Celebrating Children • They're God's Gift
The Second Sunday in June

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Mayor of Batavia Proclaims Sunday June 11 as Children's Day

Suburban Chicago Mayor Urges Citizens to Further the Cause of Hope to Children

Batavia, III., June 11, 2006 (*The Religion Wire*™) — Today, Mayor Jeffery D. Schielke of Batavia issued a proclamation declaring June 11, 2006 as "Children's Day." He stresses that "all citizens of Batavia should unite in aiding to further the cause of hope for our children." And the community should give "faith, hope, and love to our children" on this special day. You may read the proclamation at www.nationalchildrensday.us.

What's *Children's Day*? A forgotten holiday. Today, only a few churches, denominations, and individuals celebrate the day. But still, *Children's Day* observations in the United States predate both Mother's and Father's Day. This day dates from the 1880s and earlier. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in 1883 designated the "the second Sabbath in June as Children's Day." Massachusetts has legislation mandating a proclamation. In early May, the Illinois House passed a resolution, HR1158, declaring June 11, 2006 (the second Sunday in June) as *Children's Day*.

Children's singer/songwriter Mr. Nicky has written a new song to promote

Children's Day titled "I Love Being A Kid." A FREE MP3 download is available at

www.nationalchildrensday.us and at iTunes.

John Ross, a Batavia resident, an advocate for a national *Children's Day*, feels "that now more than ever, children need a special day. I'm hopeful that individuals, churches, denominations, media, businesses, government, and organizations can help spread the support for a national *Children's Day* on the second Sunday in June."