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

Someone recently passed along a parish bulletin column written by Fr. Rafal Stecz, pastor of St. Daniel the Prophet Catholic Church in Garfield Ridge. In light of current attitudes toward law enfo



Ridge. In light of current attitudes toward law enforcement among a certain segment of society, I thought I'd share some of his words with you here (edited for space)...

It is disturbing to me to see attacks on our law enforcement officers. Most of them are wonderful women and men who proudly wear their uniform and serve their community. Every day they risk their health and their very lives to keep our streets and neighborhoods safe. These fine and brave servants deserve not only our trust and respect, but also true honor! Instead, what they often have to deal with these days is one attack after another.

When I came to our parish ten months ago, I was pleased to learn that our parishioners support the police. It is wonderful to be part of a police-friendly parish! Please continue to pray for our heroes in uniform and thank them for their service.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Rafal Stecz, Pastor St. Daniel the Prophet Catholic Church

I also received a text message recently from Fr. Gene Dyer, a retired priest friend...

Hi, Dan— would you please pass along a message to your officers? The best part of paying taxes are the dollars that go into their salaries. They have my 1,000% support! God bless them.

Thanks to Fr. Rafal and Fr. Gene for their reminders that—while a loud segment of society, fed by a biased media, may call to de-fund or abolish law enforcement—the vast majority of educated, working-class, tax-paying, law-abiding citizens truly appreciate the God-ordained work you do!

Finally, while so many good people are praying for you, here's a reminder that YOU can gather in prayer/reflection on a regular basis. Every Friday at 12:05 p.m. the Chaplains Section continues to facilitate a Bible study/prayer/faith-sharing group at the police academy. No matter your faith tradition, ALL are welcome to these brief Christian-based gatherings. As with our other offerings, we practice social distancing, etc.

A similar (though more intimate in size) non-denominational Christian prayer opportunity is offered every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Public Safety Headquarters.

And Muslim (Jumma) prayers are offered every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in room 202 of the academy.



To confirm times, or if you'd like more information, please email Joseph.Jackson@ChicagoPolice.org, Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org, or <u>Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org</u>.

God bless you as you continue to do God's work. Please stay safe and healthy! Know that active or retired, you're in our daily prayers.

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