

Christmas at the Community Food Pantry at St. Mary's Church



It's that time of year again to plan for our holiday distribution. We hope to be able to provide all who come through our doors this year with a holiday meal and all the trimmings as well as toys for the children and grandchildren.

Donations of hams and turkeys, canned pineapple and cranberries, canned or packaged turkey or pork gravy, instant mashed potatoes, canned yams, boxed stuffing, rice, soup nuts/raisins/dry fruit, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, family size juice, pudding, jell-o and dessert fixings are items that will help make the season bright.

New unwrapped toys, gifts for teens, mittens, gloves and hats for children of all ages, wrapping paper, bows and tape will also help us spread some cheer to our friends and neighbors who come to the pantry.

Donations may be dropped off during church office hours Tuesday or Friday 9:30 am - 2:00 pm or 7:30 am - 11:00 am or even as late as Friday, December 21st between 1 pm and 5 pm. If you prefer to make a cash donation you can do that right on our website at www.cfpstmarysmoheganlake.com, please note it is for holiday distribution or you may send a check. Whatever your choice of lending a hand to help us make this a truly holiday season for all is greatly appreciated.

The set up for distribution will be Friday, December 21, 2018, starting at about 3:00 and ending around 5 pm. Our distribution will be on Saturday, December 22, 2018, from 8:30 until we are finished around 11 to 11:30 am. For children under 13 the evening set up is not an appropriate time to volunteer. The pantry becomes very hectic and with our limited space it becomes too confusing for everyone. The safety of our youngest volunteers is always of the utmost concern. Please feel free to bring younger volunteers on Saturday or on any other Saturday. We will be open December 29th.

In addition, we also offer an opportunity to donate through seasonal greeting cards. The holiday gift cards work this way: A donor sends/gives a beautiful "occasion" card to the chosen recipient, then fills out the receipt slip and mails the donation and the slip back to The Food Pantry. Please be sure to include whether it is to honor, celebrate or remember the person for whom you are purchasing the card. Also don't forget to mention the type of card you wish us to send you (Religious, general holiday, Hanukah.). Selection and purchasing may also be completed on line at the pantry website. The donated money all goes directly to the cost of operating the pantry and the recipient of the card has the pleasure of knowing that a bag of groceries went to a needy family in their name.

The cards are a wonderful and thoughtful gift for those hard to buy for folks on your list and are greatly appreciated by those who receive them. They make thoughtful teacher gifts or maybe a gift for that after school instructor or the sitter.

Gift cards may be purchased by sending an e-mail with the subject, "gift card" to stmarysfoodpantry@yahoo.com. or on our website at www.cfpstmarysmoheganlake.com or through the church office during operating hours Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Cards are \$20 each or 3 for \$50. All proceeds benefit the pantry. If you purchase on line we will mail you the cards, so include your mailing address.

Have wonderful and joyous Holiday Season
From all the Volunteers at The Community Food Pantry