

# CHRISTMAS SPIRIT OF GIVING

St. Margaret Parish provides Christmas gifts and provides Christmas dinners for over 300 families each year in Harford County. Through your generosity, we are able to help and feed over 1,000 people. **You can help in three ways for our Christmas giving project this year: (1) Adopt a Family, (2) Purchasing gifts and gift cards, (3) Sort, wrap and deliver gifts.**



This is a very rewarding and beautiful way of helping families who do not have enough. When you adopt a family, you purchase gifts for all the family members, put together all the food for a Christmas dinner and then deliver the food and gifts on **Sunday, December 16**. It is a wonderful way to meet the people we pray for and serve. **This can be a project for one family, many families, or groups of people can join together to adopt a family.**

## **PURCHASING GIFTS from the ANGEL**

### **Adopt a Family process is as follows for Christmas:**

- ❖ The contact information for the family will be given to you.
- ❖ Please call and introduce yourself as a member of St. Margaret Parish - you may use our phone desk at the parish office - Ministry of St. Lawrence
- ❖ Discuss the gifts with an adult in the family
- ❖ Make the arrangements for delivery of the gifts and food.

We recommend purchasing **three gifts per child and one gift per adult**. Consider spending approximately \$75 per child and \$25-50 per adult. **Please do not give cash.**

Food is purchased by your group for a complete Christmas dinner and other extra items are added to help the family. The following is generally purchased:

- Stuffing, gravy
- Fresh vegetables-carrots, celery, onions, etc.
- Sweet potatoes and instant mashed potatoes
- Canned vegetables-carrots, peas, corn, green beans, cranberry sauce
- Instant macaroni and cheese, pasta and pasta sauce
- Peanut butter, jelly, fruit cocktail, canned tuna fish, soup
- Pie filling and crust, cake mix

**A \$25 gift card is purchased for each family to purchase meat for their dinner.**

**Deliver the Christmas gifts and food any time before Christmas**

## GIVING TREES, DONATING FOOD AND GIFT CARDS EACH WEEK

- ❖ If you cannot adopt a family, *Angel Giving Trees* are at the doors of the church and mission. Please consider taking angels off the Giving Tree, purchase the specific items, wrap and bring back to the church or mission.
- ❖ **Donating food** each week is a wonderful way to participate in the Spirit of Giving. Please bring the food to Mass with you at the church or mission or drop off at the parish office during the week. All of this food will be used to complete Christmas dinners for delivery to families. Food needed is listed in the adopt a family box.
- ❖ Another way to help is gift cards. **\$25 gift cards to Walmart and grocery stores** will be given to families to buy meat and other perishable items to complete the dinner or to purchase necessary gifts for families. Gift cards can be put in the poor box, in the collection or dropped off at the parish office.



## SORT, WRAP, ORGANIZE AND DELIVER DINNERS

- Parishioners are needed to sort, wrap and organize the gifts and food into baskets at the elementary school gym on **Sunday morning, December 16.**
- People are needed to deliver gifts and dinners on **Sunday, December 16** after 12:30 pm.

## HOW TO SIGN UP TO HELP

Sign-up sheets are at all the doors of the church and mission to volunteer for Adopt a Family or helping to sort or deliver.

You can also call the parish office at 410-879-2670 or Nina Heck at 410-838-6969, ext. 174 or email [ninah@stmargaret.org](mailto:ninah@stmargaret.org) or Deacon Jim DeCapite at [jdecapite@stmargaret.org](mailto:jdecapite@stmargaret.org).