Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.
Jane M. Barrie

Those who were able to attend the Mass in support of Prison Ministry on November 17 received a glimpse of what a difference we can make in prison ministry. At dinner, every table included an ex-offender so we could visit with them about their experiences. It was informative, but more than that, it confirmed that we can make an impact.

Prison is a hard place. For most, it is not a place of hope, or positive transformation. But not all. Those inside are largely cut off from the outside world. For some, receiving mail is a lifeline to the outside world. It is an affirmation that someone on the outside knows about them and cares about them.

There is a universe of prisoners who, in their brokenness, are ripe for conversion. This does not mean that they will be released into immediate success on the outside. Many will never leave prison. Still, they are open to healing, they are open to growth, and they are open to be drawn closer to Christ.

We have the opportunity to facilitate that change through our letter writing. We can visit prisoners with our words. When we bring sunshine, and spiritual growth, to their lives, we cannot help but to receive it ourselves. This is a ministry that is open and accessible to <u>all</u> of our members.

Continue to pray for those in prison, their families, their victims, the families of their victims, and all those who minister to them.