

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA



Memo

Date: August 5, 2019

To: Bulletin Editors and Parish Staff

From: Maggie Rousseau, Director of Disabilities Ministry, Office of Life, Dignity and Justice

Re: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day

All Saints Catholic Church parishioner Melissa Cook has worked tirelessly for families affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). Because of her efforts, Governor Brian Kemp has proclaimed September 9, 2019 as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day. Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are 100% preventable when pregnant women abstain from alcohol. FASD can cause numerous social disorders including learning disabilities, school failures, juvenile delinquency, homelessness, unemployment, mental illness, and criminal behavior. It is important to know that with treatment and appropriate strategies, children and adults with FASD can succeed.

All churches are encouraged to include the following announcement in their Sunday Bulletins:

Governor Brian Kemp has proclaimed September 9 as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day (FSAD). All churches throughout the state of Georgia are being asked to ring their church bell on September 9, at 9:00 a.m., to represent the 9 months of alcohol free pregnancy. Parishioners are asked to prayerfully remember families affected by FASD on September 9. If you or your family are in need of assistance or additional information about FASD, please contact Melissa Cook at mejcook@aol.com, or Maggie Rousseau, Director, Disabilities Ministry, Archdiocese of Atlanta at mrousseau@archatl.com.