



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



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Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant

Many of you have met **Butch Rendon** in the **MLF** kitchen. He has filled many roles in the **MLF** leadership, his most recent as **Site Coordinator**. He will still be helping with the Condiment Assembly coordinating, but Butch will be departing from our Core Team. There aren't enough words of praise that I can fit into this space to thank Butch for what he has done to further the ministry of **MLF**! So, if you run into Butch, please help me in thanking him for his service and love for our brothers and sisters in need.

Julie Mellin □

Serving on the Line at St. Vinny's Bistro

In 2010, **St Vinnys Bistro®** was created specifically to provide 3 hot, nutritional meals a day, 365 days a year in the Courtyard at Haven for Hope, serving an average of 1,100 to 1,400 meals per day. In addition, sack lunches are provided for those who work in the community and medicinal meals are provided for those who need to take their medication with food.

(Source: [St. Vincent de Paul website](#))

Many of these meals are provided by **MLF** since our ministry sends over 1800 sack meals per month to the Bistro. Some of our volunteers stay to assist on the hot food line. Here is Maribeth Osgood's story of a recent experience:

Our team serves Haven for Hope on the first Friday each month. We assist in serving the noon meal. We

also bring 230 bag lunches which our team prepares that morning. These lunches are given out in many ways, off-site or to residents who work during meal times.

The Head Chef met us at the entrance on our June service date. He wanted to tell us how much the Mobile Loaves and Fishes help is appreciated. He told us that he drove to a distant town recently where the bagged lunches were being served. He was very touched by the appreciation of the recipients and he wanted us to know about the far reaching effects of these bag lunches. They are changing lives. People are joining the Haven for Hope recovery programs and getting their lives back. The Chef was very emphatic on the positive effects our help brings.

Serving food on the cafeteria line is eye opening to us all, every time. The people we serve range in ages, conditions and abilities. The fortunate ones are able to volunteer to serve the food and earn extra privileges. They may eventually enroll in the recovery classes too. It's not our job as volunteers to judge anyone we serve, only to be Jesus for a moment. Our jobs range from greeting them with a food tray, napkin and water to actually putting food on the tray. It's our privilege to smile and pass God's Blessings to them. They frequently offer the same to us. "But for the Grace of God" is our reflection to each other every time we walk back to the **MLF** truck.

Maribeth, VJ, Bonnie, Renee, Jody and Mary □

SFA Young Adult Ministry Assists MLF



Since its start in 2016, the **St. Francis of Assisi Young Adult Ministry** has continued to flourish and has given adults in their twenties and thirties a way to come together to participate and serve in the life and ministry of the parish community as well as our greater San Antonio community. One of the key ways the young adults do this is service through our parish's **MLF** ministry.

Heather Maiuri, one of the original members of the **Young Adult Ministry**, began the partnership with

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MLF, and Chelsea Betancourt now serves as the young adults' liaison with **MLF**. The **Young Adult Ministry** volunteers with **MLF** on the third Saturday of each month and delivers to Cielo Hills Apartments and St. Frances Cabrini.

In addition to this monthly meal prep and delivery, the Young Adult Ministry has also done a few other projects in conjunction with their work for **MLF**. For example, the young adults packed toys, sunscreen, and other goodies they purchased into treat bags to distribute to children on their **MLF** delivery run back in May to help the kids celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of summer.

The **Young Adult Ministry** meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the parish library. Those interested are: welcome to simply come to a meeting, email sfa.youngadultgrp@gmail.com, sign-up to join our **Facebook** group @ www.fb.com/groups/sfayoungadult, or contact Kenneth Caruthers or Larry Perry in the **SFA** parish office.

Kenneth Caruthers □

A Very Busy Saturday for YMSL with MLF



On Saturday, July 7, 2018, six students and five moms from the **Young Men's Service League**, representing Reagan HS, SA Christian Academy, and home schooled, put in a very busy morning in support of **Mobile Loaves and Fishes**.

The students washed the delivery areas of the truck and worked with the lunch prep team in every area, from sandwiches, to counting and loading both food service and clothing compartments.

Meanwhile the moms worked quickly through a large amount of donated clothing. Most gratifying this month was to see the great work led by one mom and two students in matching and marking for reference every lid for the many storage bins, washing them, drying them and replacing all the bins with their matching-size lids. Delivery team members will note that most bins and lids are marked with 1, 2 or 3 vertical hash marks. Various other odd-lot bins are marked individually. We hope this helps to secure the lids on the bins keeping the clothing clean when the dust is stirred up by the large fan on these hot summer days.

YMSL provided 30 hours overall service time to support the **MLF** ministry and those whom we serve. Thanks **YMSL**!

Kathy and Gerry Caron □

HELP WANTED

Openings posted August 1, 2018

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

- 1) **Core Team** members for **Site Coordinator** and **Day Volunteer Coordinators** (see [Job Descriptions](#));
- 2) Meal prep volunteers for **2nd Tuesday supper** and **1st Friday supper** shifts;
- 3) **Meal Delivery** drivers (using **MLF** truck) at various locations for **Friday** and **4th Saturday** supper.

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

Contact Us

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Mobile Loaves & Fishes
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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

A Quick Reminder...

- **Captains**, notify mlfnw@sfasat.org **before canceling a meal run**.
- Check out and follow the newly posted **Food Safety Tips** on the clipboard in the meal prep area.
- Wear gloves and a baseball cap / hairnet when prepping meals or bagging cookies.
- **It's HOT!** Unused condiments packets should **not be left** in the truck. Please return them to bin under the prep table.
- Save large chip and fruit boxes for delivery of bagged meals.
- Transport turkey and cheese sandwich trays on beds of ice.
- Sweep the floor and empty trash / recycling (into commercial bins) after each meal prep.
- Ensure that doors to clothing bay and ice machine room are locked after prep shifts.
- Report truck maintenance issues to David Aguilar @ tgeagle2@att.net. □



Our **MLF** ministry mourns the recent passing of Richard "Rick" Doucette, an active member of the St. Francis of Assisi community. Best described as "a gentle, loving soul," Rick always displayed a friendly smile and was known for his quick wit. Rick, and his wife Pat, served as active **MLF** volunteers on a Saturday delivery team. Please join us in prayers of comfort for his wife and family. □