

INFORMATION SHEET: HOSPITALITY

"Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers." (Romans 12:13)

The purpose of this information sheet is to offer guidelines on providing hospitality. Sunday services and the hospitality time that follows give members an opportunity to spend time together, catch up on what has happened since the last time they gathered, and welcome visitors. The hospitality schedule is prepared and posted on the bulletin board and sent electronically to the membership at the beginning of the year. Families and individuals are assigned on a rotating basis.

Look at the hospitality schedule as soon as it's available. If you can't serve on an assigned Sunday, ask another member to trade dates with you. Inform the Vicar of the change so that the Sunday bulletin will reflect who is providing hospitality on that day.

If for some reason you can't serve at all, inform the Vicar before the yearly schedule is prepared so he can remove your name from the list.

The food you provide is entirely up to you. Past offerings have ranged from what would be considered a meal to just something sweet to eat; from homemade to ready made to a combination of both. The important thing is the ministry of hospitality, not what is served. During the summer months, hospitality is often provided outdoors.

Coffee and tea are available. You're welcome to provide other beverages, such as juices, soft drinks, lemonade, etc.

Paper products, serving dishes and utensils are provided. You're welcome to bring your own if you wish to acknowledge or celebrate a particular holiday or special event.

All leftover food and beverages should be handled as follows: (1) taken home or given away; (2) arrangements made with the hospitality provider for the following Sunday to use them; (3) thrown away. It doesn't take long for the refrigerator to fill up with leftovers that are never used, and there's no "refrigerator angel" to throw them away later.

The Parish Hall should be returned to its original state. This includes collecting used plates, cups, etc., and cleaning up spills and food on the tables and floors. Items that need to be washed can be hand washed and put away or rinsed and put in the dish washer. The drain strainers should be cleaned out and the sinks and counters cleaned up. Used towels should be taken home, washed and returned to the kitchen.

All trash bags in the Parish Hall and kitchen should be removed and replaced with clean bags. Please take the trash with you for disposal.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS MINISTRY