

Pierre Toussaint Food Pantry
St Mary's Church
520 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Newark, NJ 07102

April, 2022

Dear Friends,

There is still uncertainty in the air!

- Spring struggles to break through the chilly nights.
- Covid still rears its ugly head.
- Gas prices are challenging and food prices overwhelming.
- And of course, all eyes are on the terrible suffering of the people of Ukraine.

Yet, these Easter days are filled with hope! The Christian Scriptures telling of the post-resurrection days are filled with meal stories. Jesus' meeting with his friends in the upper room, on the beach or on the Emmaus Road – sharing a meal – bread, wine, fish – and so much more. There is something holy about sharing food, sharing sustenance. It looks a little different on the side walk of King Blvd. but it is no less holy and sustaining.

Someone asked if our pantry would be open on Holy Saturday. The response: “Of course, this is what we do – take care of each other!” And so, the packers packed and as we opened the door, we had more Saturday morning volunteers than ever to serve our dear friends. One woman announced as she left with chicken in one hand and bag of fresh potatoes in the other: “Now I have our Easter Dinner!”

Sometimes I am not sure who leaves the pantry more satisfied our clients or our volunteers. Our clients leave laden with groceries, fresh produce and eggs, cheese or butter, chicken or fish and whatever other goodies we have to share. Our volunteers leave with full hearts knowing that because they are willing to give time and care, people leave Pierre Toussaint Pantry with food for their families and enough hope to sustain them a little longer. And **YOU**, you have shared in the continuing work of sharing sustenance for body and spirit for so many.

Inflation is hitting us all but of course those at the bottom of the economic ladder are hit the hardest. Yes, our statistics reflect that our numbers continue to climb again and we fear this to be true for the foreseeable future. We thank you for your support and the trust you place in us. May God bless you with every Easter Blessing of new life and joy!

Gratefully,
Sister Linda

*Thank you – over and over again!
Your van is our real go to place!
Blessings for your great
generosity and support!*