

A Short Teaching on Kindness - Then He Allowed Him.

by Deacon Gerry Palermo

Note: pastoral, one page.

Following from a Homily on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, January 12, 2014.

Mt 3:13-17. Also central to the homily is John 3:29-30 x-ref kindness of John the Baptizer.

The homily had four central points. (1) A personal story of an act of kindness given me. (2) The Jesus' 'entering into the misery of man' and bringing us our liberation in the person of Jesus from sin in this same Baptism of the Lord. (3) The act of kindness of John the Baptizer for Jesus – the shoshben – attending to him and the bride. (4) Entering into the loving kindness of the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

So thinking about the scripture 'Then He Allowed Him', I got to wondering how kindness to Jesus is expressed in the Gospel of Matthew. How often and in what ways. Then, having collected the accounts, what might I do differently as a result.

The list is attached. Have fun with it. Imagine new ways to serve man in imitation of those who served Christ as man.

**Survey of Acts of Kindness given to Jesus from Creatures**

**Sunday, January 12, 2014**

**Act of Kindness:** An act or omission of act. (narrowly: generosity of conduct)

Specifically done for the benefit of the person of Jesus Christ.

Restricted to Gospel of Matthew.

Must be an actual act or positive omission.

**Matthew Verse(s) Short Description In Our Lives**

**Childhood**

1:24 Joseph - Takes Mary as Wife/Jesus as Son Human dignity

2:11 Magi - Homage and three gifts Charity

2:20 Joseph - Go to Israel with the child Care for Refugee and Wanderers

**Galilean Ministry**

3:15 John the Baptizer - Consented to the Lord as Shoshben Act Rightly toward man/God

4:11 Angels - Came and ministered to Him Help another in trial

8:8 Centurion - Lord I am not worthy (no need to travel) Humility with others

8:15 Peter's Mother-in-law - Got up and served him. Dignity of active Service

**Jerusalem Ministry including Resurrection**

21:8-9 Large Crowd - Cloaks and Branches (and colt and donkey) Solidarity and the Common Good

26:7 Woman at Bethany - Alabaster Jar of ointment Honor Women in service of the Lord

27:32 Simon the Cryene - Carry the Cross Bear your share of sacrificial life

27:58ff Joseph of Arimathea - Clean linen and tomb and stone Honor the dead

28:9 Mary Magdalene (and the other Mary) - Took hold of him Hold onto each other

Peace be with you.

Deacon Gerry