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Padua Franciscan High School

Press Release

Padua Franciscan High School sets new school record raising \$36,000 to local charities & families in need during *Christmas for Others* Campaign

PARMA, Ohio – (December 16, 2016) December is the most wonderful time of the year at Padua Franciscan High School. All month long our students, faculty, staff and alumni participate in our *Christmas For Others* campaign. CFO is a program designed to make the holidays brighter for the less fortunate. It is the largest student-run fundraiser in Northeast Ohio.

This year, Padua set a new school record and collected \$36,068 in cash, in addition to donations for families in need. We distributed the money (\$36,068) and goods during our CFO Liturgy on Friday, December 16th from 9:15am-10am. Non-profits like Habitat for Humanity, the Salvation Army, Parma Heights Food Pantry, Bishop Cosgrove Center, Maggie's Place, Kick-It for Cancer, Girls with Sole, homeless shelters, animal shelters and many others attended.

Our students raised funds in a number of ways. The most exciting was our Coin Wars competition. Our freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors and faculty/staff competed against each other to raise the most money. This year, in 18 minutes, we collected \$14,822 cash for local charities and families in need. Our main lobby was full of large bins to collect the following: toys, books, coats, mittens, hats, scarves, socks, blankets and food. Students went door-to-door in our neighborhood to collect canned goods for local food pantries. Our Italian Club hosted a Spaghetti Dinner, which raised several thousand dollars. Spanish Club sold nachos and German Club sold root beer floats. We also had a senior vs. faculty volleyball game, a blood drive and multiple other events.

For further information, contact Rachel DeGirolamo at 440.845.2444 ext. 112 or at rdegirolamo@PaduaFranciscan.com.

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CFO Background: For 45 years, the Padua community has come together in the Franciscan spirit of giving. Since its inception in 1971, CFO has raised nearly \$500,000 for charity. CFO is the largest student-run outreach program in Northeast Ohio. It is sponsored, organized and operated by the students, under the direction of Padua's Key (Kiwaniis) Club.

School Background: Padua Franciscan High School is located at 6740 State Road in Parma, Ohio. Padua is a college-preparatory, co-educational school with 755 students. Padua was founded by Franciscans in 1961 and bases its educational philosophy on the life and spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi. The school's mission is to develop the unique talents of each student, while giving them the skills they need to succeed in college and beyond.