

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS
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The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 90010
213.637.7501

Find us online at www.olacathedral.org or follow us on facebook at: www.facebook.com/AdoptAFamilyLA

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
2017 ADOPT-A-FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Once again the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels **Adopt-A-Family Christmas Program** is looking for a few Angels. We are seeking volunteer angels to help us this year with the 500 families we plan on adopting for our program benefiting the families living in the downtown and Skid Row area of Los Angeles.

For 27 years the Adopt-A-Family Program has made it possible for struggling families with children to have a magical Christmas. But before the magic can take place on DECEMBER 16th, there are many tasks that need to be accomplished. Consequently, we are seeking Angels to assist with the many volunteer opportunities available. This is a great way for your child or group to complete their Christian Service Hours.

PLEASE NOTE that ALL volunteer opportunities along with Delivery Day will take place at the CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS 555 Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 www.olacathedral.org

Listed below are a few ways that you, family members, co-workers and friends can help.

1. **REGISTRATION OF FAMILIES** - We are looking for bilingual (Spanish) volunteers to go out and interview the families in their apartments and/or special locations. We have a list of addresses for families that live in the apartments within the Cathedral boundaries, and the volunteers go out in groups to accomplish this task. We meet at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels (enter through the Hill Street entrance, park on P-2 – parking will be validated) at the dates and times listed below. ***Please call me if you can help with the interview process. This is the most important part of our program and the area where we need the most help. Please note the William Meade Housing Project, St. Ann's Center, Homeboys Industries, St. Patrick Church, St. Turibius School, Dolores Mission Church and St. Francis Center dates – we will need many volunteers to complete these dates as well as the dates for individual apartment buildings.***

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

MORE DATES AND TIMES WILL BE ADDED AS NEEDED TO COMPLETE ALL 500 INTERVIEWS.

2. **SORTING and PACKAGING OF FOOD BOXES** Over 25 of our Catholic Schools hold food collections for our program. We, in turn, put together food boxes for our families. PLEASE CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DATE AND TIME. We will meet on the following dates and times:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9	9:00 am – 12:00 pm

3. **GIFT WRAPPING** The week prior to our delivery date, we need help to wrap presents and complete our gift boxes. The schedule is as follows:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9	9:00 am – 12:00 pm

4. **VARIOUS TASKS AND STAGING FOR DELIVERY DAY** –On *MONDAY, DECEMBER 11th* – *THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14th* our wonderful donors are dropping off gifts for our families and volunteers are needed to help unload the many cars and trucks that come to the Cathedral. On *FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th* we have to make sure that the gift boxes are ready for Delivery Day as volunteers will meet to pick up the gift boxes in the parking structure of the Cathedral the next morning. The staging takes many hands to make sure all the families have their boxes ready for delivery. We start the staging at 2:00 pm and setup in the parking structure (on level P-2) – and we usually are finished around 8:00 pm. The more hands in staging – the earlier we finish! So if you have time, please come out and help get the gift boxes ready for the next morning early delivery. If you have a group of volunteers that would like to volunteer on the staging, please give our office a call to arrange. The dates and times for unloading cars, last minute gift-wrapping and staging are as follows.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14	9:00 am – 8:00 pm – Note late night
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15	9:00 am – 9:00 pm – Note late night

5. **DELIVERY DAY – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16th** Gift boxes, filled with Christmas Magic, are delivered to the families. We meet at the Cathedral and begin with a very short prayer service led by Archbishop Gomez. We then load up our trucks and large cars to make the deliveries. We are in special need of volunteers with trucks or very large cars. If this is something you would like to do, please come join us at the Cathedral on DECEMBER 16th at 7:00 am. We start early and finish up before 11:00 am.
5. **ADOPTING A FAMILY** Would you like to adopt one of our 500 families? Why not adopt a family with your friends or with members of your family, or how about starting a work place tradition by adopting a family. Please give me a call (213) 637-7501, and I would be so pleased to discuss our program with you. If you or your office department have adopted a family in the past or would like to start a new tradition, the family profiles will be ready by SEPTEMBER 24th – just let me know what size of family you would like and I will match up the perfect family for you.

On behalf of the over 500 families that we serve – I would personally like to thank you for your support and prayers in keeping our program moving forward for the past 27 years.

If you would like to volunteer, adopt a family, or have any questions, please contact me at (213) 637-7501. Please consider becoming an Angel this year!

- **LYDIA GAMBOA, Adopt-A-Family Coordinator**

Revised Oct/2017