



DIGNITY RESPECT AFFECTION ATTENTION HOSPITALITY



Celebrating Over 47 Years of Serving Those in Need!

Summer 2021

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Executive Director

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Parish Kitchen Manager

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Parish Kitchen Opens Doors, Welcomes Guests for Dine-In

Parish Kitchen officially opened its doors to dine-in service on June 1, allowing guests who had been receiving take-out meals the past 14 months during the pandemic the opportunity to experience first-hand the warmth of food and fellowship inside our new location.

Guests enjoyed relaxing in the bright new space, while eating the first dine-in meal on the menu: cheesy chicken casserole with vegetables, warm bread and a delicious dessert. Volunteers, some of whom had not seen each other since the pandemic began, shared (masked) hugs and served up lunch to guests with their familiar, friendly smiles. "It's so nice to be back," was the shared sentiment of volunteers.

Guests approved whole-heartedly of the new space. "The atmosphere is so much better here; we are not crammed in," commented Debbie, who was also a regular guest at the former location. "We feel like we are on a picnic or a grillout with all of our friends and family," shared another guest, Kelly. "We feel wanted here," she added. "We don't feel degraded."

A welcoming, nonjudgmental atmosphere is at the heart of Parish Kitchen's ministry. "It feels more dignified to offer a clean, warm, welcoming space to serve our guests," said Parish Kitchen Manager Maria Meyer. "When the guests dine in, we have an opportunity to get to know them better and offer more hospitality and attention. It feels like this vital part of our ministry was missing during the pandemic. I am thrilled to reopen this beautiful space for our guests."

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Guests enjoy being able to dine-in again at the Kitchen

Parish Kitchen
P.O. Box 1234,
Covington, KY 41012
(859) 581-7745



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Parish Kitchen Opens Doors, Welcomes Guests for Dine-In

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Parish Kitchen moved to its new location at 16th and Madison in Covington in July 2020 amid COVID-19 quarantines and safety protocols that prevented opening its doors for inside dining. Earlier, in March 2020, the staff and volunteers switched seamlessly to carry-out service without missing a single day of providing lunch. An estimated 9,000 additional meals have been served during the pandemic.

As we ease out of COVID-19 restrictions, Parish Kitchen will continue to offer guests the option of a takeout meal if they are uncomfortable dining in. We will also continue to monitor future developments from the CDC and the local health department to ensure that we are doing everything possible to provide a safe space for our guests.

St. Elizabeth Health Ministries, which has provided vital health screenings at Parish Kitchen during the pandemic, will continue to offer screenings to our guests weekly. What's more, exciting progress is being realized on the future garden on the side yard, where volunteers have been laboring this spring to build raised beds to grow fresh vegetables and herbs that will be incorporated into meals for our guests.



Volunteers Excited to Welcome Guests Back In



Guests in Line at the Kitchen Dine-In Opening

Volunteer Spotlight



★ Carol Branch is a wonderful human being and we are lucky to have her as part of our Parish Kitchen team. If you follow us on Facebook and see any witty one-liners, Carol most likely wrote the content for the post. She is an excellent writer! You may even notice her name on bylines for this newsletter.

★ Carol is fun to work with. She volunteers as a server 3-4 times a month where she greets guests with warmth and enthusiasm. She lightens the room, when she is caught singing and dancing behind the serving line. Carol often strikes up interesting conversations with guests as she wipes down dining room tables and chairs. Carol, her husband Chris, and her son Ryan volunteer once a month to cook for our guests. Carol is in her third year serving as an Advisory Board Member for Catholic Charities. She is a team player and always eager to help out where there is need.

Carol and her family are members of St Joseph Church in Cold Spring. She and Chris enjoy watching Ryan run Cross Country and Track for Bishop Brossart High School.

Volunteers in Action

A huge thank you to **Park with Sake Bomb Sushi/ Korean BBQ Catering**. Park was the first person to reach out to us at the beginning of the pandemic asking if we needed any food. He has generously donated spring rolls, chicken wings, and wontons for our guests at Parish Kitchen. Thank you for your kindness Park!

Thank you to the **Beechwood High School Baseball Team**. They delivered Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwiches for our guests!!!

The young women from the **Beechwood Softball Team** made 150 sandwiches for our guests to enjoy! Thank you for your support!!



Beechwood Softball Donates Sandwiches



Park from Saki Bomb Donates Food



Beechwood Baseball Delivers PB&J

Parish Kitchen Garden

A new project is underway in our courtyard. Thanks to Doug and Sheila Bray, who are huge supporters of the community garden effort around Northern Kentucky, Parish Kitchen now has four raised garden beds and four more still to come.

The produce harvested from the garden beds will provide fresh grown produce for the guests to enjoy. Much thanks to Tom Rawe, Doug Bray and Keith Bundy for building the beds and planting the first crop of wonderful produce.



"Take me out to the Ball Game"

Parish Kitchen continued its traditional cookout for our guests to celebrate Reds Opening Day. This cookout was a "Homerun" because we delayed a week, holding out for better weather.

Our all-star cooks grilled burgers and the guests had all the fixings for a wonderfully grilled grand slam meal.



Respect

Hospitality

Attention

Affection

Dignity



P.O. Box 1234
Covington, KY 41012
(859) 581-7745

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Covington, KY
Permit No. 21

Address Service Requested

Parish Kitchen Wish List

- Socks
- Bar Soap
- Disposable Razors
- Deodorant
- Travel Size Shampoo



If you can donate any of these items, please drop off items to:
Parish Kitchen
Madison Avenue (Corner of 16th & Madison)
Between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.

**You can also purchase items by
scanning this QR code with the
camera app on your phone! It will take
you to our Amazon Wish List. Items
will be delivered to Parish Kitchen**