

ALL ARE WELCOME ... ALL BELONG

Catechesis for Persons with Disabilities



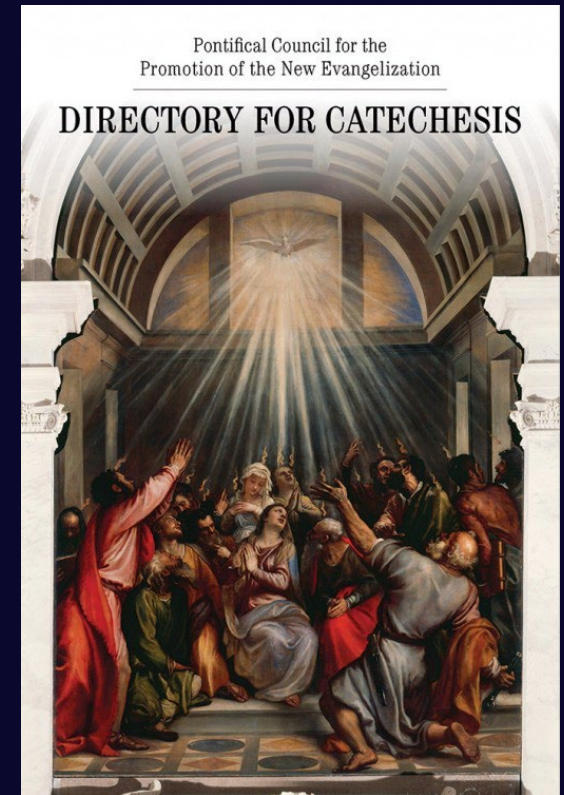
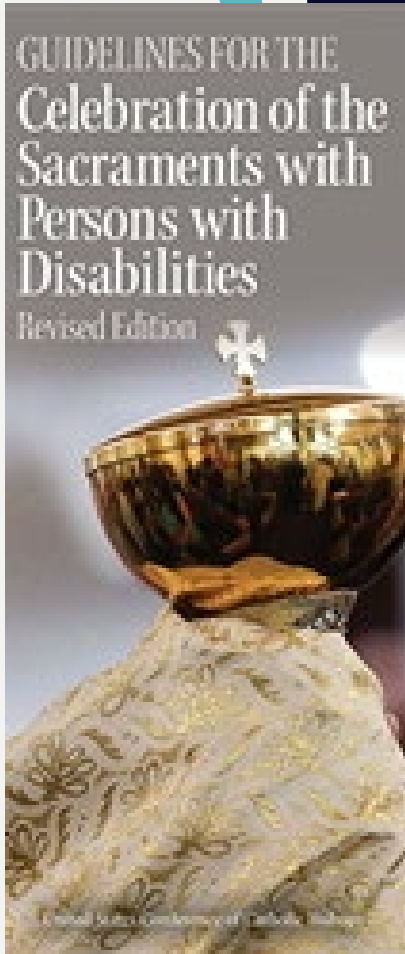
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THE CHURCHES SOLICITUDE FOR
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SPRINGS FROM
God's way of acting.

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It is the task of the local Church to be open to the **ordinary** presence of persons with disabilities within the programs of catechesis, working for a culture of inclusion...

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THE CALL OF THE CHURCH

Guidelines For The Celebration of The Sacraments with Persons With Disabilities. #5

Faith Formation Sacramental Prep



- ...adapted for some parishioners with disabilities, though, as much as possible, persons with disabilities should be **integrated** into the ordinary programs.

They should **not be segregated for specialized catechesis** unless their disabilities make it impossible for them to participate in the basic catechetical program. **Even in those cases, participation in parish life is encouraged in all ways possible.**



If the participation of persons with disabilities and their families is to be real and meaningful, the parish must **prepare itself to receive them** (1978 Pastoral Statement #19)

- Seek and prepare catechists & volunteers
- Include in Registration Announcements

Our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) provides classes for children of all abilities. Children with developmental, intellectual, sensory, physical or behavioral disabilities are welcome and encouraged to attend weekly (PREP) classes.

PLAN & Budget





**BEGIN with
the PERSON
before YOU.**

Relationships are
essential
to the catechetical
process.



And continue to grow
your capacity!

MODELS OF ENGAGEMENT IN SACRAMENTAL PREP

Within the typical classroom with peers



In classroom with supports catechist aide or peer tutor/adapted materials



In Learning Support Classroom with small group learning and adapted curriculum



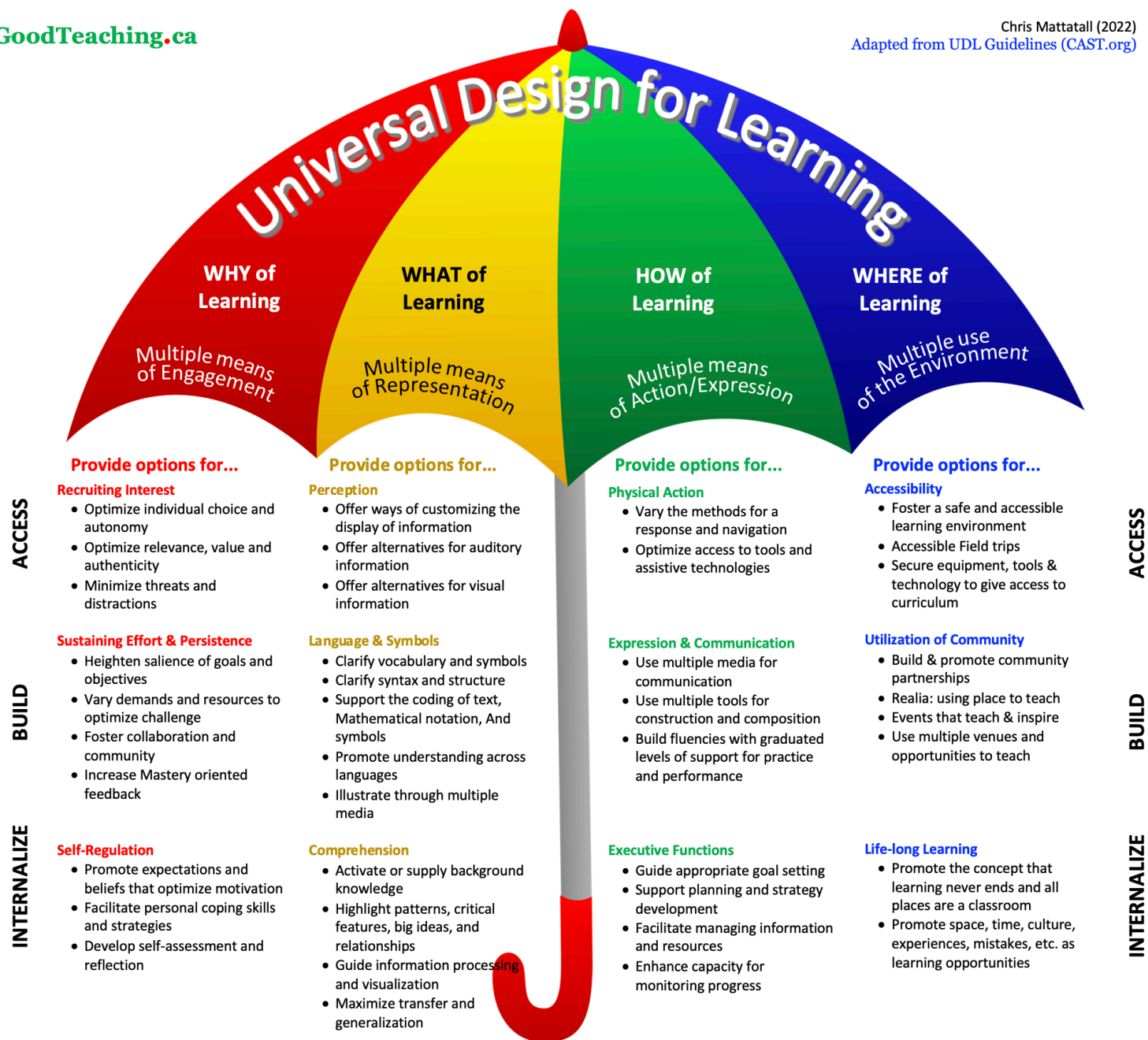
With Individualized Instruction joins with peers for prayer, liturgies & special activities



MODELS OF ENGAGEMENT IN SACRAMENTAL PREP

Within the typical classroom with peers





DIFFERENTIATION IS A PLANNING AND TEACHING METHOD APPLIED TO EACH COLUMN

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

- Reading Buddies /learning triangles
- Use of movement & music
- Think / pair / share
- Chunk your class time

- Game formats-

<https://teach4theheart.com/7-review-games-that-wont-waste-your-time/>

7 Review Games that Won't Waste Your Time



MODELS OF ENGAGEMENT IN SACRAMENTAL PREP

In classroom with supports
catechist aide or peer tutor/adapted materials



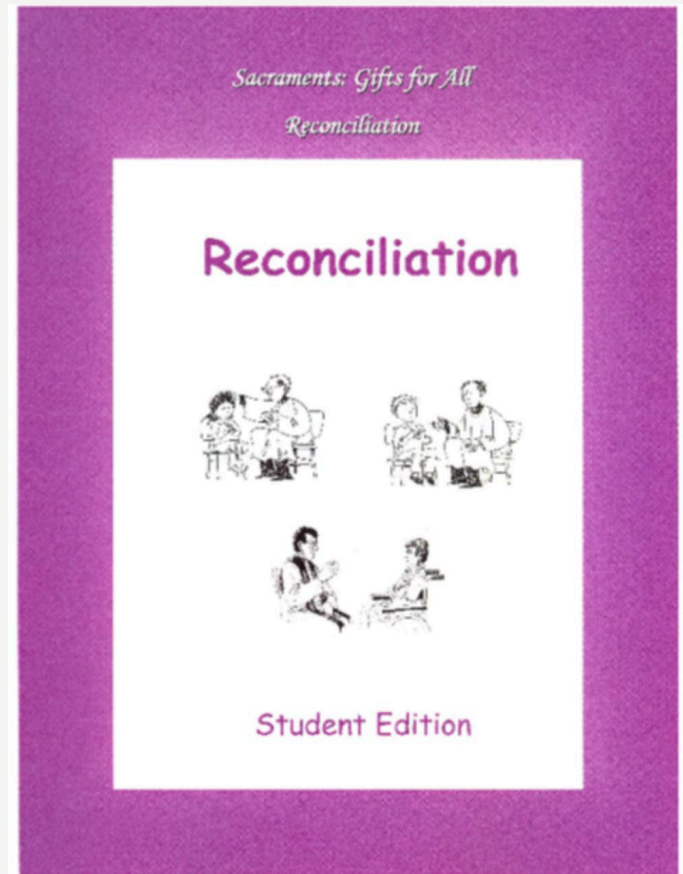
TEAM TEACH / TEACHER AIDE



- Assist with adapting/modifying lesson
- Small group and one-on-one.
- Positive behavior support
- Help with assistive technology & AAC.
augmentative alternative communication

ADAPTIVE MATERIALS

LOYOLA ADAPTIVE FINDING GOD KIT, SACRAMENTAL BOXES AND USE OF OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL.



UPDATED LISTING OF ADAPTIVE MATERIALS

ADAPTIVE MATERIALS



<https://brotherfrancisstore.com/>

<https://www.saintlyheartco.com>

MODELS OF ENGAGEMENT IN SACRAMENTAL PREP

In Learning Support Classroom

with small group learning and adapted curriculum



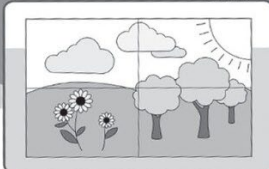
ADAPTIVE MATERIALS

• LOYOLA ADAPTIVE FINDING GOD KIT & SACRAMENTAL BOXES.



1A

UNIT 1 *God, Our Creator and Father*



God Creates the Earth and the Sky

Activity: The child makes a puzzle showing that God creates the earth and the sky.

Concept

God creates the earth and the sky. He creates everything in the world.

What You Need

- ▶ Picture Glossary* image for God
- ▶ window crayons
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ crayons or markers
- ▶ access to a window
- ▶ Learning Tool: Picture Cards 3, 4, and 8

*Pages 445-451 of the Adaptive Finding God Catechist Guide

At Home

Invite the parents to look out a window at home with their child twice during the week. Encourage them to remind their child that God creates the earth and the sky.

Lesson Steps

1

Opening Prayer
Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: *Dear God, you are our Creator and Father. You create the earth and the sky. Guide us in remembering that you create the whole world for us.* Pray the Sign of the Cross.

2

Begin with Life Experience
Show the child the image for God from the Picture Glossary. Explain that God creates things because he loves us. Display the Picture Cards. Say: *God creates flowers. Which is a picture of a flower?* Then say: *God creates trees. Which is a picture of a tree?* Next say: *God creates clouds. Which is a picture of clouds?* Tell the child that God also creates the earth and the sky. Say: *The earth is the ground we stand on. The sky is what we see when we look up. God creates both of these.*

3

Connect
Go to the window. Using window crayons, draw and label what you see or have the child add birds to the sky and trees to the ground. Explain that God creates all these things. Invite the child to identify the earth and sky from the photocopy of Side B of this card. Next, help the child color then cut out the puzzle pieces. Put the puzzle together. Say: *God creates everything we can see when looking out a window. He creates the earth and sky.*

4

Closing Prayer
Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: *Thank you, God, for creating the earth and the sky.* Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

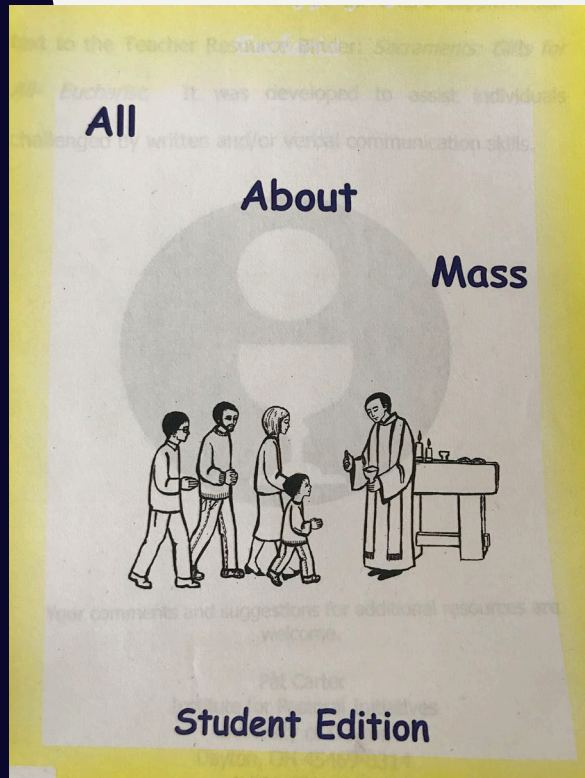
© LOYOLA PRESS.

A Adaptive Finding God Hands-On Lesson Cards

UPDATED LISTING OF ADAPTIVE MATERIALS

University of Dayton: Can be used as text or a supplement.

[HTTPS://UDAYTON.EDU/ARTSSCIENCES/CTR/IPI/INCLUSIVE_CATECHESIS_RESOURCES/BOOKS.PHP.](https://udayton.edu/artssciences/ctr/ipi/inclusive_catechesis_resources/books.php)



Sacraments: Gifts for All Eucharist Resource Binder- R/C

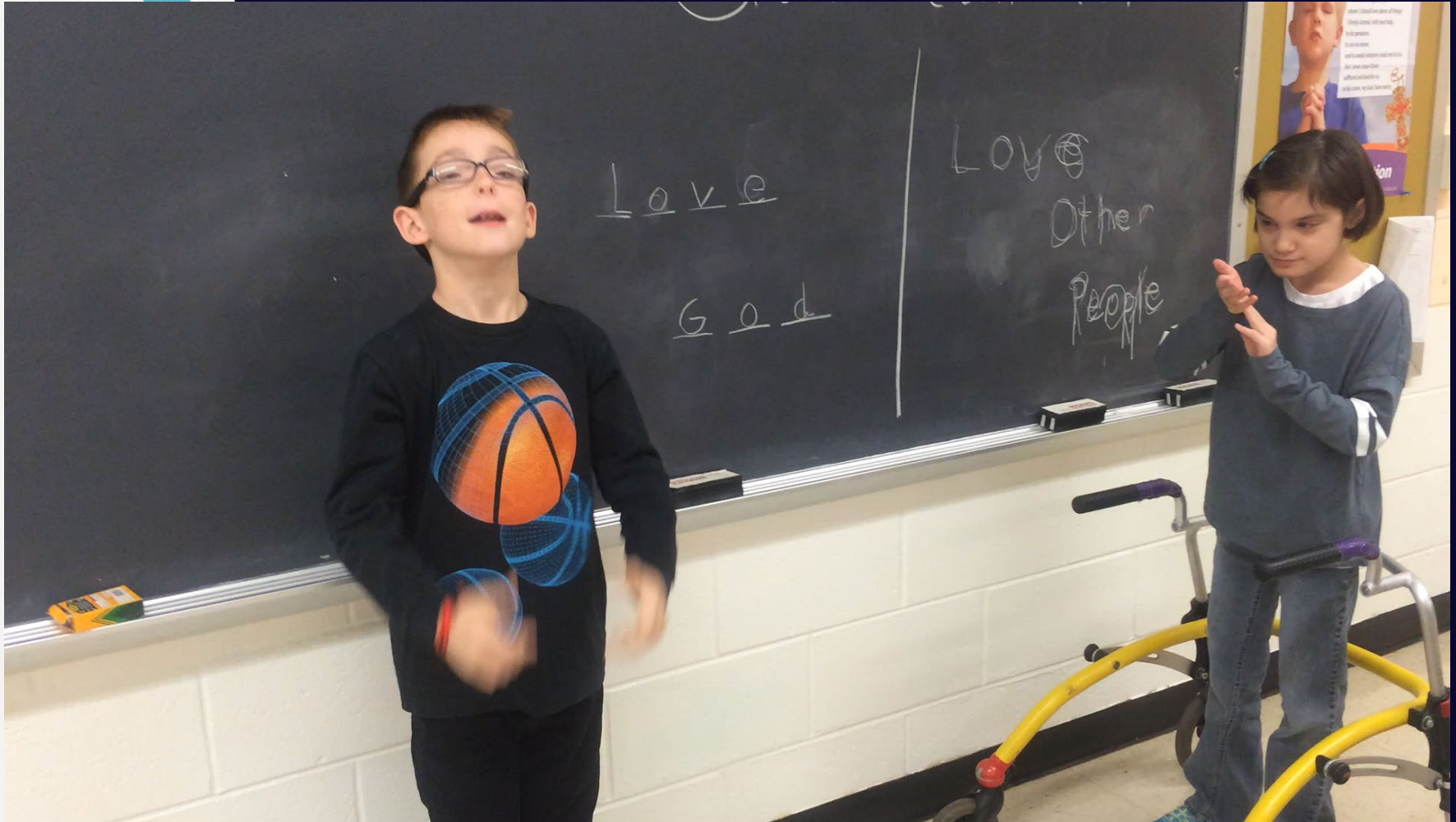
- **All About Mass**
- **Who Is Jesus?**
- *Sacraments*
- *Eucharist*
- *The Beatitudes* ...

14 Student Text & Guides . Minimal Language / Filled with graphics

EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES

- Task Analysis and Chunking
- Visual Supports /prompts
- Sensory-friendly environment
- Positives reinforcement
- Teach social skills explicitly
- Promote peer interaction
- Assistive devices

USING NEW TECHNOLOGIES



ADAPTIVE MATERIALS

- SAINTLY HEARTS AND BROTHER FRANCIS MATERIAL.



<https://brotherfrancisstore.com/>

<https://www.saintlyheartco.com>

MODELS OF ENGAGEMENT IN SACRAMENTAL PREP

With Individualized Instruction

joins with peers for prayer, liturgies & special activities



SYMBOLIC CATECHESIS

- Manner
- Gesture
- Reverential silence
- Even if no or little language



MCGUIRE MEMORIAL AWAKENING SPIRITUAL DIMENSIONS

A Model of Catechesis and Prayer Services
for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities



William Gillum, OFM Cap., M.Div, M. Ed.



ASPECTS OF SYMBOLIC CATECHESIS

AWAKENING SPIRITUAL DIMENSIONS

- Keep it simple - core ideas
- Contemplative style
- Experiential
- Ritual that connects with the learning
- All the senses are involved
- Symbols & Gestures

The environment and the relationships promote the learning.



FORMATION FOR SACRAMENTS

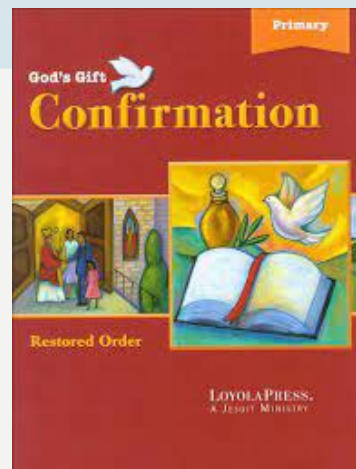
With Peers

With the Confirmation class with modifications/ accommodations supports, peer mentor or extra help from a sponsor or parent.



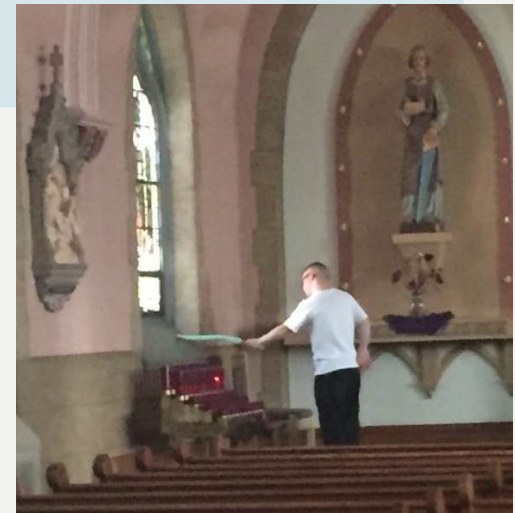
Adaptive Materials

Use adaptive materials if needed



Engage

If one on one or parent prepares, consider ways to engage with class or parish.



PREPARING FOR MASS ATTENDANCE

- Recognize the challenges
- Encourage parents to seek support from professionals, IEP team and look for natural supports.
- What accommodations would help – appropriate fidgets, noise canceling head- phones.
- Attend a shorter quieter Mass, using a visual schedule.
- Begin by going to a shorter weekday Mass
- Use streaming live Masses as a way to orient and practice Mass attendance,



PREPARING FOR MASS ATTENDANCE

SENSORY FRIENDLY MASS

Office for Persons with Disabilities & the Deaf Apostolate
ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA / www.OPDarchphila.org

Come to me.

Matthew 19:14

All are welcome. All belong.

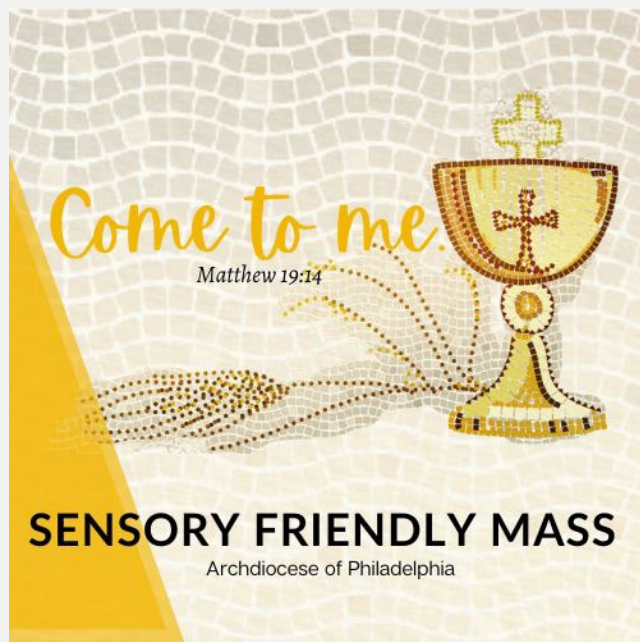


A Sensory-Friendly Mass requires three main criteria: a welcoming, stigma-free environment; an informed community; and a few special accommodations to help reduce instances of over-stimulation. [CLICK HERE](#) for a full list of the suggested accommodations to make Mass more sensory-friendly.

RESOURCES

<https://opdarchphilly.org/sfm/>

https://www.ncpd.org/resources_and_toolkits/sensory-friendly-masses



Manipulatives to assist in Mass preparation and attendance:

Manipulatives are tactile items that can be used as a tangible focus. Here are Catholic learning manipulatives that are interactive yet still focus on the faith.

Mass Tool Kit Materials:

Visual aids for families and individuals to assist in attending or preparing to attend Mass. These are free printable materials to make available to families in your parish.

• Guide to Prepare to Go to Mass –

Parents/guardians can use this guide to assist in the transition to attending Mass and/or each week to prepare for leaving the home to go to Mass.

• My Parish Mass Template – Use pictures of your Church, parish priests and Liturgy for this Mass booklet.

• Going to Mass Visual Story – A social story about Mass created by the Diocese of Newark.

• Going to Mass Sensory Book – A social story about Mass created by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

• <https://opdarchphilly.org/sfm/>

Essential Resources

Curriculum, Books and Resources

- **Loyola:** Adaptive Finding God & Sacrament Kits
www.FindingGod.com/adaptive
- **University of Dayton Materials:** Institute for Pastoral Initiates
www.udayton.edu/artssciences/ctr/ipi/index.php
- **OSV:** Sacrament Videos for Deaf /Visual Learners
www.osvparish.com/CatechistHelp/PeoplewithSpecialNeeds.asp
[x](#)
- **Sadlier:** Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners Index
- **RCL- Bensinger:** Rose Kennedy Materials & Picture Books from Pittsburgh Archdiocese www.rclbenzinger.com

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Catholic

- **NCPD** National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities www.ncpd.org
- **NCOD** National Catholic Office for the Deaf www.ncod.org
- **Xavier Society for the Blind**
www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org

Interfaith

- **Collaborative on Faith and Disability**
www.faithanddisability.org / www.faithability.org

LOCAL RESOURCES

- **Diocesan Disability Resources**
- **State and Local Assoc. and Agencies**
- **Parents/Guardians**
- **Professionals in your parish and area**



More Essential Resources

USCCB

Documents:

- [USCCB 1978 Pastoral Statement on Persons with Disabilities](#)
- [1998 Welcome and Justice for Persons with Disabilities](#)
- [2017 Revised Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities](#)

www.opdarchphilly.org

SHARED RESOURCES

Power Point

Resource Booklet

Reconciliation Helps

[**www.opdarchphilly.org**](http://www.opdarchphilly.org)

Faith Formation