

ST PIUS SOUP KITCHEN – A LETTER FROM SANDY MAMOLA

Gary and I along with the soup crew will be retiring as of August 2nd. We have been blessed with this ministry for 32 years and it is time for us to go and hopefully someone to begin.

We give our thanks to the many people of this parish family who have supported us these many years. Our first meal was served to 6 people. We have served a meal for 1665 weeks and served approx. 75,000 bowls of soup. The week we began was Fr. Andy's first weeks here at St. Pius. His support in those early years was invaluable. The stove in the kitchen was bought with money we raised and a sizable contribution from Fr. Andy. We are the oldest free meal in Kootenai County. If you feel called to continue this ministry please talk to Deacon Chris. Gary and I are forever indebted to these most wonderful people who have been my right and left hand all these years: Kathy Montgomery-27 years, Gary and Meridith Gaffney-25 years, Debbie Vullus-22 years, Jenny Courtemanche-10 years, Ginger Seaman-10 years, Ed Shafner, Pete Obligato, Rita Zimmerman and the many who have passed through our kitchen for a time. I can't forget the people who provided dessert, some of them for 20+ years. Our dinner guests loved you!!

Gary and I also send our love to the many who prayed for us and our son, Jeff. Jeff passed away on May 24 from ALS. He fought as hard as he could for 4 + years. Please keep people suffering from this most evil disease in your prayers. Gary and I love this parish family with our whole being. You have carried us through some very tough times. May God abundantly bless each of you.

Shalom our Friends,
Gary and Sandy Mamola