This month our school will be participating in the Box of Joy ministry, a Christmas gift outreach organized by local Catholic schools, parishes, and groups nationwide. By packing Boxes of Joy with toys and other gifts, your child will bless a child suffering from extreme poverty by sharing the joy of Christmas and planting seeds of hope through the Gospel. We are excited to learn more about compassion and share in our Lord's mercy through this experience!

We will be collecting gifts for two weeks from the 18th of October through the 29th of October.

This year, we have set a goal to bless 50 impover-

ished children in Latin America! Understandably, there is a small cost to transport each Box of Joy from our community to the receiving child (*please send \$3 in cash the last week of October, the school will write a check to Cross Catholic for the entire fee of shipping the boxes*).

Your child should bring in items for a child of their same gender to bless. Have fun on your family shopping spree to personally select the items you feel a special boy or girl would really like! *See the flyer for details on what items to donate.* 

## Week 10/18- 10/22: We will collect small toys, school supplies, hard candy/gum .

## Week 10/24 - 10/29: We will collect apparel, hygiene and accessories. Students may bring in their \$3 donation to help with transportation cost.

Students may take their donation directly to their homeroom teacher. The first week of November your child along with their teacher and classmates will fill boxes.

If you feel so moved and would like to fill an additional box with your child as a family, that would be fabulous! You can use any regular size shoebox, cardboard or plastic. Those boxes will need to be brought back to the school by Wednesday, November 6th. For more information, contact me <u>began@icsmiami.org</u> or check out <u>boxofjoy.org</u>

Thank you!

Bruni M. Egan Middle School Religion Teacher Box of Joy Project Leader

