



From Your Chaplain, Fr. Dan Brandt...

HAPPY, HEALTHY, HOLY NEW YEAR!

Alfred (Al) G. Bedia, a PO on the verge of retirement, is generously helping our cause (Police Chaplains Ministry) and another outreach near and dear to his heart: Casa Catalina—a basic needs center affiliated with Catholic Charities and located in the 009th District at 45th and Ashland (in the Back of the Yards neighborhood, Al's childhood home).

Remembering his father's advice to GIVE BACK to those who help form one's life, Al is organizing a fundraiser for these two worthy causes on 26 APR 2013. You'll hear more about this event in the coming months. **In the meantime, Al will be visiting districts to solicit donations. I'd like to thank you in advance for your generosity to Al's plea...be that in the form of cash, check, or raffle prizes!**

Both entities are IRS-recognized 501(c) 3 charitable organizations, so your contribution is fully tax-deductible. If you'd like to donate via mail, you may send your contribution (payable to Police Chaplains Ministry) to me via department mail at Unit 118, or directly to Al at P.O. Box 388354, Chicago, IL 60638-8354. You can also give on-line by visiting our website (below) and clicking the "Make a Donation" link. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Al at 773/617-8207 or me at the number below.

On a less happy note, last year, twice as many police officers nationwide died from suicide as were killed by an offender in the line of duty. As you will agree, this is a most unfortunate and alarming statistic. To address this crisis, the Police Chaplains and the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation will co-host an all-day **Police Suicide Awareness and Prevention Seminar** on Monday, 21 JAN, in Oak Brook. Two nationally-renowned speakers on this subject will be with us that day.

Invitations were sent to those involved in training police officers and candidates, Peer Support members, Employee Assistance Program counselors, supervisors, *et al.* We are inviting not only CPD members, but also colleagues from other jurisdictions (local, county, state and federal). Whether you have been affected by police suicide or this is an area you would like to learn more about, please let us know soon using the contact information below; we'll do our best to make room for you at the seminar.

If the Chaplains Ministry can be of ANY assistance to you in any way, please do not hesitate to call on us 24/7. Contact information for all chaplains is available at the website below.

God bless you and your family in the new year!

Fraternally,

Fr. Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain

312/738-7588 (office) | 773/550-2369 (cell/text)
1140 W. Jackson Blvd. | Chicago, IL 60607
dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org | www.ChicagoPCM.org

