

Open Hearts

Open Minds

Access and Inclusion in Worship Newsletter

Inclusion Awareness Day is October 10, 2010

Cardinal Francis George of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, Bishop William Murphy of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York and Metropolitan Iakovos of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago have written letters to their pastors asking that their parishes celebrate Inclusion Awareness Day on October 10, 2010 or alternate dates this fall.

“We want people of all abilities to feel welcome in our parishes and make certain that everyone is included in worship as well as other aspects of parish life,” wrote His Eminence Francis Cardinal George in his letter to pastors.

“We want people of all abilities to feel welcome in our parishes...”

His Eminence
Francis Cardinal George
Archbishop of Chicago

In his Inclusion Awareness Sunday letter, His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago called on parishes to use their observance of Inclusion Awareness Sunday to begin “a constant effort to offer

OPEN HEARTS OPEN MINDS INCLUSION AWARENESS DAY

Welcoming parishioners of all abilities
into active participation every day of the year.

October 10, 2010



Open Hearts, Open Minds is a partnership between Pathways Awareness and the Archdiocese of Chicago.
For more information visit www.InclusionInWorship.org.

The Inclusion Awareness Day poster is available at www.InclusionInWorship.org in dated and undated versions for use on October 10 or alternate fall dates.

‘recognition, not rejection’ to persons who often do not feel they can be included in our worship, our ministries and in the fullness of life within the Holy Church.”

To read the full text of the letters or for Inclusion Awareness Day Workbooks of planning materials, prayer cards, posters and bulletin covers for various faith traditions visit www.InclusionInWorship.org.

Inclusion Representative Meetings Scheduled

Parishes in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to send a representative to one of a series of Vicariate Inclusion Representative Meetings. Information about the Pathways Awareness \$1,000 cash grants for parish access and inclusion efforts and Inclusion Awareness Day planning materials will be available.

Meetings are scheduled at accessible parishes on the following dates:

Vicariate I and II

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

6:30 to 8:30 PM (registration 6:00 PM)

St. Paul of the Cross Parish

320 S. Washington Street

Park Ridge, IL 60068

847-825-7605

Vicariate V and VI

Thursday, September 23, 2010

7:00 to 9:00 PM (registration 6:30 PM)

Infant Jesus of Prague Parish

Flossmoor Road at Leavitt Avenue

Flossmoor, IL 60422

708-799-5400

Guest speakers from L'Arche Chicago will be featured at the September 15 meeting at St. Paul of the Cross.

Meetings open with networking and a light meal. The Inclusion Representative Resource Booklet, Idea Guide and Inclusion Awareness Day posters, prayer



Inclusion Reps share tips at the first in a series of meetings about welcoming parishioners of all abilities into active participation in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago.

cards and *Miss Mary* books will be available. A tour of the accessible host parish will close the meetings.

Ten new Inclusion Reps joined the *Open Hearts* ministry at the Vicariate I meeting on August 18 at Prince of Peace parish in Lake Villa. Rita Byrd, new Inclusion Representative from Our Lady of Humility parish, spoke about the heated, exterior ramp at the main entrance to her church that stays ice-free in the winter months. A three stop lift makes the lower level church hall accessible to all. A ramp to the altar was also installed behind the sanctuary.

Additional meetings will be scheduled for Vicariates III, IV and V. If you would like to host a meeting or to RSVP or request additional accommodations, call Joanne Meyer at 708-922-9455 or email jmeyer@pathwaysawareness.org. For more information about *Open Hearts*, *Open Minds* visit www.InclusionInWorship.org.

ABOUT PATHWAYS AWARENESS

Pathways Awareness is dedicated to early detection and early intervention for children with motor delays and inclusion in all aspects of life. The *Open Hearts*, *Open Minds* program provides information, educational materials and cash grants to promote access and inclusion in worship. For more information, please call 1-800-955-2445, write to 150 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60601 or visit www.InclusionInWorship.org, www.pathwaysawareness.org and www.pathwayscenter.org.