



St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry

**At St. Mary Orthodox Church
105 South Nineteenth Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15203
412-431-6428**

November 2, 2019

By the grace of God, with the blessing of His Eminence, Archbishop MELCHISEDEK, the St. Cyril of White Lake Pantry opened its doors to the public on September 23, 2010 and has completed nine full years of caring for those in need. Our goal remains to provide needed food and bread to those in need in our community. 100% of all funds received goes directly to the provisioning of the poor through food, some basic sanitary needs, and pet food when it is donated.

The St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry has been open Thursdays from 5:45pm to 6:45pm. Everyone who seeks help is helped, and patrons are provided with three days+ of food. In October of this year the Food Pantry was compelled to temporarily suspend operations until December due to two major health issues with Fr. Patrick and another volunteer (Fr. Patrick and the other volunteer are who do the supply shopping). Thanks to almighty God and prayers of the faithful both are healing well.

The calendar year 2019 has seen over 3350 Households (representing 37000+ individuals) have been served. The average weekly service has been 50 to 100 families per week. No one has ever been turned away empty handed. Each household served received food for three+ full days of meals. [Note: The average real cost of food provided at any one time to a household of three is \$52.00.]

How has this been done? It has been accomplished through the active ongoing generosity of the faithful of our Archdiocese (68%) and the Serbian Diocese (17%) and parishes from the Greek, Carpatho Russian and ROCOR dioceses (10%), community organizations and ministries (3%) and businesses (2%). Among these donors, are the following whose regular donations make the Food Pantry possible:

- **Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania**
- **Pittsburgh Deanery (OCA)**
- **St. Mary Orthodox Church - Pittsburgh**
- **St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral - Allison Park**
- **St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral Sisterhood and Sunday School**
- **St. John Orthodox Church – Canonsburg**

- S. John Orthodox Church Sunday School
- Mediterra Bakehouse (Weekly provides bread and frequent other donations)
- Holy Ghost Orthodox Church – Ambridge, PA
- Holy Ghost Ladies Altar Society – Ambridge, PA
- Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Cathedral – Pittsburgh
- St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church – McKeesport
- Holy Dormition ROCOR Church - McKeesport
- Ladies Altar Society of St. John Orthodox Church – Canonsburg
- All Saints Greek Orthodox Church, Canonsburg
- Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, McCandless
- Intercession of the Holy Virgin Church – Carnegie PA
- Intercession of the Holy Virgin Church Sunday School
- St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral
- Nativity of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church – OCA
- St. John the Baptist CRO Church
- St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church – Monroeville
- Shop N Save
- Thomas Gmitter Funeral Home
- South Side Rotary
- Alexandria International (Nick Roberts)
- Market District (RobinsonTownship)
- Eastern Oil Company
- Giant Eagle (Southside)
- Bethel Park Rotary
- United States Postal Service Employee Union
- A host of faithful Orthodox Christians

In closing, in December when the Food Pantry reopens, what is most urgently needed is hamas and turkeys for the Annual Christmas distribution, and three other things, food, financial donations and volunteers. At present we purchase weekly about 81% of the food that is distributed – with the rest coming from Churches. With the number of people in need, this requires a greater amount of food weekly, so all donations in this area would be most welcome. Volunteers are needed to help with ongoing food distribution efforts. It takes about 15 volunteers weekly to operate the Food Pantry at total efficiency. So all volunteers are welcome.

Respectfully submitted

Igumen Patrick