

St. Francis Catholic Kitchen

was opened by the late Fr. Peter Carota in the early 1980's and is the only facility in the City of Santa Cruz that offers a nutritious, hot lunch for the homeless & hungry every weekday--as well as clean used clothing, toilets & showers.

All services are free.

Soup kitchen volunteers try to show each guest the merciful face of God. A kind welcome and a safe space are available to anyone suffering from chronic poverty, substance abuse, mental illness or physical disability.



Richard Crowe

Kitchen Program Director

Office telephone & hours:

(831)459-6712

Mon-Fri, 8 am - 2 pm

rcrowe@stfrancissoupkitchen.org

What's going on with the guests? Here's some "table talk" overheard in the dining hall:

"The lunch is really good here. I'm on disability so I can afford an apartment. But then I have nothing left for food."

"I want to work again as a truck driver, but first I need to get into a drug rehab program. There's a long waiting list."

"I got the flu this winter. I stayed warm as I could in my sleeping bag. I didn't have anything to eat for about 3 days, I think. A friend came looking and gave me a ride to the soup kitchen."

**With your support,
St Francis is here for
people in need.**



Soup Kitchen News Bytes!

On April 2, baked ham & bunny cakes are featured on the special Easter Monday menu.

New board member Lou Versman says it this way:

"As a longtime local business owner, I am proud to be part of the mission to feed, clothe and care for the hungry and to work alongside such dedicated and devoted people who continue to serve our community by helping people in need in such a selfless manner."



Lou Versman

Besides volunteering on the Board of Directors, Lou Versman serves as one of the "iron chefs" at the soup kitchen. His job as a head chef is to prepare enough soup to feed 150 guests. Currently, Murray and Lou are head chefs on alternate Wednesdays.

When first arriving in the morning, Lou visits the pantry and fridge. Based on what has been donated or purchased, he decides on a soup recipe. He's pleased when extra **beef or chicken or fish** have been donated by a generous local eatery. When there is no meat, there are **fresh cauliflower, broccoli, cabbages, bell peppers, mushrooms or potatoes** for making a nutritious soup. He may also elect to use **canned beans, dry noodles or pearl barley**.

When wearing the distinctive blue St Francis apron, Lou takes pride in making a hearty soup taste good. He starts the soup with **chicken stock or canned tomatoes or tomato sauce**. Because both color and flavor matter, he adds some paprika, garlic, chili powder, cumin, or sometimes curry.

See SOUP next page...

SOUP continued...

Then, working in a ratio of 2:1:1, Lou chops **fresh onions, carrots & celery**. This culinary trio is a must—it is Lou's *mirepoix*, sautéed with butter and savory herbs such as **basil, oregano, thyme, and/or parsley**. When lightly browned, the *mirepoix* joins the liquid. After all ingredients have been added to the pot, Lou gently simmers the soup to perfection until served at noon.



For special year-end services, Christmas gifts and donations in 2017, the soup kitchen thanks the following groups:

- Five-Star Catering
- Families of Holy Cross
- Plantronics Legal Dept.
- Santa Cruz Elks Lodge
- Santa Cruz Police Dept.
- Valley Churches United

DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.

The majority of monetary aid is donated by private individuals. Despite careful management, program budgets for the St. Francis soup kitchen & Jesus Mary Joseph Home are often tightly stretched. Please consider sending a tax-deductible check to:

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

Or visit the website for **PayPal options**, and to learn more about the work that we do www.stfrancissoupkitchen.org

St. Francis /JMJ is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

“Serving those in need since 1982”



“The St. Francis Catholic Kitchen & Jesus Mary Joseph Home mission in Santa Cruz is an expression of the teachings of St. Francis of Assisi, graciously providing food, clothing, shelter, and new opportunities to those in need, with dignity and love.”

An Easter Message



“During this holy season, it is a privilege to be able to care for those in need. While praying for your help, we on the board of directors re-affirm our commitment to showing God’s mercy to those in need with offerings of food and clothing, as well as shelter and second chances.”

Sincerely, Wayne Shaffer, President

Please “Like” us: **TWO** programs, **TWO** Facebook pages.



ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC KITCHEN JESUS MARY JOSEPH HOME

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Jesus Mary Joseph Home, founded in 1989, is the beloved sister facility of the soup kitchen. Located in a quiet residential area of Westside Santa Cruz, JMJ Home is noted for its loving and healing 24/7 Christian transitional shelter program for homeless women and children. The goal is to enable families to return to independent living. JMJ also offers free hospice care for the poor.



Pat Gorman

**Shelter Program Director
Office telephone & hours:**

(831)459-8046

Mon-Fri, 9 am - 5 pm

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Every child deserves opportunities to experience creativity, joy, self-confidence and hope!

For special year-end gifts & celebrations in 2017, JMJ mothers & children thank the following groups:

- Dominican Hospital Radiology Department
- Laurie Pappas' Bible Study Group
- Latin Mass Homeschoolers
- Santa Cruz Elks Lodge
- Serendipity Day Care
- UCSC Volunteer Center Directors



What's New At Jesus Mary Joseph Home?

Kappa Zeta Sorority's program enriches the lives of children at Jesus Mary Joseph Home.



Children at JMJ learn to shine brightly while making colorful artwork and tasty baked goodies. Each child has been provided with an art and baking kit to take part in a series of 14 sessions. Donated and taught by members of UCSC's Kappa Zeta Sorority, this wonderfully fun enrichment program is designed to build creativity, joy, self-confidence and hope.



Before sharing a family-style meal at JMJ, mothers and children give thanks:

"Thank you God for the food on the table and the roof over our heads. Thank you for a safe place for me and my children to get back on our feet."

"I am grateful for this house, for everybody in it, for my brother, for our education, for my mom's job and the food we are about to receive."

"Thank you God for everyone here present and for bringing us all together. I pray that everyone will do well. I pray in thanksgiving for all that JMJ provides."

"Thank God for everyone here present, for those who have been here in the past and those coming in the future. We pray for all who make this home possible and thank you for all the opportunities that JMJ gives us."
... To this, we say 'amen'!



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

Return Service Requested



***May the
Blessings of
Easter Be Yours!***

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The Easter 2018 newsletter is sponsored by



**St. Francis Catholic Kitchen also acknowledges
the generously discounted printing by Mpress Digital.**