

Kolbe Prison Ministries ANNUAL REPORT 2025



*"Let us remember that love lives through sacrifice and is
nourished by giving. Without sacrifice, there is no love.*

St. Maximilian Kolbe

1614 Sidney Baker, Ste 200
Kerrville, TX 78027
(210) 500-4235
WWW.KOLBEPRISONMINISTRIES.ORG

Prisoner's Prayer

Crucifixion

The first day they called Him, they shouted
His name.
"You're guilty as charged, that is to your
shame."
They asked, "Where do you come from, and
where do you go.
While living your life down here below?"
He said, "Not of this world, another I see
That belongs to My Father and also to Me."
They took Him to beat Him, to see His blood
flow.
Then covered Him up so His wounds
wouldn't show.
But still you could see it, the scarlet and red
From the wounds on His back, to the thorns
on His head.
He carried His cross and His pain was great,
He carried His cross up through the gate,
And there outside for the whole world to
see
They murdered our Savior, who loved you
and me.
But if you can look and see through the
tears,
He gives the gift of life to all who kneel
here.

From DI, Huntsville, TX



Artwork by Emil Strouts, Beeville, TX



Table of Contents

PRESIDENT’S LETTER..... 4

BOARD OF DIRECTORS6

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.....7

 Figure 1: 2025 Monthly Revenue & Expenses..... 8

 Figure 2: 2025 Cumulative Revenue & Expenses..... 8

 Table 1: 2025 Expense Breakdown..... 9

 Figure 3: 2025 Expense Breakdown..... 9

 Table 2: 2025 Revenue Breakdown 10

 Figure 4: 2025 Revenue Breakdown 10

 Figure 5: 2025 G&A Expense Breakdown 11

 Figure 6: 2025 KPM Donations 11

 Figure 7: Balance Sheet 12

 Figure 8: Income Statement..... 13

ONGOING FORMATION.....14

 Website Resources 14

 Pope Francis opens a Holy Door at a Rome prison! 15

DONORS OF MERIT.....16

CORPORATE DONORS 17

2025 BOARD RETREAT– Well-Spring Center.....40

NOT TO BE MISSED 41

LETTER FROM AN INMATE42



“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.”

Galatians 6:2

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

January 2026

Dear Friends of Kolbe Prison Ministries,

On behalf of Kolbe Prison Ministries (KPM) and our Board of Directors, I would like to thank our most merciful Savior Jesus, our Blessed Mother, our Core Teams, clergy, volunteers, donors, and those who faithfully pray for and advocate for our ministry. Our all-volunteer team continues to answer Jesus' call where He said in Matthew 25:36: "I was in prison and you visited me." Also, as Jesus explained in the parable of the lost sheep in Luke 15:4-7: "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy and, upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance." In this same way, Kolbe Prison Ministries seeks to rescue the lost sheep in prison for Christ and bring joy to heaven. With that in mind, I am happy to recap our 2025 activities and share some highlights with you.

Strategic Highlights

As noted in our annual report last year, the KPM Board of Directors had restructured a previously homogeneous board in 2024 into five separate working committees. The committees created included: Governance, Core Teams, Missions, Formation, and Communications & Development. In 2025, we added an additional committee, Resources Management, to administer, procure and distribute our large and evolving inventory of published materials; mostly received through donations. In early 2026, we plan to split the Communications & Development committee into two separate committees due to the level of activities for each element.

If you have a skill and/or experience that could support one or more of these committees, we encourage you to consider reaching out to the KPM Board using the contact form on the KPM website at kolbeprisonministries.org. Also, to continue to manage our growth, be good stewards of our financial and material resources, continue to be mission-driven, and plan for the future, the KPM Board of Directors updated last year's plan to create a 3-year Strategic Plan for 2026-2028. This updated Strategic Plan will help guide the organization and keep our priorities at the forefront.

The annual 2026 budget, derived from the Strategic Plan, will provide financial information needed to prepare and submit more grant applications in 2026. Applications have already been made for several significant 2026 grants and additional funding is expected to be sought throughout 2026.

Financial Highlights

We have been blessed in 2025 with significant grants from several foundations. These include the Mercy Works Foundation, The William K. Warren Foundation, Stephen & Mary Birch Foundation, and the Pulte Family Charitable Foundation. Funding from these four foundations alone raised \$55,000.

KPM also received substantial funding from other individuals, family foundations, and organizations, including the Knights of Columbus. These grants and donations have and will continue to enable us to purchase Bibles, Catechisms, and many other educational publications, as well as some of the inventory of equipment and supplies needed by new Mission Core Teams.



The KPM Board decided in 2024 that the organization needs to increase support, as well as financially and materially assist, if necessary, the new Mission Core Teams and those that will be created in the future. We have already begun financially supporting several of the newer Core Teams. Providing this level of support will make it important to ramp up fundraising efforts for 2026 and beyond.

Operating Highlights

The Baton Rouge Core Team and volunteers in Louisiana organized and led our 10th Annual Conference, held in July 2025 at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Baton Rouge. This Conference was made extra special by being the first annual conference held outside of the State of Texas. The conference was a rousing success with 200 attendees. The planning team from the Baton Rouge Core was very diligent in seeking sponsors and controlling costs which resulted in an overall net income from the conference of over \$6,000. Most of the conferences in the past instead resulted in an overall expense to the organization. Photos and videos from this 2025 conference can be viewed at the KPM website. KPM established a new annual record in 2025 for retreats.

Across the five states where we are active, a total of 73 retreats were presented in 2025: 52 in Texas, 8 in Louisiana, 6 in Florida, 5 in Kansas, and 2 in Oklahoma. About 3,800 inmates attended these retreats where over 30,000 meals were served. Volunteers traveled an estimated aggregate of 230,000 miles and contributed about 80,000 manhours for the retreats. This does not include the substantial time contributed for Catholic formation activities.

Although KPM did not expand into new states in 2025, we did expand into new prisons with 10 additional incarceration facilities being served: with 7 of those outside of the State of Texas. You can learn more about those retreats in the Core Team reports below. Photos from these retreats can be viewed on KPM's website. Finally, we cordially invite you to join us for our 11th Annual Conference at the St. Paul Catholic Church Community Center in San Antonio, Texas on July 25th, 2026. Go to our website kolbeprisonministries.org for details.

Respectfully yours in Christ,



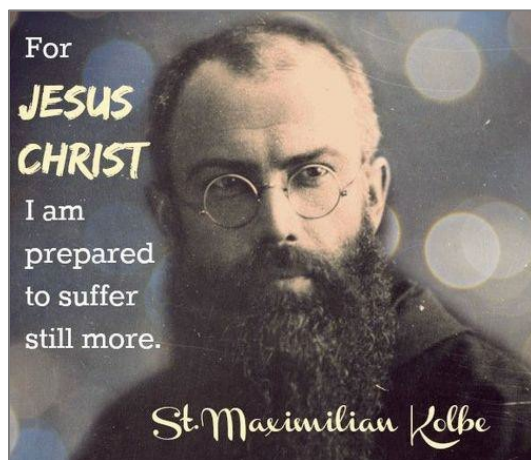
Kerry Johnston
President
Kolbe Prison Ministries



BOARD of DIRECTORS

Kerry Johnston, (President)
 Daniel Reyes, Dr. Don Duplan, Fr. Tom Edelen, Dcn. Adrian Cepeda, Jim Murphy
 Kathleen McDonald Tong, John Errante,
 Keven Birck, Jerry Krimbill, Andy Cash,
 Lisa Lambert, Val Browning, Brooke Dodd,
 Gerald Villaver, Mark Halleck,
 Fr. Alejandro Ortega Trillo.

Retirements: Larry Reeh, Gerald Gaenslen,
 Jeremy Itz, John Panariello, Jimmy Reno
 Hermes Silva.



KPM Committee Members

- **Governance**
 - Kerry Johnston
 - Gerald Gaenslen
 - Jerry Krimbill
- **Mission**
 - Val Browning
 - John Panariello
 - Brooke Dodd
 - Daniel Reyes
 - Deena Holcomb
 - Andy Cash
 - Gerald Gaenslen
 - Jeremy Itz
 - Kerry Johnston
 - Jerry Krimbill
 - Lisa Lambert
 - Andrea Arlati
- **Core Team**
 - Daniel Reyes
 - Val Browning
 - Dr. Don Duplan
 - John Panariello
 - Larry Reeh
- **Communications & Development**
 - Kerry Johnston
 - Brooke Dodd
 - Fr. Tom Edelen
 - Jeremy Itz
 - Jim Murphy
 - Jimmy Reno
 - Richard Reyna
 - Kathleen McDonald Tong
 - Gerald Villaver
 - John Errante
- **Formation**
 - Kathleen McDonald Tong
 - Dcn. Alvin Lovelady
 - Brynne Cook
 - Dr. Don Duplan
 - Fr. Tom Edelen
 - John Errante
 - Jorge Lavastida
 - Dcn. Alan Mikell
 - Paulson Puthur
- **Resource Management (new)**
 - Jim Murphy
 - Jerry Zeller
 - Joe Shea
 - Mark Halleck



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Kolbe Prison Ministries' Board of Directors establishes procedures and governs operations for the overall ministry. However, from a financial perspective, operations are managed independently by the Board and 18 active Core Teams in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Oklahoma, and Kansas. The data included in this section of the Annual Report pertains only to the Board's financial activity for 2025.

From a tax reporting standpoint, 15 of the Core Teams operate under the Board's federal tax identification number. Each of these 15 Core Teams provides a financial summary at the end of each year to the Board's treasurer for inclusion in the corporation's annual tax form. The other Core Teams direct report through their (arch) diocese.

The 2025 financials for the Board (excluding Core Team reporting) are summarized below. For the 12-month period ending 12/31/2025, we had a cumulative income of **\$112,431.03** and expenses of **\$51,293.86**, which generated a net gain of **\$61,137.17** for the year.

Our total investment balance as of 12/31/2025 was Check and Savings **\$69,540.80**, CDs **\$60,000**, inventory and undeposited funds **\$29,835.05**, and accumulated depreciation, - **\$9,611.80** making net fixed assets **\$171,647.99**, reflecting a fund balance of **\$165,664.95**.

NOTE: In the 4th Quarter of 2025, we received support from consultant at Oracle to transition from QuickBooks to their NetSuite for Non-Profits platform. Hence, some of the reports may not exactly coincide with the same categories shown in past Annual Reports.



Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for allowing the volunteers of Kolbe Prison Ministries to bring Your Light and Mercy to those so hungry to receive it.

We ask that you continue to bless the work of the KPM volunteers.



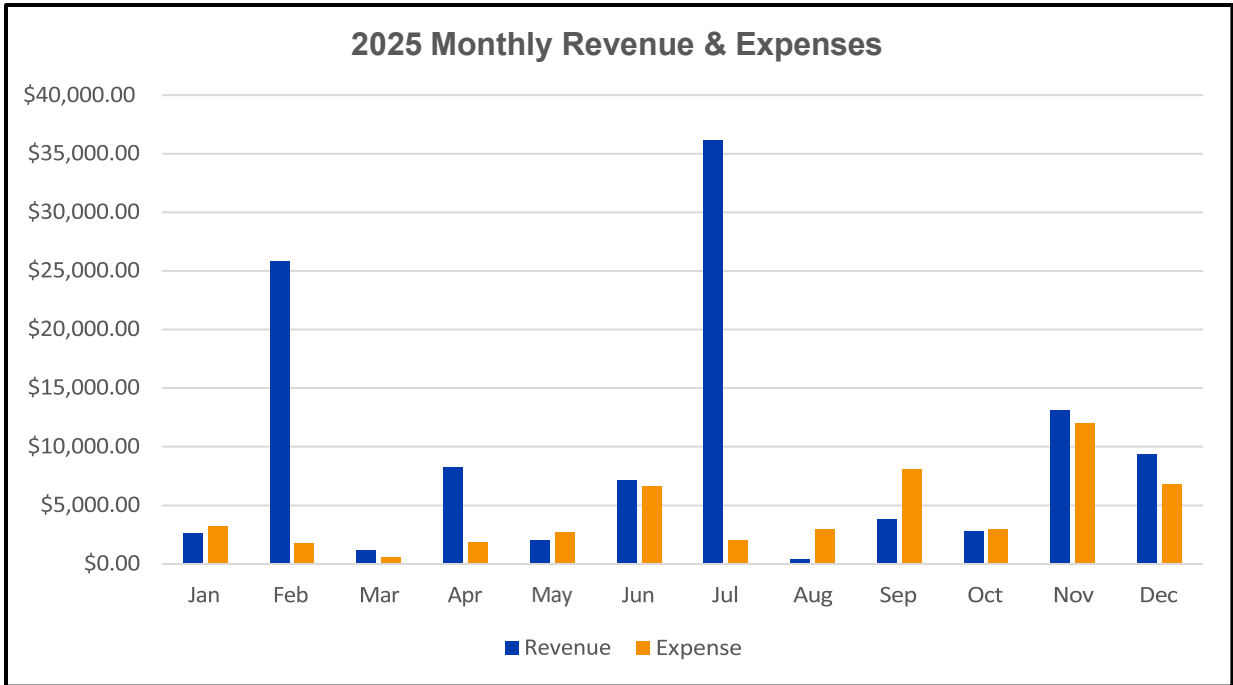


Figure 1: 2025 Monthly Revenue & Expenses

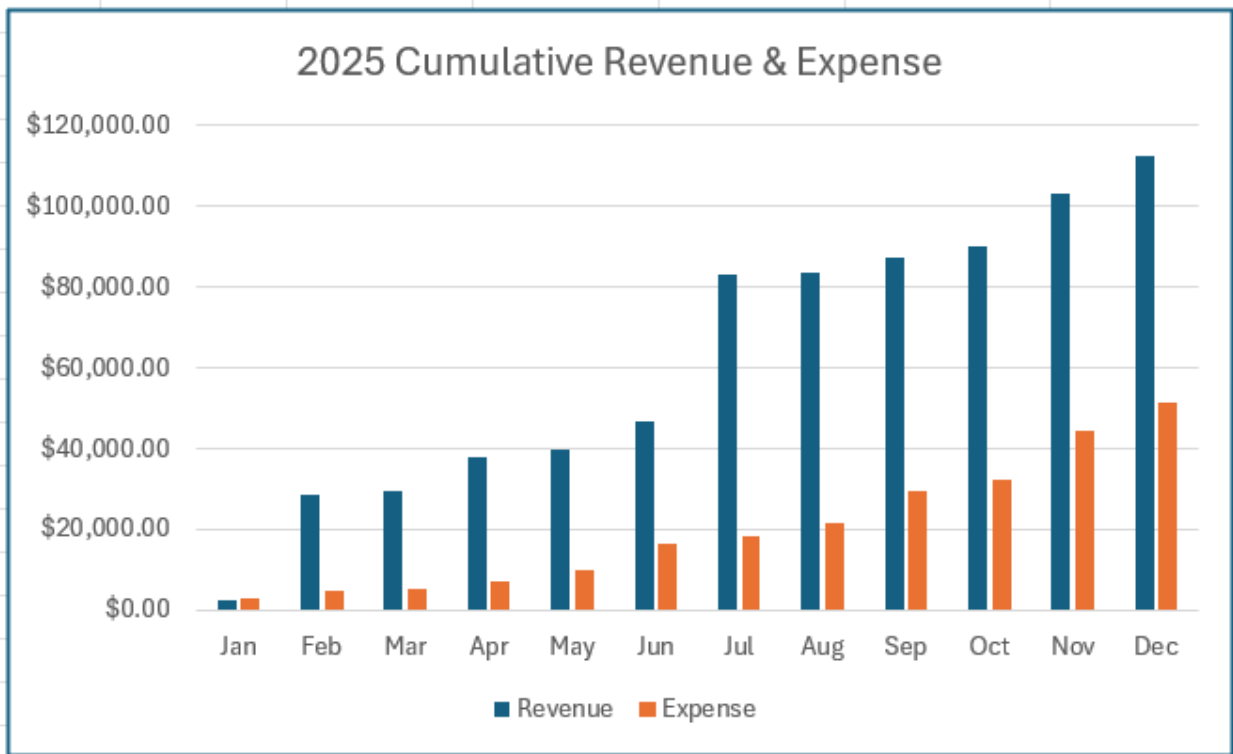


Figure 2: 2025 Cumulative Revenue & Expenses



| Expense | Amount |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| General & Administrative | \$10,252 |
| Retreats | \$5,370 |
| Operations | \$32,647 |
| Travel & Meetings | \$3,025 |
| TOTAL | \$51,294 |

Table 1: 2025 Expense Breakdown

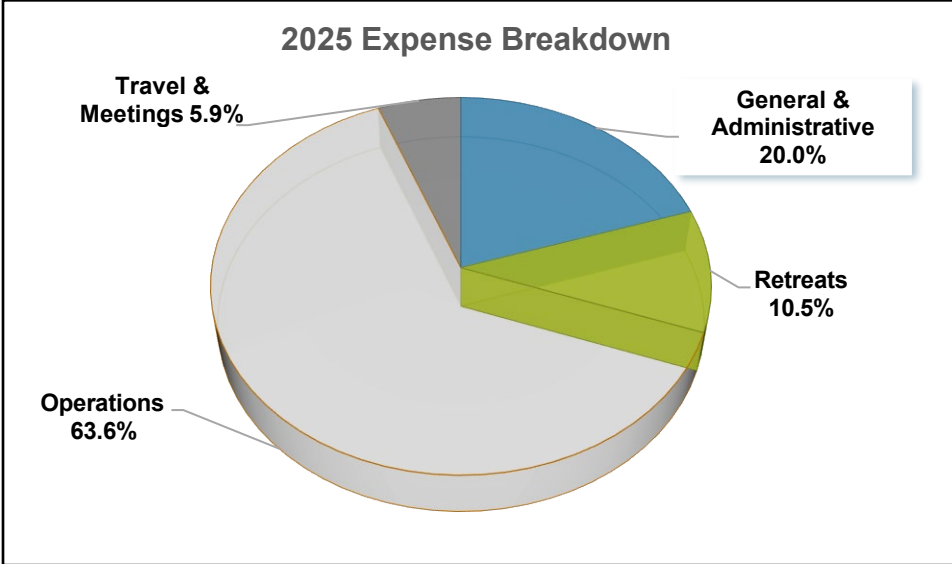


Figure 3: 2025 Expense Breakdown



| Revenue | Amount |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Conference Support | \$3,362 |
| Restricted Grants | \$25,000 |
| Team Retreat | \$1,100 |
| Gifts in Kind - Goods | \$300 |
| Individual, Business Contributions | \$73,794 |
| Miscellaneous | \$5,180 |
| Sales of Books | \$3,690 |
| Program Income | \$3,690 |
| TOTAL | \$116,116 |

Table 2: 2025 Revenue Breakdown

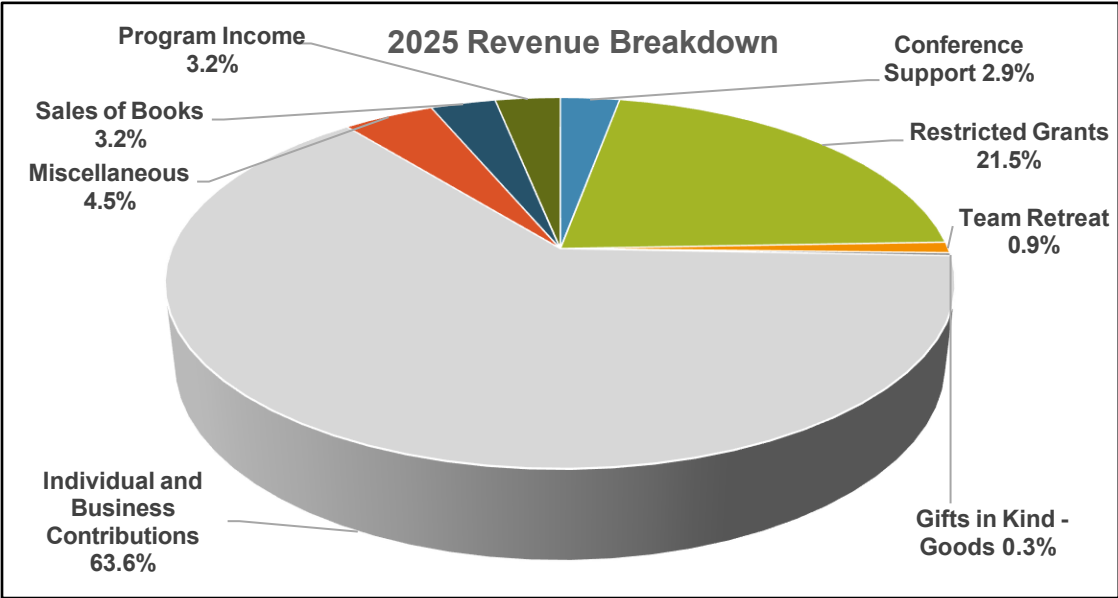


Figure 4: 2025 Revenue Breakdown





Figure 5: 2025 G&A Expense Breakdown

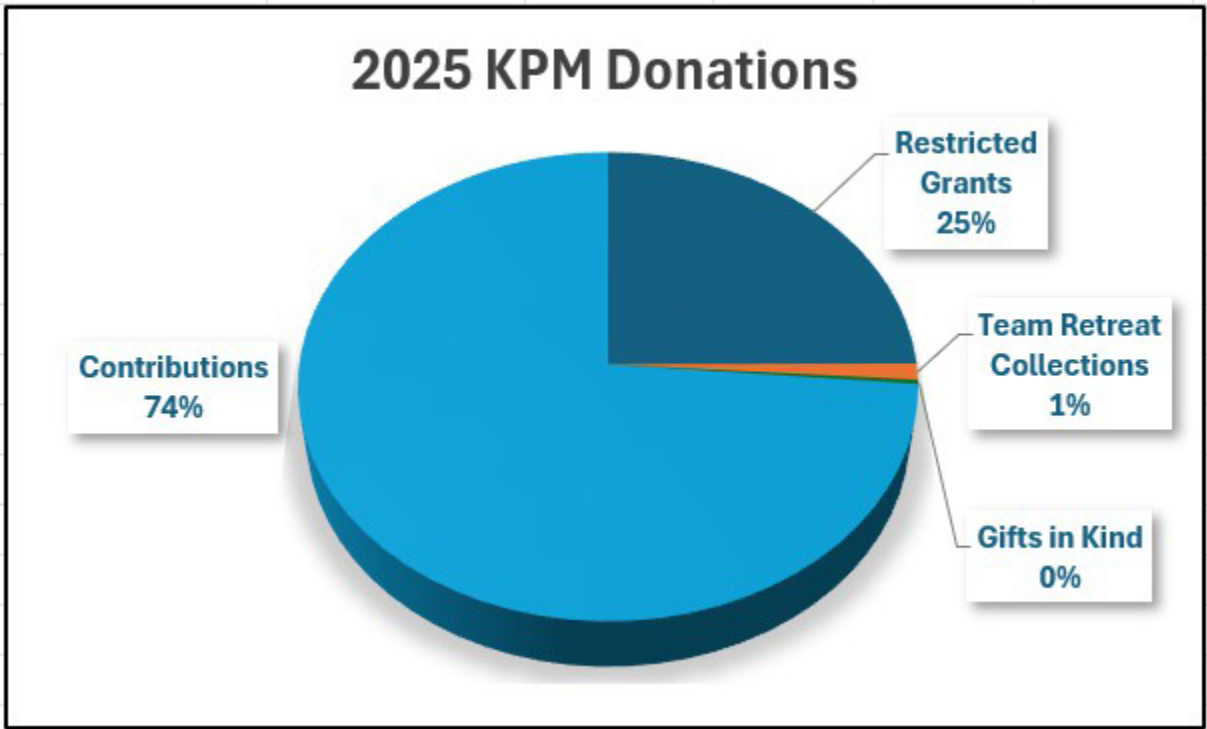


Figure 6: 2025 KPM Donations




| | | | 12/31/2025 | 12/31/2024 | 12/31/2023 | 12/31/2022 | 12/31/2021 | 12/31/2020 |
|--|--|--|---|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| KPM Balance Sheet | | | | | | | | |
| (2020-2025) | | | | | | | | |
| | | | <i>Incorporated October 27, 2015</i> | | | | | |
| | | |  | | | | | |
| ASSETS | | | | | | | | |
| Cash-Checking Operating | | | 49,472.57 | 19,150.97 | 8,117.07 | 13,454.54 | 8,023.63 | 23,675.41 |
| Savings Operating | | | 20,068.23 | 47,563.25 | 28,558.27 | 30,506.57 | 31,100.83 | 12,559.01 |
| CD Operating | | | 60,000.00 | - | - | - | 4,039.50 | 4,031.70 |
| Petty Cash | | | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Accounts Receivable | | | | 3,969.45 | - | - | - | - |
| Undeposited Funds | | | 7,775.00 | e | | | | |
| Inventory Asset Total | | | 22,060.05 | e | | | | |
| Inventory: Sales Items | | | | - | - | - | - | 465.00 |
| Inventory: OCIA Supplies | | | | - | - | - | - | 5,136.37 |
| Inventory: Retreat Supplies | | | | - | - | - | - | 146.81 |
| Inventory: AP Bible Study Materials | | | | 21,050.05 | d | 20,275.80 | d | 205,960.64 |
| | | | | | | | - | a |
| | | | | | | | | 146.81 |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | | |
| MACRS (yrs) | | | | | | | | |
| Salvage Value | | | | | | | | |
| Accumulated Depreciation | | | (9,611.80) | e | | | | |
| 15000 - Furniture & Equipment | | | 21,883.94 | e | | | | |
| Trailer: 6 | | | \$ 1,000.00 | | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,765.33 |
| Tables: 10 | | | \$ - | | 1,179.20 | 1,534.00 | 1,888.80 | 2,243.60 |
| Durable goods: 10 | | | \$ - | | 250.00 | 375.00 | 500.00 | 625.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 750.00 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | | 171,647.99 | 94,162.92 | 59,860.14 | 253,310.55 | 47,797.89 | 52,040.17 |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | | | | |
| Trust Funds | | | | | | | | |
| Accounts Payable | | | 5,983.04 | 145.24 | 279.97 | 6,000.00 | - | - |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | | 5,983.04 | 145.24 | 279.97 | 6,000.00 | - | - |
| FUND BALANCE | | | | | | | | |
| General | | | 165,664.95 | 94,017.68 | 59,580.17 | 247,310.55 | 47,797.89 | 52,040.17 |
| <i>KPM operates on a cash basis</i> | | | | | | | | |
| a - Inventory supplies were disbursed during the July 2021 KPM conference and December 2021 Price Daniel Retreat | | | | | | | | |
| b - In 2018, 12 additional tables purchased at cost of: | | | \$2,348.00 | | | | | |
| c - All earmarked funds disbursed in 2020 per KPM Board decision | | | | | | | | |
| d - Balance of 2022 Ascension Press property donations, which consisted of \$335,330 Bible Timeline Study materials (2/17/22) and \$2,600 Bible Tabs (8/26/22) | | | | | | | | |
| e - 2025 Net Suite Categories | | | | | | | | |

Figure 7: Balance Sheet




| | |  | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|------------|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| | | KPM Income Statement (2020-2025) | | <i>Incorporated October 27, 2015</i> | | | |
| | | 12/31/2025 | 12/31/2024 | 12/31/2023 | 12/31/2022 | 12/31/2021 | 12/31/2020 |
| Revenue | | | | | | | |
| | Restricted Grants | 25,000.00 | | | | | |
| | Retreat Collections | 1,100.00 | 12,956.81 | 11,085.12 | 4,000.00 | 1,700.00 | 1,740.92 |
| | Donations | 74,094.43 | 49,347.07 | 21,813.08 | 18,107.85 | a 12,893.70 | 13,322.79 |
| | Conference | 3,361.62 | 10,374.11 | | | | |
| | Interest | 4.98 | 4.98 | 51.70 | 48.13 | 57.75 | 69.91 |
| | Sales (Shirts, Patches, Decals, etc) | 3,690.00 | - | 1,198.01 | - | - | 276.00 |
| | Fundraiser | 5,180.00 | - | 168.94 | 209.44 | 247.35 | 141.17 |
| | | 112,431.03 | 72,682.97 | 34,316.85 | 22,365.42 | 14,898.80 | 15,550.79 |
| Expense | | | | | | | |
| | General & Administrative | 10,251.99 | 8,157.32 | 16,686.63 | 12,206.31 | 10,447.18 | 1,648.71 |
| | Retreat Supplies | 5,369.78 | 20,359.46 | 14,955.55 | 4,939.58 | 1,497.73 | 1,530.08 |
| | Operations | 32,647.00 | b | | | | |
| | Travel & Meetings | 3,025.09 | b | | | | |
| | Conference | - | 5,173.54 | | | | |
| | OCIA Supplies | - | 4,355.31 | 6,887.20 | 4,422.38 | 56.05 | 8,216.73 |
| | Cost of Goods Sold | - | - | 1,066.00 | - | - | 618.00 |
| | Depreciation Expense | - | 479.80 | 1,724.93 | 1,245.13 | 1,245.13 | 1,245.13 |
| | | 51,293.86 | 38,525.43 | 41,320.31 | 22,813.40 | 13,246.09 | 13,258.65 |
| Notes | | | | | | | |
| | Sales Net: | | - | 132.01 | - | - | (342.00) |
| | Retreat Net: | | (7,402.65) | (3,870.43) | (939.58) | 202.27 | 210.84 |
| <i>KPM operates on a cash basis</i> | | | | | | | |
| a - Portion of revenue earmarked for future retreats: \$6,000.00 in 2022 | | | | | | | |
| b - Net Suite Accounting Categories | | | | | | | |

Figure 8: Income Statement

Heavenly Father, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude for the generous donors who have blessed our mission. Your divine grace flows through their selfless giving, enabling us to serve others and fulfill our purpose. We thank You for their compassion, their vision for Your Kingdom, and their partnership in advancing Your work. May their kindness be rewarded abundantly—bless them with joy, prosperity, and the deep fulfillment that comes from giving. Strengthen their faith, protect their health, and multiply their generosity as they continue to sow seeds of hope. Help us steward their gifts wisely, honoring their trust and reflecting Your love in all we do. Let our gratitude inspire others to give freely, knowing that in giving, we truly receive. In Jesus' name, the ultimate Giver, we pray.

Amen.



ONGOING FORMATION

Kolbe Prison Ministries has expanded its offering of books, resources, and programs for ongoing formation on the campuses where we serve.

This past year, we received palettes of books from several suppliers and have shipped many boxes to facilities or core teams this past year. We expect to track the inventory in the new NetSuite Inventory Management Package and will have a more detailed report to share in the 2026 Annual Report.

For the first year, we asked core teams to provide us with data from the retreats they offered as well as a list of formation programs, their frequencies and materials used along with attendance of residents and volunteers. 56% of our core teams reported retreat information and 28% provided information about ongoing formation. The table below shows the summary information for the 9 core teams that reported.

| Core Teams | Units | Inside Attendance | Volunteers | Number In OCIA | Number Confirmed |
|------------|-------|-------------------|------------|----------------|------------------|
| 9 | 34 | 1385 | 211 | 306 | 83 |

Website Resources

While the 3-day retreats are the principle focus of KPM, there are additional services such as faith formation that KPM makes available to the offenders. The offenders most often become interested in these services and activities after having attended a Kolbe retreat.

OCIA Classes

For those inmates who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or have decided to join the Church, KPM volunteers offer regular OCIA classes (formerly called “RCIA”). Many retreatants have attended the classes and were later confirmed into the Catholic Church. If interested, certain OCIA program materials can be downloaded.

Bible Studies

KPM volunteers lead regular Bible Studies at the prisons to help the inmates grow in their faith and knowledge of Scripture.

Communion Services

KPM typically offers periodic Communion Service at a prison separate and apart from the retreat reunions. In addition to former retreatants, inmates who have not yet attended a KPM retreat are invited to attend. Communion Services are led by one or more of the KPM volunteers, but inmates also assist with the scripture readings and music.

Retreat Reunions

KPM holds periodic reunions where the “TDCJ-trained” outside team members (from all previous retreats) get together again with former retreatants. These reunions, held on a Saturday each month at the applicable unit/jail, usually last for about 4 hours. A retreat reunion generally includes some or all of the following activities: a Communion Service,



live Christian music, fellowship, one or more personal talks from the inmates. In certain units interactive programs focused on development of authentic male leadership (like “That Man Is You!”), and presentation of other faith-based videos may be offered.

Oblate of Saint Benedict

Prison Oblate Program – There is a special group of Oblates that belong to St. Benedict’s Abbey in Atchison, KS. These are Christian men and women who are incarcerated across the United States. While serving their sentences in prison, they choose to live a monastic lifestyle, following the Rule of St. Benedict and praying the Divine Office daily.

Visit our website to access a Ongoing Formation Guide, catalog an order form for a list of resources available to Core Teams just for shipping charges. Note that orders must be for complete boxes as we do not have the ability to ship smaller quantities.

Pope Francis opens a Holy Door at a Rome prison!



“I wanted the second Holy Door I open to be here at a prison,” Pope Francis explained. For the 2025 Jubilee of Hope, the first Door to be opened was the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica on 24 December 2024, then, for the first-time ever, the Pope opened the Holy Door at a prison.

The Pope used the occasion to deliver a message of **hope and redemption** to inmates,

stating, “I wanted each of us here, inside and out, to have the possibility of throwing open the door of our hearts and understanding that hope doesn’t disappoint.” During the Mass, he likened hope to an **anchor** that keeps believers moving forward even in challenging times and urged for the **abolition of the death penalty** and better reintegration programs for prisoners.

Pope Francis has long made ministry to prisoners a hallmark of his priestly vocation, and a Holy Year dedicated to a message of hope is no exception.

In 2024, Pope Francis, seated in a wheelchair, the pope washed the feet of each of the prisoners, some of them in tears, before drying them off with a towel and kissing them.



Pope Francis also dedicated December 14, 2025, as **Jubilee for Prisoners**.



DONORS OF MERIT

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Archdiocese of San Antonio | Jim Murphy |
| Fredericksburg, Texas Kolbe Core | Mercy Works Foundation |
| Knights of Columbus Council #7613 | The William K. Warren Foundation |
| Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary Council #7965 | Stephen & Mary Birch Foundation |
| Paul Vance (Bill Miller's BBQ Restaurants) | Pulte Family Charitable Foundation |
| St. Mark's Catholic Church Women's Guild | Andrew Cash |
| Oracle – NetSuite | Ann Marie C. Loduha |
| Google Workspace for Nonprofits | |



The fruits of these donations! Thank you!



CORPORATE DONORS

We are grateful for all of our donors, both corporations, Knights of Columbus Councils, as well as those donating food and other supplies. Our donors provide continual financial, material, and/or advocacy support making it possible to minister to the incarcerated.

Due to the nature of the ministry and the desired privacy of our donors, most prefer to remain anonymous and protect their personal information. KPM is blessed with many contributors who supply materials for catechesis, literature, the OCIA process, and food for our retreats and special programs. KPM recognizes the generosity of those who sustain the ministry behind the walls.



The Ware Foundation – Amarillo National Banks

Support KPM



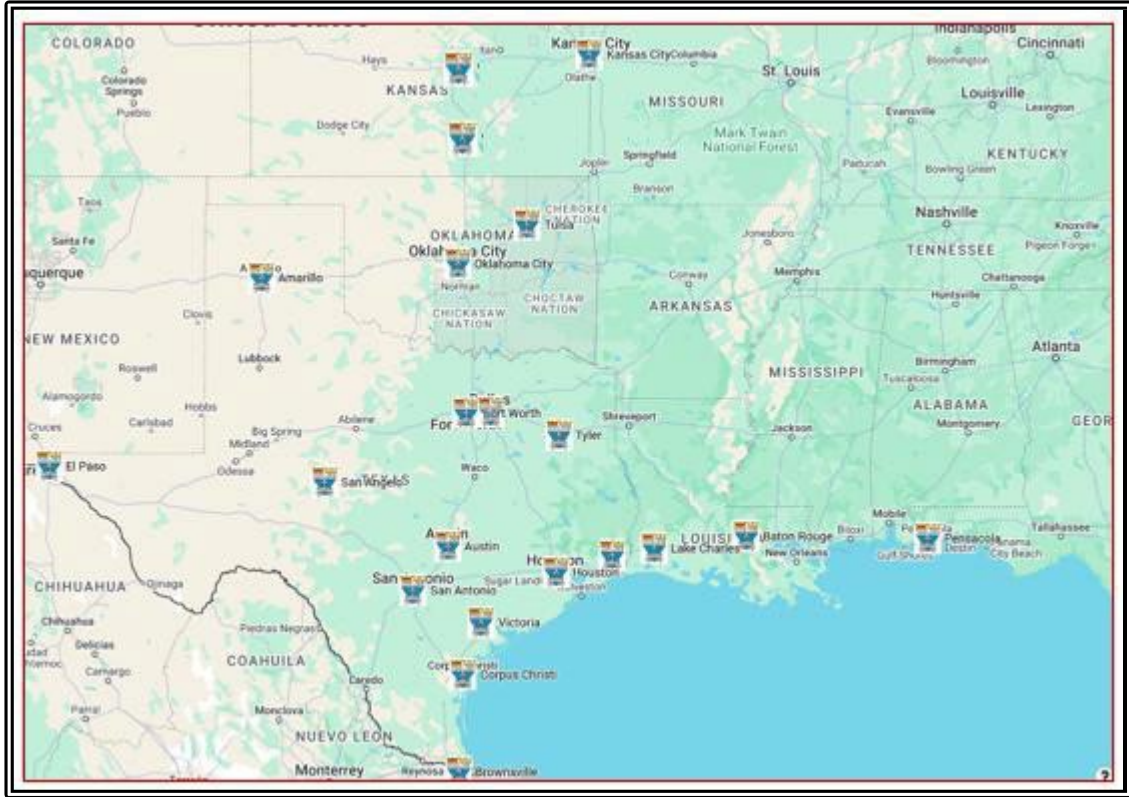
There are several ways to support and be a part of this life-changing ministry, including:

- Pray
- Donate
- Volunteer
- Inform others about KPM.



CORE TEAM REPORTS

Core Team Locations



2025 RETREAT STATISTICS

| 2024 RETREAT STATISTICS | | 2025 |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------------|
| Retreats | 61 | 73 |
| Retreatants | 3,257 | 3,795 |
| Volunteers | 1,569 | 1,914 |
| Meals Served | 25,699 | 30,459 |
| Volunteer Miles Traveled | 188,280 | 229,680 |
| Volunteer Hours | 62,760 | 76,560 |





Amarillo – The Amarillo Diocese Kolbe Prison Ministries has been serving the imprisoned within the Diocese with Kolbe Retreats, OCIA instruction, weekly visitations, and Mass since 2017. When we started in 2017, we visited two units in the Amarillo area, the Clements and Neal units. Since our first year over 8 years ago we have been blessed with many volunteers along with the guidance of the Holy Spirit who together with Jesus Christ and our Father God we have grown our ministry now to cover five TDCJ units within the Texas Panhandle.

We have been able to bring the Gospel message to our brothers-in-white thru the grace given our retreat team volunteers, priests, deacons, and prison staff to the restricted walls of the units we serve. It is truly a blessing to see the Holy Spirit at work, and to share the Love of Jesus Christ with our brothers.



Below is a summary of the 2025 Amarillo Kolbe Prison Ministries retreat team.

- Dalhart Unit: we support weekly Mass, OCIA, and one retreat in March 2025 and a reunion gathering in July 2025 for those who attended the retreat.
- Roach Unit Childress Texas: supported the unit with volunteer visits, and we held a retreat in November of 2024 and the reunion and gathering in April 2025 for the men who attended the retreat.
- Jordan Unit Pampa Texas: supported the unit with volunteer visits and a retreat in May 2025, also with a reunion and gathering in August 2025.
- Clements Unit Amarillo Texas: weekly Mass, OCIA, and volunteer visits along with a retreat held in July 2025 and then a reunion and gathering in August 2025.
- Thomas Mechler Unit Tulia Texas: volunteer visit and assistance with weekly Mass and held our second Kolbe retreat in September 2025 and then a reunion and gathering in October 2025.



We had approximately ten new volunteers join our Kolbe Team in 2025 and had a religious Sister help us on one of our retreats at the Clements unit. Over the course of the year, we were able to bring the Gospel message of Hope, Peace, and Love to over three hundred brothers-in-white along with over sixty inside team members in the Amarillo Diocese and Texas Panhandle in 2025.

We elected and added three new members to our core team leadership, bringing us to a total of twelve core members serving the Amarillo Diocese Kolbe Ministries team. In 2025 the cost to conduct our Kolbe retreats increased due to inflation, travel expenses and growing number of retreatants and limited team members. But we have been blessed by several generous donations from individuals and the Knights of Columbus during the course of the year. We are grateful for our benefactors and those who have donated cookies and food items from local food establishments.



We are grateful and truly blessed for the outpouring of God's love to the men that we serve. The Diocese is blessed to have so many faithful volunteers, priest, and deacons who are so willingly to serve our brothers.





Austin – The Core Team serving the mission of Kolbe Prison Ministries was affiliated on April 1st, 2025. It is with much charity that we thank all those who have contributed time, talent, and treasure to this ministry. I, Eric Senf (President) would like to thank the members of my leadership team; each contributing to a beautiful way: Steve Venzon (Vice President), John Panariello (Treasurer), Timothy Cleary (Secretary), Wade Swanson, and Chris Cioffi. We are great appreciative of the support of the KPM Board, including its leadership guidance and its monetary and material contributions, including our well-equipped trailer. We would like to personally thank Larry Reeh, Jeremy Itz, and so many others for their sage guidance and wisdom, which have been critical to the start of this ministry. And finally, we would like to thank the priests and deacons from our diocese who stand side by side with us as we serve our brothers in white.

During the past nine months, we have officially affiliated, opened our bank account, launched our website, set up our donated trailer, and built out all the other logistics necessary to run retreats. We have over 110 volunteers who have signed up on our website, and we continue to refine and update our site to make retreat signup, payment, and ongoing communications as easy and effective as humanly possible. We have been tremendously blessed by numerous generous donors, and we extend our deepest gratitude to all of them; your generosity has allowed us to accomplish so much in a brief period of time.

Though we have conducted only one retreat thus far—the one at the Bartlett Unit—we will have completed our second at the Hughes Unit by the time you read this. We also have two additional retreats already in the planning stages: one at the San Saba Unit in April, and a return to the Bartlett Unit in July. We are deeply appreciative of all our retreat volunteers, especially those who said “yes” for the first time; it is through your generous response that we are able to bring Christ’s Gospel to our incarcerated brothers.

The coming year will be one of struggles and blessings as we increase the number of retreats for the incarcerated and grow retreat teams across the Diocese of Austin. Thank you for your prayers; thank you for your support. Our Lady, Queen of Heaven, pray for us! Saint Maximilian Kolbe, pray for us! By God’s grace and for Christ’s glory, may our ministry flourish.



Baton Rouge – 2025 was a very active year for the Baton Rouge Core Team. We completed the purchasing of all necessary equipment for our inventory. We also added a second sound system.

The Core Team launched a website, kolbebatonrouge.org.

LCIW #3 - Had the first ladies retreat under the BR Core team at LCIW, where we had 23 women from Baton Rouge and 23 ladies from Lake Charles and Texas. For the first time, inside team members were allowed to participate and we had 11 women who served the retreatants alongside the outside team members.

Strawberry Festival - We had a large booth at the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival selling Cajun sausage and boudin, along with drinks and popcorn. Over the 3 days we raised almost \$9,000.

Elayn Hunt CC#3 - We had 35 outside team members and 25 inside team members serving 38 retreatants. It was a successful retreat. After the retreat, we witnessed 9 Kolbe brothers coming into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Women’s Giving Circle - The Baton Rouge Core Team was awarded a grant for \$17,500 from the Diocese of Baton Rouge Women’s Giving Circle. These funds helped complete the purchase of the trailer and have it built out with shelves for storage and a KPM decal.



Women's Book Club - After the initial ladies' retreat under the Baton Rouge Core Team, interest grew in program. However, the fall retreat was cancelled due to the relocation of prison to a new facility. So, in effort to keep ladies engaged, they started a book club, where ladies read books about prison life, prison ministries and Catholicism.



Hunt's Catholic Men's Club Dinner - The Kolbe Core Team sponsored the club's June meeting, providing a chicken stew dinner and a talk from Most Blessed Sacrament's Pastor, Fr. Todd Lloyd.

Annual Conference - The Baton Rouge Core team hosted the KPM Annual Conference at Most Blessed Sacrament in Baton Rouge. About 200 people attended the event, with a great display of volunteer help. At the Friday night Core Team reception, Core Team members from all over, along with board members and special guests enjoyed a South Louisiana meal of seafood with bread pudding for dessert. Board President Kerry Johnston stated that the BR team had raised the bar for future conferences.

Louisiana Parole Project - The Core Team purchased 2 tables to the Louisiana Parole Project Redemption Luncheon where many DOC officials were in attendance. This is their largest fund raiser of the year.

Angola #1 - A target of KPM for years, the BR Core Team was finally able to get a retreat scheduled at Louisiana State Penitentiary at the Angola maximum security prison, which covers 18,000 acres and houses almost 7,000 prisoners. The retreat had 48 outside team members from 4 different dioceses came together to serve the 38 retreatants who attended. The facility administration was happy with the process and outcome with retreats scheduled for 2026.



LCIW OCIA - After moving to the new facility, the Catholic Chaplain asked Kolbe to help with their OCIA program. So, a group of Kolbe sisters came together and did some informational sessions and then started formal OCIA classes, where they are averaging about 15-20 attendees every week.

Hunt #4 - The Kolbe men's retreat in late October had 40 men start and finish the retreat. The first time we were able to keep everyone through to the end. The team was made up of 35 outside team members and 28 inside team members.

LCIW Ministries Appreciation Dinner - The annual dinner for all the residents of LCIW who participate in the programs was an immense success, with six Kolbe women serving the meal and fellowshiped with the women at LCIW.

Hygiene Items - For the second year in a row, KPM provided hygiene items for inmates in Angola, Hunt, and LCIW with the \$6,000 in donations. For the Christmas season, 300 inmates at Angola and Hunt received them, while almost 1,000 ladies received items at LCIW. Each inmate was given a Body Wash/Shampoo bottle, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, and a razor.



CCC and Bibles - The BR Core Team acquired 200 bibles to be distributed to these facilities within the boundaries of the diocese. So far, 20 bibles were given to the EBR Parish



Prison, 1 case was given to Hunt and 2 cases to Angola. KPM provided 30 Catechism of the Catholic Church books and 6 Catholic Bibles for the OCIA program at LCIW.

Christmas Mass and Celebrations:

- At Hunt KPM provided the entrée for 180 people attending the Hunt Christmas Party. They requested deer chili!
- At Angola, a dozen Kolbe brothers and sisters attend the as Bishop Michael Duca presided over the Mass, where he gave a message of hope. After Mass, lunch was served and everyone visited.
- At LCIW about 100 LCIW resident attendees and 8 of our outside Kolbe sisters attended Mass led by Father Johnny and Deacon Tim Messenger. The ladies received some Christmas Candy during fellowship immediately after Mass.



Beaumont Men – The Diocese of Beaumont St. Kolbe Prison Ministry currently has about 300 active members.

Retreats & Renewals: In 2025, the Beaumont Kolbe group had three men's retreats and one women's retreat. The weekly Renew celebrations at the Stiles Unit and the monthly Renewals at Gib Lewis and Polunsky Units, continue to keep the flame of the Holy Spirit and the Light of Christ alive for the brothers in white. Attendance has steadily increased especially after retreats, with 110 - 140 men joining faithfully each week at the Stiles Unit and 80-100 joining monthly at the Gib Lewis/ Polunsky Units. Once a month, Stiles celebrates with popcorn and Kool-Aid night at Renew.

Volunteers: Many of the Kolbe brothers participated in the Christ in You men's conference that has begun in the diocese. The women also have a Christ in You conference with some of our Kolbe sisters attending. This is a day of renewal, speakers, and worship across the diocese. It has become a large annual gathering.

Bishop Toups has been incredibly supportive of our incarcerated brothers and sisters. He frequently asks to go say Mass at units and gladly does as time allows.



(Expert Musicians - Happy to bring Joyful Noise to Our Brothers)

Some Kolbe brothers contributed money and time to help the Stiles Unit put on a day of celebration for the CO's and the employees, thanking them for their efforts and assistance during our retreats.



We welcomed 15 new Catholics into our faith through the OCIA program with several preparing to receive sacraments this Easter season.

We want to extend a heartfelt Thank You to Peter Peltier who leads OCIA in Woodville at Gib Lewis, to Deacon Mike Sigur and his team who help at the Stiles Unit in Beaumont and Kelly Broussard and his team.

(Stewards Happy After 4 Days of Serving Their Brothers who helped at Polunsky in Livingston.)

Programs: We currently use a combination of Invitation by Paulist Press, materials from St. Dismas Ministry, and the program Catholic Faith, Life, and Creed by Mary Birmingham. Lessons are coordinated with these programs to allow the catechists to use DVDs and Symbolon as needed to support the lessons.

In March, the Criminal Justice Office collected hygiene supplies for the indigent offenders at our units. Many of these supplies go to those units with a Kolbe community. Hygiene supplies are collected throughout the year as part of service projects from different ministries and are distributed to the units in need. This has become a well-known project throughout the diocese, parishes, schools, and religious education classes.



Clergy: We are grateful for the outpouring of God's love to the men and women that we serve. The Diocese is blessed to have so many faithful priests and deacons who so willingly serve our brothers and sisters. In spite of their parish expectations and needs, they find time to offer the sacraments to the incarcerated. This ministry couldn't do this without their dedicated service! We continue to invite new volunteers into our team and look forward to how the Spirit will move us in 2026. We will add 2 new spots to the men's Core Team for 2026. Particularly one younger brother who has superb skills in leadership and service, and the other is an ex-offender who spent 7 years in the federal system and is a valuable asset to Kolbe Ministries. He has attended several retreats and has been a Co-Director on a retreat. We feel he offers an insight the team can't bring to the table, and we are blessed to have him in our ministry.



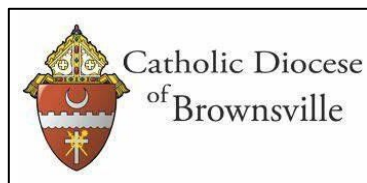
(Stiles Unit Group Picture)

We have 4 Men's and 1 Woman's Retreat scheduled for 2026.

Beaumont Women – In July of 2025, the Women of the Diocese of Beaumont Kolbe Prison Ministry held a retreat at Plane State in Dayton, TX. Two days before the retreat the unit went on lockdown. We believe that the rapport we have built as well as the positive comments received from the inmates was a driving force in the Chaplain and Warden granting us permission to go ahead and have the retreat, but with a decrease in the number of retreatants originally scheduled. We normally have around 70 inmates as retreatants, but this retreat they cut back to 54. Needless to say, after storming the gates of heaven with pleading prayers, God made a way for us to go and minister. The most compliments we receive from the inmates is that the women of the Kolbe Prison Ministry offer unconditional love, we do not judge them for their past mistakes, and we make them feel welcome on the very first day. Many have expressed they have never received such love and acceptance.

Plane State is fortunate to have a priest go in each Saturday for mass. Kolbe Women of Beaumont have started going in on the 2nd Saturday of the month to have mass with the inmates as well as say the rosary, discuss the readings or other important topics. Normally we have around six Kolbe women attend. There is a class offered at Plane for those interested in becoming Catholic that is headed up by another Catholic volunteer.

In correlation with the Kolbe Men of the Diocese of Beaumont, we will be having our first Purse Bingo to help raise funds for this ministry. This will be held in April of 2026. A Women's Kolbe retreat for July of 2026 is on the calendar at Plane State. We have chosen a director and will start formation meetings in March. Each year we recruit new women to serve so we can expand and continue to grow and minister to the women at Plane State in Dayton.



Brownsville – The 3-day Catholic retreat held November 22-25 at the Manuel A. Segovia Unit, was successful at providing space for spiritual renewal, conversion, and community building within the facility. The event included Mass Adoration, Reconciliation, and small group discussions, culminating in a powerful, transformative experience for both inmates and volunteers. Attendance and participation were great. Brothers in white were 25 out of 40, 11 volunteers, and 4 brothers in white facilitators. Chaplain Virgil Crittenden was the chaplain in



attendance for this retreat, with Guadalupe Hinojosa as Retreat Director and Deacon Benito Saenz as the Spiritual Guide. The volunteers' background included approximately 5 parishes represented in the Diocese.

Mass was celebrated by our Chaplain Father George Gonzalez on Friday and Bishop Mario Aviles on Saturday with the final blessing.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was offered, which was a profound moment of silence and for many, the first time in

years. The retreat focus was on God's mercy, the prodigal son, forgiveness, and the dignity of the person created in the image of God. Our brothers in white were divided into small groups led by volunteers. This session allowed for vulnerable sharing and bonding, reducing the feelings of isolation. A couple of our brothers participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, with many seeking confessions for the first time in a long while.



We were grateful for the participants' willingness to dedicate their time to our recent retreat. This gave us the chance to share some of the incredible experiences of spiritual growth that came out of our time together. The first volunteer proceeded to tell us, "Amazing Spirit filled the men at Segovia, Christ has touched our hearts through the men who gave the retreat." Another man proceeded to tell us "I am speechless!! The experiences that were shared, the enthusiasm and the joy that they had were so inspiring. There is no doubt in my mind that the Holy Spirit / Christ healed many souls in this retreat. I am humbled to be here."

A future follow-up group has been established to meet every Sunday, for which quite a few brothers in white have already signed up. We hope to soon create more of these sessions at this facility.



placed at all facilities, and each has established services and programs set for weekly and/or monthly schedules that vary in depth and scope according to time allowed and other restrictions as stipulated by each unit. Activities consist of OCIA programs, recitation of the Rosary, liturgy discussions, counseling, Mass, Confessions, general discussions, prayer, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Some facilities have only one volunteer, while others have a team of volunteers including: priests, deacons and lay, both male and female throughout the diocese.

Corpus Christi – All units of incarceration in our diocese to include county jails and juvenile facilities are currently receiving Catholic volunteer services unless locked down for administrative purposes on a weekly or monthly basis. There are volunteers



Items provided to all facilities that accept our volunteer services include bibles, rosaries, prayer cards, information pamphlets, Christian books, booklets, and other appropriate reading material to strengthen their faith and knowledge of the Catholic faith.

McConnell Unit, Beeville, TDCJ

Official recognized parish name is St. Dismas Catholic Community at McConnell established circa 2005 by parishioners and volunteers. Submitted to Diocese of Corpus Christi for official recognition. Mass and confessions are conducted every Monday unless Unit is on Lockdown. Kolbe Reunions conducted every third Saturday of each month. Special Christmas Mass with diocesan bishop in December. Sacraments and other special Masses conducted throughout the year. Catechism classes are conducted every Monday and Saturday. Inside and outside teams of volunteers conduct OCIA classes on weekly basis. Bishop Michael Mulvey celebrated a special farewell mass on Monday September 22, 2025. He also had planned to celebrate Christmas mass on Monday December 22, 2025, but took ill and was not able to join us.

Fr. Richard Gutierrez celebrated mass and was named official chaplain at McConnell Unit by Bishop Mulvey. Conducted Kolbe Retreat May 1-3, 2025.



Garza West Unit, Beeville, TDCJ

Fr. Jacob Valayath from St. James Catholic Church in Beeville celebrates mass and confessions at this unit every Sunday at noon and a team of three volunteers either join father or take turns taking father to the unit. They also provide OCIA classes every Tuesday. Sacraments are not scheduled but plan to administer in the Spring of 2026 at end of catechism classes. A Kolbe Retreat was conducted at this unit,

November 14-16, 2025. Kolbe reunion was conducted and invitations to join OCIA continues. This is a transfer unit and therefore inmates get transferred many times before catechism is completed. They are urged to inquire about these classes at their new unit of residence.

Garza East Unit, Beeville, TDCJ

This unit had been closed for several years but reopened in February of 2025. There is a new unit chaplain who appears eager to begin Catholic services at his unit. Very few masses have been conducted but communion services are scheduled at noon on Thursdays after numerous changes of day and time. We currently do not have a regularly scheduled priest to conduct mass and hear confessions but is in the works. The Beeville Deanery Head, Fr. Pete Elizardo at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Beeville has promised to assign several deanery priests to take turns and provide ministry at least once a month at this unit. We provided a One Day Kolbe Retreat at this unit on Saturday, October 18, 2025. Now, we have requested to plan and schedule a three Kolbe Retreat for Summer or Fall of 2026 and authorization is incredibly positive according to the unit chaplain.



The Beeville Deanery Head, Fr. Pete Elizardo at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Beeville has promised to assign several deanery priests to take turns and provide ministry at least once a month at this unit. We provided a One Day Kolbe Retreat at this unit on Saturday, October 18, 2025. Now, we have requested to plan and schedule a three Kolbe Retreat for Summer or Fall of 2026 and authorization is incredibly positive according to the unit chaplain.

Chase Field Trustee Work Camp, TDCJ

This unit in Beeville had also been closed for a number of years but has recently been reopened. There is currently not an assigned chaplain, but the Garza West chaplain has been assigned responsibility to oversee chaplaincy services for this unit. We do not currently have an established volunteer priest nor volunteers to minister at this unit. We are working to establish a team to visit this unit on a weekly basis.

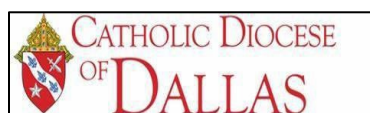


Ernestine Glossbrenner SAFPF Unit, San Diego, Tx, TDCJ

Fr. David Ulrich who was recently reassigned to Illinois was the unit priest who served this unit. A team of volunteers consisting of two deacons are regular servants who now provide communion services until they can attempt to recruit a priest from the local area to service this unit. The team of deacons currently provides OCIA classes and teach catechism on a weekly basis.

Federal Correctional Institution Three Rivers (Federal Unit)

This unit is located in Three Rivers, Texas and currently does not have a priest nor volunteers who conduct ministry. Fr. David Ulrich from Sarita, Texas had been providing mass and confessions here but has now been relocated to Illinois. We are currently attempting to coordinate with Fr. Romeo Salinas from St. George Catholic Church in George West, Texas to volunteer to minister at this unit. We are collaborating with the chaplain at this unit to complete the volunteer process to establish a ministry team there.



Dallas – The Dallas Core team has been serving the imprisoned within the Diocese with Kolbe Retreats, RCIA, weekly visitations and Mass since 2015. This coming year, 2026 marks the eleventh-year anniversary since the formation of Dallas Kolbe Prison Ministries, who have proclaimed the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the incarcerated.

Thanks and Gratitude: We are grateful for the direction and guidance of the Holy Spirit who together with Jesus Christ and our Father God Almighty have led our ministry since 2015. The joy filled grace that is being imparted to our Brothers in White as well as our Kolbe Retreat Team, Priests, Deacons, Prayer Partners, Benefactors and Prison Staff have been a true blessing reaching beyond the restricted walls of the prisons we serve. We will not forget the good things God has done for us.



2025 Dallas Kolbe Prison Ministries (DKPM) Retreats and activities:

Hutchins Unit: weekly OCIA and visits, weekly Mass support, two retreats, one in June 2025, one in December 2025, Christmas Mass with Bishop Edward Burns, Bishop of Dallas, Texas

Buster Cole Unit: one retreat held in August 2025, weekly Mass support and OCIA Visits

Kolbe Annual Conference: DKPM members attended the conference held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Outside Dallas: volunteer support to Fort Worth Diocese, Bridgeport Unit, to Oklahoma and Kansas, volunteer support to the Hodge Unit in the Diocese of Tyler, Texas, volunteer support to other units in Texas. [The Hutchins & the Buster Cole Units are Texas State Jails operated by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ)].

Books Donated to Kolbe Prison Ministries and managed by Dallas Kolbe Prison Ministries: Received and stored over 19,000 books at the warehouse in Carrollton, Texas. Joe Shea took on the burden of storing, inventory tracking, order processing, and shipping of books to Kolbe Cores around the country. Don Hartung assisted with book handling by creating a spreadsheet template and then tracking ongoing orders and inventory levels. Below is a summary:

Book Inventory Summary stored and shipped books from the warehouse:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| 2025 February Initial Quantity of Books: | 19,240 Books |
| 2025 December End of Year Quantity: | 12,131 Books |
| 2025 Total Books Shipped | 7,103 Books |
| 2025 Book Titles | 16 Book Titles |
| 2025 total Book Orders: | 14 Book Orders |

The 1,000+ Ascension Press, Large Print Adventure Bibles alone weighed over 2 tons. Thanks to Joe Shea for volunteering to take on this weighty responsibility.

Increase in Volunteers: We increased the number of team members again this past year. In addition, we have added a number of former TDCJ inmates to our Kolbe Retreat Teams.



These former inmates were remarkably effective witnesses to the power of God's grace in transforming the lives of our Brothers in White.

Cultivating Kolbe Expansion: Kolbe Prison Ministries can only expand geographically at the rate upon which it can successfully evangelize its services to prison warden and prison chaplains and gain approval to operate from the respective Diocese. This process can take multiple years of relationship cultivation to gain access to even one new prison unit. Kolbe Prison Ministries has the capability and opportunity to change lives in prison systems, but due to its reliance on local volunteer labor, the realization of new prison units heavily constrained by the time and geographical limits of our volunteer only workforce.

Local Generosity to Retreat Operations: We are incredibly grateful to our benefactors that have donated meals from local food establishments. We have received a number of generous donations from individuals and Catholic organizations from within the Diocese of Dallas to help with our Kolbe Retreats.

Final thought from the Dallas Kolbe Prison Ministries from an excerpt of the Bishop Oscar Romero prayer:

'We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produce effects far beyond our capabilities.'

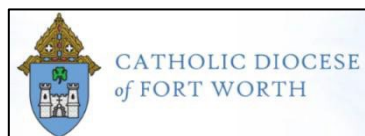
We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.'



El Paso – Due to scheduling conflict and staff shortage at the prison, we were not able to hold a retreat. However, we tentatively have one scheduled for March 12 to the 14th, 2026.

We did have a weekly communion service, Mass, and Confession.



Fort Worth – **Fort Worth** – Below is a summary of 2025 Ft Worth (KPM-FW) retreats and activities.

1. Bridgeport Correctional Unit– Provided weekly Mass Support, OCIA classes in English and Spanish; 2 Kolbe retreats (1 in Spanish in March 2025 and 1 in English in November 2025). In addition, 2 bible studies were conducted throughout the year - 1 English and 1 in Spanish) We added a weekly Rosary class in English.
2. Lindsey Unit in Jacksboro - Began providing weekly Mass Support in December of 2025. We hope to expand services in the future at this unit.
3. Our leaders again attended the KPM Annual National conference that was held at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish in Baton Rouge, LA.





4. We experienced an increase in the number of TDCJ approved volunteers.
5. We formed the Ft Worth Diocese Core Team and conducted monthly meetings with an eye to expanding our services beyond Bridgeport prison.
6. New leadership has been installed with an eye on growing the ministry, but we express most heart-felt appreciation to those who began this ministry.
7. Appreciation is also extended to all the priests, and deacons who have provided spiritual direction.
8. Plans or expectations for the subsequent year- we hope to increase the number of activities in the two prisons we now serve.



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
GALVESTON-HOUSTON

Galveston/Houston South/Houston Central – The Galveston-Houston Central Team conducted retreats in the Memorial Unit and the Jester III Unit.

The Memorial Unit retreat had 66 offenders as retreatants and an inside team of 24 retreatants. The free world team was composed of 30 men from 6 different parishes. The Memorial Unit's chaplain passed away in late May and has only recently been replaced. Only recently have we been able to confirm a retreat for March of 2026.

The Jester III Unit retreat had 66 offenders as retreatants and an inside team of 31 offenders. The free world team was composed of 33 men from 7 different parishes and a priest from out of state. The Jester III Unit will be scheduled for the first of the year.

The team conducted reunions at both units. As part of Lenten alms giving, the team was able to donate approximately \$6,000.00 of hygiene supplies to the Memorial Units Chapel for distribution to indigent offenders. The supplies consisted of approximately 1,000 bars of soap, 1,000 tubes of toothpaste, and 1,000 deodorants.

Galveston/Houston North – Great year as we now have approximately 200 volunteers from 5 parishes involved with KPM on the North side of Houston. St Martha's continues to excel in their efforts with 4 retreats annually while holding special programs in the Super Max Security Unit of Estelle. They lead the way in fund raising creativity with their Annual Parish Steakfest. This helps supplement efforts for retreats and special projects during the year. Christ the Redeemer continues to build its presence in the Pack unit even bringing Communion to the trustee dorms on weekends. Their efforts really shine at Ellis where 2 of their deacons routinely visit restricted housing, teaching a course on spiritual warfare, bible studies, and ongoing development of the Lay Dominicans in house.

St Jerome's, our newest parish is making a mark at the Luther Unit with Communion services, weekly fellowship and have developed a Team over 24 months that now numbers 25 plus. quite an achievement for a small parish in the city. St Anthony's continues to expand its efforts in Administrative Segregation at the Ferguson Unit in Midway where we currently are awaiting confirmation on another 9 men and there's an additional 18 men currently in OCIA. Dr Cooper continues to grow the Lay Dominican Program with 6 men.



As a northside group we brought in two new Kolbe Brothers who are now CVCAs in TDCJ. This now gives KPM Galveston-Houston North 4 CVCAs, 1 TDCJ Chaplain and 7 parish deacons who are actively involved in our northside units. KPM Houston North is directly or indirectly involved in bringing the Precious Body to 8,000+ men over the course of the year coupled with hundreds of reconciliations by collaborating with clergy or bringing clergy to administer the Sacraments.

Galveston/Houston South – The Houston/Galveston South Area experienced a year of meaningful outreach and service through the successful completion of three men’s retreats and support of a women’s retreat. Retreats were held at Stringfellow Unit on February 6–7, reaching 66 retreatants with the support of 11 inmate team members; at Ramsey Unit on May 8–10, serving 75 retreatants with 10 inmate team members; and at Terrell Unit on October 23–25, reaching 66 retreatants with 10 inmate team members. Through these three retreats, Kolbe South reached approximately 238 incarcerated men, offering them an opportunity for spiritual renewal and hope.



In addition, Kolbe South supported the women’s retreat at Carol Young Unit on October 16–18 by assisting with food preparation and surrounding the retreat team and participants with prayer, further extending our mission of faith, reconciliation, and community within the prison system.



Kansas City – The KPM of KCK Core was formally established at the beginning of 2025 to advance the mission of Kolbe Prison Ministries across the state of Kansas. Through outreach to local parishes and Catholic organizations—particularly the Knights of Columbus and St. Dismas Prison

Outreach Ministry—the core group raised awareness of the Kolbe mission and secured significant financial support for prison retreats.

In 2025, the executive committee supported a major expansion of retreat venues and core groups beyond the long-established programs at the Lansing and Topeka correctional facilities.



New core groups were formed in the Dioceses of Wichita and Salina. Retreats took place at the Lansing maximum/medium security facility in June, the women’s correctional facility in Topeka in October.



Retreats took place at the Lansing maximum/medium security facility in June, the women’s correctional facility in Topeka in October. The Lansing retreat focused on the theme of “Surrender,” inspired by the Suscipe prayer of St. Ignatius Loyola. Despite significant logistical challenges leading up to the retreat, clergy and volunteers came together at the last moment, an outcome participants attributed to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



Since most residents were not Catholic, the presence of Benedictine monks and deacons was particularly valuable in explaining Catholic beliefs and practices. The retreat included discussions, adoration, the rosary, shared meals, witness testimonies, Masses, confessions, and a foot washing ceremony. Many residents expressed that the retreat was profoundly life-changing, and several committed to OCIA and ongoing prayer. The retreat emphasized the role of faith, the sacraments, and Christian community as sources of hope in a challenging prison environment.

The retreat at the Women’s Correctional Facility in Topeka was centered on the theme “Hope Anchors the Soul,” drawn from the Letter to the Hebrews. Fifty residents and forty-five volunteers attended, including thirteen resident volunteers who had previously participated in Kolbe retreats and served as the inside team. Clergy support was extensive, with multiple priests celebrating Mass and hearing confessions, and Archbishop Emeritus Joseph Naumann presiding at the Sunday Mass. Through prayer, witness talks, shared meals, and devotional practices, residents developed a deeper reverence for the real presence of Christ. As a result of the retreat, fifteen women joined OCIA to deepen their faith, and one resident committed to becoming a Benedictine oblate.



Beyond retreat ministry, the Core remained active throughout the year. Members held monthly meetings, convened executive sessions as needed, and made presentations to Catholic men’s groups and Knights of Columbus councils. The core group raised \$5,700 through Knights of Columbus fundraising efforts, sharing a portion of the funds with the Wichita diocese core group. Volunteers also provided ongoing support at the Lansing facility by teaching classes during the week and attending Catholic callouts on weekends. Following the Lansing retreat, Archbishop Shawn McKnight confirmed several residents, further strengthening the sacramental life within the facility.

We plan to continue its growth and impact by holding three retreats in Lansing and one retreat in Topeka in 2026.



Lake Charles – Growth continues this year with an additional two retreats at the Phelps Facility in DeQuincy, La. A total of four retreats were given by the Lake Charles Diocese Kolbe Prison Ministries Team, two at the Phelps facility (SKP#2 & SKP#3) and two at the Allen Correctional Facility in Kinder, La. (SKA#8 & SKA#9). We were only able to serve

around 48 retreatants per retreat at the Phelps Facility due to space limitations but continued to serve 72 retreatants at the Allen Correctional Facility.



The Phelps Facility, due to the short stay of the incarcerated, does not allow an inside team to be formed. The outside team members along with the grace of the



Holy Spirit we were able to manage all tasks and both retreats were very successful. The Allen Correctional Facility continues to provide an abundance of support not only by the inside team but also the facility management. The Holy Spirit again provided guidance to ensure successful retreats.

This year we were able to include an outside cooking team that provided an invaluable service to the retreats. The team was able to stage their trailer and equipment on the prison grounds providing quick, hot, and delicious meals for all.



We also continue to receive wonderful desserts and treats provided by many church organizations. Our cooking team was asked by the Allen Correctional Facility administration to provide the meal for the Employee Appreciation Dinner. A total of around 350 employees were served BBQ Chicken and BBQ Pork Steak dinners.



The KPM of the Lake Charles Diocese looks forward to continuing to grow in its ministry to bring the word of Christ to the incarcerated.



Oklahoma City – In 2025 we held 3 Kolbe Retreats in Oklahoma, one in the OKC Archdiocese and 2 in the Tulsa Diocese. After the most recent retreat this past November, the Oklahoma Kolbe Retreat effort was formally split into two Core Teams corresponding to the two Dioceses in Oklahoma: Oklahoma City and Tulsa. There will continue to be significant collaboration across the 2 dioceses on retreats, at least in the near future.



The retreat in the OKC Archdiocese was Great Plains CC #3. We had a total of 41 men on the retreat and 14 Inside Team members. Archbishop Coakley Confirmed 4 men at the Sunday morning Mass during the retreat.

We have 2 weekly services / studies at Great Plains CC, and we plan to begin another service in February which will be done in Spanish.



We have formed a Core Team for the OKC Archdiocese, and thus far we've had 2 meetings. We have \$4400 on hand, which will be used to build a new inventory for retreats in the OKC area. The previous inventory we'd built up will be used by the Tulsa team going forward.

Regarding plans, we are working to get approval for a Kolbe Retreat this May at another facility, Lexington CC, just south of Norman. There are 6 women from the OKC area who will be on the team for the first Women's Kolbe Retreat planned for Eddie Warrior CC, in April in the Tulsa Diocese. The feedback from the OK DOC on the retreats is incredibly positive, and this helps pave the way for retreats in new locations.



We are continuing to build our volunteer base. We have some significant ACTS, Cursillo, and Kairos communities in the area, and they are a major source for team members. We hope to have another men's retreat in the fall. There is also a women's



prison in the OKC Archdiocese. The women volunteers here



are excited about the possibility of a Kolbe Retreat there.

issue of bringing paper into prisons has hit Oklahoma just as it did elsewhere, and this can be a challenge. We've built up enough trust with Great Plains CC that we are allowed to continue bringing papers and books there, which is a real blessing.



Pensacola-Tallahassee – In early 2023 the Pensacola Core Team was formed. Later that same year the first Kolbe retreat in the state of Florida took place at Century Correctional

Institution in the westernmost state prison in the so-called Panhandle region of Florida. It is also the westernmost part of the Pensacola-Tallahassee Diocese.

In 2024 the Pensacola Core Team ran two more retreats at Century and added its first-ever Kolbe retreat at Santa Rosa, a state prison just east of Century C.I. In 2025, two more Kolbe retreats were led at Century C.I., two more at Santa Rosa C.I., and a first-ever Kolbe retreat at Holmes C.I. Holmes is a state prison about 100 miles east of Santa Rosa, only about halfway across the PT Diocese and the Florida Panhandle. In addition to the five retreats in the PT Diocese, Kolbe Pensacola continued east along I-10 and broke new ground in the St. Augustine Diocese, leading its first-ever Kolbe retreat at Columbia C.I.

With 1 retreat in 2023, 3 in 2024 and 6 in 2025, the Pensacola Core Team and the Kolbe Missioning Committee plans to bring Kolbe retreats to additional prisons inside the diocese and is helping to form two new Kolbe Core Teams, one to serve the eastern most part of the PT Diocese and one to serve the St. Augustine Diocese.

In 2023 there were only a handful of Catholic volunteers serving the PT Diocese. Today, there are over 50 who are not only serving on the retreats, but a sizable number of these volunteers are going into prisons every week to serve the incarcerated. Kolbe's activities in Florida have received great support by the bishops, priests, deacons, and diocesan prison ministry directors.

We are pleased to report that over 270 inmates successfully completed Kolbe retreats in 2025 that were run by the Florida volunteers, with help from the KPM Missioning Committee. Importantly, well over half of these inmates attend at least one weekly Catholic activity, ranging from OCIA, bible study, Communion Service, Penance, Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Mass.

Starting a Kolbe Core Team back in 2023 and expanding its service each year was only possible with the power of the Holy Spirit. Gaining the acceptance of prison chaplains and wardens was a hurdle. We are happy to report that a respectable number of chaplains in Florida now proactively call us requesting the next or their first Kolbe retreat!



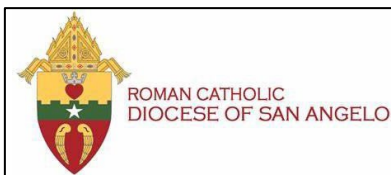
Salina – This was the inaugural year for the Kolbe Prison Ministries of Salina, Kansas. We received permission to bring the Kolbe Prison Ministries to the Salina Diocese in December of 2024, and we had approval from Bishop Gerald Vincke by March of 2025.

A small Core Team was completed by April, and we had commitments from about 30 volunteers by May of 2025. We have only two prisons in our diocese both housing men: Ellsworth Correctional Facility and Norton Correctional Facility, in towns of the same name.

We held a three-day retreat in Ellsworth Correctional Facility July 10-12. Gerald Gaenslen was director, Craig Cummins, Core Team President, and Gabe Brown, were co-director. Our three-day retreat in Norton Correctional Facility was held October 22-24. Craig Cummins was Director, Glen Suppes and Gabe Brown were co-directors. Both retreats were very well received.

We are beginning our planning season for 2026 in January, and we anticipate that we will have another two retreats this year. Dates have not yet been confirmed.





San Angelo – Our 2025 retreat year was our first full year of an autonomous formal, organized ministry having established our Core Team in August 2024. The training wheels were off! We were blessed with exceptional success having conducted nine retreats in six TDCJ Units. Three of these units, represent five of the nine total retreats for the year, were units in the neighboring Diocese of Lubbock (“DOL”) blessed with the authorization and support of Bishop Coerver, DOL, including several priests, deacons (as many as nine laymen in the DOL Diaconate Program!) and several other laymen of DOL. Plans and efforts are underway to establish a Core Team in the Diocese of Lubbock. Our faithful DOSA Core Team has, and will continue, to support the organization and success of the proposed DOL Core Team.

Our “Data Base” of volunteers continues to grow as we actively seek new and faithful volunteers to serve the imprisoned within our diocese and sphere of influence. We now have listed 71 Diocese of San Angelo Volunteers (“DOSA”), 31 DOL Volunteers, and 57 “Other Volunteers” for a total of 159 volunteers in our Excel worksheet “Data Base”. The “Other Volunteer” category are those volunteers, exclusive of the two aforementioned dioceses, who have served on the San Angelo retreat teams. These are men such as Larry Reeh, Jeremy Itz and Earl Greenwood of Fredericksburg in the Archdiocese of San Antonio and Bill Drexel of the Diocese of Dallas, in addition to many, many more men of a deep and abiding faith who serve so faithfully.

We are also deeply grateful to the following priests of the DOSA who have faithfully served our ministry in 2025, including, but not limited to: Fr. Michael Udegbunam, Pastor of St Ann Parish, Colorado City; Fr. Josh Gray, Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish, Sweetwater; Fr. Francis Chukwuma, Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Fort Stockton; Fr. Timothy Hayter, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Ozona; Fr. Emilio Sosa, Pastor of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish, Abilene; and, Fr. Bernardito Getigan, Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Odessa. Priests of DOL who assisted in our ministry in 2025 included, but were not limited to: Fr. Bryan Wood, Fr. Eduardo Teo, Fr. John Restrepo, Fr. Martin Pina, Fr. Sylvester Dsouza, Msgr. Fred Nawarska, and Fr. John Peter Santhappan. Many thanks to these men of Holy Orders for serving the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass at one or more of our Kolbe Retreats.

Our Core Team Members have all been very faithful in their leadership capacity and for their service on retreat teams on most, if not all, of the Kolbe Retreats. Our Nine Core Team Members have faithfully served for the 16 months of existence of the Core Team, with the exception of one member, Javier Almodova, who necessarily left the Core Team due to business obligations. Mr. Almodova was replaced by Miles, TX farmer, Richard Pelzel. One of our pressing goals for 2026 is to form a slate of faithful men to submit to the DOSA volunteer base for Core Team elections.



San Antonio – The Core Team continued to be active, holding nine Kolbe retreats reaching just over 400 inmate retreatants, served by 240 outside team members and 178 inside team members. We also held 21 formation, religious education, and bible study classes reaching approximately 350 inmates.

A number of Priests and Deacons provided inmates opportunities to attend Mass or Communion Service and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a more regular basis in 2025. We were blessed to have Fr. Alejandro Ortega Trillo, who was assigned at mid-year, to serve the Archdiocesan Prison Ministry full time. All of this could not have happened without the generous donations from the archdiocese and a number of Catholic parishes, organizations, and ministries throughout San Antonio and the surrounding area.

Applewhite: The Kolbe women's retreat was at the Applewhite Recovery Center during May and went well. A weekly Bible study, started in October 2023, continues to thrive with two



groups of women meeting on Saturday afternoons led by a team of 6 female volunteers who alternate weekends. We did not have a retreat for the men at Applewhite in 2025 and after some consideration the Core has decided not to do retreats for the men at this county detention facility so we can focus our manpower on the men's state prisons. We will continue to schedule women's retreats as we currently have many women volunteers with the ability and desire to facilitate a retreat.

Briscoe Unit: KPM Volunteers presented weekly OCIA sessions for 35 to 50 men at the Briscoe unit, with several inmates serving as mentors. Briscoe OCIA is presented year-round with only a brief break in August and September, (no AC) and when they're locked down. The Briscoe Unit welcomed back the Fredericksburg Texas team to the staff of our 19th retreat in April of 2025 where they served 66 inmates. Their presence and dedication contributed to an extraordinarily successful retreat, and we were incredibly grateful to have them with us once again. Another successful retreat was held in November, and 66 inmates were evangelized during the Kolbe 3-day retreat. The Briscoe Unit has been profoundly blessed by the pastoral care of Father Agustin Estrada, who serves as the Pastor at St. Joseph's in Dilley, TX. With true dedication, Father Agustin brings the Sacraments to the men each week and graciously offers Confession and Mass for our team before every retreat. We are also blessed that the Archdiocese of San Antonio has assigned Father Alejandro Ortega Trillo to serve Kolbe Prison Ministries on a full-time basis. His presence is a wonderful addition to the Briscoe Unit.

Connally Unit: The Catholic Community at Connally Unit continues to grow in discipleship. We held Kolbe Retreats on Connally Unit A Side in March, and a B Side Connally Medium Custody retreat in October. These two retreats served over 100 inmates.

We once again had 5 volunteers assist with distributing Ashes for Ash Wednesday. Our incredibly supportive parish priest, Fr. Robert Ploch, celebrates Mass or Confessions on the 1st and 3rd Mondays each month. We are blessed to have a new Prison Ministry Chaplain, Fr. Alejandro Ortega Trillo assigned by ARCHSA, adding Mass and Confessions on the 2nd and 4th Mondays. We appreciate the consistent and additional support we receive from Deacon Wally Cantu, and the Director of Criminal Justice, Deacon Adrian Cepeda. Adoration is scheduled prior to Mass on the last Monday of each month. The reverence and awe of those able to attend Adoration is a remarkable sight as they encounter the Divine Presence. The choir has grown to 4 members, whose music is such a gift for during Adoration and Mass celebrations. Our drummer makes the plastic milk carton carrier come alive.



We are now limited by the amount of time and space the Catholic Community has to offer ongoing formation. We use the time and space to conduct four different formations simultaneously. After each Kolbe retreat, we invite those who would like to enter into more formal apologetics of the Catholic faith to enroll in OCIA 1. We continue to evaluate the content and method of presenting this information. Should the inmate desire to celebrate the Sacraments as a Catholic, they enter OCIA 2. In November we had 19 Confirmations celebrated by Archbishop Gustavo Siller. These men are invited to continue their spiritual journey with OCIA 3.

We offer a study using the Didache Series from Midwest Theological. This past year the group completed study on The Blessed Sacrament and are moving to The Resurrection. We continue to distribute the many publications and books that are offered through donation to KPM.

Our Dominican Lay Formation has 13 men undergoing preparation and formation. We recently had Fr. John Markey, OP induct 3 men approved for candidacy after two years of preparation, and 1 made his temporary promises. We hope to have more men prepared for candidacy and one for permanent vows in 2026. This group of Catholics live out their faith through prayer, study, community, and service, during a minimum of five years of preparation.



During the exhausting lockdown at the Connally Unit, July 28 – Oct 20, we continued to provide the Sacraments and as much Catholic content as possible. Lockdown 15 was initiated in January 2025, where anyone who is caught smoking causes the entire pod to be locked down for 15 days including tablet confiscations. We pray that this policy will be revoked soon.

Dominguez Unit: Dominguez State Jail has been blessed to have had a priest or deacon every week for Mass or Communion services until September. Since then, it's been a struggle to get priests to make the commitment to go to Dominguez for Mass on Saturday mornings. However, over 15 volunteers come to teach OCIA weekly, help with Mass, and pray the Rosary. Volunteers brought ashes for Ash Wednesday to every building, serving more than 400 men and officers with ashes. Dominguez had its first Kolbe Retreat in May, with 24 inmates participating and 16 signing up for OCIA classes. We were blessed to have Fr. Jim Loiacono, OMI, with us for the whole retreat.

Ney Unit: Catholic Mass and the OCIA process ran as usual serving 25 men. Fortunately, when volunteers are scarce for OCIA preparation, men in white are strong in faith and able to lead this formation. We now have Father Alejandro Ortega Trillo who usually comes in once a month to hold confessions and celebrate Mass. Deacon Bob Leibrecht, Deacon Mark Urby and Deacon Adrian Cepeda come in typically once a month as well.



Torres Unit: Staffing issues improved significantly since 2024, with very few cancelled classes. Also, late in 2025, chaplain Jason Martinez was hired. He is a dedicated supporter of Kolbe and served on past Kolbe retreats as a former inmate. The OCIA class moved from Thursday afternoons to Monday mornings.



Auxiliary Bishop Gary Janak administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 17 men in December. Fr. Alejandro Ortega Trillo was assigned mid-year to assist with prison ministry. Mass or Communion service is held every Tuesday morning. We thank Fr. John Cyriac from Hondo for also celebrating Masses at the unit. A special thanks to Deacons Bob Leibrecht and Mark Urby for celebrating Communion Services when priests are unavailable. Inmates and staff were provided with the opportunity to be

blessed with Ashes on Ash Wednesday.

OCIA classes are held on Monday mornings and are attended by approximately 15 – 20 men. A team of 4 outside volunteers facilitate the program. Inmates who are unable to attend the class are mentored by Catholic Community members who reside in their dorm. They check that the class materials have been studied and completed. Bible study classes are held on Thursdays and facilitated by leaders from the Catholic community of inmates. The inmates completed The Bible Timeline in Spring and have recently completed the Ascension Press Gospel of Matthew.



The Catholic Community initiated the “That Man is You (TMIY)” class at the Torres Unit on Fridays and the program has been well received by the inmates. We thank the TMIY organization for providing the DVDs and workbooks to the class participants. Jorge Aguilar facilitates the Fulton Sheen Apologetic program every Thursday morning as he has done for years.

Two Kolbe retreats were held in 2025, each serving 40 inmates. The Torres Unit is blessed to have a resolute and active Catholic Council that helps to facilitate the retreats in a spirit-filled and professional manner. During this year's retreats we were blessed to have meals provided by the Catholic Daughters of America Council #2690 and representatives from the Hispanic Community, both from St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Boerne, Texas. During both retreats, members of these teams took the opportunity to briefly talk to the retreatants who later advised that this had a profound impact on them. We hope to continue this practice in future retreats. Along with these two organizations providing meals we also had financial support from Knights of Columbus Council #10940 and the Mission Council, both from St. Peter's. We thank Fr. Norm Ermis for his cooperation and support. We thank Fr. John Cyriac, Fr. Lajarus Soreng, Fr. Jim Loiacono and Fr. Alejandro Ortega Trillo as well as Deacons Adrian Cepeda and Bob Leibrecht for their assistance during the retreats. We thank the Archdiocese of San Antonio for their financial support of the Kolbe retreats.

For 2026, we hope to grow attendance in each program we offer by 20%. The first retreat is scheduled to be held in late April, early May, and a second retreat is tentatively scheduled for October.



Tulsa – The Diocese of Tulsa Oklahoma initiated their first set of Kolbe retreats in 2025. After participating with the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in their first two retreats, a team was formed under the spiritual guidance of Deacon Alan Mikell, the Director of Prison Ministry for the Diocese of Tulsa.

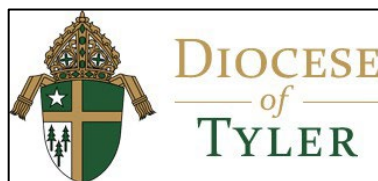
With lessons learned from the OKC retreat and the Kolbe missionary team from Texas, we held our first retreat in May 2025 at the Allen Gamble facility in Holdenville, OK, about 90 minutes south of Tulsa. 42 inmates and 30 team members participated in a faith-filled weekend. This was followed by a second Allen Gamble retreat 6 months later, with 42 retreatants and an inside team of 16. 4 men that were on the first retreat were conditionally baptized, confirmed and received First Communion at Sunday Mass!

Executive Director of the OK DOC gives his testimony at AGCC-2

In 2026 we have dates set in April for the first women's Kolbe retreat in the state as well as planning for either a return to Allen Gamble or expansion to a new facility. We are currently finalizing our Core team and organizing the financial management after some windfall gifts to the Diocese of Tulsa for our use.



4 Retreatants from AGCC-1 are confirmed at AGCC-2



Tyler – Kolbe Prison Ministries of East Texas started Retreats and Monthly follow-up visits for the women at the Skyview Unit in Rusk. We are in the process of trying to get a weekly mass setup for the women at the Skyview Unit.

We started a weekly RCIA class at the Hoge Unit on Wednesdays after Mass. We held a total of 2 Retreats and 4 Reunions at the Skyview and Hodge Units.

22 offenders and 12 volunteers attended the Skyview Retreat.



67 offenders and 25 volunteers attended the Hodge Retreat. We are not allowed to take any pictures at the Hodge and Skyview Units. Plans for 2026 include a retreat in February at the Skyview Unit with Monthly follow-ups. We plan a retreat in October with quarterly follow-ups at the Hodge Unit.



Victoria – Kolbe Prison Ministries serves the Clarence N. Stevenson Unit in Cuero, Texas. This unit houses inmates in custody levels G1, G2, and G4.

Kolbe Prison Ministries at the Stevenson Unit is facilitated through a network of volunteers from the Diocese of Victoria, as well as from nearby communities along the boundaries with the Archdiocese of San Antonio. Fr. Scott Hill is the Catholic Chaplain appointed to this unit by Bishop Brendan Cahill. He celebrates mass every Monday with an average attendance of 100 inmates. In 2024, we held our 26th Retreat in Spanish from March 27-30 under the direction of Alejandro Gonzalez. Our 27th English retreat took place from October 16-19 under the direction of Nathan Almanzar. Sixty-two incarcerated men attended this retreat along with 24 inside team members and 30 volunteers. We would like to recognize and express our sincere gratitude to Fr. Scott Hill, Fr. Paul Raaz, Fr. Parmenio Flores, Fr. Francisco Macias, Fr. Aaron Padilla and Fr. Joseph Blackburn for their service and assistance with celebration of Mass and/or the sacrament of reconciliation. Also, to Deacon Alfonso Moreno (Spanish Retreat), and Deacon Mike Tankersly (English Retreat) for their service as Spiritual Director during this year's retreats.

The retreats offered at the Stevenson Unit have significantly improved and reinvigorated the spiritual lives of hundreds of inmates. The following services are offered at the Stevenson Unit:

- Mondays - Mass celebrated by Fr. Scott Hill; OCIA with Judith Kubena (Coordinator), assisted by Travis Wagner
- Tuesdays - Catholic Education Class in Spanish
- Wednesdays – Catholic Education Class in English
- 3rd Saturdays – Spanish Communion Service offered by Deacon Alfonso Moreno.

Our goal is to witness and teach the Catholic faith not only to those behind bars but also to those entrusted with their care. We seek out our Catholic brothers and those who wish to join our faith, bringing them to a better understanding of the “fullness of our Catholic faith.”

We would like to thank the following volunteers that committed their time and service to bring the good news to the inmates: Judith Kubena - OCIA coordinator, Travis Wagner - OCIA Assistance; Alejandro Gonzalez, Deacon Alfonso Moreno and Jose Martinez with Spanish Bible Class; Roger Huehlefeld, Wayne Gonzalez, Andrew Pesek, Robert Suarez and Robert Stelpflug with English Bible Class.

Special Events:

- March 28th: Bishop Brendan Cahill celebrated Holy Thursday Mass and washed the feet of twelve inmates.
- May 6th: In appreciation for their service, we provided lunch to 120 Correctional Officers at the Stevenson Unit during National Correction Officers Week. The meal included pulled pork sandwiches with pickles, onions, pinto beans, coleslaw, a cookie, and potato chips, all individually boxed.
- May 20th: A group of fifteen incarcerated men completed their last step of Christian initiation by being “sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit” during their Confirmation at the Stevenson Unit. Bishop Brendan Cahill conducted the ceremony. The Mass readings were from the Feast of Pentecost liturgy. During the Sacrament of Confirmation, candidates renewed their baptismal promises, and Bishop Cahill, along with Father Francis Nguyen and the faithful, prayed for the Holy Spirit to descend upon and remain with the Confirmandi,



Judith Kubena and Travis Wagner, our catechetical volunteers, prepared them for the Sacrament.

For the eighth consecutive year, on December 15th, Kolbe Prison Ministries volunteers delivered Christmas gifts to 1,384 male inmates at the Stevenson Unit. Each gift consisted of a pair of white crew socks along with two Christmas cards.



Wichita – A new core team was formed in the Diocese of Wichita, enabling the ministry to hold or support three-day

retreats throughout the year. The first Kolbe retreat held in the Diocese of Wichita took place 27 Feb - 2 Mar 25 at Winfield Correctional Facility, a men’s minimum-security facility in Winfield, KS.

Forty residents and two facility stewards participated alongside volunteers from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas City, and Wichita. Two priests celebrated Mass and heard confessions, supported by a deacon and a seminarian who

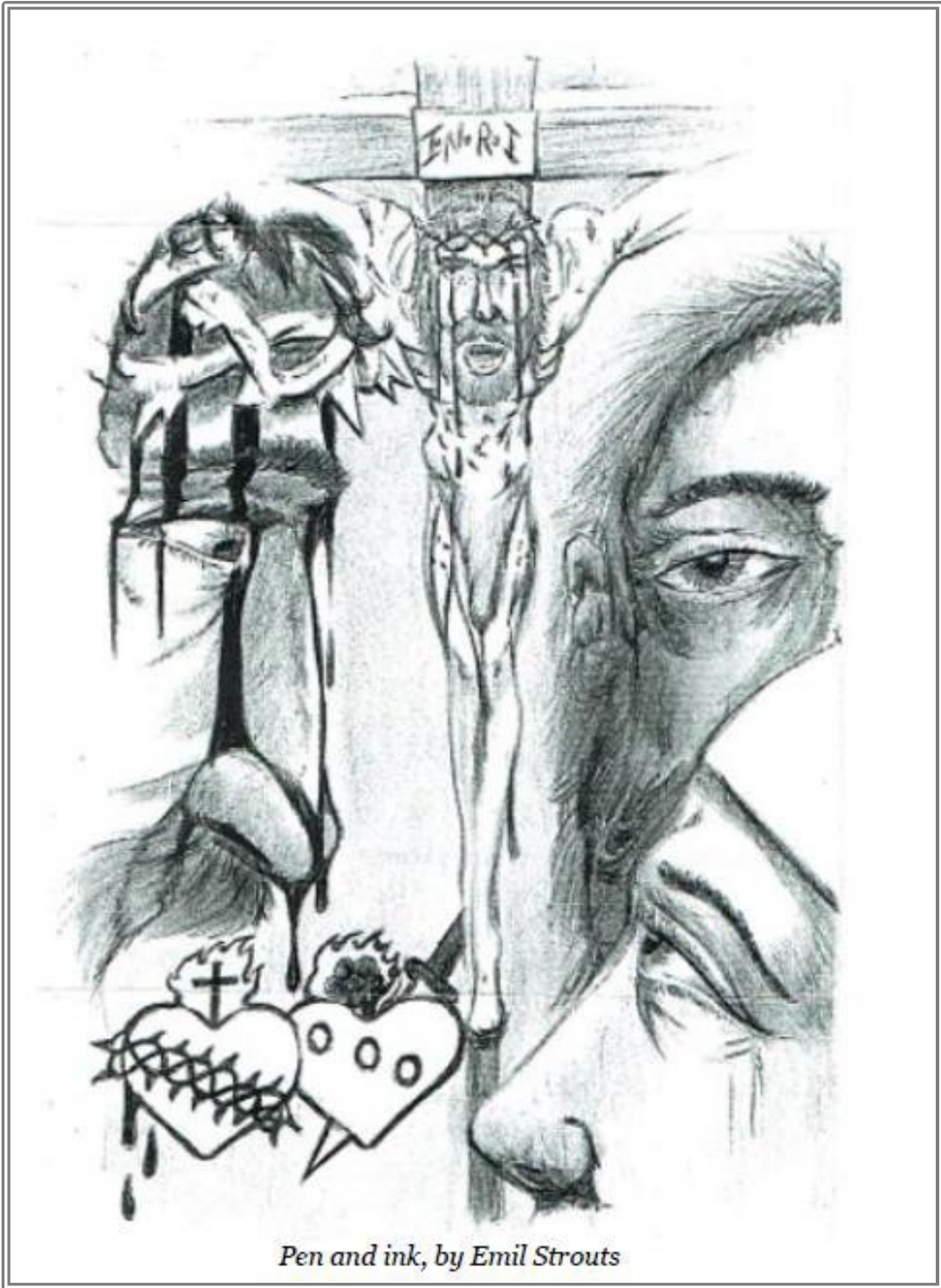


addressed participants’ questions. Over the course of the three-day retreat, residents engaged deeply in table discussions and spiritual reflection, leading many to experience a renewed understanding of their identity as beloved children of God. Nineteen

participants signed up for OCIA or Bible instruction by the end of the retreat, and Mass attendance at the facility increased significantly in the following weeks. In July, the KPM-Wichita Core Team formally reached mission sign off by KPM National. The Core Team formalized an initial Officer team of Greg Marino as President, Chad Gericke as Secretary, and Dennis Russell as Treasurer.

The Core Team created a set of strategic objectives to complete by end-2025 to support holding three retreats in 2026, one each at: the Hutchinson Correctional Facility, the El Dorado Correctional Facility, and the Winfield Correctional Facility.





Pen and ink, by Emil Strouts



2025 BOARD RETREAT– Well-Spring Center



The picture below was taken during one of the evening Benediction Services with the Monstrance within the chapel and the statue of Jesus outside the window.

You can see that the board retreat was well attended. Jon Lamers was the featured speaker, and he agreed to authorize three videos of his powerful presentations which can be found on the KPM Website beneath “**Media+** → **Video Gallery.**” Special thanks to Fr. Tom Edelen for his spiritual leadership and direction during this retreat.

The schedule was filled with business sessions and provided the opportunity for all board members to share stories and grow in fellowship and commitment to the KPM Mission. Much effort was made to review and update many of the important KPM Guidelines and make plans for conformity as KPM continues to expand into new states.

There will be efforts to review the content currently available on the website to organize into folders and remove duplicates and outdated material.



NOT TO BE MISSED....

Be sure to review these **updated Documents** on the Kolbe Prison Ministries

What's New on the Website: <https://kolbeprisonministries.org/whats-new/>

What's New in the Private Pages (accessed with members Login)

- Revised Team Affiliation Agreement
- Revised 'KPM Roles Responsibilities Acknowledgement' document
- Revised 'Institutional Memorandum of Understanding' document

Ongoing Formation Committee News

- New Catholic content was donated to Kolbe Prison Ministries by Ascension Press and Paulist Prison Ministries. Your Core Team will receive instructions for ordering this free content for your diocesan prison units. Please be sure that all of your unit volunteers are aware of this gift so they can prepare to offer it in classes or as a self-paced continuing formation for the inmates you serve.
- Check out the Ongoing Formation Guide posted on the Kolbe Prison Ministries website; to get a glimpse of many best practices as well as successful apostolates being offered in prison.

11th Annual Kolbe Prison Ministries Conference



LETTER FROM AN INMATE

Power of Kobe

Man I feel great,
after the food I ate.
I felt the spirit,
and love of Kobe.

I thank you God,
for these faithful few.
Giving it all to serve,
and worship only you.

The Power of Kobe,
is something true man.
So much love,
it filled all of me.

Their power is true,
it comes from you.
I felt it all 3 days,
and basked in your Glory.

The food, the love,
the laughs, the men.
Man or God given,
spirit filled design.

So thank you Kobe,
I know true love exist.
Your so great and amazing,
I love you all too.

So now I know more,
about a true spirit filled faith.
So many people with love,
given away so freely.

By: Steve Hund Jr
065-22
Permission granted to
send to all Kobe
volunteers copies.

There is power in his Name,
the name of Jesus.
But I felt so much more,
attending a Kobe retreat.

original c c to.
Mr. RENO

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."

1 Peter 4:8





**2025
Retreat**
At Louisiana
Correctional
Institution
for Women -
St. Gabriel,
LA

**Some People Live in the World and They are Not Free.
Some People Live in Prison and They *are* Free.**

Clements Unit (July 2025)– Sr. Mary Michael Huseman, OSF just spent two days in the High Security Men’s Prison near Amarillo as a Kolbe Retreat volunteer.

Here are her initial reflections:

First of all, we take so many things for granted and do not fully appreciate the many gifts that we have. For one meal, for example, we had hamburgers. One of the prisoners indicated that he did not remember the last time he tasted a hamburger. We all ate with delight enjoying and savoring every bite (and the chips too).

We need to remember what is really important and not to complain over things if they are not as we expected or wanted, like if your burger was cooked the way you wanted it. Be happy that you have a burger.

It struck me profoundly that in the world - we might be hurt by a friend or acquaintance because of this or that.

In prison, they are just hoping to get a visit or a letter from those they love.

The prisoners cannot even own a rosary or crucifix without changing their travel card to Catholic and having express permission to have it on their “property” list. In the world, we might have all kinds of things that we do not use or need. The prisoners cannot even go to Mass or confession unless the priest comes in to see them. Thankfully, most prisons have Catholic chaplains to come usually once a week for the sacraments and others who come in for bible studies and OCIA.

In the world, we might get irritated if we do not have the work we want or the way we want to work.

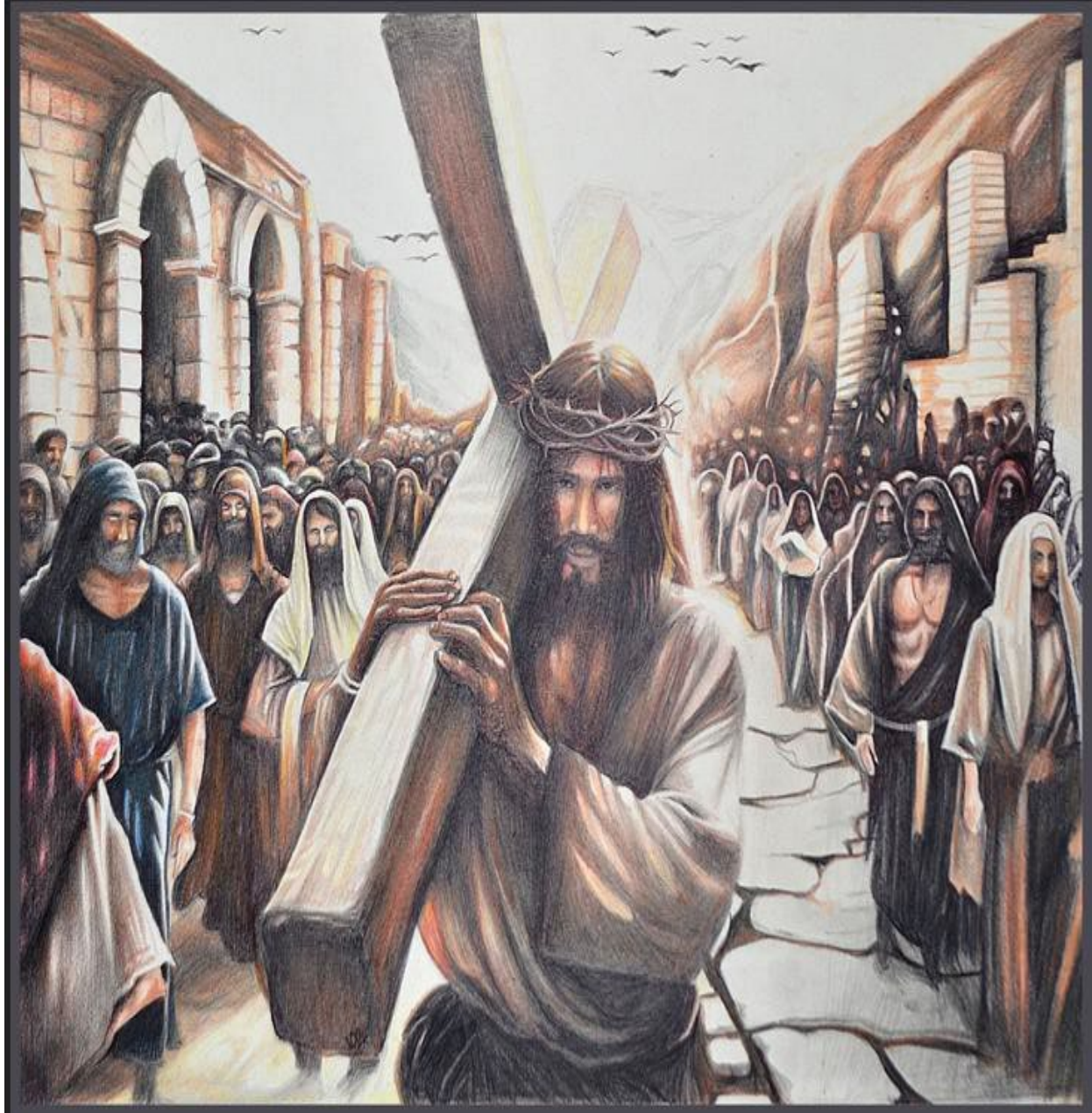
In the prison, they work where and when they are assigned. They might be assigned to work in the shoe factory, as a janitor, or in the boiler room. Their shift could be all hours of the day or night.

**“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not,
and you will not be condemned.
forgive, and you will be forgiven.”**

Luke 6:37



Jesus Carrying His Cross



Drawn by a Ferguson Ad-Seg resident

