



CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Washington, D.C. 20350-2000

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

As our nation's War on Terrorism continues, so does the magnificent ministry of our chaplains and RPs around the world.

In this issue of *The Navy Chaplain*, Chaplain Lew Brown gives us an inside look at the unique ministry performed by chaplains at Arlington National Cemetery. Chaplain Diana Meehan shares a story and photographs of a "first" as the U.S. Marine Corps honored one of our Chaplain Corps heroes—Chaplain John J. O'Connor. A report on the Change of Watch for the Chaplain of the Coast Guard and retirement of Chaplain Leroy Gilbert follows. One of our newer chaplains, David Brown gives a report of the results the New Sailor Assimilation Course (NSAC) aboard his ship, USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12). This initiative has had a significant positive impact on retention and on reduction of mast cases among first-term Sailors. A report follows telling how some of our BUMED chaplains performed acts of blessing upon their Nurse Corps counterparts during National Nurses Week. Finally, Chaplain Michael Gore shares a reflection on the call to ministry upon the sea.

Over the years, this publication known as *The Navy Chaplain* has expanded to include all who serve in support of Sea Service ministry. As a result, the current name is no longer reflective or inclusive of those whose service is reported. I solicit your input for a new name for this publication, which will become a quarterly beginning with the next issue in October 2002. Please send your input to tnc@crb.chaplain.navy.mil.

Your faithfulness to the task of Sea Service ministry does not go unnoticed. Wherever Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen go...there goes the Chaplain and RP. Your service is a credit to our Corps, our Country and our Creator. May your hand be steady at the helm of ministry as you guide the souls entrusted to your care.

In God's service and yours,