Congratulations!

Every graduate has a story to tell and, professional wrestler to mechanic, from the age of 26 until today. Jerry French would describe his story as one of turmoil. Like many of the men who come to the MATC house. Jerry spent his early life in and out of multiple rehabilitation programs, searching for something more, unable to truly escape the shackles of addiction in his own power. Let us not give the devil too much credit though. That old man is gone, and today, Jerry is a new creature in Christ. When Jerry checked into the Mission At The Cross on June 16th 2020, he walked into this house searching for something he had not found in other programs in the past; a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. In his own words "I will never be able to repay the Mission At The Cross for what they did for me through Jesus" and on September 26th, 2020 Jerry made a profession of faith in Christ and found salvation and a relationship with Jesus.

A year has come and gone, and, after graduationg from the MATC 12-month discipleship and recovery program in June 2021. Jerry now works in the service department at Hellfighters USA as a key figure on our service team. Whether hard at work in the garage or dispensing hard earned wisdom, today Jerry is able to serve the Lord as a positive influence on the young men around him, and act as an anchor for new disciples seeking to walk with Christ and rebuild their lives alongside him. He has expressed his desire to continue to serve God by helping others escape the snares that trapped him when he was younger, seeing for himself a role in recovery programs like Mission At The Cross as part of Christ's plan for his life. For now, he says, "It hasn't all been easy, and more than anything I'm still learning to keep Jerry out of the way of what Christ is doing." And he hopes to "Find some way to repay the Mission, Gina, and Mike for all the encouragement and support". We celebrate Jerry's recovery and ongoing growth not simply for his own sake, but also for the sake of his son, daughter, and granddaughter, and together the MATC family commemorates not only Jerry's graduation, but we rejoice together that we serve a God of restoration, who rebuilds what the devil tries to steal and destroy.



Pay a visit to our tree at Hellfighters USA on South Magnolia Street, Laurel, MS and take home an ornament(s)! On the back you will find a giving opportunity to aid the men in residence at the Mission At The Cross! (Please drop off any donations by Dec 20th )



**Giving Children Hope** ipate in Hellfighters USA's ov drive by dropping off y donations in the big red boxes at the entrances to our service department and sales floor. Toys will be picked up on Dec. 20th.



## **Physical Needs** @ MATC

- **Canned Goods**
- **Dryer Sheets**
- Detergent
- Winter Clothing
- Sugar and Flour
- Tea and Coffee
- **Cleaning Supplies**
- Paper plates

Special thanks for our families and

## supporters in 2021 !

As this year comes to a close, we at MATC want to take a moment to thank everyone who has blessed and supported our ongoing ministry. Every kind word, gift of time, and offering of prayer helps build up these men who, step by step, are learning to walk with God. Christmas can be an extremely difficult time for many men here at the Mission working to build new lives in Christ, and the constant outpouring of prayer on this place is more precious than we can put into words. On behalf of the Mission At The Cross team members and the disciples under their care,



MATC is a 501(c)(3) Non Profit Organization - Checks can be made payable to: Mission At The Cross Physical Address: 324 South Magnolia St. Laurel, MS 39440 \* Mailing Address: One Freedom Sq. Laurel, MS 39440-3367 Mike Shirley, Director Tommy Ellzey, House Leader Phone: 601.335.2060 or 601.342.5552 www.missionatthecross.com joey@missionatthecross.com