

Sample Bulletin Announcements

Sensory-Friendly Mass at St. Helen (coupled with a flyer as an insert)

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati Office for Respect Life Ministries will be hosting a Sensory-Friendly Mass at St. Helen's Church in Dayton on Sunday, June 23 at 3:00pm. Bishop Binzer will be presiding, and all are welcome to attend. A special invitation is extended to any person with sensory issues. This Mass will include: acoustical music, dimmer lighting, and pictorial resources for those with special needs. Families are encouraged to bring materials that can assist with comfort during the liturgy: noise cancelling headphones, wiggle seats, fidgets, etc. Contact Noelle Collis-DeVito with any questions at ndevito@catholiccincinnati.org or (937)281-4128.

Awareness Week 1: Autism

Autism is often called the "Invisible Disorder." A person with autism has no physical characteristics, but may have a variety of sensory issues and developmental delays. Sometimes it is easy to assume that a child is simply acting out during Mass when, in fact, he/she is overstimulated. Families with autistic members need our support. It may be difficult for them to attend Mass, and a simple word of encouragement could mean the world to them. For more information about Autism take a look at the insert included in today's bulletin.

Awareness Week 2: Developmental Disabilities

We are called by God to welcome all into the Body of Christ. Oftentimes, those with developmental disabilities are not considered as we work to meet the needs of the general church population. Spend some time this week with the included bulletin insert to learn about and reflect on how we can better welcome those with developmental disabilities into our parish community.

Awareness Week 3: Mental Health

"All people are created in the image of God; their dignity and worth cannot be diminished by mental illness." As a faith community, we are called to support our brothers and sisters suffering from a mental health condition, offering the unconditional and non-judgmental love they deserve. Spend some time this week with the included bulletin insert to learn about and reflect on how we can better meet the needs of those with mental illness within our parish.

Sample Pulpit Announcements

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Awareness Week 1: Autism

In an effort to reach out to and welcome the special needs community in our area, our parish will be spending the month of _____ growing in our understanding of those with special needs. Each week we will cover a different topic in the bulletin. Please take some time this week to read more about autism and reflect on how we can better meet the needs of all the members of our parish community.

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