



*From Your Directing Chaplain, Fr. Dan Brandt...*



December 2023



I bumped into these heroes at a restaurant in Pilsen last month. If you'd like to receive a Police Chaplains Ministry challenge coin, send me an email with the name of any of these three. (The answer will be given next month.) Thanks to them and ALL of you for doing God's work!



And then I ran into these good folks a week later at the German American Police Association pre-holiday dinner. The same offer stands: send me a note identifying any of them, and I'll send you a Chaplains Unit challenge coin!

Last month we teamed up with FOP to send high-quality care packages to 33 CPD members who are serving abroad in the military reserves. Let us keep in prayer our brothers and sisters who still serve, just in a different uniform. In a special way we remember them (and their families who miss them) during the holidays.

On 30 NOV we hosted our beloved Gold Star Family members at the annual pre-holiday dinner at Soldier Field. What a wonderful opportunity for us to thank these families for the sacrifice they endured, and to reiterate that their loved one who died in the line of duty will NEVER be forgotten! Thank you to all our supporters who make the annual event possible!

Thank you, also, to the folks at St. Ita Parish in Edgewater who hosted a Blue Mass earlier this month. Our next Blue Mass will be held at Saint Mary of the Woods Parish on 11 FEB 2024 at 9:00 a.m. As always, we invite ALL to pray with and for our officers at these Blue Masses.



On 17 DEC, we commemorate the five-year anniversary of the untimely and tragic deaths of Officers Conrad Gary and Eduardo Marmolejo. May they rest in peace, and may their families be assured of our loving, prayerful support!

Theirs and many other memorial cards may be downloaded from our website. If you'd prefer to have any cards mailed to you, simply email or call me.



During the Advent season, many people try to pray more intentionally. So, just a reminder: every Friday at 1:00 p.m. the Chaplains Section continues to facilitate a Bible study/prayer/faith-sharing group at the police academy on Jackson. No matter your faith tradition, ALL are welcome to share and hear words of encouragement at these brief Christian-based gatherings.

A similar (though more intimate in size) non-denominational Christian prayer opportunity is offered every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Public Safety Headquarters.

And Muslim (Jumma) prayers are offered every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in room 202 of the academy on Jackson.



To confirm times, or if you'd like more information, please email [Joseph.Jackson@ChicagoPolice.org](mailto:Joseph.Jackson@ChicagoPolice.org), [Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org](mailto:Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org), or [Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org](mailto:Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org).

In addition to our regular 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Masses at Mercy Home (11:00 a.m. at 1140 W. Jackson Boulevard), we'll gather for Mass on Christmas morning at 10:00...note the difference in time for the holiday. More information can be found on the "Police Masses" link at <https://www.chicagopcm.org/mass.php>



Please mark your calendar: On Saturday, 27 APR 2024, from 3:00-7:00 p.m., we'll be taking over The Klairmont Kollections auto museum (near Belmont/Cicero). This is a fundraiser for Police Chaplains Ministry. There will be a grand raffle...so please shake the tree if you have any friends who own restaurants, car washes, bars, clothing stores, whatever! Please ask for a gift certificate. We would appreciate your help!

This time of year, can be pretty stressful. Please keep in mind the REAL meaning of the holiday season. If you feel you need an ear or more to cope with these busy times, we're here for you...as are your EAP clinicians. Don't hesitate to call on us.

May God bless you and keep you safe and healthy! [Thank you for doing God's work.](#)

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