



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





On 01 OCT 2024, I joined members of the Chicago Police Futbol (Soccer) Club at Casa Tequila Mexican Grill and Steakhouse, to personally hang portraits memorializing some recent fallen officers. Casa Tequila (1949 W. Division Street) LOVES the police. Be sure to visit and check out their beautiful memorial to Paul Bauer, Sam Jimenez, Ella French, Eduardo Marmolejo, Conrad Gary, Arianah Preston, Andres Vasquez Lasso and Luis Huesca.



Another north-side restaurant who loves us is Orso's at 1401 N. Wells Street. On 03 OCT, they hosted a happy hour dinner buffet with open bar for a few hours. It was a delightful chance to mingle with about 100 guests who together contributed over \$10,000 to Police Chaplains Ministry and our outreach to Gold Star Families. Here you see Frank, the proprietor of over 55 years. What a gracious and generous host!! Please check out Orso's!



On 03 OCT 2024, Chaplain Joe Jackson offered the invocation at our most recent class's star ceremony. We CPD Chaplains had the opportunity to pray with new officers desiring a blessing of their newly-issued stars. As is mentioned by the commanding officer of the academy at each star ceremony, these stars are EARNED, not given. Stay safe, new officers! Congratulations.



On 17 OCT, the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE) honored us with a closing bell-ringing ceremony. This same honor has been enjoyed by folks like Ronald Reagan, George Bush, Donald Trump, and Abraham Lincoln (OK, maybe that's a stretch). What a treat for us!!! You can see pictures and video of the event on our website. It should be noted that the Board also made a generous donation to our cause and our outreach to the Chicago Police Gold Star Families, those who have lost a loved one in the line of duty serving our city.

On 19 NOV, we commemorate the six-year anniversary of PO Samuel Jimenez's death at Mercy Hospital. A memorial ceremony will take place at noon on Sunday, 17 NOV at the 002nd District. Sam's memorial card—and many others—can be downloaded from our website. May he and all our fallen heroes rest in peace!



Mark your calendar...our next Upper Room Club will be held on Tuesday, 26 NOV, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thanks to our friends at Pizano's Pizza, who generously host us on a regular basis. Active or retired, contact me for details if you'd like to join us for a couple hours of conversation about our faith, policing, and current events.

In addition to our regular second and fourth Sunday Masses at Mercy Home, we will gather Thanksgiving morning (Thursday, 28 NOV) an hour earlier than usual. Thinking ahead, the same 10:00 start time applies to Christmas morning. No matter your faith tradition, you are most welcome to come and pray with some of your colleagues and friends. Bring your family!

One last note of gratitude ...THANK YOU to four parishes who this past month invited me to celebrate Blue Masses honoring our fallen members and thanking our active and retired officers. These parishes deserve to be recognized: St. Benedict in Blue Island, St. Francis of Assisi in Orland Park, Holy Name Cathedral downtown, and St. Gianna (Queen of Martyrs) in Evergreen Park. It was so nice to see so many familiar faces at all of these Blue Masses.

God bless you and keep you safe,

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

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