



And



THANK YOU

Loaves and Fishes is a ministry that organizes and provides a meal to the needy in the City of Trenton at St. Mary's Cathedral on the third and fourth Saturdays of every month.

On Saturday October 26th Incarnation-St. James Parish and Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish delivered a most successful luncheon to over 300 needy people from the Trenton area in the old Cathedral Gymnasium. Continuing the Loaves and Fishes Program was one of the Goals of Cohort 9, which led to the collaborative involvement of both Parishes. As previously announced at all of the weekend Masses, we were informed by the organizers of Loaves and Fishes that we did not have access to St. Mary's auditorium and, therefore, could not serve a hot meal. With the support and efforts of the Cohort Planning Committee members, we were able to successfully fulfill our commitment to the Loaves and Fishes organization and to the needy people in the Trenton area.

I would like to personally thank our Pastors who wholeheartedly supported the efforts of the Cohort Planning Committee for their ability to make last minute adjustments to the meal plan. A sincere thank you to Kyle, the Manager of Tastee Subs, located at 1161 Lawrenceville Road, for preparing and delivering 600 Turkey and Cheese Hoagies, along with 150 lbs. of potato/macaroni salads, individual bags of potato chips and all the necessary condiments.

I would also like to thank the STEM Civics School for sending 15 students that volunteered to help make 400 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the needy families to take home upon their departure from the dinner. In addition, I would like to thank the Knights of Columbus, Ewing Council #3756 for assisting in loading all the materials into vehicles that needed to be transported to the Cathedral Gymnasium on Friday evening.

A special recognition goes to Karen and Marc Barbiero for all of their countless hours spent to locate a company that could provide an alternate meal on short notice and at a reasonable price. Karen and Marc's knowledge from their participation at previous Loaves and Fishes events was invaluable in maintaining the quality of our dinner. In addition, a special thank you to Karen for coordinating a group of committee members to help purchase the supplies for the 400 bag lunches and overseeing the preparation and assembly of the lunches.

I would especially like to thank the many silent partners who donated over \$4,000 to the Loaves and Fishes Fund, guaranteeing that the Cohort would meet its' Goal. Thank you to the many individuals who baked brownies, cookies and those of you who donated cookies. Our desserts at this event were so plentiful – thanks to all of you.

Lastly, thank you to the 40 plus members of the Cohort (ISJ and OLGC) who came out on Saturday to participate and gave of themselves to assist those in real need. For many of you in both Parishes, this was a first- time experience and everyone was so very eager to do whatever was asked of them.

It is particularly important to thank the Directors of the Loaves and Fishes Program for working closely with us to make this change of venue and menu go as smoothly as possible.

I would be remiss if I didn't shout out a big Thank You to all of the Cohort 9 Loaves and Fishes Committee members – Fr. Thomas Morris, Fr. Michael Hall, Karen, Marc and Claudia Barbiero, Lisa Brunetto, Maeve Cannon, Jackie Crane, Barbara Kent, Laura Shea, Janet Stankus, Tony DeLucia, Frank Ferdetta, Ron Prykanowski, Tom DeFalco, Nina and Dan Gowaty, Joyce and Ron Raymond and Anthony Zoladz – I was blessed to work with such a great group of committed individuals.

Our Cohort has reason to be proud of your willingness to interact for the greater good of others. Thanks to your generosity in Time, Talent, and Treasure - both the guests and the volunteers left fulfilled.

Peter Brennan, Cohort Chairman