



**PJM Newsletter**

**March/April 2019**

## Update Letter

Dear PJM volunteers and friends,

I pray this finds you happy, well and warm! This winter has brought many storms, warnings and closings. I hope you made it through our wild weather and Polar Vortex safely. As many of you know, our prison facilities never close. The facilities may cancel services due to low staff, a power outage, or when they are on lockdown, but they will not close due to inclement weather conditions. However, if you do not feel safe or comfortable driving during poor weather conditions, please stay home and stay safe. If you decide to stay home, please contact me and I will inform the appropriate chaplain to cancel the service.

It was wonderful to see many of you at our 2nd Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Monday, Feb. 11. More than 70 volunteers and friends of the ministry attended. Volunteers from each of our five teams were present including Father Lou Anderson, Father Mel Fox, Father Joachim Lally, Chaplain Lloyd Scharer from MTU, Chaplain Danny Peeples from Muskegon County Jail and Chaplain Todd Krysheld from Ottawa County Jail. Also in attendance was Officer Dan Myers with the GRPD. Officer Myers has been instrumental in the development and implementation of our new reentry outreach ministry GROW (Guiding Returning Citizens to Our World). Three of our five GROW members attended the dinner with their GROW volunteer as well. The evening began with a ministry update. During this update, I was honored to present Lifetime Achievement Awards to 12 volunteers who have served the ministry for more than 20 years. Guest speaker and program volunteer, Father Joachim Lally, then spoke to our volunteers on the Spirituality of Mission, which he believes is contained in John 17:21: "That All May Be One." Father Lally discussed the universality of our common mission to bring about "oneness," the obstacles to being faithful to our vocation to be "oneness builders," and the cost of being faithful to the true spirituality of mission as "Oneness." The evening was filled with food, fellowship and prayer. We are grateful to you, who faithfully serve this ministry. Through your faithful dedication, we are able to offer 44 weekly services. Thank you!

Those who volunteer in prison are aware that the MDOC no longer requires us to complete a manifest. Some facilities still require that we write the items being brought in on our paper ID, while others do not. Although this policy change shortens the processing time, it can also leave the volunteer more vulnerable. At no time may a volunteer leave anything in the facility, except for the consumed hosts. What you bring in, must be brought out. If the volunteer is found to have left something with the men, the department will no longer allow them to serve in their facilities. If you have any further questions regarding this or the recent policy change, please contact me.

Tuesday, Feb. 19 we held two Informational Sessions at Cathedral Square Center. Those who attended these sessions are now completing diocesan and facility paperwork and discerning what facility they are being called to serve in. Please keep these individuals in your prayers as they begin their journey serving the incarcerated.

Are you interested in helping educate your parish community on reentry? Consider hosting our Why Welcome All? Panel Discussion. This panel includes a returned citizen, a prison reentry and parole liaison officer, and the coordinator for Offenders Success for the Michigan Department of Corrections. For more information, please contact our office.

In our January/February newsletter we listed the parishes that participated in our Annual Christmas Drive. However, we did not include the following parishes:

- [Our Lady of the Lake, Holland](#)
- [St. Francis de Sales, Holland](#)
- [St. Patrick - St. Anthony, Spring Lake](#)

These parishes helped collect thousands of items for our drive including socks, toiletries and reading glasses. We apologize for the oversight and would like to thank them for all their efforts to make this drive successful year after year.

As stated in a previous email, the Diocese of Grand Rapids has a new website! Please visit our new site at [GRdiocese.org](http://GRdiocese.org) and let us know your thoughts. We are hopeful that this new site, which is mobile-optimized, will provide many new ways to evangelize throughout West Michigan. Please note that as part of this transition my email has been updated to [tworrell@grdiocese.org](mailto:tworrell@grdiocese.org) and our program assistant, Elizabeth Klein's has been updated to [eklein@grdiocese.org](mailto:eklein@grdiocese.org). Please begin using these email addresses immediately. Thank you!

Please remember to read this newsletter completely. There is important information and resources included in the team updates and newsletter inserts. Thank you!

Peace,  
Tricia



## ***2nd Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner - Monday, Feb. 12***

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### **Team Schedules**

#### **Carson City Team**

[Carson City East and West](#)

#### **Ionia Team**

[Bellamy Creek \(IBC\)](#)

[Richard A. Handlon \(MTU\)](#)

[Michigan Reformatory \(RMI\)](#)

#### **Kent County Team**

[Kent County Jail Communion Service](#)

[Kent County Jail Bible Study](#)

[Kent County Juvy](#)

## Muskegon Team

[EC Brooks \(LRF\)](#)

[Muskegon Correctional \(MCF\)](#)

[Muskegon County Jail](#)

## Newaygo Team

[Newaygo County Jail](#)

## Ottawa County Team

[Ottawa County Jail](#)

[Ottawa County Juvy](#)

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## Resources for Juvenile Detention Centers



[Catholic Icing Website](#)

[Jesus' friends hear that Jesus is God's Son](#)

[Jesus tells about a patient father](#)

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## Carson City Team

We still have not received information on a new chaplain. Gerald Erskine continues to serve as the acting Chaplain. Please introduce yourself and welcome Mr. Erskine when you see him.

[Carson City Team Contact List](#)

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## Ionia Team

We now have enough men requesting Catholic Services for Level I, also known as the Dorm. It has been a few years now since we have held services for Level 1.

This will be a Communion Service followed by a Bible Study and will be from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm on Sundays. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would be willing to rotate in once a month for this service.

On Wednesday, June 26, Bishop Walkowiak will visit Bellamy Creek to celebrate Mass and hear confessions for the men in Level II, Level IV and the Protective Unit. Those who volunteer at Bellamy look for more information soon regarding this visit.

[Ionia Team Contact List](#)

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## Kent County Team

As a reminder, please stay on track when leading a Communion Service. If you are scheduled for two services back to back it is important to keep in mind the time that it takes to walk from one section to the other.

We would like to welcome back Eugene "Gene" Zimmer to this ministry. Gene has been a part of this ministry for many years and is excited to begin serving Kent County Jail again. If you see him at the jail please say hello and introduce yourself!

### Kent County Team Contact List

*Below is the Kent County Bible Request Form. Use this when an inmate lets you know they have a release date and would like a Bible. Have them fill this out and we will mail a Bible directly to their home address.*

#### [Kent County Bible Request Form](#)

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## Muskegon Team

Hope College has recently launched a program similar to the Calvin Prison Initiative at Muskegon Correctional (MCF). They are currently in the selection phase. There were 60 men that expressed interest in their first course. The warden's staff trimmed that to 35. Those 35 are currently writing essays from which Hope will select 20 for the first class. They hope to begin classes on March 4. Please keep all those involved in this initiative in your prayers.

Chaplain Burrel at EC Brooks is on administrative leave until May. During this time, Sharon Haner will be the acting chaplain. Sharon worked with programs at MCF for many years as well as a victim advocate prior to her service at MCF. When you see Sharon, please welcome her and introduce yourself. We are grateful to have this opportunity to serve with her.

The Level II Bible Study at Brooks will begin studying the Gospel of Luke. All volunteers and men should have received their study material. If you have any questions or have not received your materials, please contact our office.

### Muskegon County Team Contact List

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## Newaygo Team

Please welcome Larry Yachcik to the Newaygo County Team! Larry attended our Informational Session on Feb. 19. His paperwork is being processed and he will begin serving soon!

### Newaygo Team Contact List

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## Ottawa Team

A couple of individuals who attended our Informational Session on Feb. 19 would like to serve Ottawa County and are completing paperwork for both the Ottawa County Jail and Juvy. Please keep these individuals in your prayers as they complete this process.

## **Ottawa County Team Contact List**

*Below is the Ottawa County Bible Request Form. Use this when an inmate lets you know they have a release date and would like a Bible. Have them fill this out and we will mail a Bible directly to their home address.*

### **Ottawa County Bible Request Form**

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## **Communion Service Sheets**

### **March**

**[3-3-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-3-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-10-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-10-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-17-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-17-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-24-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-24-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-31-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[3-31-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

### **April**

**[4-7-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-7-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-14-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-14-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-18-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-18-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-21-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-21-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-28-19 English Communion Service Sheet](#)**

**[4-28-19 Spanish Communion Service Sheet](#)**

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## **Newsletter Inserts**

**[A Blueprint for the Common Good](#)**

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***Need help with your reflection time?  
Check out the websites below***

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

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

[www.homilies.net](http://www.homilies.net)

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

PJM YouTube Channel

Prison and Jail Ministry Diocese of Grand Rapids Facebook