



For More Information Contact:

Jenny Van Soelen

Marketing Director

Phone: (712) 329-9000

vansoelenj@saintalbertschools.org

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Saint Albert Students Play Santa for Those in Need

The 8th grade and Senior classes from Saint Albert Catholic School did some Christmas shopping Tuesday morning, but the gifts weren't for themselves or their families – they were for the less fortunate in the Council Bluffs community.

The shopping was the culmination of two Christmas giving programs, which are an annual holiday tradition at the school. Each year the 7th and 8th grade students compete to see which class can collect the most money. The high school collection also is a class competition. The winning classes from each collection earn the opportunity to do the shopping.

According to Brenda Moran, campus minister at Saint Albert, \$2,493.33 was collected this year from the Jr. High students and \$1,296.76 was collected from the high school students. An additional \$581.16 was added when students paid to wear jeans instead of school uniforms, for a grand total of \$4,371.25. Moran said the gifts purchased by the students were delivered to the local Community of Christ Church for distribution.

“Providing service to others and being good stewards of our gifts are important parts of the learning environment at Saint Albert. These collections have been a terrific team-building exercise for the students,” Moran said. “The students who do the shopping put a lot of thought and care into their purchases. It’s a great reminder of what the Christmas season is all about.”

Saint Albert Schools is the only Catholic grade school and K-12 system in the State of Iowa or Nebraska that is both state and regionally accredited. Committed to the teachings of the Catholic church, the mission of Saint Albert Schools is to foster spiritual, moral, physical and intellectual growth for all students.