



The 6th Annual Blessing of the Backpacks Mass

Supporting the Broadview-Thomson K-8 Food Program

Sunday, September 16th

Fill your backpacks with food from the list below and bring them to the 10:30 Mass. Father will bless the backpacks and food and pray for a great year for all students, teachers and parents.

Since January of 2013 St. John's Parish, The Ballard Food Bank, and the Broadview Thomson PTA have provided donations of approximately 43,000 pounds of food (80,000 meals) to over 300 children through its food program. We are going strong and look forward to your continued support!

Donation Requests

- **Single serve items including:**
 - Crackers
 - Applesauce and fruit cups in water (instead of syrup)
 - Trail mix
 - Nuts
 - Dried fruit
 - Granola and energy bars
 - Juice boxes and non-perishable milk
- **Crackers** in a box such as Graham, Ritz, Fish, Wheat Thins etc.
- **Local grocery store gift cards**
- **Cash Donations** 100% of funds raised are earmarked for the food program and are used to purchase food for distribution directly to staff and counselors for support in school (during times when breakfast and lunch are not served).

Items to Kindly Avoid

- Food past the expiration date
- Glass containers (breakable)
- Oversized items (too heavy to carry home)
- Specialty items (kids less likely to eat such as beets and artichokes)
- Cooking items such as creamed soups (corn or mushroom) and beans (garbanzo and red)
- Spicy foods