

TRUST IN GOD

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At the altar of our Lord, at Mass, we get Jesus when we receive Jesus. We lean toward God, and he leans right back. Everyone needs to relearn the simple lesson that many of our young people know; they need Jesus. At the Mass they get Jesus no matter how bad life gets. Jesus is always here for us. We can trust Him.

A young girl with a mental disability made her First Communion during a beautiful celebration of the Mass. After the ceremony, her uncle said to her mother, "What a beautiful liturgy. The sad thing is that she didn't understand anything." The child overheard this remark and said to her mommy, "Don't worry Mommy, Jesus loves me just as I am."

Yes, Jesus loves us just as we are, disabled and handicapped. We are disabled by our sins, by our lack of faith, by our failure to trust in God.

We are disabled by troubles, struggles, losses, temptations and tribulations. We are crippled by a lukewarm faith, which we pass on to our children. We are all disabled and handicapped by our own cowardice. Few of us would have the courage to die for Christ as Cassie Bern all had. We are all disabled, handicapped and crippled by the fact that we really don't understand how much Jesus loves us, just as we are. But He is not happy to see us disabled. He wants us healed.

From the cross Jesus cries out, "Come to me even though you don't recognize the need. You need me more than the air you breathe. Come, trust in me. Do not let your hearts be troubled."

Those words of young Matt Baker should be burned into our hearts, "If we lean toward God, we know he's going to lean right back. The only way you'll get through this is through Jesus. If you don't have Jesus, get Jesus. You don't know if you have tomorrow."

The next time you are in line to receive Communion, recapture the faith of the young people. Tell Him, "Jesus I need you. Jesus I trust you. Amen."

(Excerpt from "Cross My Heart and Hope to Live" by Monsignor Chiodo.)