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Dear Friends,

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has launched “**Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with People with Disability**”. Prepared by the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life with advice and assistance from the Australian Catholic Disability Council, the guidelines respond to requests for guidance about providing fuller access to the sacraments by people with disability.

The key principles of the guidelines include: celebration and reception of the sacraments for all, full participation of people with disability and their families in the life of the Church, access into and within Church buildings, adaptation of programs, attitudinal change and dispelling myths and misconceptions about disability.

All parishes and schools in the diocese will receive a copy of these guidelines. Additional copies may be purchased from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference online store www.catholic.org.au/shop

God bless you all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads '+ Paul Bird'.

Paul Bird CSsR

Bishop of Ballarat