

Turkey tastes just as good at Easter as it does at Christmas, as diners found out Saturday at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room. Volunteer Larry Holthaus of Atherton helped serve the dinner.

EASTER/ Turnout was lower than anticipated

CONTINUED FROM B-1

days prior to Easter, but traditionally eat beans and tortas made from shrimp or fish instead, she explained.

"If they had the money, they probably bought fish," Torres agreed.

Andrew, a Redwood City man in his 30s, said he's been coming to the dining room regularly since he was laid off from his job as an installer in 1990, following a neck injury.

"I'm on unemployment, and it's not even enough to pay the rent," Andrew said.

"This is really a good deal," he continued. "You don't expect to get Sizzler food here, but it's always balanced, and the people who work here do a good job."

Thirty-eight volunteers worked to put on the special meal, preparing more than 80 turkeys, 120 pounds of potatoes, and 40 gallons of dressing. The meal also included gravy, vegetables, salad, bread, and a cream-puff dessert.

"It all went smoothly. Everyone said Happy Easter and thanks for the meal. It helps," said volunteer coordinator Milka Holloway.

St. Anthony's has been serving meals since it opened 17 years ago, and is the largest such dining

room between San Francisco and San Jose, according to Torres. It relies solely on donations to feed an average of 750 people a day.

Torres put out a special plea for help last week after he reported a shortage of vegetables, salad oil and mayonnaise for the holiday feast.

"People came in with actual vegetables. We now have 50 extra gallons of oil. And someone just brought in a \$100 check," Torres said.

had some sense that it's my mo
spending. I'd like them to get g
the buck.
We, of course, had plans for

ast
Torres spec
trons showe
meal beca
cks had bee
three days b
There's a pa
get their che
people in lin
run out of m
back," Torre
other reason