CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEBRASKA

Hope in the Good Life

December 2019

Jesus Christ's Nativity

Becoming more like Him

Can we simply just give it up for Jesus? It's December. The whole idea of these monthly mailings (formerly Via Satoris and now known as Hope in the Good Life) is to introduce the faithful to a saint. So let's just celebrate Jesus Christ and the miracle of His Nativity on this earth. As St. Athanasius put it: "God became man so that man could become God." God Himself took on human nature so that our human nature could become Divine through the Sacraments of His Church: the Catholic Church. What a gift!!! And we become more like Him as we consume Him in the Eucharist.

God tells us something in Jesus' Birth as well. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. And Bethlehem means "House of Bread". And Jesus was in a manger. A manger is obviously a feeding trough. And the word manger comes from the Latin word manducare meaning "to chew" or "to eat". God tells us from the beginning that Jesus is the Bread of Life and He is meant to be consumed in the Eucharist!! If only we all had the courage to share this with our brothers and sisters of other faiths and denominations. God gave us Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and God is truly with us in the Blessed Sacrament.

As God the Father feeds us with His Son Jesus in the Holy Eucharist we are

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Last year, with your help we provided $1,800,000 in overall cash and in-kind assistance to help with paying rent, medical bills, money for food and more

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Becoming more like Him (Continued from page 1)

also called to feed the world with our thoughts, prayers, words, and actions. CSS performed a survey of our clients recently and asked what their most important needs were during the Christmas season. We figured we could best serve the needs of our clients by directly asking them what they were in need of. And overwhelmingly (and much to our surprise) the people surveyed said they needed help with food assistance. Our clients did not really even mention a need for toys. They simply asked for help with food. And CSS is helping them with food assistance.

As the holidays eat away at budgets and it gets costly to keep the furnace going and the house warm, our clients need the most basic necessity of life: food. And just as we are fed with the Blessed Sacrament we are helping our clients get sustenance for life as well.

Please pray for our clients during these winter months. Thank you for your prayers and support of Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska. May we all join together to bring the Bread of Life to our friends and neighbors here in The Good Life!!

May God bless us all. Merry Christmas!!!!!!

Donate now at www.cssisus.org to help bring Hope in the Good Life to those we serve!

Hope in the Good Life

Your help is vital in bringing Hope

Our mission, as Catholic Social Services of southern Nebraska, is to build up the Body of Christ over the 24,000 square miles of the diocese through the spiritual and corporal Works of Mercy. Last year, through the grace of God and the generosity of our supporters and volunteers, we:

- Gave over **1,000 meals** to families for weekend sustenance through our school Backpack and Food Market Program
- Distributed **59,000 sack lunches** to the hungry and homeless of the Hastings and Lincoln areas
- Held **3,715 counseling sessions** assisting over 377 individuals and families with trauma, depression, grief and more

It costs **$16,000 a day** in services and salaries to provide these services. Your prayers and support are vital, thank you and God bless!

***Hope in the Good Life* (formerly *Via Satoris*) is the monthly newsletter of Catholic Social Services. If you do not currently receive this newsletter but would like to, fill out your information on the enclosed return envelope, indicating you would like to receive it. If you would like to receive *Hope in the Good Life* electronically, visit www.cssisus.org and fill out the form at the bottom of the homepage.**