



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SPECIAL REQUEST **School supply drive July 30 to August 2**



Back-to-School sale signs are up at area stores, but the added cost of buying even the most essential of those supplies is beyond what many households - whose budgets are already stretched thin - can afford for their children.

That is the case for households whose children go to a school that is just down the street from Holy Cross, Lowe's Grove Middle School of Technology. The school is located at 4418 S. Alston Avenue, and many of the students live within a five-mile radius of Holy Cross.

In the past academic year, nearly 80 percent of the students at Lowe's Grove qualified for the free and reduce lunch program. That means the cost of purchasing school supplies overwhelms already limited household budgets, and many parents simply cannot provide the basics needed for their children to be effective in the classroom. Added to this is the fact that schools in North Carolina are experiencing budget cuts and lack the funding to purchase many supplies.

Studies have shown that students who do not have the needed school supplies are more likely to have truancy problems. The truancy problems lead to students missing assignments and falling behind in their studies, and that can lead to school failure.

There is a way to help stop this downward slide ... by visiting the school supply station while shopping and picking up a few items that are on the Lowe's Grove Middle School's list of basic supplies for its students. Your donation will help assure that the students are prepared to learn, gain confidence and be on the path toward success.

The following items are especially needed.

- **Three-subject notebooks**
- **Composition notebooks (The kind with the black and white-speckled covers.)**
- **Black three-inch binders**
- **College-rule loose-leaf paper**
- **#2 pencils**

This school supply drive for Lowe's Middle School will be held at Holy Cross from July 30 to August 21. Please place your donations in the bins located in the multipurpose room. If you have questions, you may talk about this urgent need with Ava Thompson, a counselor at the

school.

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