

APOSTOLATE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES - DIOCESE OF MADISON

LOVE, CARE, AND COMPASSION
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SINCE 1967

My Friends,

I continue to enjoy my weekly connection with you through the CBS Television Mass. Be assured that even though we are not physically present to each other, the goodness of television enables us to pray together! For those who are not able to participate in your local parish Masses, the "Spiritual Communion" prayer that appears on your TV screen offers a wonderful grace when you cannot receive Holy Communion in person.

Something that I reflect upon a lot is the gift of "joy" that comes from our relationship with the Lord, and with family, friends, caregivers, etc. There are some things in life, whatever the burdens, which if we cultivate them will never die, but will be the source of our joy forever, and will sustain us through everything.

Each of us holds a treasury of memories of those moments in time when we have shared special times with the people in our lives that make such moments rich and unforgettable. They remind us that there is in life, down deep, an essential and beautiful goodness that redeems all the moments that may be difficult and challenging, no matter what abilities or disabilities are part of our lives. They make us glad to be alive, and they offer us a Hope that does not disappoint.

Take some special time this Lenten Season to reflect on the blessings in your life that especially come with the gift of faith in God, and the gift of people who care for and about you! It's good to remember that we come to this world unable to function without the help of others. We grow to care for those around us so that, caring for one another, we may all live secure in the knowledge that we are safe and wanted, necessary and loved.

Blessings for you each and every day!

Msgr. Larry Bakke,

Chaplain of the Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities

UPCOMING LITURGICAL FEASTS

MAR 19: ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
MAR 25: THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
APR 13: PALM SUNDAY
APR 17: HOLY THURSDAY
APR 18: GOOD FRIDAY
APR 19: HOLY SATURDAY
APR 20: EASTER SUNDAY
APR 27: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
MAY 3: SS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES
MAY 14: ST MATTHIAS, APOSTLE
MAY 31: THE VISITATION
JUN 1: ASCENSION OF THE LORD
JUN 8: PENTECOST SUNDAY
JUN 15: THE MOST HOLY TRINITY
JUN 22: CORPUS CHRISTI
JUN 24: NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
JUN 27: MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS
JUN 28: SS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES
JUL 3: ST THOMAS, APOSTLE

APOSTOLATE SAVE-THE-DATES

LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

ST MARGARET MASS

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

DAY AT DEVIL'S LAKE

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

FAITH AND MENTAL HEALTH

Jesus
Healer, Friend, Comforter



To promote mental wellness and improve mental health literacy, the Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities has been sponsoring Mental Health First Aid courses for the past 3 years. ***In that time, 100 individuals from across the Diocese of Madison have gone through this course.***

Jesus invites the faithful to:

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For My yoke is easy, and My burden light." Matthew 11:28-30

This isn't a promise that we will not suffer, but rather that He will join us in our sufferings, no matter how significant or minimal that suffering is. As faithful members of the Body of Christ, through the teachings and traditions of our Catholic faith, we have a mission to accompany others in yoking themselves to the Lord. To come to Him through prayer, in His Eucharistic presence, and through each other.

ARE YOU A CATHOLIC WHO DESIRES TO:

- ✓ Reduce the stigma around mental illness
- ✓ Foster positive strategies for maintaining mental wellness
- ✓ Promote the participation of all individuals, particularly those with mental health challenges, into the life of the Church

Consider becoming
a parish mental
health advocate!

**MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATES ARE NEEDED
IN ALL PARISHES ACROSS THE DIOCESE**

Contact Laura to learn more.
608-821-3053; laura.sokup@madisondiocese.org



All are invited to join us for this free day of prayer and fun! The day will be from 10 AM-2 PM and will include:

- Mass celebrated on the South Shore by Bishop Hying
- Lunch
- Activities, hiking, and ice cream

There will be a free bus option from Holy Name Heights. Park entry fees will also be covered.

REGISTER NOW! DAY AT DEVIL'S LAKE STATE PARK

Thursday, June 5th, 2025

PLEASE RSVP BY JUNE 1ST!
CALL OR EMAIL THE APD TO REGISTER



Have you lost a loved one to suicide?

Join us for our 4-part series:
Addressing Our Suicidal Losses with the Help of our Catholic Faith

Group runs from 6-8pm with dinner provided from 5-6pm.

Spring Series: April 28th, May 5th, May 12th, and May 19th

St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Cottage Grove

To register, fill out the form on
<https://madisondiocese.org/supportgroups>
With questions, call Laura at 608-821-3053.

The Emmaus Ministry

FOR GRIEVING PARENTS



Are you grieving the loss of your child?

Join other parents for a one-day spiritual retreat.

Saturday, May 31st
9am to 7pm

St. Thomas Aquinas
602 Everglade Drive
Madison, WI 53717

Register online at
www.emfgp.org or scan QR code.
Registration is limited.



Free-will offering to cover lunch, dinner, snacks, and retreat materials (suggested amount \$50)

Questions or accommodations, contact:
Laura Sokup, Mental Wellness Program Coordinator,
608-821-3053 or laura.sokup@madisondiocese.org

JUBILEE 2025:



April 28-29, 2025 Jubilee of People with Disabilities

In anticipation of the Jubilee of People with Disabilities, set within a yearlong celebration of hope, we remember the words of Pope Francis in his message to people with disabilities on the 2022 International Day of Persons with Disabilities: We come to realize that we exist as an us and not a them whenever disability, whether temporary or due to natural aging, affects ourselves or someone for whom we care. Then we begin to look at reality with new eyes and we see the need to break down even those barriers that at first seemed insignificant. Nothing, however, can detract from our certainty that no disability – temporary, acquired or permanent – can change the fact that we are all children of the one Father and enjoy the same dignity. The Lord loves us all with the same tender, fatherly and unconditional love.

Let us take these words from Pope Francis as an inspiration to look at reality with new eyes and see how the Lord is at work in our lives. We are all called to be active members of the Church community, and we all belong to the Body of Christ. It is in Christ that we find our hope and our joy for our lives. All persons with disabilities are a great gift to the Church and help to inspire hope and joy in the other members of our communities. Let us also work to recognize the beautiful gifts and talents of all the faithful in the Body of Christ, especially those persons with disabilities who bring their unique gifts and talents to the community. During this Jubilee of People with Disabilities, let us work to highlight persons with disabilities in our specific dioceses, schools, and parishes who bring hope and joy. When we lift up and recognize the most vulnerable members of our communities with joy and appreciation, we highlight their dignity and worth in a beautiful way for others to welcome them personally as well. We look to Christ as the source of our hope and invite Him to radiate within each of us a deeper love for one another and cultivate a place of belonging for all the faithful in our Churches. It is the hope we have in Christ that urges us to live charity towards one another.

Prayer for Persons with Disabilities (Diocese of Green Bay)

God our Father, who created all people in your image: give persons with physical, cognitive, or emotional disabilities opportunities to do all that they are able to, and strengthen them to overcome challenges. Jesus, who showed great compassion for those who suffer: comfort all who feel like their gifts are not used or that their value is not understood, so that they might take courage in your affection. Holy Spirit, who fills believers with all good gifts: help me to reach out to persons with disabilities through friendship, care, and working to be sure that our church includes them in everything that we do and to break down barriers to inclusion in society. We ask this in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.



The Holy Doors of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Pope Francis opened these doors to pilgrims at the start of the 2025 Jubilee.

PILGRIMS OF HOPE



CENTRAL / SHRINE:

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church / Shrine of the Green Scapular (Monona)

NORTH:

St. Cecilia Church (Wisconsin Dells)



EAST:

St. Bernard Church (Watertown)



SOUTH:

Nativity of Mary Church (Janesville)



WEST:

St. Mary Church (Fennimore)



CENTRAL / SHRINE:

Schoenstatt Shrine (Madison)



You can pick up a Jubilee Passport at any of our six pilgrimage sites; we encourage you to visit all the sites and to collect a passport stamp at each one! Pilgrims who visit all six sites can receive a Jubilee certificate signed by Bishop Hying!

Our annual St. Margaret Mass and Reception is also our Diocese of Madison Jubilee for Persons with Disabilities celebration this year.

All are invited to join!

Please register by calling or emailing the Apostolate.

DIOCESE OF MADISON

ST. MARGARET

MASS AND RECEPTION

WITH BISHOP HYING

**HOLY NAME ORATORY
702 S HIGH POINT RD,
MADISON**

**9:00 AM
SENSORY
FRIENDLY
ADORATION**

**SUNDAY,
APRIL 27, 2025**

**10:00 AM
SENSORY
FRIENDLY
MASS**

What does Sensory Friendly mean? Softer music, dimmer lighting, and pictorial resources for those with accommodation needs. Families are encouraged to bring materials that can assist with comfort during the liturgy: noise cancelling headphones, wiggle seats, fidgets, etc. We understand there are people who may need to move or make sounds throughout. All are welcome to this Mass. Please request any additional accommodations, allergies, or dietary restrictions with your reservation.

SAVE THE DATE ***SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2025***

Mental Health Regional Retreat day with the Association for Catholic Mental Health Ministers. Details will be coming out as we get closer to the event, which all are welcome to attend. There will be dynamic speakers, breakout sessions, and opportunities for Mass and prayer throughout the day.



NCPD Mentorship Program

National Catholic Partnership on Disability has chosen the Diocese of Madison as a mentor diocese in their new mentorship program initiative! Through a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment, NCPD is covering the cost of trainings and materials for our diocesan ministry, as well as two parishes in the diocese. The two pastorates who have agreed to partner with us in the program are Stella Maris and John Henry Newman. It is our hope to learn from this process how to establish and maintain ministries throughout the diocese that promote the full inclusion and participation of people with disabilities and provide the opportunity for all baptized Catholics to live out their mission of discipleship.

While serving as mentor to another diocese, mentor dioceses will benefit from ongoing conversations about disability ministry. They will use resources, including virtual trainings to help the diocese further develop their outreach to parishes. The mentor diocesan lead and leads from two parishes will attend the NCPD conference in Salt Lake City where they will leave with a well-developed plan for outreach in the diocese and goals for parish ministry growth.



Apostolate Contact Info

Director: *Megan Wedwick* (608) 821-3051
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Admin. Coordinator: *Kayla (Schiesser) Taylor* (608) 821-3050
kayla.taylor@madisondiocese.org

Mental Wellness Coordinator: *Laura Sokup* (608) 821-3053
laura.sokup@madisondiocese.org

Chaplain: *Monsignor Larry Bakke*

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

Website: madisondiocese.org/apd

Email: APD@MadisonDiocese.org

Phone: (608) 821-3050

Mass Intentions and Memorials

Bernadine "Deane" Frank
Bill & Gary Weiss
Bob Urban
Clete & Dorothy Alt
Deceased Members of
Conway Family
Dolores Shiveler
Don Lang
Donald Owens
Edmund "Ed" Esser
Ernest & Arluwine Scribner
Esther Kaul
Esther Mootz
Florence Laufenberg
Frank & Marce Hirscher

Frederick & Mike Rauls
Jacob & Florence Buol
Jacob Ellefson
Janet Robertson
Jeremay Buol
Jim Ruhland
John & Florentine Ruhland
John & Louella Buol
John & Michael Hill
John Goley
John W. Owens
Joseph Walsh

Margaret Esser
Mary & Bob Rohde
Mary Veronica Freyermuth
Melvin Bollig
Msgr. Thomas Campion
Paul & Berniece Erb
Ray & Emma Ring Family
Robert Aebly
Roseann, Loretta & Louis Otter
Roy & Mary Robichaux Family
Thomas F. Parslow
Tim Kinney

**please join us in praying for
these and all who have died**

November 2024 - February 2025

Donors

Thank you to all who have generously donated to the Apostolate!

Ann Wiehle
Bernard L. Fourrier
Brad Stuczynski
Carol Matthews
Charles Dorgan
Conway Family
Dan Fahey
Della A Rancourt
Dennis Davidsaver
Diane Weber
Dorothy Hayes

Duane & Joan Wilcox
Edward Frank
Ellen Dargel
Erb & Ganzhubner Family
Eugene Esser
Helen Campion
Helen Ripp
Helen, Kevin, Keith Kelly
Janis L. Gessler
Jonathan Robertson
Joseph Motz Jr.

Kathleen & Philip Cooper
Kathleen Kalstrup
Lillian Hawthorne
Louis P. Pody
Marilyn & Fred Kinney
Mark & Joan Deal
Mark & Marie Kjorlie & Janet
Schraufnagel
Mary Mullen
Mary Vogel
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Monica McCabe
Patricia Seaman
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Rita Esch
Sandra L. Shiveler
Sharon Takacs
St. John the Baptist Waunakee
Council of Catholic Women
Stanley J. Skolaski
Terry Hicks
Thomas L. Otter
Tim Kaul

Donation Form

Please note that this form is for donations only. To request a TV Mass, please call the Apostolate.

All donations may be sent to:

Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities
702 S. High Point Rd., Suite 225,
Madison, WI 53719

If your donation is in memory of a loved one, please
indicate the name of the person below.

Memorial for : _____

Given by : _____



Please check this box to have donation kept anonymous

**If your request is more complex, please include a letter with your phone number to ensure that we process the request correctly.
All donations are tax deductible. Call the Apostolate with any questions.*



APOSTOLATE FOR
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
702 S. High Point Rd. Suite 225
Madison, WI 53719

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
MADISON WI
PERMIT #2783

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

In this issue...

- Jubilee for Persons with Disabilities
- Summer Event Registration Info
- Call for Mental Health Advocates
- NCPD Mentorship Program

Our next Newsletter will be coming out in July 2025!

Television Mass Schedule
Sundays

6 am on WISC-TV Channel 3
7 am 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