



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

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July 2018



Lest We Forget

To provide food, clothing, and dignity to our brothers and sisters in need...

Since the founding of our ministry in January 2007, these words have inspired **MLF** volunteers and donors to provide over one half million (**534,863+**) meals to **25 locations** throughout the San Antonio area.

Let us take a moment to remember the four groups we serve.

- Working poor in various parishes, apartment complexes, and mobile home communities
- Homeless on the streets as well as area shelters and those requesting assistance from **Christian Assistance Ministry, Haven for Hope, and Guadalupe Community Center**
- Worldwide refugee families resettled here by **Catholic Charities**
- Joining the S.A.-based **Interfaith Welcome Coalition (IWC)** "Bus Stop" ministry and (in cooperation with multiple faith groups) serving women and children cleared and released by **Immigration and Customs Enforcement** officials from South Texas facilities. **IWC** volunteers assist migrants by explaining the details of their journey and distributing

various trip necessities and an **MLF** bagged meal.

The one thing these individuals have in common is that **they are all our brothers and sisters in Christ**. In her teachings, **St. Teresa of Calcutta** often quoted this gospel passage: "**Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me**" (**Matthew 25:40 NABRE**).

In his November 24, 2013 apostolic exhortation, **Evangelii Gaudium – The Joy of the Gospel**, **Pope Francis**, issued the following challenge to us: "**Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid.**"



These are **our brothers and sisters in need**.

John Deosdade □

MLF Schedules 2018 School Supply Drive

The "Back to School" sales have just begun, and it's time for the **2018 Mobile Loaves & Fishes School Supply Drive!** We will be collecting school supplies the weekends of July 21 – 22 and July 28 - 29. Please drop off new school supplies in the donation boxes placed around the gathering space. These supplies will be handed out to the children we serve on our meal delivery stops. Our goal is to provide a basic school kit for 150 children.

If you are employed with a company (or perhaps own a company with several employees) and are looking for a way to "give back to the community," please consider holding a company-wide drive and then bring the school supplies to **Mobile Loaves & Fishes**. This is wonderful company initiative for outreach that will touch the lives of those most in need.

A basic "back to school" kit includes: backpack, crayons, colored pencils, erasers, folders, glue sticks, markers, notebooks, pencils, rulers, and scissors. For

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a detailed listing of school supplies, click [supply list](#).

A "Sorting Party" to bag and box the items for distribution will be held in a location and date to be determined. If you are interested in helping, please contact **Lynne Cruz** via email at: cruzer512@att.net. We appreciate the love that your donations show for these children.



YMSL Continues its Days of Service

Seven students from Clark and Reagan High Schools and six moms from the **Young Men's Service League** put in a very busy morning on Saturday, June 2, 2018.

While the moms started digging into the large amount of donated clothing, the guys washed the truck (inside and out, food service areas and cab), individually bagged 150 desserts, swept the kitchen area and emptied the trash. Some worked with the moms on getting cold weather items into long-term storage on the higher shelf so it will be available for the next season. Others refilled the bread in the kitchen and brought down cases of chips from high storage to make it more accessible.

With the day's prep team a little shorthanded, all lent a hand with making sandwiches, counting other menu items and loading the truck. **YMSL** donated 30 total hours to help the **MLF** Ministry serve others in need. Thanks **YMSL**.

Kathy and Gerry Caron □

Food Safety Tips

June 4, 2018

Although some **MLF** volunteers have taken the Food Handler Training Course, many questions remain about proper food handling. Most of the requirements are required by city and state law. To inform our ministry volunteers, **Food Safety Tips** will be posted periodically in the **MLF News**. This installment is adapted from the [S.A. Metropolitan Health District](#):

Cleaning and Sanitizing

- * Clean and sanitize work table tops between uses and at the end of the day.
- * Keep wiping cloths stored in a sanitizing solution. Dry wiping cloths may only be used to wipe spills off of single-service containers. Each dry cloth may be used **ONE TIME ONLY**, then must be set aside for cleaning.

- * Wipe up spills on floors as soon as possible.
- * Store cleaning cloths, and scrubbing pads, in a sanitizing solution or air dry them. Sponges are **NOT** permitted in a commercial food establishment.

Cleaning solution can be 1 tablespoon of bleach in one gallon of water. The cap of a 1 gallon **Clorox** bottle holds one tablespoon.

Glenn Darilek □

HELP WANTED

Openings posted July 1, 2018

Our **MLF** ministry needs help for these crucial roles:

- 1) **Commissary Team (rotating schedules)** members to inventory, arrange supplies, and check-in weekly **Labatt Food Service** deliveries;
- 2) **Food Bank** drivers use personal pickup truck or large SUV to collect **MLF** orders on the **1st Thursday**
- 3) **Meal Delivery** drivers (using **MLF** truck) at various locations for **1st or 2nd Friday supper**.

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

Contact Us

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Email: mlfnw@sfasat.org



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

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

Upcoming Events

July 15 **MLF Second Collection**

July 21-22 & 28-29 **SFA School Supply Drive**

A Quick Reminder...

- **Captains, consult MLF Meal Cancellation Guidelines before cancelling a meal run.**
- Prepare **only** the amount of meals shown on the **Meals Calendar** posted on the refrigerator.
- Report truck maintenance issues to David Aguilar @ tgeagle2@att.net. □



10 Years with a Smile

Mary Claire Cater has retired from an **MLF** Monday supper delivery team after 10 years of faithful service. Her giving attitude and ready smile will be missed and the team wishes God's blessings for her future.

Monica Compean □