**Angel Baby Program**

Parents,

In these unprecedented times we find ourselves in I do realize that times are difficult for everyone. I have been on the ledge with starting our Annual Angel Baby Program this year because of the stress that this pandemic has placed on most everyone.

With that being said, I recently had a conversation with the director of an agency that has received many of our donations in the past. She did ask if we were able to assist again this year as we have in years past. It seems many organizations are not providing the outreach opportunities that typically have benefited this agency. The results are that they do not have the resources needed to provide the assistance to all the moms with children who come to them for help. I let her know I would do what I can to assist.

If you are not familiar with the Angel Baby Program, it is typically a “Christmas List” full of special wishes from families and children in our area that are in need of some support this Christmas Season. Sadly this list has grown significantly over the year.

There are always two options for your family to participate. You can either have your child choose a “Prayer Angel” or an “Angel Baby” from the tree. The “Prayer Angel” is to be hung on your Christmas Tree and we ask that you as a family include this child and their family in your prayers throughout this Christmas Season. The “Angel Baby” is a list of items the child needs. Of course, the list is not all inclusive and can be modified by you the parent as you are able. The children and parents are incredibly grateful for the help they receive.

Although the children enjoyed choosing their special Angels from the Angel tree in the year’s past, we are not able to do that this year. Instead, at the end of this letter I will provide the updated list of items that the agency provided and stated they are in desperate need of to make it through the Holidays. (The items needed are for both boy and girl).

Please note that this is not a fundraiser. I know that during the holiday season a lot is asked of families, on top of the demands of your own families. Please know that if you are unable to help at this time, it is completely understandable.

All items that are purchased for the Angel Baby should be delivered to the **School or the Rectory by December 18th** in a paper bag marked Angel Baby. If you are running late with the donation, please just drop it off at the rectory when you can and I will be sure to get it to the agency. Please do not wrap the gifts as the agency is not able to provide wrapped gifts to the parents. I will make the delivery to the agency in time for their Christmas pickup by moms and dads.

I pray that you embrace this project as there are so many families in need right here in our community. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me at the numbers listed below.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

God Bless and Merry Christmas

Mrs. Jamie Sandona office- 219-659-0023 or jsandona@stjohnbap.org

Angel Baby Needs

Clothing all seasons- For both boys and girls

* Newborn through 12 mt is in very short supply.
* 12mt – 5T

Pajamas- For both boys and girls

* Newborn through 12 mt is in very short supply.
* 12mt – 5T

Diapers

* Newborn- size 2 is in very short supply
* size 5 and 6 are in very short supply
* Pull ups in all sizes are in very short supply

Wipes are needed

Baby wash and Lotions are needed

Blankets- Boys and Girls

Hats and gloves

**Prayers for our Angels and their parents**

**Prayer for Every Child**
Almighty and Everlasting God, we place every baby before You right now and we ask that You bless them in abundance. We pray that every baby will believe in You, the Lord Jesus, so that each child will be saved when this child grows older. Just as I believe in You, we pray that every child does also, because You are our eternal Savior. Keep every child wrapped in Your radiant light. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

**Prayer for Parents**
God, the Builder of all things, thank You for blessing this family with a precious child. And now we pray for the parents, that You will guide them in all things. Give them wisdom when they need to make decisions regarding their baby’s needs and how to handle all the issues that arise in parenting. Give them unity as a couple as they navigate this new path. Give them strength through those nights of little sleep. Give them patience for these new challenges. Amen.