



NCPD

NATIONAL CATHOLIC PARTNERSHIP ON DISABILITY

• • • *faith • giftedness • partnership*

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Date March 10, 2022

Dear Brother in Christ,

As the new Episcopal Moderator for The National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD), I am honored to follow in the footsteps of Archbishop Kurtz and Cardinal DiNardo who preceded me in this role. Their willingness to serve in this additional capacity is a testament to the importance of the work carried out by NCPD.

As you may know, NCPD is a national organization that educates pastoral leaders in best practices to ensure that persons with disabilities have full and meaningful participation in the life of the Church. This level of expertise is a unique gift and NCPD is here to help dioceses and parishes of all sizes. Some examples of NCPD programs include: teaching parish leaders how to start a mental health ministry, how to help persons with autism attend Mass, and train diocesan leaders on developing a parish disability advocacy network. NCPD also produces resources such as accessibility checklists, language guidelines, and large print Roman Missals for priests. Diocesan leaders benefit greatly from national networking opportunities with ministerial colleagues serving the disability community.

For NCPD to continue guiding us in this specialized area of knowledge and pastoral skills as well as the increasing needs in our Church – especially for mental health ministry – *I respectfully ask that during your annual budget process you consider the Affiliate membership fee of \$1,500.00 to NCPD for the fiscal year of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023.* This membership fee will help sustain the numerous free resources for parishes, families, and diocesan leaders, and also enable your diocese to receive direct support from NCPD.

Be assured of my prayers for you and those entrusted to your pastoral care and of my gratitude for your prayerful consideration to support NCPD through an Affiliate membership.

Fraternally in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington
NCPD Episcopal Moderator

P.S. Charleen Katra, Executive Director of NCPD, has enclosed the form for you to return with your membership fee. She is available to answer any questions you may have - (202) 529-2933.