

St Isidore's Creative Faith Formation Journey



Pray that you would not be so focused on your child's weaknesses and struggles that you miss what matters most- their heart.

"The LORD does not look at the things that people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7

Prayer for my Child

***"Dear God, please touch (child's name) with your healing hands.
Bring them strength to face every difficult challenge in their life.
Let them shower others with their love.***

***Father, please allow them to show others their beautiful and friendly personality.
Let others see their soul and playful character, instead of their disability.
Oh Lord, please help their parents and caretakers to raise them with love.
Give them the strength, patience and understanding they need.
Please fill them with hope and unconditional love.***

***Dear Lord, (The child's name) is your child and they need your love.
Send your beautiful angels to watch over them.
Please let them spread love and light around them.
Bring them and their family a beautiful life lived in faith.
Let them see and feel your healing love." Amen***

This Prayer For Children With Special Needs is just an example. Therefore, you don't have to learn every word of it. I suggest you take a paper and write down your own version. Think of the child and let him inspire you. Because the best prayers come from the heart. And they go straight to God.

Special Needs Ministry



Creative Faith Formation Preparation Resources created by The University of Dayton

[Resources for Inclusive Catechesis : University of Dayton, Ohio](#)

Sacraments: Gifts for All Reconciliation Resource Binder

A reference for parents or teachers to use when preparing students with challenging needs for Reconciliation. This book has adapted Scripture stories using pictures and minimum wording to illustrate the heart of Christ's message. Also included are hints for effectively reaching students, questions to consider, concept words, and visual, auditory and kinesthetic activities, and a resource list of supplemental publications related to these topics. Materials can be duplicated.

Sacraments: Gifts for All Reconciliation Student Edition

Colorful pictures and minimum wording help students grasp the concept of Reconciliation. This booklet is an excellent way to keep students focused on the lesson and a beautiful reminder of how much Jesus truly loves us. ([Preview](#))

Sacraments: Gifts for All Eucharist Resource Binder

A rich reference for parents or teachers when preparing students with challenging needs for Eucharist. This book has Scripture stories using pictures and minimum wording to illustrate the heart of Christ's message. Also included are hints for effectively reaching students, questions to consider, concept words, visual, auditory and kinesthetic activities, and a resource list of supplemental publications related to these topics. Materials can be duplicated.

All About Mass Student Edition

Uses limited vocabulary and simple images to explain the Mass in a way that both young children and adults with developmental disabilities can understand. ([Preview](#))

Who Is Jesus? Student Edition

Simple concepts, basic visual images and limited vocabulary make this booklet an excellent resource for introducing and reinforcing key concepts about Jesus. ([Preview](#))

Sacraments: Gifts for All Confirmation Resource Binder

A rich reference for parents or instructors to use when preparing individuals with special needs for the sacrament of confirmation. Prayers, pictures and explanation of the reception of Confirmation are part of the binder. Additional topics include Confirmation sponsors and an expanded discussion of the gifts and fruits of the Spirit.

Sacraments: Gifts for All Confirmation Student Edition

The story of confirmation is beautifully told using simple words and images about the Gifts of the Spirit. Vocabulary allows for use with both young adults and adults with developmental disabilities. ([Preview](#))

Additional Print Materials

The Apostles Creed- What Catholics believe about the Church and their faith. ([Preview](#))

The Beatitudes- Timeless teachings of Jesus that draw us closer to God's Kingdom. Each Beatitude is told in simple language with numerous illustrations. ([Preview](#))

Bible Stories- A collection of twenty-two stories from the Old and New Testaments.

Uses minimum words and an abundance of pictures to tell these wonderful stories. ([Preview](#))

Blessings- Signs and symbols help us understand and experience God's blessings, and we in turn share those blessings when we do God's work. ([Preview](#))

Who is Mary? Mary said yes to God and became the Mother of Jesus. Among the stories, this book tells of the Annunciation, the Wedding at Cana, Jesus' death and resurrection and Mary's Assumption into Heaven. ([Preview](#))

New Life- From baptism, Eucharist, confirmation to resurrection and new life, God's love is always with us. ([Preview](#))

Prayer- God listens when we talk to Him. This book explains prayer and includes the Our Father, the Eucharist prayer, and three simple prayers to use throughout the day. ([Preview](#))

The Rosary- The Rosary helps us remember special events in the lives of Jesus and Mary. This book covers the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries and reminds us that Mary asks us to pray the Rosary. ([Preview](#))

The Sacraments- This book covers the seven sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Sacrament of the Sick, Marriage and Holy Orders. ([Preview](#))

The Saints- Ten saints are featured, including St. Joseph, St. Patrick, St. Frances of Assisi, St. Therese, and St. Elizabeth of Hungary. ([Preview](#))

All publications, with the exception of Welcome One, Welcome All, which is not a textbook, are approved for use as text books in accord with the Code of Canon Law and have the Imprimatur and Nihil obstat.



Creative Faith Formation Sacrament Preparation Resources

[Adaptive First Eucharist Preparation Kit | Loyola Press](#)

Adaptive First Eucharist Preparation Kit *For Individuals with Autism and Other Special Needs*

The *Adaptive First Eucharist Preparation Kit* enables people with autism and other special needs to participate fully in their faith, individuals who might not be able to receive the Eucharist. This teaching tool is a first of its kind; it helps individuals meet USCCB Eucharist requirements for individuals with disabilities to distinguish the Holy Eucharist from ordinary food and to receive the Eucharist reverently.

The *Adaptive First Eucharist Preparation Kit* in English received the **2012 Association of Catholic Excellence in Publishing Award**.

Components

- **My Picture Missal Flip Book** and **Mass Picture Cards** are for use at Mass. They help the individual maintain focus and actively participate in the Mass.
- **Bless Yourself Sequence Puzzle** helps the individual learn how to make the Sign of the Cross. This activity can be paired with parent or catechist modeling so it becomes a gross motor imitation task.
- **Who Is Jesus? Instructional Card** introduces the individual to Jesus as the Son of God and relates God's family to the individual's family.
- **Communion Is Not the Same as Food Matching Puzzle** helps the individual distinguish between the Eucharist and ordinary food.

- **How to Receive Communion Sequence Puzzle** shows all the steps of receiving Communion reverently, providing a guide for the individual to practice. This learning tool may be taught with sequencing or modeling.
- **I Receive Communion Instructional Story** reinforces the reverence and proper steps of receiving Communion.
- **Helper Guide** includes tips on how to use the kit.
- A **backpack** is included so the individual can transport the items from home, faith formation sessions, and Mass.

[Adaptive Reconciliation Kit | Loyola Press](#)

Adaptive Reconciliation Kit *For Individuals with Autism and Other Special Needs*

The *Adaptive Reconciliation Kit* was designed to help individuals with special needs enter fully into their faith experience, prepare for the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, and experience God's healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This kit helps individuals meet the USCCB requirement of having a sense of contrition to fully experience and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The *Adaptive Reconciliation Kit* in English received the **2013 Association of Catholic Publishers Book of the Year Award**.

Components

- The **Reconciliation Flip Book** introduces the steps of the process of celebrating the sacrament.
- **I'm Sorry Cards** help individuals understand and actively communicate contrition.
- The **I Am Forgiven Sequence Puzzle** helps individuals recognize the impact of their actions on others, learn the "sequence" of forgiveness, and experience the joy and peace that comes from being forgiven and forgiving others.
- **Jesus Forgives Instructional Story Card** stresses that God loves us, forgives us, and restores us.
- **Jesus Wants Us to Make Good Choices Matching Puzzle** is a choose-the-match activity that associates Jesus with good, moral choices by matching Jesus with the Good Choice symbol option.
- The **Good Choice/Bad Choice Cards** help individuals recognize good and bad choices in categories such as self, others, and God's creation.
- **Examination of Conscience Instructional Card**- invites individuals to prayerfully look into their hearts to evaluate how they may have hurt God or other people with their thoughts, words, or actions.
- **I Celebrate Reconciliation Picture Book** invites and reminds individuals to celebrate the sacrament with confidence, comfort, and joy.
- An adapted version of the Act of Contrition, the **Act of Contrition Instructional Card** allows individuals with special needs to acknowledge sins, ask God for forgiveness, and express desire to repent.
- The **Helper Guide** explains how to use each component in the kit to meet the USCCB requirement of having a sense of contrition to fully experience and celebrate the sacrament.
- The **Backpack** allows individuals to transport all the components to and from church, home, or faith formation classes.

**Jesus said: "Let the children come to me,
and do not prevent them;
for the kingdom of heaven belong
to such as these." —Matthew 19:14**

[Adaptive Confirmation Preparation Kit](#)

Adaptive Confirmation Preparation Kit *For Individuals with Autism and Other Special Needs*

The Adaptive Confirmation Preparation Kit was designed to help individuals with autism and other special needs enter fully into the faith experience, prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, and live their lives as participating members of the Catholic Church. This teaching tool helps individuals meet the USCCB Guidelines: "All baptized, unconfirmed Catholics may receive the Sacrament of Confirmation if they are suitably instructed, properly disposed and able to renew their baptismal promises."

Components

- **I Receive Confirmation Story** introduces the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- The **Baptismal Promises Puzzle** emphasizes the renewal of baptismal promises and the beliefs of the Catholic faith.
- The **I Do Card** helps individuals who have limited or no spoken language to actively communicate or reinforce their responses to the renewal of their baptismal promises.
- **I Am a Disciple Flip Book** reinforces basic Catholic beliefs and practices, and explains how Catholics can live as disciples.
- **My Confirmation Songs CD** helps individuals better understand the meaning and effects of the Sacrament of Confirmation, the role of sponsors, and individuals' roles as active members of the Church. [Listen to a sample.](#)
- The **Request for Confirmation Template** offers two options to help individuals to request the sacrament.
- The **Toss and Tell Ball** can be used to foster communication between the individual preparing for Confirmation and his or her sponsor, catechist, helper, or parent.
- The **Helper Guide** explains how to use each component in the kit to help individuals prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- A **Backpack** allows individuals to transport all the components to and from church, home, or faith formation classes.

Lyrics for Confirmation Songs

Below are links to the lyrics for the songs on the My Confirmation Songs CD, for use with the Adaptive Confirmation Preparation Kit.

The Disciple's Song: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

My Sponsor: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

Saints Point the Way: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)





Patron Saints of People with Disabilities

[Prayer to St. Rita for Impossible Cases and Special Needs - The Catholic Crusade](#)

[Patron Saints of People with Disabilities \(lifesiteministries.org\)](#)

[Saints with Disabilities – Christina Chase \(authorchristinachase.com\)](#)

[Patron Saints of Autism - Summer Kinard](#)

[3 saints who probably had learning disabilities \(aleteia.org\)](#)

Links for Spiritual Reflections / Scripture

[140+ Special Needs Quotes To Support And Inspire Your Family \(kidadl.com\)](#)

[20 Scriptures For Special Needs Parents To Pray \(embracing.life\)](#)

[15 Scriptures To Pray For Your Special Needs Child \(embracing.life\)](#)

[30 Prayers for Special Needs Parents \(specialneedsparenting.net\)](#)

[Patron of Handicapped People - Catholic Saint Medals](#)

Links for Parents / Family

[Marriage and a Special Needs Child - For Your Marriage](#)

[6 Ways Special Needs Parents Can Thrive in Stronger Mental Health - Special Needs Moms Blog](#)

[How to Look After Your Own Mental Health as a Special Needs Parent \(mykidstime.com\)](#)

[Mental Health Tips for Special Needs Parents - eSpecial Needs Blog](#)

[Special Needs - Strong Catholic Family Faith](#)

[Hope for Families with a Child with Autism](#)

[Your Special Needs Child is No Angel - Catholic Stand](#)

[Nourish for Caregivers Ministry](#)

[Caring for Caregivers Flocknote Newsletter Sign Up](#)

[Mothers of Children with Disabilities Flocknote Newsletter Sign Up](#)

[Fathers of Children with Disabilities Flocknote Newsletter Sign Up](#)

[Grandparents of Children with Disabilities Flocknote Newsletter Sign Up](#)

[Accepting the Gift: A Ministry for Catholic Special Needs Parents](#)

Links for Resources

[Autism and Catholic Life – Simply Catholic](#)

[Autism-faith-community-resources-nov-2013-1.pdf](#)

[Lifelong Faith Journal - Special Needs Faith Formation](#)

[Embrace, Engage, Empower - Special Needs Faith Formation](#)

[Autism and Catholic Life – Simply Catholic](#)

[Resources for Inclusive Faith Formation - Powerpoint Presentations](#)

(Arch) Diocesan / Links

[The Office for Persons with Disabilities - Archdiocese of Philadelphia](#)

[USCCB Pastoral Statement on Persons with Disabilities](#)

[USCCB Guideline for Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities](#)

[The Deaf Apostolate](#)

[Office for Catechetical Formation Access and Inclusion](#)

National Links

[Catholic Disability Exchange](#)

Courses available in English & Spanish/Catholic Disability Exchange for Resources

[National Catholic Office for the Deaf](#)

[Xavier Society for the Blind](#)

***Thank God that He is with you every step
of the way in your special needs parenting journey.***

***“Be strong and courageous,
do not be terrified; do not be discouraged,
for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”
Joshua 1:9***



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