



Contact:

Kristen Gallagher
St. Vincent de Paul - Cincinnati
513-562-8853
kgallagher@SVDPCincinnati.org

CINCINNATI, NOVEMBER 30, 2021 – St. Vincent de Paul, Xavier Athletics and Kroger are partnering once again to help feed local families. **Xavier will host a food drive prior to the men's basketball game against Central Michigan on Wednesday, December 1 at Cintas Center.** Representatives from St. Vincent de Paul will collect non-perishable food donations from fans outside the main entrance (along Musketee Drive) and the east entrance (next to ticket office). Doors open at 5 p.m. for the 6:30 p.m. tip-off.

As a thank you for donating, fans will receive a special ticket offer for the Xavier men's basketball game against Ball State, along with two free tickets to any Xavier women's basketball game this season.

Suggested food donations items include: pasta, rice, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter, bottled juice, cereal, potatoes, tomato products, jelly, jam, tuna and canned - soup, vegetables, fruit and ravioli.

In December 2019, Xavier fans donated enough food to provide nearly 5,000 meals to hungry families in Cincinnati. In the interest of public health in 2020, the annual food drive did not take place and instead, Kroger made a financial contribution to St. Vincent de Paul to help secure the meals that had typically been collected through the drive.

"We rely on our partnership with Kroger and Xavier to help stock our Becky & Ted Catino Choice Food Pantry each holiday season," says Mike Dunn, Executive Director of St. Vincent de Paul – Cincinnati. "The generous response of Xavier basketball fans will help feed our hungry neighbors this Christmas and throughout the year."

For more information, please visit GoXavier.com/FoodDrive.

About St. Vincent de Paul – Cincinnati

For more than 150 years, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has compassionately cared for neighbors in need throughout Cincinnati and Hamilton County. More than 1,200 neighborhood-based volunteers provide personal, emergency assistance for needs such as food, clothing, rent and utilities, prescription medications and much more. The heart of our mission is to bridge the spiritual, emotional and material gaps in peoples' lives and to serve with dignity and respect.

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