

SAINT LEONARD'S MINISTRIES

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YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

1) PRAY

- We pray for all prisoners, especially those who are facing long sentences, those who have lost faith in themselves and others, and those who feel little hope for the future.

Earth-making God, hear us.

We pray for those who have been released from prison, especially the women and men of Saint Leonard's Ministries. For those who have managed to find healing and new life, and for those who continue to find the going hard; and we ask that we may learn to be as forgiving of others as we know God to be forgiving of us.

Pain-bearing God, hear us.

We pray for all those who have a special concern for the after-care of formerly incarcerated people, especially the alumni and staff members of Saint Leonard's Ministries in Chicago.

Life-giving God, hear us.

(Litany adapted from *The Wideness of God's Mercy: Litanies to Enlarge Our Prayer*, compiled by Jeffery W. Rowthorn)

God, we remember your servant Leonard of Lubac who, kindled with the flame of your love, proclaimed liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners: Bless the men and women of Saint Leonard's Ministries; and grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, walking before you as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (Adapted from *A Great Cloud of Witnesses, Of a Monastic II*)

- Consider incorporating in your Sunday worship the following prayers from *The Book of Common Prayer: For Prisons and Correctional Institutions, For the Victims of Addiction, For Social Justice, For Cities, For the Poor and Neglected, and For the Oppressed.*
- Saint Leonard's Feast Day is November 6th: remember the Saint Leonard's Community that week!

2) VOLUNTEER

- Prepare a Sunday Supper for the Saint Leonard's residents with a group from your church
- Become a tutor or teacher for a Saint Leonard's student taking high school classes
- Coordinate a clothing drive for new and gently used clothing
- Coordinate a drive for toiletries & personal care items
- Sign up for Saint Leonard's emails and share them with your friends
- Invite a team from Saint Leonard's to speak with your church community
- Organize a group of your church or co-workers for a one-day project at St. Leonard's

3) GIVE

- Include Saint Leonard's Ministries in your church's annual budget for outreach ministries
- Become a supporter of Saint Leonard's Ministries through an annual gift

ABOUT SAINT LEONARD'S MINISTRIES

Since 1954, Saint Leonard's Ministries has provided holistic reentry services to men and women exiting Illinois jails. With access to safe housing, life skills training, behavioral and physical health care, high school courses, workforce development training, and spiritual support, Saint Leonard's residents are empowered to lead whole and fruitful lives.

Founded by Episcopal priest Father James Jones, Chaplain at what is now Chicago's Cook County Jail, Saint Leonard's Ministries recognizes that individuals returning to our community following incarceration face challenges that impede their paths towards stable, productive lives. By creating an environment of dignity, respect, and encouragement, Saint Leonard's Ministries empowers its residents to navigate these challenges. Saint Leonard's recidivism rates average 23% for men and 9% for women, compared to the state average of 45% for men and 36% for women. St. Leonard's holistic services work!

Over its 68 year history, Saint Leonard's Ministries has evolved into a fully integrated health and social service agency that provides more than 350 alumni annually with comprehensive, evidence-based services improving quality of life, stimulating economic opportunity, and decreasing recidivism while reuniting families.

SAINT LEONARD'S MINISTRIES BY THE NUMBERS

29,216 Square Feet

115 Beds

350 New Alumni Annually

54,000 Meals Served Annually

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