



## Divine Mercy Annual Adopt-A-Family

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

This holiday season Divine Mercy will once again be adopting five (5) less fortunate families. The school has taken on the responsibility of **providing their complete Christmas Day celebration**. This endeavour is arranged with the St. Vincent de Paul Society through Merciful Redeemer Parish and organized by school staff and parents.

A brief description of the families are as follows:

**Family #85: Husband and Wife  
(55+)**

**Family #52: Mom  
18 year old boy  
16 year old girl**

**Family #83: Mom  
20 year old girl  
17 year old girl  
5 year old boy  
2 year old boy**

**Family #17: Mom  
14 year old girl  
8 year old girl  
5 year old girl**

**Family #56: Mom and Dad  
10 year old boy  
6 year old girl**

We are asking for donations of **new gifts and food** to give to **all** our families. Please consider this when you are doing your Christmas shopping.

Keep in mind that the school community has taken on the responsibility of providing their **complete** Christmas Day celebration (meals and gifts will **only** be provided by Divine Mercy school). Listed below are donation suggestions (these are only suggestions). All donations are gratefully received. **Please bring all gifts unwrapped.**



### Meal Related Items:

- Food vouchers for Loblaws, Longo's, and/or Price Chopper to help purchase a turkey or fresh products such as milk, fruit and vegetables
- Non-perishable items for a Christmas meal; potatoes, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, canned gravy, canned fruit, juices, pasta, baby food, formula, cereal, breakfast foods, etc.
- Christmas treats such as cakes, cookies, chocolates, candy, puddings, etc.

### Gifts:

- Unwrapped new toys, books, gloves, socks, pyjamas, etc. for the children and adults, taking into account their ages (avoid violent toys and games)
- Something for the parents(s), such as socks, scarves, etc. or gift certificates
- Teenagers; movie passes, music store and mall gift certificates, bus tickets
- Gift coupons for McDonald's, Tim Horton's or other local restaurants

### Other Ideas:

- Diapers , toiletries such as soap, toothpaste, shampoo, hand cream, hairbrushes, make-up, etc.
- Body Shop items, magazines, books, gift certificates for Mom
- Cleaning supplies
- Christmas napkins, tablecloth, candles, centrepieces, wrapping paper for the gifts
- Gift certificates for Pharma Plus and Shopper's Drug Mart for **medication**

Please think of these families when you are doing your Christmas shopping. These families deeply need your help. They are all part of our parish community. Without it our adopted families will not have a Christmas at all.

Please send in all donations to the school by Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> as we will be delivering our gifts on the morning of Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Divine Mercy has always been extremely generous in the past and we know that we can count on your support again this year.

Finally just to get you into the Christmas spirit here's a story we'd like to share with you.

A young girl was walking along the beach after a terrible storm. She was upset to find thousands of starfish that had washed up on the shore. When she came to each starfish, she picked it up and threw it back into the ocean. After she had been doing this for some time, a man approached her.

"Little girl, why are you doing this?" he asked. "Look at this beach, you can't save all these starfish, you'll never make a difference."

At first the girl was crushed, suddenly discouraged. After a few moments she bent down, picked up another starfish, and hurled it as far as she could into the ocean.

She then looked up at the man and replied, "Well, I made a difference to that one."

Thank You and God Bless!