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NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

- **St. Mary VBS, June 27, 28 and 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon.** Fun, Food, Games, Music and Crafts, Grades K to 6.
- Sign up in Narthex or you can register online. Works best using Google, place address in the http box:
<https://barnyard.liguorivbs.org/StMaryHillsboroOhio>
- Teens and Adult volunteers needed. Contact PSR at 840-9932, ext 2.

SERMON FOR CORPUS CHRISTI

You never know when the smallest act of kindness can make a huge difference. There is a much overlooked fact in the miracle of the five barley loaves and two fish feeding the 5,000. Jesus was able to feed the 5,000 people because of the generosity of one small boy who gave up his lunch that mom wisely packed for him. Our small acts of kindness can make a difference in ways you may never realize at the time.

A long time ago in 1975, I witnessed a young girl lose control of her bike and crash into a tree in front of her house. She was shaken up pretty badly so I got out of my car. I knocked frantically on the door of her house but nobody answered. She said her dad was at work and mom went to get some food for supper. There she was just sitting there, bleeding from her nose with a big bump on her head. She said, "I'm cold." I was worried she might go into shock. I couldn't call 911 on a cell phone because neither existed yet. So I picked her up, placed her in the front seat of my blue Toyota Carolla and drove her to this new hospital called Clermont Hospital in Batavia.

I sat with her in the ER. I tried to take her mind off the pain by talking about happy stuff. She told me how she liked to play football with the boys. She liked to see the shocked look on the face of the boys that she tackled. I stayed there till her mom and dad finally arrived. They were very appreciative, thanking me profusely. The young girl said she would never forget me.

Fifteen years later I get a late night call from Denver, Colorado. There was a woman on the line who said she was coming to Holy Trinity Church in Batavia to get married. "I want you to do my marriage and only you," she said to me. I had no idea who this woman was. She then retold the story about my act of kindness to her when I took her to the hospital. I had forgotten all about it but she remembered it in great detail. All the details of this story come from her memory, not mine. She then concluded, "Your kindness led me to the Catholic Church. I figured if Catholics do good things like you did for me, that's a church worth belonging to. I joined last year." It was a special wedding ceremony. The young tomboy girl turned into a beautiful woman now a Catholic bride all because of some good deed I did that I completely forgot.

Today is Corpus Christi when we celebrate the Body and Blood of Jesus. I find it amazing that Jesus chose a small inexpensive little host and simple cup of wine to offer us the greatest grace of love known to the universe. One would think He would have chosen instead the finest, most expensive food. Jesus chose this common food to show us that in the ordinary living of life it is the little loving things we do that can make a profound difference for the good. Just as Jesus transforms a little host and small cup of wine into His Body and Blood that produces an abundance of grace in your soul, so Jesus can transform your small acts of kindness into an abundance of grace for another soul. Communion is both a gift from God and a command to act. Holy Communion is most powerful when it leads you to do acts of goodness that Jesus can use to lead others into communion with Him. So you become not only the receiver of Communion with Jesus but the giver of Communion with Jesus as well through every kind act you do.

Soon you will come to the altar, open your hand, receive the Real Presence of Jesus and say "Amen" which means "I believe Jesus you are really here." But don't let your Amen stop in Church. Be sure to take Jesus with you when you leave this Church and make Jesus present outside these walls in your daily life by the good you say and do. Live your "Amen" every day. Come, Lord Jesus, Come!.....Amen



