

From: Bishop Gary Gordon Bishop Liaison to Correctional Ministry for the CCCB TO: Pastors and Parish Administrators. RE: Catholic Connections: A Restorative Justice Network in Canada Bulletin Announcement

As the Bishop Liaison to Correctional Ministry I would like to request that the following announcement be included in your Sunday Bulletin.

We have also included a full page insert that can be photocopied and placed in the Sunday Bulletin as an option to inserting the announcement below.

Thank you for your cooperation and kind consideration; Bishop Gary Gordon

Option 1: Bulletin Announcement

Join Catholic Connections: A Restorative Justice Network in Canada

In responding to the call of Christ on the Cross and the example of Pope Francis, the Most Rev. Gary M. Gordon, Bishop Liaison to Correctional Ministry for the CCCB has initiated Catholic Connections: A Restorative Justice Network in Canada.

We invite you to join our Canada wide community of Catholics involved in prison ministry, reintegration and restorative justice activities. Visit our website at <u>www.ccinrj.ca</u> to find out more.

Option 2: One-Page Insert on the following page.



Catholic Connections: A Restorative Justice Network in Canada"

"Today you will be with me in paradise" are the words of Jesus to one criminal crucified next to him on the cross. Imagine the crowds of victims of this gentleman's crime and bystanders who hear Jesus's saving words to a convicted criminal. We can imagine their anger, bitterness and pain.

Following in Jesus' footsteps, our Catholic Community *seeks to help restore wounded lives* after the devastation of crime.

Catholic Connections: A Restorative Justice Network in Canada is an *initiative to identify, gather and grow the community of Catholics* who are currently involved in ministry to persons and families touched by crime.

This type of ministry can take many forms: visiting a jail or prison, assisting ex-inmates directly or indirectly with integration back into the community, or providing outreach to families and victims impacted by crime.



Pope Francis washes the feet of prisoners

Visit our website at <u>www.ccinrj.ca</u> to find out more about becoming a part of "Catholic Connections: A Restorative Justice Network in Canada."

No commitment is made upon registration. The network will allow us to start to work collaboratively and moving forward as a Catholic Community.

Please take a moment to sign up and become part of the Catholic Restorative Justice movement in Canada.

Sincerely, in Communion;

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Most Rev. Gary M. Gordon Bishop Liaison to Correctional Ministry in Canada Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops