

Thank you for helping needy families in Chester County have a joyous Christmas!

For 2022, we'll have both our traditional giving tree and virtual giving tree (through Sign-Up Genius). This year's collection dates are **Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 4th**.

In the spirit of Christian charity, we are asking for your help in giving others a joyous Christmas.



Children's Wishes (Yellow Star Ornaments)

As in past years, we are collecting Christmas gifts for needy children. For each child, you will find their Christmas wishes and clothing needs. Remember that these are only suggestions – not a shopping list! We do ask that you buy at least three gifts for each child - one clothing gift, one “toy” gift, and one stocking stuffer.

Please make sure that all toys, games, and books are appropriate for the child's ages. Also, please give new gifts only.

To help you personalize your gifts, the star shows some of the child's interests, favorites, and personality traits.

Everything you buy for the child should fit within a single shopping bag. We will be distributing white bags in church on the weekend of November 14 & 15. If you do not get a white bag, feel free to use a holiday gift bag or any other shopping bag of a reasonable size. Each present should be **wrapped and labeled with the child's name**, then be placed in the bag. As in years past, you are welcome to decorate the bag! (Some parents have requested diapers – these do not have to be wrapped or fit in the bag, just mark them with the child's name and number.)

The child's star should be secured to the bag. For virtual sign-ups, we will send a ‘print-at-home’ version of the star for the child you have selected. If you are unable to print the star, please mark the child's name and number on the bag.

For the clothing needs, “Warm Clothing” suggests warm clothing such as sweaters, sweatshirts or hoodies, long-sleeve shirts, jeans, leggings, heavy pants, etc. “Joggers” are casual long pants that are currently in style.

IMPORTANT: If you plan on ordering gifts for delivery, **please place your orders as soon as possible** to ensure they are delivered before the gift collection on Saturday, December 4th and Sunday, December 5th. Experts are predicting severe delays in fulfillment and delivery of on-line orders for this Christmas season.



Family Needs (Red Bells Ornaments)

Instead of creating Red Bell ornaments with specific family needs, we are asking for gift cards. We have a particular need for gifts cards to grocery stores such as Giant, Acme and Shop-Rite, but can also use cards for retail, shoe, or home improvement stores. For the gift cards, \$25 or \$50 increments are suggested. You do not need to register to donate a gift card.

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Christmas Elf Gifts (Green Ball Ornaments)

We did not prepare Green Ball ornaments this year, but will still welcome extra gifts that can be used to supplement the Children's Wishes or replace missing gifts. We suggest buying popular toys & games, sporting goods (especially soccer balls, basketballs, and footballs), or basic clothing in kid's sizes. These do not have to be wrapped; if you do wrap them, attach a note describing the gift.



Gift Cards (White Angel Ornaments)

As noted above, we will be collecting gift cards to be given to the families in place of the family need gifts. Suggested stores for gift cards include:

- Grocery stores such as Acme, Giant, or Shop-Rite (\$25 or \$50 increments suggested)
- Retail stores such as Wal-Mart or Target
- Discount department stores such as Kohl's, TJ Maxx, or Marshalls
- Discount shoe stores such as Famous Footwear
- Home improvement stores such as Home Depot, Lowe's, or Ace Hardware
- Sporting goods stores such as Kelly's or Dick's.
- Drug Stores such as Rite Aid or CVS

Please mark the value of the gift card on the card or envelope!

Some of the gift cards collected will be used to replace missing gifts, while the remaining cards will be distributed to the recipient families as their family need gift.

Remember that gift cards can be purchased from the Ss. Philip & James School SCRIP program (see the School website, or contact Carol Tamney at 610-594-9304 or wjt@mksinc.com) or the Youth Ministry SCRIP program (contact Dianne O'Melia at 610-209-4062 or dianne1040@hotmail.com).

You can also order many items through AmazonSmile.com to benefit the parish, but please **order early so the gifts arrive on time!!**

All gifts and gift cards must be returned to the Church on Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 4th. Gifts can be dropped off in the narthex at all masses – gift cards should be placed in the box provided. We will also set up a 'drive-thru' gift drop off in the parking lot near the rectory. Keep an eye on the bulletin for drop-off details.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact us as soon as possible.

Thank you for your generosity and support,

Doug and Maria Weems
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Thank You!!!

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