

St. Leon's Drive-by Food Collection a Huge Success!

I have always known that our St. Leon community is a caring and generous one. I was amazed at the response for our first ever drive-by food collection. As you can see from the picture below, a huge amount of food, gift cards, and other items were donated. Words are not enough to sufficiently express my gratitude of you who donated.

Thank you to our custodian Nikolai for setting up a shade tent for us and the Women's Guild members who were selling choreg. My daughter Lori was there with me to carry the bags inside the vestibule of the Community Center. Thank you to Marilou Pinajian for helping us while also selling choreg. Vicken Jessourian arranged everything for the picture.



On the following Monday, Lori and I with the help of our custodian Carlos, drove the food, diapers, soap, toothbrushes, gift cards, etc. to the Center for Food Action in Mahwah. We delivered over 100 bags and over \$400 worth of gift cards that the center will use to purchase perishable items and other things that are needed.

One donor called to say: Thank you for providing this opportunity to help others. As this food drive was so successful, Lori and I are considering doing another in the fall.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed and helped. Barbara Hovsepien



Carlos and Lori loading the donations into the church van.

We were lucky to have good weather for both the donation day and the delivery day.

As cars drove up to the patio to drop off food, Der Diran, while socially distancing, greeted people who were delighted to see him and have a brief chat. Lori, Marilou, and I received virtual hugs from many donors and enjoyed catching up on what they are doing.



This is the CFA in Mahwah. Notice the bins on the right side under the overhanging roof. After we left, the food was taken inside and sorted for distribution to the other CFAs in Bergen County.



These two bins were almost empty before we filled them to the top with all our St. Leon donations.

Linda, the person in charge of the center, thanked us so very much for the donations and gift cards.