



Welcome to Opening Doors!

I. *Did You Know?*

- Prayer For Renewed Strength

O Lord, my God, Please give me the grace to maintain my hope in you through all of life's changes and to taste and see your goodness. I praise you for the gifts you have showered on me for so many years. Help me find joy in a renewed strength of spirit. Please bless me with good health, and inspire me to be a good example to others. For you are Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/assisted-suicide/to-live-each-day/upload/prayer-resources.pdf>

- FREE BACK TO SCHOOL COVID-19 RELATED STORIES:



More and more states and cities have put together plans for going back to school for the 2020-2021 school year. Each area in the country has somewhat different plans. Some are starting out with 100% distance learning, some are implementing a hybrid model and others are going back to in person learning with modifications. As we start to go back, using any of those approaches, children are going to need INFORMATION. What will they see that is different? What are the new norms? Are masks required? What about on the bus?

As humans, we all thrive on routine. Children's (and adults) routines have been disrupted over these past several months. Stories can help ALL children understand what is going on around them. Information about their new routines can reduce anxiety and fear. This will lead to smoother transitions into the new routine.

I've listed all of the COVID-19 stories that relate to schools here for easier access for parents and educators. When I write more stories that pertain to school, I will add them to this list. I wish you all well as we embark on this new school year. Stay well!

<https://www.autismlittlelearners.com/.../covid-19-related-sto...>

- **WE NEED SOCIAL DISTANCING BUT NOT SOCIAL ISOLATION**

CHURCHES NEED TO ENSURE TO BE PRESENT FOR EVERY PERSON IN THEIR PARISH ESPECIALLY THE MOST VULNERABLE.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange has created a resource of *50 Creative Ideas for Parishes during the COVID-19.*

These resources include

- calling, messaging, and texting
- modeling of in home faith practices through video or a written emailed resource
- online/virtual gatherings
- online virtual sharings
- outreach ideas
- quick resource lists

More information and details to these resources can be found by clicking the following link.

[50 Creative Ideas for Parishes During COVID-19](#)

- **The Three “C”s for Supporting Individuals When They are Distressed**

When some young people become overwhelmed they can become “sensitive,” “out of sync,” or “explosive.” Dianne T. Goyette, M.A.

has developed the framework that is an emotional support model based on brain research and advice from experts. *Connection, Calming and Compassion* are the three C's that make up the framework.

To get more information on the three C's click on the link below.

https://ncpd.org/resources_and_toolkits/three-cs-supporting-individuals-when-they-are-distressed

- **Good evening God's Special Children, Families and Friends,**

Please see the very interesting information sent to us by God's Special Children's Friend Deacon VM Wheeler.

Many thanks.

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/special-needs-parenting-covid-19/art-20487665>

II. *What's Happening!*

- Corinne and Diane Goyette will discuss tips for calming individuals in distress including a tool that Corinne developed to assist with emotional regulation. Corinne is an author, artist and mental health advocate and her mother, Diane, is a Child Development Specialist.

NCPD Live

Tuesday, August 25th

2:00pm ET on [Facebook Live](#)

- **Mass for God's Special Children**, their families and friends is held every month at 2:00 p.m. at St Francis Xavier Church, 444 Metairie Road, Metairie, LA on the following dates:

August 2

September 13

October - Anniversary Mass - date to be announced.

November 1

December 6

The *God's Special Children Mass* will be lived streamed on their Facebook page.

Archbishop Aymond will be concelebrating our 16th Anniversary Mass on October 4 - so please mark your calendars.

- **SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING**

Learn about an alternative to interdiction, The Dustin Gary Act and other legal options available in Louisiana!

Want to learn more about Supported Decision Making - The Dustin Gary Act? The Arc of Louisiana and Disability Rights Louisiana have a zoom training scheduled for August 13th!

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUlf-2qqjliEtr_sXUywwlOv6gEI5lkbV_

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

- **Save the Date**

Our Fall Workshop will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2020

III. Question Corner

I have a disability and can't leave my home.

1. How can I get assistance?

By dialing 2-1-1 or texting 898211, you are connected with one of our trained specialists who will help you identify what resources are available to address your need. We maintain a database of over 4,000 organizations that provide help with food, health care, housing and utilities payment assistance, employment services, veteran services, childcare, crisis and emergency counseling, disaster assistance, and more.

2. How do I get tested for Covid-19?

The Department of Health has an online link to testing sites at www.la.gov/coronavirus. Click on the testing site tab to find a nearby location.

If you have Medicaid, your managed care organization can arrange transportation to a test site. If you do not have Medicaid, check with your primary care provider for an order for a home health agency to come out and take the swab for testing.

<https://vialink.org/211-services/>

We welcome and encourage you to share any information or questions or you would like to see in Opening Doors e-Newsletter to klivauda@bellsouth.net. Please use Opening Doors in the subject line. We encourage you to share some of what is in **Opening Doors** with your parish by publishing some info in your church bulletins.

