

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

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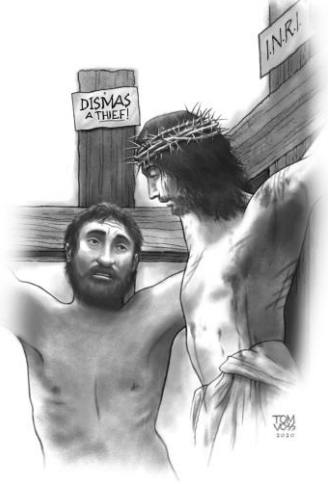
St. Dismas Guild ~ Prison Ministry

“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 Study workbooks, etc., free of charge, to inmates.

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

July 2026



TESTIMONY

HIS PRIDE WAS FIRST TO GO. His weakness was his wife. His initial response to love was beautiful. The 25 years was hard on him. God in heaven wanted him back with Jesus. The good Lord took all the impurities, drugs, smoking, co-dependance threw pain of bullet to the face. Death, resurrection, and rebirth as a new creation - old habits gone. All new faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and the eternal Father. Praise, glory, and thanks be to God in heaven. Repentance means change, change means purging your heart of anything that can't coexist with Christ like living. You cannot put new life into an old lifestyle. The inevitable tragedy occurs. The new life is lost. Thanks for all you do. God bless; peace be with you. A.M.

Thanks so much for your testimony A.M. You used the scripture of the old and new wineskin and wrapped it around your testimony (Matthew 9:17). It sounds like you had a near death experience which brought about a total change in your life. Our good, wonderful Lord had His arms wrapped around you your whole life and He allowed bad things to happen to draw you into His all-loving arms. Yes, repentance does mean to change from doing things our way and turning to Jesus doing things His way. The Our Father prayer is so powerful that Jesus taught His disciples in Matthew 6:9-13. Saying that prayer daily and following what it says will bring you peace, peace not as the world gives but the peace that passes all understanding. Jesus says in John 14:27, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” God bless you A.M.

DOING TIME WITH JESUS

HELLO, MY NAME IS C.A. I am fighting a serious charge. I can't say much but I would like to ask if at all possible to please pray for me and my family and for all the inmates who are at our facility, for those who are here because of unjustified reasons, and for any other reason; am reaching out because I would like to read a Catholic Bible

and study the Word of God. I believe God is allowing me to better myself because I was a really bad drug addict. I really needed help, but I could not find the courage nor the strength to wake up & realize I needed the Lord's help. I believe God opened this door for me to be able to realize I needed His help also to help me get off the streets.

I've been here for about 7 months, and I am now completely sober, and I realize all the bad things that I was doing not just to myself, but also, my family. I will continue to pray and hope for better days. Thanks for taking the time to review this letter. God bless you. Sincerely, C.A. – We sent him Packet A and added him to our prayer list.

*Dear C.A., we certainly will pray for you and all those who are in prison for unjustifiable reasons. It is God who put that desire in your heart to want to read a bible and study His word. **Philippians 2:13 says, “For God is the one who, for His good purpose, works in you both to desire and to work.”** His Word is a lamp to your feet, a light to your path. It's amazing how going to prison allows you to get sober. When you drink or are on drugs you become a different person than when you are sober. When you are sober you realize how much damage you are doing to your family and others and you have a desire to reconcile the damage you caused. When you are drinking or on drugs you think of yourself and getting your next fix or how you can get yourself out of the mess your in.*

*Jesus loves you so much C.A. that He sacrificed His life by going the way of the cross out of obedience to His Father. Obedience to the Word of God shows how much you love Him. **Jesus says He who loves me will obey my word.** He gave His life up for you and me so we could live forever with Him. Yes, C.A. you have realized you needed the Lords help and He is right there for you. God bless you.*

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DEAR ST. DISMAS GUILD, I JUST WANTED to write to you and thank you so much for your help with bibles and all of your publications. You are truly making a difference here. Before, our Chapel library had no Catholic bibles, but

now with the help of your Charity, we are able to provide to those who need a bible, and the Bible Study workbook. The Bread of Life Catholic Bible Study is helping us every Sunday with the Liturgy for our service!

We are still without a Catholic Chaplain, but thanks to you we can lead our community in prayer, and our homily is based upon your "Bread of Life" workbook. It is in God's hands as to when we get a Chaplain, and it is unfortunate that the Protestant and Muslim Chaplains do not order Rosaries from you! Yours in Christ! D.Q. (We sent a Bible and This is my Body booklet.)

Dear D.Q., We are so glad you have enough bibles. We only send them to individuals that ask for them. We are keeping you and your prison in our prayers and are ever so pleased that you are using the Bread of Life Catholic Bible Study for your Sunday Liturgy as it covers all three readings plus the Psalm. We can say Deacon Ken from heaven is giving the homily for you. The Bible Study differs from most bible studies as it is to build a relationship with God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. As you develop a love relationship with God and feel more and more loved by Him, you begin to understand the true meaning of His unconditional love. God tells us in Jeremiah 31:3, "I have loved you with an everlasting love." God bless you and all in your group, and remember the Holy Spirit is your teacher and He will use any one of you to teach each other and He has no favorites.

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ST. DISMAS GUILD, I SAW YOUR Newsletter on EDOVO app on our Securus tablet. I fell in love with the Catholic Religion this time in Prison. After all these years of me trying to do everything on my own, I finally gave it all up. This is my second time in prison, and the second time the Catholic religion's calling me. I was raised mostly in the Morman Church. Everything I ever believed growing up has turned out to be Catholic. I have read the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and it answered all the other questions I did not understand about the Catholic faith. Many people will believe what others say about the Church while not looking into it themselves. I know this because I used to be one of them. I have not been confirmed yet. I was in OCIA at my last unit, and they do not offer it here at this unit. I am writing this letter today to ask for the Bible Study you offer, **The Bread of Life Catholic Bible Study**. I am also interested in any other books, magazines, Apologetics of the Catholic faith you have to offer as well. I cannot get enough of the Catholic faith, and anything is better than nothing. I will appreciate any and all things. Thank you! God Bless! Your brother in Christ, B.F. – We sent Packet A and List of books.

Dear B.F., your eyes and heart have been opened—what a beautiful grace! How blessed you are that Our Lord is so patient, merciful, and forgiving. He thirsts for our love and gladly gives us another chance. You are now awakening to the beauty of His love and the richness of the Catholic faith in the One True Church Jesus established.

God is light (1 John 1:7). Through His grace you asked for forgiveness and have been purified and saved (1 John 1:9). Embrace the new life He planned for you (Jeremiah 29:11). Let the Lord lead you—do not be afraid (Isaiah 58:11). Keep blooming in the light of Christ and be His reflection of love to all you meet.

God bless you on this beautiful new journey! We are sorry we do not have magazines or apologetic books to offer, but we are sending you a Bible and Bible Study workbook. May they help you grow ever closer to the Lord and His Church.

DEACON KEN'S CORNER

LETTER FROM THE LATE DEACON KEN FINN DATED JUNE 1985. The auditorium was packed, and a great variety of Christian denominations were represented. A minister spoke softly, and said, "I was one of the biggest drug pushers in the area, and my life was nothing but money, drugs, and pain." He lived like this for 10 years and then he allowed Christ to enter his life. Now he's the director of a Christian drug rehabilitation facility and he gets high on Jesus Christ. Another speaker was a minister and the founder of "Alcoholics for Christ", a group that identifies your higher power as Jesus Christ. He is now a recovering Christ-centered alcoholic. I write this to show that only through Jesus Christ can we really live the Full Life. Jesus tells us in scripture, "**I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.**" **John 10:10**

SACRED TRADITION

THE CHURCH'S DEDICATION FOR JULY: ...is to The Precious Blood of Jesus. This month falls within the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of HOPE is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the HOPE of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the HOPE of a glorious resurrection.



www.catholicculture.org

A Few Feast Days:

- July 3rd – St. Thomas the Apostle**, patron saint against doubt, architects, and construction workers.
- July 6th – St. Maria Goretti**, patron saint of rape victims, loss of parents, and young people in general.
- July 22nd – St. Mary Magdalene**, patron saint of contemplative life, converts, and penitent sinners.
- July 24th – St. Charbel Makhlof**, Lebanese hermit with upwards of 29,000 recorded miracles.
- July 29th – Sts. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus**
- July 31st – St. Ignatius of Loyola**, patron saint of Jesuits, retreats, and soldiers.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

HONORING AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY - "Proclaim liberty throughout the land..." Leviticus 25:10

As our nation marks 250 years of liberty, St. Dismas Guild rejoices in God's blessings while remembering those still captive. Like the Good Thief on the cross, many prisoners are discovering true freedom in Christ's mercy. Since 1989, we have brought free Bibles, the Bread of Life Catholic Bible Study, and Hope to men and women behind bars — because no prison can separate us from the love of God.

A Prayer for America's 250th

Heavenly Father, Thank You for 250 years of blessings on our nation. Visit every prisoner with Your mercy. Like St. Dismas, may they encounter Jesus, find forgiveness, and walk in new life. Bless our volunteers and donors, and guide America back to You. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Join Us in Proclaiming Liberty

- Sponsor a Bible or Bible Study workbook for an inmate.
- Share this message and give generously in thanksgiving for 250 years of liberty and the beautiful gift of redemption in Christ.

"Because I was in prison and you visited me." (Matthew 25:36)

