



Agency Spotlight

Sr. Pascal Food Pantry

If you drive by St. Patrick's Church, at 130 East 4th Street in Erie, on a Tuesday you will see a busy parking lot and many people with smiles on their faces. More than 250 households are served at Sr. Pascal Food Pantry every week and the volunteers here are committed to changing lives, one pantry client at a time.

Sr. Pascal Food Pantry (F.P.) has been a Second Harvest member agency since 1982. It is named for its founder, Sr. Mary Pascal. The food pantry will be even busier now that the weather is warming up because they will be offering other services to pantry clients. The pantry offers a clothes give away every week and free books. They also offer other services including blood pressure screenings, voter registration, tax help, as well as breakfast for clients during the winter by the Knights & Ladies of Saint Patrick. Because of space restrictions, these activities are held outside. Former Pantry Director Mike Litzinger says the little things they do are very important to their mission. "We all give out food, but the little extra things we do might improve the quality of life."

The pantry volunteers also put on a 4th of July picnic for the clients every summer. Christmas is celebrated at the pantry, too. The Sunshine Group helps the pantry put on a free Christmas Bazaar, offering decorations, wrapping paper, and stocking stuffers to the pantry clients. They also provide free Christmas presents for the children.

Sr. Pascal Food Pantry recently held an open house to show off some updates inside the pantry. A grant from the Erie Community Foundation made it possible for them to make updates and repairs to the pantry to make it safer for volunteers and clients. Thank you Sr. Pascal F.P. volunteers, for all you do to alleviate hunger in the Erie area.