

Welcome to Week 6 of The 2017 Lenten Positive Acts Challenge!

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"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it" - Hebrews 13:2

Dear Bill,

Welcome to the 6th week of Lent... and the 6th week of the Lenten Positive Acts Challenge!

We're so glad you decided to take this Lenten Journey with us!
These 47 days could improve the rest of your year.

If you haven't visited the website recently, please do so every now and then. You can even visit on your phone or tablet.

There are now 1,476 people performing Lenten Positive Acts in 31 Countries, and in 46 States of the U.S.!!

Such a diverse group of people and locations...all with something powerful in common: *The desire to praise God...help people...and make the world a little bit better.* All at the same time!

If you've completed your recommended number of daily Lenten Positive Acts, you have at least **103** so far. As a group, we've performed over **152,000!**

Starting Monday, April 3rd, we increased the daily requirement to 6. So, every day this week, we'll be bringing almost 9,000 positive acts into the world – in 31 countries!

If you need some help with ideas for Positive Acts, please visit "[I Need Ideas](#)".

If you'd like additional help in identifying opportunities for Positive Acts, or if you have any questions, please send us an email at info@LentenPositiveActs.com - we'll be happy to help you.

Please visit the "[Track My Positive Acts](#)" page - to download a chart for tracking your Positive Acts. You can print it, or use it on your computer or phone.



Thanks for the comments you've been giving us. We appreciate your thoughts, and love to hear how The Challenge is going for you.

If you have comments, please let us know - post them on the website, or send them to info@LentenPositiveActs.com

*"Be kind. For everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about" -
Anonymous*

We don't know what issues others are facing in their lives. Sometimes, when we think we have troubles, being kind to others not only helps that other person... it also helps us to put our troubles into perspective, and we may feel better.

In fact, you may have heard it said that if we all threw our problems into a pile, and saw everyone else's... we'd grab ours back!

On Sunday night, our son contacted us from college, to let us know that a fellow student named Caitlin passed away during the day - from a tragic medical emergency resulting from her choking on food. Many of her friends were there when it happened, and they're among the many people in shock, disbelief, and

mourning.

Caitlin's Dad was a Police Officer who was killed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks – while saving others. And now her Mom lost her Daughter, as well as her husband.

Please keep them in your prayers. In fact, if you can - please take a moment now to say a few prayers:

- For Caitlin – for the repose of her soul, and for her to join her father in Heaven
- For her Mom – that God give her the strength, the courage, and the faith she'll need to move forward... and that she'll have family and friends who will comfort and help her along the way
- For Caitlin's family and friends

Chances are, some of Caitlin's classmates at school didn't know about her Dad. And, chances are that some people her Mom will be in contact with in the future won't know about either her husband, her daughter, or the heartache she lives with every day.

You may sit next to someone like Caitlin... or her Mom... in your class. You may have them as a neighbor or a co-worker. You never know.

About 10 years ago, I worked with a great guy named Joel. He was easy going, friendly, always helpful, and he had a good sense of humor. And he always looked on the bright side of things. I knew that Joel's wife has passed away from an incurable disease a few years back, and I found it inspiring and admirable that he could be the way he was – even with that heartache and loss.

I also knew that he had a son. Most weekends, I would ask Joel if he had any

plans, and his answer was almost always “I’m going to visit my son”. One day, I finally asked him where his son lived. His answer stunned me, and sent chills through my body. He said “in the hospital. He lives there now.”

His son now had the same disease his wife died from. And now *he* was dying. And here was Joel... at work... dealing with everyday issues that many of us complain about.

I’m ashamed to say that I worked with him, and had no idea of what he was going through in his personal life. *Until that day*, I hadn’t asked the right questions. *After that day*, I never looked at Joel the same way again. He became such an inspiration to me, and is someone I pray I never have to emulate.

I’d like to say that I learned from that experience, and immediately started looking at others for what might be hidden below the surface of their lives. However, I can’t.

You see, a few years later, in a different company, I met another friend at work – named Eddie. Like Joel, Eddie is a wonderful man. He has a great sense of humor, is easy going, understanding, helpful, etc. As a new employee, I had a lot to learn... and Eddie was always willing to help.

One day, I noticed that Eddie was out of the office, and would be out for an undetermined amount of time. When I asked his manager about it, the answer put me into a similar state as when I worked with Joel. Eddie was out because he was battling cancer - that was a result of his experience serving our country in the Vietnam War.

What's more, Eddie was battling cancer for the *third time*. God had *already* helped him to beat it *twice*. And now it was back. And I was totally unaware of that part of

Eddie's life.

I'm happy to say that God helped Eddie through it again. I call him the "Three-peat Champion"... to which Eddie will add "Thanks to the Grace of God!"

While I lost contact with Joel after I left that company, I'm blessed to still be in contact with my friend Eddie. In fact, he participates in the Lenten Positive Acts Challenge, and will be reading this. I hope he doesn't mind that I mentioned him. :)

Someone like Joel or Eddie may be sitting next to us on the train, or in Mass on Sunday. They may be the waitress at the diner, the nurse at the Doctor's office, or the mail carrier. You just don't know.

We recently told the stories of Robert and Dave, who have parents in assisted living homes. Many of the people they're in contact with don't know what they're dealing behind the curtain of their lives.

Unfortunately, I could go on with more stories.

Here's the thing. You never know what other people are dealing with. And, if you keep that in mind with everyone you meet... it could result in a major positive shift in your life. You'll start to see people in a different way.

We recently mentioned a quote that's worth repeating here:

"When you change the way you look at a person... the person you look at changes" - Anonymous

There are 1476 of us performing Lenten Positive Acts - in 31 countries.

Chances are, we *all* know of people going through a rough time... and we're *aware* of it.

And, chances are, we're all in contact with someone like Caitlin's Mom...
Joel... Eddie... Dave... or Robert.

We just don't *know it*.

Yet.

If *you* have a story about a "positive act" experience (that you, or someone else, performed... or that was done for you) that you'd like to share with us, please let us know. **We'd love to hear them!**

Today's Question:

Q. There are participants in 31 countries. Why can't I see the pins for all the countries on the map of the "*Where in the world*" page?

A. Great question!. And I apologize that I never mentioned this before. The Google Map on our page has a size limitation - so it can only show part of the map at one time. However, the **full** map is there. You just need to move the picture - left, right, up, or down. Here's how you do it: move your mouse pointer over the map, and the arrow will turn to a hand. Click on the left mouse button, and while holding it down - drag the picture up, down, left, or right. Let go of the mouse button when you get the map into the position you want it.

Today's Tip:

This week, try looking at others through different lenses. See them as "someone who may be facing a hard battle that I know nothing about".

And, while any positive act is a good one... if you have an opportunity to help someone who may be facing something you don't know about - please take it. So *many* people are hurting in some way - and could use our prayers... our compassion... and our kindness.

One of my positive acts tomorrow will be to track down Joel, and get back in touch with him. Hopefully, social media will help me to find him.

Today's Song:

When you get a chance, listen to the song "*Let Them See You*" - by the JJ Weeks Band.

It contains the lyrics:

*" Does the man I am today
Say the words You need to say?
Let them see You in me
Let them hear You when I speak
Let them feel You when I sing
Let them see You
Just let them see You in me"*

If you look for what's behind the curtain of someone's life, and help them in some way - they just might see Jesus in you... and hear Him when you speak. You never know...

*"You cannot do a kindness too soon,
for you never know how soon it will be too late" – Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Please keep this in mind as you look for opportunities for Positive Acts this week. :)

Until next time...

Have a Blessed Week!

God Bless You!

Sincerely,

Lenten Positive Acts

www.LentenPositiveActs.com



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You are receiving this mail because you opted in to participate in the 2016 Lenten Positive Acts Challenge.

We're so glad you joined us!

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