



NCPD E-News

JANUARY 2013

Features

Respect Life Events

In Respect of Matthew Kruse's Life

NCPD News & Notes

NCPD on Facebook

National Conference Call on Culturally Diverse Communities

THE PARTNERSHIP 2013

Parishes Called to Welcome, Support People with Mental Illness

[Diocesan/Partner News and Notes](#)

Marriage Preparation Resources

Los Angeles Religious Education Congress

[Vatican/ USCCB/ Federal News and Updates](#)

Life Notes: January is Respect Life Month

Two fine examples of diocesan disability ministry providing leadership in the recognition of Respect Life Month follow. Congratulations to the Diocese of Richmond and the Archdiocese of Washington for sharing your models with us.

Diocese of Richmond



On January 20th, Respect Life Sunday in our Diocese, there will be a presentation, **Affirming Life – Where Disability, Faith, and Medicine Meet**, at Our Lady of Lourdes, Richmond. What a great way to observe Respect Life Sunday, by attending the presentation and learning about the

expectant couples who receive a diagnosis of a disabling condition, non-lethal or lethal. You will hear about the Affirming Life Ministry which offers the families a positive life affirming response to a poor prenatal diagnosis. For more information, click on the button.

[CLICK HERE](#)

An example of another Pro-Life event was the Virginia Stands for Life Rally held on January 9th.

The event was held to coincide with reconvening of the Virginia General Assembly 2013 Legislative Session on January 9, 2013. For more information, [click here to see the flyer](#). Consider joining the Virginia Catholic Conference at www.vacatholic.org so that you can receive action alerts on bills that will impact people with disabilities.



Virginia Stands for Life

Pro-Life Movement
Strengthens its Resolve

9 Days of Prayer, Penance &
Pilgrimage

Catholic Social Ministry
Gathering

[Resources](#)

New Disability Status Report

Personal Lenten Preparation

Symbols Available from
Graphic Artists' Guild

[NCPD Resources](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

Archived E-News

[Click here](#)

Virginia Catholic Conference (VCC)

Catholic Advocacy Day, Thursday, Jan. 31, in
Richmond. Sign up by Jan. 17th and we'll schedule

[Click here to register.](#)

your legislative
visits.

To see the [flyer](#) with details, including bus
transportation click here.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Archdiocese of Washington

Unexpected Prenatal Diagnosis:

Services, Supports, Networking

Archdiocese of Washington

Department of Special Needs Ministries and Department of Life Issues
Affirming Life Networking Brunch

Saturday, January 26

10 am – 12 noon, Education Room 4

Holy Cross Hospital

Silver Spring, MD 20902

Premiering New ADW Video: *Clergy Support of Parents:*

Fr. Lee Fangmeyer and Nancy Mayer-Whittington

RSVP: specialneedsministry@adw.org

Isaiah's Promise and Be Not Afraid

Peer Ministry Training

Thursday, Jan. 24, 6 -9 pm 1505 Cody Drive, Silver Spring, MD

Saturday, Jan. 26, noon-3pm, Holy Cross Hospital, Education Room 4

RSVP: cubby@saintjosephshouse.net by January 16

During January, we look toward the work of our community in providing support to families receiving a prenatal diagnosis of disability or lethal condition. Join local and national leaders from peer ministers to Catholic pastoral staff at the Archdiocese of Washington's Annual Affirming Life Networking Meeting the day after the March for Life, on Saturday, January 26. Learn more about the collaboration between the Archdiocese of Washington's Affirming Life Task Force with Isaiah's Promise, our local peer ministry provider. See the latest video tool, a conversation about the role of the parish priest in supporting women to carry to term, "Clergy Support of Parents: Fr. Lee Fangmeyer and Nancy Mayer-Whittington."



The upcoming July 16 Prenatal Diagnosis Conference for Medical Professionals at Trinity International University in Chicago will also be discussed. For information about the Networking Brunch, contact specialneedsministry@adw.org or call 301-853-4560. Online resources can be found at <http://site.adw.org/pre-natal-diagnosis>.

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Contact Cubby LaHood for information about the Isaiah's Promise training on Thursday before the March and Saturday afternoon, at cubby@saintjosephshouse.net. Training is for volunteers who want to be peer ministers to families or support the peer ministry in other ways. More at www.isaiahspromise.net and its companion organization, Be Not Afraid at www.benotafraid.net



In Respect of Matthew Kruse's Life



Matthew Mark Kruse, 52, entered eternal life suddenly Friday, December 7, 2012, at Arbors of Sylvania, where he was under rehabilitative care for complications from Alzheimer's disease. He was born October 18, 1960, the fourth of seven children to H.D. "Dave" and Catherine "Kitty" Kruse, nationally known disability ministry advocates.

A lifelong member of Little Flower Parish, Matthew served as an usher. He was a member of the JOY People, and enjoyed participation in all of their activities. During their annual retreat, entertainment is provided by a local music group. Matthew was always the first to get up and dance, which brought many others to join in too. He was also an active member of NAFIM (National Apostolate for Inclusion Ministry), and attended many of their events including a trip to The Vatican for the Jubilee Year in 2000. Matthew was kind and gentle and often took it upon himself to serve others, especially neighbors in need.



We extend our condolences to the Kruse family for their loss and our thanks to God for the gift of Matthew Kruse.

NCPD News and Notes

NCPD on Facebook



2013 is the year of expanding the National Catholic Partnership on Disability's technology outreach to Catholics with disabilities, their families and those who serve or share parish life with them. We look forward to

communicating with you through Facebook, in addition to through the E-News and special mailings, so be sure to "like" us.

National Conference Call on Culturally Diverse Communities

Registration is now open for the next national conference call by the NCPD Council on Mental Illness on the topic of *People with Mental Illness in Culturally Diverse Communities*. Join us Tuesday, January 15, 3:00-4:00 p.m., EST. To register and for more information click button.

[CLICK HERE](#)

The Partnership 2013 - Where Faith and Disability Meet!



SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for our National Conference on faith and disability in Houston, Texas, November 1-3, 2013. Look for more details and the conference website to be posted in the E-News and on Facebook in February.

Parishes Called to Welcome, Support People with Mental Illness



See the Catholic News Service article by Christine M. Williams, featuring Deacon Tom Lambert, Co-chair of the NCPD Council on Mental Illness.

<http://www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns/1205368.htm>.

**Donate
to NCPD**

You can make a difference in the faith lives of individuals who live with a disability by making a small monthly donation to NCPD. \$10, \$20 or \$25 per month will enable NCPD to provide resources to dioceses and parishes to ensure meaningful participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of the Church and society. [Click here to help.](#)

Diocesan Director, Partner, and Organizational News and Notes

Marriage Preparation Resources



See the resource at the link for couples with IDD, for those who are Deaf, blind or visually impaired. For more details and contact persons click here.

READ MORE

Los Angeles Religious Education Congress

February 22-24, 2013; (February 21, 2013 Youth Day)

The Religious Education Congress, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Religious Education, is the nation's largest annual gathering of Roman Catholics! The last RECongress, held in March 2012, brought together nearly 40,000 people during the four-day weekend! There were registrants from across the country and as far away as Ireland and Australia. This year Madonna Healy, NCPD Autism Task Force member, will be presenting two workshops at the 2013 RECongress. The co-chairs of the NCPD Council on Mental Illness, Connie Rakitan and Deacon Tom Lambert, will present a workshop on pastoral supports for Catholics with mental illness and their families. To learn more go to www.RECongress.org and to register online, go to <http://www.recongress.org/register.htm>.



NCPD Talks at the Mid-Atlantic Congress

The 2nd Annual Mid-Atlantic Congress (MAC) in Baltimore, MD will feature several sessions on disability ministry, including a session entitled *Pastoral Care for Persons with Disabilities, the Deaf & the Hard of Hearing*. For more information visit the Congress website at <http://www.midatlanticcongress.org/>.

Vatican/ USCCB / Federal News and Updates

40 Years after Roe v. Wade, Pro-Life Movement Strengthens its Resolve

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Forty years after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortions, the pro-life movement hasn't stepped back in its resolve to see the decision reversed.

Each year near Jan. 22, the day of the Roe vs. Wade and Doe vs. Bolton decisions on abortion, tens of thousands of protesters march in Washington and San Francisco and also take part in local events across the country hoping to change abortion laws.

This year will be no exception.
[\(full story\)](#)



USCCB Promotes 9 Days of Prayer, Penance, & Pilgrimage



On January 22nd, our nation will remember the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Since that tragic decision, more than 55 million children's lives have been lost to abortion, and the lives of millions of their parents and family members have been shattered.

The "[Nine Days of Prayer, Penance and Pilgrimage](#)" will take place January 19-27, 2013 as part of the bishops' recent call to prayer for the sake of renewing a culture of life, marriage, and religious liberty in our country.

This time period, focusing on the theme of pilgrimage, includes the blessings of pilgrims, a novena, other simple prayers, youth activities and a closing Eucharistic Holy Hour.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Each day of the 9 Days Prayer, Penance, & Pilgrimage will be sent straight to you!

Catholic Social Ministry Gathering: February 10-13, 2013

On behalf of our 16 national [Catholic partner organizations](#), we invite you to join us in Washington, D.C. for the annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering, this upcoming February 10-13, 2013 at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park hotel. The theme this year will be *Promoting Human Life and Dignity in the Year of Faith*.

[MORE DETAILS](#)



Resources

New Disability Status Report

Cornell University's Employment and Disability Institute (EDI) will host a free online webinar on Friday, January 18th from 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST to present the findings of the 2011 Disability Status Report. This free webinar will explore data from the recently released 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) related to disability and employment, education, poverty, household income and labor earnings. To register, click on the button.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Personal Lenten Preparation

The Ave Maria Press Professional Webinar Series is presented in partnership with the [National Association for Lay Ministry](#), [National Conference for Catechetical Leadership](#), and the [National Federation of Priests' Councils](#). To register & for more information about the 3 upcoming webinars, click here.

[MORE DETAILS](#)

Symbols Available from Graphic Artists' Guild



The twelve symbols on the link below promote and publicize accessibility for people with disabilities. They are available for free download.

<https://www.graphicartistsguild.org/resources/disability-access-symbols/>

Awareness Commemorations

We occasionally receive calls about monthly commemorations of disability issues. Below is a commemoration for January.

January Commemoration

- Respect Life Month

Resources for Persons with Disabilities for Roman Missal, Third Edition

[MORE DETAILS](#)



Welcoming the
ROMAN MISSAL THIRD EDITION
Deepen. Nurture. Celebrate

NCPD Resources

See the links listed below for helpful resources.



[Catechesis](#)

[Ministry Specific Resources](#)

[Various Ministry Models](#)

[Spirituality](#)

[Ministry Toolkit](#)

[Building Awareness](#)

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

[CLICK HERE](#)

National Catholic Network on Mental Illness - Sign Up Now

MI Network News

The Monthly Newsletter of the National Catholic Network on Mental Illness

[Sign-up!](#)

Calendar of Events

Pastoral Week 2013

Annual Conference for Deaf Pastoral Workers
National Catholic Office for the Deaf (NCOB)
January 18-22, 2012
Phoenix, AZ

[MORE DETAILS](#)

2013 NCEA Teaching Exceptional Learners Conference

Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2013
Sheraton Tampa Riverwalk Hotel
Tampa, Florida

[MORE DETAILS](#)

Catholic Social Ministry Gathering
with Disability Ministry Pre-Meeting
Promoting Human Life and Dignity in the Year of Faith

USCCB and 16 Partner Organizations
February 10-12, 2013

[MORE DETAILS](#)

Washington, DC
Washington Marriott Wardman Park hotel.
On behalf of our 16 national [Catholic partner organizations](#),
we invite you to join us in Washington, D.C. for the annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering.

Winter Retreat
Sponsored by the Victorious Missionaries

Feb. 15-17, 2013
Presenter: Sr. Colleen Mallon, OP
Contact: Br. Tom Ruhmann, O.M.I., VM National Director
truhmann@oblatesusa.org

Los Angeles Religious Education Congress 2013

Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Religious Education
February 22-24, 2013
February 21, 2013 (Youth Day)
Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim, CA

[MORE DETAILS](#)

[Click here to register.](#)

Mid Atlantic Congress for Pastoral Leadership

March 7-9, 2013
Baltimore Hilton Hotel
Baltimore, MD

[MORE DETAILS](#)

**NCEA 2013 Convention in conjunction with
the National Association of Parish Catechetical Directors (NPCD)**

April 2-4, 2013
George Brown Convention Center
Houston, TX

[MORE DETAILS](#)

[Click here to register.](#)

Ignite the Fire of Faith - Enciende el Fuego de Fe
NCCL

May 19-23, 2013
Cleveland, OH

[MORE DETAILS](#)

NCPD National Conference

November 1-3, 2013
Houston, TX
More details to come.

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

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