

OFS Active presence in the World Survey
OFS National Fraternity of Mexico
EVANGELIZATION OF BROTHERS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY

1. Project's description

Every week three OFS Fraternities take God's Word to those who do not have an opportunity to go to a Parish Church or temple since they are in prison.

2. Background History



In 2002, Mrs. Maria Auxilio Hernández, along with a team of OFS brothers, started off this project of taking God's Word to the prisoners of the Centers for Social Rehabilitation (CERESO) every week. OFM friars also accompany them whenever there are professions and other special occasions or

events. This project still continues taking place, so that several local Fraternities take upon themselves the responsibility of visiting a CERESO and the prison Topo Chico, where they established a Formation Team.

3. Project's Coordination

The OFS Fraternity of Cristo Rey visits Apodaca's CERESO; the Santa Cruz Fraternity likewise works with the CERESO of Cadereyta, and the Penitentiary Penal de Topo Chico is visited by the Fraternity of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

4. Social Impact



We note that the brothers who leave prison dedicate themselves to continue spreading the Word of God as they become members of the Prison Pastoral Ministry; another brother, who left prison, is now member of a parish where he serves as Sacristan; another became a member of an OFS fraternity; some others, because they

have problems in their marriages, were unable to join the OFS. Yet, we see in them a conversion of life, since God touched their hearts, as we hear from those close to them. One of the brothers said: "Thank God I am here, because out there I'd never had met the Lord." There are many other beautiful testimonies, and I myself, being a sister who worked with the initial group with Maria Auxilio, am now looking forward to join a team to continue working with this wonderful apostolate.

5. What we have learned

Through this Service we learned to love God and see the world in a different way.

6. Documentation available

There is a formation program and the support of the priests who are in charge of the centers.



7. **Contact person:** Emilia Garza de la Garza.

E-mail: egvgza@gmail.com

Phone: +52 1 81-34-93-16

Edited by Attilio Galimberti OFS and Fr. Amando Trujillo Cano TOR
February 2013