

Pastor's Corner

Thanksgiving Outreach and Christmas Giving Tree



Thanksgiving Outreach: Thanksgiving Day will be here soon – a special day to thank God for all our blessings and to spend time with family and loved ones. It is also a day to think about the many needy people in our midst. We will have two special opportunities to help the poor and needy celebrate Thanksgiving.

Our *Turkey Bingo* fundraiser will take place on Sunday, November 17, at 1:00 pm in the school auditorium. There will be food, sweets, prizes and bingo. All proceeds help fund our parish ministries that serve the poor, Deacon Ed's Food Bank/ Helping Hands and St. Vincent de Paul Ministry. Come pass a good time and help the needy in the process.

The same ministries will sponsor a *Thanksgiving Basket* drive, which provides Thanksgiving food to needy families in our parish and community. You can purchase a Thanksgiving dinner for a family for \$50 or donate goods for the baskets. Checks payable to St. Francis Xavier (earmarked "Thanksgiving Basket") can be put into the collection basket at Mass or dropped off at the Parish Center. Canned good and other food items can be left at church or dropped off at the Parish Center.



Christmas Giving Tree: Although Christmas is over a month away, it is time to think about our annual Christmas Giving Tree. The Giving Tree is a Christmas tree filled with paper angel ornaments with the name of a needy person and a gift wish. The names come from our parish ministries to the poor and Angel's Place for terminally ill children.

You are invited to select an ornament, purchase a gift and return the wrapped gift to the church on or before Sunday, December 1. This is a great way to enter into the spirit of Christmas and give to a specific individual rather than to a generic Christmas collection for the needy. The Giving Tree will be up in church on the weekend of November 16-17. Thanks to the Daughters of Isabella who coordinate the Giving Tree for our parish and to all who will give gifts and make Christmas a little merrier for the needy in our midst.

God bless,
Fr. Joe