



October 1, 2009

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Xavier,

The **Canned Food Drive** (CFD) at St. Xavier is an Advent tradition. Each year during the months of November and December students collect food for people in need in both the Greater Cincinnati area and rural Appalachia. Families, friends, alumni, faculty, and students then deliver the food “baskets” at the conclusion of the CFD. The 2008 Canned Food Drive was very successful as students collected over 138,000 pounds of food and made deliveries to over 430 local families. Additionally, students delivered canned goods to several social service agencies in Cincinnati, rural Kentucky, and Virginia.

An integral part of the Canned Food Drive is the **Adopt-A-Family Program**, which began more than twenty years ago. Through this program, the St. Xavier community is given the opportunity to “adopt” needy families referred to our school by the St. Vincent de Paul Society in the West End, St. Vincent de Paul Winton Hills, and the North Fairmount Community Center. As part of the Adopt-A-Family Program, the “donor” family (a St. Xavier family) specifies the size of the “recipient” family it would like to “adopt” based upon the cost of approximately fifty dollars per member of the recipient family. Then, by about December 1st we will provide you—the donor family—with the name of a recipient family and a list of items, such as canned foods, meats, and blankets, to be purchased and delivered to your adopted family. You deliver to the recipient family the “basket” of goods on Saturday, December 12th in the name of St. Xavier High School. (*Alternative delivery arrangements may be made as needed.*)

Essentially, then, there are four simple aspects to the Adopt-A-Family program:

1. **Send in the attached form by November 6th**
2. Receive an information packet about your adopted family by December 1st
3. Purchase the food and supplies for your adopted family
4. Deliver the food and supplies to your adopted family on Saturday, December 12th

Over the years St. Xavier families have been very generous with their participation in the Adopt-A-Family Program. Last year the St. Xavier community adopted about two hundred families. *Many participated in the Adopt-A-Family Program as a way for their entire family to become involved in helping those in need.* One St. X parent noted, “We have found each year the families are most grateful and definitely in need. It has been good for us as parents and for our children and their friends...to deliver to these families

and to remember the blessings God has provided us.” A list of “Frequently Asked Questions” and a “Grocery List” are available on the St. Xavier website under the Community Service Department Canned Food Drive page, which can be accessed via the “About St. X” tab on the website.

If you would like to participate in the Adopt-A-Family Program, please complete the attached form and send it to the Community Service Office, Room 1503, **before Thursday, November 6th**. If you would prefer, feel free to e-mail your response to the attached sign-up form to Mrs. Rosemary Schuermann at rschuermann@stxavier.org. Please e-mail or call Mrs. Schuermann at 761-7815 ext.529 if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you very much for your support.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Kemper

Rosemary Schuermann

Blair Mancini

Gerry Becker

PLEASE NOTE: If you decide to adopt a family and you wish to get started on shopping for that family prior to receiving information from us, feel free to access the grocery list on our website. You can assume you will receive the size of the family that you requested.

**St. Xavier High School Advent Canned Food Drive
Adopt-A-Family Program, 2009**

Please return to:

**St. Xavier High School
Community Service Department
600 North Bend Road
Cincinnati, OH 45224**

**Feel free to submit this information via fax: 761-3811
or e-mail; rschuermann@stxavier.org**

Name: _____

Son's Name & Homeroom (if applicable): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone Number: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Size of Donor Family (number of people) you would like to adopt?

Circle one category: 1-2 people, 3-4 people, 5-6 people, more than 6

_____ **If possible, I would like to have the same family as last year.**