



*Matthew 14:13–21*  
*Luke 9:12–17*

*Mark 6:31–44*  
*John 6:1–14*

## **MLF CHRISTMAS GATHERING**

A wonderful time was had by all at our Christmas gathering on December 11, 2025. Many guests brought party food to share, and Julie



Mellin brought the drinks. Julie also organized a Christmas-themed Family Feud game, complete with Steve Harvey mustache! Several preparation and support teams

competed, but it was more about having fun and cheering than winning.



A special thanks goes to Julie for organizing this wonderful event!

## **SHAVANO PARK WOMEN**

Our thanks to the Ladies of the Shavano Park Women's Club for their generous donation of \$1,000 to Mobile Loaves and Fishes! Our very own Dick and Diane Gomez opened their home to host the Club's annual Christmas Party last month. In the spirit of Christmas Giving, the attendees were asked to make a donation to Dick and Diane's favorite charity – and of course Dick and Diane named Mobile Loaves and Fishes!

Christmas caroling and general merriment were enjoyed by all attending! More than 50 members and guests enjoyed the festivities, including the City Mayor and City Manager and their spouses. Dick had the chance to describe the good work taken on by MLF and to thank the group for their generous donation.

Shavano Park Women is a nonprofit organization focused on helping with charitable activities for the community. Membership is open to all women living in Shavano Park See ([www.spwnp.org](http://www.spwnp.org)).

- Dick Gomez

## FATHER JIM HENKE REMAINS ACTIVE

The After School Program at Catholic Charities had an event for the children last month. Father Jim Henke, formerly our St. Francis of Assisi pastor, and under whose leadership our Mobile Loaves and Fishes was formed, donated gift



cards for the children. They raced to purchase gifts at the Target store on SW Military. With the help of volunteers, the children enjoyed shopping for and wrapping each of their gifts for their family to unwrap on Christmas morning.



Catholic Charities' After School Program always seeks volunteers to mentor and guide the next generation! Contact Volunteer Services at 210-222-1294.

(Father Jim Blessing our first truck.)

## A BABY SHOWER FOR MOTHER MARY

In keeping with the true meaning of Christmas, our MLF donated baby blankets and baby bottles as a contribution to a baby shower held by the El Salvador Mission Ministry at Prince of Peace Parish. The baby shower was symbolically for Mary, the mother of Jesus. The gifts were donated to Guadalupe Home for homeless mothers with babies.

## A FOOD SAFETY QUIZ

Rate each of these as true or false.

1. Use a towel to dry washed utensils and containers.
2. Food with an expired "Best By" date is unsafe to eat.
3. Use a sponge to properly clean utensils and containers.
4. No need to rinse fruits and vegetables if the skins and rinds are not eaten.
5. If you have a fever and runny nose, keep a box of tissues near your work station
6. Leave the kitchen doors open to let in fresh air.
7. Mix about a teaspoon of Clorox into the water in the spray bottles for food contact surfaces.
8. No need to change gloves if you wash your gloved hands for 20 seconds.

*(The answers are on the last page.)*

## WHAT IS THE PIT COUNT?



Every year a census is made of people experiencing homelessness in Bexar County. This Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is conducted by the Close to Home organization in San Antonio/Bexar County. They provide staff, partners, and volunteers with an organized

opportunity to interact with our neighbors experiencing homelessness and determine HUD's funding decisions nationally. You can join them for the annual PIT count on the evening of Tuesday, January 27, and the early morning of Wednesday, January 28, 2026. Close to Home provides proper training. Volunteer registration will close January 9th. Mobile Loaves and Fishes volunteers are qualified to volunteer for this because we are homeless service providers. More information is available at [Point-In-Time \(PIT\) Count - Close to Home](https://www.close-to-home.org/pit-count)

### Quick Reminders...

- \* Delivery crews please load Bibles, religious items, and a lot of clothing on the truck for every run,
- \* Team Captains should notify [mlfnw@sfasat.org](mailto:mlfnw@sfasat.org) before canceling a meal run.
- \* **If the delivery team has not arrived when the preparation team is finished, put the meals into the walk-in cooler.**
- \* Call the Commissary person on duty (listed on the bulletin board) when you encounter food supply shortages.
- \* Please report any kitchen maintenance issues as soon as possible to Glenn Darilek (for now), text at 210-400-4073 or [gtdarilek@gmail.com](mailto:gtdarilek@gmail.com). It is particularly important to promptly report if a refrigerator or the cooler is not cooling or if the ice machine is not producing.

### Things to do BEFORE you are Through

- \* Sweep and mop the kitchen floor.
- \* Clean the tables and counters.
- \* **Fill out the cleaning log.**
- \* **Fill out the number of meals delivered on-line report and use the bottom section to report any unusual events or problems that occur. This applies whether you use the truck for delivery or not. The QR code for the reporting website is posted on the bulletin board.**

**Save the url given by the QR code and you don't need to scan the QR code again.**

- \* Check and record refrigerator and freezer temperatures and room temperatures (better to do at the beginning of your shift).
- \* Restock bread in the freezer in the kitchen.
- \* Restock peanut butter, jelly, gloves, and Ziploc bags into cabinet.
- \* Put trash and recyclables into corresponding dumpsters.

### **Things to do When you are Through**

- \* Bag cookies, chips, condiments, etc.
- \* Wash, dry, and fold towels and washrags.
- \* Move oldest boiled eggs from secondary to primary refrigerator.
- \* Sort clothes



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

**MLF Facebook Administrator**

**Day Volunteer Coordinators**

**Facilities Coordinator**, email [gtdarilek@gmail.com](mailto:gtdarilek@gmail.com) to get information.

If you can assist with any of these jobs, please contact Julie Mellin at [volunteermf@gmail.com](mailto:volunteermf@gmail.com).

**ANSWERS TO THE FOOD SAFETY QUIZ:** All of the statements are FALSE!

### **MLF News Content Always Wanted**

Thank you Dick Gomez for contributing to this issue and Julie Mellin for good ideas and items for articles. Send any relevant news to Glenn Darilek, Editor, [gtdarilek@gmail.com](mailto:gtdarilek@gmail.com)

### **Contact Us**

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church  
Mobile Loaves & Fishes  
4201 De Zavala Road  
San Antonio, TX 78249

**Web Site:** [www.sfamlf.org](http://www.sfamlf.org)

**Email:** [mlfnw@sfasat.org](mailto:mlfnw@sfasat.org)