

From Your Chaplain...



Prayer works!!!

As news came out about former Superintendent Phil Cline's condition, some folks approached me, asking if we could offer a prayer service for his health. After all, Jesus assures us in Scripture that "Where two or more are gathered in my name, there I am among you." (Matthew 18:20).

Sgt. Mike Murphy and I contacted a few parishes, but due to weddings, wedding rehearsals, devotions, regular worship services, etc., we had a difficult time scheduling a convenient venue or date/time.

So we decided to dedicate our regularly-scheduled Police Chaplains Ministry Mass on 14AUG to Phil's health and the health of all suffering from serious illness. Mike Shields, FOP President, offered the union hall since our usual venue (the chapel at Mercy Home) could not accommodate the crowds we expected for this shared cause.

Good thing he did! A standing-room-only group stormed heaven's gates with prayer that morning!

Not only did FOP provide the worship space, but they *also* hosted a fellowship hour after our service for us to enjoy pastries, refreshments, and each other's company. Doreen, Kathy, Jim, the Gorman sisters, and the rest of the FOP staff were outstanding!

Thanks to the folks from the Narcotics Section for their assistance with the sound system, and the officers in 012 for their help with traffic and parking.

Most of all, THANKS be to God for hearing our prayers. Let us continue to hold up in prayer *all* those who are afflicted with health concerns of physical, mental or spiritual nature.

If the Chaplains' Office can ever be of support to any department members, active or retired, please let us know. Rabbi Moshe Wolf, Chaplain Bob Montelongo and I are happy to visit, pray with and pray for anyone in need of God's help. The same offer is true of our recently-retired chaplains, who have expressed their desire to continue their ministry: Sharon Ellis-Davis, Kevin Dean, and Capatoria Wilson.

In the meantime, please know that you and your family are always welcome to join us for Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel at Mercy Home for Boys and Girls: 1140 W. Jackson Boulevard. While this is a Catholic Mass, folks of all denominations are welcome to join us. Mass is usually over by 11:30, and fellowship (including coffee, juice and pastries) follows for those who can stick around for a bit.

Finally...though you've heard it before, you can't hear it enough: **Indeed, you are doing God's work!**

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