

Visit The Imprisoned

Matthew 25:36 Jesus said, “ I was in prison and you came to me”.

In the time of the early Christians many of them were outlaws, and it was expected that many of them would probably be put in prison for trying to spread the Faith. The Christians would visit their imprisoned friends and give them food, solace, and encouragement to keep up a good fight. Today, it is much more difficult to visit people in an actual prison, due to security measures, but we can still assist these people and their families in many ways.

How do we show mercy for the Imprisoned?

- Visit a person that is in jail or prison. (You could possibly accompany Fr. Ray on one of his visits.)
Phone: 938-9214
- Give someone a chance after they have been released.
- Make dedicated time to specifically pray for them and their family.
- Pray to St. Maximilian Kolbe, one of the patron saints of the imprisoned.
- Give emotional support to their families, especially the children.
- Donate Bibles or religious books to a prison.
- Help with Mass or Communion service at a prison.
- Mentor a teen at a juvenile correction center.
- Write letters or become a pen pal with a prisoner.
- Support any legislation that provides for the humane treatment of prisoners.
- Support job training and educational programs designed to rehabilitate prisoners.

Local Facilities:

Pugsley Correctional Facility
7401 East Walton Rd.
Kingsley, MI 49649
Contact Fr. Ray: 938-9214

Grand Traverse County Correctional Facility
320 Washington Street
Traverse City, MI 49684
Contact Deacon Tom Bousamra at St. Francis:
947-4620 or Mike Srdjac (Parishioner): 938-9214

How do we show mercy for other common types of Imprisonment?

- If a neighbor or individual is confined to their house due to health problems or age, stop by and visit with them to give them hope.
- People confined to a nursing care facility, bring them a small gift and spend some time visiting and make them feel wanted and loved. A visit from someone unexpected would bring a twinkle back in their eye. (Facilities such as Grand Traverse Pavilions, French Manor, Tendercare, Bortz Health Care, Hope Village, Cherry Hill Haven, or any other care facility.)
- People, who feel trapped at a dead end in their life, have a one on one conversation with them or give them a chance to change. (Facility such as Goodwill Inn)
- How about individuals who are imprisoned by addictions of alcohol, drugs, or some other addiction, we can show them compassion and love to assist them with breaking out of their stronghold by getting them the proper counseling or rehabilitation.

In all these imprisoned situations, we need to approach these people with the love of Jesus in our hearts to give them hope and aspiration so they are able to pass that same love along to another individual in need.

**** For More information or resources go to the Christ The King Parish website at www.christkingchurch.org.**