

Why get involved?

Our faith stands firmly that NO ONE should be discarded – each of us are created in the image and likeness of God, and Jesus' saving death for us means that redemption from the effects of sin is possible.

Whether in the Federal Prisons, Provincial Institutions or in the Community, Prison Ministry seeks to mediate God's healing and restorative touch to all who are touched by crime.

*"Remember the prisoners,
as though imprisoned
with them"*

Hebrews 13:3

Many of us have given food to the hungry, clothing to those in need and responded to the other beatitudes, but most of us have had little opportunity to respond to the words "when I was in prison, you visited me" (Matthew 25:36).

If you would like to volunteer,
please contact:

Maureen Donegan

604.791.1864

mdonegan@rcav.org

or

Germaine Solaiman

604.307.8481

gsolaiman@rcav.org

*To learn more about CCJS
Prison Ministry in the
Archdiocese of Vancouver, visit*

<http://rcav.org/prison-ministry/>

2014



**Prison
Ministry**

Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of Vancouver

CATHOLIC CHARITIES JUSTICE SERVICES

There are 8 Federal and 5 Provincial Institutions in our Archdiocese of Vancouver. Approximately 25% of the inmates in these facilities are Catholic and members of our faith community. Catholic Charities Justice Services (CCJS) coordinates the efforts of over 150 volunteers who are often guided by Catholic Chaplains within the prisons, but at other times are the only Catholic presence in any particular facility or correctional setting. These are our brothers and sisters in Christ, and they are in need of our presence.

I WAS IN PRISON
AND YOU CAME TO
VISIT ME MATTHEW
25:36b



The Prison Ministry can take many forms: visiting inmates in prisons, supporting released offenders directly or indirectly with re-integration, and providing outreach to families and victims impacted by crime.

Who Qualifies for Prison Ministry?

- Anyone who sees God in those he or she encounters
- Anyone with an open, non-judgmental attitude and spirituality
- Anyone who is seeking to offer the unconditional love, forgiveness and justice of the Risen Lord to prisoners in word, prayer and action
- Anyone who is willing to share one's own gifts
- Anyone who wishes to participate in the Archdiocese's vision and purpose of its Prison Ministry

How to Answer the Call

- Minister to inmates through participation in Chaplaincy programs, including Catholic Chapel Services, Liturgy, Taize Prayer, Bible Study, RCIA, Alpha, Book Club, Houses of Healing, and many others
- Join in our Community Groups to assist released offenders by providing support, accountability and friendship to those most in need
- Help to raise awareness and educate the members of our communities about the role and importance of Prison Ministry in the life of the Christian community
- Become someone who prays on a regular basis for victims of crime, prisoners, released offenders, and for their families