



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

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MLF Core Team Offers a Thanksgiving Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the goodness of our people and for the spirit of justice that fills this nation. We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the land and the challenge of the cities.

We thank you for our work and our rest, for one another, and for our homes. We thank you, Lord: accept our thanksgiving on this day. We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source: [Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers](#)

Tim Coyle is our new MLF Commissary Coordinator

Tim Coyle has replaced Mike Kurz in the position of **MLF Commissary Coordinator**. In addition to coordinating the efforts of the commissary team, Tim will be responsible for placing orders with food vendors and overseeing food service deliveries. Tim Coyle can be reached via email tgscogle@gmail.com.

The **MLF Core Team** wishes to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to Mike Kurz for his many years of service in the ministry. Although his role is changing, Mike will continue to work with the **MLF** commissary, meal preparation, and driver teams.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 MLF Core Team Offers a Thanksgiving Prayer
- 1 Tim Coyle is our new MLF Commissary Coordinator
- 1 Pilgrim's Pantry – An Outgrowth of MLF
- 2 Food Handlers Certification
- 2 YMSL Helps Seasonal Clothing Transition
- 2 Help Wanted: Openings – November 1, 2019
- 2 Contact Us
- 2 A Quick Reminder



"For I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in... whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me." Matthew 25:35

Pilgrim's Pantry - an Outgrowth of MLF

Mike and Mary Alice Ezzell are members of the **MLF** ministry, and Mary Alice is a founding member of the parish. When Mike and Mary Alice began volunteering with the **Mobile Loaves** program, we quickly became attached to the people that we served, and were humbled by the gratitude that we saw when distributing the meals.

After one of the Saturday food deliveries in fall 2013, Mary Alice commented, "I wish there was a way that we could provide a hot meal for them. Wouldn't that be great?" So, an idea was born. Why not cook a real Thanksgiving dinner, on Thanksgiving Day, and distribute the meal early enough in the day so that these folks could enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner with their families? Regardless of the number of dinners requested, all would be supplied. Mary Alice was the organizer and voice of reason, and Mike supplied his love of cooking, recipes and calculations to serve a multitude.

In 2013, our first Thanksgiving, there were only two others who volunteered to serve with us. Together, we assembled as many roasters, serving equipment, and warming containers as we could. We served hot turkey and gravy, homemade cornbread dressing, fresh mashed potatoes, green beans with bacon, homemade yeast dinner rolls, fresh baked apple crisp, and about two dozen fresh baked pumpkin pies on Thanksgiving Day. That first year, we provided over 160 meals. In 2014, **Pilgrim's Pantry** was established as a nonprofit organization to allow the Ezzells to expand their little ministry. Our group recruited various choir members and served over 400 meals.

In 2018, **Pilgrim's Pantry** was blessed to locate a commercial kitchen south of the downtown area that could be leased during Thanksgiving week.

A new automated sign up on the [Pilgrim's Pantry](#) website was developed and over 250 volunteers stepped forward from the parish. In 2018, with God's blessings and many selfless volunteers from our parish, over 1100 meals were supplied, at no cost, to three Southside parishes (Our Lady of Angels, St. Ann's and St. Timothy's).

Each year this ministry has continued to grow, and the **SFA** parishioners have been instrumental in that growth. This year, **Pilgrim's Pantry** plans on adding another location and hopes to serve over 1250 meals on Thanksgiving Day 2019. Our mission has been, and continues to be, to serve a freshly cooked Thanksgiving dinner, on Thanksgiving Day, to others who can enjoy that dinner with their families in celebration of this annual holiday. **Pilgrim's Pantry** depends completely on donations and volunteers, and all contributions are tax deductible. For additional information, click: <https://www.pilgrimagepantry.org/>

Mike Ezell □

Food Handlers Certification

You can help our **MLF** ministry meet San Antonio Health Department requirements by completing an on-line [Food Handler Training Course](#). The course is very informative, and can even help with food safety at home. There are several programs for the on-line courses. Just Google Texas Food Handlers and there are several options. The cost is \$7.00 or \$8.00, and although it gives you two hours of credit, it takes much less time than that. It is good for three years. I took the course through [360training.com](#). Be sure to print a copy of the certificate. I put a copy in my car, so if asked I can easily retrieve it.

Glenn Darilek □



YMSL Helps Seasonal Clothing Transition

As the nights get colder, it is time to distribute warmer clothing such as sweaters, sweats and jackets. Five high schoolers and their moms joined our clothing ministry team to make it happen on Saturday, October 26th. Clothing for the very hot months was removed, and cool weather clothing bins put in place for easier access for delivery teams. Coats were also placed on the two hanger racks.

The guys also helped the lunch time prep team, assembled condiment packs, re-bagged the last box of bulk chips (at least for now), washed the back areas of the truck, and consolidated cases of cookies and chips down from the high shelves to help ensure older stock be used first.

This **YMSL** crew represented **Antonian, Inspire Charter, Boerne Academy, Hansen and Health Careers High Schools**. It was truly a city-wide representation.

Thanks **YMSL**, we greatly appreciate it.

Kathy and Gerry Caron □

HELP WANTED Openings – November 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: 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.**
- 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.**
- 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.