

Special Needs Ministry

Contact Coordinator: Mary Wade

shreligious4@gmail.com

Mission Statement

—*Helping those with disabilities and their family members share in the fullness of our Catholic Faith and Community Life.*

Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up the roof above him.
—Mark 2:4

Ministry Vision

We envision a parish that all members can call home; where lifelong faith formation, reception of the sacraments, and participation in corporate worship is available and accessible to all. We understand that disabilities are a normal part of living that can be expected and should be planned for in parish life for the mutual benefit of the whole faith community.

Patron Saint

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaret_of_Castello

Saint Margaret of Castello, Virgin (1287-1320); Feast Day - April 13

Despite the disabilities with which she was born and after being abandoned by her wealthy parents, she was eventually taken in by some Dominican nuns. She took on the habit of a tertiary Dominican at age 15 and spent the rest of her life doing corporal and spiritual acts of mercy. When friends expressed sympathy for her disabilities she said to them, "If you only knew what I have in my heart."

USCCB on Sacramental Preparation for Persons with Disabilities

"Parish sacramental celebrations should be accessible to persons with disabilities and open to their full, active, and conscious participation, according to their capacity." —United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities* (1995), no. 3.

"Let the children come to me."
—Matthew 19:14

Adaptive Faith Formation: How to Register

All children, regardless of their abilities or disabilities, who are of school age and not attending a Catholic school for their religious education should be registered with our parish School of Religion. Parents may do this by requesting a registration form from the coordinator of the School of Religion at sthughschoolofreligion@gmail.com or by downloading the registration form on the parish website at

<https://www.sthughofgrenoble.org/school-of-religion>. Once the completed registration form is received the coordinator for Adaptive Catechesis will contact you for an interview to discern which learning environment will best support your child's fullest participation in the Catholic faith, including the sacraments and community life.

Our Volunteers: Resource Specialist, Catechists, Parent Group Facilitator, and Teen Faith Mentors

Resources

ADW Department of Special Needs Ministries
specialneedsministry@adw.org
Contact by phone 301-853-4560 OR VP 301-200-5430

"A Parish Approach: How to Welcome, Include, and Catechize Children with Autism and Other Special Needs" by Lawrence R. Sutton, PH.D., Loyola Press, 2013

"Faith, Family, and Children with Special Needs: How Catholic Parents and Their Kids with Special Needs Can Develop a Richer Spiritual Life" by David Rizzo; Loyola Press, 2012.

"Handbook for Adaptive Catechesis: Serving those with Special Needs" by Michelle E. Chronister, M.A.; Liguori Publications, 2012.

Websites

<https://www.iancommunity.org/ssc/autism-and-faith>

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyPj1_Wge_0S63MbCB_xITOk-iV5fxXRg

<http://fullinclusionforcatholicsschools.org/mission/>

<http://ipi.udayton.edu>

YouTube: St. Rose of Lima Adaptive Religious Education Program

<https://ncpd.org>