCP), and the Interfaith Disability Advocacy Coalition (IDAC) hosted a public web chat to discuss current deficit reduction strategies while representing a broad cross-section of the nation's various faith traditions. The web chat featured representatives from the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim faiths along with AAPD and UCP staff members. The panelists shared their unique perspectives about why Medicaid must be preserved for people with disabilities and answered questions that members of the public sent before and during the chat... To read the full transcript of the web chat click below.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Note: NCPD is a member of one of the sponsoring bodies, the Interfaith Disability Advocacy Coalition.

Resources

Resources for Persons with Disabilities for Roman Missal, Third Edition

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[MORE DETAILS](#)



NCPD Resources

To see the resources available from NCPD click the following button.

[CLICK HERE](#)

National Catholic Network on Mental Illness - Sign Up Now

Sign-up!

MI Network News

The Monthly Newsletter of the National Catholic Network on Mental Illness

Calendar of Events

Pastoral Week 2012
Annual Conference for Deaf Pastoral Workers
National Catholic Office for the Deaf
Boston, MA
January 13-17, 2012

FLYER

Mid-Atlantic Congress for Pastoral Leadership
Baltimore Hilton Hotel in the Inner Harbor
March 8–10, 2012

FLYER

Los Angeles Religious Education Congress
Anaheim, CA
March 22, 2012 (Youth Day)
March 23-25, 2012

FLYER

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

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