

## **Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland Prison/Jail Ministry: Training Guidelines and Resources**

To help form and support parishioners for prison/jail ministry please consider utilizing the following national and local resources. While each correctional facility is different and requires specific training and protocols, these resources help provide a foundation for those involved in the ministry. For additional information as well as to connect with other groups throughout the diocese and nationally, please contact Catholic Charities Parish Social Ministry: [psm@ccmaine.org](mailto:psm@ccmaine.org) or 207-781-8550.

### **National Guidelines:**

- **Dismas Ministry:** *Messengers of Hope: A Catholic Correctional Training Resource* This resource, used by several dioceses for training their volunteers, provides practical information and advice for those who are training others or for those who are on their own but need to prepare themselves for outreach to inmates. Materials can be ordered at:  
<https://dismasministry.org/product/messengers-of-hope/>

### **National Resources:**

- **Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice** A statement of the Catholic Bishops of the United States:  
<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/criminal-justice-restorative-justice/crime-and-criminal-justice.cfm>
- The **Catholic Prison Ministries Coalition (CPMC):** Works on recruiting, training, supporting and empowering those in the ministry. They also provide forums and opportunities for the sharing of resources and practices. More information, including previously recorded webinars, can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catholic-education/catholic-prison-ministries-coalition-cpmc.cfm> or by emailing [catholicpmc@gmail.com](mailto:catholicpmc@gmail.com).
- **Dismas Ministry:** Compilation of national resources can be found at <https://dismasministry.org/resource-links/>
- **American Corrections Chaplain Association:** <https://www.correctionalchaplains.org/>

### **Local Resources:**

- Clergy: Helps with logistics of the ministry, providing the Sacraments, etc.
- Parish or Facility Prison Ministry Group: Provides support, coordinate visits, sharing of ideas and materials, etc.
- Correctional Facility: Provides protocol while at the facility.
- **Maine Prison Re-Entry Network (MPRN):** Collection of statewide groups and organizations. Contact Bruce Noddin for more information: [brunoskis317@gmail.com](mailto:brunoskis317@gmail.com)

- **The Order of Malta:** Bibles and prayer books can be provided by contacting Earle Rugg at [erugg@ruralhealthit.com](mailto:erugg@ruralhealthit.com)
- **Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition:** Advocacy for ethical, positive and human changes in Maine's prison system
- **Maine Inside Out:** Out artists facilitate the creation of original theater to engage the community in dialogue about issues related to incarceration.
- **Maine Works:** MaineWorks is an employment company with a social mission: to dignify the experience for people who face real barriers to workforce reentry, including people recovering from substance use disorder and people with felony convictions.
- **The Transformation Project:** To see Jesus Christ transform lives and better our communities by providing reentry opportunities for young people.
- **Prisoner's Assistance Clinic:** part of Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic at USM Law School
- **Rose's Room:** Support group for family and friends of incarcerated loved ones. Contact: [rosesroom2018@gmail.com](mailto:rosesroom2018@gmail.com) or on Facebook at Rose's Room
- **Hope Rising:** Caring, Healing, Rebuilding A program for survivors of human trafficking <https://couragelivesme.org/>
- **Kairos Maine:** Kairos is a Christian, lay-led, ecumenical ministry for Maine State Prison for those inside and families on the outside. <http://kairosomaine.org/>
- **My Sister's Keeper (MSK):** A ministry providing mentors for women transitioning from incarceration to community. 207 799-8396. [Mysisterskeeper@ceumc.org](mailto:Mysisterskeeper@ceumc.org)

### **Ongoing Training and Formation Topics for Local Ministries:**

- Mental Health: Consider contacting Mental Health First Aid: <https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/>
- Substance Abuse: Consider contacting a local Recovery Coach program: <https://www.maineallianceforaddictionrecovery.org/>
- Recruitment of Volunteers
- Simulation Experience with Scenarios
- Connecting Faith and Service through Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching: Consider contacting Parish Social Ministry, [psm@ccmaine.org](mailto:psm@ccmaine.org)
- Domestic Violence: Consider contacting a local Domestic Violence Project: <https://www.mcedv.org/get-help/>
- Connecting with Other Faith Denominations Involved in the Ministry
- Impact on Family Members: Consider contacting Rose's Room through MPRN and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE): <http://maineaces.org/index.html>

### **Printed Resources**

- Life After Prison: Insights from Ex-Prisoners
- Catholic Prison Ministry; John A. Coleman; America; 02/04/2014
- Best Resumes & Letters for Ex-Offenders by Enelow and Krannich
- AmericanGulag, Inside U.S. Immigration Prisons, Mark Dow, University of California Press, 2004
- Chaplains to the Imprisoned: Sharing Life with the Incarcerated, Rev. Richard Dennis Shaw, Haworth Press, 1995
- Christian Faith and Criminal Justice: Toward a Christian Response to Crime and Punishment, Gerald Austin McHugh, Paulist Press, 1978
- The Church of the Second Chance, A Faith-Based Approach to Prison Reform, Jens Soering, Lantern Books, 2008
- Convict Christ, What the Gospel Says about Criminal Justice, Jens Soering, Orbis Press, 2006
- Counseling Criminal Justice Offenders, Ruth E. Masters, Sage Publications, 1994
- The Crime of Punishment, Karl Menninger, MD, Viking Press, 1969
- Dead Man Walking, Sr. Helen Prejean, CSJ, Vintage Books, 1993
- Death of Innocents: An Eyewitness Account of Wrongful Executions, Sr. Helen Prejean, CSJ, Vintage Books, 2005
- Doing Time: Finding Hope at San Quentin, Dennis Burke, Paulist Press, 2008
- Inside the Fence, A Handbook for Those in Prison Ministry, Rev. David M. Schilder, Alba House, 1999
- Ministry to the Incarcerated, Henry G. Covert, Loyola Press, 1995
- Prayers for Prisoners, Ann Ball and Maximillian, SFO, Out Sunday Visitor, 2002
- Prison Ministry: Hope Behind the Wall, Dennis Pierce, Haworth Press, 2006
- Prison Ministry: Understanding Prison Culture Inside and Out, Lennie Spitale, Broadman & Holamn, 2002
- Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice, USCCB, 2000
- Spiritual Survival Guide for Prison and Beyond, Fred Nelson, Under the Door, Parkridge IL, 2012
- The Spirit Set Me Free: True Stories of Faith by Prisoners, Frederick A. Hermann, Paulist Press, 2004
- Thinking About Jail and Prison Ministries: Guide for the Lay Leaders, Larry Nielsen, FBC Publications, 2005
- When Prisoners Return: Why We Should Care and How You and Your Church Can Help, Pat Noaln, Prison Fellowship 2004
- Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass, USCCB Publishing
- Holy Communion Outside of Mass (Leaflet, Liturgical Press)

#### **Audio-Visual Resources:**

- Beyond Conviction (exploring restorative justice) DVD, [www.cinemaguild.com](http://www.cinemaguild.com)

#### **National Victim Resources**

- **Victim Information and Notification (VINE)** [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com) 24-hour hotline connects victims to offender information.
- **Dept. of justice, Office for Victims of Crime** [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc) U.S.: programs that benefit victims of crime.

- **National Center for Victims of Crime** [www.victimsofcrime.org](http://www.victimsofcrime.org): advocate for crime victims; works with organizations and agencies serving victims of crime.
- **National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children** [www.pomc.com](http://www.pomc.com): provides grief support to parents and other survivors; helps deal with criminal justice system.
- **Concerns of Police Survivors** [www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org](http://www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org): Nation-wide organization assisting survivors of law enforcement officials killed in the line of duty.
- **National Organization for Victim Assistance** 1 (800) 879-6682

### **Other Re-entry/Aftercare Resources**

- **Prison Fellowship** [www.prisonfellowship.org](http://www.prisonfellowship.org): re-entry information and support
- **Broken Yoke** [www.brokennyoke.org](http://www.brokennyoke.org):msupport for sex-offenders

### **Links for Related Information**

#### **Correctional Links:**

[www.corrections.com](http://www.corrections.com)

[www.ojp.gov](http://www.ojp.gov)

#### **Death Penalty Links:**

[www.catholicismobilizing.org](http://www.catholicismobilizing.org)

[www.amnestyusa.org/issues/death-penalty](http://www.amnestyusa.org/issues/death-penalty)

[www.ncadp.org](http://www.ncadp.org)

#### **Catholic Links;**

[www.catholicity.org/links](http://www.catholicity.org/links)

[www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org)

[Message of His Holiness John Paul II for the Jubilee in Prisons, Vatican, 9 July 2000](#)

#### **Restorative Justice Links:**

[www.restorativejustice.org](http://www.restorativejustice.org)

[www.curenational.org](http://www.curenational.org) (criminal justice advocacy)

<https://www.skyhorsepublishing.com/search-results/?keyword=book+series+on+restorative+justice>

[www.jrji.org](http://www.jrji.org) (Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative)

#### **Prison Ministry Links:**

<https://www.nacc.org/resources/specialty-care-resources/prison-ministry/>

[www.prisonfellowship.org](http://www.prisonfellowship.org)

[www.kairosprisonministry.org](http://www.kairosprisonministry.org)

[www.mykairos.org](http://www.mykairos.org)

[www.pemdc.org](http://www.pemdc.org)