

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 Office of Deaf and Disabilities Ministry provides support and accommodations so that all may participate fully in worship and community. To find out more about the ways a parish can welcome a person living with mental health challenges, contact us.

Every person bears God's image. Every person is a unique gift from God, and everyone 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.
- People often turn to their faith community seeking help for a mental health challenge.
- Parish opportunities for the Anointing of the Sick are meant for all people experiencing illness including mental illness.

Facts on Mental Illness

ONE in FIVE adults in our country will experience a mental health condition.



17% of youth (ages 6-17) experience a mental health disorder.



People with mental illness have a **biological disorder** which can be treated with a combination of **MEDICATIONS** and counseling.



Mental illness often **co-occurs** with other conditions such as **DRUG ADDICTION** and being **UNHOUSED**.

Catholic Resources

ADW Office of Deaf and Disabilities Ministry
adw.org/living-the-faith/special-needs

National Catholic Partnership on Disability
ncpd.org/disability-ministry/mental-illness

Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers
catholicmhm.org

Fiat Program on Faith and Mental Health
mcgrath.nd.edu

Sanctuary Mental Health Ministries
sanctuarymentalhealth.org

St. Jerome's Counseling Center
stjermes.org/counseling-program

Community Resources

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
nami.org/Home

NAMI Maryland (find local chapters)
namimd.org

NAMI DC
namidc.org

9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
Call or text 9-8-8 available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Office of Deaf and Disabilities Ministry

7202 Buchanan Street
Landover Hills, MD 20784

301-853-4560; 301-200-5430 VP
adw.org/living-the-faith/special-needs
specialneedsministry@adw.org

 facebook.com/ADWDeafDisabilitiesMinistry

 [@ADWDeafDisabilitiesMinistry](https://www.instagram.com/ADWDeafDisabilitiesMinistry)