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Corpus Christi celebration

On the Feast of Corpus Christi June 14, Archbishop Alfred Hughes led Catholics on a one-mile eucharistic procession from Corpus Christi-Epiphany Parish to St. Raymond-St. Leo the Great. Quoting Southern novelist Flannery O'Connor, Archbishop Hughes said of the Eucharist: "If it is only a symbol, it is not worth a darn." The archbishop said, "We believe that Christ, acting through the priest, actually effects the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Lord's Body and Blood. ... The active, interior and wholehearted participation in the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life."

Daughters of Charity expand health care

By Christine Bordelon
Clarion Herald

The Daughters of Charity have endured outbreaks of cholera and yellow fever and the Civil War in their 175 years in New Orleans, so water from Hurricane Katrina was not going to stop them from continuing to provide health care to the area's most vulnerable.

"It wasn't even a decision," Daughters of Charity Sister Bernice Coreil, a former administrator at Hotel Dieu and a member of Ascension Health's board, said about returning to New Orleans at a recent event touting the Daughters' milestone. "We've been here 175 years and will be here another 175 years. We weren't going to let a little storm break our confidence."

Shortly after Hurricane Katrina, Daughters of Char-

ity Services of New Orleans, a division of Ascension Health, reopened a clinic in Metairie, among the first local health clinics to return.

"We are committed to staying here in New Orleans and making sure we raise, in a small way, the health care status in the community," said Tony Tersigni, Ascension Health chief executive officer. Ascension Health is the nation's largest Catholic and nonprofit health provider.

Katrina helped Daughters of Charity Service of New Orleans define where they should be and whom they should serve.

"I think part of our spirit that has had us in the community for 175 years is a strong belief to meet the needs of people in New Orleans," said Daughters of Charity Services board chairwoman Sister Ellen Kron, also

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Photo by Frank J. Methe | CLARION HERALD

The former St. Cecilia School is being transformed into a new Daughters of Charity health and dental clinic.

New Divine Mercy Parish formed in Kenner merger

By Peter Finney Jr.
Clarion Herald

Completing the final piece of the archdiocesan post-Katrina pastoral plan, Nativity of Our Lord and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishes in Kenner will be officially suppressed on July 1 to establish the new

Divine Mercy Parish.

Father David Dufour, pastor, said he received word from Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes June 11 that the merger had been approved after consultation with the Presbyteral Council.

Parishioners from Nativity See **DIVINE MERCY** page 31 >

