

ADVOCATES OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Our mission is to make the parish welcoming and accessible to all its members, including the disabled, and to provide awareness of the obstacles faced by the disabled to people without disabilities.

What we try to do:

Recruit people to act as a spokesperson when approaching pastors or legislators with suggestions of what is needed to eliminate obstacles to the disabled. We want to give the disabled an opportunity to develop a life outside the home and help them become part of society; let them know there are opportunities for them so that they won't feel so cut off from everything.

Volunteers:

We need volunteers, able bodied as well as the disabled.

Duties:

Promote awareness by holding occasional *Awareness Days* that will provide information to parishioners with and without disabilities about the latest ways in which churches and society have removed obstacles. Initiate fundraisers for changes to churches, like ramps and accessible toilets. With public departments, continue the fight for more curb cuts.

Qualifications:

Be a self-starter; be well spoken, assertive, and determined. Be able to stand up to intimidation, have a firm purpose, and know what you're doing.

What we want for the future throughout the church:

Get more people involved. Install listening devices throughout church for the hard-of-hearing; provide accessible seating in the main church for wheelchair users, since many events take place there. Make the altar accessible.

With only one current member, there are no regular meetings.

Please consider becoming involved in this important work.

Much has been done, but there's so much more to do.