



Join in the Church of Ascension Kairos Cookie Ministry!

Cookie Ministry: Each Kairos team member is required to bring 100 dozen home-baked cookies to the Kairos Christian renewal weekend to the prison. That adds up to 1,000 cookies per team member! We expect that over 30,000 Kairos Cookies will be distributed during that Kairos weekend.

How are so many cookies used? The cookies represent at least three truths of the Christian life:

1. God's unending grace. Cookies are everywhere in the prison. They are a physical symbol of God's grace, available to all believers (i.e. agape love)
2. The power of Christian Community. All Kairos cookies are home-baked, demonstrating that real people on the outside can see the inmates through the eyes of agape love and have prayed for the inmates while baking the cookies.
3. Availability of forgiveness. You can imagine that God's forgiveness and self-forgiveness are difficult to accept in a prison. On Saturday evening, each Kairos participant is asked to take a bag of cookies to whomever in that institution he/she considers his/her worst enemy and ask for, or grant, forgiveness.

Kairos Cookie Preparation Guidelines

The types of cookies that are generally acceptable are: Oatmeal, Peanut Butter, Molasses, Chocolate Chip, and Ginger. Homemade cookies from scratch are always a special treat, but store-bought cookie dough can be substituted if desired. However, all cookies should be "home-baked." Cookies should be between 2" and 2 ½" in diameter and not more than ½" thick.

It is very important not to use icing, sugar, or any other type of coating on the outside of the cookie. Do not add any kind of fruit or nuts to the cookies.

The Key Ingredient: PRAYER!

Pray individually or as a family over the ingredients before and during mixing.

Pray over the cookies as you drop them onto the cookie sheets and bake them.

Ask God to use your cookies as a source of His love to shine on the prisoners and staff on the Kairos weekend.

Pray that each cookie brings the inmate, officer, or warden who eats it closer to God. We want every person to become part of the family of God.

Packing the Cookies

Package the thoroughly-cooled cookies in a quart-sized zip-top bag. One dozen cookies per bag, and label each bag with the type of cookie inside.

Some Kairos Cookie Recipes

Peanut Butter

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup creamy peanut butter
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Crisco shortening
1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup firmly packed brown sugar
3 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 egg
1 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup all purpose flour
 $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon salt
 $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon baking soda

Combine peanut butter, shortening, sugar, milk, and vanilla in a large bowl and mix at medium speed until well blended. Add egg and mix well. In a separate bowl, combine flour, salt, and baking soda. Mix well. Add flour mixture to peanut butter and mix until just blended. Drop by heaping teaspoon onto ungreased cookie sheet and flatten slightly in a crisscross pattern with the times of a fork. Bake at 375 degrees for 7 to 8 minutes until set. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

Chewy Oatmeal

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter-flavor Crisco
1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup firmly packed brown sugar
1 egg
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup milk
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla
3 cups quick-cooking oats
1 cup all purpose flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking soda
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon cinnamon

Combine Crisco, brown sugar, egg, milk, and vanilla in a large bowl. Mix at medium speed until well blended. Combine oats, flour, salt, baking soda, and cinnamon in a separate bowl, mix well. Add to Crisco / sugar mixture until just blended. Drop rounded tablespoons of dough onto cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes or until lightly browned. Makes 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen cookies.

Short Cut

Buy Nestle's Ready Mix Chocolate Chip Cookie Mix in the half-gallon size and bake as directed. This will make about 13 dozen 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch cookies!

Delivery Deadline

Deliver all cookies to the Church of the Ascension in a box or bag labeled "**KAIROS Cookies**" before all Masses on Saturday, March 9 and Sunday, March 10. Thank you!