



## **MEDIA ALERT**

**SAN DIEGO, April 15, 2024**

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### **Links:**

- [High resolution photos of Father Joe's Villages](#)

## **April 19: Father Joe's Villages' Marks Spring With BBQ, Connection and Reflection**

- *Deacon Jim Vargas, CEO of Father Joe's Villages, will lead a prayer at the beginning of the meal*
- *Media is invited for a behind-the-scenes look at meal prep with chefs and volunteers*

### **WHAT:**

On Friday, April 19, [Father Joe's Villages](#) will welcome Spring and renewal, after a wet and cold winter, alongside families and clients experiencing homelessness, with a special barbecue lunch featuring BBQ pulled chicken sandwiches, midwestern potato salad, pickled vegetables, potato chips and dessert.

Deacon Jim Vargas, CEO of Father Joe's Villages, will lead blessings at the beginning of the meal in both the dining rooms of the Paul Mirabile Center and the Joan Kroc Center.

### **WHY:**

Along with being a chance to celebrate togetherness and the reflection that the season change invites, this year's Spring meal recognizes the part all of us play in ending homelessness one life at a time, from families working with case managers to find a home of their own to local businesses offering support to keep people fed and clothed.

### **QUOTE:**

"There's no better way to celebrate this season of renewal and hope than by sharing a meal with our neighbors." **said Deacon Jim Vargas, President and CEO of Father Joe's Villages.** "For Christians, this is also the season of Easter, which invites us to transformation within our lives. May this meal be not just a chance to fill bellies but inspire connection between all of us."

### **WHEN & WHERE:**

- April 19 from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Paul Mirabile Center and Joan Kroc Center (1501 Imperial Ave., San Diego, Calif., 92101)

### **VISUALS:**

- Hundreds of people enjoying a warm meal at the Paul Mirabile Center and Joan Kroc Center dining halls



- Deacon Jim Vargas, President and CEO of Father Joe's Villages, leading the feast with a prayer

## **ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND CONTACT:**

- **Organization:** [Father Joe's Villages](#)
- **To RSVP and for Interviews:** Contact Byron Kimball, [byron@gomixte.com](mailto:byron@gomixte.com), 619-732-0789 x 297
- **Link to use in your story:**
  - [Father Joe's Villages website](#)

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## **About Father Joe's Villages**

As San Diego's largest homeless services provider, Father Joe's Villages ensures that each person can rediscover hope and leave homelessness behind. To address the complex needs of people who are homeless, the organization provides housing for more than 2,500 people each night, along with health care, substance use disorder treatment, job training, therapeutic childcare and more. This mission is made possible only through the efforts of compassionate staff, [volunteer work](#), [car donation](#), and generous public and private [charitable contributions](#). For more information, please visit: <https://my.neighbor.org/>.