



World Youth Day 2008

How are you inviting young people with disability and their families and young people who are carers to actively participate in World Youth Day activities and events?

Where are the voices of young people with disability and their families and the voices of young carers in your diocese, parish or faith community?

What structures do you have in place for young people with disability and their families and for young carers?

Send any comments, stories, photos, to:

Disability Projects Officer
Secretariat for Pastoral Life
GPO Box 368
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Telephone: (02) 6201 9868

Facsimile: (02) 6247 6083

Email: disability@catholic.org.au

Website: www.acbc.catholic.org.au/org/disability



Resources

I Have a Story a pastoral document for parishes offering insight, reflection and suggestions to nurture communities, which are built on relationships, participation of all members and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We Have a Story a collection of stories from people with disability, their families and faith communities participating fully in the life of the Church in Australia.

One Body in Christ a compact disc of seven tracks focused on a hymn written by Amanda McKenna to celebrate and recognise people with disability and their families.

Prayer Cards

- Celebrating as One
- Celebrating our Gifts
- One Body in Christ (words to the hymn)

National Network for Disability and Spirituality

www.acbc.catholic.org.au/org/disability/index.asp

Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life



One Body in Christ

You are the body of Christ,
and each of you is a part of it.

(1 Corinthians 12:27-28)

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Each of us gifted; made in God's image

...We have a story to tell

Celebrating Participation in your parish

International Day of People with Disability is celebrated each year on the 3 December. However, there are many opportunities during the year to celebrate participation.

Prepare: Invite and consult your parish priest, Catholic schools, and your pastoral council to assist with the event.

Advertise the event in your parish bulletin.

Choose a theme that could be used; e.g. 'One in Christ Jesus'.

Choose hymns, readings and prayers that celebrate inclusiveness and language that celebrate the gifts of all.

Celebrate Mass in your parish, celebrating the gifts of all. Ensure access internally and externally is available.

Invite special schools and special units (both government and Catholic) to participate in the chosen event. Invite them to participate.



Include and invite those people living in supported homes and employment.

Invite a family living with disability or a guest speaker to speak briefly about their gifts and challenges.

Showcase the different ministries and movements within your parish that promote full participation of people with disability and their families.

Provide examples of your parish bulletin and newsletter in large print.

Book a sign interpreter and advertise that there will be a sign interpreter attending the event.

Invite movements like *Faith and Light* and *L'Arche* communities to participate in your event.

Ensure your church and parish buildings are accessible.

Provide extra accessible parking spaces, chairs with arm rests and offer transport.

Need some assistance?

Disability Support Officer
T (02) 6201 9868
F (02) 6247 6083
E disability@catholic.org.au

Australian Catholic Disability Council

The Australian Catholic Disability Council (ACDC) was established in February 2007.

The Councillors are Ms Michele Castagna (Chair), Ms Philomena Billington, Dr Lisa Bridle, Sr Jeanie Heiningen SGS, Mr Glenn Mowbray and Mr Anthony Succar. Bishop Max Davis and Mrs Patricia Mowbray are ex officio members of the Council.

The main responsibilities of the ACDC are to advise the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life in the promotion of the life and mission of the Catholic Church in Australia in the areas of full participation and inclusion of people with disability.

