



Office of the Archbishop
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October 2016
Jubilee of Mercy

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of our *Inclusion in Worship* partnership with Pathways.org to ensure that every person, regardless of ability, is offered the same respect and opportunity to participate with other parishioners in their place of worship. Cardinal Bernardin began this partnership out of a deep commitment to helping all children of God and Cardinal George offered a fresh impetus to it.

Each of us have a role in promoting and forming an inclusive worship environment while enhancing our gifts to build a stronger faith community. Please join me in renewing our commitment to helping parishioners of all abilities fully join us in worship. It is my wish that the Archdiocese of Chicago and its agencies continue to welcome all in celebrating Inclusion Awareness Sunday on October 9th, 2016. In celebrating this event, we will draw attention to our efforts to make our communities more welcoming where everyone is valued. Many parishes have already taken steps in designing spaces for greater accessibility. Together we continue our efforts to make our places of worship even more welcoming for full participation in parish life.

For resources to assist your local community in learning more about ways to design inclusive ministry plans, please visit www.InclusionInWorship.org. *Inclusion in Worship* offers grants of \$1,000 to help fund projects that improve physical accessibility, audio and sound transmission, and parish life inclusion.

The celebration of Inclusion Awareness Day will help others witness their faith in a valued and supported faith community. Know of my gratitude and my prayers for all that you do.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Blase J. Cupich".

Most Reverend Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago