

# Bi-lingual retreat planned for prison ministers, offender families Nov. 6

BOISE—A bi-lingual Prison Ministry Retreat is planned for Nov. 6 at St. Mark's Catholic Community, 7960 Northview Street, Boise.

The retreat is open to all prison and jail ministers of all faiths and their spouses, prison and jail chaplains, priests, pastors, church leaders, halfway house managers, mentors, social service providers, staff of public agencies and institutions working with offenders, judges and health service providers.

There is no charge for the retreat, but participants should register through Catholic Charities of Idaho by Oct. 31, by calling 208-345-6031 or emailing: [kschlichte@ccidaho.org](mailto:kschlichte@ccidaho.org).

The Office of Prison Ministry, Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise will provide lunch at the retreat.

The retreat will start with Mass at 7:40 a.m. and continental breakfast. Presentations will include:

— Father Henry Carmona, St. John's Cathedral rector, Boise, speaking on "Spirituality of Serving the 'Little Ones of the Lord.'"

— Kristan Schlichte, Catholic Charities of Idaho, speaking on "Inside/Outside Dimension of Prison Ministry and Aftercare Services. This will include interfaith dialogue among participants.

— Closing prayer service with Bishop Michael Driscoll

presiding.

The retreat is designed to help renew participants in their commitment to working with offenders and their families, to share stories about prison ministry and what individuals have learned, to plan strategies that will reduce recidivism and supported motivated ex-offenders to regain community trust, to design innovative programs for children and families of prisoners to break the cycle of anti-social behavior, abuse, neglect and drug use, to strengthen support services to parolees, and to network with other people committed to making communities healthier places to live.