



## **Fr. Dan Brandt's Corner...**

It's been just over a year since the **Department of Justice** investigation of CPD was pushed through and their findings published. While many question the legitimacy and accuracy of the report overall, I took one item from it: the topic of police suicide as published in the "Officer Wellness and Safety" section. More efforts, they indicated, need to be made in the awareness and prevention of police suicide.

I couldn't agree more. But in their haste to get the report published, the DOJ remained unaware of some important facts. For many years, CPD has been doing exactly what the DOJ recommended...*and then some*. For instance, the Chaplains Section and a committee of CPD bosses—with the support of the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation—host **annual Police Suicide Awareness and Prevention Seminars** featuring nationally-known experts. In fact, the next seminar will be held Wednesday, 28 MAR, at the usual location in Oak Brook. For more information, please contact me.

Additionally, available to our members 24/7 are your one part-time and five full-time **CPD Chaplains**, the **Employee Assistance Program** (our professional counselors), **CPD Peer Support**, and the **Chicago Police Survivors**. In my dealings with fellow police chaplains from other jurisdictions, I have learned that some of these resources are unique to Chicago.

Perhaps the greatest resource we have is each other. Please don't ever hesitate to pick up the phone if you observe something in a coworker that alarms you. See also our website's "Resources and Outreaches" pages for more information on this difficult subject.

The season of Lent began with Ash Wednesday on 14 FEB. As we progress through this holy season, please remember—no matter your faith tradition—you're always welcome to worship at the **Police Mass** every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 11:00 a.m., at Mercy Home: 1140 W. Jackson Boulevard. Mass is kept under 30 minutes for those who would like to attend during their lunch break. Planning ahead, you'll note that Easter Sunday, 01 APR, like on all holidays, our Mass is moved up to 10:00 a.m.

Finally, congratulations to our **St. Michael the Archangel Knights of Columbus Police Council**, who celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> year of their founding. Kudos to these men of faith, almost all active or retired law enforcement, for all the good they have done for others over these past 20 years! *Ad multos annos...* Latin for "To many years!"

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