

*Incline the ear
of your heart ...*

Some components of listening are: providing an inviting atmosphere, positive silence, privacy, and unconditional positive regard. Before I can listen, I need to provide the same components of listening to myself as a minister. I need to listen to God in my life and put my faith in the guidance I receive...

When listening to myself I need to become aware of the preconceived notions that I bring to this prison setting. These notions can sometimes be padlocks that impede the healing ministry. However, if I listen, I am able to discern which links are healing and which are blocking my ministry. In listening, I need to find keys that open the gate to growth. In my experience I have found that the most basic keys in ministry are trusting and giving trust.

Robert Wieber, OSB, PhD

Benedictine monk of Saint John's Abbey,
Collegeville, Minnesota

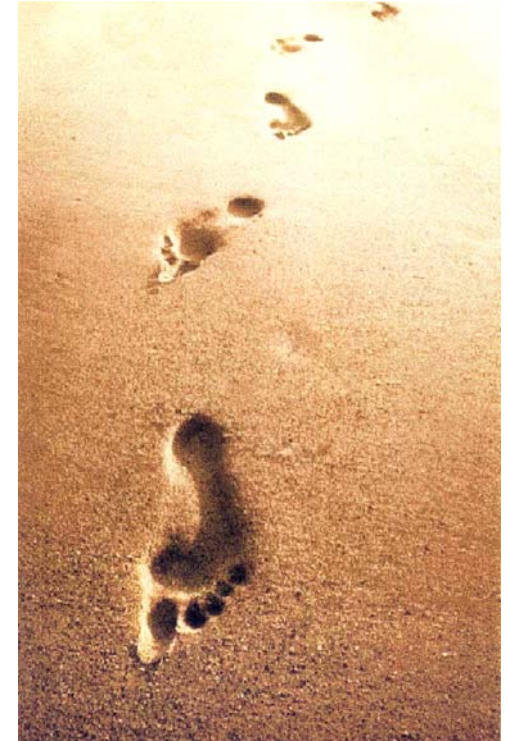
Chaplain, Minnesota Correctional Facility,
Faribault, Minnesota

**Diocese of Cleveland
The Parish Life Office
1404 East Ninth Street
Cleveland, OH 44114**

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**Prison Ministry Workshop
Saturday, October 4, 2008**

Walking the Way of the Gospel: Companions to the Incarcerated



Prison Ministry Workshop

An ecumenical workshop for those already involved in prison ministry or those who are interested in becoming involved.

Saturday, October 4, 2008

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Center for Pastoral Leadership
28700 Euclid Avenue
Wickliffe, Ohio

I will attend the prison ministry workshop on October 4, 2008. Following is my registration information, together with a check in the amount of \$10.00, payable to the Diocese of Cleveland – Parish Life.

HAVE QUESTIONS? Please call 216-696-6525 or 800-869-6525, extension 3070, after September 1.

Please mail by Saturday, SEPTEMBER 27, to:

The Parish Life Office

1404 East Ninth Street, Third Floor, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
(number & street) (city) (state) (zip)

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Do you presently serve in a prison or jail facility? If yes, where: _____



Morning Sessions

Pat Kassay, pastoral minister at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Avon Lake, and her son, John, will give a joint presentation about John's fourteen year incarceration in state prison. John will share his personal journey, supported by the ministers who visited him in prison; Pat will share how she and her family were helped by the non-judgmental listening of friends and colleagues. A very compelling story!

Father Neil Walters, chaplain at the Cuyahoga County Jail, will share some of his many and varied experiences of being a listening presence to the incarcerated, providing comfort and compassion to those marginalized by shame, violence, addiction and hopelessness. Father Neil will be accompanied by a formerly incarcerated person who will give a personal witness.

Afternoon Session

FREEING YOURSELF TO BE A BETTER LISTENER: Empathic listening asks us to RETRAIN our ways of thinking, listening, and reacting to others. It challenges us to listen without an agenda, without judgment and without a ready answer. Empathic listening communicates a caring presence.



Schedule

- 9:30 Registration in Main Lobby
Coffee & light refreshments in Aula
- 10:00 **Welcome and Opening Prayer**
Sister Rita Mary Harwood, SND
Secretary, Parish Life & Development
- 10:30 **Walking with Companions**
- a personal witness
Pat Kassay and John Kassay
- 11:15 BREAK
- 11:30 **Compassionate Listening**
Rev. Neil Walters and guest
- 12:30 LUNCH in Student Dining Room
- 1:30 **Empathic Listening Skills**
Sister Maria Beesing, OP
- 3:30 **Closing Remarks**
- 4:00 **Vigil Mass**
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Resurrection Chapel

Fee: \$10.00 to cover the cost of lunch.
All other costs covered by grants.

Center for Pastoral Leadership
28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe

Accessible from Exit #186 on the Euclid
Spur from the Shoreway, I-90 and I-271.