

☘ American Legion Auxiliary – Department of Arizona

Chaplain's Message – February 2026

February is often called the month of love, but in the Auxiliary, we understand love in its deepest form — not as sentiment, but as service. Love is the casserole delivered to a caregiver who hasn't had a full night's sleep in months. It's the card sent to a veteran who feels forgotten. It's the quiet moment of prayer for a military family facing another deployment. These small acts, done with great heart, are the very soul of who we are.

This month, I invite each of us to practice *intentional compassion*. Not the kind that waits for the perfect moment, but the kind that steps forward even when life feels busy or uncertain. Our veterans and their families continue to carry burdens that many never see. Let us continue to embody the values of service, unity and devotion that define the American Legion Auxiliary. A kind word, a listening ear, or a simple gesture of appreciation can be the spark that reminds someone they matter. Small acts of care – checking on a neighbor, supporting a caregiver, remembering a veteran's sacrifice – create ripples of healing beyond what we can see.

February also brings us closer to **Four Chaplains Day**, a moment in history that embodies the highest calling of service. On February 3, 1943, four military chaplains — of different faiths, different backgrounds, and different traditions — linked arms in unity and sacrifice aboard the sinking USAT *Dorchester*. Their final act was one of courage, compassion, and unwavering devotion to others.

Their legacy reminds us that:

- Service transcends differences
- Faith calls us to action
- Love is strongest when shared

As we honor their memory, may we also honor their example by living with the same spirit of unity and selflessness.

For those who are struggling this month — with grief, loneliness, or the weight of life's challenges — May you feel surrounded by the love and support of your Auxiliary family. You are held in our prayers and in our hearts.

Wishing you a month filled with purpose, kindness, and the quiet strength that comes from serving others.

In service and faith,

DeDe

Department Chaplain

American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Arizona