



Almsgiving Box Activity Center

Family Handout

The Lenten discipline of almsgiving—helping those in need—is not just a generous thing to do; it is a practical way to improve your community. Other valuable contributions include donating your time and expertise to a local charity.

- ✦ Decorate the box provided.
- ✦ Decide as a family how you will fill your box. Here are some suggestions that you can adapt to fit your family's situation.

From a sharing perspective:

- Put in 50 cents whenever someone does something kind for you or your family.
- Put in a dollar every time your family eats at a restaurant.
- Put in 50 cents every time you have dessert.
- Put in 10 cents for every music CD or movie you own.

From a service perspective:

- Put in 25 cents every time a child finds a peaceful solution to conflict with siblings.
 - Put in 25 cents for each good deed you or your child does.
 - Put in 50 cents for each time your family completes a service project together.
 - Add money earned by doing extra chores.
- ✦ Discuss as a family how the money will be spent at the end of Lent. Will you give it to the parish Lenten mission project? to a charity? If so, which one and why?
 - ✦ Bring the box home and place it in your prayer center to help you with almsgiving this Lent.

Almsgiving—Not Just Money

It is also considered “almsgiving” to give time and goods to those in need; for example, donating time to a soup kitchen, giving clothes to charity, visiting people who are shut-in, or driving those without transportation.

