



St. Oscar Romero Parish

4821 S. Hermitage

Chicago, IL 60609-4195

January 15, 2023

Alfonso Bautista
Bautista Memorial Scholarship
6425 S Harlem Ave
Chicago IL 60638

Dear Alfonso Bautista,

I deeply thank you for the six big bags of toy donation you gave our parish of St Oscar Romero to distribute to the needed families of the religious education program. It was very generous of you and your memorial scholarship foundation to think of our community. The toys were given to families who have been struggling economically or are experiencing family issues. These children, thanks to you, were able to have a gift and their little faces lighted up with joy as they were given their gift.

We gave gifts for Christmas and for the Dia de Reyes. As an example of the families that received toys, is a family whose house burned down, and they lost everything during this holiday season. These toys made it possible for the little girl and her brother to have some cheer during the season. Another family who received your toys is a family who recently had their mother passed away in a tragic accident in June. Only the father was left with his two young daughters.

Another example, many of the families in our community are low income. They work the whole week and are not able to provide their children with the gifts they would like for Christmas. These families are wonderful and a great example of perseverance and love for their children. When the toys were presented to the parents and their children on your behalf, the kids ran towards the tables full of the toys to look at them in awe and joy and saying, " I want that one" or " One for me mama, I been a good boy right". The parents who were there were in joy, but also in astonishment as well that they would be receiving something. Tears welled in their eyes, and they thanked us and you, Mr. Bautista. The families told us their stories of why that gift for their child from you meant a lot. How they have been struggling financially to feed their family considering the prices of the food going up and how for Christmas they would just sing happy birthday to baby Jesus and go off to bed without gifts or a holiday dinner. But their children now had a gift to play with.

Our community along with myself are beyond thankful for your donation. It is through donations as these that the life of our brothers and sisters in Christ are touched and we are able to see the Christ that is in each one of us.

Once again thank you very much and rest assured you will be in our prayers always!

Your Brother in Christ,

Rev. Jose del C. Mendez
Pastor Rev Jose Del Carmen Méndez