

A Guide for Preparing your Bookcase Literacy Banquet meal

For over 50 years people have flocked to the small community of Center Ridge, Arkansas to enjoy an Annual Spaghetti Dinner hosted by the St. Joseph Catholic Church. This little church, with only 75 families, prepares and feeds over 2,500 people in about 6 hours time. The menu is simple, but filled with good things to eat and they serve the meal 'family-style' which embodies the spirit of what we want our bookcase project to capture in each community. We want those who partner with us to improve literacy in general, and specifically among children being reared in low-income families. What follows is their proven- menu, followed by the breakdown of each item by cost, based on feeding 400 people. Obviously, the figures can be changed based on your anticipated attendance.

Basic Menu: Spaghetti with sauce, Cole Slaw, Sauerkraut, Corn, Polish Sausage, Pickle Spears, French Bread, Home-Made Desserts, Coffee, Tea & Water.

We also purchased from the same institutional food broker, 649 individual packets of butter, and a box of 55 gallon trash bags, one wide roll of saran wrap and one wide roll of aluminum foil.

Cost

Butter 649 Individual packets	\$34.31
Pasta dry	\$ 26.90 – per case, need 2 cases – 20 # each
Spaghetti Sauce	\$ 26.89 – per case, need 4 cases
Cole Slaw Mix	\$18.62 _ per case, need 2 cases
Cole Slaw Dressing	\$39.52 _ per case, need 1 case (gallon jars)
Frozen Corn	\$16.95 _ per case, need 2 cases – 20# each
Sauerkraut	\$21.24 _ per case, need 2 cases
Pickle Spears	\$23.83 _ per 5 gallon bucket, need 2 buckets
Sausage – Petit Jean	\$ 2.49 _ per pound, need 100 lbs.
French Bread / ½ garlic	\$ 16.14 _ per case, need 3 cases (600 pieces)

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