



Spokane County Sheriff Chaplaincy

August 2024 Newsletter

Lead Chaplain

Robert Kinnune

Deputy Lead Chaplain

Garry Losey

Senior Chaplain

Jake Burkholder

Chaplains

Rochelle Renninger

Ryan Stemkoski

Joe Fruci

David Losey

Jaylynn Lawrence

Marilyn Salmon *

Steve Beck *

Support Team

Yvonne Losey

Renee Townsley

* Currently Probationary
Chaplains in training

Support Your Chaplains

Because of generous supporters like you we're able to care for our law enforcement family and community.

How you can give:

- [On Our Website](#)
- Venmo
- By Check
- Payroll Deductions
- Visit us at our
Chaplain Office in the
DEM Building



Sheriff Chaplain's Corner

"GOD CARES FOR OTHERS THROUGH YOU"

Matthew 25:40 (ESV) And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

On Feb. 3, 1943, the U.S.A.T. Dorchester carrying 902 service men, merchant seamen and civilian workers was sunk in the cold Atlantic. Through the pandemonium, according to those present, four Army chaplains brought hope in despair and light in darkness. Those chaplains were Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic; and Lt. Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed.

Quickly and quietly, the four chaplains spread out among the soldiers. There they tried to calm the frightened, tend the wounded and guide the disoriented toward safety. "Witnesses of that terrible night remember hearing the four men offer prayers for the dying and encouragement for those who would live," says Wyatt R. Fox, son of Reverend Fox. One witness, Private William B. Bednar, found himself floating in oil-smeared water surrounded by dead bodies and debris. "I could hear men crying, pleading, praying," Bednar recalls. "I could also hear the chaplains preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."

By this time, most of the men were topside, and the chaplains opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight.

When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men. "It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven," said John Ladd, another survivor who saw the chaplains' selfless act. As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains—arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, 672 died, leaving 230 survivors. When the news reached American shores, the nation was stunned by the magnitude of the tragedy and heroic conduct of the four chaplains. "Valor is a gift," Carl Sandburg once said, "Those having it never know for sure whether they have it until the test comes." That night Reverend Fox, Rabbi Goode, Reverend Poling and Father Washington passed life's ultimate test. In doing so, they became an enduring example of extraordinary faith, courage and selflessness. The Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were awarded posthumously December 19, 1944, to the next of kin by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces, in a ceremony at the post chapel at Fort Myer, VA. A one-time only posthumous Special Medal for Heroism was authorized by Congress and awarded by President Eisenhower on January 18, 1961. The special medal was intended to have the same weight and importance as the Medal of Honor.

In caring for others, we find that we find a deeper happiness and our life finds a greater fulfillment than we would receiving something from others. In the end, giving to those who are in need will always bring greater joy and happiness to us.

Martin of Tours was a Roman soldier and a Christian. One cold winter day, as he was entering a city, a beggar stopped him and asked for alms. Martin had no money; but the beggar was blue and shivering with cold, and Martin gave what he had. He took off his soldier's coat, worn and frayed as it was; he cut it in two and gave half of it to the beggar man. That night he had a dream. In it he saw the heavenly places and all the angels and Jesus in the midst of them; and Jesus was wearing half of a Roman soldier's cloak. One of the angels said to him, "Master, why are you wearing that battered old cloak? Who gave it to you?" And Jesus answered softly, "My servant Martin gave it to me." Acts 20:35 (ESV) In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

God Bless, Deputy Lead Chaplain Garry Losey

Support the Chaplaincy with Payroll Deductions

Are you a Spokane County employee? Did you know you can support the chaplaincy and our mission to support our Deputies and community members automatically with payroll deductions? Learn more and sign-up online:

<https://scsochaplains.org/payroll-deduction/>



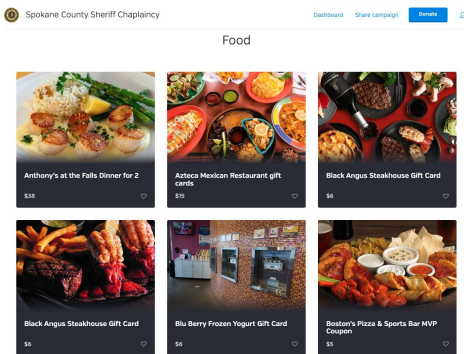


First Responder Chaplain Academy Launches!

On August 1st, we celebrated the inaugural graduating class of the First Responder Chaplain Academy. The FRCA is a joint program led by the Spokane County Sheriff Chaplaincy in partnership with the Washington State Patrol Chaplain Program, Inland Northwest Fire Chaplains, Fire District 4 Fire & Rescue Chaplains, and the Bonner County Chaplains.

Thanks to the hard work of numerous volunteers, we now have 28 new, highly trained, graduating chaplains serving area communities! Thank you to all who helped plan, prepare, and execute this wonderful and critical training program.

If you would like you can [watch the full graduation ceremony](#).



The 2024 Online Summer Silent Auction Starts August 28th!

Our 2024 summer auction kicks off in just a few days. We have more than 60 items including a huge collection of gift cards, books, furniture, and more. Come snag yourself something good and support the Spokane County Sheriff Chaplaincy at the same time! [Preview the items here!](#)

Talk to a Chaplain

Whether you're an officer, county employee, community member, or just need someone to talk to, our chaplain team is here for you.

- 24x7 Support Spiritual
- Guidance & Referrals
- Pastoral Counseling
- Conversation
- Crisis Intervention
- Weddings & Funerals

Supporter of the Month



Valor Technical Cleaning

We value Valor. They have been a great partner and a great contributor to the SCSO Chaplains.

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