

# Paulist Prison Ministries

## What we do & what we do not do...

Paulist Prison Ministries is an outreach of Paulist Evangelization Ministries. Our mission is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those in prison. We also seek to help prisoners understand what the Catholic Church teaches and how people can live out that teaching in their daily lives.

We fulfill this mission primarily in these ways as funds allow:

1. We publish and distribute the newsletter *Let's Talk!* and its Spanish translation *¡Hablemos!* We provide these newsletters in quantity to prison chaplains and volunteers. At the present time we send 15 copies of Let's Talk and 10 copies of Hablemos. Chaplains must contact us to receive them. We also send single copies to prisoners who request them.
2. We provide Catholic Bibles (**New American Bible only**) in quantity to chaplains and volunteers, and to individual prisoners when requested and when the funds allow. We have bibles in English and Spanish.
3. We help prisoners learn about the faith through *Invitation. The Search for God, Self and Church*. This Catholic learning guide for adults, offered in English and Spanish, is in an easy-to-read question and answer format. It is tied closely to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. We provide the book *Invitation* but **we do not provide the Catechism book** itself to chaplains, volunteers, and individual prisoners.
4. As we believe profoundly in prayer, we sponsor a *National Prison Prayer Crusade* which enlists thousands to pray for prisoners, their families, the victims of crime, their families, those who guard those who legislate and judge, and those who minister to prisoners. This is accomplished by our prayer card entitled **Prayer for Justice and Mercy**, our prayer leaflet **Catholic Prayers for Everyday** and our newest addition is **The Book of Catholic Prayer for Everyday**. This prayer book can help individuals to begin a regular life of prayer. Based on a month cycle of prayers, using prayer resources familiar to many Catholics. The prayer book helps to center you away from the negativity of your environment. This prayer book can provide a basis to call Catholic people to a needed way of life. Easy to use by individuals and groups.
5. New Pamphlet Series – 1<sup>st</sup> one is **'Follow Me: Conversion & Commitment to Christ'**. Learn more about Conversion, Discipleship and your personal Commitment to Christ.  
**New Pamphlet Series – In Touch with God's Word: How to Read the Bible.**

Paulist Prison Ministries supplies Catholic religious material to nearly 580 prisons and jails in the U.S., out of the approximately 4,500 in the country. We raise the funds and seek grants to make this possible. The availability of this material depends on the generosity of private individuals and foundations. We are audited as part of the Paulist Evangelization Ministries and take our stewardship seriously. We spend the funds we receive to share the faith given to us by Jesus Christ.

We often receive requests for many things beyond our budget and other resources. We want to let you know what we do not do, in order to avoid disappointment and any false expectations. **Here are things we do not do:** We do not provide Catechisms, calendars, stamps, gifts, books, rosaries, pen-pal correspondence, parole pleas, or post-parole care, nor do we send money, or contact family/friends or others on the outside. We hope you appreciate the service we do provide, and are understanding about what we do not do.