

Resources for Prisons Week

13th - 20th October 2019



Prisons Week

For forty years Prisons Week has prepared prayer literature to enable the Christian community to pray for the needs of all those affected by prisons. Please pray each day during Prisons Week, but also ask yourself whether there is one thing that you as an individual, or as a church, can do to help any of those people that you are praying for. For more information and for prayers for Prison Week please visit: www.prisonsworld.org

Prisons Week prayer

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.

We pray for those in prison.

Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.

Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime.

Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day.

Amen

Cover: "Group 2", Guernsey Prison, Bronze Award for Photography, 2019

Foreword

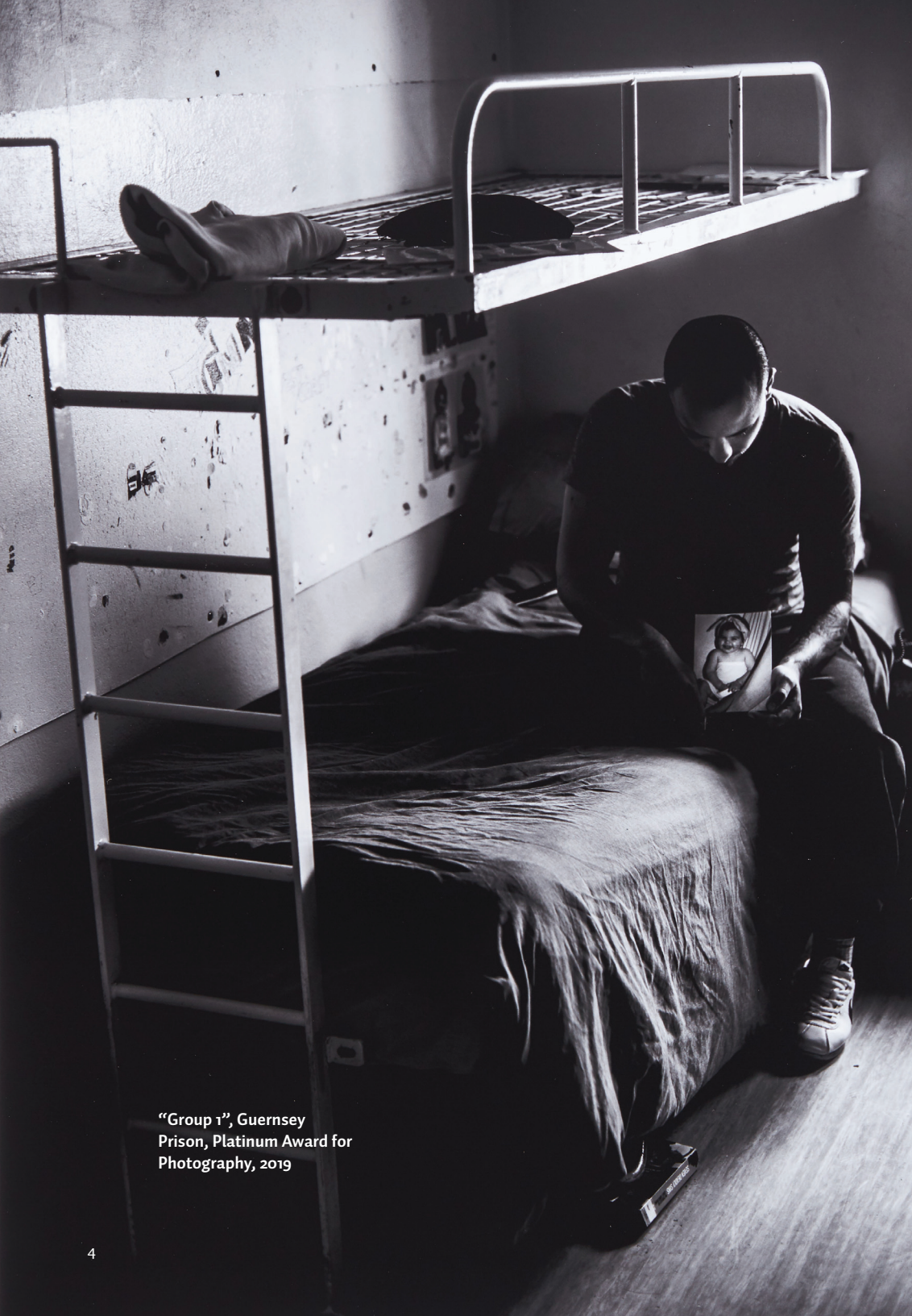
The welcome by my new congregation was overwhelmingly genuine and warm, the worship could be described as 'powerful and rocking', the prayers sincere and deeply moving, the interaction and response by the majority of those present was like the tea, piping hot. It was wonderful to be there...and I was in prison.

For the uninitiated it may come as a surprise to discover that Jesus is in prison. He is ahead of us, as always, and He is present in the lives of many who inhabit or work within these walls. Christ continues to make himself known in such communities and individuals – it's what he does, of course, and wonderfully it is a ministry that he invites us to, encouraging us, even commanding us to be engaged. We should not be surprised! This is ministry at the 'edge' and increasingly the Church realises that it is at the edges where the heart of the gospel – the good news – has its powerful being. 'Whatever you did for the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me', said Jesus. What other reasons would we need to prioritise the ministry in our prisons?

Sadly, however, it is my observation that with some remarkable exceptions, when it comes to prisons and prisoners, the maxim 'out of sight, out of mind' rings all too true. Together we can change that! It is for this reason that I warmly recommend to you the excellent work of Churches Together in Westminster's London Prisons Mission who generously continue to supply the Church with the inspired resources that you hold right now. It is my prayer that here you will find ideas and challenges that will mobilise prayers and physical reinforcements for this major frontline ministry which will lead not only to increased interest and concern during Prisons Week, but to ongoing holy support for the tens of thousands of men and women who find themselves 'inside' but never outside the love and grace of Christ. God himself is pleased.

God bless you!

- **Anthony Cotterill**
Commissioner
Territorial Commander for The Salvation Army,
United Kingdom with the Republic of Ireland



"Group 1", Guernsey
Prison, Platinum Award for
Photography, 2019

London Prisons Mission and Prisons Week

The purposes of the London Prisons Mission are:

- to support and assist multi-faith Prison Chaplaincy Teams;
- to enable volunteers to practise their Christian ministry with a vulnerable and often neglected section of society;
- to inform congregations of churches about prisoners, their families, prison staff, victims of crime and issues concerning the criminal justice system.

London Prisons Mission volunteers work with the multi-faith Chaplaincy Teams of HMPs Wandsworth and Wormwood Scrubs in London, both of which contain 1,100 to 1,500 adult males awaiting trial, sentence or serving custodial sentences. We also work with the team at HMP & Young Offenders Institution Bronzefield in Ashford, Surrey. This holds 550 women and girls, both remanded in custody before trial or sentence and also serving either short, long or indefinite and life sentences. Since the closure of HMP Holloway, this is now the largest female prison in Europe. We also support the multi-faith Chaplaincy Team of the Immigration Removal Centre near Heathrow airport. This is a prison in all but name at which 500 people, mainly men, who are subject to immigration controls, are detained indefinitely, while awaiting consideration of appeals or representations, before eventually

being either deported or allowed to remain in this country.

Volunteers also support the purposes of the London Prisons Mission with this Prisons Week booklet, by curating Shows of Art by Prisoners and communicating information and learning to churches.

Prisons Week

Prisons Week encourages churches of all denominations to hold services and activities which draw attention to the prison system. Some churches do this by devoting sermons to the subject and including special prayers and intercessions. Others arrange lectures, speakers, discussion groups and bulletins focussing on current prison issues. Churches also use the quiz in this booklet as the basis for informed debate. The aim is to bring knowledge about prisoners, their families and prison staff out from behind prison walls and into the light for discussion.

The quotations interspersed throughout this booklet have been gathered by London Prisons Mission volunteers. Facts & figures are taken from Bromley Briefings Prison Factfile 2018, Prison Reform Trust

It is hoped that during Prisons Week individual church members and their churches will decide that they must do more to practise their ministry with prisoners and to address issues within the system.

There are many ways to do this, as there are numerous faith and secular organisations active in the field. Many of these are listed in this booklet and most are in urgent need of additional, regular volunteers.

The crisis in British prisons

“Some of the most disturbing prison conditions we have ever seen – conditions which have no place in an advanced nation in the 21st century”. Peter Clarke, Chief Inspector, 2018 HMIP Annual Report.

The prison population is huge, with 94,820 men, women and children detained and well over 100,000 people admitted to prisons last year. Britain imprisons nearly double the numbers, per head of population, of other Western European nations. We detain them for longer and have worse reoffending rates, but do not have more crime. Rates of self-harm have hit record levels each year since 2012. Suicides have increased,

as have attacks on both inmates and staff. Prisons in England and Wales are now witnessing an assault every 20 minutes and a prisoner taking his own life every four days. Unrelenting boredom, excessive periods locked within cells and limited access to education, work, recreation, library, chapel and other services and facilities, coupled with chronic substance abuse, all add to the climate of hopelessness. People who regularly visit prisons see examples of exemplary professional care and kindness towards inmates by staff at all levels. Despite this, Dame Anne Owers, National Chair of the Independent Monitoring Boards suggests in her 2019 report “a perfect storm of staffing issues, increased use of new psychoactive substances and a crumbling infrastructure across the prison estate has led to a situation where public safety is jeopardised”. The report explains that a “churn of staff was largely to blame for the surge in violence and self-harm, with new officers lacking the confidence to set boundaries and deal with difficult situations, as well as form positive interactions with prisoners”. Shortage of experienced and suitably

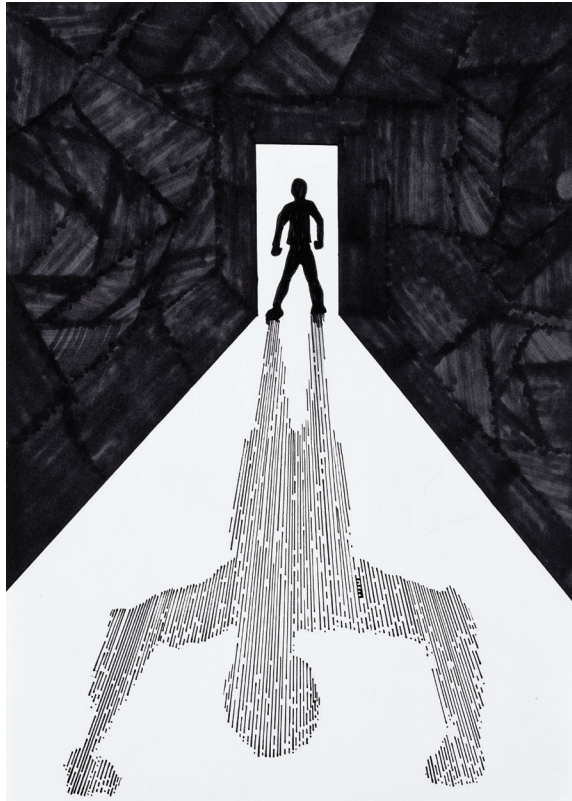
trained staff “also lead to expensive facilities in the prison estate being woefully underused and education and training opportunities being rendered less effective, due to the shortage of officers to escort inmates to different parts of the prison”. The report asserts that “we need our prisons to be places where positive things happen, otherwise negative things do happen. It’s about public protection in the end. Prisons must create an environment that makes the public safe”.

– John Plummer
Coordinator
London Prisons Mission
johnplummer@londonprisonsmission.org

Fewer than 1% of all children in England are in care and yet they make up 38% of those in secure training centres and 42% of the young offender institution population.

Self-inflicted deaths are five times more likely in prison than in the general population. 70% of those who died from self-inflicted means had already been identified as having mental health needs.

Prisons Week worship



"It's Been A While", HM Prison Spring Hill,
Commended Award for Drawing, 2019

The most important thing faith communities have to contribute in this area is something we don't have criminological evidence on, but which could underpin so much of what is well evidenced, and that is an approach to each and every person that presses on in very real and tangible ways to announce, that we are all, in fact, equal souls, all day long. **Anon**

Hymns

The Spirit lives to set us free – Damian Lundy
Lord the light of your love is shining (Shine Jesus, Shine) – Graham Kendrick
Longing for light, we wait in darkness – Bernadette Farrell
Amazing Grace – John Newton
The light of Christ has come in to the world – Donald Fishell
Come to set us free – Bernadette Farrell
And can it be – Charles Wesley
God is working his purpose out – A.C. Ainger
Hail to the Lord's anointed – James Montgomery
Hark the glad sound – Philip Doddridge
Jesus shall reign – Isaac Watts
Just as I am – Charlotte Elliott
O for a thousand tongues to sing – Charles Wesley
Songs of praise the angels sing – James Montgomery
Wait for the Lord – Jacques Berthier, Taize Community
Jesus remember me – Jacques Berthier, Taize Community
The Lord is my light – Jacques Berthier, Taize Community

Scripture references/readings

Malachi 4:1-3 (or 3:19-20 depending on the translation) The Day of the Lord is coming
Isaiah 55:6-9 God's offer of mercy
Psalm 26 (27) The Lord is my light & my salvation
Psalm 102 (103) The Lord is compassion & love
Romans 8:31-39 Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ
James 1:2-4 Faith and endurance
Matthew 7:7-11 Ask, seek, knock
Luke 18:1-8 Never become discouraged – the parable of the persistent widow
Jeremiah 29:10-14 I will bring you back from exile
Luke 7:36-50 Be generous with forgiveness
Ephesians 2:1-10 By God's grace are we made alive in Christ
Ephesians 4:1-6 Live a life worthy of the calling you have received

Prayer

Justice surely hopes that there will be a sense of healing, a chance to see things differently, and a new future for all those affected by crime and imprisonment. To achieve this we need each other, and in particular we need each other's words of encouragement. This Prisons Week let us pray for all those affected by prison, that we may build a sense of hope in each other that life will in some measure be restored. "So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind."
1 Thessalonians 5 v11

Father of mercy,
the secrets of all hearts are known to you alone.
You know who is just and you forgive the unjust.
Hear our prayers for those in prison,
Give them patience and hope in their sufferings,
and bring them home again soon.
(Roman Missal)

Prayers of Intercession

We pray for those who are in prison. May the light of Christ offer them hope and give them the strength to deal with the situation they are in. May the promise of God's love and mercy encourage them to turn from a way of darkness to a path of light and life. Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have been the victims of crime: those who have had their lives changed forever; those who now live in fear because of the actions of others. May their hearts and minds be open to the healing power of God and allow the grace of the Holy Spirit to restore their trust and confidence. Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who work in prisons. May the light of Christ guide all that they do, may they show compassion and understanding to all whom they encounter and be granted the grace and strength to continue their vital work. Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

"Group 2", Guernsey Prison, Bronze
Award for Photography, 2019

“How do you encourage people to move on and begin a new life, when the next step is just too painful and too difficult.” - Prison chaplain

We pray for the families of those in prison and the families of those who are the victims of crime. May the reconciling power of God's love bring healing and wholeness to their lives. May the wider community offer support and acceptance to counter feelings of isolation and loneliness. Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who wish to change the direction of their life and those who struggle to break free from the grip of addiction. May they be open to the saving grace of God's love and recognise that the path of light offers hope and renewal. Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, help us to have the courage to stand in your light, the light that shatters darkness. Open our ears when we do not hear you, deepen our thinking when we do not respond to you, focus our vision when we get distracted from you, open our eyes when we do not see you. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen

Prisoners' Sunday Prayer

Good and Gracious God, you offer the promise of new life:

We pray for those who feel imprisoned by fear and grief as a result of the actions of others

Help them and heal them, we pray

We pray for those who are imprisoned in gaol and cell as a result of their own actions

Help them and heal them, we pray

We pray for those who can find no other life than in the never ending imprisonment of crime

Help them and heal them, we pray

In your Son you show the way to new life

We pray for all who offer consolation and courage to the victims of crime
Support and encourage them, we pray

We pray for all who offer friendship and example to prisoners and their families
Support and encourage them, we pray

We pray for all who struggle to offer a better way to those trapped in cycles of violence
Support and encourage them, we pray

Further prayers:

Fr Paul Douthwaite

(National Catholic Chaplain for Prisons, HMPPS/NOMS Catholic Faith Adviser)

Heavenly Father,

As we are accompanied by your son in the complexities of our life's journey, we recall his words 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you'. We pray that the example that Jesus gave of love and prayer in his hour of suffering may be one that we can follow. As Christ's love and prayer enabled him to endure his passion and rise from the death he endured on Calvary so we pray that, following his perfect example of love and prayer, we might rise from our earthly trials to eternal life with him who is Lord for ever and ever.

Amen

Pope Francis

No prison cell is so isolated that it can keep the Lord out. He is there with you. He cries with you, works with you, hopes with you. His paternal and maternal love is everywhere.

Reverend Neil Campbell

(Chaplain at HMP Dumfries)

We pray for men and women leaving prison, returning to families that have grown used to their absence and into communities where they can, too easily, be drawn back into the crime network.

We pray for prisoners who have committed sexual offences and who find integration into any employment or voluntary work almost impossible and who often lead lonely lives and find little or no support in rebuilding their lives.

We pray for churches that they may be communities of welcome for ex-offenders who need help with rehabilitation, and may find the gift of hope that comes from Christ. We do not pray from a position of strength.

We pray for the prisoner knowing that human divisions are false, that this is not the innocent praying for the guilty or the right praying for the wrong but people praying for people, the hurt remembering the hurt, the failure reaching out in love to the failure in a single community reaching out in grace.

William Noblett

(Former Chaplain General & Archdeacon of HM Prisons)

On admission to prison

Crucified God, you know what it is to be mocked, to be stripped and vulnerable. Be with those who enter prison for the first time today. Be present in their vulnerability and in those who have care of them. In this vulnerability may they know their worth in your eyes.

In their anxiety and uncertainty may they know that your Son has shared their experience and transformed it.

On prison visitors

God, who in Christ called others to ministry, we give you thanks for the life, witness, and ministry of all who volunteer.

We give thanks that they commit themselves to love, which transforms, to forgiveness, which heals, to respect, which encourages, to hope, which is grounded in you.

Brian Haymes (Baptist)

Sometimes when nobody is looking, there are tears in the night.

It hurts to be here, in spite of all the bravado.

Memories come of family, and of shame too, of what led to this in the first place.

There are tears in prison, and threats,

temptations and despair.

Gracious God, we pray for prisoners, their families and their victims.

We ask guidance for the governors and warders, probation officers and chaplains.

We pray for policy makers, judges and magistrates. We remember those in prison today, in the love of Christ. We ask you to remember them too.

The Revd Roderick Leece (Rector, St George's Church, Hanover Square)

This year, over 200,000 children will suffer the heartache and trauma of the arrest, trial and imprisonment of a parent. Six out of 10 boys with a father in prison will go on to serve a sentence themselves. During the Ecumenical Vigil of Prayer last October at Notre Dame de France Church, Leicester Square, we heard moving and heart rending accounts from partners and spouses of loved ones in prison, for whom life can be even more difficult and crushing than for those inside. We pray for the loved ones of those in prison, who serve their own 'hidden sentences' as a result of the stigma associated with imprisonment, as well as other losses and worries - whether emotional, financial, mental or spiritual. We pray that they maintain positive relationships with their loved ones, and never lose hope.

3 Prayers from Prison Hope - Pray with Us:

The Revd Helen Dearnley (Anglican & HQ Chaplaincy Advisor, HM Prison & Probation Service)

Almighty God who brings freedom of heart and mind to all who trust in you, we pray for all those who help to prepare individuals to leave prison, grant them wisdom and understanding, resilience and hope. We pray for all those who are themselves preparing to leave prison that they may believe in the possibility of change and your transforming power within them.

And for all communities who welcome former prisoners into their midst we ask that you grant them strength, inspiration, peace and an understanding of true hospitality. In Christ's name we pray.

Jonathan Green

(Development Coordinator of The Welcome Directory)

Father God, Jesus urged us to use few words as we pray. Therefore, may we bless the good we see and draw alongside the outcast. Particularly in our prisons where there is good to see and where outcasts gather. Empower us to be an incarnation of your love. Amen

Reverend Dr Michael Kavanagh (Former Chaplain General, HMPS)

Heavenly Father,

We pray for all those young people who are struggling and at risk; those who may drift into criminal behaviour because of circumstances beyond their control.

We remember those who are excluded from school or in alternative provision who may be targeted by criminal gangs for their vulnerability and need to belong.

We pray for all those who seek to support them and divert them from a life of crime.

We pray that our faith communities may be places where young people may feel welcomed and accepted and discover a new sense of being precious and loved by you.

Amen

There is a clear and direct association between black and minority ethnic groups and the odds of receiving a custodial sentence.



“Taking part in a professionally run musical, with real actors and dancers was the best thing I’ve ever done, in prison, or before. Putting on a good show for all those visitors made me feel that things can be OK.”

Reoffending rates are reduced for those who receive mental health or addiction treatment. Release on Temporary License reduces reoffending as does engagement with education.

“Group 1”, Guernsey Prison, Platinum Award for Photography, 2019

Message from a chaplain

Sometimes, and quite understandably, most of us really don't want to think about prison, or about those who populate such institutions. Relentlessly, the media portray these places as either dark and miserable or jolly holiday camps where anything goes.

Spending the best part of 50 or more hours weekly in one of these institutions, I really cannot say I recognise what is described in British media reporting on prison. What leads an individual to prison cannot and should never be played-down or justified but for the prison chaplain who regularly meets prisoners, a bigger picture emerges.

It looks at the whole person's life, including the offence, previous trauma, childhood development, relationship-deficiencies, life-choices, spirituality and the general direction in which a person's life up to that point is heading. The task ahead is never easy, but when faced properly and lucidly, a solution to a person's offending behaviour may become apparent and the possibility of restoration or making amends can begin.

Restorative Justice can create opportunities where an offender learns the art of building healthy relationships, discovers their place

in the world, and faces the painful work of restoring what is broken. This process can and often does include the victim bringing into sharper focus the cost of crime and the real and lasting possibility of reconciliation. No one, least of all me, is suggesting that for all involved, especially victims of crime, that there is an easy-fix but knowing there is passionate, driven and skilled prison staff, along with chaplains, populating our modern British prisons today - then this work becomes hope-filled.

The hope is a hope for change and the real possibility of a better, fairer society where all can flourish and live without fear.

Taking the first step means giving quality time and putting effort into transforming places like these not into holiday camps but into schools of learning where darkness and misery are faced and new ways of thinking are formed and imbedded. Someone has to...could you see yourself being part of this necessary and essential work? Young or old, employed or retired, ex-offender or not, anyone of good-will can volunteer.

- Marcel McCarron,
Managing Chaplain
HMP & YOI Bronzefield

Prayers by Bonhoeffer

"We must learn to regard people less in the light of what they do or omit to do, and more in the light of what they suffer."

Pastor of the German Lutheran Church in London from 1932 to 1935, Dietrich Bonhoeffer was an opponent of Hitler and executed in a Nazi concentration camp in 1945.

Evening Prayer for Fellow Prisoners

O Lord my God, thank you for bringing this day to a close;

Thank you for giving me rest in body and soul. Your hand has been over me and has guarded and preserved me.

Forgive my lack of faith and any wrong that I have done today, and help me to forgive all who have wronged me.

Let me sleep in peace under your protection, and keep me from all temptations of darkness.

Into your hands I commend my loved ones and all who dwell in this house; I commend to you my body and soul.

O God, your holy name be praised.
Amen

Prayer in Time of Distress

O Lord God, great distress has come upon me; and I do not know what to do.

O God, be gracious to me and help me. Give me strength to bear what you send, and do not let fear rule over me; Take a father's care of those I love, My wife and children.

O merciful God, forgive me all the sins that I have committed against you and against my fellow men.

I trust in your grace and commit my life wholly into your hands.

Do with me according to your will and as is best for me.

Whether I live or die, I am with you, and you, my God, are with me.

Lord, I wait for your salvation and for your kingdom.

Amen

Morning Prayer

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.

Help me to pray, and to concentrate my thoughts on you:

I cannot do this alone. In me there is darkness,

But with you there is light;

I am lonely; but with you there is help;

I am restless, but with you there is

peace.

In me there is bitterness,

But with you there is patience;

I do not understand your ways,

But you know the way for me...

Restore me to liberty,

And enable me so to live now that I may answer before you and before me.

Lord, whatever this day may bring,

Your name be praised.

Life after prison

The link between homelessness and reoffending is well established. The average annual cost of each prison place is £40,843, and the total annual resource budget for the entire HM Prison & Probation Service was £3.9 billion. But in 2010 reoffending by recent ex-offenders was estimated to cost the economy £9.5 to 13 billion (Bromley Briefings Prison Fact File 2018). Reoffending not only wastes public funds, it inflicts more damage on the often fragile lives of offenders as well as the victims of their additional crimes.

Prisons cannot, of course, control the environment outside into which inmates are discharged, but more should be done to plan for the future while people are inside. In a youth prison in the Netherlands, for example, detailed planning begins on the first day after conviction – for accommodation, education, training,

employment and family relationships.

At HMP& YOI Bronzefield, where several London Prisons Mission volunteers work, despite impressive efforts to provide residents with a safe environment while detained, the fact is that as many as 50 each month are discharged to ‘no fixed abode’. A young woman leaving prison with a £46 Discharge Grant and no roof over her head is extremely vulnerable. Is she to associate again with a violent previous boyfriend, or risk sleeping rough under the bridges of London? One girl told me that she was frightened to use the sleeping bag provided, because this made her unable to run away when this was essential. A mixed gender hostel is unsuitable for a woman who has been the victim of male violence and sexual exploitation.

“Most hostels set a ‘one strike and you’re out’ rule, concerning alcohol and drugs. So, after staying clean for four months, she used again and was put out on the street where she stole, was convicted and is back in prison.”

– Prison chaplain

Prison has a poor record of reducing reoffending. 48% are reconvicted within one year of release; for those serving sentences of less than a year the figure is 64%.



“Consequences”, HM Prison Warren Hill, Painting, 2019

The risks of returning to crime, drug dependence and danger increase with every hour. Failure to comply with a probation service appointment will result in an instant recall to prison. Being caught shop-lifting will lead to court and back to prison. While we are critical of many aspects of the British prison system, we must also change the world outside prison walls, so

that people convicted of crimes who have completed sentences imposed by the courts have a better chance of becoming useful, law abiding, tax-paying members of our society. What is the role of our churches?

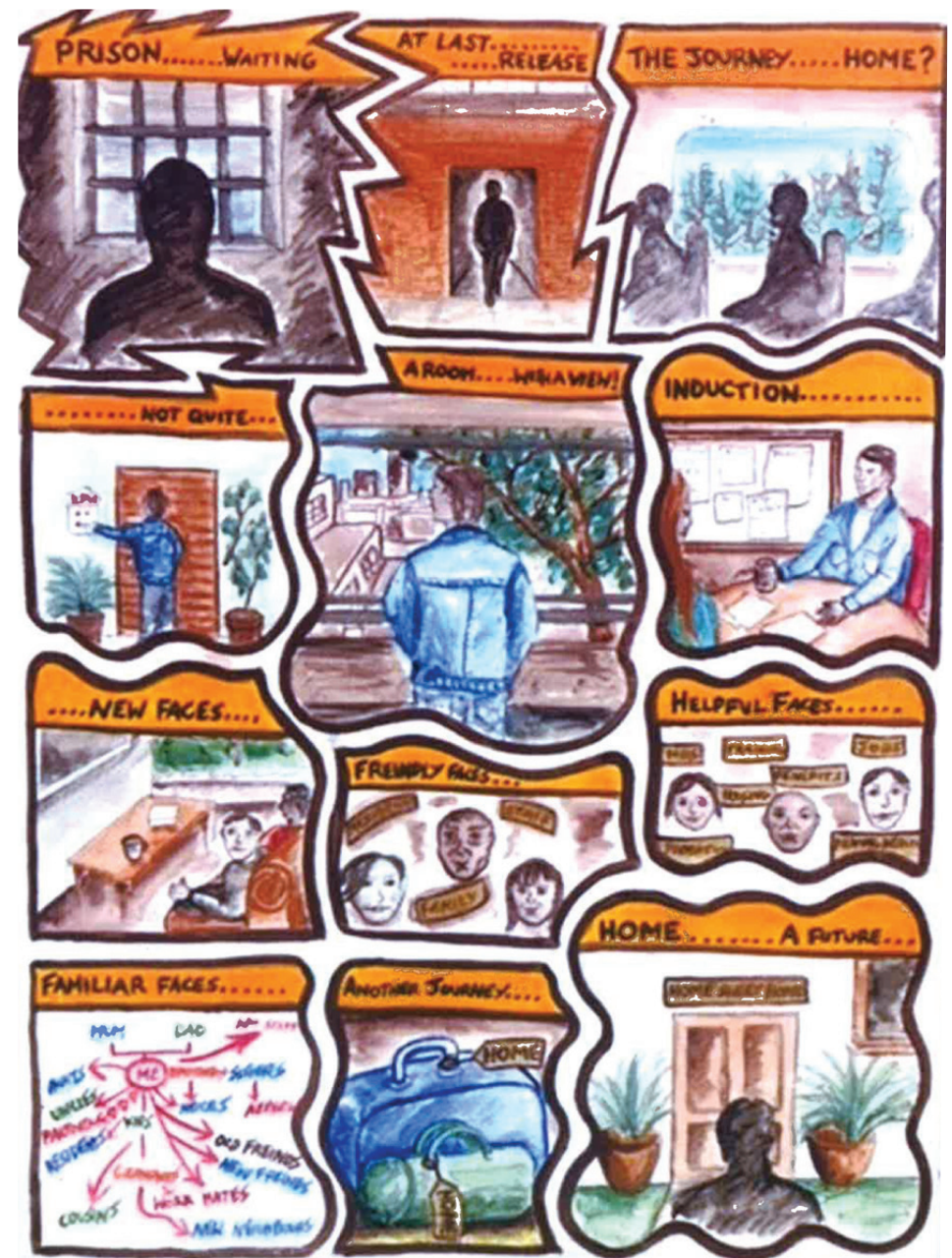
– John Plummer
Coordinator,
London Prisons Mission

The West London Mission (WLM) is part of the Methodist Church and has a long history of working with offenders.

‘WLM currently runs Katherine Price Hughes Hostel for twenty men convicted of criminal offences who are coming out on licence and required by the Probation Service to live in a hostel where they can be supported in their transition back into the community. Last year the residents worked with the staff in thinking about how they would explain the hostel to new residents. One of those involved in the discussion subsequently drew this story board depicting the transition from prison, to hostel to home.’

God of new beginnings, we pray for all people coming out of prison on license to hostels. Give them patience and commitment as they seek to fulfil their license conditions. Help them to lift their eyes to new horizons and possibilities, to make the most of the help and support available to them and to reconnect with family and friends where possible. In due time, enable them to move fully back into the community and play their part as full members of society.

- West London Mission Chaplain, Rev. Ruth Bottoms



Prison quiz

HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) is an independent, statutory organisation which reports on the treatment and condition of those detained in prison, young offenders' institutions and immigration detention centres (as well as secure training centres, police and court custody and military detention). Inspections are based on four tests of a healthy prison:

- **Safety** – prisoners, particularly the most vulnerable, are held safely
- **Respect** – prisoners are treated with respect for their human dignity
- **Purposeful activity** – prisoners are able and expected to engage in activity that is likely to benefit them
- **Resettlement** – prisoners are prepared for their release into the community and effectively helped to reduce the likelihood of reoffending

All HMIP reports are presented to the Justice Secretary and there is evidence that the detailed recommendations set out are often taken very seriously by the Prison Service. The reports are published and available to the general public.

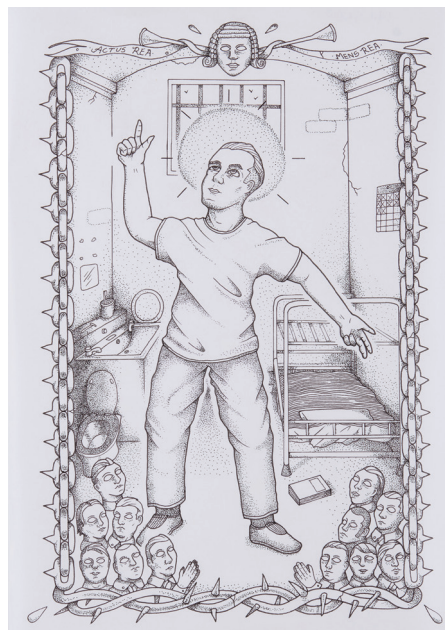
This quiz is derived from a single HMIP report, following an unannounced inspection of a prison facility. It is a Category C training and resettlement prison for men. Capacity is 742 and the inspection was carried out in November 2018. We have used a single inspection not to criticise one prison, but to highlight the challenges faced by prisons and the hardships endured by prisoners.

1. In the three months prior to the inspection how many health care responses related to the use of new psychoactive substances?

- a. 5
- b. 105
- c. 205

2. How many prisoners were receiving treatment for substance misuse at the time of the inspection?

- a. 40
- b. 140
- c. 240



"Apocryphal", HM Prison & Young Offender Institution Chelmsford, Under 25s Special Award for Drawing, 2019

3. With a rolling prison population of 740 and an average of 37 per month being released, how many prisoners had been released into employment with companies operating training facilities on site – one of this prison's main objectives – in the previous two years?

- a. 50
- b. 150
- c. 350

4. What percentage of the prison's population is from the local area?

- a. 10%
- b. 20%
- c. 75%

5. As a result of chronic staff shortages, a restricted regime had been in place for over four years. Employed prisoners could expect a reasonable amount of time unlocked. What did the inspector consider 'reasonable' time per day during the working week?

- a. 3 hours
- b. 6 hours
- c. 9 hours

6. How many hours per day could prisoners expect to be out of their cells over the weekend?

- a. 3 hours
- b. 6 hours
- c. 9 hours

7. What percentage of those surveyed for the report said that they felt safe on their first night in this prison?

- a. 90%
- b. 60%
- c. 30%

8. Levels of violence remained higher than average for category C prisons, with 136 assaults and 58 fights in the previous six months. There were long delays in the investigation of violent incidents. At the time of the inspection how many were outstanding?

- a. 30
- b. 60
- c. 90

9. There had been one self-inflicted death since the previous inspection. In the last six months, there had been how many incidents of self-harm?

- a. 221
- b. 121
- c. 21

10. Compared with all other category C prisons over the same period, the levels of self-harm were which of these choices?

- a. Less
- b. About the same
- c. More

11. A direct quote: "There were problems with rats, and recent attempts to control the infestation had left some dying in wall cavities and vents, leaving an intolerable smell in some cells. Some communal showers were poorly screened, dirty, mouldy and in very poor condition. Prisoners struggled to access clean clothing and bedding." What percentage had enough clean clothes for a week?

- a. 45%
- b. 55%
- c. 65%

12. Despite a recommendation to the contrary during the last inspection of this prison, the breakfast packs were issued on the evening before consumption and there was poor oversight of this process. Another recommendation that was not achieved was in relation to the serving of the evening meal. At what time is the meal usually served?

- a. 4:15 pm
- b. 5:15pm
- c. 6:15pm

13. As the prison's population was young and levels of violence were high, Physical Education (PE) had the potential to be a hugely valuable asset. However, according to the prison's most recent assessment, in June 2018, what percentage of the population had accessed PE?

- a. 45%
- b. 55%
- c. 65%

14. In the inspector's survey, what percentage of prisoners due to be released said that they needed help to find accommodation?

- a. 62%
- b. 72%
- c. 82%

15. At the prison there were two accommodation specialists from St Mungo's to whom the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) referred those needing this help. The number of prisoners successfully placed in suitable and stable accommodation was collated one month following

release and was consistently running at between what?

- a. 60% and 65%
- b. 75% and 80%
- c. 85% and 90%

16. One of the inspector's recommendations was that "new prisoners should be able to receive a prison shop order within two days of arrival". How long were many new arrivals actually waiting?

- a. 10 days
- b. 12 days
- c. 14 days

17. Prison inspection reports work on the model of what's called 'expected outcomes for healthy prisons'. A number of recommendations are made to improve outcomes that are recorded as 'poor' or 'not sufficiently good'. After the 2016 report the Inspector made 19 recommendations. How many of these were 'not achieved'?

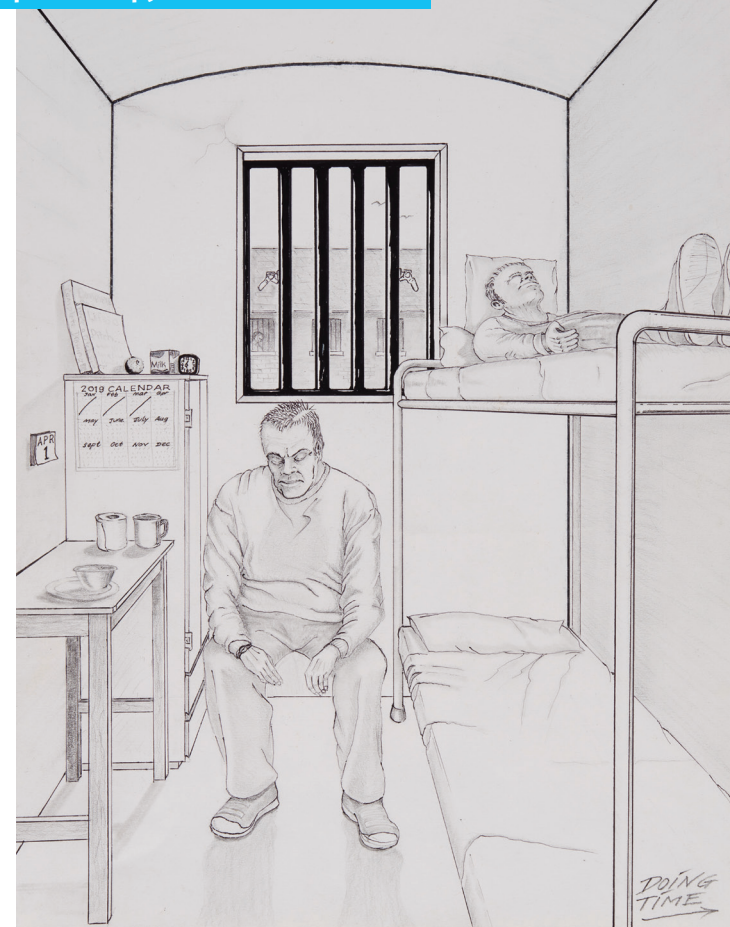
- a. 6
- b. 8
- c. 11

18. How many were 'partially achieved'?

- a. 2
- b. 4
- c. 6

Answers:
1c, 2c, 3a, 4b, 5c, 6a, 7b, 8c, 9a, 10b, 11b,
12a, 13a, 14b, 15c, 16b, 17c, 18a

"I'm longing to get out of here. I count the hours, not just the days, but I don't know where to go. I think my friend will put me up, but I'm not sure."



"Doing Time", HM Prison The Verne,
Commended Award for Drawing, 2019

Organisations working, campaigning and providing services around prisons and the criminal justice system

CARING FOR EX-OFFENDERS

Connects a person coming out of prison with a local church community to assist resettlement

caringforexoffenders.org

CENTRE FOR CRIME AND JUSTICE STUDIES

Independent charity providing information and research on the criminal justice system

crimeandjustice.org.uk

CENTRE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES

Inter-disciplinary criminal justice research and publications, University of Leeds

law.leeds.ac.uk/research/criminal-justice-studies

CHANGING TUNES

Reducing reoffending through music

changingtunes.org.uk

CHURCHES IN COMMUNITIES

Promoting cooperation between churches and ministries

cicinternational.org

CIRCLES UK

Builds safer communities through local volunteers working with sex offenders to minimise alienation, support reintegration and so prevent sexual reoffending

circles-uk-volunteering.org

CLEAN SHEET

From prison to employment. A 3 step pathway. Empowering local churches

cleansheet.org.uk

COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY ASSOCIATION.

Works alongside prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families mentoring within prisons and through the gate

communitychaplaincy.org.uk

FINDING RHYTHMS

Takes music workshops into prisons and uses music to empower prisoners

finding-rhythms.co.uk

FINE CELL WORK

Charity which makes beautiful products in British prisons, teaches high quality skills, instills self discipline, fosters hope and encourages independent, crime free lives

finecellwork.co.uk

HOWARD LEAGUE FOR PENAL REFORM

Campaigns to reduce crime and prison population, as well as extensive data collection and legal services

howardleague.org

INSIDE TIME

Monthly newspaper, written for and largely by prisoners, providing an inside view of the prison system

insidetime.org

INQUEST

Inquest is the only charity providing expertise on state related deaths and their investigation

inquest.org.uk

KOESTLER ARTS

Arts charity which encourages people in the criminal justice system to change their lives by participating in the arts

koestlerarts.org.uk

LANGLEY HOUSE TRUST

Provides resettlement services for ex-offenders

langleyhousetrust.org

LIBERTY CHOIR

A 'through the gate' programme of high quality singing and social development

libertychoir.org

ONE SMALL THING

Working with staff in women's prisons and in the community developing and fostering positive outcomes with an approach called trauma-informed practice

onesmallthing.org.uk

PRISON ADVICE AND CARE TRUST (PACT)

Provides support to prisoners, people with convictions and their families. Removes barriers and increases awareness in public services

prisonadvice.org.uk

PRISONERS EDUCATION TRUST (PET)

Working across England and Wales to support people in prison to study distance learning courses

prisonerseducation.org.uk

PRISON FELLOWSHIP

Works through its volunteers to support prisoners

prisonfellowship.org.uk

PRISON HOPE

Partnership of prison chaplains and organisations involved with prisoners, former prisoners and their families, providing a weekly prayer for use in churches of all denominations

prisonhope.org.uk

PRISONERS' PENFRIENDS

Making it possible for volunteers to write safely to prisoners, giving friendship, hope and a reminder of the world outside

prisonerspenfriends.org

PRISON REFORM TRUST

Authoritative source of information about prisons and penal policy as well as campaigning to improve prison standards and results

prisonreformtrust.org.uk

"I have nowhere to go to outside, so I'd rather die in prison."

SAFE GROUND

A charity using drama to educate prisoners and young people at risk in the community, and so reduce the risk of reoffending and build stronger communities

safeground.org.uk

SPURGEONS

Christian charity working with children and families in and near to prisons

spurgeons.org

STORYBOOK DADS

Helps parents in prison keep in touch with their families through recording bedtime stories and making gifts for their children

storybookdads.org.uk

SYCAMORE TREE

Victim awareness programme that teaches the principles of Restorative Justice

sycamoretree.org.uk

WAY4WARD

Providing interventions to reduce violence and offending behaviour and divert adults and young people from entering the criminal justice system

way4ward.org

WELCOME DIRECTORY

To help faith communities become places where people who leave prison can find acceptance

welcomedirectory.org.uk

WOMEN IN PRISON

A national charity providing specialist support services for women by women

womeninprison.org.uk

WORKING CHANCE

Recruitment agency which specialises in training and assisting ex-offenders into employment

workingchance.org



"Group 1", Guernsey
Prison, Platinum Award for
Photography, 2019

"I thought she was about forty when we met in reception... she was still in her twenties, but she had been repeatedly abused and using drugs heavily since childhood. 'I took drugs to forget. To forget what my father was doing to me, what my father's friends were doing to me.' "- *Prison chaplain*



Images (except on page 23) courtesy of Koestler Arts, the UK's best-known prison charity. Since 1962 the charity has inspired people in custody, on community sentences and on probation to transform their lives through the arts. The annual Koestler Awards generate over 7,000 entries across 52 categories including sculpture, film, music, painting, photography, craft and poetry.



Churches Working Together
in Central London

The London Prisons Mission was established in 2014 under the auspices of Churches Together in Westminster, a loose grouping of 80+ churches of all denominations in central London. This body brings together clergy and congregations to explore ecumenism, enjoy fellowship and learn about other Christians.

This Prisons Week resource was produced by volunteers from churches engaged with the London Prisons Mission with the kind permission of the authors and publishers.

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Churches
Together in
Westminster

Churches Working Together
in Central London

