

Sounds Good! What are the Rules?

Our Pantry is an environment of mutual respect. Along with common courtesy, please follow these simple rules:

- *There is **no smoking** anywhere on St. Philip property.*
- *Due to space limitation, we allow only one individual per family in the selection area.*
- *Except for children seated in the shopping cart seat, no children under 16 are permitted in the shopping area due to insurance regulations.*
- *Please make your selections in a timely manner so we can better serve everyone.*
- *Doors will open 1/2 hour prior to posted opening times. Please do not ask to be let in early, as we are busy preparing for all of our guests.*
- *Please park only in marked spots. Do not park in areas marked No Parking.*
- *After loading your groceries, please return the shopping cart to the front door of the Pantry.*
- *If you arrive ten minutes before we close, there may not be time for you to shop. However, we will gladly give you prepackaged bags of non-perishable foods and invite you back at your earliest convenience.*

What if I Can't Make it to the Pantry ?

If you want a friend to shop for you, please provide a written note, signed by you, authorizing a specific person to shop for you that day.

What Happens When the Weather is Bad?

As a general rule, if the Smithfield Schools are closed so is our Pantry. Please call us at 949-2949 as we will update our greeting with an announcement of our opening/closing status.

Who are the Workers?

100% of our staff are volunteers. Nobody receives a salary, a stipend/bonus, or benefits of any kind. Volunteers are associate members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and have passed mandatory background checks.

What if I Need Help with Other Bills?

Speak with our volunteers at the front desk. They may be able to assist you with utility bills, heating, rent, medical expenses, or steer you towards available resources. We can make an appointment with you in your home to assist you in finding solutions. Time demands may prevent us from assisting you during Pantry hours.

What if I Have Other Questions?

Call us at 949-2949 if you have questions or concerns. Have an idea for an improvement? Call us and let's talk.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at Saint Philip Church

620 Putnam Pike
Greenville, RI 02828
(401) 949-2949
vinnysangels@saintphilip.com



Hours:

Wednesdays: 1 PM - 3 PM
Saturdays: 9 AM - 10:30 AM

**We Serve All Residents of
the Smithfield Area in
Need of Assistance.**

All Are Welcome



Welcome!

We are glad you found us.

Our Mission is to provide you with nutritious food as a supplement to the food you purchase with your own money or SNAP benefits. You are welcome to come twice each month. We ask that you not come consecutive weeks.

Registration

We ask you to fill out a short Registration Form on your first visit. To verify your eligibility, please provide us with a picture ID, and any bill mailed to your current address. We ask to see birth certificates for any child under 18 (used primarily for our Christmas gift program). Your file is confidential, and your information is accessed only by Pantry Supervisors and is never shared.

Where Does the Food Come From?

Non-perishable foods are donated by members of the local church communities, purchased from the USDA, and purchased from the Rhode Island Community Food Bank (RICFB). Perishable foods are primarily donated by local stores (meats, breads, pastries), local farms and the RICFB (fresh fruits vegetables, dairy items).

Quantity and variety of food will change from week-to-week based on availability.

A Word About Your Meat Selections

*In the store when meat reaches the sell by date on the package, it is frozen and placed in a sub-zero freezer. We pick it up, verify its temperature and place it in our freezers set at zero degrees. Freezing the meat makes it safe to eat for one year from the date on the package. For tips on thawing and safely cooking meat, please see the binders in our waiting room. Discard any meat that has a tainted smell, color, or damaged packaging. **If in doubt, throw it out!** Return home from the Pantry and immediately place frozen foods in your freezer.*

Celebrating 25 Years 1994 - 2019

*Rhode Island Community
Food Bank Member*

When is the Best Time to Come?

We are most crowded when we first open. Plan your visit 45 minutes after we open and you will have a much shorter wait time, the same selection of foods, and enjoy bonus items we put out halfway through each session.

How Do I Shop?

We will pair you with a personal shopper who will escort you through our Pantry. While waiting your turn to shop, please fill out your meat and frozen food selections. We will bag your frozen foods for you and deliver them to your cart while you finish your shopping.

Food is displayed on shelving around the perimeter of the Pantry. Each item is color-coded on the shelf:

 1-3 Family Members

 4-6 Family Members

 7 or More Family Members

Items with white signs are available each time you visit. Items with yellow signs are sourced from the USDA and are available to you once monthly (government rules, not ours). All USDA foods are grouped on two shelving units to reduce confusion.

Posted limits on the shelf are firm and our volunteers are not permitted to make exceptions. Typically our shelves have about 50 non-perishable items for your selection. As you get ready to exit our back door, check the produce in our glass front refrigerators and displayed on the tables (inside in inclement weather and outside whenever possible).

Our facility is inspected annually by the Department of Health, the USDA, and the Rhode Island Community Food Bank.