

Prisoners' Sunday – 10th October 2021. Can you help?



“I was in prison and you visited me...” (Matt. 25:36)

Pact is the national Catholic charity which provides support to men, women and young people in prison, people with convictions, and their children and families. Our vision is of a society in which justice is understood as a process of restoration and healing, and where the innate dignity and worth of every human is valued.

This Prisoners' Sunday we are looking for people who will be ambassadors for Pact by:

- Giving a short talk after Mass about Pact's work and its impact. We will provide a script.
- Being a Pact presence, ensuring that posters are displayed and leaflets distributed.

Prisoners and their families have been severely affected by the pandemic; in an effort to stop the spread of the virus, people have been confined to cells for 23hrs a day. Families have suffered prolonged separation as visits have been largely suspended since March 2020. Now, more than ever, we need the support of our parishes to enable us to continue to support families and to help rebuild relationships.

In England and Wales there are almost 79,000 people in prison and just under 90,000 children with a parent in prison. Research shows that keeping links between those in prison and their families reduces the risk of prisoners committing further crime after release by 39%. This is a key aspect of our work. We depend almost entirely on the generosity of the Catholic community for donations to fund our core operation; Prisoners' Sunday is, therefore, crucial to our ministry.

If you are able to help us in these ways or would like to find out about volunteering opportunities with Pact, please either email parish.action@prisonadvice.org.uk or call 020 3031 6867 by **30th September**, giving your name and contact details. We would be delighted to hear from you. To find out more about Pact's work, click here: [Prison Advice and Care Trust](#)

With thanks and prayers,

The Pact Team