Mental Illness: Breaking the Silence

We recognize those in our Church community who are affected by mental illness. The Church is a place of peace and healing.

Everybody Belongs...
In Baptism, we become equal in dignity as members of the Body of Christ. The Department of Special Needs Ministries provides supports and accommodations so that all may participate fully in worship and the life of the parish. To find out more, please contact us:

Department of Special Needs Ministries
specialneedsministry@adw.org
301-853-4560

Every person bears God’s image, every person has a need to express their spiritual nature, nurtured by faith in Jesus.

- Practice Christ-like hospitality. Mental illness can be isolating for the person and their family
- Request prayers for people experiencing a mental illness, respecting confidentiality, in your parish intentions
- Parish opportunities for the Anointing of the Sick is meant for all people experiencing illness including mental illness

Facts on Mental Illness:

- According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), one in five adults in our country will experience a mental health condition
- People with mental illness have a biological disorder which can be treated with a combination of medications and counseling just as people with diabetes are treated with insulin and diet
- Mental illness often co-occurs with other conditions such as drug addiction and homelessness
- Early intervention, as with other types of illnesses, leads to better outcomes for the person and their family
Catholic Resources
National Catholic Partnership on Disability
www.ncdp.org
Welcomed and Valued: Mental Illness Resource
Manual and DVD
http://www.ncdp.org/ministries-programs-specific/mentalillness#Resources
Pathways to Promise
http://www.pathways2promise.org

Community Resources
National Alliance on Mental Illness
www.nami.org
NAMI Maryland
410-884-8691
namimd.org/
NAMI DC
202-546-0646
www.namidc.org/
NAMI Prince George’s County
301-429-0970
www.namipgc.org
Catholic Charities Behavioral Health Services
202-635-5900
https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/
BehavioralHealthServices

Department of Special Needs Ministries
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#BelongingStartsHere