



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

Volume 3, Issue 11

December 2018



A Christmas Message from the Core Team

During this Christmas season, the St. Francis of Assisi **MLF** program is continuing its ministry by reaffirming its mission statement: *“to provide food, clothing, and dignity to our brothers and sisters in need.”*

In 2018, we made improvements to our kitchen and truck parking areas:

- installed a keyless entry system on the kitchen door;
- mounted sprayer faucets to facilitate kitchen washing;
- received donated microwave and egg boiling pots;
- resurfaced the truck parking area with new stones.

All the while, our ministry remained true to our mission through the continuing good will, hard work, financial backing, sacrifice, and prayers of our many volunteers and supporters. Without your willingness to serve, **Mobile Loaves & Fishes** would cease to exist.

The **Core Team** would like to express its sincere thanks and wish all of you a blessed and happy Christmas. May God bless you and your families for your service and support of our **MLF** ministry. □



Pope Francis Issues Christmas Challenge

In his midnight mass homily at the Vatican Basilica on Sunday, December 24, 2017, Pope Francis gave us the following Christmas challenge:

In the Child of Bethlehem, God comes to meet us and make us active sharers in the life around us. He offers himself to us, so that we can take him into our arms, lift him and embrace him. So that in him we will not be afraid to take into our arms, raise up and embrace the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned (cf. Mt 25:35-36). “Do not be afraid! Open wide the doors for Christ”. In this Child, God invites us to be messengers of hope. He invites us to become sentinels for all those bowed down by the despair born of encountering so many closed doors. In this child, God makes us agents of his hospitality.

To view the full text, click [Pope Francis' homily](#). □

Many Partners Help Our Ministry Succeed

The **SFA Mobile Loaves & Fishes** program is very fortunate to have many partners assisting our mission. Without their support, our ability to serve would be greatly curtailed. We appreciate all the assistance these churches, companies, and organizations provide.

Here is a roll call of those partners:

- SFA Knights of Columbus
- SFA Men's Club
- SFA Young Adult Ministry
- Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit
- Flowers Foods
- Holy Trinity Catholic Church
- Newcomers of San Antonio
- NuStar Energy
- San Antonio Food Bank
- San Pedro Presbyterian Church
- Scholars & Athletes Serving Others
- Serve San Antonio
- Sol Y Luna Baking Company
- Valero Energy Foundation
- Young Men's Service League

If your church, school, service organization, or work place would like to partner with **MLF**, contact us at mlfnw@sfasat.org to investigate a potential project.

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A Special Helping of Our Love

Jackson is a young man who was recently welcomed back to our Thursday lunch preparation team. Jackson is working hard to do many things that we take for granted. He is enrolled in the Northside Independent School District Reddix Center for specialized education. This year Jackson is instructed and helped by Latif Naghdi Sobbi. Volunteers like Jackson deserve a special helping of our love.

Glenn Darilek □



Truck Replacement Committee Forming

The **MLF Core Team** has begun discussing the age and wear and tear on our delivery truck. We are lucky that we have had very little trouble over the past 11 years. Our truck now has over 170,000 miles on it and will need to be replaced in the next few years.

We would like to form an Ad Hoc Committee to study our options, consider funding sources, type of vehicle needed, and possibly solicit donations. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact **Julie Mellin @ volunteermf@gmail.com**. □



SASO Volunteers Join MLF Meal Teams

The **MLF** ministry welcomes a new partner, **Scholars & Athletes Serving Others (SASO)**, to our ongoing outreach program. As noted on their [website](#), **SASO** "is an inclusive Mother/Son service organization for boys who live in the Clark, O'Connor, Brandeis or Harlan attendance zones (public, private or homeschooled) and their mothers. **SASO** provides volunteer opportunities for boys and their mothers and personal growth experiences for the boys." These **SASO** teams have become very active in providing logistics support for various **MLF** prep and delivery teams. We look forward to their continued assistance in the coming year. □

HELP WANTED

Openings – December 1, 2018

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](#));
- 2) **Meal prep volunteers** for **2nd Tuesday** supper and **1st Friday** supper shifts;
- 3) **Commissary Team** members to order and receive weekly **Labatt Food Service** shipments; and
- 4) **Bread Pick-up Team** member for **3rd Thursday** of the month.

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 or call **210-249-1570** before canceling a meal run.
- Wear gloves and a baseball cap / hairnet when prepping meals or bagging cookies.
- Prepare **only** the amount of meals shown on the **Meals Calendar** posted on the refrigerator.
- 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.
- Fill-out the [MLF Truck Run Log](#) after deliveries **and** use the bottom section of **MLF Truck Run Log** to report any unusual events / problems that occur during deliveries.
- Report truck maintenance issues to David Aguilar @ tgeagle2@att.net. □

How Can I Get Current MLF Information?

[MLF News](#) and the [MLF Facebook](#) page are prime sources for getting current information on our **MLF** ministry. Articles, news items, announcements, photographs, etc. for the newsletter can be sent directly to John Deosdade via email @ deosdade@gmail.com.

Remember that joining the [MLF Facebook](#) group is easy and simply requires you to sign-up for a free [Facebook](#) account. Once you join our page, you can begin posting items and photos to it. Click this



link to begin accessing the **MLF** group. □