

St. Xavier High School Advent Canned Food Drive

Adopt-A-Family Program

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I go about signing-up to Adopt-A-Family?

Simply complete the form found on this webpage, or by contacting Mrs. Rosemary Schuermann in Community Service Office at 761-7815, Ext. 529 or via e-mail at rschuermann@stxavier.org.

Can I contact my family?

We encourage contact with the adopted families, especially to ensure that they will be at home when you deliver the food. Calling in advance also provides an opportunity to determine if the family has any special needs. Of course, this is not necessarily an expectation on your part.

When do I deliver the food?

Deliveries have been pre-scheduled for December 12th between 9:00am and 3:00pm. However, you can call your adopted family and make other arrangements that are more convenient for you. Some St. X families will even deliver earlier than December 12th so that their adopted family has ample time to use the gift certificates in order to purchase gifts for their children for Christmas.

What should I do if the phone number is disconnected?

The paperwork that you will receive indicates a secondary phone number. In the event that alternative phone numbers cannot be reached, please contact Mrs. Rosemary Schuermann in Community Service Office at 761-7815, Ext. 529 or via e-mail at rschuermann@stxavier.org and she will obtain the necessary information.

What if my family is not at home when I deliver to them?

Take the food directly to the referring agency. The address and phone number will be listed on a form that is included in your packet. This data is also listed on your *Family Information Sheet*. The agency will make sure that the assigned family receives their food basket. We contact every family and remind them to be at home during the assigned delivery time, yet inevitably, some folks will not be at home when their food basket arrives.

Since things can be so busy during the Christmas season, is there any way that I can get the information earlier so that I can begin to shop for my adopted family?

We will have the information about your adopted family to you as soon as possible. However, if you wish to get a jump on shopping for food, please see the *Adopt-A-Family Grocery List* which can be accessed via this website. When you

specify the size of the family you wish to adopt, count on receiving a family of that size, so you can plan accordingly.

Why don't we have more information about what the family wants or needs?

We pass along to you all of the information that is provided to us. Calling the family directly is the best way to find out any additional information concerning their needs or wants.

Is it okay to buy gifts for the family?

Purchasing gifts or extra food items beyond the list provided is up to you. Some people like to give gifts to each person in their adopted family while others prefer instead to include gift certificates to different stores. For most of the folks who receive food baskets, *Kroger* is the most accessible store. Note: Food stamps cannot be used for non-food items such as soap, paper products and personal hygiene products, so those items would be excellent additions to your food baskets.

How much does it usually cost?

Based on the list provided, we estimate that the cost is approximately \$50.00 per person. For example, if you adopted a family of four, you could expect to spend approximately \$200.00. These numbers are estimates.

Can I have the same family that I had last year?

Definitely. Simply indicate on your Adopt-A-Family form your wish to have the same family you adopted last year. If that family is on the list we receive from the agencies, we will match you up with them again this year.

How do you determine which families to adopt?

We receive the names of almost 500 families primarily from four social service agencies in Cincinnati. These are reputable agencies with whom St. Xavier has maintained relationships for several years. The agency staffs do their best to enroll needy families. Of course, no system is perfect, but this one has worked very well for a number of years.

I have friends that would like to adopt a family. How should they go about doing so?

Direct them to this website for the appropriate information and a sign-up form, or they can contact Mrs. Rosemary Schuermann at 761-7815, Ext. 529 or via e-mail at rschuermann@stxavier.org.

I am not able to adopt a family at this time but I would like to help out in some other way. What can I do?

There is always a need for folks to help deliver pre-packed food to needy families on CFD Delivery Day, which is Saturday, December 12th at 9:00 am. (See the Delivery Day flyer on this webpage.) Feel free to bring your family to Delivery Day. The day begins with an optional liturgy in the Cafeteria at 9:00am, followed by food delivery from the Loading Dock immediately following Mass. Maps and directions to families' homes are provided. All you need to do is show up. **Participating in Delivery Day is a great way to involve your family in a meaningful Christmas experience.** Also, you can donate food at St. X during the lunch periods (approx. 11:30am-12:30pm) from November 13th through December 9th.