



HAPPY SPRING: From Your Chaplain, Fr. Dan Brandt...

The season of spring started prematurely in Chicago this year... just look at the blooming flowers, the goofs on the street, and the upshoot in violent crimes in certain areas. Mother Nature hasn't been kind to those in law enforcement these past months.

As the "new guy," I had my first chance to participate in the St. Jude Parade this month. What a great opportunity to honor those (and the families of those) who have made the ultimate sacrifice! While the St. Jude League and the Chaplains' Office are different entities, we work well together. God bless the St. Jude League for their great work!

We are about to "welcome" the NATO summit. Even though G8 was moved to Camp David, we can still expect troublemakers from all over the world to "protest" here, as you well know.

Some of them are "peaceful" protestors. The Founding Fathers of our great nation assured them the right to do so. Others, unfortunately, come to wreak havoc, destroy property and injure public servants and civilians alike. God bless the former and damn the latter!

Still, officers, as tough as it may be, I encourage you to do exactly as you are trained to do: see God's face in even the most evil of those we encounter in the coming weeks, and treat them accordingly. As you know, the protestors' cameras will be rolling, and appropriate reaction will be taken out of context and posted to the internet in an attempt to villainize us as we try to protect everyone's rights.

In the Chaplains' Unit, we are in full swing, preparing and praying for our men and women's safety and well being. **Chaplain Joe Jackson continues to organize a prayer team for this very necessary cause.** If you'd like to commit to this effort, please contact Chaplain Jackson at 312/771-6684 or joseph.jackson@chicagopolice.org.



The NATO Summit lapel pins (1" x 1.5") are making quite a hit. These \$5.00 pins are available at the FOP store and most uniform outlets...as well as in certain units. Sales benefit the Chaplains Ministry. If you would like to help sell pins, please contact me. For more information, please visit our website: www.ChicagoPCM.org.

On **Mothers' Day**, Sunday, 13 MAY, **our usual 2nd/4th Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mercy Home Mass will be held at 10:00 a.m.** to accommodate folks cooking for or traveling to visit Mom. We'll remember in a special way all mothers and grandmothers, living and deceased.

Also... mark your calendar: as always, we will celebrate a special **Fathers' Day Mass** at Gold Star Memorial Park at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, 17 JUN. Being an outdoor venue, if the weather looks questionable, please call (773) 550-2369 that morning to make sure the Mass is on. Assuming Mother Nature agrees, bring folding chairs or a blanket...and even a picnic lunch for after Mass.

CPD Masses are normally scheduled the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 1100-1130 hrs at Mercy Home: 1140 W. Jackson Blvd. No matter your faith tradition, ALL ARE WELCOME. On-duty worshippers, rest assured: you'll be out in 30 minutes.

CPD chaplains are available 24/7...so please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we may be of **any** assistance: Chaplain Bob Montelongo (773/459-5089), Rabbi Moshe Wolf (773/463-4780), Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis (773/251-5351), Chaplain Joe Jackson (312/771-6684), or me (773/550-2369).

God bless you in your most noble, God-ordained work!

See you on the street,

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