



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

A few Saturdays ago, between CPD baby baptisms and a CPD wedding, I stopped at Bunker Hill Woods to say hello to one of our units hosting an annual work/family party. It was a gorgeous day (Rabbi Wolf arranged for *perfect* weather) -- and a wonderful chance to visit with our brothers/sisters and their families. I **love** being kept busy with these many happy occasions to share stories, smiles and laughs.

I also have a chance regularly to meet folks at benefits for PO's who get jammed up. Last month I stopped by a north-side party hosted by friends of two Toms (literally, two Toms) who found themselves in a bind several months back. They asked me to use this outlet to express THEIR appreciation for the many, many PO's and bosses who came out to show their support of a couple of really good guys caught in an unfortunate situation. I thank God for being included in the incredible support system and brother/sisterhood we share.

I was again reminded of the blessed familial relationship we share when well over a hundred officers gathered at Christ Hospital and preceded to the morgue together following the untimely death of one of our own, Sgt. Jean ("John") Borja on Sunday night, 18 AUG. The outpouring of support from CPD members for his parents was remarkable, as was the display of loving, prayerful camaraderie for his saddened CPD family. THANK YOU for making me and the other chaplains present so very proud to be members of this great family!

On Monday, 19 AUG, we added five names to the wall at Gold Stars Memorial and Park: Terrence Knox, Sidney Sam, William Goles, Cornelius Rourke and John Furlong. These heroes bring the number of names on those sacred walls to 567. **May they rest in peace!** We can be proud that decades after these five officers' deaths, our promise remains: WE WILL NEVER FORGET! For more information on Gold Star Families Memorial and Park, please visit the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation website at [www.CPDMEMORIAL.ORG](http://www.CPDMEMORIAL.ORG).

Thanks to the Emerald Society for nominating me "Irishman of the Year." What a source of pride for me to receive this distinction...humbling as it is! The awards banquet, where a policeman of the year is also recognized, is scheduled for Friday evening, September 27<sup>th</sup>, at Gaelic Park. For more information or tickets, please visit the Emerald Society Website at [www.EmeraldSocietyOfIllinois.org](http://www.EmeraldSocietyOfIllinois.org).

September 29 is the feast of St. Michael, the patron saint of police officers and soldiers. If you'd like more information on this saint, or if you'd like to request a St. Michael prayer card be mailed to you free of charge, please visit our website (below).

Finally, I'd like to thank all those who came out for our very first Cub rooftop party, raising funds for the Police Chaplains Ministry. It was a sold-out event, and all in attendance had a **great** time. Thanks to the folks in 019 who made this happen. White Sox fans will be pleased to know the Cincinnati Reds won 6 to 4 that night. Check out the pictures of the evening on our website's "Photo Album" page.

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