

As the weather gets colder, we once again look to helping the least of us.

The 2021 Safe Nights season will run only from January 3 through February 28, and will be conducted with *COVID safeguards and restrictions in place*. St. John Vianney's participation in that schedule will be for only January 31 through February 3.

The homeless will be housed at just one location this year—Crossroads Church in St. Leonard—in order to eliminate transportation issues.

*Meals:*

To minimize contact, there will be no meal prep at the church.

Instead, we will ask for meal volunteers as follows:

1. SJV's schedule encompasses just three dinners, so we need one volunteer for each night's dinner to prepare a meal at home and deliver it to Crossroads Church.
2. Another volunteer will assemble the meal in the church's kitchen and place it where the guests can pick it up. (There will be no contact).
3. A volunteer is needed for each of three mornings to assemble ready-to-eat breakfasts and bagged lunches in the church's kitchen and place them for guests to pickup. (approximately 1 hr.)

*Monitors:*

Since we will need monitors for only three nights, the plan is to have much shorter shifts for all monitors (This will work only if we get the same generous response from SJV parishioners that we have had in the past). The entire shift is from 7:00 pm through 7:00 am. The hope is that, with enough volunteers, each volunteer will only have to stay for a few hours (the actual length of the stay will of course depend on the total number of volunteers for each of the three nights).

**NOTE:** To ensure the safety of all volunteers and guests, personal protection protocols will be in effect: Temperature will be checked at the door (volunteers and guests). Masks, gloves, and hand sanitizers will be provided. Volunteers and guests will be required to wear a mask at all times. Guests will be housed in a well-ventilated gymnasium-sized room with cots spread across a large area and separated by dividers. Monitors will be adequately distanced from the sleeping area.

I ask for your help in keeping the homeless safe and warm this winter.

Please contact me as soon as possible so that I can set up the schedules.

God bless you all for your generosity and continuing willingness to serve.

Gwen Haigwood  
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