



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Office of Communications and Planning

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Emergency Responders to be Honored at Third Annual Blue Mass on Sunday

Mass to honor living and deceased emergency responders

What: Third Annual Blue Mass to honor emergency responders

Where: Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis (4431 Lindell)

When: Sunday, September 10, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Who: Archbishop Robert Carlson and emergency responders from the greater St. Louis region

ST. LOUIS – Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson, Archbishop of St. Louis, will honor all emergency responders by celebrating the third annual Blue Mass in the Archdiocese of St. Louis on Sunday, September 10, 2017. Police officers, firefighters, paramedics, emergency support staff, and other public safety and law enforcement personnel and their families are invited.

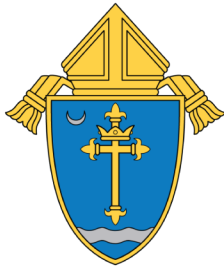
“The work of our emergency responders is a gift that requires much sacrifice,” Archbishop Robert J. Carlson said. “In a time when tensions are high, this Mass is one way for the Archdiocese of St. Louis to show support for what these men and women do every day. In a particular way we want to say ‘thank you’ to those who dedicate their lives to serve and protect the citizens of the greater St. Louis region. In living out their profession, these men and women show us the true spirit of what it means to be a follower of Christ.”

The Blue Mass honors men and women currently serving as emergency responders, as well as all those who have died in the line of duty. The Mass is intended to bring a greater awareness of those who serve us so faithfully, often placing others’ lives and safety above their own.

The first Blue Mass was celebrated by Fr. Thomas Dade on September 29, 1934, at St. Patrick Church in Washington, D.C. In attendance were more than 1,000 police and firemen, dressed in their blue uniforms. The tradition of showing gratitude to emergency responders and their families in this way has continued throughout the United States, especially since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Additional background and information can be found at archstl.org/bluemass.

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