

'Daily Bread' offers daily bread to 700 in its first week

Off to good start; but more help needed

Staff Report

After eight months of planning and renovations, court battles and a series of ups and downs, the Associated Catholic Charities food center, "Our Daily Bread" opened its door this week to serve Baltimore city's homeless and hungry. In just five days, it is estimated that the center will have served nearly 700 meals.

A "very tired but very happy" Sister Josanna Abromaitis, SSND, center director, could only remark at how "great" the volunteers and the "street people" were.

"Everything ran so smoothly. It was just terrific!," said the School Sister of Notre Dame.

But the long, hours of planning and organizing will not end for Sister Josanna. The center is still in need of more groups to

prepare a luncheon meal one day a month. Sixteen groups have already volunteered, but 15 to 20 more groups are needed. The center operates seven days a week, two hours a day.

The work involved in preparing and serving a luncheon meal to about 100 people one day a month "isn't very difficult or expensive" said Virginia Rugemer, a homemaker who headed the St. Mary Govans group who prepared the first meal this past Monday.

Mrs. Rugemer, who also does a great deal of volunteer work in her parish, strongly encourages church, civic, community and business groups to help.

Recipes for meals — casserole type meals — are supplied by ACC. The Govans group served corned beef casserole and applesauce.

Mrs. Rugemer had 14 of her fellow parishioners make a corned beef casserole which cost each person about \$6 to make. She along with Ann and Joe Coakley and Cheryl Smith brought the casseroles to the center, heated them and served the meal.

Also helping the Govans group and who will work in the center every day throughout the summer were two Trinitarian novices, Carl Pfeiffer and Peter DeRosa.

Also assisting for the day was Sister Marie Carmel Galligan, SSND, who is on staff at Manresa-On-Severn and Diane Moriguchi. Ms. Moriguchi read about the center in *The Catholic Review* and volunteered to work a couple days a week.

Sister Josanna said that individuals who are not part of a group but want to volunteer are also welcomed.

Persons or groups who would like to volunteer to prepare and serve a meal should call Sister Josanna at 547-5544.



Sister Josanna serves noontime meal at new ACC food outreach.

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