

Prison Ministry Committee
Minutes
April 14, 2020

Present: Deacon Richard Murphy, Sharrie Cinnamond, Deacon Paul Bachi

Due to the coronavirus and all the precautions we had a Conference call
Deacon Paul opened with prayer.

Minutes of last meeting approved with several corrections: Paul ministers at WKCC and Kurt Robinson does not accompany him. The Chaplin at KSP may be moving into the rectory at St. Marks.

County Reports:

Deacon Paul did receive the the books he requested and the Bibles, but since all the jails and prisons are currently shut down he has not been able to distribute them. Gus Lloyd interviewed the Bishop for an article he is writing and the suggestion was made that houses should be lit for the Easter celebration – maybe have an empty cross in the yard.

Dick Murphy has been calling the parishes for the semi-annual survey and learned that of the 32 counties in our Diocese 8 have no jails or prisons. An interfaith group of people has been formed in Calloway county (Murray) and they may be interested in future training. Holy Name in Henderson County has also expressed interest in a training workshop.

Fr. Ray Clark joined our call.

Fr. Al Bremer is working with local people but several have recently dropped out of the group.

Dick will send out a report for our information.

Prison Ministry is non-existent at this time because of the pandemic. There have been no reported cases at WKCC or KSP, but several cases have been reported at GRCC. We will be waiting for word from the Governor when we can re-enter. The Chaplin can go in since he is an employee.

There has been a change in the schedule at GRCC, so the ministry session is now on Tuesday afternoon.

The question was asked if we anticipate any needs when this is over, but we don't really know at this time. It may be the 1st of June before a lot of restrictions are lifted. The prisons will be the last facilities to re-open. Work is being done to develop a vaccine but it will probably be a year before it is available.

Dick informed us that there are some funds that could be used for rent for released prisoners. He suggested calling Susan at Catholic Charities. He has talked with many of the local follow-up facilities and said they could probably get up to \$400 to help with cleaning supplies, etc. If we anticipate needs we should call Dick. He informed us that he will be retiring on June 30th and it may be awhile before he is replaced. He suggested that we elect a chair for our Committee to be an advocate for our ministry. Paul agreed to take this position.

Fr. Ray closed our meeting with the Hail Mary
Our next meeting is scheduled for August 10th

Sharrie Cinnamond, Secretary

