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| **Pantry @ Ascension Update from Deacon Farrell** |

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Dear sisters and brothers,As many of you know, our Pantry @ Ascension has adapted during the pandemic to continue serving our sisters & brothers in need. I’m grateful that we’ve not missed a single first-Saturday-of-the-month. Recent monthly distributions have focused on a) primary distribution of toiletries and b) intentionally depleting nonperishable foods previously accumulated in storage (across from the restrooms in the parish house). The toiletries are appreciated by our guests and not available through other nearby pantries, feeding ministries or government programs. I hope they will be a long-term feature of the Pantry @ Ascension. With good success, we have also recently moved our distribution to the door in the alley off of Michael Hall.Based on diocesan and city guidance, we are now poised for further change. For the June and July pantries I hope to add 2-4 volunteers to help prepare bags of toiletries and food for distribution. In coming months, we hope to again provide sack lunches and to welcome additional volunteers. (I am evaluating the menu with an eye to increased nutrition.) Whether or not you’ve done so before, I hope you may be interested in volunteering sometime in coming months (June 5, July 3, August 7). If so, you will need to:* be fully vaccinated and wear a mask, even if vaccinated;
* be hospitable to our guests (and kind to fellow volunteers);
* be able to lift somewhat heavy boxes;
* **contact me by email** (soon if for June).

I regret sharing that *food* donations to the pantry are, for a number of reasons, problematic. But please consider a financial donation to support the pantry, by way of a check (made out to the church) or through [the DONATE feature on Ascension's website](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001DWe9tsxC58HWAZVH3F_8k4WMkiq0UUVXRBZSZSj6CLG7TF6ZovBc_Jot-nNHZ7f-EKuo8HksFvRezaT_K44CpSj1YOjp5eCgOI9pa9jYjLgyL2QKbJY19hHVkva74qcAo7lS3hZieoMV1nMBpzcGmQM9d6A59prfUp1kx7TTQYCZ2FT0Y-KR3zzQ2DwTMR7bljVRpRObjwqVgBFNbpE0_CXeraEUN8KRhDxDUj5GgbBm7KwUnJOu1Z7B21XXoJ2e_zRFQy2MIeeeGxLvOKuPjRS97LWpbM6Oy71E40MtfBo=&c=vt6oyYK1iH3llsEFPufN5ysbAXtH8BWPzqirsI56UmQP0MU1OLaIiw==&ch=cOjmJOU2_UInQAHzzRnHP3Ss18Uaw4UhFJ2bV0sMOEH_8aRpgmx7Nw==). (Please indicate your intention.) Your prayers for this ministry and our guests are, of course, always welcomed.Thank you again for your support of this long-standing and important outreach ministry! Wishing you every blessing, I remain your servant in Christ,Deacon Charles Farrell |

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