



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



In last month's column, you saw our volunteers stuffing 300+ care packages to be personally delivered to officers stuck working on Christmas night and New Year's Eve. Now, it comes full circle: all the gift bags were hand-delivered both nights by some elves and me. Pictured here, grateful recipients include PO Bolivar Guaman and PO Jose Flores from 024. From 004 and 005 to 016 and 024, over 300 officers expressed their gratitude to our supporters who made this outreach possible again in 2024!



On 17 JAN, Officers Fenysha Fields and Brian Smith each received a handmade quilt from *Quilts for Cops*. These seasoned officers were involved in a serious squad car accident on their way to a call, when a car full of nuns ran a stop sign and struck them (OK...the NUN part was a joke, of course). The accident caused several broken bones and other very serious injuries to Officers Fields and Smith.

Upon their recovery, these beautiful quilts were presented to them by Deputy Chief Migdalia Bulnes, accompanied by Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis, Chaplain Hysni Selenica, Officer (and Deacon) Rafael Yanez, Officer Nora Garza and Officer Raven Hoskins. (Officer Hoskins had previously received a quilt from *Quilts for Cops* following a duty-related injury.)



22 JAN 2025: The St. Jude League and Police Chaplains Ministry hosted a dinner for our St. Jude Chaplains. A wonderful evening was had by all. Here you'll see not only our Chief of Patrol and a couple of officers, but also two of our St. Jude volunteer chaplains. Thank God for these folks who dedicate so much time to our ministry!

Ash Wednesday is 05 MAR. In keeping with time-honored tradition, CPD Chaplains will distribute blessed ashes at various locations throughout the city. The schedule will be posted on The CPD Wire and our website.

Save the date! Your Department Chaplains are hosting a day-long marriage retreat on Friday, 27 JUN 25, 1000 hours-1500 hours at Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanical Gardens in Palos Heights.

We are excited to invite all active and retired Chicago Police Officers and their spouses to participate in this program intended to strengthen relationships, improve communication and achieve better work-life balance.

This retreat will provide a safe and supportive environment for couples to connect, share experiences and learn valuable relationship-building skills tailored to the unique challenges of law enforcement life. Childcare is included. Please contact Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis for more information at kimberly.lewisdavis@chicagopolice.org or 312.771.6638.

God bless you and keep you safe,

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