

St. Dismas Guild
P.O. Box 2129
Escondido, CA 92033

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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San Diego, CA
Permit No. 2114



St. Dismas Guild ~ Prison Ministry

“Lord, when did I see you ...in prison, and not help you?” Matt. 25:44

St. Dismas Guild is a nonprofit organization which provides Catholic Bibles and Bible Studies, free of charge, to inmates.

Donations can be made on our website www.StDismasGuild.org or by mail, PO Box 2129, Escondido, CA, 92033.

Please be a partner and sponsor an inmate each month.

October 2020

TESTIMONY

Dear St Dismas Guild, early in August my life changed. I have been living without God in my life, the world has its things in me for so long. A year ago, my mother passed away while I was locked up. While I have been locked up I’ve lost so many things; my family, my kids were adopted to people I don’t know, but the good Lord put them in good homes, I know that now. My wife left me and all I had was my mother and then she died. I gave up and started doing drugs I’ve never done on the street before.

Well, in early August I died, No Really, I DIED of a heroin overdose, but this is also the day **I was Reborn in Christ Jesus**. They were able to bring me back...

I’ve seen much of them and now I’ve vowed to never touch drugs again, unless they are prescribed by a doctor.

When I was in the infirmary I fell to my knees and prayed for the first time in a very long time and I gave my very being over to our heavenly father, God and His son our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I also thank God every day that my celly and friend also survived too as well as the correctional officer that fell out searching my cell for, he got hit with dust from when he moved my mat.

This is my testimony! **Drugs kill, say No to it and turn your life over to God through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior!**

Please send me a Bible, Bible Study workbook and a simple Catechism to study and any religious materials that you have on hand. Thank you for your time sincerely, J. R.

Dear J.R., we are glad that you have seen how destructive drugs can be. Thank you for sharing your story. We hope that you will never return to them as an escape but continue to turn to Christ and let the faith sustain you when times are difficult. You have learned the truth of drugs and the truth of Jesus. “You will come to know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:32

DOING TIME WITH JESUS

Greetings! Grace and peace to you... I hope this letter finds you and those you pray for Safe. I finally converted to the one, true, apostolic church that was founded by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in February, by my own study and light of the Holy Spirit and the gentle guidance and protection of our Lady, the blessed virgin Mary.

As John Henry Cardinal Newman taught to come to the truth of the church is to know her history. I found the key, central to Christology, is the Eucharist and revealed in St. John’s Gospel, Chapter 6, and I cannot get enough as Robert Redford said in the natural, “What else is there?”

I just found an older copy of your newsletter, hence the request, so please add me to your mailing list. I am requesting a Bible, Bible study, Prayer Cards and the catechism.

I pray the rosary daily and the Divine Mercy chaplet often. I lead a men’s Catholic Bible study now as we do not have a chaplain right now. Please pray for me, my children, and my parents.

By the holy and glorious wounds may Jesus Christ our Lord, guide us and protect us, may the eternal father show us favor and shine upon us and the those we pray for. May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace to work for the things we pray for. Amen. K.P.

Dear K.P., welcome home to the Catholic Church! Prayers of gratitude for your conversion. We will pray for your family. We sent you the items you requested and hope that with the guidance of the Holy Spirit you will grow even stronger in your knowledge of the faith and use this knowledge to spread the good news. “Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”1 Thessalonians 5:11

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Dear St. Dismas Guild, I’ve been receiving your letters for some time now. I love reading them. There was a time when I was headed to Protestantism, so I prayed on it to

find out who was the true church Christ established. Protestants took me back 500 years to an early church. Catholicism took me back to people, such as St. Ignatius of Antioch, 1st and 2nd century, to Augustine. I believe third century St. Jerome 4th century interpreter of the Latin Vulgate Bible. I wanted to know about some early Church Fathers, and if they were tied to Catholicism and, yes, they were! But so was Martin Luther. He was a Catholic Monk and he protested against the Church. I started to follow a pattern of protests from about 1520 AD of one to two denominations, Luther and Calvin, to the year 2020 AD and there are 37,000 denominations and all Protestants. There are so many other interesting things I found out, such as, where the Bible comes from, the seven extra books Protestants took out, Bible interpretation of Purgatory, how Mary fits in to the church, the Pope, infallibility and so much more.

I knew then that I wasn't going anywhere and that I was, am, and always will be a Catholic. After all, it is because of the Church that we were sought of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He (Christ) gave Peter the Keys. How do we know this? How do we know who was the first President of the United States? We do research. Catholicism is over 2,000 years old, founded by Christ, handed over to Peter to Pope Francis. I am a member of the Universal Church and Christ said Nothing would destroy it. May God bless you. J.P.

Dear J.P., You did your research well and the truth led you back to the Catholic Church. Our separated brothers and sisters are all part of the body of Christ but as you wrote, they are deprived of many truths found in the Catholic Church.

In the document from the 2nd Vatican Council titled A Decree on Ecumenism, it states “Even in the beginnings of this one and only Church of God there arose certain rifts which the Apostle strongly condemned.” Even today there are rifts in the Catholic church, but we must listen with Humility and act in Obedience. If we disagree, we should do so privately. Pray with great fervor and LOVE that the Spirit of Truth will correct all errors and guide us to all Truth until there will be “one flock, one shepherd.” John 10:16

We sent you a Prayer Book and a Rediscovering Catholicism book and pray that these materials will help you continue to grow in your faith.

PRO-LIFE

Dear St. Dismas Guild, I am a Catholic **Pro-Life advocate** and I will tell you why. Imagine going to a first grade public school classroom and asking the question: “Would it be good or bad if a mommy went to a place to have the baby in her tummy killed because she didn’t want the baby?” First of all, teachers and school officials wouldn’t allow such a question to be asked because of the horrific nightmares and terrorizing emotional effects that would result in asking such a question. And, also, this question would not be allowed in public schools just like Jesus isn’t allowed there either. My point is that a child knows the difference between right and wrong. To a child, abortion is wrong. **To God-fearing Christians, abortion is horrific and simply put, is MURDER.** I am so very saddened that abortion is allowed in my home country.

My prayer is that abortion will soon be outlawed in America and the world. **As Catholics we must continue to pray, fast, and meditate on the Pro-Life cause.** At this unit here in Texas, we stand strong on our Catholic values and firmly defend the rights of God’s unborn children. Scripture tells us that **God know us in our mother’s womb.**

Thank you for your dedication to the Holy Catholic Church. Sincerely. T.P.

Dear T.P., your letter is a great witness for Life. Thank you for taking the time to write to us and share your thoughts for the Newsletter. Yes, we pray that abortion will soon end and that more people will open their hearts to Life and God’s will for Life. There are so many great resources for women to help them raise and parent their child or place their baby into a loving Adoptive Family.

“A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and Lover of Life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer...”
St. Pope John Paul II

SACRED TRADITION

THE CHURCHES DEDICATION FOR OCTOBER:

“... is dedicated to the **Most Holy Rosary**. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honor the **Blessed Virgin Mary** in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.” (Rev. Matthew R. Mauriello, Source: Catholic.net)



A Few FEAST DAYS:

Oct. 2nd - Guardian Angels - Each person on earth has a guardian angel who watches over him and helps him to attain his salvation.

Oct. 3rd - St. Therese of Lisieux, patron of the Missions.

Oct. 4th - St. Francis of Assisi, patron of Animals, Merchants & Ecology.

Oct. 5th - St. Faustina Kowalska, patron of mercy.

Oct. 7th - Our Lady of the Rosary - This feast was instituted by Pope St. Pius V in thanksgiving for the great naval victory over the Turks at the battle of Lepanto on this day in the year 1570, a favor due to the recitation of the Rosary. This victory saved Europe from being overrun by the forces of Islam.

Oct. 15th - St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church, patron of headache sufferers and writers.

Oct. 24th - St. Raphael the Archangel, patron of travelers, the blind, and bodily ills.

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"He who knows how to Forgive prepares for himself many Graces from God. As often as I look upon the cross, so often will I Forgive with all my heart." ~ Jesus, from St. Faustina Diary 390

Encouraging you to participate in our Bread of Life Catholic Bible Study workbook. Only a few Cycle A workbooks left. We are currently printing Cycle B and started a list of those who want to receive it, as this Cycle will begin the end of November.

Peace of Christ,
St. Dismas Guild

St. Dismas Guild: 501(c)(3) non-profit organization ~ PO Box 2129 Escondido CA 92033
Evangelization through Scripture and Ministry to prisons. ~ www.StDismasGuild.org
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