



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Diocese of Palm Beach, Inc.

PRISON MINISTRY

providing help • creating hope

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Dear Prison Ministers,

June 26, 2019

In reviewing my last quarterly report to you, I can see that I asked you for the following:

- 12 Spanish speaking prison ministers for a new ministry to teenage girls who have been residing at the border, but will be relocated to Lake Worth...we received 15, with four priests and 11 lay persons
- If you wanted clear durable plastic bags for carting materials to the incarcerated...many accepted that offer and to get Catechisms and missalettes too
- Burial services for the incarcerated...one inmate is interested
- Volunteers to assist Vinessa Morgan and myself a few hours a month in the office...we got someone

There is more good news. Rev. Gabriel Ghanoum, PsyD., would like to journey with us every couple of months in a support setting to go through the Compassion Cycle: Moving from Compassion Satisfaction, Through Compassion Fatigue, To Compassion Resilience. All of us have been weighed down by our interactions in this ministry. For example, an insensitive officer, poor environment and the inhumanity we have allowed our senses to experience. What we need to do in order to lift ourselves from such memories is to employ strategies and techniques to boost our inner resources. As Certified Chaplain, Fr. Ghanoum can help us. In the coming weeks the Office of Prison Ministry will put out a questionnaire to all of you via email to determine an appropriate time and place to meet. Fr. Ghanoum suggested we meet three times a year in the southern part of the diocese and three times in the northern part of the diocese. We could all benefit in meetings such as these.

While we are blessed to have an exceptional cadre of prison ministers, we could always employ more. I am asking you to speak with your pastor to allow me to preach at all the Masses in your parish about recruiting for prison ministry. If need be, I can produce a letter from the Bishop's Office, that endorses my request to preach on behalf of the ministry. All pastor's in the diocese saw this letter three years ago. However, we can do more to add to our ranks for the glory of God. I have already preached in the following parishes:

**St. John Fisher, St. Bernadette, Sacred Heart (Okeechobee), St. Lucie, St. Sebastian
...God Willing will preach on 6/29 – 30 at St. Peter and St. Vincent Ferrer 9/7 – 9/8.**

Again, please let me know if your pastor is open to the idea, if so, I will call him. Be sure to tell him that I do not ask for money! Instead, I want people like you.

A special acknowledgement to my boss Frankie Chevere, Executive Director for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Palm Beach, Inc., who has authorized Vinessa Morgan to be our assistant in prison ministry on a full-time basis starting July 1st. Congratulations Vinessa and thank you, Frankie (a PBSO prison minister).

In Christ,

Dcn. Gregory C. Quinn, M.A.
Director of Prison Ministry

