

St. Francis Catholic Kitchen Newsletter December 2021

***“St. Francis is One Mission,
Two Programs...graciously providing
food, clothing, shelter, and new
opportunities to those in need,
with dignity and love since 1982.”***

***To help carry on the charitable work
of the soup kitchen program,
please mail your donation check to:***

**St. Francis Catholic Kitchen
205 Mora Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

***Checks designated for the transitional shelter
program may be mailed directly to:***

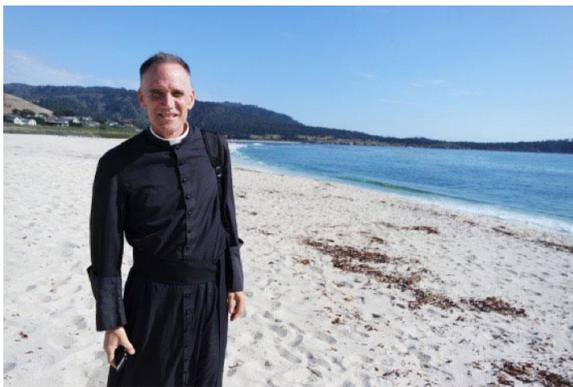
**Jesus Mary Joseph Home
132 Lennox ST
Santa Cruz, CA 95060**



Or, send your gift using PayPal on the website:

[<stfrancissoupkitchen.org>](http://stfrancissoupkitchen.org)

Donations to SFCK and JMJ are tax-deductible.



***St. Francis Catholic Kitchen is a non-profit
501c3 charitable organization founded by
the late Father Peter Carota.***

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Every weekday throughout the year, St. Francis soup kitchen aims to provide for the basic needs of homeless and hungry guests. During the pandemic, from March 2020 to October 2021, **27,956 nutritious meals** were distributed at curbside. In addition to brown bag lunches, supplies of masks, socks, underwear, and hygiene kits were given out—at **no cost** to grateful guests.



The dining hall, clothing room, toilets & showers will reopen when safe to do so, as determined by public health officials.

Thank you, **Five Star Catering** and **Martinelli's**, for donating savory side dishes and apple cider for the Thanksgiving meal. Thank you, **Upper Crust Pizza** and **Mt. Hermon Conference Center & Camp**, for regular donations of extra food this year

KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW.

Kitchen crew members, especially on Tuesdays or Wednesdays. Contact Richard Crowe.

Lunchtime monitors, one weekday each week. If you are willing to help maintain the peace & security of the soup kitchen environment, and to answer questions from guests, you will receive orientation and training. Contact Richard Crowe.



**Kitchen Director Richard Crowe
rcrowe@stfrancissoupkitchen.org
Office phone: (831) 459-6712**

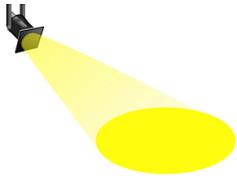
Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8 am - 2 pm

Support St Francis Catholic Kitchen.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

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Spotlight on Madelyn Winterbourne:

 Madelyn makes the best split pea soup this side of the Mississippi, having perfected her recipe in her many years of service. She has been the Thursday soup kitchen chef and day leader for over 9 years. After retirement, she decided that she wanted to give back to the community. She followed through with volunteer work, focusing on helping seniors at Grey Bears, children at Carolyn's Kids, animals at Project Purr, and the disadvantaged at the St. Francis soup kitchen.

What Madelyn loves most about her service at the soup kitchen is her recipe of love, a smile, some compassion, and a non-judgmental attitude and the change that this approach makes in the guests at the kitchen. Madelyn has inspired us with her creed of "Live Simply and Love Generously." Thanks, Madelyn, for all that you do!



Elbina Rafizadeh, PhD, MSN, RN

 "Over ten years ago, I had the privilege to volunteer at the soup kitchen through the invitation of Marie Ehlich, who cooked split pea soup one day of the week. At first, I just wanted to sample this renowned soup. Instead, after my first visit, I returned weekly for about a month to chop vegetables, set the table, or serve food.

I came across a group of volunteers, diverse both by age and ethnicity. I noticed the "regulars" and those new to the soup kitchen, based on the conversations and familiarity of the routine. The sense of community was palpable between volunteers and guests, as evident by the ease of conversations.

At this time, I am so pleased to be able to contribute as a new board member and very grateful for this opportunity." – Elbina, SFCK board member

A traditional, to-go Christmas meal will be prepared on Dec. 23 for anyone who is hungry.

Please consider making a donation to help with expenses for this meal and throughout the winter months.



FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT...

This year, we want to thank every donor for faithfully supporting our mission and programs, especially throughout the pandemic. May God richly bless you!

Special thanks are due to our two abiding program directors, Pat Gorman at JMJ and Richard Crowe at the soup kitchen. They have dedicated their lives in the service of those who live in the margins of society.

Welcome to Bernadette and Elbina, our two enthusiastic new board members. Their training and experience in law enforcement and public health nursing will help us provide even better care and services to those who need our transitional shelter and soup kitchen programs.

May the blessings of Christmas be yours as we also welcome the Baby Jesus into our hearts.

SINCERELY, WAYNE SHAFFER

In Memoriam. Former board members John P. Lynch, teacher of classical studies at UCSC, and Tom Lehmkuhl, teacher of Christian meditation, who inspired compassion in us and selflessly gave of their time and many gifts to serve the needs of others.

