Dismas Ministry
Remember me.
Luke 23:42

2025 – 2026 IMPACT REPORT

Faith, Dignity and Hope Within and Beyond Prison Walls

During fiscal year 2025–2026, Dismas Ministry served 13,884 individuals through the direct distribution of Catholic Bibles, prayer resources, rosaries, catechisms and faith formation study materials. This total does not include the ministry's digital reach through Edovo, making the impact represented here a powerful picture of direct, tangible outreach alone.

Fiscal year 2025–2026 was a year of strengthening the foundation beneath the ministry so Dismas Ministry can serve more people, support more prison ministers and expand its Catholic presence across the country.

13,884 PRISONERS SERVED BY MAIL

5,016 CATHOLIC BIBLES PROVIDED

13,825 ROSARIES SHARED

8,088 PRAYER BOOKS PROVIDED

4,803 CORRESPONDENCE STUDY BOOKS MAILED

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

During FY2025–2026, we continued to witness what can happen when individuals who are incarcerated are seen, heard and accompanied. Through your generosity, Dismas Ministry provided Catholic Bibles, prayer books, rosaries, catechisms and faith formation materials to thousands of people across the country. At the same time, our growing digital ministry made Scripture, prayer and spiritual encouragement available to thousands more through Edovo.

Every number represents a person seeking prayer, understanding, connection and hope. Thank you for answering the Gospel call to visit the prisoner and for helping ensure that no person is forgotten.

With gratitude,

Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

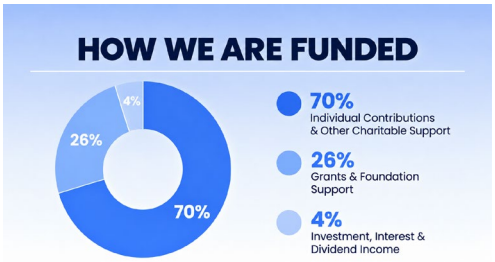
Dismas Ministry strengthened its Board of Directors by welcoming Joshua Stancil, returning to the Board and now serving as Vice President, and Deacon Jim Matthias, former Director of Jails and Prisons Ministry for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Their experience in Catholic prison ministry, along with the varied backgrounds and perspectives of our entire Board, strengthens Dismas Ministry's governance, strategic direction and responsible stewardship as we expand our national outreach. Together, our Board provides prayerful leadership while ensuring that Dismas Ministry remains faithful to its mission. Board members include. Deacon Chris Patrick, Joshua Stancil, Sr. Marilyn Martin, Deacon Jim Matthias, Juliann Joerres, Steve McGuire, Dan Gabler, Fr. Frank DeSiano, Joseph DeAlmeida.

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR DONORS

Every Bible, catechism, prayer book, rosary and faith formation resource distributed by Dismas Ministry is made possible through the generosity of our donors. We are deeply grateful to the individuals, Mercy Circle members, parishes, foundations and organizations whose faithful support sustains this ministry.

Most importantly, your generosity reminds our brothers and sisters behind prison walls that they are seen, valued and never forgotten.

$466,000 TOTAL DONATIONS FY 25–26



YEAR IN REVIEW: PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

I Am Beautiful, Volume 11

This trauma-informed resource honors the dignity and amplifies the voices of women experiencing incarceration, providing a meaningful platform for healing and hope for the women who created it and those who read it.

A New Guide to Catholic Worship

We began offering Take This All of You: A Guide to Catholic Worship for Inmates by Bruce Michaels. Written specifically for individuals who are incarcerated, this accessible resource explains the Mass, Catholic prayers, responses, sacraments and worship practices.

Connecting Prison Ministers

Dismas Ministry hosted two virtual prison ministry gatherings, bringing together Catholic prison ministers from across the country to share experiences, discuss challenges, exchange practical ideas and strengthen connections with others engaged in this important work.

I Am Worthy

Dismas Ministry began work on a new trauma-informed book series created by men in prison for men in prison, featuring poetry, reflections, stories and artwork exploring trauma, healing, accountability and personal growth.

2026 St. Dismas Award

In March 2026, Dismas Ministry honored Deacon Mike Gutierrez of the Diocese of Tucson as the 2026 St. Dismas Award recipient, recognizing more than fourteen years of faithful service to individuals who are incarcerated throughout southern Arizona.

Expanding Our Reach

Printed resources remain at the heart of our ministry, while our growing digital presence allows thousands more individuals to access Scripture, prayer and Catholic formation. Together, these efforts help us meet people wherever access is possible.

EXPANDING OUR DIGITAL REACH

Through our partnership with Edovo, Dismas Ministry offers 31 free Catholic resources in English and Spanish. During FY2025–2026, cumulative unique engaged learners grew from 11,431 to 25,065, an increase of 13,634 learners. Engagement with Dismas Ministry resources has been recorded in 49 states and the District of Columbia.

WORDS FROM THOSE WE SERVE AND THOSE WHO SERVE THEM

"I am writing to ask for a Bible Correspondence lessons. I would like to ask for an opportunity to study God's Word through Dismas Ministry. I would love for you to work with me! We always want to remember, it's not how we start, but how we finish the race that matters. No matter what kind of start my life had, I can have a new life in Christ and He will see me through to the finish line or even carry me home to be with Him forever." **William, an individual who is incarcerated in Connecticut**

"Through your actions, you tell them they are cared for and not forgotten. Those feelings are in short supply in most prison environments. It is people like you who make a real difference in their lives." ~ **Deacon Shelton**

"Thank you, thank you! We just received the English and Spanish Bibles, and I have already given five to individuals who have been waiting for them. I know 'thank you' is not enough, but right now I feel so blessed by this gift from you." ~ **Chaplain, Bisbee, Arizona**

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an essential part of Dismas Ministry, helping us extend our reach and serve more individuals who are incarcerated. Throughout FY2025–2026, several dedicated volunteers supported our mission by preparing and packaging resources, assisting with mailings and correspondence, organizing materials, and contributing their time and talents to special projects. Their faithful service helps ensure that Bibles, prayer resources, rosaries and faith-formation materials reach those who are seeking hope, encouragement and a deeper relationship with Christ.

LOOKING AHEAD

As we look to FY2026–2027, Dismas Ministry is building on a year of growth and expanding opportunities to serve individuals who are incarcerated and those who minister to them. We will continue increasing access to Catholic faith resources, strengthening our network of prison ministers, expanding our digital reach and building stronger relationships with dioceses and parishes across the country.

Thank you for helping to ensure that no person is forgotten.

Dismas Ministry • Sharing Christ's love within and beyond prison walls • dismasministry.org