

**Order of Malta American Association
Prison Ministry Recap of 2019 Activities**

Submitted by

Craig Gibson, Chair

American Association Prison Ministry Committee

April 2020

We are pleased to present this report of the American Association's 2019 Prison Ministry program. It is based on:

- *Information compiled by Craig Gibson, current Chair of the American Association Prison Ministry Committee, who reached out to Area Chairs to confirm active Prison Ministry programs and obtain updates;*
- *Input from Dr. Robert J. Fredericks who, up until the end of 2019, was Chair of the American Association Prison Ministry Committee.*

Within the American Association, more than 185 Order of Malta regular members and 115 Auxiliary members participate in a wide range of programs. More than 28 hands-on Prison Ministry programs take place in 13 Areas. Programs include:

- **Rehabilitation.** Rehabilitation programs include the annual distribution of 12,000 Bibles in English and 6,000 in Spanish. Similar numbers of Prayer Books and Prayer Cards are also distributed. Fifty-five thousand copies of *The Serving Brother* newsletter are widely distributed quarterly as well.
- **Visitation.** Our volunteers visit men and women in many jails and prisons, encouraging spiritual growth through attendance of religious services and Bible-study groups.
- **Pen Pal Program.** More than 50 regular Order of Malta members from the American Association take part in this program. Additionally, over 50 Auxiliary members participate.
- **Programs for Families.** These programs reach hundreds through mentoring children of the incarcerated, providing transportation for visits, wrapping and distributing Christmas gifts and assisting in various centers that support families affected by incarceration.
- **Re-entry Programs.** Re-entry programs assist hundreds of recently released individuals through mentoring; distributing resource guides of available social services for those in need; and providing housing, meals, medical support, education services and job placement in designated caring centers. Dismas Home is an example.
- **Rosary Petition.** This is a program where inmates gather together every evening to pray the Rosary using a printable card, and they recite a common Rosary petition. While the program is new, inmates at many facilities are participating.

This report would not be complete without a big thank you to **Dr. Robert J. Fredericks** for his leadership, both in starting Prison Ministry for the American Association and continuing to guide it over the past 15 years. His commitment has been central to the program's success. His legacy is one of helping countless prisoners to reconnect to Christ and of supporting the many Area Coordinators as well as regular and auxiliary members in this critical work. While Bob is stepping down as Chair, he is continuing Prison Ministry work, including providing oversight of the Bible and Prayer Book distribution program.

Area Updates

Below are 2019 highlights from many of our Area Prison Ministry Programs, based on input from our Area Coordinators.

Area	Boston
Ministry Name	Scriptural Rosary Ministry
Location	Essex County Correction Facility, Middleton, MA
Area Coordinator	Ray Bastarache, KM/Harvey Rowe, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry team meets every Wednesday throughout the year with two groups for approximately 60 minutes each. • Groups are composed of both pre-sentenced and sentenced inmates. • Our chaplain rotates the schedule, with approval from ECCF administrators, so that all blocks have access to our ministry at least twice each month.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry team will typically spend a few minutes introducing the team to the clients and, if necessary based on the number of newcomers in the chapel, provide a brief history of the origin of the Rosary. • Prayer beads and Scriptural Rosary Books are distributed to each client, and the Rosary is recited. • Clients are strongly encouraged to lead the prayers.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	2
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	150
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spiritual bond has developed between the faithful attendees and the ministry team. • Several attendees have become proactive in recruiting men from their cell block to attend the sessions. • Thought-provoking questions about faith and forgiveness are now quite common from clients
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	Whereas sentenced clients at ECCF are short-timers (Maximum sentence is 2.5 years), I believe the team has been effective in nurturing an understanding that our awesome God loves us no matter our faults, and it's never too late to turn our lives around.

Area	Boston
Ministry Name	St. Clare's House

Location	Hyannis, MA
Area Coordinator	Theresa V. Brosnan, DM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Clare's House is a six-month program for women exiting prison from Barnstable, Dartmouth and Framingham. • It is sponsored by the Fall River Diocese. • It houses from six–eight women. • They are involved in attending Mass two times a week, attending several NA and AA meetings and partnering with Gosnold, Inc. for counseling.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	Members act as volunteers to drive the women to appointments, meetings and Mass or to supervise them on the weekends in the house.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	2
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	1,000
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Bible study is provided every week, and the women share in the responsibility of running the house by cleaning, shopping and cooking. • They also volunteer at a senior luncheon at the church once a month.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The women realize that God is most important in their lives. • Next comes their recovery, and they spend every day working on that.

Area	Boston
Ministry Name	Residents Encounter Christ (R.E.C)
Location	Barnstable County Correctional Facility, Bourne, MA
Area Coordinator	Theresa V. Brosnan, DM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R.E.C. stands for Residents Encounter Christ. • Our goal is to introduce the resident candidates to the love and hope of Jesus Christ and to encourage and enable them to encounter Him in a personal way so as to change their way of life. • The mission of the R.E.C. Outreach is to help ex-residents adjust to life outside the prison and to assist with that transition.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This	We are involved in prison retreats and meetings, both in the prison and outside, when the residents leave the

Project	program.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	2
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	300
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did six retreats for the year: three for men and three for women. We followed up with meetings every Monday for the women and Tuesday for the men. • In addition, we started a REC Outreach, where the men and women are given a business card with the deacon's name and phone number, Theresa Brosnan's name and phone number, two P.O. Box numbers and an email address.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After doing a retreat, we follow up every Monday for the women and Tuesday for the men and discuss their connection to God and how this connection helps them in the prison setting and when they return to society. • Because of our Outreach program, we stay connected to those who have left the prison. This is a great support for the ex-residents.

Area	Boston
Ministry Name	Catholic Chaplaincy Program
Location	MCI Framingham and South Middlesex Correctional Center, Framingham MA
Area Coordinator	Mary Jo Kriz, DM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	Spiritual Direction and Formation
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I meet with six-to-seven different women individually for one hour each week. • We reflect on their prayer life and where they see God in their day. We work on ways to help them grow in their relationship with the Lord. • Some of the women are preparing to become fully initiated into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil, so we use a variety of materials to help them learn the faith.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of	0

Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	250
Brief Highlights for 2019	Continued spiritual care and formation.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The women are growing in their relationship with the Lord and learning how to pray and how to pray their way through difficult moments. • They are broadening their understanding of the faith and how this makes an impact on their spiritual journey. • I would like to comment on the <i>Give us this Day</i> monthly Mass publication. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Through someone's generosity, the women receive this every month at MCI/SMCC. ○ <i>Give Us This Day</i> is an essential part of their journey. ○ They are not given the opportunity for Daily Mass so this has been so helpful in their journey as they can participate by the daily readings and Mass. ○ They are so grateful. Just today one of the women I meet with quoted Ezekiel 18:31 (the verse before the Gospel today): "Cast away from you all the crimes you have committed, says the LORD, and make for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit." ○ This gave her so much hope, so thank you to whoever has made this possible.

Area	Boston
Ministry Name	Prison Ministry
Location	MCI Concord, Concord, MA
Area Coordinator	Robert Nephew, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Tuesday night from 6:10–8 20 pm, we meet with a small group, usually between 5–12 men. • We meet in the Catholic Chapel within the prison. • Our time is divided into 4 parts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We all catch-up with each other; ○ We pray the Rosary, taking turns leading the decades and stating our Intentions; ○ We read from our current spiritual book (could be a life of a Saint or the reflections of Fr. Gobe, a South American Priest); ○ Each person reads. As the reading moves in a circle, we reflect on what moved us. • Deep relationships and respect form over time.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation is encouraged at least twice monthly. • Currently, we have five volunteers, including a woman

Project	from the Lay Order of the Franciscans Nuns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional volunteers are warmly welcomed and appreciated.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	120
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We started and completed the Alpha Program. We completed a book of Marianist reflections written by Fr. Gobe. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This book was inspired by the Blessed Mother and originally intended for priests; It has now been adopted and employed in prison ministries world-wide; It took 10 years of weekly reading and reflection in Concord from start to finish.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are two. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first is the opportunity for the men to share their faith openly with each other and volunteers; The second is the consistent and frequent experience of genuine love and care from the men and women who visit from the outside. We volunteers are reminded weekly that we are included in the category of those being served.

Area	Boston
Ministry Name	Dismas Home of New Hampshire
Location	Manchester, NH
Area Coordinator	Paul Young, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dismas Home of New Hampshire (DHNH) provides formerly incarcerated women support, recovery, and re-entry services, offering them a second chance at life. Our family-like home environment offers our residents holistic care, including daily group therapies, individual psychotherapy and intensive case management. In short, we provide whatever is needed to transform our residents' lives. To that end, DHNH is a state licensed, 90-day, Low-Intensity, Residential Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Treatment and Re-entry Program. Addiction is a significant obstacle for our residents and is directly linked to underlying pain, trauma and

	<p>incarceration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dismas Home exists to successfully transition our residents back into the community to live a sober, mentally and physically health life. • Our Transitional Living Program breaks the cycle of returning to prison and helps our residents to become self-sufficient and productive citizens.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serving as Members of the Board of Directors (2). • Serving as Members of the Advisory Board (2). • Volunteering to drive residents to appointments for counseling, health care, and job interviews. • Assisting in job-interview training. • Supporting continuing education efforts. • Participating in public events with residents to educate the public about the challenges the formerly incarcerated face. • Serving Sunday dinners. • Providing personal financial support.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	6
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	2,000
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our recently departed brother, Tom Garesche, KM, received the first annual Jack McCarthy Compassion in Action Award from Dismas Home at their annual dinner in the fall. • With the help of financial support of members and an area grant, Dismas Home was able to expand their existing home and program to add two new beds. • Dismas Home was recognized by the New Hampshire Providers Association and the New Hampshire Charitable Association as one of the best recovery programs in New Hampshire.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 percent of graduates from the Dismas program have not returned to prison. The transformation of our residents is remarkable. • In the example of Christ, Dismas Home treats these previously incarcerated women with dignity and loving care. Dismas offers them a loving, home-like environment and the tools they need to change their lives. • Most of our residents struggle with addiction as a result of earlier traumas. The program heals their body, mind

	<p>and soul, providing them with health care, mental-health counseling and recovery services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The results of this comprehensive holistic program are dramatic as women come in feeling of little worth, struggling with addiction and mental and physical health issues They leave as whole individuals ready to rejoin their families and live healthy, productive lives. • The Dismas Alumni Program helps them to navigate challenges and overcome obstacles as they re-enter the community.
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Area	Boston
Ministry Name	MCI Norfolk
Location	Norfolk, MA
Area Coordinator	Chris Pilalas, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	We gather monthly on a Monday night in the prison chapel with, on average, 40–50 male inmates for Mass presided over by the prison chaplain. Following Mass we have a short program and/or the Rosary.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass • Rosary
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	8
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	180
Brief Highlights for 2019	It's pretty much the same every month as any variation would require a complex approval process.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	The men seem to enjoy the interest we take in them and like to know about what's going on outside.

Area	Connecticut-Eastern
Ministry Name	New Life Prison Ministry
Location	Old Lyme, CT
Area Coordinator	Sue Staab, DM/Thomas Moriarty, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	Assist women being released from Janet York Correctional Facility in Niantic, CT.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit women while incarcerated. • Help seek employment.

Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop good work habits. • Provide safe shelter in New London apartment. • Mentor and provide emotional support. • Drive to needed appointments. • Help secure benefits, i.e. food stamps, etc. • Manage Annual spaghetti-dinner fundraiser.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	5
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	500
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted six women to transition into community life. • Held a successful fundraiser to defray cost of housing.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women being released from prison need a safe place to live and a job. • New Life helps to provide this support. • Without it, the cycle of crime and incarceration would continue.

Area	Connecticut-Eastern
Ministry Name	Sunday Mass/Retreat
Location	Janet York Correctional Facility, Niantic, CT
Area Coordinator	Susan Staab, DM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit York Correctional each Saturday to celebrate Mass with the inmates. • Help facilitate confessions and Sacraments. • Offer retreat opportunities.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts Retreat Program • Bible Study • Sunday Mass
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	2
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	250
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass is celebrated for more than 70 women each week. • Bible study offers opportunities to enrich faith development.

Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women have the opportunity to celebrate Mass with a priest and a community of believers. • Confession is available to enrich and deepen their faith life.
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Area	Connecticut-Southern-Western-and-Northern
Ministry Name	Books Behind Bars
Location	New Canaan, CT
Area Coordinator	Jack Murray, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<p>Pick up surplus books from Connecticut Library Book Sales and deliver them to all the prisons in Connecticut.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered more than 5,000 books to 13 prisons in Connecticut and one prison in New York. • Typical delivery is 500 books. • I've been doing this for 11 years. High year was 10,000 books. • I also contact the eight Catholic chaplains to provide them with Bibles and Prayer Books.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	Liz Tamarkin has been a big help promoting Books Behind Bars.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	350
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made many new contacts because of retirements and cutbacks. • Delivered more than 5,000 books.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thousands of inmates can now fill their days productively. • Books bring a calm to the prisons.

Area	Connecticut-Southern-Western-and-Northern
Ministry Name	Prison Pen Pals
Location	Norwalk, CT
Area Coordinator	Kristy Snyder, DM/Liz Tamarkin, DM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pen pal program for writing monthly letters to incarcerated men and women. • Members are matched through the American Association Pen Pal Program, use a pen name and the

	<p>return address for the American Association Pen Pal program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through hand-written letters, this ministry provides one-on-one support, prayers and encouragement to those incarcerated, during a very difficult time in their lives. • This program was piloted in our area in September and launched to our membership in October.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members participating in this ministry write monthly letters to our pen pals after being matched through the American Association Pen Pal Ministry in MN. We follow their safety guidelines and protocols. • We also have a quarterly gathering called Pizza and Pen Pals. This evening allows the members to share personal reflections from experiences with the program, encouraging those waiting to hear from their pen pal. It also refreshes the safety reminders as related to manipulation. And members enjoy pizza and prayer together.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	16
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	36
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A highlight for our Pen Pal program was our quarterly gathering. • Members were given four sticky notes and asked to put them on the signs posted around the room that were most closely associated with how they were feeling about their pen pal experiences so far. • These words included surprised, inspired, disappointed, concerned, hopeful, relieved and puzzled. • This conversation-starter led to some really great sharing by the group that was very insightful for all of us in our new pen pal relationships.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project is very personal. • It gives encouragement to individuals in prison who are isolated and living in a very harsh environment. • It allows them to have a friend in the free world to share with and to hear about the world and common everyday things. • It lets them know they are not forgotten, that they are valued as a child of God, and it gives them hope.

Area	Florida-Naples
Ministry Name	Prison Ministry
Location	Naples/Fort Myers, Florida
Area Coordinator	Leo Stec, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	Weekly visits to the Collier County and Lee County Jail Facilities by Catholic lay ministers.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We meet with Catholic (and non-Catholic) inmates, both male and female, on a weekly basis. • Our visits include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prayer; ○ Giving of the Eucharist to all Catholic inmates that request it; ○ Distributing Malta Bibles, copies of Book of Prayers, our quarterly publication other Catholic monthly publications and rosaries; ○ Coordinating confessions for the inmates once a month with a local priest.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	4
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	200
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlike many other areas of the country, we, as Catholics, are restricted to a very rigid time frame that we are allowed to enter the jail facilities to minister to our Catholic brethren, so you will not find any remarkable highlights in this box from us. • We do the "meat and potatoes" form of prison ministry as that is all we are allowed to do.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are the Catholic Church's representatives to all Catholic inmates who wish to practice their faith while incarcerated in our local jails. • In many cases, we are the only visitors these folks have. • We follow in the footsteps of St. Paul; many of the early Jesuits of their Order; and of Christ, Himself.

Area	Florida-Southeast
Ministry Name	West Palm Beach Jail
Location	West Palm Beach
Area Coordinator	Ana Kenefick
Description of This	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit jail weekly for chapel services.

Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrate two Masses, one for men and one for women. • Hold discussion time. • Worship together. • Sing songs. <p>Religious sister originally provided opportunity to get involved.</p>
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship with both male and female inmates at Mass. • Gather before Mass for conversation and fellowship.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved In 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours For 2019	60
Brief Highlights For 2019	Although restrictions have been tightened for overall print material, more effort has been made to distribute Malta Bibles and Prayer Books.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing care and concern. • Sharing stories from life journeys. • Making heartfelt and compassionate connections.

Area	Minnesota
Ministry Name	Pen Pal Program
Location	Minnesota
Area Coordinator	Steve Hawkins, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pen Pal Program provides a secure means through which we can answer Christ's call to "... visit the incarcerated..." through written correspondence. • Applicants agree to write no fewer than one letter a month for no less than one year to an inmate assigned to them through a process that protects their identity and their location.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pen pals write no fewer than one letter per month for no less than one year to an inmate assigned to them using a pseudonym and our innocuous mail box. • This frequently provides inmates with their only connections to the outside world and to the love Christ has for each of them.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	100

Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	100
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	2,500
Brief Highlights for 2019	Hundreds of inmates isolated from the outside world find a connection that lets them know they are not forgotten but loved and have value in Christ's eye.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	Inmates who have had little or no contact with family or friends have renewed self worth, know that they aren't forgotten and once again find Christ's love for them in those who write them monthly.

Area	Minnesota
Ministry Name	Twin Cities Prison Ministry
Location	St Paul, MN
Area Coordinator	Fay Connors, AUX, TCPM Board Chair
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our mission is to foster an active and meaningful Catholic presence with those affected by incarceration in unity with all Christian Prison Ministry. • We do this by educating, informing and connecting through some of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Workshops at various parishes throughout the Archdiocese of St Paul and Minneapolis; ○ Distribution of Rosaries, Bibles & Prayer Booklets to Chaplains in the prison system; ○ FISH (Families/Friends of the Incarcerated Support & Hope) support group. Meets on a monthly basis; ○ Angel Tree. Provides presents for children of the incarcerated in conjunction with Prison Fellowship; ○ Prayer Warriors. More than 100 parishes involved in praying when we go into the prisons on retreat; ○ REC Retreats. Residents Encounter Christ three-day retreat inside of prison; ○ Birthday/seasonal Cards. Sent anonymously to inmates; ○ One-to one mentorship.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	All of the areas listed in the description.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	2

Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	2,000
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with groups of students and their parents sending Easter cards/letters to anonymous inmates. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All they see are the initial interest forms from inmates; ○ All identifying information is redacted. • Having a former felon speak to them first and then praying over the inmates. • Opening a window with the letters/cards, etc. • Seeing the amazing letters written by the students.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through our ministry, we inspire others to become involved in Prison Ministry. • We educate so that those individuals that are interested can find their initial niche. Then their relationship can grow into a deeper relationship, for example, starting out as a pen pal and then becoming a mentor. • Seeing God work in those who are giving to those who are incarcerated and in those who are incarcerated giving to those outside. The interchange with the love of God is awesome.

Area	Missouri
Ministry Name	Let's Start
Location	St. Louis, MO
Area Coordinator	Patricia Hofmeister, DM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	The mission of Let's Start is to help break the cycle of incarceration in families by working with formerly incarcerated women and their children to support recovery and reentry.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As coordinator, I attend the Tuesday-night support group for approximately 40 women. Half have been in long-term remission from drug and alcohol abuse, and half are recently out of prison and living in halfway houses. • Our members provide Malta Bibles, dental supplies, lotions, clothing and household goods every week. The third Tuesday of the month we provide dinner for the women, their children, the staff and volunteers. • Members support all fundraisers, especially the Gospel Brunch. One of our members nominated Let's Start's women's support coordinator for a St. Louis Woman of Achievement, and she won. • I am also on the approved list to take the monthly bus trips to Vandalia Correctional facility. We transport children of women in that facility as well as the children's caregivers.

Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	30
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	360
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirty members helped provide dental supplies, lotions, food, clothing and household goods weekly. • One of our Malta Dames nominated our Let's Start women's support coordinator for St. Louis Women of Achievement, and she won.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our participants have very low-self esteem and come from impoverished homes. They are constantly amazed that people who don't know them would be so generous and recognize that they are important and deserve a second chance. • Our food provides healthy meals, and our other donations provide items that help them with job interviews and an overall good feeling about themselves and their children.

Area	Missouri
Ministry Name	Criminal Justice Ministry
Location	St. Louis, MO
Area Coordinator	Mike Mooney, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malta assists the Criminal Justice Ministry in helping men with re-entry into society by furnishing them with clothing, hygiene and grooming products; backpacks; bus passes; accommodations; counseling; and job interviews. • We provide everything needed to get them back on their feet.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	Primarily financial assistance and leadership advice.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	6
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	50

Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping CJM grow from renting rooms in poor and dangerous areas to buying buildings that they can own and maintain. • Just a significantly better experience for the clients.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	It's working! Clients are becoming contributors to society, and the recidivism rate is plummeting for these men compared to those who don't receive our service.

Area	New Jersey
Ministry Name	Prison Ministry
Location	Morris County Correctional Facility, Morris Township, NJ
Area Coordinator	Robert J. Fredericks, Ph.D., GCMOb
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	We minister to Catholic inmates at Morris County Jail.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating Daily Mass. • Bringing the Eucharist. • Distributing our Catholic Bibles, Prayer Books and <i>The Serving Brother</i> newsletter.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	2
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	2
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	150
Brief Highlights for 2019	Prison ministry continues to be a vital evangelical outreach in New Jersey.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	Bringing souls back to Jesus Christ.

Area	New Jersey
Ministry Name	Prison Ministry
Location	New Jersey State Prison, Trenton, NJ
Area Coordinator	Bob Tanzola, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am the only Malta volunteer at this institution. I work under the direction of the Catholic Chaplain, Sr. Elizabeth Gnam. • This is an all male maximum-security facility housing about 2,000 inmates. • As a result, rules and hours for my visits are very restricted. I visit on Tuesday mornings from about 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My ministry is visiting the Administrative Segregation section (similar to solitary confinement) and talking briefly to the inmates through the bars or steel doors. • I also distribute Catholic reading materials and Rosaries to those who request them. • I also distribute Malta Bibles, Prayer Books and <i>The Serving Brother</i>.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	10
Brief Highlights for 2019	My contacts with the inmates do not lend themselves to having highlights.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	Demonstrates that somebody cares.

Area	New York-Nassau-Suffolk
Ministry Name	Prison Ministry
Location	Nassau County Correctional Center, East Meadow, NY
Area Coordinator	Raymond Nardo, KM (Former)
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nassau County Correctional Center is restrictive. • We are allowed to attend Mass with the inmates twice a month on Saturday morning. • We hand out Mass books and interact with the prisoners.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	Same as above.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	12
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	182
Brief Highlights for 2019	The Bishop(s) come to say Mass annually.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	The prisoners witness the support and compassion of people on the outside who are willing to devote time to them and to talk to them.

Area	Ohio
Ministry Name	Portage County Prison
Location	Ravenna, OH
Area Coordinator	Dr. John Das, KM, KHS
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each Friday, Deacon Tim DeFrance makes a telephone call to the Juvenile Portage-Geauga County Detention Center to see if any youth there are interested in attending a Roman Catholic Communion service. • If so, Dr. John Das and some student volunteers from the University Parish Newman Center at Kent State University are contacted by Deacon Tim DeFrance to see if they are available. • Those who are free meet at the Juvenile Portage-Geauga County Detention Center, where they setup and participate in the Communion service for the youth.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the Communion service that we hold for the youth at the Juvenile Portage-Geauga County Detention Center, I, along with students from the Newman Center at Kent State University, relay a message to the youth based on the day's Liturgical readings. • In addition, I provide the inmates with SMOM Bibles and Prayer Books, along with a Catholic devotional with daily readings.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	20
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both students from the University Parish Newman Center at Kent State University, as well as I myself, benefit from being able to work with the youth at the Juvenile Portage-Geauga County Detention Center. • It is a privilege to be able to make an impact on the lives of those youth through participating in the Liturgy with them.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	The biggest impact of this project is to see people who are struggling find hope in the Catholic Christian faith as a result of the Liturgy that we hold for them as well as the resources that we provide to them.

Area	Pennsylvania-Scranton
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Ministry Name	Prison Ministry
Location	Lackawanna County Prison (LCP), Scranton, PA
Area Coordinator	Grace Dawgert, DM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grace Dawgert has a weekly writing and discussion group for women. We read and write poetry and stories and discuss current events and women's issues. The class meets for 90 minutes every week. • Paperback books are collected for the bookmobile project at LCP. The jail does not have a dedicated library so books are brought to the blocks. The local prison society instituted the program two years ago. Grace Dawgert is a substitute in this program. • Anne Hawk provides Rosaries and Rosary Booklets to the Catholic Chaplain. • Approximately 200 Malta Bibles and Prayer Books were given to the inmates last year. • Grace has been attending monthly prison board meetings as an observer.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members collect and bring books to our regular meetings for distribution to the inmates. • Please see the description box for more information about the programs.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	12
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	225
Brief Highlights for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the women sent their work to the PEN prison Writing competition. • The Bibles and Rosary items were well received. • The book carts have been a hit with the men and women. Most people take the three-book limit. They also like interacting with the "book ladies." It's someone new to talk with.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The writing class enables the inmates to be creative, express their opinions and develop a sense of achievement. • The book program is a big hit because there is nothing to do on the block, and the books provide hours of positive diversion.

Area	Texas-Houston
Ministry Name	Prison Ministry

Location	Houston, TX
Area Coordinator	Peter Gandolfo, KM
Description of This Prison Ministry Project	Correctional Ministries for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston serving 10 county jails in the Archdiocese.
Activities That Members Are Involved in for This Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided 10 cases of Malta Bibles and five cases of Malta Prayer Books. • Provided a grant check in the Amount of \$2,428 for improvements to the Kolbe Halfway House for men.
Estimated Number of Regular Members Involved in 2019	1
Estimated Number of Auxiliary Members Involved in 2019	0
Estimated Number of Service Hours for 2019	25
Brief Highlights for 2019	The retirement of Father Ron Cloutier, Director of Correctional Ministries for over 30 years, at the end of 2019.
Biggest Impact of This Project on Those Being Served	The concrete encouragement and support to the chaplains in the work of their ministry.