

# Parish Kit

to assist parishes to celebrate  
International Day of People with Disability

3 December 2010

This kit contains:

A letter from Bishop Peter Elliott

Liturgy Notes including:

- Preparation
- Parish Bulletin Notice
- Welcome
- Prayers of General Intercession

Resources Price List and Order Form

Poster available for free download





# AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

## Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is appropriate that we celebrate and observe the International Day of People with Disability as we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in Advent. The Church has taken this day as an opportunity to encourage a truly pastoral view that embraces our total community as the living Body of Christ. The day is observed annually on 3<sup>rd</sup> December and coincides with the beginning of Advent.

The theme this year is 'Jesus said...Be Open'. It focuses particularly on encouraging and affirming parish communities to provide opportunities for the full participation of people with disability and their families in the life of the Church.

We are called and challenged to take action to ensure our communities are open and active. In particular we need to ensure that people with disability living in remote and rural areas, those who are new to our country and those struggling with the ever increasing daily expense of living are supported and encouraged in the most practical and appropriate manner. This timely theme is an invitation and call to us to create and ensure a change in societal attitude that sees disability as a burden to humanity and a costly experience to society.

I invite you to order and distribute the bookmark '*Jesus said...Be Open*' to promote and recognise the gifts and lives of people with disability. You will find an order form on the reverse side of this letter.

For further assistance please contact:

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Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev Peter J Elliott

Bishops' Delegate for Disability Issues  
Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life  
Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



# Liturgy Notes

## Preparation

International Day of People with Disability is celebrated annually on 3 December. Recognition and celebration for this day is mostly held between November and December. According to recent figures, one person in five has a disability and parishes may like to highlight the gifts and talents of people with disability, their families and support people. The bookmarks provide a prayerful response to this year's theme. Parishes may like to purchase bookmarks and distribute them to recognise and encourage the great gift of people with disability in your parish community.

## Suggested Insert for Parish Bulletins

The International Day of People with Disability is observed annually on 3 December. In Australia, over many years, the Church has sought to take this day as an opportunity to encourage a truly pastoral view that embraces our total community as the living Body of Christ. We especially pray that we, the Church, can strive to be a people of compassion and relationship, and a sacred place where our gifts are acknowledged, received and celebrated; for then we can truly proclaim that we are 'one Body in Christ'.

# Welcome

The International Day of People with Disability is observed annually on 3 December. In Australia, over many years, the Church has sought to take this day as an opportunity to encourage a truly pastoral view that embraces our total community as the living Body of Christ. Today we are invited to pray for people with disability, their families and the people who support them.

## Prayers of General Intercession

Priest: In Advent Time, we watch, we hope and we pray for the coming of the Lord.

1. That Pope Benedict may be granted abundant graces to guide your Holy Church in truth and in love; so that people of all abilities may be lovingly supported in living out their Christian calling to serve the community.

We pray to the Lord.

2. That we may be gratefully aware of the gifts and contributions people with disability share with our Church and the wider community.

We pray to the Lord.

3. That all people with disability, their families and support workers, will know God's tender love expressed through the support of a welcoming community.

We pray to the Lord.

4. That babies and their families will be given the necessary supports and opportunities for growth and development before, during and after birth.

We pray to the Lord.

5. For all who are ill, especially .....; we pray that God will ease their pain and bless them and those who care for them.

We pray to the Lord.

6. That our parish communities will continue Jesus' mission of love for people with disability by offering appropriate support and meaningful relationships.

We pray to the Lord.

Priest: Let us be alert to the Advent of our God and prepare the Lord's way by embracing justice and truth, finding comfort in the Christ who promises peace, and confident that our prayers are heard.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

# PRODUCT LIST

Item		Price *
Beatitudes of Acceptance	Prayer Card	0.30 <sup>#</sup>
I Have a Story	Colour Booklet	2.00
I Have a Story	Large Print Booklet	3.00
I Have a Story	Braille Book	30.00
I Have a Story	Audio Cassette	10.00
Celebrating Our Gifts	Prayer Card	0.20
Celebrating As One	Prayer Card	0.20
Jesus said 'Be Open'	Prayer Card	0.20
One Body in Christ	Prayer Card	0.20
One Body in Christ	Music CD (7 tracks)	5.00
We Have a Story	Full Colour Book	10.00

\* All items are supplies free of Goods and Services Tax and prices do not include postage.

# The following discounts are available for bulk purchases of the *Beatitudes of Acceptance* prayer card:

10 or more	10%
50 or more	20%
100 or more	30%

# ORDER FORM

Item	Qty	Total \$
Beatitudes of Acceptance      Prayer Card		
I Have a Story                      Colour Booklet		
I Have a Story                      Large Print Booklet		
I Have a Story                      Braille Book		
I Have a Story                      Audio Cassette		
Celebrating Our Gifts              Prayer Card		
Celebrating As One                Prayer Card		
Jesus said 'Be Open'                Prayer Card		
One Body in Christ                 Prayer Card		
One Body in Christ      Music CD (7 tracks)		
We Have a Story                      Full Colour Book		
	<b>Total</b>	

Organisation	
ABN if applicable	
Postal Address	
Contact Name	
Email/Fax/Phone	

Completed order forms and enquiries to the Secretariat  
for Pastoral Life  
GPO Box 368 CANBERRA ACT 2601

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