

St Leonard's Ministries

Rebuilding Lives, Reshaping Futures

St Leonard's is a residence program for people who have been released from jail or prison. This program allows them to get adjusted back into society. It's can sound kind of scary but I guarantee you that it is a great experience for the teens and the residents. As a preparation before we leave on Sunday I will sit down with your group and let them know what we are going to do at St Leonard's and answers any questions they have to make them feel comfortable about going. This is a selective program and the residents have to apply and be interviewed before they can enter the St. Leonard's program. For more information here is the link for their website. <http://slministries.org> We had over 80 teens from the program who visited St. Leonard's (some with hesitancy) and we have only received very positive feedback. We are sensitive to this teens (and parents) feeling uncomfortable and we will help in any way to make this a positive experience. From a faith perspective I still have the vision of our Lord crucified between two other men who were in jail. He gave them a second chance. From a practical perspective you might want to invite the parents from your group to come along as well. We have many parents who have returned from this experience as very moving for them. Let us know how we can help.

Meal Planning and Prep

You and your class need to work out the menu for a full evening meal, entrée, salad, a side dish, bread or rolls, dessert and beverages (liters of soda or Gatorade will work), etc. Other classes in the past have prepared Lasagna, and salad, tacos, Chicken breasts with rice, Spaghetti dinner with meatballs etc. I recommend that you get suggestions from your class so they have some ownership in the planning and preparation. The meal should cater for approximately 30 guests plus the class and adults chaperoning. Using disposable Aluminum pans to transport the food has worked very well. Dolly and I will supply the paper plates napkins, plastic forks knives and spoons.

Most classes split the costs between the kids.

Please come up with the menu and let me know a week ahead of time. I will contact Sr. Sharon Bossler, OP at St. Leonard's to notify her of the menu and set up a tour on Sunday.

Transportation

The parish van will hold 14 passengers. We need to determine if we have enough peer ministers and parents to chaperone the class. Let me know how many from your group will be going. We can work out who needs to drive etc. We will need someone who could drive the parish van. I will be available to drive down in my SUV. I will have a map with detailed directions for those driving.

Supplies

There is a container in the back of church that has donated items for us to bring down. Items like toiletries, shampoo soap, shave cream, socks, T-shirts, underwear, etc. If anyone in your class wants to bring items that would be great also.

1:00 PM Meet at Holy Family in the front kitchen. I will confirm with Jason which kitchen we will use.

2:00-2:30/2:45 After the meal has been prepared, we will set some time aside for reflection and discussion time, usually in the gym or some break out area.

2:45-3:30 Travel time to St. Leonard's.

3:30-4:15 Tour of St. Leonard's

4:15-5:00 Meal set up at St. Leonard's

5-6pm Serve the meal.. The teens are encouraged to sit and eat with the guests.

6:00-6:30 Reflections and witnessing by the St. Leonard's residents

6:30-7:30 Return to Holy Family.