

January 10, 2015 – 10:00-3:00

Chancery

**SLIDE 1 - Bridging the Gap: Faith Formation for Special Needs**

Presentation by Linda Khirallah Porter, MTS

- 9:30 Registration and Gathering
- 10:00 Welcome, Prayer (Beatitudes), Introductions, Overview of the Day
- 10:15 **SLIDE 2** - Timeline
1. January 10 first presentation
  2. January 27 feast day for St. Angela Merici – patroness of the disabled, handicapped, sickness; she will become our patroness for this process.
  3. February 28, 2015 presentation by Charlene Katra Director for Special Needs at Galveston Houston Archdiocese
  4. March 28, 2015 presentation by John Barone
  5. May 7, 2015 – presentation to priests here at the chancery on the program
  6. Fall, 2015 – deanery (6 ) presentations to the regional parts of the diocese for a 3 hour formation on the program
  7. Training for Catechists and Advocates for Special Needs
  8. August 7,8, 2015 Catechetical Conference: Theme : “Nurturing Intentional Disciples” – special needs workshop presentation by Melissa Waldon, Director of Special Needs Ministry Diocese of Dallas.
- 10:30 **SLIDE 3** - Resources (handouts)
1. Diocesan Resource Library
  2. Websites/ show Autism and Faith clip (minutes – stop at 2:50 minutes)
  3. Bishops Statement on Disabilities (1978)
  4. Pope Francis breaks down isolation and stigma of autism... (1:34 minute clip)
- 10:45 *A Place for All Ministry for Youth With Special Needs* by John Barone and the Monarch School.  
(video clip – 8 minutes of session with Jordan **SLIDE 21, 22**)
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Pathways Awareness Foundation (handouts)
1. How can you make a difference?
  2. 10 easy ways to make your parish inclusive
  3. 10 easy ways to make your parish more accessible
  4. Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors – Parish Accessibility Survey
- 1:30 *How to Welcome, Include, and Catechize Children with Autism and Other Special Needs*  
By Deacon Lawrence R. Sutton, Ph.D
- 2:30 (video clip of tour of Church with Jordan and second session if time)
- 3:00 Close with prayer