

Ten Easy Ways to Welcome Persons with Disabilities

- Examine your parish facilities to determine accessibility.
- Hold all fellowship activities and meetings in areas accessible to all.
- Reach out and welcome people with disabilities. Train ushers and lay leaders as role models to include and welcome persons with disabilities and their families.
- Use accessibility symbols from www.syrdio.org/disabilities
- Identify the people in your parish with disabilities and work to meet their spiritual needs.
- Create a committee within the parish to advocate for people with disabilities. Include people with disabilities on this committee.
- Put a welcoming notice in your bulletin. List accessible features and supports in a permanent “For your comfort and convenience. . . .” section of the bulletin or worship aide.
- Identify the Parish Advocate for people with disabilities. Publish this information in the parish bulletin and on the parish website.
- Survey your community to find group homes and invite the residents to mass and gatherings at your parish.
- Publicize that youth with special needs are welcome in religious education programs.