

PRISON SUNDAY – 11 NOVEMBER 2018 – EDUCATION RESOURCE

Education Resource Questions for High School Students based on an article on youth detention/prison chaplaincy

Read the article about Prison Chaplain Jwan Kada (“Prison Sunday to focus on youth justice”) and respond to the following questions:

1. Who is Jwan Kada and why has she decided to become a prison chaplain?
2. How is the role spiritually rewarding for her? (Use quotes from the article to support your opinion.)
3. Who in the Church has particularly inspired her to take up the role of being a Prison Chaplain?
4. Pope Francis initiated Prison Sunday during the Year of Mercy in 2016. Research the purpose and significance of the Year of Mercy.
5. Prison Sunday is being held throughout Australia on November 11, 2018. Why has youth justice and detention been chosen by the Bishops as the focus for this year?
6. How does this story make you feel about the importance of the role of Prison Chaplaincy?
7. Permanent principles of the Church’s social doctrine or Catholic Social Teaching (CST) are: The dignity of the human person, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity. These principles are born of “the encounter of the Gospel message & of its demands summarised in the supreme commandment of love of God & neighbour in justice with the problems emanating from the life of society.” Explain how the role of a Prison Chaplain responds to CST?
8. Jesus spoke often about forgiveness of sins and the need to welcome back the marginalised and lost in society. Read the following Gospel reading from Luke, reflect on the passage and share your thoughts with a friend. *The Parable of the Lost Sheep (Luke, 15): Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴ “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.*
9. In his Prison Jubilee Statement on November 6, 2016, Pope Francis said: “God does not rest until he finds the sheep that was lost (Luke 15:5). So if God hopes, then no one should lose hope. For hope is the *strength* to keep moving forward. It is the *power to press on* towards the future and a changed life.” When have you felt “lost” emotionally or spiritually and how did you find the strength to continue? Who helped you along your own journey or who would you turn to for advice and help if faced with a similar situation?
10. Extension activity: Research the 2011 – 2012 Australian Catholic Social Justice Statement: *Building Bridges, Not Walls: Prisoners and the Justice System*: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/publications/social-justice-statements#SJS2011>. Identify activities that Parish and school communities can undertake to become more fully involved in Prison Sunday. In pairs or small groups, discuss the benefits of each activity and decide what action you can take to become more involved. In consultation with your Parish leader or Religious Education teacher, plan your own Prison Sunday event or action.

Developed in October 2018 by the Australian Catholic Prisoners Pastoral Care Council:

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