Roasted Cauliflower Steaks Parmesan

From the Kitchen of Stephanie Riley, Philanthropy Officer

Before I started working on the beginning of the life cycle of food at AFT, I worked in food output as a personal chef for 14 years in Washington, DC and Phoenix, AZ. In Phoenix, I spent a year doing two food segments a month on the NBC local daytime news show, Arizona Midday. I got to demonstrate how to make one of my favorite meals I make at home.

Ingredients

Steaks

- 1 large head cauliflower or 2 small heads
- 4 tbsp. olive oil
- 2 tsp. fresh rosemary, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. fresh thyme, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. fresh parsley, finely chopped
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- ½ tsp. black pepper
- 1 ¼ cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Marinara

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- ½ cup shallots, diced small
- 1 medium carrot, diced small
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- Kosher salt
- Crushed red pepper, to taste
- ½ cup red wine
- 120oz can crushed tomatoes
- 1/4 cup basil leaves, torn

Directions

- 1. Preheat the oven to 425°. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
- 2.To make marinara: In a medium saucepan, heat the olive oil over medium heat. Sauté the shallots and carrots until tender, about 5 minutes.
- 3. Add the garlic, salt, and pepper, and cook for another 30 seconds.
- 4. Pour in the red wine and reduce for 2 minutes, then add the tomatoes and basil.
- 5. Simmer over medium-low heat, partially covered with a lid, for 30-45 minutes.
- 6.Remove from heat and puree with an immersion blender or in a food processor. Season to taste.
- 7. While the marinara sauce is simmering, prepare your cauliflower by removing the leaves and trimming the stem end of the cauliflower, leaving core intact. Place the cauliflower core-side down on a work surface. Using a large knife, slice cauliflower from the top to the bottom into four ½ inch to 1-inch steaks.
- 8. Place the cauliflower steaks on the baking sheet, piecing together any cauliflower steaks that might have fallen apart; they will meld together once the marinara and cheese are added.
- 9.In a small bowl, stir together the olive oil, rosemary, thyme, parsley, salt, and pepper. Coat both sides of each cauliflower steak with herb oil.
- 10. Roast in the oven for 25 minutes, then flip each steak over, top with a generous dollop of marinara, mozzarella, and Parmesan cheeses and roast for another 20 minutes, or until cauliflower is tender and cheeses are golden.
- 11. Serve on top of the remaining marinara sauce and your favorite pasta, grain, or spaghetti

