Catechetical Resources for Children and Youth with Disability
A PARTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

CATHOLIC CURRICULUM RESOURCES

**Loyola Press:**

Adaptive First Eucharist Preparation Kit for Children with Autism and Other Special Needs  
Adaptive Reconciliation Preparation Kit for Children with Autism and Other Special Needs  
Adaptive Confirmation Preparation Kit for Children with Autism and Other Special Needs  

The kits contain tactile components, including picture cards and other manipulates. These kits also includes **social stories** and **picture exchange communication system (PECS)** strategies.

*My Picture Missal App* was developed for children with special needs and for young children. With a choice of English or Spanish, **all children can learn, understand, and fully experience the Mass.** When used at Mass, it's a great tool to help children follow along step-by-step and join in appropriately and reverently. Available on the iPad now for purchase at itunes.com

Adaptive Finding God Program: A full curriculum offering faith formation for children with special needs adaptable to a variety of settings and situations. Includes lesson plans and adaptive materials for each grade level and sacramental prep. [www.loyolapress.com/adaptive-finding-god.htm](http://www.loyolapress.com/adaptive-finding-god.htm)


*Faith, Family and Children with Special Needs* by David Rizzo 2012

*Spiritually Able: A Parents’s Guide to Teaching the Faith to children with Special Needs* by David Rizzo 2015

*The Adaptive Teacher* by John Barrone & Charleen Katra 2019. Faith-based strategies to reach and teach learners with disabilities to maximize the effectiveness of the catechist.

**Contact:** [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com) (Special Needs web site: [www.loyolapress.com/special-needs](http://www.loyolapress.com/special-needs))

**Inclusive Catechesis Resources, University of Dayton:**

*Sacramental Preparation Penance, Eucharist, Confirmation: Individualizing Lesson Plans  
Sacraments: Gifts for All* (Confirmation, Eucharist, and Reconciliation)  
*Welcome One, Welcome All: Inclusive Religious Education Resource Binder*

*All About Mass - Student Edition:* Uses limited vocabulary and simple images to explain the mass in a way that both young children and adults with developmental disabilities can understand.

*Apostles Creed/Mary/Sacraments/Beatitudes/Saints:* Individual books on a variety of topics that can be used as a supplement.

**Contact:** jchaffin1@udayton.edu  
937-229-3126
Our Sunday Visitor

My First Eucharist / Sacrament of Reconciliation: These videos and teacher’s guides created by the National Catholic Office for the Deaf (NCOD) provides a signed and closed captioned sacrament preparation to assist in preparing deaf children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation (www.ncod.org or www.osvparish.com).

Strengthened in Faith: Confirmation: Three DVD’s that contain 12 video lessons in American Sign Language, captioned and voiced in English and a Teacher Manual. Produced by the National Catholic Office for the Deaf (NCOD) for individuals who are deaf and very effective for any visual learners. Voiced and captioned in Spanish Version available in 2015.

Contact: www.osvparish.org or call 1-800-348-2440, ext. 2173
www.osvparish.com/CatechistHelp/PeoplewithSpecialNeeds.asp

RCL-Benziger:

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Program to Improve Catholic Religious Education for Children and Adults with Intellectual Developmental Disabilities.

Level based Student Activity books are also available.

Autism Supplement (2014)
Published by Diocese of Pittsburgh; distributed by RCL-Benziger

Series of picture books published by Diocese of Pittsburgh and distributed by RCL-Benziger:

My Church: A young girl shares her Catholic Deaf Community
Created in God’s Image: A Photo-essay on Faith, Family, and Friendship
Seeing Through God’s Eyes
Just Like Me

We Go To Mass (geared for children with autism)

One Flock, One Shepherd: A Collection of Prayers by Parents of Children Who Are Disabled

Contact: RCL-Benziger - www.rclbenziger.com or 1-877-275-4725

Cardinal Stritch University Bookstore:

Journey with Jesus: Call to Love by Sr. Sheila Haskett, O.S.F. Suggestions for Special Religious Education for Persons Categorized as Severely/Profoundly Mentally Retarded. Topics covered: Call to Be; Call to Respond; Call to be Loving

Call to Communion; Call to Reconciliation. Call to Service (Confirmation). Each of these also has a black line picture book for the participants. (Note: These are for those with special education needs, but not classified as severely/profoundly mentally retarded.)

Seasons of Grace: Sacramental Preparation for Mentally Handicapped Teens and Adults by Brigid O'Donnell.

Journey with Jesus Gospel Study: A Curriculum Guide for Adult Special Religious Education by Sr. M. Sheila Haskett, O.S.F., Ph.D. and Sr. M. Coletta Dunn, O.S.F., Ph.D.

Contact: Cardinal Stritch University Bookstore; (414) 410-4035 or www.csu.bkstr.com
Labosh Publishing:

**Contact:** Labosh Publishing: East Petersburg, PA, 2007.  [www.laboshpublishing.com](http://www.laboshpublishing.com)

**OTHER CATHOLIC RESOURCES**

*Praying for Your Special Need Child* by David Risso and Mercedes Rizzo, The Word Among Us Press, 2018. A delightful guidebook for parents to encourage prayer at every stage of their journey with their child with a disability.  [www.wau.org](http://www.wau.org)

*How to talk to Children about People with Disabilities* by Charleen Katra, Twenty Third Publication, 2019. A booklet that helps parents and teachers in conversations about disability.

*Salt and Light: Church, Disability, and the Blessing of Welcome for All by Maureen Pratt,* Twenty-Third Publications. A practical handbook that covers many aspects of parish life and the blessings of welcome, inclusion and belonging. Order through Amazon or at [www.twentithirdpublications.com](http://www.twentithirdpublications.com)

*Special Children, Blessed Fathers: Encouragement for fathers of children with special needs* by Randy Hain. Emmaus Road, 2015. A great gift for fathers of children with disabilities. It is inspirational and instructional. Order through Amazon.

*A Place for All: Ministry for Youth with Special Needs* by John E. Barone, St. Mary Press, 2008. A manual that provides background and practical skills for creating a learning environment and preparing dynamic lessons to accommodate all youth in religious education programs. St. Mary Press, [www.smp.org](http://www.smp.org), 800-533-8095


*This Is My Church.* A power point template of a church tour that you may insert digital photos of your own church to share with your child(ren). Department for Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities, Archdiocese of Newark. masteran@rcan.org or 973-497-4309
RESOURCES FROM THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (USCCB):

Bishops’ Statements/Publications:

Web Version of these documents also available at: www.ncpd.org

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE RESOURCES


The Religious Sign App for Families- This App produced by the Deaf Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia 2017 is a fun way to learn signs for religious words and to teach young children how to pray in American Sign Language. The App can be used by Deaf and hearing as a way to encourage families to pray together in American Sign Language. It can be used in classrooms for Religious Education and in Catholic Schools. It is available in the Apple and Google Play Store. To learn more about the App go to www.ReligiousASLApp.org.

Hands of Grace Video Series and Workbook: Lessons on the Catholic Sacraments in American Sign Language for Adults. This DVD set, which includes the 7 sacraments, which are divided into 3, 6-10minute segments (21 total segments)--plus the video glossary of Catholic signs. The videos are presented in American Sign Language with voiceover, graphics, and closed captioning. www.ascensionpress.com

Deaf YouCat: The Youth Catechism in American Sign Language is being posted on line at: www.archkck.org/ministries--offices/deaf-ministry/deaf-youcat

BRALLE & LARGE PRINT RESOURCES

Xavier Society for the Blind –Provides free spiritual and inspiration reading materials and lending library services in Braille, large print and audiocassette formats. 212-473-7800; 1-800-637-9193, www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org

**INTERFAITH RESOURCES**


**ON LINE TRAININGS AUTISM AND OTHER DISABILITIES:**

*IRIS Center* is offering professional development modules on a variety of researched based strategies for free: [http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/iris-resource-locator/](http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/iris-resource-locator/) The modules for which certificates can be earned can be accessed on the link below. [http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/pd-hours/available-modules/](http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/pd-hours/available-modules/)

*Autism Modules* Covering a Variety of Topics

*Autism Center for Excellence Trainings:* [https://vcuautismcenter.org/resources/EBP.cfm](https://vcuautismcenter.org/resources/EBP.cfm)

*Universal Design for Learning ULD*
[www.udlcenter.org](http://www.udlcenter.org) and [www.cast.org](http://www.cast.org)

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**Office for Persons with Disabilities & the Deaf Apostolate**
For Power Point and other Resources go to:
[www.opdarchphilly.org - Click on Faith Formation](http://www.opdarchphilly.org)