



### Reentry Program Backpacks Project

The Social Justice & Transformation Committee is continuing its mission initiative to assist men and women recently released from the Howard County Dept. of Corrections who are without the most basic supplies. We would like to provide these individuals with a REENTRY BACKPACK filled with personal hygiene products, non-perishable ready-to-eat food items, water, and gift cards. These items might bridge some of the gap for basic needs until these men and women are able to find security in their housing, food and clothing. Ultimately, it is our hope that this will be a step in breaking the cycle of recidivism. The backpacks are especially important now due to the pandemic.

All parishioners are welcome to assist with this year's project. Because we cannot collect supplies at services due to the pandemic and cannot fill the backpacks as an SOS project on campus, we are looking for adult and youth groups, committees, families, or individuals to collect supplies and fill some of the backpacks as a shared experience. St. John's will supply the backpacks. The Social Justice & Transformation Committee will make sure they get to the Dept. of Corrections. To volunteer your parish group, family, or yourself to donate the contents and fill some backpacks, or for more information, please contact [SocialJustice@stjohnsec.org](mailto:SocialJustice@stjohnsec.org).

#### The following items are needed to fill each Reentry Backpack:

- Toothpaste (4 - 6.5 oz.)
- Toothbrush and holder
- Individually wrapped disposable face masks (3 each) (St. John's providing cloth mask)
- Hand sanitizer (2.5 - 4 oz.)
- Dark colored hand towel and washcloth
- Dark colored bath towel
- 2-in-1 Shampoo 12-16 oz. (unisex)  
or
- Shampoo 12-16 oz. (unisex)  
and
- Conditioner 12-16 oz. (unisex)
- Body Wash or Shower Gel 12-16 oz. (unisex)
- Laundry pods (5 each)
- Lip balm
- Bottled Water 16-oz. (2 each)
- Knit beanie hats and gloves (unisex/stretch/adult one-size)
- White tube socks (unisex/adult one-size)
- Hand-warmers
- Granola bars
- Hormel "*Compleats*" ready-to-eat/heat meals **and/or** StarKist *Lunch-to-Go* **or** Bumblebee *Lunch-on-the-Run* (2 each)
- Juice boxes 6 oz - 6.75 oz carton style (2 each)