

Thoughts about Prison Ministry at Tucson, Arizona Prison Complex, Rincon Unit

PRISON MINISTRY

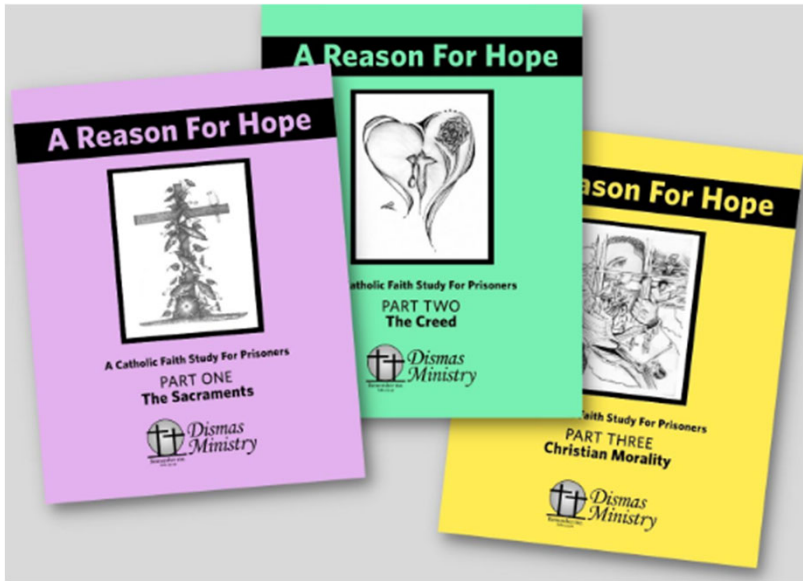


Slide 1 of 3 – RCIA in Prison Ministry

- The ADCRR Tucson Prison Complex, Rincon Unit is a Security Level 4 (out of 5) – “High Custody”
- This unit is for inmates who need more supervision than medium custody but are not maximum-security.
- Still offers programming, such as education, chaplaincy, and treatment classes, but always in supervised, controlled settings.
- Fr. Vu’s guidance: *“The most important part of prison ministry is to be present.”*
- Use Dismas Ministry RCIA/OCIA booklets; meet with men before/after Communion Service / Mass.
- God’s mercy and grace are alive even inside prison walls

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Slide 2 of 3 – Gustavo's Story



- Began RCIA in 2024 with great enthusiasm
- Studied *A Reason for Hope* deeply; completed Sacraments & Creed sections
- Father of four; wants to raise them in the faith after release
- Asked thoughtful questions (heaven, purgatory, Eucharist, Scripture passages)
- Introduced me to Jessie, Gustavo helped him study—evangelization behind bars
- Common challenge: inmate transfers; Gustavo moved before Confirmation

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Slide 3 of 3 – Lessons & Impact

- Prison ministry is **transient** — RCIA must adapt to frequent transfers
- When inmates show real desire for the faith, we work to make Sacraments possible
- Chaplains and COs are essential partners
- The men teach me perseverance, hope, and trust in God
- God's mercy is greater than our mistakes, His grace deeper than any prison walls

Romans 3:23-28 – For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard. ²⁴Yet now God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty.

NOT
GUILTY!

ROMANS 3:23-28

