

# Seton Collects 1,000 Cans of Food

**Patty Selig**

*"Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love."--Mother Teresa*

To commemorate Catholic Schools Week, Seton Catholic School did what it does best and gave back to the community through various service projects. A week-long can drive collected over 1,000 cans of food that were donated to Foodlink.

In January, a dozen Seton families gathered at the Foodlink facility at 1999 Mt. Read Blvd. to sort and prepare boxes of food to be distributed to those in need. The children are always hard workers at Foodlink because they truly grasp the goodness of the task and how they are directly impacting the life of a child or a family who is hungry or does not have access to meals. Each time we visit, a Foodlink representative explains to the children what our task is and how it will help our community and right away, our children and their families get to work!

In two hours of time we usually create 1,200 Backpack Food bags to the "backpack program" which provides food to children who are identified through the schools as needing meals/snacks for the weekend when school meals are not available.

Seton engages in this type of activity several times a year, thanks to organizer and parent Michela Peters.

In addition to the Foodlink service project, Crazy Hat and



*Parents and Seton students gather to do small things with great love*

Sock Day was celebrated with the collection of new socks to be donated to Rochester City School #34. Students also made Valentines for homebound parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Anne. To close out the week, Seton families prepared and served a hot meal at the REACH Shelter located at 102 N. Union Street, which serves as an emergency shelter for the homeless.

At REACH, free dinners are provided by community members each weekday for approximately 30 people, many of whom are chronically homeless and struggling with mental illness, substance abuse, and physical disabilities.

While providing many fun activities during the week, Seton's devotion to service and giving back to the community is one of the aspects of the school that make it so special. It is imperative and important to us as parents of strong Catholic faith that we model for our children and provide opportunities for demonstrating the acts of mercy such as comforting or helping those that are less fortunate than us and feeding the hungry.