

**PARISH BULLETIN ANOUNCEMENT AND INTENTIONS
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

Parish Bulletin Announcement:

A Parish that Welcomes Children with Disabilities

Catholics believe that all people are made in the image and likeness of God, and that all the Baptized share in the life and mission of the Church. This includes people from every range of ability. As a parish we are mindful and respectful of families who have children with disabilities. At times due to the behavioral aspects of some disabling conditions, parents seem to sense from some parishioners that their child may not be welcome during the celebration of Mass. Can we work together to change this perception? As a parish community, let us strive to be patient, respectful and helpful to individuals with disabilities and seek ways to assist families so that they can worship together as a family and we may have the blessing of their presence with us as we become one Eucharistic community of faith.

More if needed:

One of every 68 children is born with autism and 5 in every 100 having some type of disability. It is safe to say that our parish community has many families raising children with disabilities, whether you are aware of them, or not. Together, let us seek ways to be welcoming and supportive of all our families. For more information on inclusion of people with disabilities in the life of the Church go to the National Catholic Partnership on Disability at www.ncpd.org or our Archdiocesan website, Office for Persons with Disabilities at www.archphila.org.

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