

Box of Joy

Dear Parents,

This month, our school will participate in the *Box of Joy* program, a Christmas gift outreach organized by local Catholic schools, parishes, and groups nationwide. By packing Boxes of Joy with toys and other gifts, your child will bless a child suffering from extreme poverty by sharing the joy of Christmas and planting seeds of hope through the Gospel. We are excited to learn more about compassion and share in our Lord's mercy through this experience!

Last year, we participated in the program and our students did an amazing job! We were able to bless 200 children suffering from poverty in places like Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Guatemala! This year we have set our goal at 300!

Your child will bring home an empty *Box of Joy*. Understandably, there is a small cost to transport each *Box of Joy* from our community to the receiving child (***If writing a check, please write the \$9 check to Cross Catholic Outreach, not the school***) and send this directly to Cross Catholic Outreach by using the attached envelope, printing out a brochure online, or go online to <https://crosscatholic.org/box-of-joy/> to pay. There is also a QR code on the boxes that you may scan.

Your child will choose the gender and age range of the child he/she wants to bless. Have fun on your family shopping spree to personally select the items you feel a special boy or girl would really like! See the brochure or website for details about what to pack or not to pack.

The **deadline** for returning your packed Boxes of Joy will be **Thursday, November 14th**. All Boxes of Joy will be packed into larger cartons and ready for pick up on Friday morning. We encourage every student and every family member to pack a *Box of Joy*! If you need additional boxes, please let us know. For more info, contact me or check out www.CrossCatholic.org

This is not mandatory. If you choose not to participate, please send your unused box to the school so that we may use the boxes next year.

Thank you, and may God bless you and your family!

Christine LaRussa

“To change the world, we must be good to those who cannot repay us.” – Pope Francis