

ANSWERING THE CALL:

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

July 2015

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



From The Founding Director: Tim Page

His eyes were all red and bloodshot, and the women at church, were attempting to console him, to pray with him. They led him to me, and we went outside to talk. He recently came to the US from Russia, and spoke some English. He wanted to 'better his life', to stop using drugs, and was missing his family (he was by himself, with no relatives here). I'm not sure for what purpose he was given a passport to come here, but that's beside the point. We embraced him, emotionally, giving encouragement.



Mass a few times, Communion, both Blood of Christ. He stayed for and would go to the Body and Someone asked him what church he went to in Russia and he said, 'Protestant'...so they told me about it, expecting me to 'deal with that issue'. In the Catholic Faith, those Catholics who have made their First Holy Communion and Confession (and are in a state of Grace (free from sin), are able to receive Communion. Anyone else who does NOT believe in our belief of the TRUE PRESENCE, or is not Catholic, is always welcome to come to the church or Mass, but NOT to receive Communion. I tried very delicately to explain that to him, but he was distraught and in tears... "We all believe in the same God, why not?"... I explained that when Jesus told Peter, 'Peter, you are rock, and on this Rock I will build MY CHURCH', the only church that could be (that is 2000 years old) would be the Catholic Church. Therefore, if you do not share 100% in our beliefs, and think God is the same everywhere, they go to the Protestant church and get communion there. You are always welcome here to pray, fellowship, etc., but not to sacrilegiously partake of Holy Communion. Since it bothered him so much, I suggest he take it to God in prayer, and see if perhaps he is called to one day become a Catholic. Let's pray that one day, we call all be one! Sadly, I haven't seen him since.

God bless You, *Tim*

Consider **Total Involvement Ministry** as part of your tithing of your 'First Fruits' back to God this month!

2015 Financial Snapshot!

- January 2015 **-\$675.08 BELOW** expenses ☹️
- February 2015 \$306.67 Above expenses 😊
- March 2015 \$385.23 Above expenses 😊
- April 2015 \$106.87 Above expenses 😊
- May 2015 **-\$171.31 BELOW** expenses ☹️

Because of your help, we're staying ahead of expenses for 2015. Thank YOU!

If you'd like 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.

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,

Songs on the way

Many of My Disciples have had to stay on in the dark, alone and friendless. They struggled on, singing as they went. For you, too, there must be songs on the way. Should I plant your feet on an insecure ladder? Its supports may be out of your sight, hidden in the secret Place of the Most High, but if I have asked you to step on and up firmly, then surely have I secured your ladder. July 15th reflection

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.

Help me when I get out as I will be jobless and homeless.

Steve A.

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

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 for your support of this program.

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

Daily Growth in Charity

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, without the virtue of charity, all other virtues lose their supernatural value. What good will it do you to believe in Me, or to hope in Me, if you do not love Me? This love must be shown in a sincere daily effort to please Me, no matter how disagreeable the task at hand. In fulfilling My Will, you achieve your highest perfection and your greatest good. In all things I lead you toward what is truly best for you. When you consider that I have given you everything that you are and have, you should not find it difficult to love Me. A frequent consideration of My numberless benefits will help you draw closer to Me in gratitude. This gratitude will bring you a desire to please Me more in your daily life. If you follow this desire, you will be proving your love for Me. As you advance in this love of gratitude, I shall grant you still

higher graces. I shall help you understand Me more intimately, you will appreciate more and more My boundless goodness. You will gradually surrender yourself more completely to My Will. You will no longer permit yourself to resent My Will, but you will finally be convinced that I seek only what is good for you. Your love of gratitude will be transformed into a higher love, the love of friendship. In this higher level of perfection, you will rise above yourself. You will no longer sympathize with your unreasoning desires when they seek to disregard My Will. You will control your feelings toward the people in your daily life. Whatever good you do them, you will do it for the best reason, you will do it for me.

THINK:

If I give God's grace a chance, following its inspirations throughout my daily life, I shall grow in perfection each day. My charity will aim higher and higher, eventually rising above the natural attractions and distractions which now draw me away from God in my daily activities. I shall gradually rise from my present imperfect love of God to a purer love. My good deeds will be done more and more with an appreciation of His boundless goodness. I need only begin this day to offer my activities to God, and to renew my intention from time to time so as to prevent selfish motives from stealing into my soul. In God's own good time, He will raise me up to that perfection which He desires to bestow upon me.

PRAY:

O God of love, Generosity is Your name. Who has ever been as generous with me as You have? Wherever I look, I see Your gifts. Whatever I do, I am using Your gifts. What shall I do for You, Who have done so much for me? Since this will please You above all else, I want to purify my love for You. I shall do my best to make better use of the many graces which You send me each day. I desire to rise from a love of gratitude to a love of friendship. I long for the day when I shall live this earthly life of mine mainly to please You. Whatever my daily obligations may be, I want to do them chiefly for You, my all-deserving God. Amen.

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 with us!

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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Website: www.angelfire.com/la3/totalinvolvement

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In appreciation for your support,

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

Next Mass **July 29th, 2015 8:30 a.m.**

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

Praying God's Purposes For your City ©

Praying for the Families of your City

(from the book of the same name by Ernie Frederick)

Your city's families have many sizes, structures and ethnic backgrounds. God's plan is that all the earth's families have the 'Blessing of Abraham'. God's gift of a salvation faith based relationship with Himself through the redeeming sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross for our sins, and become a blessing to other families throughout the earth. (Genesis 12:1-3) and Galatians 3:13-14) As you PRAY for the families in your city, pray for:

God to build His creational purposes into families... to portray God's nature as a family relationship Person, to nurture and protect children in creative, caring homes, to populate cities with Godlike offspring who Love Him, to manage and care for God's creation and other families.

God to Build right family relationships with one another... FAMILIES and God: "AS for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15) **Marriages** - "Be filled with the Holy Spirit... submitting to one another in the fear of the Lord" (Eph. 5:18-21) "Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled." (Hebrew 13:4) **Parents and Children:** 'Behold, children are the gift of God; the fruit of the womb is His reward" (Psalm 127:3), **Family to Family:** "I will bless you... and through you all the families of the earth will be blessed" (Genesis 12:3)

God to BUILD faith foundations in families... Salvation Strength: rescued from darkness and death, and reconciled to God and His family, through Jesus Christ, OWNERSHIP: that God owns family time, talents, and resources, Identity and Heritage: discerning God's destiny and call, Unity and Trust: implanted and learned by the Holy Spirit, Blessings for Bonding: affirming, forbearing, forgiving, Leadership: servant leadership among parents and children, God's "Job descriptions": for roles and relationships, Finances: sufficient and well managed for family needs, Work Role Models: to teach youth the importance of work, Talents, abilities, spiritual gifts: discerned and developed, Conflict Resolution: grace, responsibility, and restoration, Healing: of illness, brokenness, grief, addiction, injustice.

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!

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!

March 2015 -Our 27th Year of Ministry- February 2016

Almost 202,000

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 201,820 Rosaries!

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!

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

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 computer record. we'll delete your 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 ministry. Our DAILY MASS seeks God's direction for the personal life of our director and his ministry and his personal life. Please join us in asking God to provide for all our needs on a daily basis.

• Although there are almost 1,300 people in our database, only 200 people receive the newsletter each month. 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. Simply let us know. We love to hear from you.

How are YOU treating Jesus?

Our Church is really great at a lot of things. No one feeds more of the worlds' hungry and clothes more of the worlds' naked than the Catholic Church. This is as it should be, because as our Lord Himself declared, 'how we treat people who need us, is how we treat HIM. A sobering thought if perhaps we're not doing all we could. According to Jesus, our very salvation can depend on it! One of the areas in which our Church could really improve, however, is how she visits those in prison. True enough, there are a number of dedicated ministries that seek to meet the spiritual needs of those in prison, but we live in a culture that largely

demonizes the imprisoned, and that attitude tends to affect us without our even realizing it. I know this was true in my case...Until I became an inmate, myself! The truth is, I have been blessed far beyond anything I could ever deserve. It was in prison that God brought me out of darkness into His Church. He's shown me that I have gifts to offer to my brothers and sisters that I'd never known I had. But as Blessed Teresa of Calcutta said, "The greatest threat to many is a kind of poverty of affection, of love." In other words, we're lonely. This is especially true for those of us in prison. We are largely cut off from family, many of us completely abandoned by those we held dear. I don't really know how to describe the sense of utter solitude and desolation of heart that one can experience in prison. I am not saying that we shouldn't be punished for our crimes, but can there not also be compassion? It is not practical for most people to physically visit those in prison, but nearly everyone can write to those in prison. This kind of 'visit' takes only a little time and a stamp. You don't have to send money ---ever. You don't have to be a theologian or a saint. Just be a friend. And please, prayerfully considering 'visiting' Jesus in prison! Joseph (Soledad Prison)

Don't sweat the small stuff.....
And it's all small stuff!

By: Richard Carlson, PH.D

Cut Yourself some Slack

Each of the strategies in this book is geared toward helping you become more relaxed, peaceful, and loving. One of the most important pieces of this puzzle, however, is to remember that your goal is to stay relaxed, to not get too worked up or concerned about how you are doing. Practice the strategies, keep them in mind, yet don't worry about being perfect. Cut yourself some slack! There will be many times when you lose it, when you revert to being uptight, frustrated, stressed, and reactive... get used to it. When you do, it's okay. Life is a process, just one thing after another. When you lose it, just start again. One of the most common mistakes I see when people are attempting to become more inwardly peaceful is that they become frustrated by little setbacks. An alternative is to see your mistakes as learning opportunities, ways to navigate your growth and perspective. Say to yourself, "Whoops, I lost it again. Oh well, next time I'll handle it differently." Over time, you'll notice drastic changes in your responses to life, but it won't happen all at once. I once heard of a proposed book title that sums up the message of this strategy: *I'm Not Okay, You're Not Okay, and That's Okay*. Give yourself a break. No one is going to bat 100 percent, or even close to it. All that's important is that, generally speaking, you are doing your best and that you are moving in the right direction. When you can learn to keep your perspective and to stay loving toward yourself, even when you prove you are human, you'll be well on your way to a happier life.