



Quarterly/Twice a year Issue!

ANSWERING THE CALL:

"For I was in prison and you visited me." Matt. 25:36

February 2015


Total Involvement Ministry, Inc., 8458 Langdon Ave Unit 4, North Hills, California 91343-6582



March 2014 ~ Our 26th Year! ~ February 2015

From The Founding Director: Tim Page

What a surprise I had walked into, without realizing it. As is my custom in the morning as I arrive early for morning Mass and set up a small table with rosary and various holy or prayer cards. Whenever I see a 'young(er) p erson attending Mass, I approach them and say something like "are you able to stay for Mass?" and usually they reply yes. I then say that they have lowered the average age of the person who normally attends daily Mass, from 92 down to 89 (because of their 'lower age'. This person seemed to be in his late 20's or so. I then explained, that normally to



have a young person usually ends up there because of a loss, a health scare, relationship, etc. So probable will NOT be there again (we often forget God, AFTER He answers our prayers!), I take advantage of their 'one time' being there to ask if there is anything that I can join them in praying for/about. It's then that I got the surprise. He said, "Well, thank you. My name is Father Alex, and I'm on vacation, from the Philippines! Wow. I felt like I had been entertaining an 'angel', not knowing he was a Priest! Glad I didn't say anything foolish or stupid (or did I?). Anyhow I sat with him at Mass, and gave him my contact info, so if he wants to go to lunch, he can contact me (I enjoy doing that with/for Priests!). His actual age I found out was 40 (but like me, looks so much younger than he really is. When I asked him to attempt to guess how old I was, he said, "Same as me, 40?", but I said Nope... I'm 55 (proudly)... but we agreed that doing the Lord's work, will keep anyone 'young', at least 'young at heart!'.

We hope that the articles in this simple newsletter will inspire you to contribute to the future years of Total Involvement Ministry.

God bless You, *Tim*

March 2014 -Our 26th Year of Ministry- February 2015

Over 201,000 Rosaries distributed!

Although we have been distributing rosaries on and off to the men in prison for a long time, at times, we are NOT permitted to do so. Therefore, any rosaries sent to us, will be distributed to other ministries and activities (street ministry, abortion clinics, etc). We are very thankful to everyone who has sent us (and still does)

To date, we've distributed 201,120 Rosaries!

2014 Financial Snapshot!

January 2014	+\$785.11 (above expenses) ☺
February 2014	+\$2242.03 (above expenses) ☺
March 2014	-\$394.82 (BELOW expenses) ☹
April 2014	+\$29.68 (above expenses) ☺
May 2014	+\$261.85 (above expenses) ☺
June 2014	+\$253.06 (above expenses) ☺
July 2014	+\$849.53 (above expenses) ☺
August 2014	+\$1258.99 (above expenses) ☺
September 2014	-\$468.25 (BELOW expenses) ☹
October 2014	-\$219.13 (BELOW expenses) ☹
November 2014	-\$2348.67 (BELOW expenses) ☹
December 2014	+1888.39 (above expenses) ☺

Because of your help, we stayed ahead of expenses for 2014. Thank YOU!

If you'd to help us to stay ahead of our expenses for 2015, you can send us your donation with your response slip enclosed. Thank You!

(Contact us if you wish additional detailed information)

Be a Pal! Become a PEN PAL!

Make a positive difference in YOUR own life and in the life of an incarcerated individual. Become a PEN PAL. Contact our office (818) 893-7059 for additional information.

Make copies of our newsletters and share them with others. With the proper approval, you might take some to your church, prayer group, the break room where you work. It's a great way to let other people know of our efforts, as well as to give them the opportunity to live the Gospel. Thanks, we appreciate your help!

Man's Main Hope

This column is a newsletter regular feature, from the book "MY DAILY BREAD". (by Rev. Anthony J. Paone, S.J. 1954).

CHRIST MIGHT SAY:

My child, as long as you are on earth, you will have to make use of food, rest, medicine, recreation, companionship, etc. however, do not make the mistake of considering these natural things as the only remedies of your various needs. Otherwise you will place too much hope in them and expect more from them than they can give you. Only from Me may you expect perfect, all-satisfying happiness. Be wise and place your greatest hope in Me. I am the Maker and Preserver of all things. Nothing could help you if I did not give it the power to do so. Whether or not you realize it, I am your Highest Good. Without Me there is no lasting good, no enduring happiness. If you hope in Me above all else, you will not be disappointed. I shall not fail you in what is truly best for you. Does not place too much hope in any person or thing on earth. Use whatever you can honestly obtain to improve your earthly life, but do not live as though this life were the only life. I am your Creator and Redeemer. Place your main hope in Me. Follow My Will as perfectly as you can, and when earthly friends and remedies fail you, do not despair. I shall not fail you. Stand by Me, and I will help you reach the all-satisfying success of Heaven.

THINK:

Hope keeps men ever striving in this earthly life. So often they find disappointment and dissatisfaction in things which they had desired so eagerly. Yet with renewed hope they redirect their efforts toward other objects, still seeking the satisfaction which they have failed to find. Too often men limit their vision. They do not see that nothing can ever give them the slightest degree of satisfaction unless God gives it the power to do so. I should never lose sight of this fact, but I must look to Him with gratitude and with hope in all my needs. God has perfect control over all things at all times, and I receive them as from His hand. My main hope must be God. I can accomplish this by making intelligent use of all that I have and all that comes my way each day. In this way I shall prove that I treasure God more than all earthly good, and that I hope to be with Him forever in Heaven.

PRAY:


Lord, no matter how unworthy I may feel, I hope to be with You in Heaven some day. I place all of my hope in You, relying on Your goodness, wisdom, and love. Help me to prove this hope by a loyal following of Your holy Will in all that happens to me today. I will deal with all things and events as You desire; that is, without pride, impatience, or any other form of selfishness. I will use whatever I need with the intention of pleasing You rather than pleasing myself alone. In my use of earthly remedies, I will not forget that Your holy Will is still governing every move I make. Never will You abandon those who hope in You. In You I place all of my hopes. Do with me as You see fit, since no one knows and seeks my welfare more than you. Amen.

EXTRA thoughts....

- Pray for this month's prisoner
- Read Reminder Box (change of address, etc)
- Send in PRAYER INTENTION slip for Mass
- Stay connected via phone, email, or snail-mail!
- Review number of rosaries we've distributed
- Save us money! Send us your phone/email info
- Be a parish collector of medals/card and send to us!
- Consider making copies and sharing our newsletter!
- Use the prayer hotline: 508-581-8947

Thanks for your prayers!

REMINDERS

- It takes effort to send our newsletter to you. If you no longer wish to receive it, let us know. Simply call us at (818) 893-7059 and we'll delete your computer record. If you move, please save us money by sending us your change of address EARLY! A penny saved, is a penny for ministry!
 - Prayer is VITAL to this ministry. Our director attends DAILY MASS direction for the personal life. asking God to our needs on a daily
 - Although there are people in our 200 people receive each month.
- 
- seeking God's ministry and his Please join us in provide for all basis. almost 1,300 database, only the newsletter Maybe you have been getting our newsletter each month, but would rather not. We can take care of that quickly, but we need to 'hear from you' in order to adjust our records. By phone, snail or e-mail, simply let us know. We love to hear from you.



God Calling



(From the book of the same name edited by A.J. Russell (ISBN#0-8007-8096-5) who considered it an honor to prepare for publication to the public, the words that two lonely women in England were given by the Living Christ Himself! They seek no praise and these 'two listeners' wish to remain anonymous. Perhaps like them, you will find that YOU are no longer one and alone, but united with the Great Companion and Guide,

Inspiration, Not aspiration

You shall be used. The Divine Force is never less. It is sufficient for all the work in the world. I only need the instruments for Me to use. To know that would remake the world. The world does not need super-men, but super-natural-men. Men who will persistently turn the self out of their lives and let Divine Power work through them. Countries could be saved tomorrow if only their politicians just let Me use them. Let inspiration take the place of aspiration. All unemployment would cease. I have always plenty of work to be done and always pay my workers well as you will see, as more and more you get the right attitude of thought about the work being Mine alone.

February 15th reflection

**Consider as part of your tithing:
Total Involvement Ministry
of your 'first fruits' back to God!**

Let's get connected!

If you have an email address, please send it to us at:

totalinvolvement@gmail.com

Visit us on the world wide web @

www.angelfire.com/la3/totalinvolvement

Total Involvement Ministry ~ ~ ~

...has as its purpose to bring God's unconditional love, forgiveness and assurance to individuals, but especially those involved in some way in the detention system. We do this through prevention, intervention, and follow-up. In addition, via this monthly newsletter and speaking engagements, T.I.M. hopes to educate our society about our youth and how best to communicate with them and to their needs. This is best expressed in our mission, "Answering the Call: for I was in prison and you visited Me". T.I.M. is a non-profit, tax-exempt and deductible religious outreach organization, which began as a 'grass-roots' ministry in March of 1989 but was incorporated on August 14, 1991 (incorporation #1499950). Its' Federal I.D. number is 95-4344329. It has been granted 501-c-3 Tax Exemption Status by the Internal Revenue Service as well as the State of California.

Questions: Call Tim Page, director @ (818) 893-7059

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A penny a minute!

In our ministry, we make it a #1 Priority to always show appreciation for anything that people send to us, for their prayers or donations of whatever kind. Currently, it would cost 49 cents to send a first class letter, so we went to postcards (at 34 cents). Now we have a one-cent a minute phone card, or email to choose from (FREE!).... So, would you consider sending us your EMAIL ADDRESS or your phone number? Neither one will be shared with any outside sources! Just the cheapest way to say THANKS!

Prisoner's Prayer Request: Would you PRAY for them?

Every Saturday, volunteers led by one of our Board Members, visits a maximum-security prison. This is one prayer request that was submitted for your prayers.

That I would get closer to God, and also my 5 kids and their mother, for good health for all.

Larry O. #4119-XXX

If you would like to consider helping our ministry, EVEN after your entrance into Eternal Life, please consider including Total Involvement Ministry in your 'last will and testament'. Contact Tim for details at (818) 893-7059...

In God we Trust!

Since our inception in 1989, not one person has even been paid to work for Total Involvement Ministry, and that includes our founder/director who devotes 100% of his time to this cause. This is because of the proposal he made with God when he started the ministry, "I'll give 24/7 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) to serving Your people, and You (God) agree to provide for the necessities of life." God can be trusted for our regular Daily Providential needs. There are different ways that you can help us, but our primary need is always for 'workers for the vineyard' We hope that you'll take the time to reply to this newsletter and let us know how God might be calling YOU to help. Thanks!

**Please consider helping us to
meet our monthly obligations
with your regular prayers.**

In appreciation for your support,

**We have the Holy Mass offered the last
Wednesday of *every month* for YOUR intentions.**

Next Mass February 25th, 2015 8:30 a.m.

***As long as this ministry continues, we'll have Masses said!
Send back your Mass intention slip TODAY!***

A PRISON CHRISTMAS STORY – 1999

Without the distractions of commercialized Christmas preparation, Advent had been kept with unusual focus and faithfulness. I decided to spend Christmas Eve in quiet pondering of all the mysteries of life and faith, as “Mary pondered all these things in her heart.” I chose a place of relative solitude in the yard bleachers and waited for the pious thoughts to come.

Within minutes, Henry arrived. He was someone with whom I had only spoken in passing. After a few minutes of chitchat, he began to share some of his story. Henry is one of ten children, two younger brothers were murdered. His father went to the parole hearing of the killer and asked that he be released. He told Henry: “How can I ask God to let you out of prison, if I don’t show the same compassion?”

Henry became a father at age 14, and had three sons before entering prison at 17. He is 37 now. He spoke with sparkling eyes and glowing smile of his love for his boys, and how good his parents are. His life turned around when: “I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I began seeing things in a different way, appreciating little things.” Then he shared that his wife and youngest son had been killed in an auto accident the previous February on their way to visit him. He choked up, and my heart ached. I put my arm around him. He went on and on. When he left, he thanked me for listening. I told him I felt blessed by his goodness, and burdened by the pain he carried.

At dinner, during light banter about Christmas, a young man on my tier (I call him “Nutty.” He calls me “Superman.”), who usually is bouncy and cheerful, unloaded his anger and pain: “I used to believe in God and all that shit, but I junked it, and I’ve never felt more peace in my life.” His eyes and red face told another story, but I just listened. “I’m here for a crime I didn’t commit. I prayed and prayed: ‘God, don’t let this happen to me!’, but here I am! Nothing I ever prayed for in my life ever happened. I don’t need that crap!” I silently prayed there might soon be a “right time” to talk with Nutty.

After dinner, I started to walk—finally time and space for my pondering. Benny joined me. He was aglow. His estranged girlfriend had surprised him with a visit today, bringing his four-year-old son. It was her first visit in two years. Besides the joy of seeing his son, he and Maria had a deep honest sharing. There is hope again. Santa was there for the children who were able to visit their fathers. Benny got his son a truck, and Little Benny went around the visiting room telling everyone: “My daddy gave me this present! My daddy loves me!” I didn’t look into Benny’s eyes at that point, but mine were watering. He went on to share how his father had sent photos of himself with his son dressed up in a Christmas setting. That brought tears.

Besides all that, a stranger (a friend of mine) had sent gifts to his son and sister in Benny’s name. “I don’t understand that? Why would

somebody do that for me, when my own family doesn’t?” I responded: “The Lord is at work in all this, Benny. Can’t you feel him embracing you as lovable and loved?”

My heart was already overflowing with joy as the Christmas Vigil Mass began. When the priest asked for special intentions, I said: “In thanksgiving for the many ways in which God-Is-With-Us even here.”

As I left the chapel, there was Nutty. He smiled sheepishly when I asked, “What are you doing here?” I said, “There is a lot of anger in you.” He nodded, “Yes, a lot of anger.” I suggested, “But deeper there is more of something else, too, isn’t there?” He smiled again with an affirming, “Yes.” As I slipped a Tootsie roll into his shirt pocket I told him, “Seeing you here has made my Christmas complete.”

I never did get that quiet, private time for pondering, but I went to sleep humming Christmas carols, awed and grateful for having walked and talked with the saving Mystery I had set out to ponder.

Authored in prison by: “A. Companion”, and books are available online at iUniverse.com under the pin name A. Companion: Wounded Wounders:: Stories of Men in Prison; AND Peace and Justice Shall Embrace: a Gospel Critique of the Justice System.

Do you receive in the mail various medals, crosses, holy cards, etc. from missionary groups and other religious organizations, and don't really know what to do with them? If so, consider becoming a parish representative to 'collect these items' from other parishioners and sending them occasionally to us for use in our street ministry. The youth are always grateful to have these small tokens of faith and hope. Call for more info: (818) 893-7059 NOTE: There has been a change to this program, so PLEASE call us before sending any packages. Thanks!

 Love  Faith  Trust

PRAYER HOTLINE NUMBER

A monastery of Teresian Carmelites in Worcester, MA has a 24 hours a day/7 days a week 'prayerline' just for you. Founded in 1982, the nuns will pray for any need (specifically) for 30 days continuously. Simply call (508) 581-8947. It's completely confidential. And heh, I won't mind if you ask them to pray for our needs when you call them. For prayer is the least we can do....Thanks to Joan Atvell for sharing this spiritual information