

## **Fr. Dan Brandt's Corner...**

Serving the public on AND off-duty: Here's a shot of two of our members doing us proud as they serve meals at a community dinner for those who otherwise might go without a holiday meal. Thank you, **Mary O'Connor** and **Gia Divito** for showing your dedication to the most marginalized people of our city *even on your personal time*.



Also, our **Gold Star Families holiday dinner** on the Club Level of Soldier Field (overlooking the Police Memorial) was again a tremendous success! Hundreds of our beloved who lost family members in the line of duty had a wonderful evening together. They were greeted by members of the Mounted Unit and escorted upstairs by officers in their dress blues. This elegant evening is made possible by the thousands of good people who support the mission of Police Chaplains Ministry. Together, we make sure that our Gold Star Families know that their loved ones are NEVER FORGOTTEN!

The Chaplains' Section (along with the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation) will be hosting an **END-OF-LIFE WORKSHOP** next month. Southsiders can attend on Monday, 12 JAN, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the 022 District community room; the same program will be repeated for Northsiders at the Irish American Heritage Center on Tuesday, 13 JAN, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Come learn how to start the difficult conversation regarding end-of-life decisions. An attorney will also be present to offer *free* estate planning advice. There is no charge for the event. Get more information and exact times by contacting **Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis** at Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org or 312-771-6638.

We still have room at an **evening retreat for first responders**: Tuesday, 13 JAN, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Resurrection Catholic Church...3043 N. Francisco Avenue in Logan Square. The program will be repeated for Southsiders on Friday, 27 FEB, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at Maple Park Methodist Church. Register at [www.MayslakeMinistries.org](http://www.MayslakeMinistries.org) or by calling 630-852-9000. Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis and I will be co-facilitating this evening for YOU involved in first response. Please consider taking a couple hours out of your schedule to enliven your soul.

On Tuesday, 27 JAN, an all-day **police suicide awareness and prevention** seminar will be held in Oak Brook. If you would like more information on this event, please contact me.

Sunday, 01 FEB, St. Barnabas Parish (10134 S. Longwood Drive) will be our host as Fr. Tom Mulcrone (CFD Chaplain) and I concelebrate a special **police and fire Mass** at 10:00 a.m. Please join us, in uniform if possible, to offer thanks and praise with our brothers and sisters in the fire service.

Finally, some officers have asked me about a gesture made by **Archbishop Blase Cupich** while celebrating Mass at St. Clement Parish last month. For those interested, a clarification/explanation may be found on the home page of our website (below). Once again we learn through this experience that the mainstream media is *not* our friend!

God bless you in the New Year!

*Fr. Dan Brandt*, CPD Chaplain

312/738-7588 (office) | 773/550-2369 (cell/text)  
dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org | [www.ChicagoPCM.org](http://www.ChicagoPCM.org)