

THE BASILICA OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

THE SERVANT OF GOD, FR. PATRICK RYAN AWARD

OCTOBER 2, 2021



THE SERVANT OF GOD, FR. PATRICK RYAN AWARD IS GIVEN EACH YEAR TO MEMBERS OF THE PARISH WHO EXEMPLIFY THE THEOLOGICAL VIRTUE OF CHARITY IN IMITATION OF THE HEROIC WITNESS OF FR. PATRICK RYAN. INSPIRED BY HIS EXAMPLE TO THAT SAME MEASURE OF CHARITY TOWARD ALL OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN NEED, THE RECIPIENT OF THIS AWARD HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR SELFLESS SERVICE, ESPECIALLY TOWARDS THE POOR AND NEEDY.

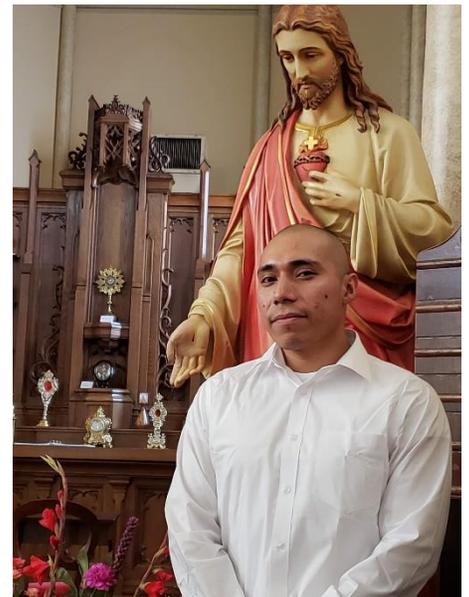
BRANDON PANGANIBAN



A lifelong Catholic, Brandon Panganiban was raised in Connecticut and moved to Chattanooga and the Basilica in 2015. Brandon studied chemistry and works professionally as a reactor technologist, recently starting a side business in excavating. During the tornado of Easter 2020, Brandon saved his family by shielding them with his body as the storm tore through his home, and he rescued three injured people. This life-renewing experience propelled Brandon to start living for others. He immediately began helping people rebuild their lives after the tornadoes. At the Basilica, Brandon is active as lector, choir member, and security team member, and he frequently serves all these ministries in a single weekend. A member of the Knights of Columbus, Brandon jumps on board at any call to serve. Since the Basilica Home Repair Apostolate began this year, Brandon has provided physical labor at every home repair project to support needy families in our community. Deeply inspired by the Fr. Patrick Ryan's Charity in Action, Brandon volunteered as a lead grave digger for Fr. Ryan's exhumation, carried his remains in procession to Sts. Peter and Paul, and sang his Memorial Mass. For these reasons, Brandon has been chosen as one of the 2021 recipients of this award.

ERNESTO MORALES BERNAL

Ernesto Morales Bernal was born in Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico. He is the second child of Elvira Bernal and Maximo Morales and has a fraternal twin. He has been chosen to receive the Servant of God, Fr. Patrick Ryan award in 2021 for his service, charity and availability to help in our church. Ernesto serves as a catechist for our Hispanic youth group, coordinates lectors for the Spanish Masses, and coordinates the the Men's group of Christ Renews His Parish. He is also an active member of the Knights of Columbus and an usher for our Saturday English Masses. Ernesto is always ready to help with whatever he can, sometimes by praying and other times by acts of charity. His example to the community has been profound. He has showed that prayer and faith can really move mountains. And in this, he helps others to get closer to our God.



In Christ Jesus,

Rev. J. David Carter

Very Rev. J. David Carter, JCL, JV, Pastor and Rector