

Recommended Suggestions for Hosting *Coffee & Refreshments*

Please consider this information as suggested guidelines and you are welcome to bring food/goodies you/your family enjoys. **If there is an item with nuts, please label it due to allergies.** Also please consider bringing some items that are gluten-free (such as crackers, fruit, tortilla chips, etc.) If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Jennifer Baker Howard, Parish Life & Office Manager at office@washingtonparish.org.

The church provides coffee/tea, milk, sugar and all paper products. We also have a large inventory of plates, platters, serving utensils, and knives. If you bring any containers/dishes from home, please be sure to label them with your name and take them home after coffee hour!

Please come early before the service to set up and plate up the food but leave the food in the kitchen. After you take communion, come back to the kitchen and set up the food on the table. If the food is out too early, the children (and some adults) will begin to “graze” before others arrive. The coffee will be made by volunteers, Vestry Hosts or Jennifer (when available), but you will need to put the food out on the table and re-stock as the supply is depleted during coffee hour. Clean up duties after coffee hour include: removing any leftover food, paper products, and service ware; washing any bowls, plates, utensils in the sink or dishwasher; if you are hosting after the 11am service, please bring in the coffee cups, coffee thermos, milk/sugar, and juice or water from the small, skinny table. The tablecloth should be shaken outside and put into the Rubbermaid storage totes by the white cabinet. (If the tablecloth is wet, please drape it over the totes to dry to prevent mildew.)

Recommended quantity of food is as follows:

After **9:00am** service:

- please assume we will need food for 20-30 people with breakfast-type food
- fruit (such as cut up bananas, grapes, clementines) or cut up fruit salad (melons, etc)
- breakfast pastries, cut up into smaller, bite-size pieces (coffee cake, muffins, croissants, donuts, etc.)
- Savory things such as salami, pepperoni, summer sausages and cheeses for protein with either crackers or croissants/rolls (and gluten free crackers are appreciated)
- something sweet, such as cookies, brownies
- church will provide orange juice and water

If there are any leftovers that you do not wish to take home, we are happy to set them out for the 11:00am service or store them for future use (if applicable). We have plenty of Ziploc bags available for storage.

After **11:00am** service:

- please assume we will need food for 30-40 people (and it's intended to be a light bite/snack, not to be a full lunch)
- fruit (grapes are easy; pre-cut fruit or fruit bowl)
- sweets (mini-muffins, small brownies, cookies)
- cheese and crackers (gluten free crackers are appreciated)
- chips are popular (such as pita chips or tortilla chips especially with a dip) and for the kids, Goldfish crackers
- protein of some kind (sliced meats, egg or chicken salads to be eaten on crackers)
- spreads, dips are also popular (hummus, salsa, Mexican dip, etc)
- veggie platters with a dip or spread