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Feast of Corpus Christi

Dear Readers:

St. John Vianney once said, "If you knew how much God loved you in the Tabernacle you would die of happiness." Brent Heyer in his 25 year journey as a Catholic has learned more and more the truth of this statement. In his book, *Bringing Christ to the World Through the Mass*, he tries to encourage others to grow in their awareness of this same reality of our Redeemer being truly present in the Mass and in the Reserved Sacrament we are privileged to be able to adore.

Pope John Paul II urged us to reflect on the Eucharist being the Sacrament of Love. This love of God concretized for us by Jesus at the Last Supper is renewed for us each day in the Eucharistic Liturgy. From the Eucharistic Sacrifice we draw strength to constantly recommit ourselves to follow the example of Christ who laid down his life for his friends (Sollicitudo Rei Socialis\* 48.6) In his encyclical *Ecclesia De Eucharistia* # 22, Pope John Paul teaches that the Eucharist is the source and summit of all evangelization. This teaching is put forward by the Second Vatican Council in Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy *Sacrosanctum Concilium* of 4 December 1963. In Section #10 the Council Fathers wrote, "The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the church is directed; it is also the fount from which all her power flows." Eucharistic adoration seeks to give us time to allow the profound truths contained in the Mass to penetrate our souls, that we might be faithful mirrors of Christ to those we encounter in life.

Twenty five years ago I was a parish priest present at the Easter Vigil at which Brent Heyer received our Eucharistic Lord for the first time. May this book be a means of grace for you to grow in love for the Eucharistic Lord who loves you so much.

Prayerfully Yours,

Rev. Msgr. George C. Michalek