

## St. Peter and Paul Parish St. Paul's Table



Because we have the opportunity to interact with the neighbors, frequently, we have been asked to share some of the "things" we do and "ways" we find helpful to achieve our goal of serving and sharing bread and life with them at St. Peter's Kitchen.

Patty and Sr. Barbara

These suggestions are not in order of importance, but simply known to bring about an environment where respect and gratitude are experienced.

It is important that only a portion of the product be available at any given time. Sweets should be in one location and bread at another. Sliced bread can be at another location and again only a limited number of loaves. As the first supplies are depleted, the workers of that day can restock from items remaining.

As adults or children approach the table, please greet them and offer an item. Since the selection available will be limited it will not take an extended time to select item and more attention can be given to interaction with person.

As they approach the bread, the same welcome should be extended.

Be sure that all are treated the same way no matter how they approach you. At a person working at the St. Paul's table that day, you are representing all of us and a warm, sincere welcome is what is desired. If you are not feeling well or "up to it" that day, please ask someone to sub for you so that there is no negativity conveyed.

Limits are necessary and will be accepted if all are treated the same way.

Cakes and pies can be used at the Kitchen if they are available and the quantity is not sufficient to provide one for each at St. Paul's Table.

Two workers should be adequate for behind the table, and a third from the Community could be at the beginning of the line to hand out bags.

As soon as the line has gone, pack up the remaining items and have them ready for the others who use the Church on Sunday's.

Take time with the folks, but do not delay the line as those waiting will become concerned and restless.

If an unusual amount of bread is available that day, and you can see that there is enough for each to take two loaves, then fine tell them that from the start. Do not wait until the end and then say they can come back for a second loaf as this will cause confusion and hard feelings.

All are sensitive and need to be treated as such. Never distinguish between people there, feeling that some are helpers and should get extra or that they are "nice" and will share or take to the home bound, etc. **We must treat all equally with respect and courtesy.**

The merchants who donated the items did so with the needy in mind. We do not want to misuse their donations, nor do we want to risk the availability of it in the future.

Some may ask for it to feed the birds in the yard here. Please do not encourage the practice by giving it, because it attracts rodents to the buildings and neighborhood and this is a matter the Neighborhood has worked to eliminate. (Both Fairchild Place and St. Peter's Kitchen have to pay monthly for rodent control service).

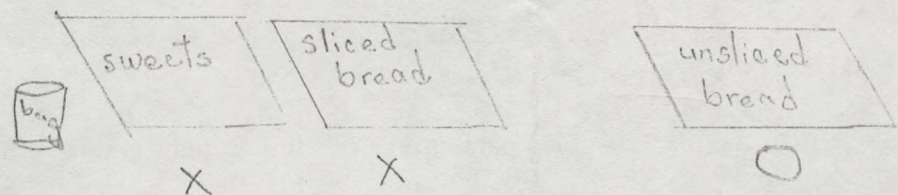
Items given have been known to be returned to stores and refunds requested. This of course is not common but has happened and we have been notified of need to take steps to prevent it. Giving a smaller amount at a time does help prevent this. Unused items will not go to waste. Folks can get them each week day at the Kitchen or they will be made available for another group.

If at all possible, please cross off the bar code used for scanning on the item. This or a large X across item deters the return.

If a specific situation arises which causes you concern or question and either of us is available, we would be happy to assist or suggest a way to handle it.

**Greet all and serve all alike and the Ministry of St. Paul's Table will be a blessing for all.**

**Thank you for being part of this ministry.**



X = 1 volunteer  
O = self service

Borrowing from the Italian tradition, *The Saint Joseph's* Saint Peter and Paul parishioners created this unique baked goods distribution to help our neighbors bridge the weekend food gap until Monday when St. Peter's Kitchen reopens.

Parishioners on fixed incomes or with large families benefit also.



Generous donations of freshness-dated baked goods from local stores are reclaimed by parish volunteers on week-long basis for Sunday distribution.

**Special thanks to the good stewards at the Hilton Big "M"; Wegmans: East Avenue**