



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

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July 2019



Lest We Forget Revisited

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 (**611,059+**) meals to [26 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](#).

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On May 27, 2019, **Pope Francis** released a message to commemorate the **World Day of Migrants and Refugees**. Here is a brief excerpt
For this reason, the presence of migrants and refugees – and of vulnerable people in general – is an invitation to recover some of those essential dimensions of our Christian existence and our humanity that risk being overlooked in a prosperous society. That is why it is not just about migrants. When we show concern for them, we also show concern for ourselves, for everyone; in taking care of them, we all grow; in listening to them, we also give voice to a part of ourselves that we may keep hidden because it is not well regarded nowadays.

For the full text, click this [Pope's message](#) link.



MLF Schedules 2019 School Supply Drive

The "Back to School" sales have just begun, and it's time for the **2019 Mobile Loaves & Fishes School Supply Drive!** We will be collecting school supplies the weekends of July 27 – 28 and August 3 - 4. Please drop off new school supplies in the donation boxes placed around the gathering space. With a goal of providing **150 basic school kits**, these supplies will be handed out to the children we serve on our meal delivery stops.

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 **MLF**. This is a wonderful company outreach initiative that will touch many lives.

A basic "back to school" kit includes: backpack, crayons, colored pencils, erasers, folders, glue sticks, markers, notebooks, pencils, rulers, and scissors. For a detailed listing of school supplies, click [supply list](#). A "Sorting Party" to bag the items for distribution will be held on August 10 -11 in a location 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.



MLF Social Sunday Was a Great Success

On June 9th, the MLF ministry hosted its regularly scheduled "Social Sunday." MLF volunteers provided SFA parishioners with coffee, orange juice, water, donuts, and fresh fruit. The Core Team expresses its sincere appreciation to [Daylight Donuts](#) (located at 9517 Fredericksburg Road) for allowing us to purchase the donuts at a substantial discount for the event. Some 150 parishioners enjoyed morning treats and fellowship while visiting with various MLF volunteers. Attendees asked questions regarding our mission, types of volunteers needed, where we serve, time commitment, etc. These photos show that everyone seemed to enjoy themselves:



What to Do with Extra 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 youth and young adult missionaries, and the parishes of Holy Family, Immaculate Conception, and St. Timothy's 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. 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. For additional information, email mlfnow@sfasat.org.

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. The MLF clothing items are available for sale \$10.00 each. We hope that you wear them with pride!

HELP

WANTED Openings – July 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

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Email: mlfnow@sfasat.org



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

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

Upcoming Events

- July 6 SFA Casino Night Fundraiser
- July 20 – 21 MLF Second Collection

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
- 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.**
- 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
- 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.
- 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.