



For our parish outreach this year for Christmas, several of us wanted to do something special to honor the memory of our great friend and your beloved pastor, Fr Christopher Barnes. We have typically participated in getting gift cards to the Jamestown Food Bank for distribution to those they serve. I will make sure they get what they need, don't worry. This year, though, and perhaps every year going forward, I would like to bring back something that was very near to Fr Christopher's heart – bringing Christmas Gifts down to the Kentucky Missions that St Michael used to have a deep relationship with. It was something Fr Christopher was very passionate about.

Fr. Christopher was an integral part of the Piarist Father's Outreach Program in Martin Kentucky and the Saint Michael's Church Mission in which many of our parish young people accompanied by parishioners went to the poorest of Appalachia and assisted in performing mission work. During his time as Parochial Vicar at Saint Michael's, Fr Christopher was active in the Kentucky Missions. He helped with hands-on work, painting houses, building structures assisting the Piarist School and celebrating mass while on the mission. As Pastor of Saint Michael's Parish Fr Christopher made several trips to Martin Kentucky delivering supplies to help the Piarist Outreach Program in Martin Kentucky. This was a ministry very dear to his heart.

I'd like for us to reconnect with the Piarist Father's Outreach and serve those communities in whatever way presents itself, but for Christmas, I would like for us to bring a trailer of gifts down for the children who Fr Christopher loved and who will go without gifts if we don't bring them to them.

Details:

Ornaments with info on each kid will be on a tree in the Gathering Space

Gifts will be due back, wrapped, by Dec 2. Drop off in Small Meeting Room

Please attach the ornament with the tag you took from the tree to the gifts

We will be delivering the gifts to KY from Dec 10-12

