



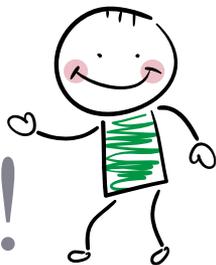
For Children  
Who Wish  
For **Just**  
**One Gift**

**Box of Joy** is a ministry of Cross Catholic Outreach.

**YOUR BOX OF JOY MAY BE THE ONLY  
CHRISTMAS GIFT A CHILD RECEIVES!**

# Box of Joy

## Christmas Joy for Every Child!



The **Box of Joy** ministry provides teachers, parish leaders and other Catholic groups with a unique opportunity for students, parishioners and group members to participate in a simple and tangible service experience that has a material and spiritual impact on the poorest of the poor in developing countries.

**Box of Joy** demonstrates Christ's compassion. When families in the U.S. pack Boxes of Joy, it teaches generosity and thankfulness, and we gain a greater awareness of our faith's preferential option for the poor.

**Box of Joy** is an extension of our Church's mission activities; it becomes a tool in God's hands, a way to lift up the Gospel and touch lives in Christ's name and for his glory.

*Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. - James 1:17*





*Ana Marina was delighted to receive toys, activity books and The Story of Jesus in her Box of Joy!*

## Provide Hope to Children in Need

Each child who receives a **Box of Joy** also receives a booklet in their own language that tells the story of Jesus. This ensures each child receives the message of eternal hope found in Christ while furthering the evangelization of the Catholic Church around the globe.

When our trusted Catholic ministry partners distribute Boxes of Joy, a bridge is built between the local Catholic parish and the families in the communities they serve.

Ana Marina (pictured) lives in the community of Nueva York, Nicaragua. Her poor mother has struggled to provide for her care, but in a miracle of mercy our ministry partners have been able to provide educational and nutritional support. Through Box of Joy, they have also blessed Ana Marina with her very first Christmas present! Faithful Catholics worked together to set the love of Christ in action, and this little girl's precious smile reveals the impact that one gift can make.

# How **Box of Joy** Works *for Groups*

**Project Leader Sign-Up:** The project leader from a parish, school or group is any adult who is excited about mobilizing Christmas joy! The Project Leader registers a group and the number of children the group wants to reach with Boxes of Joy. *Jan. 1 – Oct. 30.*

**Project Leader Kit:** The project leader will receive a Project Leader Kit from Cross Catholic Outreach. Each kit includes materials and directions for a successful faith-in-action activity. *September – October*

**Kickoff & Promotion:** The project leader holds a kickoff event to engage and motivate their community. *October*

**Shop/Pack:** Project Leaders and their groups shop for gifts — small toys, hygiene items, school supplies, hard candy, etc. — and pack the Boxes of Joy. Each group member includes a \$9 donation in each box to cover the cost of shipping and to support the priests and nuns ministering to these children. *Box of Joy Week Nov. 7 – 15*

**Deliver:** The project leader delivers Boxes of Joy to an area Drop-Off Center. *Box of Joy Week Nov. 7 – 15*

**Ship:** Cross Catholic Outreach delivers the Boxes of Joy to the National Screening Center in Florida, where hundreds of volunteers prepare the boxes for overseas shipping. *Nov. 28 – Dec. 19*

**Bless:** Once the boxes arrive in the destination country and clear customs, our trusted ministry partners, operated by priests, nuns and Catholic lay leaders, distribute Boxes of Joy to children in need! Thousands of children are blessed by your love and generosity.





## How **Box of Joy** Works *Online*



Families and individuals can also select the convenient and efficient **Box of Joy** online option.

### **How It Works**

1. Visit Box of Joy online at: [boxofjoy.org](http://boxofjoy.org).
2. Select Create-a-Box Online from the top menu.
3. Select the gender and age group of the children you wish to bless.
4. Pay for the gifts and shipment, and we'll do the rest. Your **Box of Joy** is complete!

Our team will pack the **Box of Joy** with items such as toys, school supplies, creative activity items, hygiene items, clothing and *The Story of Jesus*, then we will ship the **Box of Joy** on your behalf.

# Every Year, Your **Boxes of Joy** Impact Thousands of Children

Catholics across the U.S. unite through the **Box of Joy** ministry to send Christmas gifts to children in developing countries. 75,797 children received Boxes of Joy in 2019.

**75,797** Children received a **Box of Joy!**



**908** Parishes, schools and groups participated



**7** Countries served: Haiti, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Bahamas and Grenada

**1,294** Team Joy volunteers helped organize, collect, transport and pack boxes for shipment



Mobilize your Catholic community to bless even more  
children for **Christmas in 2020!**

# About Cross Catholic Outreach

We mobilize the global Catholic Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

By highlighting the needs of the poor, Pope Francis has been opening new doors for the support of Catholic missions around the globe.

Cross Catholic Outreach has long been part of this important mission. Our cost-effective approach empowers existing Catholic ministries, allowing us to more efficiently serve the poor. The dedicated priests and nuns who work "in the trenches" fighting poverty are deeply grateful for this support.

Through donated resources and financial grants, Cross Catholic Outreach helps these heroic Catholic leaders supply the poor with food, safe water, educational and medical services, basic shelter and other important aid.

Cross Catholic Outreach also works in collaboration with the Holy Father's own relief and development organization, Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. This unique relationship is especially effective when natural disasters strike or when there's a need to serve refugees of civil conflicts around the globe.

## Cross Catholic Outreach at a Glance for 2019

**28**

the number of countries that received our aid

**285**

the number of projects we supported with the help of generous Catholics

**4.55**

the percentage of expenses used for overhead costs

**\$9,202,056**

the total value of grants in aid given to the poor

**\$318,896,220**

the total value of goods shipped to the poor

**\$328,098,276**

total aid provided to the poor

*Audited financials for fiscal year 2019*



**Cross Catholic  
OUTREACH**

*Delivering Food, Shelter and Hope to the Poorest of the Poor*

2700 N. Military Trail, Suite 240 • PO Box 273908  
Boca Raton, Florida 33427-3908 • 800-914-2420 ext. 142  
[boxofjoy.org](http://boxofjoy.org) • [boxofjoy@crosscatholic.org](mailto:boxofjoy@crosscatholic.org)