

*How Can I Bring the Light of Christ  
into the Darkness?*

**SPONSOR A FAMILY**



**OFFER FINANCIAL SUPPORT**



**SHARE YOUR TIME**



**ANSWER THE CALL!**



*Dear Friends:*

*Recently I asked people to list words that they felt described Skid Row in downtown Los Angeles. While the lists varied, almost every one contained at least one of these four words: poverty, sad, dirty, and dangerous. What did not appear on a single list; however, was the word: **home**. And yet, Skid Row is actually home to thousands of families with children. Inside rundown single room apartment and hotel units, parents struggle to create warm and loving homes for their families – doing all they can to fill their lives with hope despite the bleak surroundings.*

*As Christians, we are called to bring hope to the hopeless. We are called to shine Christ's light into the darkness. The Adopt-A-Family Program was created in response to this call. Through the sacrifices of children and adults alike, the program has brought hope, through the Light of Christ, to families struggling to survive in our city's darkest streets.*

*I invite you to answer the call and join us in our outreach to these families. We seek donations of all kinds: clothing, food, blankets, toys, financial support, and time.*

*Thank you for reaching into the homes of our brothers and sisters in need and filling their lives with the Light of Christ. May God bless you and your loved ones.*

*Reverend Monsignor Terrance Fleming  
Director, Adopt-A-Family*



Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels  
555 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012



For more information  
visit the Cathedral website

<http://olacathedral.org>

Click on the "Adopt-A-Family" link

What is it like to be a child living on Skid Row? According to 12 year old Cesar, *“It’s scary. There’s drugs and killing and stuff. I don’t go out alone.”* Sadly, the stories in Skid Row tend to share similar themes: poverty, domestic violence, addiction, illness, incarcerated husbands, and canceled benefits. With no place left to go and no resources, this is where people end up. It’s a neighborhood of last resort.

Our current economic challenges have hit Skid Row residents especially hard, and the need for help is greater than ever. "In our interviews with families," said Lydia Gamboa, AAF Program Coordinator, "we hear many stories of people being laid off or having their already meager hours cut. We are also being told that there are fewer avenues of help available to them."

Unable to make ends meet, these families lack the most basic items that we often take for granted. The **Adopt-A-Family Program** offers an opportunity to address those needs and to bring the Light of Christ and the Magic of Christmas to the families and, in particular, to the children of Skid Row.

The program is made possible through the generosity of people committed to answering our Lord’s call to love our neighbor and to be part of a larger community. Volunteers meet with families to learn their stories and assess their



needs. Donors share their resources to help improve their quality of life. Please join us in bringing joy to the children and families of Skid Row. This year’s delivery date is Saturday, December 17.

### **Basic Needs Sponsor**

*Provides financial support to cover rent and/or utility bills*

Your donation goes directly to pay rent and/or utilities and helps ensure the long-term physical well-being of a needy family.

### **Gift Box Sponsor**

*Provides a \$300 contribution to underwrite the cost of producing one family gift box*

Your donation will provide two weeks worth of nutritious food, practical hygiene and cleaning supplies, blankets, clothing and special presents for each member of the family.

### **Family Sponsor**

*Provides gift items for an individual family*

You will receive a family profile and wish list. Since families of various sizes are available for adoption, this is a great opportunity for organizations or groups of individuals to work together in support of a needy family.

### **Volunteer**

*Provides hands-on assistance to the Adopt-A-Family Program*

Come to the Cathedral and join us as we sort and organize donations, wrap presents and pack gift boxes. Or perhaps you would like to coordinate a drive for gifts or food. To volunteer, call: **(213) 637-7501**.

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Name

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Address

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City/Zip

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Phone (home/business)

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E-Mail Address

Please tear off and return to Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels' Adopt-A-Family

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#### **Basic Needs Sponsor**

I have enclosed a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Gift Box Sponsor**

I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ families @ \$300 each.

#### **Family Sponsor**

I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ families. Please send me family profile(s).

#### **Volunteer**

I would like more information about how and when I can help.

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#### **General Donations**

I have enclosed a contribution of:

\$1000       \$500       \$100

\$50       other \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Commemorative Opportunity**

My contribution is being made in the name of:

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Please, send the gift card to the following address:

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Checks can be made payable to:  
**ADOPT-A-FAMILY**