



Catholic War Veterans of the USA
Father Vincent Capodanno Memorial Post
To Heal, Serve, Love, Listen

Twenty-eighth Edition

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August 2018



Father Vincent Robert Capodanno, M.M.

MEETING NOTICE
NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY
September 5th AT 7:00 PM
At Our Lady of Mercy Country
Home
2115 Maturana Dr.
Liberty MO 64068

DUES

It is that time of year again. Amazing how time flies. It is time to renew your membership. So, if you have some spare change – like **Thirty Dollars** – please renew your membership. Make your check or money order out to “CWV Post 1974” and mail it to CWV Post 1974, 2115 Maturana Dr., Liberty MO 64068. MO. So far twelve members have renewed –this includes all of the life members

WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING

Earlier this month Ann Roberts and I attended an evening at St. James Parish where our bishop, Bishop Johnston was present to listen to members of our diocese. He was interested in ideas from his flock on what they would like to see happen in our diocese in the next few years. As he said, things change, and changes happen every three years.

There were several wonderful ideas present by the people present. We were able to present to the bishop our idea concerning a ministry focusing on our veterans in our diocese. It is estimated that there are more than 30,000 Catholic veterans in our diocese, and if you consider their families also, that number is quite a bit larger. There is, to my knowledge, no ministry at the Catholic Center dedicated specifically for veterans and their families.

Ann and I have been working on an idea that is already in place in several dioceses throughout the country called Military Outreach Ministry (MOM). The VA calls it a Community Action Board.

How we see it working is that there is an office at the Catholic Center dedicated to this ministry. A veteran, without regard to his or her faith tradition, would either call or visit the office. Then there would be some sort of assessment as to ascertain the need and the best way to go about getting help, which would be the best agency or organization that would best serve the veterans and/or his/her family.

There would also be a get together once or twice a year for veterans and active duty people and their families to hopefully form a community type support group or groups.

We are hoping that we will be able to see this idea, dream, and vision come true. And we feel that it is really vital for our diocese and surrounding areas.

Toward the end of September, Ann and I will be attending a training session in Little Rock Arkansas, presented by the VA, on CAB. We are hopeful to come back with a lot of ideas and suggestions as to the finer things that need to be done in developing a meaningful ministry.

National Convention

The National Convention is coming up soon, August 20 – 25, 2018, Pittsburg, PA. Miss Ann Roberts will be representing our post this year; I cannot financially afford to go. So far, I have heard of only one item of importance that should be coming up for a vote.

Posts like ours that are in states that do not have a department are at a disadvantage in that information that is discussed and/or voted on at a convention and national board meetings seem to never get to those posts. What is going to be proposed is that there be assigned a department for the various regions. The regions would consist of those states in certain areas, like northeast, southeast, etc. The commander would be assigned by the national board, or national commander, and would have the responsibility of relaying information to the various posts as also obtaining opinion or concerns from the posts to present to the national board. I think it is worth a try, depending upon what criteria they use to select the person to be the regional commander. We shall see.

September Meeting

The upcoming meeting, Sept 5th, is going to be important. Ann will be back from the National Convention and I am sure she will have a lot of information for us. Also, we will be making final plans for our annual Fr. Capodanno memorial Mass scheduled for the 15th. Please try to attend if at all possible.

Day of Reflection

On the 4th, we had our day of reflection. There were six participants. I thought it was very meaningful and was well worth the time and efforts put forth by all who were there. Thanks to Fr. Ron, Fr. Rich, Kathy and Windy for all your work.

Supreme Court

A few weeks back I received a phone call from Tony Monaco of Patriot Outreach. He mentioned a lawsuit that was going to be presented to the Supreme Court in the near future and asked if we would like to be a party to it.

Around 1920 the American Legion and the citizens of Blandensburg, Maryland erected a WWI memorial known as the "Peace Cross" for the sole purpose of honoring forty-nine men who gave their lives in service of our country



Well, an organization called American Humanist Association filed suit to have it removed, since it is located on property owned by the city.

An organization called Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice has appealed the lower court's ruling.

Parties to this suit include Major General Patrick H. Brady, United States Army Retired and a recipient of the Medal of Honor, Patriot Outreach, Casper J. Middlekauf American Legion Post 173 in Hays Kansas ,, Society of Men & 8 Horses Voiture 1543 of Hays Kansas, Edwin A, Shumacher Marine Corps League, Detachment 740 in Hays Kansas, American Legion Newport Harbor Post 291 in Newport Beach California, and Father Vincent Capodanno Memorial Post 1974 of the Catholic War Veterans of the USA in Liberty MO.

This is what was printed about us in the brief presented to the Supreme Court:

"Father Vincent Capodanno Memorial Catholic Veterans Post 1974 based in Liberty, Missouri is the local post of the Catholic War Veterans in that community, Its mission is to serve veterans physically, mentally, and spiritually, without regard to their individual characteristics. Catholic

War Veterans is one of only three faith-based Veterans Service Organizations chartered by the federal government. Members of Post 1974 believe strongly that, in the context of the Bladensburg Memorial, the cross reflects the selfless sacrifice of those who served and gave their lives in WWI. Post 1974 is adamantly opposed to the removal of the Bladensburg Memorial”

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SICK CALL



Bud McCay, Vernon Hudspeth, Robert Emery

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Post Name

Our post has been named after Father Vincent Robert Capodanno, MM. He was a navy chaplain who gave his life while serving the marines during Operation Swift. His biographical timeline goes something like this:

- 13 February 1929** – Born in Staten Island NY
 - 13 February 1939** – Received news of his father's death on his tenth birthday
 - January 1943** – Graduated from 8th grade, Public School 44
 - 04 February 1947** -Graduated Curtis High School
 - 1947 – 1949** – Attended Fordham: University and worked on Wall Street
 - May 1949 – June 1957** – Attended seminary in Ossinging NY
 - 14 June 1958** – Ordained a Maryknoll priest
 - 1958 – 1965** – Served as missionary in Taiwan and Hong Kong
 - 28 December 1965** - Commissioned in U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps
 - 16 March 1966** – Arrived for training in Newport RI and Camp Pendleton, CA
 - Holy Week 1966** – Arrived in Vietnam
 - 30 April 1966** – Reported for duty and assigned to 1st Battalion 7th Marines
 - 03 July 1967** – Reported to 3rd Battalion 5th Marines
 - 04 September 1967** – Killed in action during Operation Swift
 - 07 January 1969** – Awarded Medal of Honor
 - 17 November 1973** - USS Capodanno commissioned
 - 21 May 2006** - Declared Servant of God
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Serving Others

Have you ever wondered how you can actually assist other veterans? After all, Catholic War Veterans is a VSO (Veterans Service Organization) and our main function is on of service, service to God, Country, Family. And, being veterans ourselves, we serve our fellow veterans without regard to race, color, gender, or religious beliefs.

One way to accomplish this is to volunteer at our local VA hospital or out-patient clinic. It is easy to do, and most cases, you can choose how you want to assist. Miss Roberts and I volunteer at the hospital two or three times a week on the main information desk. When a person asks where a specific clinic, doctor, service is located we try to point them in the right direction.

Think about it. If interested, contact the hospital volunteer services.