

# ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY



## What does OCPM do?

- Seeks to serve prisoners and their families through visitation, prayer, correspondence, and literature.
- Responds to over 800 letters requesting spiritual guidance from prisoners each month.
- Produces, prints and distributes nearly 2,000,000 icon prayer cards to prisoners in N. America.
- Publishes and distributes over 100,000 copies of the *JOURNEY* Series books and pamphlets.
- As prisoners are catechized and prepared, they are brought into the Orthodox Church through Baptism and Chrismation.
- Fr. David Ogan guides and coordinates the activities from an office in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Here is a quote from prisoners' letters. *"Father, my appreciation to your ministry. You answered my prayer by sending the handmade Christmas card. It was more than I could have hoped for. It brought tears to my eyes. A beautiful & blessed act of love by a child. This gesture of love warmed my heart immensely."* John from Florida.

Not everyone is able to personally visit a jail or prison to minister the Gospel of our Lord, but all Orthodox Christians can be involved through prayer and financial support.

*"...I was in prison and you visited Me" Matthew 25:36*

## We can help in several ways...

[1] **Remember them in prayer, especially during the petitions of the Liturgy.**

[2] **Participate in the Christmas and Pascha Card Project**

Here's a project during the Christmas and Paschal Lenten seasons! OCPM sends homemade Christmas and Pascha cards made by children and adults each year to prisoners all over the world; currently 400. (There are several redesigned cards at [www.phyllisonest.com](http://www.phyllisonest.com) that can be colored and signed by the students, if desired, or due to time constraints.

*Fr. David needs Pascha cards by mid-Lent and Christmas cards by Thanksgiving.*

**Rules:** no stickers, glitter, labels, or glue. (Some people apply drugs to the glue)

**Sign** with first names only and if a child, add age.

**Size:** Must fit in a business size #10 envelope.

[3] **"Stamp Out Loneliness"**-

OCPM needs stamps or money for stamps for all the mailings. Consider having a "Stamp Drive."

**Mail to:**

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM)

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