

Our mission is to share the
agape love of JESUS
CHRIST with those in prison
and to teach the fullness of
truth of the Catholic Church
to the incarcerated.

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Kolbe Prison Ministries

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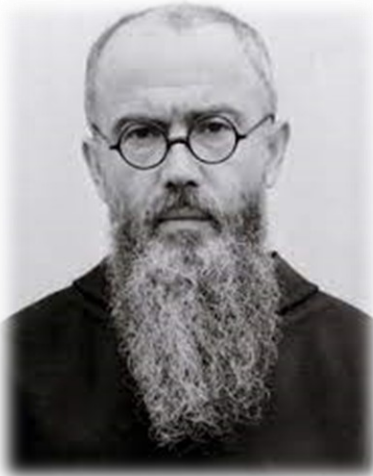


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NAMESAKE

Kolbe Prison Ministries (“KPM”) is named after Saint Maximilian Kolbe, He was martyred in a German concentration camp during World War II and is recognized as the patron saint of prisoners.



“A single act of love makes the soul return to life.”
St. Kolbe

Father Maximilian Kolbe was a Polish priest who died in 1941 in Auschwitz. A theologian and teacher noted for his devotion to Mary, he undertook missionary work in China and Japan before returning to Poland because of ill-health before the war. Kolbe was arrested on February 17, 1941, by the Nazis and transferred to Auschwitz on May 28. He was subjected to beating and other ill-treatment. When three prisoners escaped, 10 others were selected to be starved to death in an underground bunker. When one of them cried out "My wife! My children!", Kolbe volunteered to take his place. He was the last left alive after two weeks of starvation and dehydration and was eventually killed by an injection of carbolic acid. He is said to have raised his arm and waited calmly for the needle.

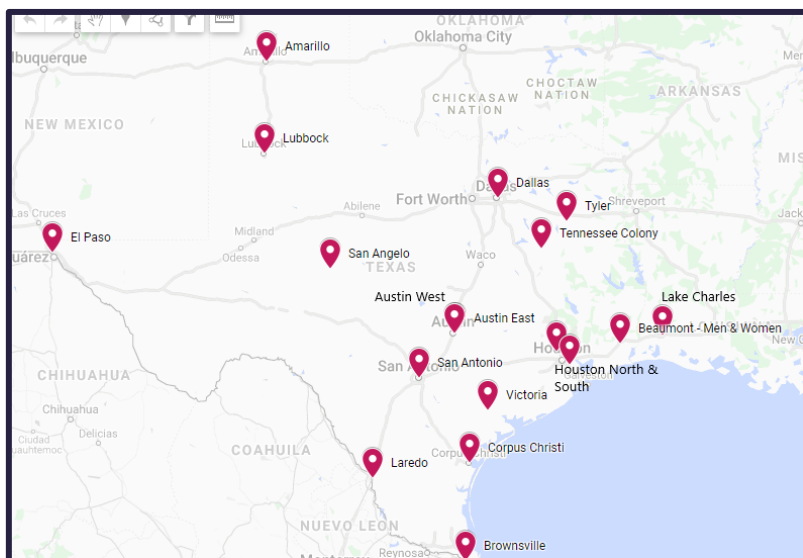


OUR HISTORY AT A GLANCE

The first retreat known as “Prison ACTS” was held at the Connally Prison Unit in Kenedy, Texas in August 2009. The volunteer men prepared and led several more ACTS retreats in the Connally in subsequent years. As word of the incredible response to this marvelous religious experience grew among volunteers and inmates, the men from the Texas Hill Country answered the call to deliver more retreats. Retreats spread into Beaumont and other units within Texas. The work of the ministry beyond retreats grew as well. To better reflect the work being undertaken in the units pre and post retreat, the volunteer group became recognized as Kolbe Prison Ministries. In 2018 KPM expanded to include Louisiana with their first KPM retreat held in the Allen Correctional Facility outside of Lake Charles, Louisiana. Today, KPM serves in more than 60 prisons across Texas and Louisiana. KPM Retreats enrich, invigorate, and reinvigorate the spiritual lives of thousands of Brothers in White (BIW) and sisters in white and orange.

Early in the evolution of the ministry (2010), the founders recognized the need to create local leadership groups to meet with the prisons in their geographic areas. Consequently, several Diocesan CORE Teams were formed. A handbook was developed to guide the newly formed CORE Teams and to assist them in managing and producing retreats.

**CORE Team
Locations**



History Continued

The founding body also recognized the need to legally organize as a standalone corporation. Hence, in 2014 the founders met with the leadership of the Archdiocese of San Antonio and under their recommendations, initial steps to incorporate were undertaken. In October 2015, Kolbe Prison Ministries was officially recognized as a non-profit corporation in the State of Texas and efforts continued at the Federal level to become a 501(c)(3) public charity allowing donations to the ministry to be tax deductible to the donor. All of this required a formal organization, and the founders formed a Board of Directors, created Bylaws and Statutes under which the organization would operate. As of December 2022, 50% (10) of the 20 KPM CORE Teams in Texas and Louisiana operate under the Board of Director's Tax ID number and are included in the Board's annual federal tax return. The remaining 50% of the CORE Teams report financially through their local parishes/dioceses.

***The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few; so, ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest".
Luke 10:2***

CALLED TO SERVE

As fellow parishioners, catechists, deacons, priests and formerly incarcerated, we are called to reach those forgotten by society. Through our participation in retreats such as ACTS, Renew, and Cursillo we were blessed to know the love of our Father in a more personal and experiential way. As our faith grew, we responded to the call to serve the needy and less fortunate souls often abandoned by family, friends, and faith and spurned by society. We are led by God's call to the corporal works of mercy.

Thank you for the prayers, for the victims, their families, offenders, and the volunteers serving prison ministry inside the walls and outside the walls of the units. These efforts inspire and



reinforce the endless mercy and forgiveness offered by our loving God. It encourages the offender to put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ and seek forgiveness and atonement for their sins and live their daily life serving the will of the Father.

Responding to the Call with the Face and Heart of Jesus



If Jesus were physically present on earth today, we would find him in the prisons, jails, and detention centers, talking and dining with the offenders, and all of the outcasts of society. He would be looking for the lowly, the lost, the poor - all

stripped of dignity, freedom, and human value. The Good Shepherd recognizes the lost sheep of the flock. The incarcerated were made in the image and likeness of God and regardless of their crime must come to know that their hope is in Jesus Christ and to seek this truth in the Word of God. Your prayers bless many men and women who serve these in the margins, year after year, and week after week, evangelizing, catechizing, delivering Communion and sharing the Liturgy of the Word in the prisons, jails and detention centers throughout Texas and Louisiana.

“For I was in prison, and you visited me. ...Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least BIW of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25:35-40



Continuing Faith Formation in Support of the New Evangelization

The Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization released the updated Directory for Catechesis in July 2020. Chapter VIII, Catechesis in the Lives of Persons, reminds us that, “The Gospel is not intended for humanity in the abstract, but for each human being, real, concrete, historical, rooted in a particular situation and marked by psychological, social, cultural, and religious dynamics, because ‘each one is included in the mystery of the Redemption.’”¹ (Directory of Catechesis, 224).

Many of the offenders open their hearts to the Word of God and begin a conversion that positively impacts their lives. Often the growth in their faith journey trickles down to their families, particularly their children. Efforts to supply literature, Bibles, Faith Studies, Bible Studies, Life Skills classes, and many other programs serve their ongoing journey to grow their Catholic faith during these challenging times. Pope Francis delivered a homily celebrating the Extraordinary Year of Mercy on November 6, 2016. As part of this yearlong celebration, on this special Sunday, he recognized the Jubilee of Prisoners specifically celebrating the BIW and sisters imprisoned.

"Because of Kolbe Ministries, I am more free than most men that live on the outside."
Quote from an offender

Stevenson Unit - Oct 2022



¹ John Paul II, Encyclical Letter *Redemptor hominis* (March 4, 1979), 13.



Evangelization Continued

Inside the walls, the invitation to enter the Catholic Faith often follows our Kolbe Retreats for those who are awakened by God's Love and those who desire to complete their Sacraments of Initiation. The joy of the celebration brings hope and deepens faith in the journey that the incarcerated must endure as Priests, Prophets, and Kings for Christ.

Prison, generally considered a borderline place, is authentic mission Territory for evangelization, but also a frontier laboratory for pastoral action that anticipates the guidelines of ecclesial action. With the eyes of faith, it is possible to get a glimpse of God at work among prisoners, even in situations that in human terms are desperate. He, in fact speaks to the human heart in any place whatsoever, giving that freedom whose deprivation 'is the worst part of serving time, because it affects us so deeply'.² For this reason, eliciting in the hearts of her BIW 'the desire for true freedom [...] is the Church's duty, one she cannot renounce'³, communicating without hesitation in the goodness and gratuitous mercy of God (Directory of Catechesis, 281).



Aux Bishop - Michael Boulette
Briscoe Unit - June 2022

² Francis, *Homily in the Holy Mass for the Jubilee for Prisoners* (November 6, 2016).

³ *Ibidem*



Donors

Amazon Smile
 American Bible Society
 Ascension Press
 Arthur H. Gallagher Foundation
 Beaulieu Foods
 Bill Miller's BBQ (Paul Vance)
 Blanco Creek Farms
 Catholic Daughters of America -
 Queen of Heaven, LA
 Catholic Mutual Insurance
 Catholic Prayer Cards
 Catholic Prison Ministry Coalition
 Chappell Hill Bakery and Deli
 City of Agape
 Eddie's Taco House (SAT)
 Eternal Word Television Network
 Gem Food Services
 Guadalupe Radio Network (GRN)
 HEB Stores
 Knights of Columbus (national and local)
 Leaflet Missal Company
 Mama Margies
 Marians of the Immaculate
 Mount La Verna Communications
 Power of Prayer Books (The Ngo Family)
 Pronia's Restaurant - LA
 San Juan Catholic Seminars
 Scanlon Foundation
 St. Pius Catholic Church (SAT)
 St. Mary Magdalene - HOU
 The Slaves of the Immaculate
 Heart of Mary
 Women's Guild - St. Mark the Evangelist
 Whitefield Plastics

GRATEFUL FOR OUR CORPORATE DONORS

Our donors provide continual financial 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, RCIA materials, and food for our retreats and special programs. KPM recognizes the generosity of those who sustain the ministry behind the walls:

Ferguson Unit
November 2022



Dalhart Kitchen
April 2022



News from the Board

2022 has been a year of opportunity, gifts, and growth for Kolbe Prison Ministries. We are encouraged by the reopening of units and scheduling and implementation of Kolbe Retreats throughout Texas and Louisiana. New retreats and an expanded reach of Kolbe Prison Ministries into other parts of the United States are planned for the coming year.

In early 2022, we were blessed with an abundance of Ascension Press Bible Timelines donated strictly for the purpose of faith formation in prison units within the Kolbe Prison Ministries system. As part of this opportunity, Texas Department of Corrections (TDCJ) approved this ecumenical study in all of its correctional facilities. We are working to get all of the Video/Book studies distributed and implemented as quickly as possible.



Bill Whitefield, Whitefield Plastics,
warehouses pallets of Bible
Timelines

In an effort to maintain the integrity of Kolbe Prison Ministries retreats, we updated our volunteer resources and Director's and Retreat Volunteers Guidelines on the KPM Website. The password is available to all Retreat Directors (RDs). Additionally, there is now a compliance agreement on the website that outlines expectations and education of volunteers that RDs sign and submit to their CORE. We are holding ongoing joint CORE/Board virtual meetings to review the guidelines and compliance necessary to ensure that all KPM volunteers are educated in the expectations of serving on a Kolbe Prison Ministries Retreat.

Kolbe Prison Ministries is continuing efforts to develop a social media and hard media presence. There is a Facebook account established to promote ongoing activities of the ministry. Additionally, efforts are being made to continue our presence with bulletin, print, radio and television exposure. Most recently, Kolbe Prison Ministries was highlighted on the EWTN Live show, hosted by Fr. Mitch Pacwa from the Stiles Unit in Beaumont, Texas. Links to the videos from the Christmas show are available on the KPM website.



Board of Directors 2022-2023



Retired Board Members

Bill Gold, a founder and long-time volunteer has completed his service to the Board of Directors. Bill has provided countless hours of support for mission retreats, prison service, and taking on the role of KPM secretary. We thank Bill for his dedication and commitment to the men and women incarcerated.

KPM Board of Directors and Officers

Gerald Gaenslen	San Antonio	President
Jimmy Reno	Kerrville	Vice President
John Panariello	Bastrop	Treasurer
Kathleen McDonald Tong	Boerne	Secretary
Don Duplan	Beaumont	Director
Jeremy Itz	Fredericksburg	Director
Kerry Johnston	Dallas	Director
Larry Reeh	Fredericksburg	Director
Daniel Reyes	Lake Charles, LA	Director
Dcn. Martin Robertson	Fredericksburg	Director
Hermes Silva	Victoria	Director
Bill Whitefield	Houston	Director
Len Weinheimer	Stonewall	Director
Fr. Tom Edelen	Rusk	Director
Deacon Adrian Cepeda	San Antonio	Ex-Officio Member



KPM BOARD ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022

- Kolbe Prison Ministries received grant monies from the Scanlon Foundation - (\$5000) and the Arthur J Gallagher Foundation (\$700) and used these monies since 2021. These monies were earmarked for publications and materials used for Kolbe Prison Ministries Mission Retreats to establish retreats at new units. Applications have been submitted for 2023 grant monies from the Scanlon Foundation and the Kenedy Foundation in the amount of \$5,000 each.
- Website offender videos - in an effort to educate those visiting the KPM website, we have added offender videos that provide testimony of the impact of KPM Retreats on their faith life and continual faith journey.
- Approval by TDCJ to use the Ascension Press Bible Timeline as an approved curriculum was received in 2022. This certificate of approval is available through KPM for those who would like to add this ecumenical faith study to units led by Catholic volunteers.
- Bishop William Wack of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee in Florida approved the implementation of Kolbe Prison Ministries Retreats within his diocese. A mission retreat is planned for 2023.
- KPM continues to provide a link on the Catholic Prison Ministry Coalition website to maintain a presence throughout the United States.
- Applied with the US Patent and Trademark Office of the Dept. of Commerce to trademark Kolbe Prison Ministries. Application is pending.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS With the easing of COVID restrictions at the onset of 2022, KPM experienced a significant increase in volunteer services within TDCJ facilities as the year progressed. From a financial perspective, KPM had a 50% increase in revenues and 72% increase in expenses this year as compared to 2021. The 2022 financials for the KPM leadership team (Board of Directors) are summarized below. For the 12-month period ending 12/31/2022, we had revenues of \$22,365 and expenses of \$21,568, which generated a net of \$797 for the year. Our total investment balance as of 12/31/22 was \$43,961. Figure 1 below depicts our revenue and expenses on a monthly basis, and Figure 2 shows our cumulative revenue and expenses throughout the year.

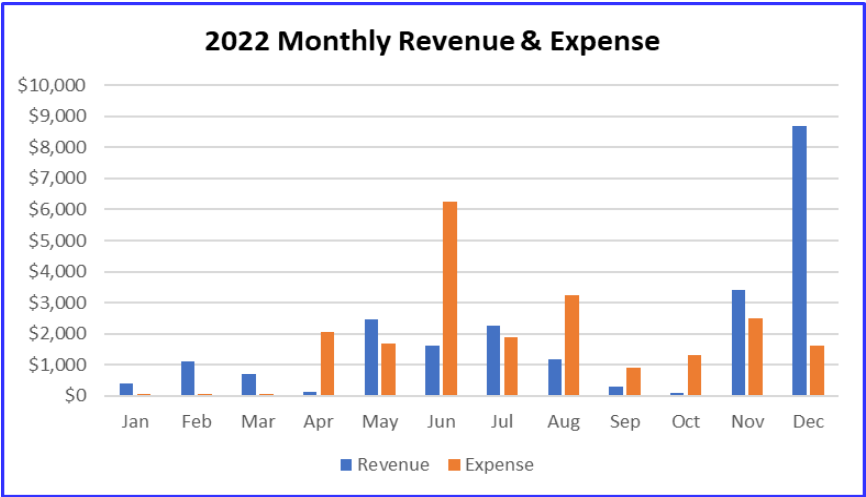


Figure 1: 2022 Monthly Revenue & Expense

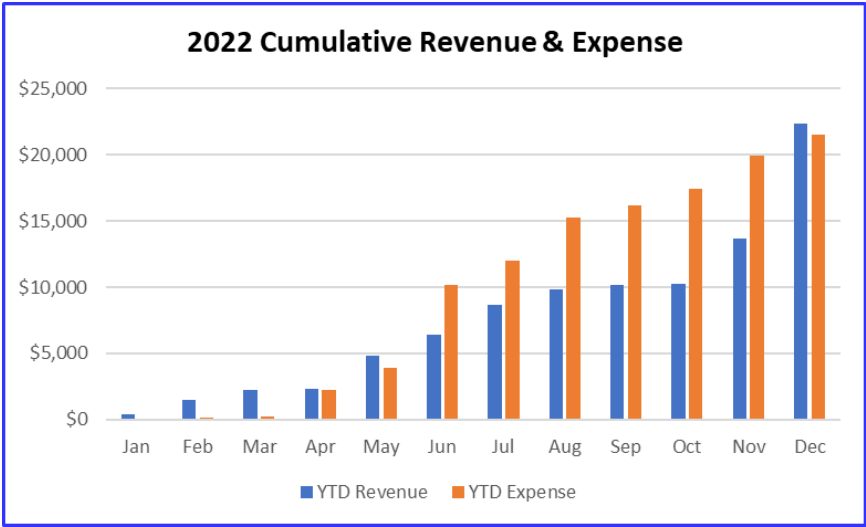


Figure 2: 2022 Cumulative Revenue & Expense



Table 1, Figure 3 and Figure 4 provide a breakdown of revenue sources in 2022.

Table 1: 2022 Revenue Breakdown

Revenue	Amount
General Donations (unrestricted)	\$12,317
Earmarked Donations (restricted)	\$6,000
Retreat Donations	\$4,000
Bank Interest	\$48
TOTAL	\$22,365

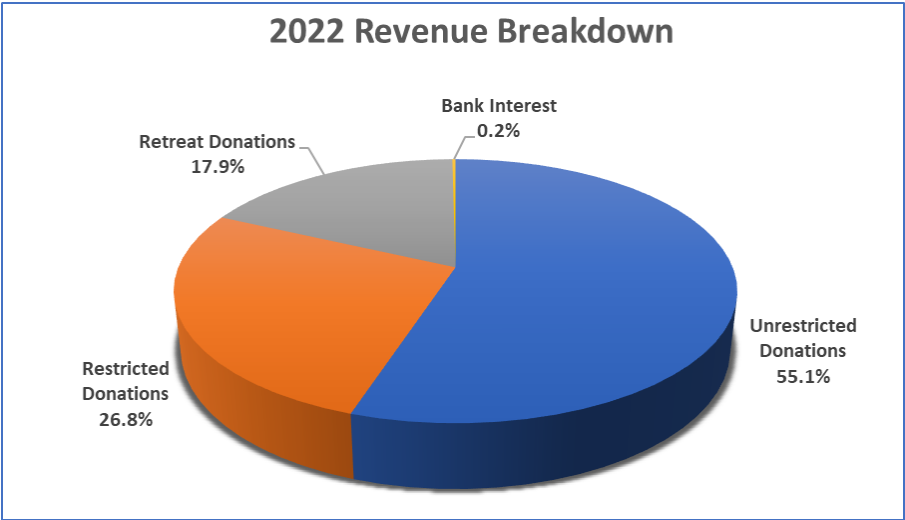


Figure 3: 2022 Revenue Breakdown

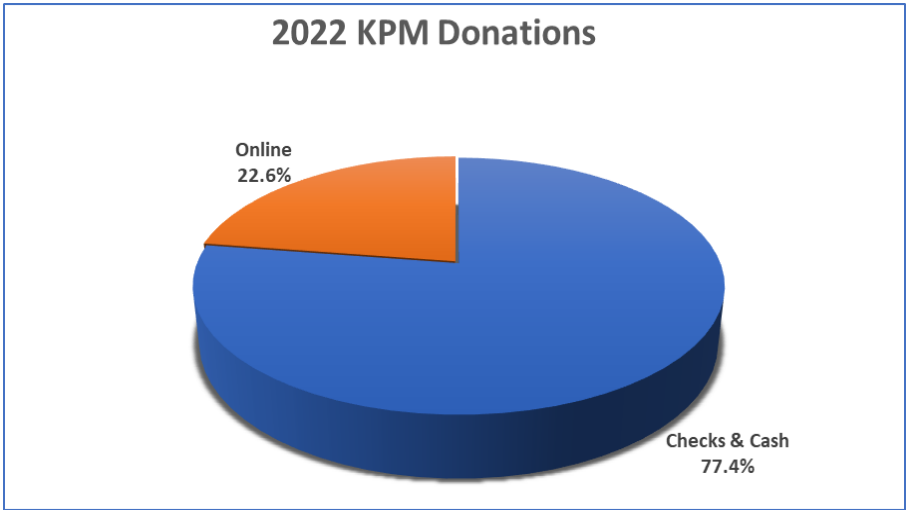


Figure 4: 2022 KPM Donations



Table 2, Figure 5, and Figure 6 provide a breakdown of expenses in 2022.

Table 2: 2022 Expense Breakdown

Expense	Amount
Conferences	\$6,248
Retreats	\$4,344
RCIA	\$4,422
G&A	\$6,554
TOTAL	\$21,568

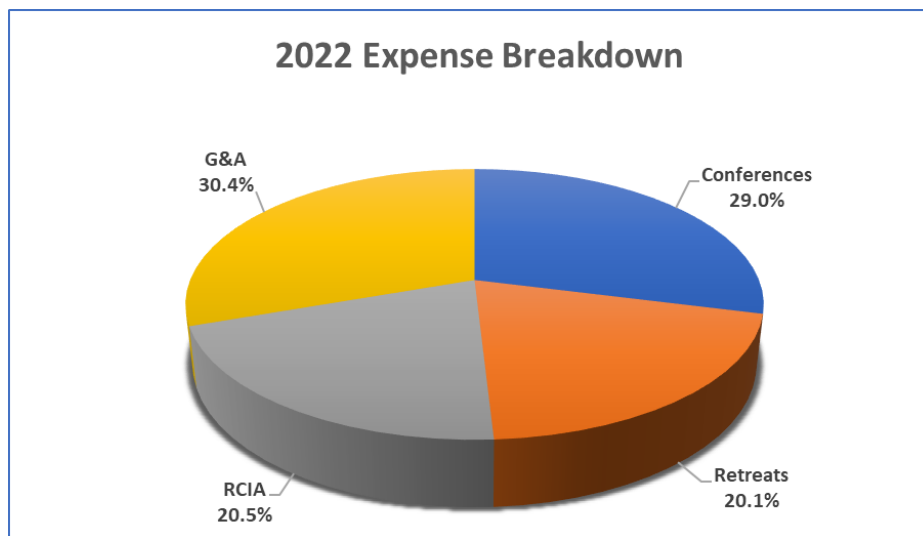


Figure 5: 2022 Expense Breakdown

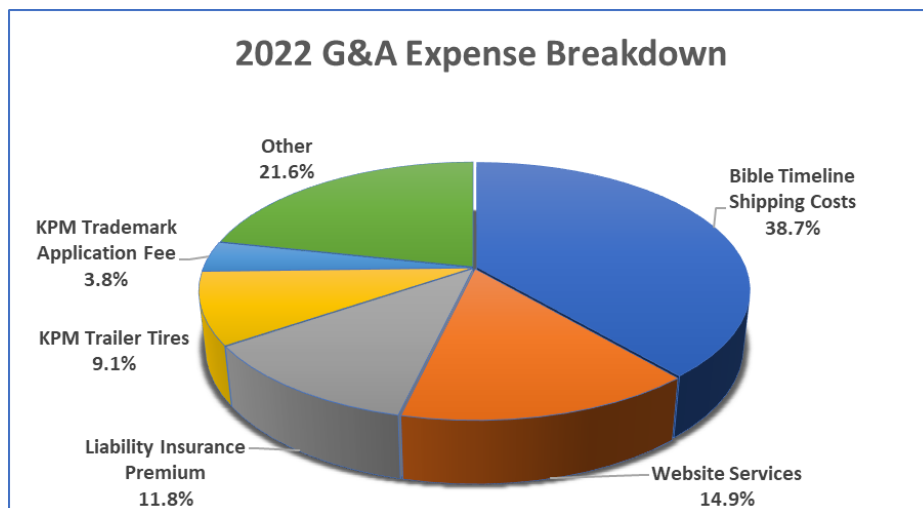


Figure 6: 2022 G&A Expense Breakdown



In 2022, KPM was blessed to receive a significant property donation from Ascension Publishing, LLC consisting of Bible study materials to be used exclusively in prison facilities. The total retail value of the property donations made in February and August was reported to be \$337,930 by Ascension Publishing. KPM volunteers are delivering these materials at no cost to various prisons as opportunities arise (i.e., volunteer Bible study facilitators need to be available). As of 12/31/22, the estimated value of the remaining Ascension Publishing materials was \$205,961.

The 2022 KPM Balance Sheet is included in **Figure 7** and the Income Statement is included in **Figure 8**.


KPM Balance Sheet								Incorporated October 27, 2015
		12/31/2022	12/31/2021	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	12/31/2018	12/31/2017	12/31/2016
ASSETS								
Cash-Checking Operating		13,454.54	8,023.63	23,675.41	21,690.96	8,181.48	8,050.84	4,516.81
Savings Operating		30,506.57	31,100.83	12,559.01	15,037.89	15,000.00	-	-
CD Operating		-	4,039.50	4,031.70	-	-	-	-
Petty Cash		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inventory: Sales Items		-	- a	465.00	465.00	-	-	-
Inventory: RCIA Supplies		-	- a	5,136.37	5,136.37	4,035.65	-	-
Inventory: Retreat Supplies		-	- a	146.81	146.81	254.08	-	-
Inventory: AP Bible Study Materials		205,960.64 d	- a	146.81	146.81	254.08	-	-
Fixed Assets	MACRS (yrs)	Salvage Value						
Trailer:	6	\$1,000.00	1,000.00	1,765.33	2,530.66	3,296.00	4,061.33	4,826.67
Tables:	10	\$ -	1,888.80	2,243.60	2,598.40	2,953.20	3,308.00 b	1,080.00
Durable goods:	10	\$ -	500.00	625.00	750.00	875.00	1,000.00	1,125.00
TOTAL ASSETS		253,310.55	47,797.89	52,040.17	49,748.04	36,094.62	15,082.51	12,558.81
LIABILITIES								
Trust Funds								
Earmark Future Retreats		6,000.00	-	- c	7,229.61	3,168.11	3,100.00	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES		6,000.00	-	-	7,229.61	3,168.11	3,100.00	-
FUND BALANCE								
General		247,310.55	47,797.89	52,040.17	42,518.43	32,926.51	11,982.51	12,558.81
<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 - 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)								
01/09/2023								

Figure 7: Balance Sheet




<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div>  </div> <div> KPM Income Statement </div> <div> <i>Incorporated October 27, 2015</i> </div> </div>							
	12/31/2022	12/31/2021	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	12/31/2018	12/31/2017	12/31/2016
Revenue							
Retreat Collections	4,000.00	1,700.00	1,740.92	10,090.00 a	12,416.00 a	13,085.00 a	10,406.00
Donations	18,107.85 a	12,893.70	13,322.79	17,137.00	20,320.00	7,100.00	5,180.00
Interest	48.13	57.75	69.91	50.50	-	-	0.10
Sales (Shirts, Patches, Decals, Trifoli)	-	-	276.00	8,413.42	9,013.91	8,953.37	2,465.30
Amazon Rewards	209.44	247.35	141.17	138.99	74.83	-	-
	<u>22,365.42</u>	<u>14,898.80</u>	<u>15,550.79</u>	<u>35,829.91</u>	<u>41,824.74</u>	<u>29,138.37</u>	<u>18,051.40</u>
Expense							
General & Administrative	12,206.31	10,447.18	1,648.71	1,514.19	1,176.41	1,280.25	128.05
Retreat Supplies	4,939.58	1,497.73	1,530.08	4,596.15	13,096.22	10,262.66	12,613.65
RCIA Supplies	4,422.38	56.05	8,216.73	6,265.45	3,835.15	4,812.26	4,276.23
Cost of Goods Sold	-	-	618.00	9,916.75	8,976.32	9,249.17	2,199.93
Depreciation Expense	1,245.13	1,245.13	1,245.13	1,245.13 b	1,005.33	1,005.33	-
	<u>22,813.40</u>	<u>13,246.09</u>	<u>13,258.65</u>	<u>23,537.67</u>	<u>28,089.43</u>	<u>26,609.67</u>	<u>19,217.86</u>
Notes							
Sales Net:	-	-	(342.00)	(1,503.33)	37.59	(295.80)	265.37
Retreat Net:	(939.58)	202.27	210.84	5,493.85	(680.22)	2,822.34	(2,207.65)
<i>KPM operates on a cash basis</i>							
a - Portion of revenue earmarked for future retreats: \$6,000.00 in 2022; \$3,600.00 in 2019; \$3,168.11 in 2018; \$3,100.00 in 2017							
b - In 2018, 12 additional tables purchased at cost of: \$2,348.00							
<i>01/09/2023</i>							

Figure 8: Income Statement



KPM 2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



For even the Son of
Man did not
come to be
served but to
serve.
Matthew 20:28

KPM's annual complimentary conference was held on July 16, 2022, at St. Jude of Thaddeus in Beaumont, Texas for all current and interested prison ministry volunteers. Thank you to Sister Misty Garriga CDP for her leadership in forming a team of dedicated volunteers and coordinating everything from speakers, food, and accommodations to marketing.

St. Jude of Thaddeus Catholic
Church, Beaumont



Speakers included:

Sister Misty Garriga, CDP



- Bishop David Toups, S.Th.D, Bishop of Beaumont
 - Fr. Mitch Pacwa - EWTN and Founder of Ignatius Press
 - Deacon Tommy Ewing, Chaplain at the Mark W Stiles Unit, Beaumont, Texas
 - Deena Holcomb, formerly incarcerated
 - Sister Misty Garriga, CDP., Director of Prison Ministry - Diocese of Beaumont
- Mass, concelebrated by Bishop Toups, Fr. Mitch Pacwa and Fr. Steve closed the conference to much celebration and joy.

Master of Ceremonies -



Angel San Juan KFDM
News - Beaumont



CORE TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2022



Roman Catholic Diocese of Amarillo
Serving Catholics in the Texas Panhandle

Amarillo - The Kolbe Prison Ministries team for the Diocese of Amarillo was very productive in 2022. They held a Kolbe Volunteer Gathering in

February to bring all volunteers old and new together. They shared stories of past retreats, answered question for new volunteers, and talked about the upcoming year. All were excited about returning to the units. Throughout the year, 4 retreats were held in the diocese: Dalhart Unit, Jordan Unit, Clements Unit and the Roach Unit. Additionally, Kolbe Gathering/Reunions were held at the Dalhart and Jordan units. The volunteer team has rebuilt to about 65 and anticipating retreats in four units as well as gatherings/reunions for 2023.



Beaumont - The Beaumont CORE Team kept a full

schedule in 2022. They held 4-day retreats at the Gib Lewis (Huntsville), Polunsky (Livingston) and Stiles (Beaumont) units. Brothers in White (BIW) attended monthly Renew at Gib Lewis and Polunsky and weekly Renewals at the Stiles Unit. The Beaumont CORE Teams were outstanding hosts for the 2022 Kolbe Annual Conference, in July. Many thanks to all of the volunteers who worked to make the 2022 conference a great success.

Hygiene drives were conducted twice throughout the year at the Lewis, Stiles and Polunsky units for indigent BIW. Bishop Toups celebrated Mass for all volunteers who serve in the Criminal Justice Ministry at St. Anthony's Cathedral. David Die and Thad Hill completed their service on the Beaumont CORE team at the end of 2022. Veryl Pink & Benny Tran will serve on the CORE team effective 2023. A combined total of 26 BIW from the three units celebrated the Sacraments of Initiation in 2022. The CORE Team continues to facilitate monthly meetings to ensure growth of the ministry.





Catholic Diocese
of Brownsville

Brownsville - After a two-year delay due to COVID, we were able to resume our Kolbe Prison Ministries retreats. On December 1–3, 2022, our KPM Team, consisting of 12 members, entered the Lopez State Jail in Edinburg, Texas, to begin our retreat which we

titled, “Repent, for GOD’s Kingdom is at hand.” The KPM team met for several weeks in preparation—spiritually and logistically. All the assignments, duties and responsibilities were scheduled out, reviewed and accepted by the team. And, of course, all team members went to confession prior to the retreat.

On December 1, 2022, the team gathered at 5:00 am to enter the Lopez Unit at 6 am. Once we entered and set up, we welcomed 25 BIW-in-white (offenders as they are referred). Our welcoming gestures of greeting, handshakes and hugs were met by uneasiness, a bit of reluctance and some doubts. Nonetheless, we still hugged them.

Our Team director, Mr. Guadalupe Hinojosa, explained the procedures, rules, activities and expectations so that everyone knew what to expect. This helped set the mood for the retreat and established an atmosphere of friendliness, cordiality, and inclusiveness. And so, we began...

It never ceases to amaze us what transpires in our prison retreats with our BIW-in-white (BIW). As we moved from one activity to the next, we could see and sense the transformation in our BIW as the Holy Spirit inspired them. At the table discussions, they began to open up, slowly at first, sharing personal feelings, anecdotes, hurts and a few triumphs. Their reluctance began to melt away as the Holy Spirit moved them.

Their comments showed how they were influenced by the Holy Spirit. Here are a few samples: “To know and feel God’s forgiveness, you have to forgive yourself;” “If I open the eyes of my heart, God will enter;” “I now have the Bible in one hand and the Rosary in the other...and I am not Catholic;” “Surrender to us here means defeat, but surrender to Jesus is love;” “This retreat has been great. I haven’t felt like this since I was a kid;” “I lost my way—but this retreat has opened my eyes;” “My heart is beating...but it is actually Jesus knocking and I will answer;” “You all are the bright light in my dark cave.”



All three days we had a room set up for the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Every team member scheduled himself for an hour of adoration every day. Even our BIW were invited to participate and some of them did. The music was handled by three team members and that contributed so much to the retreat. One of the musicians was our diocesan coordinator, Myrna Mendez, who is an excellent guitar player and singer. Although she wasn't there all the time, her presence and participation were truly a welcomed sight.

We celebrated Mass every day, thanks to our participating priests. On the third day, our Bishop, was the celebrant. And what a blessing that was for us and for our BIW. Everyone was on a "High" as we departed the Lopez Unit on Saturday evening.

Thanks to the benevolence of some people, we were able to provide food, drinks, candies and other goodies for everyone. We also thank the prison officials at the Lopez Unit for their complete help and cooperation throughout the three days of the retreat. AND we were all "bear-HUGGED" by our BIW as they departed. What a wonderful feeling that was!!



Auxiliary Bishop, Mario A. Avilés, C.O. and
the Lopez Jail Retreat Participants



Corpus Christi - All units in the Diocese of Corpus Christi are currently receiving ministry volunteers unless locked down for administrative purposes. There are volunteers

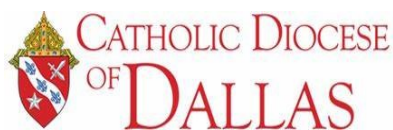


placed at all facilities and each has established services and programs set for weekly and/or monthly schedules. Activities consists of RCIA programs, recitation of the rosary, liturgy discussions, counseling, Mass, confessions, general discussions, prayer and catechism of the Catholic faith. Where some facilities have only one volunteer, others have a team of several volunteers who serve the facility. Volunteers include priests, deacons and lay volunteers both male and female throughout the diocese. Our team of volunteers grew during the pandemic as we made a stronger effort to recruit more volunteers during our down time of services.

Items provided to all facilities that accept our services and appurtenances include: Bibles, rosaries, prayer cards, information pamphlets, Christian books, booklets and other appropriate reading material to strengthen their faith and knowledge.

While many of our facilities remained closed during the Covid 19 pandemic of 2020 and 2021, many begin to open for volunteers and ministry in late 2021 and the beginning of 2022, During the pandemic we provided Mass videos, monthly newsletters and many of the volunteers took up a letter writing effort to reach out to inmates to keep them informed of happenings in the free world and to let them know that they had not been forgotten.

Aside from materials as described that were sent to the facilities throughout the year, we did accomplish one Kolbe Retreat at the McConnell Unit in Beeville in June of 2022. We also provided Christmas Mass at several facilities to include Nueces County Jail, Nueces County McKenzie Annex and McConnell Unit in Beeville. Bishop Michael Mulvey celebrated Mass at McConnell Unit in Beeville. We celebrated a special Mass and social for Our Lady of Guadalupe at the McConnell Unit. We begin our RCIA programs at those facilities where they had ceased and we begin our Kolbe Reunions at McConnell Unit on a monthly basis as before. Other classes and related activities have resumed as before.



Dallas - Kolbe Prison Ministries (KPM) have been serving the imprisoned within the Diocese and Kolbe Retreats finally resumed. In June 2022 Dallas KPM held a much-anticipated



faith filled Hutchins #11 Kolbe Retreat. The Hutchins Unit is located just south of Dallas. Throughout 2022, the Dallas KPM has been active at the Hutchins Unit with weekly ministries to include RCIA, the Live Christ/Share Christ program along with weekly Sunday Mass/Communion Services. Subsequently, a second faith filled Hutchins #12 Kolbe Retreat was held in December 2022. The Dallas KPM has also supported the Diocese of Fort Worth with two Kolbe Retreats at the Bridgeport Unit in March 2022 and November 2022. The Bridgeport Unit is located about 40 miles northwest of Fort Worth. On Christmas Day, Bishop Edward Burns of the Diocese of Dallas, celebrated Christmas Mass at the Hutchins Unit. The Dallas KPM has been very blessed during 2022 to have a number of BIW to join the Catholic Church, receive First Communion and to be Confirmed. We are grateful to the many volunteers of the Dallas KPM who have helped to plant the seeds of faith, hope and charity into the hearts and souls of our BIW.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF EL PASO *El Paso* - El Paso serves TDCJ Unit Rogelio Sánchez. The Catholic community in this unit was supported with weekly Communion services led by four rotating deacons. Deacon Bob Guerra, CVCA visits the unit weekly offering one-on-one visits with the BIW. After a three-year hiatus offering Kolbe Retreats, they report a retreat is scheduled in the unit for March 2023.



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
GALVESTON-HOUSTON

Houston - Tennessee Colony - Although no retreats were conducted in 2022, a reunion and farewell event was held at the Michael Unit.

Galveston/Houston South - The year kicked off with a retreat at the Clemens Unit in August. It was the first retreat since Covid and we were all glad to get restarted. The retreat was a hot one, but the offenders and team enjoyed the opportunity. In November a second retreat of the year was held at the Stringfellow Unit. St. John's parish members continue to support



Catholic Service at the now named Clemens Trustee Camp (Formerly Wayne Scott Trustee Camp) by providing weekly Catholic Services and a monthly Mass.

Galveston/Houston North - Christ the Redeemer (CtR) parish along with additional volunteer support from the surrounding parishes of Christ the Good Shepard, Prince of Peace, Christ the Light and St. Thomas Aquinas in College Station, catechize the William Pack Unit in Navasota. Due to Covid restrictions/lockdowns etc. 2022 didn't see a retreat at the Pack Unit. There are 8 Kolbe BIW, a mix from the parishes mentioned above, who have and continue to call on the Pack Unit on at least a monthly basis between them. Volunteers go in on every Sunday to participate in Mass or to do a Communion service if a priest is unavailable. Post Mass, 20-30 minutes is devoted to discussion of the readings. Once a month Communion is brought to the Catholic men in Ad Seg (3-6). A member of the CtR Kolbe Volunteers is designated a Housing Pastor and goes to the Dorms once a month. One Tuesday a month a Volunteer oversees the RCIA class and on another Tuesday night a Catholic Video is viewed followed by discussion.

Christ the Redeemer also oversees the Catholic activities at the Ellis Unit in Huntsville, TX. Their volunteers oversee or lead Communion Services, RCIA, and a weekly rosary. The Precious Body is taken to restricted housing, G4's & G5's by Dcn. Bill Bradley a CVCA 2-3 times a month. A Lay Dominican Program with 6 offenders is run at the Ellis Unit and overseen by Dr. David Copper from St. Anthony of Padua. A total of 6 men were confirmed in 2022 at the Ellis Unit. 65 men attend the weekly Liturgy and Communion Service with approximately 50 receiving the Precious Body which equates to 2500 on an annual basis. The September 2022 Ellis Unit Kolbe Retreat was cancelled as they went on lockdown the Monday of the Retreat.

Sadly, the ADGH North Trailer, which resided with Christ the Redeemer parish, was stolen at the beginning of 2022. Neither the trailer or its contents were recovered. The North Team is blessed to have two additional trailers, one at St. Martha's in Kingwood and one at St. Anthony of Padua in The Woodlands, TX, both of which purchased by those local Kolbe parish volunteers. Had the Ellis retreat not been cancelled due to a lockdown in September,



CtR would have utilized St. Anthony's trailer and contents. Through the grace of God, the generosity of Catholic Mutual Insurance and much persistence from Dcn. Alvin Lovelady, an additional trailer and contents have been purchased by the ADGH. So, a trailer will be available for parishes on the north side and the south side who don't have a trailer and contents of their own. Christ the Redeemer and future parishes who get missioned on the North Side of Houston are now resupplied and set for future retreats.

The St. Martha's Volunteer Team had an exceptional year despite Covid restrictions. The Walls Unit had 2 retreats in 2022. Combined, 96 men were reached and 40 stewards participated. This also included the 2 reunions. One Saturday a month KPM volunteers do a formal faith sharing averaging 40 men and lasting 2 hours. One Monday evening a month a bible Study is run by Kolbe volunteers which averages 25 men and last for 3 hours.

St. Martha's held 1 retreat at the Estelle Unit in Huntsville, TX. in 2022, with 69 retreatants and 26 stewards participating in the retreat and the reunion. Every Monday in the Main Unit, RCIA class is held for 2 hours followed by Communion service with choir and reflection. 30 men are in RCIA, 40 in Faith Sharing, 75 in Mass and approximately 35 receive the Precious Body. The High Security Unit has a Communion Service and Faith sharing consisting of 15 and 6 respectively over the course of 2 hours. 5 men anointed in the Hospital Section and reconciliation was brought twice to high security averaging 20 men each time. There are 22 men from St. Martha's who participate in "Kolbe After Care" between the Huntsville (Walls) and Estelle Units.

As a follow up to the 2021 Christmas gift bags, St. Martha's distributed 5000 gift bags to all the offenders and TDCJ staff at the Walls & Estelle Units. The bags included candy, snacks, toiletries and a Holy Card. To offset the cost of the 5K gift bags, St. Martha's had a fundraiser. It was a Steak-Fest and Silent Auction. They raised just under \$15,000 after expenses and poured it into the gift bags. St. Martha's school students created several hundred placemats to be used at the retreat. Lastly, they held a 4-hour Faith sharing, with speakers and band. The music was played to the 15 offenders in attendance and the 150 in the hospital ward.



Saint Anthony of Padua had two retreats scheduled for the Ferguson unit in 2022. The first retreat in April got postponed-cancelled by the Diocese of Tyler. We were able to schedule and execute on a second date this past November. 66 Retreatants and 20 Stewards participated in the reunion, as well. On Wednesday March 2, Ash Wednesday, 5 Kolbe BIW and 1 Kolbe Sister distributed ashes to the Men in White at the Ferguson as well as staff and Faculty in the unit. Over 600, primarily offenders, received ashes and many were individually prayed with. The new Sr. Warden at that time opened up the entire unit, all blocks, dorms, offices, class rooms, restricted housing (G4s & G5s) and blocks of Ad Seg and Solitary Confinement to us for distribution. We hope to repeat it again on Ash Wednesday of 2023.

On every Monday the Precious Body is taken to the 500+ men in Ad Seg/Solitary Confinement with 22 - 28 receiving. Additionally, we pray 5 - 7 men who are of another faith or no faith each week as we pass thru the blocks. On Monday we also have a certified Spiritual Advisor, working with 16 men in Ad Seg and walking them through RCIA and or Inclusion, in hopes of First Communion and Confirmations in 2023. One offender in Ad Seg as well as 3 from general population were confirmed in 2022. Six offenders in general population celebrated their 1st Communion. Mondays also has a supervised Kolbe Band practice 2:30 - 5:30 pm in the Chapel. Once a month on Monday an additional 6 men come to chapel and are absorbed in the Lay Dominican Program with Dr. David Cooper where they are deepening their relationship with Jesus and Our Mother.

At Ferguson, there currently are 23 from General Population in RCIA classes along with the 16 mentioned above in Ad Seg. Every 2nd and 4th Friday evening from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm we hold a Kolbe Praise and Worship session intertwined with bible study/catechesis and group discussion. Attendance ranges from 30 - 75 attendees. Every Saturday morning, we attend primary service with Mass at least twice a month and do the Communion services the other 2 when no priest is present. A Rosary is said with the 30 - 45 men during the first hour while Father is doing Reconciliation. From 10:00 to Noon we hold a Bible Study from Ascension Press (Jeff Cavins), utilizing the Book of ACTS currently. Once the ACTS study is completed, we'll go back to the Bible Timeline and start the 3-study series all over again. In the Faith based dorm 6 veteran Catholic community leaders share the Bible Timeline with 8 men and



Scott Hahn's course Parousia from the St. Paul Center. St. Anthony's has 20 men who routinely spend their time with the men at the Ferguson Unit.



Lake Charles-Lake Charles has made some good advancements in the past year. Although it was a struggle with Covid still lingering and the prisons in Louisiana under re-structure with replacing the

employees they lost due to the virus. Some good things started back up in the Allen Correctional Facility.

The Warden opened back up Renew about six months ago and it was good for the outside to re-enter along with the inside being able to see the support come back in the walls. Lake Charles has always been a small core but this past year, we added three more members to the CORE team along with two Ex-Officios. This will give us a broader insight and suggestions to keep the work of the ministry going forward. Last year in November, our Spiritual Director, Msgr. Torres, held a day of reflection for all men who would like to come and pray for healing and to see what Kolbe is about. After the storms we had here along with Covid, it was much needed to kick Kolbe back off in our state. It was a wonderful day of prayer and questions and answers. We were excited to have our President from the board, Gerald Gaenslen and Danny Reyes, board member, were also in attendance. Some great insight came from Gerald and really helped us to understand our mission and retreat activities. We finally received permission from Allen Correctional that we can schedule a March retreat. It will start on March 16th. We had our first formation meeting and the outside and as well as the inside men are excited. We also have contacted the Baton Rouge CJM and will meet in the near future to be able to minister in their area. Danny Reyes has provided some wonderful Bible Timeline books that were brought to the prison. The inside guys are using them in a bible study class atmosphere. The Catholic Daughters of Our Lady Queen of Heaven will continue to make homemade goodies and treats for the retreats. We have had many sponsors over the past years, one that comes to mind and has been faithful for each retreat is Pronia's restaurant. Brian at Pronia's has been with us since the beginning.





Roman Catholic Diocese of Lubbock

the Fredericksburg Mission Team. The Central Texas women's facilities are still not allowing retreats.

Austin CORE- The team was able to conduct one retreat at the Smith Unit in Lamesa in cooperation with



ARCHDIOCESE
OF SAN ANTONIO

San Antonio- The year began with two out of five state prisons locked down with Covid. Three prisons, Torres, Connally, and Briscoe were allowing weekly Mass and RCIA Classes. The San Antonio CORE Team donated hygiene packs to all of the state offenders at the Briscoe Unit. The CORE team participated in a Diocesan Deacon's workshop with classes on prison ministry at St. Pius X. Five retreats

were held throughout the year at three of the state units, Torres, Connally, and Briscoe units. Ascension Press Bible Timeline Study workbooks with videos were distributed to the Ney and Dominguez units. These units also began weekly Mass. The Dominguez unit had not had any Catholic services since Covid prior to this effort. Sacraments of Initiation were celebrated at the Torres, Briscoe and Connally units. A total of 33 men came into full Communion with the Catholic Church. Throughout the holiday seasons Kolbe supported the Connally Unit with a stipend for holiday meals for the correctional officers and turkeys were donated to the Briscoe Unit. Over 600 Bibles and 200 Catechisms were distributed to the prisons and units in the archdiocese of San Antonio.

The Connally Unit instituted Adoration with Benediction and Reposition the last Monday each month followed by Communion Service led by the Director of CJM, Deacon Adrian Cepeda. The Catholic Community musicians provide music. Chant music adds to the reverence of the chapel as there is typically 40-50 offenders in attendance. Additionally, one offender was recognized with the Rite of Lay Dominican at Mass in 2022. He continues to follow up with classes overseen by Dr. David Cooper. Several offenders continue to study through Catholic Distance University (CDU) to secure their Level Catechist certification via correspondence.



The next Kolbe Retreat is scheduled for March 2023 in the Connally Unit. The Briscoe and Connally units hosted the Judicial Vicar Very Rev. Krikor G. Chahin, JCD of the tribunal to provide information for those seeking to reconcile marriage issues. This event was well-received by all of the offenders. Kolbe volunteers who lead RCIA and other Catholic formations were present at each event.

Though retreats weren't possible at the Ney Unit in Hondo, we were able to have a Kolbe Reunion in December, reuniting all who have been on a Kolbe Retreat in the past. The reunion helped to re-kindle the fire of the Holy Spirit in the Catholic community.



DIOCESE
of
TYLER

Tyler - East Texas had most of its post-Covid activity in the Hodge Unit in Rusk, Texas. Along with TDCJ training, a mini, one day reunion was held in September. Fr. Tom Edelen is supporting Hodge with Mass. Volunteers host Bible study on

Wednesdays 4 - 7pm. The teaching is expanding to some of the Faith Based Dorm classes, as well. Planning retreats and reunions in the Hodge and Skyview units are anticipated in 2023. Covid affected the CORE Team make up and there is a strong effort to rebuild the team in 2023.



The Catholic Diocese of
Victoria in Texas

Victoria - On 12/15/22 for the sixth consecutive year, the Kolbe Prison Ministries volunteers delivered a Christmas Gift to 1300 incarcerated men at the Stevenson Unit consisting of a pair of white crew socks along with two Christmas cards. Catholic Mass, Bible study / CCD in Spanish and English, as well as RCIA took place once a week. Currently, there are 13 inmates that are participating in the RCIA program and might be receiving their sacraments in Spring 2023. Since 2011, there has been a total of 21 Kolbe Prison Retreats. In 2022 we had a retreat from April 21st to 24th in Spanish and from October 6th to 9th in English. A total of 66 inmates participated on each retreat along with 20 inmates that serve as stewards and approximately 30 volunteers on each team. On August 14, 2022 on the Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Most



Rev. Bishop Brendan Cahill from the Diocese of Victoria celebrate the Mass. He recognized and thanked the Kolbe Prison Ministries volunteers as well as other volunteers serving in our prison and jails in our diocese. Please click on the YouTube link - <https://youtu.be/gB-4ishZbjc> and listen to just his homily from about 20:30 to 29:30 minutes. Six volunteers completed the 1st Formation Pilot Program for Prison Ministry held in Spanish by Catholic Prison Ministries Coalition and the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. A certificate was presented to them at a Mass on November 22, 2022. An article about prison ministry was published by The Catholic Lighthouse in their December edition; December2022small.pdf (ecatholic.com).



From left to right:

Front - Manuel Ramos, Robert Landry, Roger Huehlefeld

Back - Abe Zarate, Alejandro Gonzalez, Hermes Silva, Rene Ybarbo, Wayne Gonzalez, Travis Wagner and Michael Roznovsky; Absent - Elias Flores





Artist - Ex-Offender Javier
Jacques/Bridgeport Unit
Displayed March 2022

