



# Our Men in Black



## **Father Phillip Kaim** Catholic Chaplain at Aviano U.S. Air Force Base in Italy



### **Favorite prayer**

St. Michael prayer — I'm hoping one day this gets added back to the end of our liturgy. Also, St. Gertrude's Purgatory Prayer. It's a wonderful way that God gives us to help others who can no longer do anything for themselves.

### **What has been a holy moment for you in your priesthood?**

I picked up a family at the airport when their son was clinging to life after a Blackhawk helicopter crash. We prayed at his bedside and the family, none of whom are Catholic, asked me to pray the St. Michael

prayer, which their son did every time he boarded his helicopter. We prayed it at all Masses that weekend and I gave them my huge St. Michael statue to be put by his bedside. In what our head doctor on base called nothing short of a "miracle" he pulled out of the coma and is now doing well. He even asked me to do his wedding, though I never met him before. Thank you for your intercession St. Michael!

### **Favorite saint**

St. Philip Neri, but St. Thomas Aquinas and Jean Vianney are "right up there." And did I mention St. Catherine of Siena? Oh, don't get me started on saints! There are so many heroic saints for us to model ourselves after.

### **Favorite hobby or pastime**

Watching baseball. There are so many more decisions

that have to be made than in other sports. I used to laugh when the Bulls called a timeout at the end of the game. You knew they were just going to just give it to Jordan. But with so many decisions in baseball — Which pitcher do you bring in? Where do you position the outfield? Do you pitch hit for the pitcher this inning or wait? etc. — it leads to lots of second-guessing of the manager. That's the fun of the sport. I always think I can do a better job than Ozzie Guillen!

### **Favorite temporal things**

The White Sox. On this one at least, the President and I couldn't agree more.