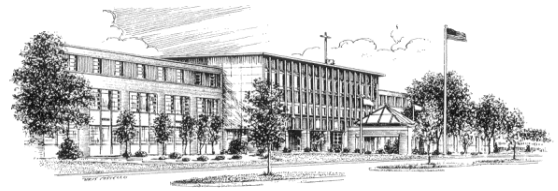


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## Padua Franciscan High School

# Press Release

### Padua Franciscan High School Students Distribute \$15,578 to Local Charities & Families in Need This Christmas

PARMA, Ohio – (December 18, 2020) 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* fundraiser. 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 has collected \$15,578 in cash, in addition to thousands of donations (clothing, food and toys) for non-profits and families in need. We distributed the money and goods on Friday, December 18th.** Non-profits, inner-city schools, local food pantries, animal shelters and many others received checks and trunkfuls of donations.

Our students raised funds in a number of ways. Our annual Coin Wars competition raised \$2,879 for local charities and families in need. Students held a drive-up donation drop off where money and canned goods were collected for local food pantries. They raised thousands of dollars by selling Christmas T-shirts and facemasks, along with Chick-fil-A sandwiches, candy and ice cream. Our main lobby was full of large bins to collect the following: toys, coats, mittens, hats, scarves, socks, blankets and food.

Several of the non-profits (food pantries, homeless shelters, etc.) who received donations in 2020 include the following:

A Special Wish (Cleveland)  
Advent for Others/All Faiths  
Pantry (Parma)  
Birth Care of Medina County  
El Salvador Mission Trip  
Matt Talbot Inn (Parma)

May Dugan Center (Cleveland)  
Parma Animal Shelter  
Parma Hunger Center  
Promise for Haiti  
Providence House (Cleveland)  
St. Francis School (Cleveland)

St. Herman's House (Cleveland)  
West Side Catholic Center  
(Cleveland)  
William Cosgrove Center  
(Cleveland)  
Zelie's Home (Garfield Hts.)

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**CFO Background:** For 49 years, the Padua community has come together in the Franciscan spirit of giving. Since its inception in 1971, CFO has raised over \$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 760 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.