



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

As we progress through the Lenten season, I pray yours is going well and your faith life is benefitting from your Lenten practices of increased prayer, almsgiving and sacrifice/fasting. If you happen to celebrate a different season at this time of year, I pray the very same, that this special time be one of blessing for you and your loved ones. This year, Ramadan began the same day as Ash Wednesday...and Passover begins on 01 APR. Lots of good stuff going in in the coming days! May it be spiritually fruitful for you and yours!



Last month, Chicago Police Officer Jay Cuaresma received a handmade quilt from Quilts for Cops (QFC), presented by Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis. QFC presents such lovingly-made pieces of art following life-changing injuries in the line of duty.

Officer Cuaresma's injuries were a result of responding to a 10-1 call last November when struck by another vehicle driving at a high rate of speed. Thank God, he is on the road to recovery.

Interestingly, Jay's last name, Cuaresma, is Spanish for LENT. How fitting that a quilt should be presented as we enter the Lenten season! I call that a "GMC"...a **God-Made Coincidence**. These happen all the time; *we just have to notice them*.

In recent months, Chaplain Selenica and some of our Chaplains Unit colleagues have been busy presenting quilts to deserving officers. To see all of them and read the related narratives, please visit our website's "Photo Album" page. Also, if you have a suggestion for a worthy quilt recipient, please contact Chaplain Selenica at Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org.

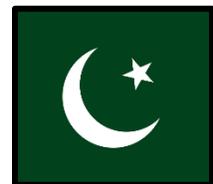
Thank you to QFC for supporting our police in such a heartfelt way. If you would like more information about this wonderful organization, headed here in Chicago by a retired PO/E.T., check out the home page on our website.



During the Lenten season, many people try to pray more intentionally. So, just a reminder: every Friday at 1:00 p.m. the Chaplains Section hosts a Bible study/prayer/faith-sharing group at the police academy. 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 a Muslim Jumma service is prayed every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in room 202 of the academy.



To confirm times, or if you'd like more information, please email Joseph.Jackson@ChicagoPolice.org, Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org, Rafael.Yanez@ChicagoPolice.org, or Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org.

Easter Sunday is celebrated on 05 APR. The police Mass will be celebrated at Mercy Home (1140 W. Jackson Boulevard) at **10:00 a.m.** The following week, we return to the usual 11:00 a.m. second- and fourth-Sunday Mass.

Coming up on Friday evening, 17 APR, we again have the "Battle of the Badges" boxing exhibition between members of CPD and CFD, hosted by DeLaSalle High

School. My friend and colleague Chaplain Hysni Selenica has been training for many months to compete in this event. Please join me in cheering him on! More information on this evening can be found on our website.

I hope to see you on any of the above-mentioned occasions. In the meantime, may God continue to bless you and keep you safe...especially during this sacred time!

Fr. Dan Brandt, *Directing CPD Chaplain*
773/550-2369 (cell/text)

dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org | www.ChicagoPCM.org

