

## From your Chaplain, Fr. Dan Brandt...

You might ask yourself, "Why are there no gangs, guns or drugs in 009?" It's because of PO's like David Hoffenkamp (pictured here), with whom I share a laugh about the above question in recent early-morning rounds on the south side.

Pondering the above question may remind us, no matter what district or unit, of the sometimes seemingly-losing battle fought daily. But in the end, please remember that **you** are that vital line between absolute chaos and

some semblance of order and normalcy. Active or retired, *thank you* for choosing the God-ordained vocation to maintain this line!

For more pictures like this, where you're sure to see folks you know, see the "Photo Album" page on our website.

**St. Jude League stickers** are still available. A donation of \$7.00 per sticker is requested. Buy some for your friends and family! Funds raised benefit a host of worthy charities, and help the ministry of St. Jude Chaplains who lead prayer services at CPD family wakes. For more information about obtaining your sticker, or if your unit rep ran out of them (or if you don't know who your rep is), please contact me or one of the CPD Chaplains.

I know I mentioned the following in last month's column, but as we progress through Lent (and in light of way too many recent CPD deaths and incidents that remind us of our mortality), these three items are worth repeating:

The **Shrine of St. Michael at St. Rita High School** at 7740 S. Western Avenue, dedicated to the memory of E/T Mike Flisk (star 6962, EOW 27 NOV 2010), is available to police officers any time the building is open. Make a visit when you're in the area, and spend a few minutes of silent prayer in a beautiful and peaceful setting!

Also available to active and retired police officers is the **St. Michael League Mass**, offered at two locations on a monthly basis: every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church (95<sup>th</sup>/Lawndale), and every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at the Monastery of the Holy Cross (31<sup>st</sup>/Aberdeen). While this is a Catholic Mass, all are welcome.

Finally, you're *always* welcome at the **police Mass** every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at Mercy Home, 1140 W. Jackson Blvd. **Palm Sunday is 13 APR**, which happens to be one of our regular Sunday police Masses. There will also be an **Easter Mass** at Mercy Home on Sunday, 20 APR, at **10:00** a.m. (note change in time for the holiday).

And—planning ahead—Mother's Day is Sunday, 11 MAY. Bring Mom to the police Mass that morning if you'd like (again noting the change in Mass time to **10:00 a.m.**). If Mom is no longer with us, let me know ahead of time, and we'll remember her in our prayers for the deceased that day.

The police Mass usually runs under 30 minutes...so you can squeeze it into your lunch break.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the above places...or at the St. Jude March on Sunday, 04 MAY...or on the street!

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