



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Mobile Loaves & Fishes News

Volume 5, Issue 2

March 2020



Pope Francis' 2020 Lenten Message

On October 7, 2019, Pope Francis delivered his Lent 2020 message. Here is a brief excerpt:

4. A richness to be shared, not kept for oneself

Putting the paschal mystery at the centre of our lives means feeling compassion towards the wounds of the crucified Christ present in the many innocent victims of wars, in attacks on life, from that of the unborn to that of the elderly, and various forms of violence. They are likewise present in environmental disasters, the unequal distribution of the earth's goods, human trafficking in all its forms, and the unbridled thirst for profit, which is a form of idolatry.

Today too, there is a need to appeal to men and women of good will to share, by almsgiving, their goods with those most in need, as a means of personally participating in the building of a better world. Charitable giving makes us more human, whereas hoarding risks making us less human, imprisoned by our own selfishness. We can and must go even further, and consider the structural aspects of our economic life.

To read Pope Francis' entire letter, click the following link: [Lenten Message 2020](#).



A Happy Birthday Party for MLF

In January 2020, our **St. Francis of Assisi Mobile Loaves & Fishes** ministry observed the 13th year anniversary of its founding. So, let's really celebrate!

On April 16th, we will have a party at [Freetail Brewing](#), located on the hill at NW Military Drive and Loop 1604 (4035 N Loop 1604 W, Suite 105). The management has generously agreed to donate five percent of the daily receipts to **MLF**. Feel free to patronize the restaurant anytime that day.

Our party will start with Happy Hour at 4:00 PM and a birthday cake at 6:00 PM. **Freetail Brewing** has an extensive selection of craft beers (brewed on the premise) and a wide variety of wines. The **Freetail** food menu offers an assortment of pizza, sandwiches, salads, and appetizers. So plan to come and have some fun as you help raise funds for our **MLF** ministry. **Julie Mellin** □



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Pope Francis' 2020 Lenten Message
- 1 A Happy Birthday Party for MLF
- 1 CYO Sports is Starting a New Season
- 2 CYO Sports is Starting a New Season (contd.)
- 2 MLF Catch-Up Day Courtesy of YMSL
- 2 Where Did All these Cookies Come From?
- 2 Help Wanted: Openings – March 1, 2020
- 2 Contact Us
- 2 A Quick Reminder

CYO Sports is Starting a New Season

As you have probably observed, the St. Francis of Assisi sports field is now becoming full on weekends!

We have encountered several occasions where sports spectators as well as children are positioned in the driveway leading back to the **MLF** kitchen. In addition, we have also experienced "high emotions" as parents

cheer on their teams and are often not too keen on clearing out of the way of the vehicles entering and exiting in **MLF** kitchen area.

This is a safety issue for all involved, and these are new measures have now been implemented: When there are spectators and children present, we are asking weekend or evening **MLF** volunteers to park in the main church parking lot, (outside of the gate to the **MLF** kitchen driveway, by the snack bar or dumpster area). There are so many young children who accompany their parents to the games that we are trying to cut down on the traffic in areas where they might slip away from close supervision. We understand that not all volunteers are able to walk back to the kitchen area. Vehicles carrying supplies in or out should drive very slowly with drivers on high alert for children.

If you are the driver of the **MLF** truck, please try to use the parking lot lane closest to the church buildings when departing or returning from your run to also steer clear of the concession area. The **MLF Core Team** appreciates both your understanding and support. □



MLF Catch-Up Day Courtesy of YMSL

An amazing group of five moms and eight students from the **Young Men's Service League** put in a great morning's work for **MLF** on Saturday, February 1, 2020. Their efforts helped us get caught up on many tasks that we sometimes have no time to get done.

In addition to clearing the large amount of donated clothing, the group bagged cookies, and condiment packs, washed the serving areas and passenger cab of the truck, cleaned kitchen drawers and cabinets, washed the dust from the clothing bins and consolidated cases of chips and cookies by freshness dates to ensure the older stock would be used first. **YMSL** provided a total of 26 overall service hours.

Gerry Caron □

Where Did All these Cookies Come From?

You may have noticed a plethora of packaged **Oreo Chocolate / Golden Sandwich** and other cookies in the **MLF** supply room. Our frugal commissary shoppers were able to purchase 400 pounds of these desserts from the **S.A. Food Bank**.

Now, we need your help. If your food prep teams have extra time / volunteers, please consider re-bagging these large cookie packages into smaller meal-sized (3 cookies per bag) portions. This will enable us to stretch our food purchasing dollars while still providing yummy desserts!

HELP WANTED

Openings – March 1, 2020

Our **MLF** ministry needs help for these crucial roles: 1) **Core Team** members for the **Core Team Director**, **Site Coordinator**, and **Day Volunteer Coordinator** positions (see [Job Descriptions](#)); and 2) **Meal prep and delivery volunteers** are needed for various meal shifts. For the complete listing, click this [Immediate Team Openings](#) link.

If you can assist with any of these jobs, please contact **Julie Mellin** @ volunteermf@gmail.com .

Contact Us

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
Mobile Loaves & Fishes
4201 De Zavala Road
San Antonio, TX 78249



Email: mlfnw@sfasat.org



MLF website: www.sfasat.org/MLF/index.htm

MLF News files: www.sfasat.org/MLF/mlfnews.htm

A Quick Reminder...

- **Team Captains should notify mlfnw@sfasat.org before canceling a meal run.**
- Team Captains should record the walk-in freezer and refrigerator temperature readings in the temperature log book.
- Call the Commissary person (listed on the bulletin board) on duty when you encounter food supply shortages.
- Prepare **only** the amount of meals shown on the **Meals Calendar** posted on the refrigerator
- Wear gloves and a baseball cap / hairnet when prepping meals or bagging cookies.
- **Use a zip lock bag when re-bagging chips or cookies to help maintain their freshness.**
- Do not pack turkey & cheese and peanut butter & jelly sandwiches in the same zip lock bags (peanut food allergies).
- Clean all food containers for recycling. Shake crumbs out of bread bags / cookie trays. Place loose bags into one bag. Rinse peanut butter & jelly containers. If not, put them into trash.
- Sweep the floor and empty trash / recycling (into commercial bins) after each meal prep.
- Cut down small cardboard boxes for recycling, but keep large boxes for meal deliveries.
- Empty the dirty water from the clean-up pail after washing kitchen floors
- Ensure that doors to clothing bay and ice machine room are locked after prep shifts.
- Fill-out the [MLF Truck Run Log](#) after deliveries **and** use the bottom section to report any unusual events / problems that occur.
- Report truck maintenance issues / concerns to **David Aguilar** @ tgeagle2@att.net. □