

Seven members of St. Ignatius and St. Lads are currently engaged in prison ministry. We, along with roughly 20 other Catholic volunteers from the West Side, volunteer at several facilities in the greater Cleveland area including the state prisons of Grafton, Grafton Camp, and the Lorain Correctional Institute and the county facilities of the Community Based Correctional Facility of Lorain and Medina and the Cuyahoga Juvenile Detention Home. There are over 3400 incarcerated in these facilities, of which 100+ are under age of 18. Only a small fraction of the inmates interact directly with us at any one time, but our presence and witness are to the entire populations. In this ministry we represent you, are nourished by your prayers, and ask them to pray for you.

The Diocesan Ministry to the Incarcerated is directed by Sr. Rita Mary Harwood, Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life and Development. Its website <http://www.clevelandprisonministry.org> provides a good overview of the ministry and several links to other organizations engaged locally in prison ministry.

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