



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

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Talking to Homeless People

Many of us like to keep up banter with the homeless people we feed on the **Mobile Loaves and Fishes** runs. It is important to talk to the people, but one of the most important things we can do is ask them their names and use their names.

Hearing your name is a powerful thing, and many homeless people go days without hearing their name. Consider how when you hear your name, even in a crowd, that you immediately turn to see who is calling for you. Our names tell us who we are. Using a person's name is the respectful thing to do and gives them a sense of identity.

As **MLF** volunteers we can start conversations with the homeless by saying something like "Hi, my name is ----, what's yours." Then to help remember, use that name frequently in the conversation. Our true mission is not to just hand out food, but to reach out to the people, to become their friends, to somehow give them

hope, to recognize them as real people who we can help in more than one way.

Therefore, we should remember the importance of acknowledging the people we serve by knowing and using their real names. A simple act of kindness can make a difference. **Glenn Darilek** □



YMSL on the Job

Seven students representing **Clark and Reagan High Schools** and three moms, all from the **Young Men's Service League** put in a good morning's work supporting the Saturday, March 2nd, lunch prep team and the clothing ministry. As the cold weather is predicted to continue a bit longer, they identified warm sweaters and outerwear for teams to distribute this weekend and loaded the truck. Thanks to their efforts, all accumulated clothing and shoes were sorted and floors swept in the storage area. They even swept the bins clean.

Gerry Caron □

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SASO Steps Up to Help MLF

On Saturday, March 16, 2019, three young men from **Clark and O'Connor High Schools** and their moms, representing **Scholars and Athletes Serving Others**, stepped up to help Mobile Loaves and Fishes meal preparation teams for the coming week.

The moms sorted through a heavy backlog of donated clothing, refilling the bins and tidying the back area.

The guys divided 24 cases of chips from the San Antonio Food Bank by size so they can be distributed as single meal portions, large portions for Bus Stop recipients and those large bags that will have to re-bagged in to single servings. All hands chipped in to get our entire stock of bulk cookies bagged into individual portions--18 total hours of service.

SASO members also help us on various meal preparation and delivery teams throughout the month. We truly value your partnership in our mission to serve those in need.

Gerry and Kathy Caron □



What to Do with Miscellaneous Gift Cards

The **MLF** ministry is once again participating in the **St. Francis of Assisi Casino Night** fundraiser. This year's event will be held on Saturday July 6, 2019, and its profits are shared by **MLF**, **SFA** Teen Mission trip and our two sister parishes of St. Timothy and Immaculate Conception Catholic Churches.

We have supported the event in the past by running the very popular "Grab Bag" table. Thank you for the great start we have so far in collecting gift cards. We need various cards in the \$10, \$20 & \$25 range. We even accept "re-gifted" cards! Please bring the gift cards to the **SFA** office and let them know it is for **MLF Casino Night**. Tax receipts are available for contributions as requested. If you have additional questions, just email the **MLF Core Team** at mlfnow@sfasat.org.

HELP WANTED Openings – April 1, 2019

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: mlfnow@sfasat.org



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

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

Upcoming Events

April 13-14 **MLF Ministry Second Collection****

June 9 **MLF Sponsored Social Sunday**

July 6 **SFA Casino Night Fundraiser**

A Quick Reminder...

- **Captains**, notify mlfnow@sfasat.org **before canceling a meal run**.
- 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
- Sanitize tables before each meal prep
- Wear gloves and a baseball cap / hairnet when prepping meals or bagging cookies.
- **Do not** pack turkey & cheese and peanut butter & jelly sandwiches in the same zip lock bags (to prevent food allergies)
- Use a zip lock bag when re-bagging chips or cookies to help maintain their freshness.
- Sweep the floor and empty trash / recycling (into commercial bins) after each meal prep.
- Empty the dirty water from the clean-up pail after washing kitchen floors
- Cut down small cardboard boxes for recycling, but keep large boxes for meal deliveries
- "Banana boxes" should be saved to use for Haven for Hope deliveries
- 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 to David Aguilar @ tgeagle2@att.net. □



MLF T-Shirts and Caps Are Still Available

We still have a ready supply of **MLF** t-shirts and caps. The khaki shirts have the **SFA** logo printed on the left front pocket and the **MLF** logo shown on the back. Shirts are available in sizes small to XX large and the caps are adjustable. Stored in the supply closet in the **MLF** kitchen, these items can be obtained through your team captains and leaders for a \$10.00 donation for each article. Checks should be made payable to: **St. Francis of Assisi MLF**. We hope that our **MLF** volunteers will wear these clothing items with pride! ****MLF volunteers are asked to wear them on the MLF Second Collection weekend of April 13 -14.**