

The Inclusion Sunday Workbook 2001

***Tools to welcome persons with disabilities
on Inclusion Sunday and every day of the year.***

Developed by Pathways Awareness Foundation,
in partnership with the Archdiocese of Chicago

Pathways Awareness Foundation





Pathways Awareness Foundation

Dear Parish Leader:

On October 14, 2001 parishes across the Archdiocese of Chicago will celebrate the many ways they reach out to include persons with disabilities in worship, ministry, fellowship and learning. To further this effort, Cardinal George has asked each parish to appoint an Inclusion Representative to coordinate these activities on a parish level.

Since 1996 the Archdiocese of Chicago has worked in partnership with Pathways Awareness Foundation to assist parishes to include persons with disabilities in all aspects of parish life. Please join us in celebrating this day. The materials in this workbook are designed to make joining this effort easier, not only on Inclusion Sunday but every day of the year.

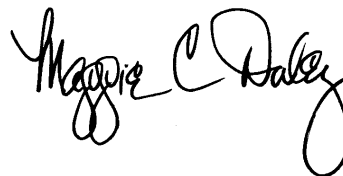
Your parish is invited to participate in this exciting movement. Please consult with your pastor and send the name of your Inclusion Representative to Pathways Awareness Foundation by fax at 312-381-5221, by e-mail to Joanne_Meyer@pathwaysawareness.org, or by phone at 312-381-5220 or 800-955-2445.

We thank you in advance for opening hearts, minds and doors to parishioners with disabilities on Inclusion Sunday and every day of the year.

Sincerely,



Shirley Ryan
Chairman



Maggie Daley
President

**Pathways Awareness Foundation ~ 200 East Randolph Street ~ Chicago, Illinois 60601
Tel: (800) 955-2445 ~ www.pathwaysawareness.org ~ Fax: (888) 795-5884**

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

May 2001

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Many of you have participated in an important movement inspired by the late Joseph Cardinal Bernardin: the inclusion of people with disabilities in Liturgy and church life. The movement, called "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors," continues today.

On Sunday, October 14, 2001, parishes in our archdiocese will again observe Inclusion Sunday, a celebration of inclusion in the areas of personal affirmation, communication, and accessibility. I encourage you to make this welcoming spirit a part of all parish activities.

While our role is to make all people welcome in worship every day, Inclusion Sunday reminds us about how much we all can grow and learn when people with different abilities are able to bring their gifts to the altar.

Providing people with disabilities the opportunity to serve others is a demonstration of our open hearts. We open our minds when we communicate in ways that demonstrate caring, such as the use of large print and language that emphasizes the person rather than the disability. We open our doors when we make worship physically accessible to everyone.

Please join me in opening our worship to all our people, not only on Inclusion Sunday, but on every day of the year. Thank you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago

Table of Contents

Bulletin Clip Art	5
Bulletin Article	6
Inclusion Sunday Activities.....	7
Homily Helps for Inclusion Sunday.....	8
Intercessions.....	10
Inclusive Hymns.....	10
Access Blessing.....	11
Access Symbols.....	12
Prayer for Inclusion.....	13
Talking Points for Inclusion Reps.....	14
Call For Parish Inclusion Reps.....	15

All materials in the Inclusion Sunday Workbook
are available online at
www.pathwaysawareness.org.

Many of our inclusion materials are now available in Spanish.
Please call 1-800-955-2445 to order a free packet!

Bulletin Clip Art

INCLUSION SUNDAY IS COMING!

*A day to celebrate how our parish
welcomes parishioners with disabilities
every day of the year!*

OCTOBER 14, 2001

INCLUSION SUNDAY • OCTOBER 14, 2001

**A Day To Celebrate How Our Parish Welcomes
Parishioners With Disabilities Every Day Of The Year!**

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost • October 14, 2001

**WHO IS MADE TO
FEEL FOREIGN
AMONG US?**

*“Was none of them found to return
and give praise to God except
this foreigner?”*

- Luke 17:18

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost • October 14, 2001

**“WASH AND
BE CLEAN”**

- 2 Kings 5:13

ALL of us need the healing
power of God.

*In the center of the Eucharist
stands the vulnerable Jesus, and
that means that in the center of
liturgical life, those who are most
vulnerable belong.*

-Henri Nouwen

We are a single
flock under a single
shepherd. There
can be no separate
church for persons
with disabilities.

*U.S. Bishops
Welcome and Justice for
Persons with Disabilities, #1*

Bulletin Article

Inclusion Sunday

“For my house shall be a house of prayer for all people”

Isaiah 56:6

This We Believe!

- If there are barriers to attitude, communication, or architecture for anyone, the foundation of the House of God is weakened for all.
- Every person is created by God, each is loved by God, and none should be diminished by another, even by unintentional actions or words.

This We Know!

Accidents, diseases, and birth conditions occur that demand dramatic and taxing changes. Families experience intense disappointment, loss, financial burdens and anger. Fortunately, for some families the resulting responsibilities bring out new talent, compassion and vision. Never forget: a disabling condition may be an automobile ride, one unsteady stepladder, one overheated stove, one high fever or one stroke away. If we don't have limiting conditions now, we surely will before we die.

Many of us are uncomfortable with people who look and act “different”. As a result, many people with disabilities are often ignored, isolated or rejected.

When our response grows out of pity, the person with the disability feels patronized and diminished and does not necessarily react with gratitude. How much better to regard someone primarily as a person with abilities, and only secondarily as someone who may need assistance to use those abilities.

Inclusion in Parish Life

Are you a parishioner who has a disability and would like to participate more fully in Parish Life? We are willing to accommodate any special needs. Please contact us and we can discuss the options. We are open to all ideas to make this a “House of Prayer for All People”!

“It is not enough to merely affirm the rights of people with disabilities. We must actively work to make them real in the fabric of modern society...the Church must work to increase the public's sensitivity toward the needs of people with disabilities and support their rightful demand for justice” (U.S. Catholic Bishops)

By Barb Gunderson, Inclusion Representative, St. Mary's, Buffalo Grove, adapted from *That All May Worship*, National Organization on Disability

Inclusion Sunday Activities

To begin any day of the year, and to showcase on Inclusion Sunday!

- **Be a part of the five-year inclusion initiative. Fax (312-381-5221) or call (312-381-5220) Pathways Awareness Foundation with the name of your parish's Inclusion Representative. (see p. 15)**
- **Ask your parish's Inclusion Representative to speak at all Masses about the five-year Inclusion Initiative in the Archdiocese of Chicago. (see p.14)**
- **Personally invite parishioners with disabilities to begin a parish ministry as an usher, lector, minister of communion, catechist, parish council member, etc. and provide the necessary supports.**
- **Ask your pastor to write about Inclusion Sunday in the bulletin.**
- **Ask the homilists to speak on Inclusion at all Masses. (See p. 8.)**
- **Start an Inclusion Committee in your parish to assist the Inclusion Representative in parish efforts to create access for all.**
- **Survey your parish needs and develop a plan to meet those needs. Call 1-800-955-2445 and request a parish survey from the free folder of Inclusion How-To materials.**
- **Use sign language as the primary mode of proclaiming the Word from the ambo. Voice interpretation of the signed Word could be provided from a microphone off to the side.**
- **Invite school children to make posters of how they welcome people with disabilities into their parish. Display the posters on the altar on Inclusion Sunday. Use the "Different Gifts, But the Same Spirit" lesson plans in conjunction with this activity. Call 1-800-955-2445 for a free copy of the lesson plans. Enter the posters in the Junior Open Hearts Award Contest in March to win up to one thousand dollars to further parish inclusion efforts.**
- **Show the "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" video after all Masses and serve refreshments. Use the "Idea Guide" in the video box to discuss and plan what you can do in your parish.**
- **Use access symbols in bulletins, ads, and on signage to publicize your parish's accessible features. (see p. 12)**
- **Purchase Assisted Listening Devices with parish funds and visit the homes of parishioners with hearing difficulties to explain how to use the devices. Lend the devices to the parishioner to keep and bring to Mass. Parishioners with hearing difficulties feel affirmed and cared for by the parish when this procedure is used.**

Homily Hints for Inclusion Sunday

The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 14, 2001

2Kings 5:1-3, 9-17; 2Timothy 2:8-13; Luke 17:11-19

The scripture texts for today have at least three common characteristics:

- They are stories of conversion, stories of how a change in the lives of Naaman, Paul, and the Samaritan gives them a new spirit of life.**
- All of these events take place in the context of a community that is affected by what happens to the individuals.**
- The act of remembering is central to these stories, - remembering to give thanks (the Samaritan), remembering to give thanks and praise to God (Naaman), and remembering that Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, is the heart of the gospel (this is Paul's understanding of his suffering and his mission in preaching). For Paul, all life, even suffering, is meaningful when we remember that we are in Christ and Christ is in us.**

- 1. The story of Naaman, the great commander, and of Elisha the prophet offers a model of how all of us are redeemed by God. The stages could be named as healing, gratitude, conversion, and worship (praise) of God. None of us is whole unless we open ourselves to the intervention of God's miraculous love. Partially hidden in the story is an interesting anecdote about Naaman who thought he needed (deserved) an elaborate ritual in order to be healed. But Elisha offers a simple direction: "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times." Not every act or gesture of healing and restoration of life needs to be a great one. We are asked to do ordinary things, as mother Teresa said, "with extraordinary love". To welcome another, to include our brothers and sisters with different abilities in our parish ministries, to provide assistance so all can join with the community of faith in worship does not take great efforts, only great care. There are many ways that we can be vehicles of God's miraculous power and unconditional love, - we can always see differently when our hearts are changed.**

- 2. Paul writes to Timothy from prison and seeks to encourage Timothy to continue the mission of spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. Paul regards his confinement in two ways: first, it is an opportunity to be part of the suffering of Christ and as such it is a privilege of his discipleship. But it is also an affliction, keeping him from his ministry of preaching to the many whom need the gospel. In a sense, all of us are confined in one way or another, by sin, by circumstances of life, by other interests, by addiction, by our lack of love or faith. But all of us are called into the newness of life that Jesus Christ has won for us. We must never “imprison” the ministry, or the desire to minister, of someone else. We are called to reach out to others who may feel confined by a particular disability: to those who need an initial gesture of hospitality, or an opportunity to serve and belong: to anyone who might otherwise feel excluded from the body of Christ.**
- 3. The story from Luke’s gospel, like the first reading focuses on the response of the “foreigner” who returned to give thanks for being healed. Perhaps we need to ask, “Who are those who are made to feel like foreigners among us”? How can we change that so that no one is prevented from worshipping in the midst of the assembly? This challenges all of us to remember that we are one with Christ, and with each other, because of our baptism and that oneness is a more powerful and more important bond than the differences that sometimes seem to separate us. For that we should all give thanks and praise to God.**
- 4. Note on language: the homilist needs to be careful of the language that is used to speak of those who have disabilities. Note that the scripture translations for the first reading and the gospel use the phrases “the man ... suffered from leprosy” and “ten people who had leprosy”. It is not appropriate to refer to “the leper”, “the disabled”, or “the handicapped”. We are not identified by our ability or by our inability, but by our person.**

Contributed by the Office of Divine Worship, Archdiocese of Chicago

Sample Intercessions for Inclusion Sunday

October 14, 2001

**For the Church, may we always witness to the ministry of Christ who welcomed the resident and the foreigner alike, we pray to the Lord,
All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For the nations of the world, may all systems and practices of confining others give way to freedom and peace for all of God's people, we pray to the Lord,
All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For those who frame laws and administer justice, may their integrity and compassion mirror the justice of God, we pray to the Lord,
All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For those who are poor and for those who suffer; for those whose cries echo the cry of Christ crucified, may they find comfort and relief, we pray to the Lord,
All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For all who work in our parishes for justice and equality, may the spirit of the gospel bear fruitful witness where Jesus is proclaimed in word and served in deed, we pray to the Lord,
All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For this community gathered around the Lord's table this day, may we always remember to give thanks and praise to the God who longs for nothing more than to make us whole, we pray to the Lord,
All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Contributed by the Office of Divine Worship, Archdiocese of Chicago

Inclusive Hymns

"Sing A New Church" by Nettleton, lyrics by Dufner

"All Are Welcome" by Haugen

"We Are Many Parts" by Haugen

Access Blessing

Efforts to create access through such accommodations as ramps, elevators, enhanced hearing systems, and large print hymnals should be acknowledged and celebrated. The Access Blessing below can be adapted to bless any new accommodation, and can be used as a stand alone service or adapted for inclusion within a Eucharistic celebration. In addition, access symbols should be used in bulletins, flyers, or other advertisements of parish events so that people will know of the availability of such accommodations. (See p.12 for Access Symbols).

Welcome

Opening prayer

Priest: Let us pray. Living and true God, You created all that is good and holy. Be close to your servants who gather here today. Be their constant help and protection. Enable us to reach out lovingly to all Your children to show understanding and awareness, comfort, consolation, justice and equality so that, together, we may participate fully in parish life and worship. We ask this through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

All: Amen

Scripture Reading Mark 2:1-5

Silent Reflection

Priest: Creator God, you give us all good things. You know our needs and fulfill our desires. You protect us when we are fragile and give us courage each new day. You give us strength when we are weak and humility when we are boastful.

Bless this new [] and those who will use it. May it open up a world of possibilities. May it bring worshipers to our assembly, students to Your saving word and seekers to find the divine love, which awaits them.

May we never take for granted any of Your gifts, especially the gift of each other. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Priest sprinkles the [] with holy water.

Intercessions

Priest: Confident that we are all God's Children, let us approach Him with our petitions.

Minister: For creativity and sensitivity in breaking down barriers in attitude and in architecture we pray...

All: Lord, make us one.

Minister: That our parish community may continue Jesus' mission of love for all people with disabilities, offering appropriate support and services, we pray...

All: Lord, make us one.

Minister: That people with disabilities may respond with trust to parish efforts to involve them more fully in the life of the Church, we pray...

All: Lord, make us one.

Minister: That we may be grateful for the gifts and abilities, which all people can share with our church and community, we pray...

All: Lord, make us one.

Minister: That the Lord will give us the strength to understand and accept our own disabilities, especially those, which hinder our growth in God's love, we pray...

All: Lord, make us one.

Priest: God of love, our refuge and our strength, hear the prayers of Your church, which we offer in faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Priest: Gathering our prayer and praise into one, let us offer the prayer that Christ himself taught us to pray...

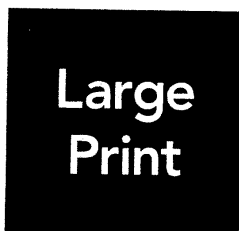
All: Our Father ...

Sign of Peace

Priest: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

By Dr. Richard Strife, Diocese of Lansing
National Catholic Office for Persons with Disabilities

Access Symbols



print 18 points
or larger



sign language
provided



enhanced hearing
devices provided



accessible
facilities

Prayer for Inclusion

Let Us Close the Circle: A Prayer for Wholeness

Mothering, fathering God:

**We give you thanks and praise for the joy of being church together...
for the exhilaration of doing liturgy as one body...**

Help us to know and remember:

**It is not *OUR SONG* until *ALL* sing ...
and then only will *ALL* be transformed...**

**It is not *OUR STORY* until *ALL* hear ... some with eyes, some with
ears, some with open hearts.**

**And it is not *OUR STORY* until *ALL* are invited to *PROCLAIM...*
*whether standing freely or firmly supported.***

***It is not* *OUR DANCE* until *ALL* process to the altar
and the *GIFTS* brought to the table are not the *GIFTS OF ALL*
until the *GIFT-BEARERS* truly look like *ALL OF US...***

**The *WELCOME OF HOSPITALITY* will not be *TRUE AND HONEST*
until *ALL* are *TOUCHED* ... physically, spiritually, emotionally...
and *ALL find* in their eyes the gaze of the *OTHER*.**

**Lord God, make it clear to us
that it will not be *HOLY* communion
until those who *BREAK AND SHARE THE BREAD*
look like *all who TAKE THE BREAD...*
and the cup is both *OFFERED AND RECEIVED* by *ALL* of us
in the *BROKENESS* that finds a home in *EACH ONE'S HEART*.**

**And so, *baptized in the breath of this new day*
we stretch out our arms and lift up our hands in blessing
embracing the *GIFTS THAT MAKE US WHOLE*.**

Gracious God, gather the gifts of *ALL*.

***SHAPE AND CLOSE THE CIRCLE* of your embrace
in the name of the one who *MOTHERS* and *FATHERS* us into life...
the one who *RESTORES* and *RENEWS* us...**

who *CHALLENGES* and *CHANGES* us...

**who *ENFOLDS* us and *RELEASES* us to do the *LITURGY OF LIFE*
in the sacred spaces to which we have been called.**

Humbly, *EXPECTANTLY*, we ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

By Mary Evers, Inclusion Representative, Old St. Patrick's Church

Talking Points for Inclusion Representatives

We strongly suggest that parish Inclusion Representatives speak at all masses about the five-year Inclusion Initiative in the Archdiocese of Chicago. If the parish does not have an Inclusion Representative interested parishioners could be encouraged to volunteer to serve the parish in this capacity.

- **Today is Inclusion Sunday.** Throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago, parishes are celebrating the many ways they welcome parishioners with disabilities every day of the year.
- **Inclusion is offering the same respect and opportunity to participate to all people regardless of physical and mental abilities.**
- **An inclusive parish offers the same respect and opportunity to worship, minister and study to all parishioners regardless of physical and mental abilities.**
- **Cardinal Joseph Bernardin began the effort to include persons with disabilities into all aspects of parish life in 1996 when he called a conference on inclusion. He asked Pathways Awareness Foundation to partner with the Archdiocese on this movement.**
- **Pathways Awareness Foundation produced the video “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors” to help parishes identify the needs of their own congregations and to develop short and long term plans for inclusion in all aspects of parish life.**
- **Cardinal Francis George has continued this effort and has asked each parish to appoint an Inclusion Representative to coordinate inclusion efforts on the parish level. He asked Pathways Awareness Foundation to spearhead a five-year initiative to involve every parish in expanding access to all.**
- **My name is _____.** I have volunteered to act as Inclusion Representative for our parish.

Today we would like to celebrate all that our parish does to welcome parishioners with disabilities every day of the year. (Acknowledge parish accomplishments or celebrate accommodations by using the Access Blessing p. 11).

Today we would like to begin (or expand) our efforts to welcome parishioners with disabilities. (State your parish’s inclusion plan. See p.7, the free folder of how-to material, or the Open Hearts Idea Guide for more ideas, both available free by calling 1-800-955-2445).

Call for Parish Representatives to Welcome Persons with Disabilities

Since 1996 the Archdiocese of Chicago has worked in partnership with Pathways Awareness Foundation to assist parishes to include persons with disabilities in worship, service, fellowship, and study. To further this effort, Cardinal George has asked each parish to appoint an Inclusion Representative to coordinate these activities on a parish level.

A parishioner who has shown an interest in working to include persons with disabilities, a parishioner who has a disability, or a relative or friend of a person with a disability would be a good Parish Representative. A staff member or parish minister who already ensures that parishioners with disabilities are welcomed and affirmed would also make a good parish representative.

The Parish Inclusion Representative will coordinate activities in their faith community to ensure that persons with disabilities are welcomed to full participation in parish life. Materials and activities will be provided by Pathways Awareness Foundation to promote this effort.

Your parish is invited to participate in this exciting movement. Please consult with your pastor and fax the name of your Inclusion Representative to 312-381-5221 or call 312-381-5220 (toll-free at 1-800-955-2445). Thank you.

Parish Name: _____

Inclusion Representative Name: _____

Title: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail _____

The logo for Pathways Awareness Foundation features the text "Pathways Awareness Foundation" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is centered and partially overlaid by several thick, black, curved lines that sweep across the page from the bottom left towards the top right, creating a sense of movement and flow.

Pathways Awareness Foundation

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Telephone: (312) 381-5220

Toll-free: (800) 955-2445

Facsimile: (312) 381-5221

E-mail: friends@pathwaysawareness.org

Web site: www.pathwaysawareness.org

We invite contributions to the Inclusion Sunday Workbook!

Please e-mail your submission to

Joanne_Meyer@pathwaysawareness.org

or fax to 312-381-5221.