

THE PATRIOT'S CALL: *United for Faith & Freedom*

Assembly 1818



Special Edition September 14, 2025

A Heartfelt Thank You – Honoring Our Heroes

Sir Knights,

Today's Blue Mass celebrated by Most Reverend Bishop Dewane at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish was a resounding success. Thank you for your presence, your service, and your unwavering commitment as you stood in solidarity with our community's First Responders.



Together, we honored the brave men and women active, retired, and fallen who have answered the call to protect and serve. Through solemn prayer, respectful ceremony, and heartfelt fellowship, we remembered those who made the ultimate sacrifice and gave thanks to those who continue to risk their lives daily for our safety.

The Color Corps' dignified presence and the Knights' generous support during the Mass and luncheon setup embodied the very spirit of our brotherhood. You helped transform this event into a powerful tribute, reminding all in attendance that faith and gratitude are alive and well in our parish and our

Assembly.

Let us carry this spirit forward as we continue to serve, remember, and uplift those who protect us. May our unity be a beacon of hope and honor in the lives of others.

The History of the Blue Mass

The Blue Mass is a cherished tradition that honors the brave men and women who serve as police officers, firefighters, and first responders. Its origins trace back to September 29, 1934, when Father Thomas Dade celebrated the first Blue Mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Washington, D.C., though he was based in Baltimore, Maryland.

Father Dade, a visionary priest and founder of the Catholic Police and Firemen's Society, recognized the need to spiritually support those who risk their lives daily to protect others. The name "Blue Mass" comes from the color of the uniforms traditionally worn by police and emergency personnel—a symbol of service, sacrifice, and steadfast duty.

In the wake of September 11, 2001, the Blue Mass took on even deeper significance. Communities across the nation began to gather with renewed reverence, praying not only for the souls lost but for the continued safety of those who stand on the front lines. During the Mass, special prayers are offered for these heroes and their families, invoking the protection of Saint Michael the Archangel, Patron Saint of Police and First Responders, and Saint Florian, Patron Saint of Firefighters.

In every prayer at the Blue Mass, we offer not just gratitude, but a promise: that their sacrifices will never be forgotten, and their families will always be held in the embrace of our community and our faith.





















BLUE MASS

