

Malachi Matters



The ministries at St. Malachi that matter
to the faithful and to our neighbors

Winter 2025

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Bringing Christmas Joy to the Poorest of Children

Stephanie Pritts, Catechetical Leader

With its deeply embedded ethos, St. Malachi has long served its neighborhood poor. Yet, what about the poor outside the church neighborhood? Christmas is a perfect time to attend to these little ones.

A unified St. Malachi-St. Patrick Parish School of Religion, for PreK to Grade 8, is in its seventh year. Our PSR Parents state they want their children to **serve** as a natural part of their Catholic lives; they involve them in church giving programs. What may be surprising is that these students are involved in international Christmas giving through Cross Catholic Outreach, a ministry that provides food, shelter, water, education, and care for vulnerable children and orphans throughout the world.

Thus, families participate in a unique Cross Catholic program called Box of Joy. While the concept is simple,

the impact is profound. During our PSR Open House, families view videos of some of the world's poorest children receiving a Box of Joy. By then, Cross Catholic Outreach has shipped to us flattened shoe-box-sized boxes for pick-up along with a Wish List. Children shop for children. They indicate age / gender and add a handmade Christmas card.

Boxes are returned, with modest shipping fee, at our All Saints Celebration. Parents pack them into shipping cartons. They're dropped off at a semi-trailer at Mosack's Religious Goods in Mentor, then driven to headquarters in Florida. Boxes are shipped to children worldwide for whom this will be their only Christmas gift and their first toy in its original packaging.

Yet the joy works both ways. Said little Anna, as she joyfully gave me her Box, "I can't wait for her to open it! She's going to be so excited!" Joy to all the world!

A Prayer for our Friends and Benefactors

Kay Vine

Loving God, Creator of all, we thank you for those who join us in serving the sisters and brothers who come to our doors in need. We ask a blessing on these givers as well as those who seek our ministries. We are blessed to have all of them with us on each day's journey.

May we all seek to better serve those who are poor and those in need.



Feed My Sheep, Says The Lord

Henry Speier

Serving 1400 meals per week, we at St. Malachi hear "Thank You" hundreds of times over. Sometimes it's a simple gesture of gratitude. And sometimes the "Thank You" is given with an earnestness and purpose that rocks one's soul. These "Thank You's" are directed to a whole community of generous donors and volunteers whose kindness may never be directly seen by our guests.

Much of this generosity is in the donation of food. Although no statistics exist that compare the value of food donations to monetary donations, it would be appropriate to assume that over half of the value of the donations received for the St. Malachi Meal programs are provided directly as food and drink. St. Malachi and its guests are thankful for this generosity in the past and are always looking for new avenues of support for the future.

The following items are the most needed to supply our pantry:

Perishable:

- Ground beef, chicken, or turkey
- Shredded cheese, any kind
- Milk
- Eggs

Non-perishable:

Canned:

- Tuna, chicken
- Ground coffee
- Beans (navy, pinto, great northern, black)
- Mixed vegetables
- Green beans, any style
- Peas
- Potatoes
- Corn (kernel or cream)
- Fruit (any kind)
- Tomatoes
- Tomato sauce or paste
- Spaghetti sauce
- Pork & beans
- Creamed soups (ONLY, no other soups, please)

- Beef stew
- Canned milk
- Drink mixes like Kool-Aid or Wylers

Bagged:

- Pasta (any kind)
- Rice (white preferred)
- Sugar
- Grits
- Drink mixes (iced tea with or without sugar)
- Ground coffee
- Gravy mix – any kind
- Cookies, bars – any kind
- Rice mixes
- Pancake mix – complete preferred
- Chips – tortilla, potato, snack, any

Boxed:

- Pancake mix (complete preferred)
- Pasta – any kind
- Macaroni & cheese

- Onion soup mix
- Dried milk
- Rice & pasta mixes
- Hot chocolate mixes
- Cake and muffin mixes
- Dried potatoes and mixes
- Sugar
- NO TEA BAGS, PLEASE

Bottled:

- Spaghetti sauce
- Oil: canola, corn, sunflower, all blends
- Coffee creamer
- Mayonnaise
- Pancake syrup
- Garlic powder or flakes
- Black pepper
- Onion powder or flakes
- Cinnamon
- Italian seasoning

Jarred:

- Relishes
- Jams & jellies

Contact Us

Church:

W 25th & Detroit Ave. / Cleveland OH 44113

Office:

St. Patrick Bridge Ave
3602 Bridge Avenue
Cleveland OH 44113

Administration@StPatrickBridge.org
216-631-6872

Newsletter Editor:

Newsletter@StMalachi.org

Catechetical Leader:

Stephanie.P@StMalachi.org

Bulletin:

bit.ly/SsPatrickMalachiBulletin



The folks who visit the Back Door, Monday Night Meal, and Saturday Breakfast greatly benefit from a combination of faith communities, businesses, and individuals for their donated food:

- A **St. Vincent de Paul** van, staffed by members of the **St. Ladislav Parish** St. Vincent de Paul society, supplies donated food from Trader Joe's and Whole Foods every other Wednesday. As a separate effort, a volunteer picks up donated food from Whole Foods every Friday.
- **Boxcast** donates the equivalent of \$250 worth of food, particularly meat, twice a month.
- **Rise in Love** brings complete meals monthly.
- Meat sandwiches along with assembled lunch bags are donated by **St. Raphael** three to four times a year.
- **St. Albert the Great** furnishes meat sandwiches twice a year.
- Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches along with accompanying lunch bags are donated by Baptist Grade School and the **Knights of Columbus at St. Mary Magdalene** and **St. Ladislav**.
- 80 individuals (spread across the four weeks of each month) purchase, prepare, and deliver a main dish that serves 20-30 guests for Monday Night Meal. The fifth week is split between students at Frederick Douglas High School and a private donor. Recipes and meal plans can be found on the St. Malachi website at <https://sites.google.com/view/st-malachi-mnm/home>.
- An additional 20 individuals bring fruit for Monday Night Meal.
- Marc's Stores has generously provided flavored drinks for MNM since the 80s when Marc Glassman volunteered at MNM.
- A meal is not complete without dessert. **Fragapane Bakeries – North Olmsted** and **Becker's Bakery and Donuts** have generously allotted an afternoon pickup for their remaining donuts and

bread. Donuts are enjoyed as a dessert whether for dinner, lunch, or breakfast! Volunteers pick up the bakery from Fragapane and Becker's and deliver it to St. Malachi. St. Raphael Catholic Church has also organized a team of volunteers to distribute bakery items from Fragapane – Bay Village to charities of the Near West Side. St. Malachi is one of their stops. In addition to donuts, donated bread is sliced at St. Malachi and is distributed to our guests – either with their meals or as whole loaves.

- The St. Malachi Pantry, which supports all the meals, is the beneficiary of non-perishable food drives. Participants in the **St. Malachi Church Run/Walk** bring, along with their running shoes, non-perishable food items. **St. Raphael** organizes twice-a-year food drives that fill up the pantry's empty shelves. **A special church** in Lakewood also organizes a food drive that helps stock our shelves.
- In addition to these organized efforts, our guests are the beneficiaries of individuals who donate food on an ad hoc basis. **Mink**, who credits St. Malachi for being a special influence while she struggled with addiction and worked through subsequent recovery, purchases significant quantities of meat when it is on reduced sale after special holidays. It is her way to give back.
- **An anonymous supporter** has organized pickups from Honey Baked Ham for donations of their extra trimmings.
- **A local reporter and his family** bring in donated bakery.
- Special donations are received after large events or just because someone thought of St. Malachi.

... This litany names only some of the many "saints" who support us.

To help the ministries continue, if you have connections with a potential donor or would like to make a food donation yourself, contact our parish office at 216-631-6872.

The generosity of the community is overwhelming. St. Malachi's food programs could not exist without this continuous flow of generosity. Those who are fed at our doors thank YOU for making it all possible!!



Malachi Center Celebrates 40 Years of Caring

Ed Shemo

On September 18th, Malachi Center commemorated its 40th Anniversary with an elegant celebration at the Tenk Building. The event featured exceptional catering by Marigold and paid homage to the Center's cherished Soup for the Soul tradition with a special selection of soups inspired by past gatherings.

The evening was a resounding success, bringing together supporters, partners, and community members to honor four decades of service, compassion, and commitment to the community. Malachi Center extends heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to making this milestone celebration both memorable and meaningful.

The Run/Walk's New Course

Exciting Updates for 2026!

Sharon Lowe-Chapman, Chair

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 14, 2026, when runners, walkers, and volunteers will once again come together for the 47th Annual St. Malachi Church Run/Walk — one of Cleveland's most beloved St. Patrick's season traditions!

This year's event features an all-new course that showcases the very best of Cleveland's lakefront. Both the 2-Mile Run and 5-Mile Run will take place on the Shoreway, with the 5-Mile route extending through the scenic trails of Edgewater Park. The most inspiring moment will come at the finish line, as participants complete their run or walk heading toward St. Malachi Church — the heart of our faith community and a beacon of hope for those we serve.

The St. Malachi Run/Walk is more than a race — it's a mission in motion. Every mile helps sustain the Malachi Ministries, which provide meals and compassionate outreach to our neighbors in need throughout the year.

We invite local businesses, organizations, and individuals to join us as sponsors or partners for this year's event. Your support helps continue our vital outreach while celebrating a Cleveland tradition that unites faith, fit-

ness, and fellowship. Sponsorships begin at \$500, and those at \$2,000 or more include a logo placement on the back of the official race shirt — a great way to be seen by thousands of people across Northeast Ohio.

With more than 4,000 participants expected, sponsors will enjoy exceptional visibility among a vibrant crowd of runners, walkers, and supporters from across Northeast Ohio — through extensive pre-race promotions, on race day, and for the years these shirts will be proudly worn!

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Sharon Lowe-Chapman at RunStMalachi@outlook.com.

Together, we'll make the 47th Annual St. Malachi Church Run/Walk a joyful day of faith, community, and Irish spirit — one to remember for years to come!



**With sponsorship,
your name/logo
could be here!**



Blessings From Above

for a beautiful sunny Sunday in the good ole summertime!!!

Lou Keim

The parish picnic – an annual event for two entities – brought together the parishioners of St. Patrick Parish and St. Malachi Oratory in collaboration with each other.

Approximately 300 individuals brought lots of scrumptious potluck foods with conversation and laughter heard throughout the St. Patrick grounds.

Surrounded by the Mass servers and musicians, Fathers Gurnick and Hollis concelebrated a very prayerful Mass that lent itself to an enjoyable gathering on a wonderful Sunday, August 24th.

It was truly a "Mass of celebration!" During the liturgy, Fr. Gurnick introduced the new Jesuit Volunteer Corps who will be serving in Cleveland this year. Inviting the attendees to assist him, Fr. Gurnick invoked a blessing onto the five volunteers for all that they will be doing while in Cleveland.

Throughout the afternoon, much conversation was extended with many introducing themselves to new friends and reacquainting themselves with others. At the same time, a variety of games were joyfully played by the younger attendees along with some just a little bit older!!

A Bocce tournament has been held each year at St. Pat. This year the winners were Violet and Matt Hills. In addition to being the winners, their names are on a new trophy as the first winners of St. Patrick Parish with St. Malachi Oratory.

Plentiful were the donated scrumptious potluck food/beverages, which provided an assortment of tasty foods. Long lines waited patiently for their turn to place on their plate some of this delicious spread. Not only were those in line patient but no disgruntled persons commented about the wait!!!!

As the conclusion of the afternoon began, many "helping hands" assisted with the clean-up, which became a great sharing of their time and talent!!

Kudos to the committee – small in number but great in outcome. Along with the many volunteers, the afternoon was a success!!!! The photos with this article connote socializing, connecting, and collaborating into a nourishing parish!!!!

The committee is gearing up to do this again based on the motivation extended by many who had attended. Soooo watch for the date and mark it on next year's calendar!!!

The Pietà, made of wood, was damaged in the Church fire, repaired, and restored. It was first displayed at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair and then obtained by St. Malachi.

Did You Know?

at W. 25th and Detroit
Office: 3602 Bridge Ave
Cleveland OH 44113

St. Malachi
Church



Celebrating More
Than 160 Years of
Faithful Service in
the Old Angle!

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