St. Ann Catholic Church

FOOD PANTRY

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

JULY 2025-JUNE 2026

"If you can't feed a HUNDRED people then feed just one." ~ Mother Teresa

St. Ann Community Outreach Building is Open for Use!



What Goes in a Bag?

1 lb bag rice
1 lb bag dry beans
Canned vegetables
Peanut butter
Mac & cheese
Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Soup
Meat, Deli, Bakery, Produce

3,699 Families Served

10,359 People Served



Building Community While Feeding the Community

The food pantry at St. Ann is a bustling hub of activity several days each week. We distribute food to the larger Johnston County community on Friday mornings, but 4-5 days per week there is food pantry activity going on to make sure that the Friday morning distribution goes as smoothly as possible. I realized some time ago that this ministry is truly a community itself; a dynamic, prayerful, apostolic community. And that realization truly moved my heart.

Our volunteers span all ages from elementary school age children, to spry 80 somethings that I struggle to keep up with and all ages in between. Our volunteers encompass all backgrounds ethnically, culturally, professionally, and bring their diverse skills and interests and energies to our food pantry to do one thing- feed others. And as we came together to feed others. As the food pantry has grown in how many community members it serves monthly, I believe that each of us as volunteers has also grown as individuals in our spirituality and in our sense of community and connectedness and sharing.

We have learned to be "the hands and feet of Jesus" in this one small way and have learned that like it is said in Psalm 23:5 there is "room at the table for all." Whether you are an engineer, a med student, a veteran, a teacher, a mom, a dad, a grandparent, a Presbyterian (yup we have those too), an artist, a musician, a teenager, a person with Autism (we have those too), you belong and you have meaning and value.

That is the definition of community. So what people see on Friday is a genuine community living out the call of Jesus to "Love one another" in more than one way. It's not just the food that goes out. It is much more than that. This collection of food pantry volunteers look out for one another, are genuinely invested in each other, they support and encourage one another, they laugh and cry with one another.

"You pray for people, then you help them. This is how prayer works."
–Pope Francis

Drive-Thru Distribution
Fridays 9 am - 10:30 am

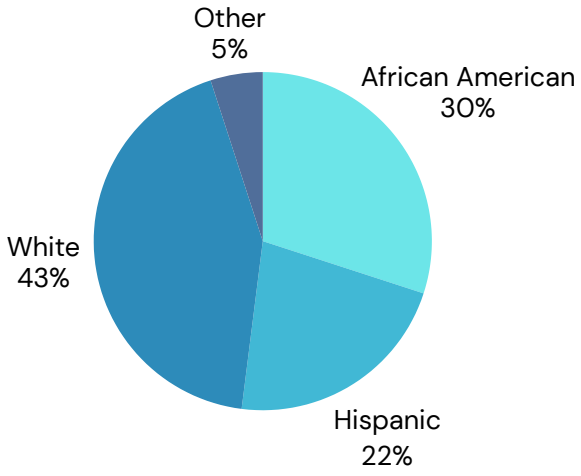
- Photo ID
- Proof of Residency in Johnston County
- One time per month

919-934-2084
st.annfoodpantry@gmail.com

St. Ann Food Pantry

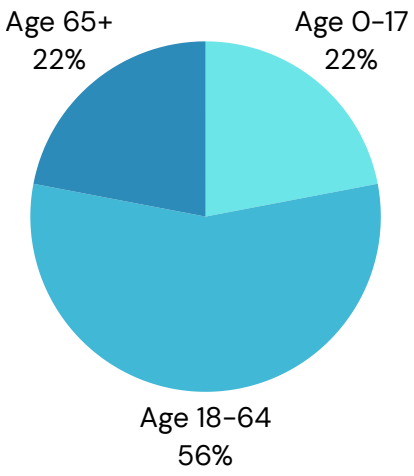
By the Numbers

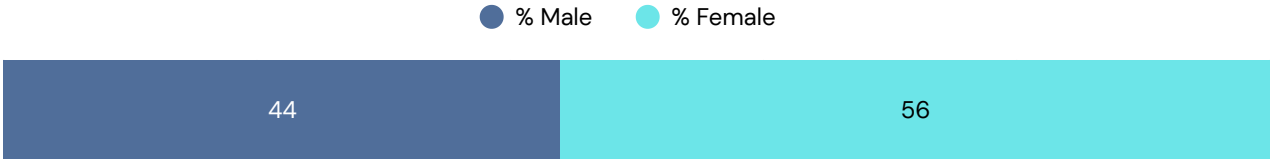
Races Served



247
New Clients

Ages Served





"I come here to get food so I can pay for my medicine." –Client

Our Community Cares

Several St. Ann Ministries are pure gifts to St. Ann Food Pantry clients and the St. Ann Community! Each Mother's Day and Father's Day, the Ladies' Guild prepares and hands out purses and/or bags filled with treats for our clients and not just food – think lotion, lip gloss, sunscreen, etc. Once every Christmas, the Ladies' Guild gifts our clients items selected with LOVE; sometimes these items are handmade by St. Ann's own By Our Hands group. This is such a wonderful way to make our clients feel special and loved. In addition, the Ladies' Guild collects money to purchase Easter hams for our food pantry clients!

And, did you know that the Knights of Columbus has a monthly donation just for the food pantry? This money is used to purchase food at the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. The Knights also collect money to purchase turkeys for our food pantry clients.

The Legion of Mary offers conversation and prayer with our clients each Friday morning. Deacon Mike and a member walk beside the vehicles in line engaging people and offering a smile to start the day.

TROOPS OF SAINT GEORGE
VIRTUS. HONOR. FRATERNITAS.

Some young hands are involved in the food pantry ministry – the Troops of St. George! Members of this troop are providing a much needed service to the Food Panty; every Sunday, troop members bring food donations to the food pantry after 7:30 am Mass.

Hoping to help? st.annfoodpantry@gmail..com 919-934-2084

History of St. Ann Food Pantry

2000
St. Ann's Business Administrator brings food for hungry visitors. Volunteer Al Varner begins working to feed the needy who come to St. Ann's door.

2001
Mr. Varner becomes the Volunteer Director of St. Ann Food Pantry. Early volunteers including Vicky Verner, Shirley Lawler, Joan Joes, Mary Lou Attayek, and Sam Weatherford pack 3-4 bags of food, purchased with parishioner donations, each week.

2007
St. Ann Food Pantry begins weekly food distributions in the Narthex. Charlie New & Cathy Penny lead many volunteers to serve 12 families per month. At this point, serving 50 clients was a "big day!"

2012
St. Ann Food Pantry is relocated to the Pastoral Trailer.

2016
St. Ann Food Pantry is relocated to the Parish Center and begins serving thousands of families.

Present
St. Ann Food Pantry, run by over 80 volunteers, is a partner agency with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC, receives food from 3 Food Lion stores as well as local farmers, businesses, parishioners, and volunteer agencies, and receives financial support from St. Ann ministries and events.



Saint Ann Food Pantry Healthy Pantry Initiative
Recent Food Tastings

As a Partner Agency with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC (FBCENC), Saint Ann Food Pantry has registered as a Healthy Pantry. Being a Healthy Pantry, Saint Ann Food Pantry is asked to provide our client neighbors with a choice of healthy and nutritious foods and teach our clients how to prepare these foods. Our goal is to do this twice per year. Saint Ann Food Pantry Volunteer, Petra, is leading the Healthy Pantry Initiative for us. Petra's goal is to provide a tasting as often as twice per month!

During April and May this year, our neighbors enjoyed a healthy Olive Oil dipping sauce for bread, while learning that olive oil is a healthier option than butter for bread. Petra also prepared Overnight Oats for tasting. Clients (and volunteers) enjoyed tasting the dipping sauce and Overnight Oats; each client was offered the recipes.

Through this experience, Petra gained insight into our client's food preferences and concerns. Many people who come to Saint Ann Food Pantry and live with chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, are eager to find financially feasible ways to change their diet without sacrificing the flavors they love. Petra also found that clients appreciated recipe cards and readily available explanations of unfamiliar ingredients, such as kefir.

In March, the FBCENC provided a Healthy Pantry training to its Partner Agency volunteers; two Saint Ann Food Pantry volunteers participated. We listened to Kenly Burchette MS, RD, LDN detail how sharing food with clients is "More Than a Meal"; each client may bring chronic illness, mobility, disease management, and more, with them to food pantries. Our "job" as a Healthy Pantry is to teach our neighbors how to prepare foods that are safe for their medical conditions as well as healthy. We also greet our neighbors with dignity and respect. During one tasting, a client shared gardening advice for herbs and flowers with us!

Saint Ann Food Pantry offers healthy food choices most weeks. Often these options are eggs, milk, kale, collard greens and locally grown vegetables. We've also shared plant-based milk products and yogurt!

Here's what we give our neighbors each month to supplement their pantries: peanut butter or tuna, 4 cans of vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, macaroni and cheese, dry beans, rice, soup and a few extras – PLUS Meat! Clients also receive fresh produce, deli and bakery items while supplies last.

Youth Volunteer

SIGN UP →

Ages 8-17

tinyurl.com/foodpantryyouth

Have any CLEAN paper and/or plastic grocery bags?

Please donate them to us!

St. Ann Food Pantry uses these to pack groceries.

Thanks!

Find Us On the Blog

To read more about the work of the St. Ann Food Pantry, visit saintannchurch.org/blog

Donor Spotlight

A Special Thanks to

- The Holding Foundation
- Saint Ann Parishioners

THANK YOU!

Donors	Pounds of Food
Food Lion	80054
InterFood Plz	1901
Panera Bread	2867
One Compassion	1666
Plant-a-Row	163
Town Market	14490
Heelside Farms	295
Parisioners	20,540
Pivot PT	1004
ALA	3568

247

Number of Kids' Bags Handed Out in 2026



Kids' Bags

All children visiting St. Ann Food Pantry, with an adult, receive a bag of 5-6 nutritious snacks!



What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like." -St. Augustine

"God loves a cheerful giver"

2 Corinthians 9:7

Thank you!

FOR YOUR SUPPORT

St. Ann Food Pantry

COMING SOON • Cost-Saving Tips • DIY Laundry Detergent • Stone Soup