



NEWSLETTER

St. Peter's Italian Catholic Church

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Easter 2021

Dear Parishioners and friends.

This year, we would have liked to explode into an Easter of joyful liberation from the evil that besieges us, but we are still asked to wait, committing ourselves to respect the rules of conduct that, alone, can protect us and others. Indeed it is a struggle for me having to celebrate Sundays with a small presence of the community.

But it looks like we are turning the corner on the pandemic since vaccines are being distributed. It will take time to return to normal, but we know the day is coming, and I want you to know that our parish will be ready. We will be here to welcome you with open arms.

Yes: we are soon going to celebrate our parish "re-opening" in a big way. I think we could all use a celebration this year, and I personally cannot wait. Stay tuned for more details.

Meanwhile, at St. Peter's, we continue to broadcast every Sunday, on Facebook, the celebration of the Mass to help those who, out of just prudence, cannot physically be present. I thank the Lord for those who weekly join our Mass from their home. But it is important to participate actively: **body and space are not insignificant to our life of Faith**. Let us dedicate this time as a time of prayer by participating with composure and avoiding distractions. It is useful to keep, not far from the screen, a sign that helps us pray: the crucifix, an icon, the Bible, a lit candle... Remember that you and your family are the "domestic church" celebrating the central faith event of Easter 2021!

In connection with the Lenten liturgical participation, I also remind you not to forget to couple your prayer with **gestures of charity** (e.g., a phone call to a single person, elderly or sick...) and contributing to the financial **support of the parish**. These are signs of the new life that the Lord gives you with his Resurrection. (To this purpose, I include an Easter envelope, thanking you in advance for your generosity. You know how the Church's income has suffered during the past year!)

Hoping to see you soon, I invite you **to joyfully embrace your family**: it is the thing that I will miss the most in the Parish this Easter! I hope you know that I never take you for granted. Your support of our parish means the world to me, and I appreciate all that you do.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Louis

SCALABRINI OUTREACH PROGRAM

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE POOR, MIGRANT AND MARGINALIZED.

Over the years, the **Feast of St. Joseph** has been your major fundraiser for our Outreach Program. Although our Feast has been on hold due to the pandemic, your “**abbondanza**” of generosity, love, support, product donations, financial gifts, hundreds of volunteers hours and prayers has allowed us to continue to serve the most vulnerable among us.

Donations for Outreach can be made online or by check to St. Peter. Please write Outreach in the memo.

THANK YOU



The mission of St. Peter's/San Conrado Lay Scalabrini Outreach Program is to see and embrace Christ coming to us in the poor; to promote and restore the dignity and rights of the migrant, homeless, and economically vulnerable families.

ANNUAL PROGRAM SUMMARY OF SERVICES 2020

During 2020 we provided 46,879 meals, 8640 hygiene kits and served 3,067 families through the food pantry.

12,100 meals were prepared and distributed through La Placita's food program. Due to Covid-19, this program was placed on hold effective March 16, 2020.

21,200 Meals were made and hand-delivered to individuals in homeless encampments and families living in cars and campers near the church and downtown Los Angeles.

The Scalabrini Foodbank was open the 2nd Friday of each month and served an average of 279 families per month. In addition to any donated can food and proteins, we distribute 3,500 pounds of beans, 3500 pounds of rice, 375 Ltrs of oil, and 6000-7000 tamales each month.



*On Valentine's day, 2020, we officially expanded our existing partnerships with the Order of Malta and rolled-out a new program of providing **fresh fruits and vegetables during our pantry**. Food Forward offers fruits and vegetables, Malta picks up and delivers the produce to the hall (an average of **4,172 pounds each distribution day**), and together as a **community**, volunteers from St. Peter's, San Conrado Mission, and the Order of Malta pack and distribute to economically vulnerable families. The pantry was closed during December due to a Covid-19 outbreak.*



12,197 Meals were provided to assist the Sacred Heart Church food pantry.

We provided 2,345 meals and assistance to Day Labor programs for migrants searching for work at various Home Depots.

Although our annual Thanksgiving celebration could not occur, we assisted 502 families with Vegetables, Turkeys, and the Order of Malta Flu Vaccine clinic on site.

We continued our partnership with the **Order of Malta** and hosted the production of **720 personal hygiene kits per month**. Kits are packed and distributed by the Order of Malta to Los Angeles shelters for the homeless. Scalabrini Outreach volunteers deliver to the Casa del Migrante shelter for migrants in Tijuana, MX.

NEW IN 2021: Thanks to an additional partnership with the Order of Malta, the **food pantry** will expand to include the 4th Friday of the month to provide **fresh fruits and vegetables**.