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DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2013

PRESS RELEASE

Bishop Malloy to Celebrate Blue Mass Honoring First Responders During National Police Week

ROCKFORD--Bishop David J. Malloy will join in marking National Police Week May 13-19, by celebrating the first city-wide Blue Mass, Tuesday, May 14 at the Cathedral of St. Peter, 1243 North Church Street.

Each year National Police Week honors the memory of those in Law Enforcement who have given their lives in the line of duty and gives communities a special opportunity to support current officers and the service they provide.

The Blue Mass is named for and honors those in the police profession and also includes all first responders from local fire departments and ambulance services and their respective administrators.

The Mass will begin at 12 Noon and include the City of Rockford Police Honor Guard and officers and families that bravely serve the City of Rockford.

Head Chaplain for the Rockford Police and Fire Departments, Father Kenneth Stachyra, organized the event to “recognize the great work and sacrifice of all first responders and to give thanks to God for their work and the support of their families.” “This gives a way to pray together and support each other and to remember those who have fallen while protecting all of us,” he said. Father Stachyra is also pastor of St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Rockford.

The Blue Mass will be streamed live on the Diocese of Rockford’s website at www.rockforddiocese.org.

Other local events planned for National Police Week are listed at <http://local.nixle.com/city-of-rockford-illinois-police-department/>

Media coverage welcome