Accompanying Part 2: Understanding Complex Behavior and/or Communication Support Needs
What are the roles for pastors, priests and deacons?

General Outline
• Autism and its impact on individuals and families
• Pastoral approaches and implications for parish culture.
• Preparing for and responding to challenging situations.

This seminar will be offered twice:
  ▪ Tuesday February 2: 11am – 12:30pm
  ▪ Thursday February 4: 1:30 – 3:00pm

Click here to register
• Pastors are welcome to invite other pastoral staff to attend as well.
• Discussion is focused on complex behavior and communication support needs of individuals with autism that can also apply to individuals with intellectual or other developmental disabilities.
• You must register for the session you plan to attend. If you plan to attend both, you must register for both. Each session has unique login links.
• Sessions will be closed captioned. Let us know if you have other accessibility needs.
• Sessions will not be recorded.

Speakers

Fr. Jim Worth, M.Div., M.A.
Pastor, Certified Bereavement Counselor, Musician

Linda Meyer, Ed.D, MPA, BCBA-D, CPT
Educator, Direct Support & Community Participation Expert

Any questions or assistance needed registering contact:
V. Rev. John M. McCrone, V.F.
Ongoing Formation of Priests
973-497-4218
rev.john.mccrone@rcan.org

Anne Masters, Ph.D., FAAIDD
Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities
973-437-4309
anne.masters@rcan.org

Please join us

Pope Francis reminds us that all Catholics with disabilities have a right to receive the sacraments, and he suggested that Catholic parishes make real efforts to welcome and train persons with disabilities to serve as catechists.

Building on his writing in Fratelli Tutti about the importance of working for persons with disabilities to meaningfully participate in society and the Church, and how they often feel like ‘hidden exiles’ within their own communities, His Holiness reminds us that, "Creating a fully accessible parish requires not only the removal of architectural barriers, but above all, helping parishioners to develop attitudes and acts of solidarity and service toward persons with disabilities and their families. ... no longer about ‘them,’ but rather about ‘us.’" (Message for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Dec. 3.)

He went on to say religious education programs must be available to those with disabilities, and every seminarian, priest and catechist should be educated about disabilities and familiar with "the use of inclusive pastoral tools."

The Office of Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities is offering this workshop to provide such awareness and resources.