

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE

Blue Mass

AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Friday, September 30, 2022
8 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST WITH OUR JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS TO FOLLOW
1050 163RD ST., GARDENA, CA 90247

The first Blue Mass was celebrated on September 29, 1934 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Washington, DC by Father Thomas Dade, who had founded the Catholic Police and Firemen's Society. On that day, 1,100 police officers and firemen dressed in blue uniforms processed into St. Patrick's to honor the fallen members of their ranks. Following the events of 9/11, the Blue Mass began to be celebrated in cities from coast-to-coast to honor the many law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel who gave their lives so that others might live. It is estimated that 25,000 people were saved on 9/11 as a result of their courage.

In some places it is the custom to bless the badges of those in attendance. It is also the custom to celebrate the Blue Mass on or near either September 11 or November 11, the Feast Day of St. Martin of Tours, patron saint of soldiers.



"Today we are praying in a special way for our brothers and sisters who serve in law enforcement and public safety. We give thanks today for everyone who has answered the call to service to help keep our communities safe. We owe you a debt of gratitude. Every day many of you put your lives on the line for us, put yourselves in harm's way. We're grateful for your devotion and your commitment and we want

to remember especially our fallen brothers and sisters, those who have given their lives in the line of duty for all of us, for the common good."

– Most Reverend Jose H. Gomez, DD,
Archbishop of Los Angeles

Please RSVP by Friday, September 23 to 310-329-7170
Or email your RSVP to Sarah Ray at
sray1@stanthonygardena.org.



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1050 163rd St., Gardena, CA 90247