Prison Ministry India Charism

Rev Dr Francis Kodiyan MCBS
Charism

The English word Charism comes from the Greek root Karishma means *favour freely given or gift of grace*.

It’s a divinely conferred grace, unique and attractive to certain chosen people for the renewal and building up of the Church.
Charism

Holy Spirit sanctifies and leads the people of God by distributing special graces to individuals (ICor 12:7).

These charismatic gifts are to be received with thanksgiving, for they are exceedingly suitable and useful for the needs of the Church (LG 12).
Charism

Charisms are special graces, movements of the Holy Spirit; Special ways in which God works through the individual.

Charisms make the individual fit and ready for service, enabling them to efficiently participate in the church’s mission.
Charisms can be the charismatic gifts of ICor 12,8-10 and the more common gifts of Eph 4,11 and Rom 12, 7-8 or many others.

It is only by using the charisms of each member to their full potential that the church reaches its full potential as the Body of Christ (Eph 4, 15-16)
“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor” (Lk 4, 18-19).
Lamb of God

John the Baptist’ Testimony about Jesus:

“The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (Jn 2,29).
I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”
(Mk, 2, 13-17).
Seek and Save

The Son of Man Came to Seek and Save the Lost
(Lk 19,1-10).
Jesus with “sinners”

“It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”
Jesus: "Friend of Sinners"
“Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.” John 8:11
For I was in prison and you came to visit me.

Matthew 25:36
‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ 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 (Lk 15, 1-7).
'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents” (Lk 15, 8-10).
Regain

‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate (Lk 15,11-24).
Jesus came to a town in Samaria called Sychar. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” (John 4, 1-15).
I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak.

Ezekiel 34,16
For the Son of Man came to SEEK and to SAVE THE LOST.

Luke 19:10 (NIV)
The Mission of Christ our Mission

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.” Luke 4: 18-19
The mission of Jesus is to seek and to save the lost.
PMI Charism is Same as Jesus’ Charism

The Charism of Searching, Serving and Saving the Lost, the Sinners, the Rejected, the Neglected, and the Outcasts.
Who are the Lost?

Sinners
Prisoners
Prostitutes
Hired Killers
Terrorists
Street Children
Beggars
Drug Addicts
WE Are ALL SINNERS
"There is no man which sinneth not"

II Chronicles 6:36b
CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS OF WHOM I AM THE WORST.
I may be a great sinner, but I have a greater savior.
Saints are only sinners who keep trying.

― Mother Teresa
Give me great sinners to make great saints! They are glorious raw material for Grace to work upon and when you do get them saved, they will shake the very gates of Hell!
In the world, a man released from prison is always marked by dishonor and a bad name. But Jesus rehabilitates those that He pardons. He treats them as if they had never offended Him, and frequently the greatest sinners become the greatest saints.

—St. Peter Julian Eymard

Encharistic Virtue
Eight Fold Path of Prisoners
Reformation
1. Reachout
2. Release
3. Repent
4. Reconcile
5. Reform
6. Rehabilitate
7. Reclaim
8. Redeem
Go to the Periphery
I was lost
But now I'm found
In the loving arms of a
Great Shepherd named Jesus.
Founders’ Charism

Charism of the founder is the lifeblood of his/her community, continuing to flow in its members and spreading its fragrances and graces through its members.
Fraternity Experience

Friendship with Brother Varghese Karippery and Francis Kodiyan at the Phone Cabin of St Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Kottayam, Kerala on 8 December 1981.
From Fraternity Experience
To God Experience

Our First Decision was to spend daily half an hour in Prayer before the Most Holy Eucharist.
Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Malankara Chapel
From God Experience to the Conversion of Sinners

Our Second Decision was to offer our weekly Spiritual exercises and personal sacrifices for the conversion of sinners.
From Conversion Experience to Prayer Group

Friendship with the Most Holy Eucharist Inspired us to form a Prayer Group.
First Prayer Group

Prayer Group in our Batch launched on 28 August 1982
God Experience at St Elias Ashram
Niravilpuzha, 11 March 1983
Why can’t you dedicate your life for the conversion of sinners?

“I have come not to call the righteous but sinners for repentance”
Mt 9,13
Kottayam Sub Jail Visit
1985

Permission
Denial

I was in prison
Ye came unto Me
Matt 25:36
Jesus Fraternity

In view of All Kerala Prison Pilgrimage we formed a New Prayer Group and named it as Jesus Fraternity on 23 November 1985
New Name, Prison Ministry India
1995
PMI Vision

Liberation and Redemption of Prisoners, Prostitutes and the Like.
PMI Mission

PMI Ways and Means

Releasing, renewing, rehabilitating and redeeming prisoners;
Reforming prisons and Prison Manuals;
Creating awareness among prison authorities to treat prisoners with human dignity and Human Rights;
Reconciling victims with offenders and their families;
Reintegrating released prisoners in society;
Training and promoting committed volunteers for prison ministry;
Creating public awareness to consider prisoners as our brethren;
Promoting researches for the reformation of prisoners;
Establishing rehabilitation centers.
We the members of PMI commit ourselves to the release, renewal, rehabilitation and redemption of our brethren behind bars by following Catholic principles and means such as prayer, as our source of power, God’s providence as our bank, inconvenience as our convenience and local contribution as our operational mode, in order to reintegrate prisoners into the mainstream of society.
Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured, Hebrew 13,3.
PMI Ministries

INSIDE THE PRISON

• Celebrating Sacraments to Catholic prisoners
• Conducting spiritual discourses and entertainment Programs
• Counseling and Moral Instructions
• Writing Letters of personal concern and healing the broken hearts
• Setting-up of a good library for mental growth
• Job-oriented training programs inside the prison
• Providing recreational and vocational facilities
• Conducting literary, arts and sports competitions
• Preparing the prisoners to write school and university exams
• Conducting medical camps
• Providing free legal aid
MINISTRIES OUTSIDE THE PRISON

• Establishing Rehabilitation Centers
• Counseling and moral instructions in rehabilitation centers
• Family contacts through volunteers
• Family readjustment
• Treatment to the sick
• Reconciliation of prisoners with victims and their families
• Helping the children of prisoners with their education
• Marriage settlement
• Vocational training and job settlement
• Conducting awareness programs for the general public
• Printing literature like books, magazines, etc.
Prayer

Whatever You ask in My name to the Father, He will give you. Offer our spiritual exercises for the redemption of prisoners.

1. Eucharistic Celebration
2. Eucharistic Adoration
3. Eucharistic Contemplation
4. Breviary
5. Rosary
6. Divine Mercy Rosary
7. Ejaculations – Thank you Jesus
Suffering

Jesus Saved mankind by His Passion, Death and Resurrection.
We also redeem our brethren by offering our sufferings such as illness, failures, misunderstandings, climate changes and other sorts of physical, mental and spiritual sufferings for the salvation of prisoners and prostitutes.
Penance

Fasting and penances are needed to save certain people. Offer our penances for the redemption of prisoners.

1. Fasting
2. Abstinences
3. Mortifying chocolates, ice-creams, fruits, salt, sugar, etc.
4. Renouncing comforts such as pillow, bed, cushion, AC
5. Avoiding Films, TV programs
6. Limiting ourselves from the overuse of Mobile, Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc.
Self-Sanctification

“For their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth” Jn 17,19. First sanctify and fortify ourselves so as not to be defeated by the Satan.

1. Reading and meditating of the Holy Bible
2. Sacrament of Reconciliation
3. Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ
4. Acts of charity
5. Incessant Prayer
6. Incessant forgiveness
7. Divine Mercy Prayer
The 6 hands represent the six different groups of people mentioned in the gospel of Mathew 25, 31 ff. who are hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, and sick, prisoner. They also symbolize the oppressed, bonded, neglected, rejected by the society such as prostitutes, beggars, street children, AIDS victims, drug addicts, mental patients and the like.
• An Angel of Peace (Gen 8, 8-12)
• An Angel Bringing Goodnews (Gen 18, 1-15)
• A Good Shepherd going in search of the lost sheep (Jn 10)
• A co-traveler leading to God experience (Lk 24, 13-20).
PMI Volunteer

- Brings life and Spirit to prisoners who are in the valley of dry bones (Ezk 37, 1-14).
- Anoints the prisoner with the Holy Spirit like Jesus’ baptism in Jordan (Lk 3,21-22).
- Brings fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit to the prisoner such as love, joy, freedom, hope, and consolation (1Cor 12-14; Gal 5, 19-21).
• Shall be prudent like snakes and innocent as doves.
• Shall be like lambs amidst wolves (Lk 10,16).
• Shall be like the dove in Noah’s ark (Gen 8).
• Shall be ready to sacrifice himself or herself as Jesus did on Mount Calvary in order to have life and to have it to the full (Jn 10,10).
PMI Basic Cell – Prayer Group

Every PMI group shall be a prayer Group

Every PMI member shall be a praying person
PMI Basic Goal
Prisoners’ Redemption
PMI Basic Methodology
Prayer and Fasting
Signs of PMI Charism

• Personal God Experience
• Joy of Unity and Fraternity
• Enrichment in Divine Providence
• Doubling of Faith
• Improvement in Self-Confidence, Self-Image, and Self Appreciation
• Growth in Optimism and Stamina
Signs of PMI Charism

• Greater Enthusiasm and Satisfaction in Searching, Serving and Saving Prisoners and Prostitutes.

• Undertaking of Adventurous Deeds for the Reformation of Prisoners and Prostitutes

• Growth in the Number of Reformed Prisoners and Prostitutes

• Joy in Inconvenience rather than Convenience
PMI Spiritual Principles

- God Experience – Abba Experience
- Jesus Experience – Eucharistic Experience
- Holy Spirit Experience – Led by the Spirit
- Fraternity Experience – Prayer Group
- Divine Providence Experience – Bank BDP
- Ascetical Experience - Mortifications
- Inconvenience Experience - Sufferings
- Begging Experience – Not Project Depending