

Collection Drive Cheers Those in Need at Southern Border

Throughout February, members of Our Saviour's answered the call to provide hope to those seeking asylum at our southern border, generously donating a total of 73 boxes of clothing, socks, underwear, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tents, blankets and other necessities.

Twenty-five other churches in DuPage county participated in the *DuPage Solidarity with the Caravan Project* collection drive, resulting in a total of two tons of donations. In addition, Grace United Methodist Church, Naperville, and others from the community gave to the Our Saviour's collection.

A 26-foot truck, filled with the precious cargo, made the 1,400-mile journey from Naperville to Brownsville and Matamoros, Texas, "cheering our brothers and sisters up, reminding them of their value and dignity, and showing them a little love and solidarity!" said Cristobal Cavazos, cofounder of Immigrant Solidarity DuPage, which organized the *Caravan Project* collection drive. "It was a beautiful visit in every sense of the word, heart breaking and opening at the same time. Thank you for the love and solidarity of Our Saviour's and other churches, friends and allies."

"There is such a great need to provide basic living items for our brothers and sisters seeking a safe life, away from fear for their lives," said Anne Wentz, who oversaw the collection at Our Saviour's. "Thank you for

the generosity of those who donated and helped organize all of the items. Our donations were gratefully received. We had a wonderful opportunity to help and we responded with abundance."

Thank you to the Our Saviour's community for your generous donations. Thank you to MGS for donating boxes, and to members who sorted, labeled, boxed and moved the goods: Anne Wentz, Lee Thomsen, Alan Russell, Jan Dusek, Sandy Martinich, Claudia Landofil, Tom Dusek, Sonny Smith and Ron Landorf.



Timeline

February: Collection drive at Our Saviour's yields 73 boxes of donations.

March 1: Our Saviour's members move the boxes to St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville.

March 3: A 26-foot truck picks up donations from St. Margaret Mary and delivers them to Catholic Diocese of Joliet.

March 4: A truck leaves for a three-day journey to Texas, where donations are brought to Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley's Respite Center in McAllen, as well as Good Neighbor Settlement House, which serves those in Brownsville and Matamoros.