

May 2020

FAITH...GIFTEDNESS...PARTNERSHIP

Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities - Diocese of Madison

Love, Care and Compassion for Persons with Disabilities Since 1967

608.821.3050 :: 702 S. High Point Rd, Suite 225, Madison, WI 53719 :: APD@MadisonDiocese.org

Hello Sisters & Brothers,

A Blessed Easter Season to you in this beautiful Spring time of the year!

How well aware are we that the world pandemic is unprecedented in our history, especially in terms of its impact on our daily lives. The consequences of our essential shutdown are far reaching and disturbing. In the face of all of this, God is inviting us to a deeper, radical trust in Him. The realities we are facing may challenge us to question if we truly believe in God and entrust our lives to God's mercy, or not. The truth is, our faith gives us a perspective, teaches us what to do in the face of adversity.

You who daily live with the challenges of aging, illness, disabilities, and abilities know well how important it is to trust in the truth of Jesus who said, "I Am the Resurrection and the Life"! Our God is powerful and almighty, very near and intimate with our hurts, our fears, our hopes. We certainly don't know what the days and weeks ahead will bring, but we do know Who has our

lives, our future, in His hands.

In this month of May, let us ask our Blessed Mother Mary to intercede for us in all that our lives are about, and in a very special way, to prayerfully remember our mothers, living among us and those we trust are with the Lord. With gratitude and love, offer this Mother's Day Blessing:

*Loving, Creator God,
As a mother gives life and nourishment
To her children,
So You watch over Your Church.
Bless all of our mothers
That they may know the strength
And gifts of Your Holy Spirit.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
May honor them always.
May your abundant grace be with all,
In the name of the Father,
And of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Msgr. Larry Bakke, Director



Lent Retreat at St. Coletta of Wisconsin



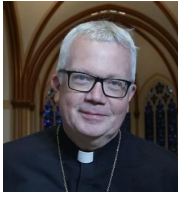
On March 12th at St. Coletta of Wisconsin, Apostolate Staff and volunteers joined with members of the staff at St. Coletta to provide a Lenten retreat for 45 adults with intellectual disabilities. The day was filled with faith and joy as we learned about how Jesus comes to us and how we can encounter Him in prayer.

Our morning started with a video message from Bishop Hying who assured us of his prayers and reminded us of God's love for each of us. Then, Ted Behncke, the President of St. Coletta of Wisconsin,

talked with us about how both St. Coletta and the Apostolate were providing ministry and formation to persons with disabilities before that was common. Franciscan sisters at St. Coletta of Wisconsin began serving children with disabilities in 1904 and were the first in the country to provide religious instruction and Holy Communion to children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Let us know if you'd like to volunteer to help with the next Lenten Retreat in March 2021!





The Heart of Our Faith

By Bishop Donald Hying
Excerpted with permission from
Bishop Hying's column published in the
Catholic Herald on April 9, 2020

Easter is the very heart of our faith, for in the triumphal rising of Christ from the dead we see the absolute and final reversal and undoing of everything that is wrong in the world.

Life swallows up death; mercy quenches sin; love overcomes hatred; hope conquers fear; and joy replaces sadness.

Those first followers of the Lord were so changed by their experience of the risen Christ that they spent the rest of their lives giving witness to what they had seen and heard -- the in-breaking of the vast beautiful world of the Kingdom of God!

The possibility of a deep, transforming relationship with the Lord, here and now, through the Church, the Scriptures, the sacraments, prayer, and service becomes the central reality of our life.

In Baptism, we die to our old selves and rise with Christ.

In the Eucharist, we taste the Divine Manna which unites us with the Lord.



In deep and consistent prayer, we discover that Jesus is truly alive and lives within and among us. The old order of things has been cast down -- the worldly path of climbing the ladder of material success, looking out for our own interests, withholding forgiveness and mercy to those who need us, seeking a life of complacency and comfort, putting the things of this world before the reality of God.

None of these attitudes and ways of living make sense anymore to a Christian who has truly experienced the grace and power of the resurrection. In his Letter to the Romans, Paul reminds us that the fullness of this new, risen life has not yet been fully realized in us.

We groan in spirit as we await the unveiling of the glory of God. We still carry the burden of sin and the curse of death. We still inhabit a world that often seems to be moving further away from the Kingdom of God.

My Retreat Experience

"I had a wonderful time at the retreat. I enjoyed hearing about the stories and culture of different people. It was a very positive experience to have and I would love to do it again!"

ANN KRUEGER
LENT RETREAT PARTICIPANT



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Parish Disability Liaison

This program is growing! More parishes identify a liaison every month. Please contact Dcn. Jim to find out if there is someone at your parish or if you are interested in helping spread the Gospel in this role.



Adaptive Catechesis

BY MARGARITA CABADA

ADAPTIVE CATECHESIS
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR AND CATECHIST
AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

The Adaptive Catechesis Program is a new service offered at Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish (STA). The Program began in February 2019, and runs class sessions from September to April, following the school year. This program runs on Wednesdays from 6:00pm to 7:00 pm at STA and follows a similar curriculum and schedule as the parish's Faith Formation program.

The initial purpose of the program was to prepare students with special needs to receive their First Communion; however, when the parents reached out to us we learned that some of the students didn't only need the Sacrament but were interested in developing a communal experience where they could journey together and grow closer to God.

We set up an intake meeting with each family interested in this service. We learned about their child's strengths and needs, their goals for the student and the interests of the family. This type of meeting is a parent-parish collaboration practice that allow us to define the level of accommodations and support needed for the student.

The group of students in Adaptive Catechesis is

small. Each of the students has either a parent, a therapist or a "buddy" as a role model to support when needed.

We follow a consistent routine:

- 1) Opening Prayer and singing with Father Bart,
- 2) Group Reading,
- 3) Craft,
- 4) Movie,
- 5) Game(s)
- 6) Closing prayer.

We try to find ways to do activities outside the classroom when it is beneficial for the students. For example, when we learned about the Church and about Mass, we did a scavenger hunt during our "Game" session. The students had a card with the religious articles from inside church and they went into the church to find the exact item on their cards. Everybody enjoyed it and wanted to do it again.

Each family and student is at a different phase of their journey in relationship with God. Our Adaptive Catechesis Program is here to support and walk together with them in this beautiful journey.

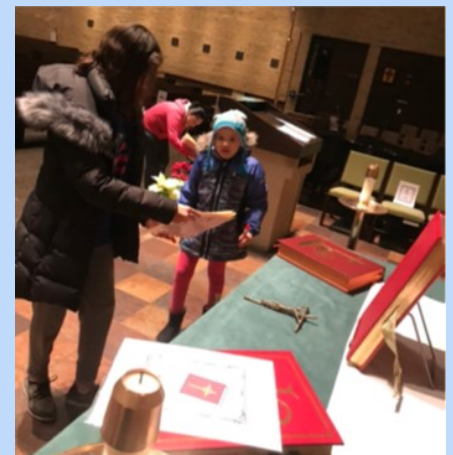
Priest Involvement

Fr. Bart joins the group for reading time.



Hands On Learning (Right)

A student and her volunteer buddy explore the Sanctuary at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish as part of Adaptive Catechesis Program.





Consistency and Movement

Every week, the room layout and the sequence of events stays the same so that students know what to expect. A schedule is always posted and followed. Each part of the class takes place in a different area of the room so that transitions are very clear and students can stay engaged.

One on One Learning

Each student works with the same volunteer throughout the year to learn at their own pace about the Catholic faith. Above, a student works on an activity to learn about the Creation with her buddy.



LIVE TRANSCRIBE

BY KAY RINGLESETTER
PARISH DISABILITY LIAISON AT
DIVINE MERCY PARISH IN SAUK CITY, WI

Free App provides transcriptions

The vast array of online programming and videos are appreciated by all during our pandemic, but the lack of online captioning on many of these programs presents a real challenge for those of us with hearing loss. My husband, Nick, discovered a handy tool for the hearing impaired who rely on this captioning. Live Transcribe is a free and easy to download program for your Android cell phone that provides immediate voice-recognition captions to any sound on your computer. It has helped me in many ways, even skyping with my grandchildren!

Easy to download to phone

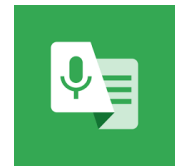
Go to Playstore on your Android phone and download Live Transcribe. When needed, simply place the phone near your speaker and captions are displayed on your phone. These captions remain on your phone and they can all be copied and pasted as needed.

Participate more fully in virtual parish activities

This has allowed me to follow all online programming such as Masses, bible studies, Zoom presentations and any and all great videos that I could not previously hear or understand. It is a great tool for the hearing impaired who rely on captions.

DIRECTIONS

For an Android phone, go to Playstore download **Live Transcribe**.

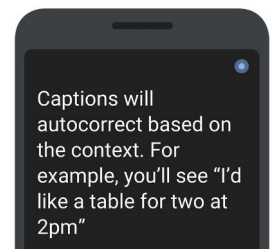


For an iPhone, go to the App Store and download **Transcribe**.



Access parish programming through your parish website or Facebook.

Open the transcription program on your phone. Set phone upright near the computer speaker where you can easily read it.



A PERSONAL ACCOUNT

MEDICAL DISCRIMINATION

Written by
Dcn. Jim Hoegemeier

In my previous position prior to joining the staff of the Apostolate, I served as guardian for a woman around the age of 60 who had Down Syndrome. One evening, I received a call from her caretaker to inform me that they were bringing her to the emergency room, as they could tell she was in real pain. The woman was non-verbal, but these wonderful caretakers always knew how she was feeling.

The physician... Recommended no active treatment since the woman 'had Down Syndrome and quality of life should be considered.'

At about 2:00 am the following morning, I received a call from the attending physician to update me on the woman's condition. The physician said it was obvious there were some serious issues, but recommended no active treatment since the woman "had Down Syndrome and quality of life should be considered." When I asked if things would be different if the woman did not have Down Syndrome, the physician

Upcoming Feasts

May 21: The Ascension of the Lord
May 31: Pentecost Sunday
June 14: Corpus Christi
June 19: Sacred Heart of Jesus
June 20: Immaculate Heart of Mary
June 24: Birth of John the Baptist



confirmed that they would recommend active treatment in that case. After "reading the riot act" to the physician, I immediately initiated the transfer of the woman to a different hospital. Later that afternoon, after tests confirmed that the issue was an ulcer, the woman underwent surgery. She fully recovered in a few days and eventually returned to participating in her favorite activity -



swimming in the pool installed at her residence for her enjoyment.

When it comes to considerations related to medical treatment, we need to make sure that there are no inequities related to disabilities. This issue has received some light as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



The Ethics and Public Policy Committee of the National Catholic Partnership on Disability has prepared a statement and video

introduction to assist anyone faced with a situation where lifesaving medical care is being rationed in ways that discriminate against persons with disabilities. To access these resources, go to

[NCPD.org/covid-19-resources](https://www.ncpd.org/covid-19-resources)

If you do not have access to the internet and would like a copy of this document, please call our office at 608-821-3050.

The Apostolate is able to offer ministry to people with disabilities in the diocese of Madison thanks to the generosity of so many donors!

Thank You!!

Memorials

Memorials For:

Agnes Dietl
 Al Ripp
 Alfred & Rita Nonn

Alphonse and Elizabeth Ripp
 Anthony "Bud" Meister
 Bertrand & Anna May Kratz Family
 Betty Pomeranke
 Bill Dahmen
 Bill Maly
 Bill Ripp
 Buol Family
 Clete, Dean & Keith Alt
 Dale Statz
 Damian & Marie Bauer
 Dan Laufenberg
 David Meier
 David Meier
 David Meier
 Delores Larson
 Dustin Helt
 Dustin Helt
 Ed Hellenbrand
 Elmer and Rita Kammes
 George Ross
 George Shepard
 Gilbert Roessler

Jack Laufenberg
 Jack Laufenberg
 Jack Laufenberg
 Jacob & Florence Buol Family
 Jeremay Buol
 Jim Kalscheur
 Joanne Wixom
 John and Florentine Ruhland
 John D McGuire
 John H & Florentine Ruhland
 John Sullivan
 Julius & Calogera Bonura
 Karel Family
 Kelly & Mary Campion Family
 Leon Statz
 Leonard and Lydia Endres
 Leonard Buechner

Louis Sullivan
 Lucy Genin
 Margaret Esser
 Marie "Sweetie" Blahnik
 Marie & Marvin Schiesser
 Mary Ellen Reichling

Given By:

Marlene Dischler
 Dan and Rita Endres
 Family & Friends of Alfred & Rita Nonn
 Herb and Eileen Statz
 Phyllis Meister
 Gerard Krantz Family

Roger & Helen Ripp
 Anna Dahmen
 Gerry Laufenberg
 Roger & Helen Ripp
 Charlain Boley
 Dorothy Alt
 Patrick & Joann Statz
 Brian & Mary Dischler
 Esther Botting
 David and Lois Spahn
 Lois Spahn
 The Family of David Meier
 The Family of Delores Larson
 Esther Botting
 Gerry Laufenberg
 Charlene Hellenbrand
 James Hoegemeier
 Bob Ross
 Mary Ellen Ripp
 Knights of Columbus Council # 6371
 Charlene Hellenbrand
 Esther Botting
 Gerry Laufenberg
 Charlain Boley
 Donovan and Charlain Boley
 Kathy Laubmeier
 Richard (Dick) Wixom
 Sheila Ruhland
 Alice McGuire
 Dr. Sheila K Ruhland
 Helen Sullivan
 Jeana & Ralph Haak
 Mary Ann Snorek
 Gerard Krantz Family
 Patrick & Joann Statz
 Dan and Rita Endres
 Helen Kelly & Agnes Beckwith
 Helen Sullivan
 William Genin
 Joan Cavanaugh
 James M. Hoegemeier
 Kayla Schiesser
 Rick and Karen Reichling



Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May these souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Memorials For:

Mary Jill & John Schmitz
 Menzo Bronson
 Monica Sullivan
 Msgr. Charles Schluter
 Nancy Bauer Starr
 Norma Ann Bahowick
 Norma Blahowick
 Pat Murphy
 Patrick Wixom
 Pete Maly
 Peter & Marcella Ripp
 Phillip Esser
 Robbi Koci
 Robert "Bob" Crahen

Roseann (Brei) Otter
 School Sisters of St. Francis
 Stanley Wagner
 The Peter and Margaret Schmitt Family
 The Thomas and Katherine Werla Family
 Tom Cullen
 Ziegler & Hellenbrand Families
 The Living & Deceased of the Ben & Mary Minter Family

Given By:

Verda Schmitz
 Anita Bronson
 Helen Sullivan
 Helen Kelly
 Brian & Mary Dischler
 Sharon M Stude
 Nancy Oswald
 Nancy Oswald
 Paul L Wixom
 Jeanne Maly
 Dan and Rita Endres
 Herb and Eileen Statz
 Dan and Rita Endres
 Officers and Members of KC Council 6371
 Ben & Mary Minter
 Gerard Krantz Family
 Herb and Eileen Statz
 Jean Rosemeyer

Ann Patek

Kathryn Cullen
 Charlene Hellenbrand
 Ben & Mary Minter



Memorial For: _____ Given By: _____

Please send \$10 for each Mass Intention to : Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities

702 S. High Point Rd., Suite 225, Madison WI 53719.

Select *one* per memorial: Mass Request (*Not tax deductible*) OR Donation (*Tax deductible*)

NEW: Please check a box to indicate if this memorial is a Mass request or a donation.

If your request is more complex, please include a short letter including your phone number to ensure that we process the request correctly. Call the Apostolate at 608-821-3050 with any questions.



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The Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities is an office in the Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin which strives to promote the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the life of the Church.



In this issue...

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- **Information on medical discrimination**

Television Mass Schedule
Sundays

6am on WISC-TV Channel 3
7am on TVW and Direct TV 14



Thank you to
WISC-TV Channel 3

for your ongoing generosity in providing
the weekly Mass to our viewing audience.