



July 2025



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# JULY NEWSLETTER



Dear Friends,

We hope this Summer season finds you refreshed and rejuvenated! Here in Northern Virginia, we are blessed to experience the beauty of all four seasons, reminding us that life is a continuous cycle of new beginnings. Summer, in particular, often calls us to embrace a different pace, and perhaps even indulge a little.

With this in mind, we were particularly inspired by Bishop Burbidge's [recent article in the Catholic Herald](#), *"Leisure as a way to grow with God."* His words resonated deeply with us, especially this observation: *"When a whole society is consumed by ceaseless and always apparently important demands, its people lose their ability to see God's world as it is. They forget that their lives are gifts and that **our mutual needs are not burdens but opportunities to love and serve one another.**"*

While many of us at Porto Charities have been enjoying restful and precious time with our families and friends this summer, our commitment to our constituents remains unwavering. **The "work" we do truly never feels like a job; rather, it is a heartfelt service to our beloved community.** Below, we're excited to share some of the projects that have kept us occupied throughout the summer, all in service of children and young adults with intellectual disabilities.

As you navigate the remainder of these summer months, we encourage you to make a conscious effort to rest, to spend time with God, to truly connect with your family and loved ones, and to seek opportunities to be of service to others, especially our cherished brothers and sisters with disabilities.

Sincerely,  
Porto Charities

[Make a Gift to Porto Charities](#)

## Be a Hero: Join us at the Porto Golf Tournament

We launched only a couple of weeks ago and we are already at 60% capacity! Don't miss your chance to win a Ford Bronco sponsored by Ted Britt's Ford, and many more amazing prizes at the Porto Charities Golf Tournament. It's always a SUPER fun event and it's all for a great cause! There are many ways you can participate:

- Buy a ticket, or better yet, a foursome!
- Not a golfer? Join us for a delicious premium buffet lunch from Ford's Fish Shack, which also gives you access to our Silent Auction and Raffle.
- Buy a "My Hero" Tribute Sign to give a shout out to someone special, or to celebrate a milestone! You will be able to take your sign home after the event.
- Become a sponsor - benefits at all levels!
- Buy a ticket (or a foursome) for teachers or priests in the Diocese of Arlington. Last year we had a fantastic foursome called "Holy in One" formed by priests from various parishes in the Diocese of Arlington!

Early Bird ends September 12th, but remember, we are limited in space, and tickets are selling fast!

[Buy Tickets](#)

[Become a Sponsor](#)

[Golf Website](#)



**17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
**PORTO CHARITIES**  
**GOLF**  
**TOURNAMENT**

FRIDAY TWIN LAKES



FRIDAY  
**OCTOBER 03**  
2025

TWIN LAKES  
"THE OAKS"  
CLIFTON, VA



**YOU CAN BE A HERO!**

### REGISTER NOW! \$175 BY SEPT. 12

Includes green fees, cart, range balls, continental breakfast, drinks, lunch, 2 raffle tickets, a mulligan and swag bag!

### SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

Your generous gifts will provide training and scholarships for educators serving students with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Diocese of Arlington.



### AGENDA

**7:30 AM** Registration & breakfast

**8:30 AM** Putting contest

**9:00 AM** Shotgun start (scramble)

**2:00 PM** Lunch, silent auction, raffle & awards

**WIN A FORD BRONCO FROM  
TED BRITT FORD!**

**PREMIUM SEAFOOD  
LUNCH BY**



[portocharities.org/2025golf](https://portocharities.org/2025golf)  
[smchie@portocharities.org](mailto:smchie@portocharities.org)



## Catholicism & ABA Webinars

We have had a great turnout for our Summer Webinar series! Our first two sessions were packed with so much knowledge and wisdom from our presenter, Joey Clem. We have received great feedback so far, so we highly encourage you to join us for the last session on August 13th, at 7:30 pm.

Check out the recordings of [Part I](#) and [Part II](#) in our YouTube Channel. Don't forget to subscribe to our channel so you can be notified when we upload new content! We currently have more than 35 webinars on a range of topics that are of much interest to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and those who serve them.





## Inclusion in Action Webinar Series

# Catholicism and ABA

*Looking at Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)  
through the eyes of our Catholic faith, how science  
can help us reach out in love*

### Joseph Clem, BCBA

*Joseph Clem is a Catholic husband and father of four children and a Lifetime Member of Youth Apostles. He has been working with children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 2011. He became a Board Certified Behavior Analyst in 2016.*



- Wednesday 7/23 Part 1 - ABA & Catholicism
- Wednesday 7/30 Part 2 - ABA Concepts & Assessments
- Wednesday 8/13 Part 3 - ABA interventions & Resources

*All webinars will begin at 7:30pm via Zoom.*

Register to receive the Zoom links:  
[www.portocharities.org/register](http://www.portocharities.org/register)

Register

Subscribe to Our Youtube Channel

**Join us at the 2025 Mental Health Day of Prayer**

You are invited to the 2025 Mental Health Day of Prayer, sponsored by the Diocese of Arlington, Divine Mercy University and the Saint Labre Community. The theme this year is "I Am With You Always: Healing From Trauma and Loneliness". The day features small group discussions, a keynote luncheon with Dr. Maura McFadden, and Holy Mass celebrated by our shepherd, Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge.

**Porto Charities is proud to have been invited** by the [Special Religious Development \(SPRED\) Program](#) at the Diocese of Arlington **to lead a Small Group Sharing for families of children with disabilities** during the afternoon breakout session. We invite you to please consider joining us! Even if you can't make it to all the activities, we hope that you can take part of the Luncheon and the Small Group Sharing. Come and meet other families, share your journey, learn from others, and receive loving support.

*This event is free, but please register below.*

Register Free Here

## 2025 Mental Health Day of Prayer

# *I Am With You Always* Healing From Trauma and Loneliness

CEUs | Confession | Lunch | Small Group Sharing

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### Saturday, August 23rd

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

9:15am - 2:15pm

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Holy Mass with

**Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge**

*Bishop of Arlington | Celebrant & Homilist*

Keynote Luncheon Speaker

**Dr. Maura McFadden**





Dr. Maureen McLaughlin

*Clinical Psychologist*

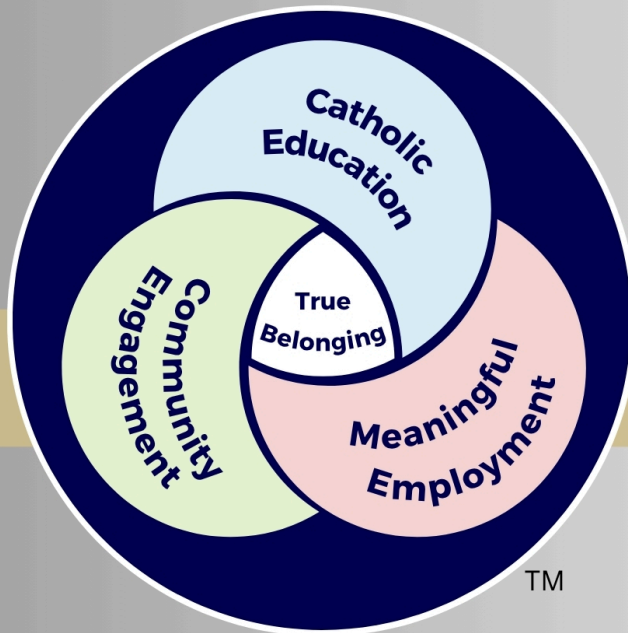
This event is **FREE**  
but please register at:  
[arlingtondiocese.org/  
mentalhealthdoph](http://arlingtondiocese.org/mentalhealthdoph)



Sponsored By  
Diocese of Arlington, Divine Mercy University &  
the Saint Labre Community

Register Free Here

## Building a Culture of Belonging



Porto Charities is a 501(c)3 organization that builds a culture of belonging for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities by increasing their access to Catholic education, meaningful employment, and community engagement in the Diocese of Arlington.



*True Belonging  
means being seen,  
known and valued.*



Donate Today

Website