Greetings!
The following is your December 2019 edition of the Disability Services & Ministries E-Newsletter. We celebrated our Journey to Bethlehem and had a successful #weGiveCatholic! We are now looking forward to Christmas & New Year’s with our families and then back for another year of programs (read below for a new program to start!) and ministries for persons with disabilities.

For more information about our services and ministries check out our [website](#)! Also don’t forget to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!

**A Beautiful Journey to Bethlehem**

We celebrated a beautiful Journey to Bethlehem on Saturday, December 7! Mass was celebrated by Bishop Roger Gries; con-celebrants were Fr. Joe McNulty, Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ and Fr. Andy Turner; Deacons were Ray Daull & Chris DiPenti.

Music was provided by the wonderful choir from St. John Vianney, with special guest, Dennis McNulty.

Readers were from the Disability Services Saturday program and the participants in the procession were from all over!! We had a light lunch following mass. Thank you to the Alhambra and to St. Augustine Church for all of your help! You can see more pictures on our Facebook page.
Another successful #weGiveCatholic. We are so very thankful and grateful for your generous support of our Saturday program for adults with developmental disabilities and the Links Cleveland program for adults with mental illness. In 24 hours, you donated $4,800 and $1,020 for both programs.

Because of your donations, the Saturday program will be able to provide community outings, yoga mats, art supplies and tuition assistance in 2020; and Links Cleveland will be able to provide the individuals with more socialization activities such as community outings, offering group classes in art and music therapy, healthy eating program and more.

In addition to the money raised, Disability Services was awarded a generous prize from Catholic Community Foundation for our high number of total donors! With our prize our total raised came to $6800! What a day of giving!

Thank you to our donors of both Disability Services and Ministries
and thank you to the Catholic Community Foundation and Catholic Charities - Diocese of Cleveland for their continued support of our programs!

New Inclusive Community Workshops for 2020

We are excited to announce that in 2020 we will start our new inclusive workshop series: **Creatively Social**!

These creative workshops will be for individuals 16 years and older, with and without disabilities, and provide an opportunity for creative expression and social engagement.

Workshops will be led by Creative Instructors and Therapists from the community (Music Therapists, Community Artists, Drama Instructors/Therapists, Dance Instructors/Therapists, Art Therapists, etc.)

Workshops will typically be held on Thursday/Friday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm at OLA/St. Joseph Center in Tremont. Cost to attend is determined by instructor and materials needed.

**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS**

1/31/20- **Color! An Exploratory Painting Workshop**
Cost: $10

4/24/20- **eARTh Day: Recycled Art Workshop**
Cost: $10

10/23/20- **Dias De Los Muertos Assemblage Art Workshop**
Cost: $10

*More creative workshop dates coming soon!*
For more information and to sign up please contact Lauren Mailey by email or call (216) 334-2963

If you are interested in being part of a these workshops as an instructor or volunteer please contact Lauren!

**The Catholic Blind Community Enjoys The Black Nativity**

The Cleveland Catholic Blind Community enjoyed a late afternoon performance of "The Black Nativity" at Karamu House on Sunday, December 8th.

Audio description brought to life the beautiful performance of Langston Hughes' retelling of The Nativity Story. The Black Nativity is performed in a gospel style, and includes many popular Christmas Carols.

**Next Dance Night is March 13, 2020!**

Two hours of fun, music and a dance contest with DJ Kris!

- Don't forget that all dancers should bring identification (ID or nametag with telephone number)
- For sensory sensitive individuals, please be advised that our dance environment may not be suitable for individuals with sensory disorders and sensory processing issues as there will be loud music and flashing/bright lights.

OLa/ST. JOSEPH CENTER
2346 W. 14TH ST. CLEVELAND, OH 44113

FOR PERSONS WITH AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES
AGES 16+ | $3 | 7-9PM

Dancers must have identification on them! This may be a picture ID or a nametag with their name and phone number on it.

Questions? Contact: 216-334-2963
Lauren @ lmailey@ccdocie.org
www.ccdolc.org/disability

Please be advised that our dance environment may not be suitable for individuals with sensory disorders and sensory processing issues as there will be loud music and flashing/bright lights.

Photos may be taken at the dance for Catholic Charities Disability Services publication in printed or electronic form.
Cleveland Catholic Deaf Community Christmas Party

On Sunday, December 15th Santa Claus made an early visit to St. Augustine Church for the annual Cleveland Catholic Deaf Community Christmas Party.

Those in attendance represented the various groups that comprise of the Cleveland Catholic Deaf Community.

Members enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship, laughter, food and entertainment by the creative and talented, Singing Hands.

For more information on our Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing ministry please contact Bob Duda by email or call (216) 781-5530 x31.

CAEP Christmas Party!

The Continuing Adult Education Program (CAEP) - A.K.A. Saturday
Program - celebrated Christmas this past Saturday with a visit from Santa and a Christmas sing-a-long with guest musician Jay Levan!

We are excited to announce that our program is currently at full capacity for participants! If you are interested in getting on the waiting list email Lauren Mailey or call our office at (216) 334-2963.

St. Augustine Signing Choir Continues to Spread the Christmas Spirit

The St. Augustine Signing Choir has had a busy Advent. In addition to signing the music at the 10 AM Sunday Mass at St. Augustine Church, they also perform at various places throughout the year. They can often be found during the Advent Season going to nursing homes, hospitals, churches, schools and motherhouses.

The Signing Choir is a great opportunity for those wishing to learn
sign language while interacting with members of the Deaf Community. The Signing Choir welcomes individuals who are hearing, deaf, and hard-of-hearing regardless of skill.

If you would like more information on how to be a part of a wonderful ministry or to schedule a future performance, please contact Bob Duda by email or call (216) 781-5530 x31.

We wish you and your family a very blessed Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Wishing you and yours many blessings,
Marilyn, Lauren, Fr. Joe & Bob
Catholic Charities Disability Services & Ministries