

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month



December 2017



**Fr. Peter M. Jaramillo SSA**

**Kansas Army National Guard**

Sponsored by:  
Prairie  
Chapter

Peter's grandparents originally came from Mexico during the time of the Mexican revolution and persecution of the Catholic Church in the 1920s. He is from Kansas and is the oldest of eight children. He received an under graduate degree with a Bachelor of Arts from Rockhurst College. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Seton Hall University from Immaculate Conception Seminary in the Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey. Peter is also a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Citizens Academy.

Peter entered the military service, first as an Army Reserve Chaplain while working as a priest in the Amarillo Diocese. One of his parishioners, a Colonel in Special Forces observed that he had the capacity for military bearing and he recruited him. In December, 1995, Peter was commissioned as a

First Lieutenant in his parish in Texas, where he was the pastor. Soon after he was transferred to Archdiocese of Kansas City and he joined the Kansas Army National Guard as a chaplain with the 137<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion.

Duty stations over the past 20 years include: Chaplain Officer Basic Training at the Chaplain Training Center, Fort Jackson, South Carolina; Battalion Chaplain with the Kansas Army National Guard 2<sup>nd</sup> 137<sup>th</sup> Infantry; as a Chaplain rank of Captain deployed to Germany Operation Enduring Freedom; as a Chaplain rank of Major deployed under 3<sup>rd</sup> Army Infantry Division to Iraq Operation Iraqi Freedom; as a Lieutenant Colonel Brigade Chaplain with 69<sup>th</sup> Troop Command at Joint Force Headquarters, Topeka, Kansas; Intermediate Level Education at Fort Gordon, Georgia; Division Chaplain for 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Leavenworth, Kansas; deployed to Kosovo as a Brigade Chaplain with 4-25 Brigade from Alaska with North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Joint Force Headquarters State Command Chaplain.

His medals and citations are: Meritorious Service Medal w/3 oak leaf clusters; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal w/oak leaf cluster, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal w/2 oak leaf clusters; National Defense Service Medal w/star; Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/Mobilization Device Army Service Ribbon; Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon; Global War on Terrorism Medal; National Defense Service Ribbon; Iraq Campaign Medal; Kansas National Guard Achievement Ribbon; Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/M-Device; and German Sports Badge-Bronze. He has been enrolled in the honorable Order of St. Maurice Infantry Association.

Peter's most meaningful experiences include being able to minister as a Catholic priest and serve as a chaplain in the time of greatest need. He was able to comfort the grieving soldiers in time of war in Iraq when suicide bombers attacked and killed two of our soldiers on patrol. He has provided the memorial services for numerous soldier heroes at various times for those killed in action. He was able to baptize soldiers on his three deployments and bring them into the Catholic faith. Peter has had great training experiences as a chaplain providing worship services and sacramental support with soldiers and airmen over his 20 years. He has been with soldiers and airmen during times of national disasters such as when tornadoes wiped out cities in Kansas and he offered his ministry as a chaplain.

Peter is still considered on active duty status as he has not yet been discharged from the Army National Guard.

As a civilian, he is a Catholic Augustinian with the Society of St. Augustine and a priest for the Archdiocese of Kansas City. He pastors three Catholic parishes in Strawberry Hill, St. John the Baptist, Holy Family, and St. Mary-St. Anthony Church. Peter has learned from the unique and beautiful cultures of the Slovenian, Croatian and German-Irish and Hispanic communities. Ethnic festivities are celebrated each year and people from all over the area join in these events. He is involved with the local community as a pastor in a church. He is the past National Spiritual Advisor of the Cursillo Movement in the United States of America and a 4<sup>th</sup> degree member for the Knights of Columbus. Peter is also a member of the Order of St. Lazarus.

Prairie Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize Fr. Peter M. Jaramillo as Patriot of the Month for his patriotic and dedicated service to our great nation.