



## St. Austin Catholic Parish

# 2018 Christmas Basket Project

*Coordinated and made possible by our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society*

The Christmas Basket Project, an Advent tradition in our parish, ministers to more than 180 households each year by providing food and gifts for Christmas. Take a look at the various ways to get involved below, and keep this sheet handy!

### How Can You Get Involved?

#### Bag it up!

Pick up a paper grocery bag when you're at Mass the next two weekends, **Nov. 10-11 & 17-18**. Attached to the bag is a list of non-perishable food items\* needed for baskets. Next time you're at the grocery store, pick up a few of these items! **Bring your filled bag to Thanksgiving Mass on Wed., Nov. 21 at 6 p.m.** or return to the parish office no later than **Thurs., Dec. 13**. *\*Please note that there are 2 different lists attached to the bags again this year!*

#### Be an elf!

On **Dec. 1 and 2** the Ron Gibson Memorial Giving Tree will be displayed during our annual Holiday Fair. Once you have chosen a name, play "elf" by choosing a gift (value \$30-\$40) for this person. Entire families can be "adopted," but the **final date** to do so is **Mon., Nov. 26**. **All gifts are to be returned by Sun., Dec. 9th**. Contact Huddie Murray at [hwmswim@gmail.com](mailto:hwmswim@gmail.com) to request an entire family.

#### Pick a card!

The Christmas Basket Project relies heavily on donations of \$10 H-E-B gift cards to purchase turkeys for each family's Christmas meal. Once we have received enough cards for our Christmas families, the remainder will help feed families in need through our regular Vincentian home visits the rest of the year. **Please bring gift cards to the parish office by Thurs., Dec. 13**.

#### Sock it to us!

Stocking stuffers such as crayons, markers, small games/toys, mittens, socks, underwear, coloring books, jewelry, make up, etc., are included in the baskets. Next time you're out shopping, pick up some little extras and bring them to the parish office by **Thurs., Dec. 13**.

#### Fire up the Oven!

A loaf of homemade bread gives our baskets a special touch. If you love to bake, consider baking a batch or two of your favorite recipe (pumpkin, banana, etc.). **120 small loaves and 70 large loaves are needed**. Baked goods need to be dropped off at the parish office by **Fri., Dec. 14**.

#### Wrap it up!

Love to wrap? Enjoy sorting and organizing? Join us on **Thurs., Dec. 13 at 5 p.m. in Hecker Hall for Assembly Night**. It's a festive evening of sorting and organizing food, wrapping gifts and assembling baskets, community style. **Wrappers must be 13 yrs. old or older**.

#### Play Santa!

On **Sat., Dec. 15, at 8:30 a.m.** pull into the back alley of the church, fill up your car with "baskets" and enjoy a morning of helping deliver food, gifts and holiday cheer to our adopted families.

**See Our Handy Calendar!** 



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## Important Dates

<p><b>WEEKENDS OF NOVEMBER 10 &amp; 11, NOVEMBER 17 &amp; 18</b></p>	<p><b>PICK UP</b> a grocery bag and fill it with the suggested food items on the instructions. Return your filled bag at Thanksgiving Mass on <b>Nov. 21</b> or to the parish office by <b>Dec. 13</b>.</p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 THANKSGIVING MASS, 6 P.M.</b></p>	<p><b>RETURN</b> your bags of non-perishable food items during Mass or drop them off at the parish office by <b>Dec. 13</b>.</p>
<p><b>MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26</b></p>	<p><b>FINAL DATE</b> to request adoption of an <b>entire family</b>. This is a fun way for families and friends or groups to participate in the Christmas Basket Project!</p>
<p><b>SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2</b></p>	<p>Attend the <b>HOLIDAY FAIR</b> and pick a name from the Ron Gibson Memorial Giving Tree. Purchase a gift and return it to the parish office by <b>Dec.9</b>. Instructions provided.</p>
<p><b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9</b></p>	<p><b>RETURN GIFTS</b> to the parish office. <i>Don't forget to include the number from the Giving Tree tag!</i></p>
<p><b>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13</b></p>	<p><b>RETURN</b> \$10 HEB gift cards (for turkeys) and stocking stuffers to the parish office. <b>ASSEMBLY NIGHT</b> in Hecker Hall starting at 5 p.m. It's an evening of sorting food, wrapping gifts and assembling "baskets" for delivery.</p>
<p><b>FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14</b></p>	<p><b>FINAL DAY</b> to drop off loaves of bread.</p>
<p><b>SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15</b></p>	<p><b>DELIVERY DAY</b> begins at 8:30 a.m. in the back alley. Pull into the alley, load up your car, pick up a map, and you're on your way!</p>



For more information or to offer help, adopt an entire family, or make a donation, contact our Project Coordinators:  
**Huddie Murray, Jennifer Korba or Lisa Carruth**  
 at [XmasBasket@gmail.com](mailto:XmasBasket@gmail.com).

