



# Catholic War Veterans of the USA

## Father Vincent Capodanno Memorial Post

### *To Heal, Serve, Love, Listen*

Fifteenth Edition

est. 11/24/2015

July 2017



Father Vincent Robert Capodanno, M.M.

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### MEETING NOTICE

**NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup> AT 7:00 PM**

**At Our Lady of Mercy Country  
Home**

**2115 Maturana Dr.  
Liberty MO**

### WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

I believe I had mentioned in a past newsletter about sending Thank You letters to all our Catholic Chaplains. The letters are somewhat simple, but they express our appreciation to all of them for their service to our military. Those of us, especially those of us who were ever deployed know just how important a Chaplain can be, even if we were not in harms way.

Personally, I was never in combat, but was on a ship that support out ground troops in Vietnam. Being away from home for long periods of time was not easy and the few visits from the Navy Chaplain meant a lot to all the Catholic sailors on my ship. I can't begin to imagine what it means to those in combat.

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### MEMBERSHIP DUES

As mentioned in our last newsletter, it is now time to renew your membership. I ask all of you, those who are not life members, to please mail your dues to us as soon as possible. If the proposed increase passes at the convention, the post will lose five dollars per regular member.

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### CONVENTION NEWS

We are getting closer to the National Convention to be held in St. Louis. The plans for our night of hosting the hospitality room are in the works. We are planning on serving pulled pork sandwiches and meat balls along with a veggie tray and chips and dip. The pork with be

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prepared before we leave and frozen then all we have to do is heat it up and serve it. We will probably purchase everything else in St. Louis. Our post is allotted five votes. Ann Roberts and I cannot be delegates among the count for the post. We are both national officers and have one vote each. At least it does not take away from the post's count. But I need to know who is planning on attending the convention so I can make out the list of delegates. So far we have one, maybe two attending that I know of. If you are planning on attending, especially one of the last couple of days, let me know so I can put you down as a delegate.

There are a few resolutions that are going to be voted on. I have already talked about the dues increase above. Another resolution for changing the bylaws reads as thus:

**Each Department or Post without Department, including the National Headquarters Post, shall not be entitled to suffrage in any convention or election meeting, EXCEPT: (a) where each Department or Post including any Post without Department has delegates physically present, proxy votes will be allowed only for their unit including unit rule voting where members of that unit are present; (b) the delegate of the Department or Post, physically present, and a member of said unit, shall be entitled to cast his or her own vote, plus any proxy votes from their unit; (c) each Department Headquarters Post shall have suffrage in any Department Convention or election meeting. The Department shall be the judge of the vote allowed its Headquarters Post.**

Most of the other resolutions mainly pertain to language in the constitution and bylaws like adding wording like "or she/her" where before only stated "he or him."

We will discuss all of the proposed changes at our post meeting on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**IMPORTANT**

**One last thing about the convention! I will be giving a power point presentation on the Catholic Center in downtown Kansas City for the new location of our national office. Every one think of reasons why Kansas City would be the ideal location for headquarters to move here. Please send your suggestion within the next two weeks so they can be added to the presentation. The best ideas will be used and will be in next month's newsletter.**

**The new location is supposed to be voted on during the upcoming convention. So the more positive suggestions and ideas we can present to the convention body the better.**

**The Move**

Do you believe in miracles? Our post's namesake, Father Capodanno, is on his way to be canonized. What I ask every member is to say the Capodanno prayer every day that the convention decides on Kansas City for the move. Here is the prayer:

**Almighty and merciful God, look with love on those who plead for Your help. Through the intercession of your servant, Father Vincent Capodanno, missionary and Catholic Navy Chaplain, grant the favor I earnestly seek, that if it be Your will, our national headquarters moves to Kansas City. May Vincent, who died bringing consolation to the Marines he was privileged to serve on the field of battle, intercede in our need as I pray in the name of Amen**

We are making a poster board display on Kansas City that will be placed on a table outside of the room where the convention sessions will be held for all to see.

**SICK CALL**



Post members and family Sick Call! Please pray for these persons recovery \*Herrmann Schmidt - Recent hernia surgery, and Tom Maschler who is recovering from an infection. If any other person IS ill, please let the Commander know as soon as possible.

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**A BIT OF CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS HISTORY!  
Remembering our chaplains - Catholic Chaplains to be specific**

From an article 02/15/1999 in the--The Catholic Sentinel is the oldest Catholic newspaper on the West Coast. Established in 1870, it has long played a vital and bolstering role for the Catholic community. The Catholic Sentinel is published twice monthly by Oregon Catholic Press, and is the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Portland.

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With all the military activity from the gulf war now in prominence and the recent departure of Dominican Father Edmund Ryan from the pastorate of Holy Rosary Parish to join U.S. Navy chaplains, a salute to America's chaplains seems timely.

We can be proud that priests such as Father Ryan have responded to the needs of our armed forces in the Persian Gulf. However, it seems that the scarcity of priests in our communities is impacting our troops as well.

The New York Times reported this week that although 20 to 30 Catholic chaplains are authorized for each Army division, or about four per brigade, one chaplain lamented, 'You'd be lucky if you have two Catholic chaplains for an entire division.'

A recent search for a Catholic chaplain by an Army field medical unit which is charged with evacuating battlefield casualties went on for weeks and led to the name of a 46-year-old priest who was in residence at a Kentucky seminary. He was a member of the state national guard and had never been activated for a natural disaster, let alone a war halfway around the world, the Times noted.

The role of chaplains is important yet oftentimes unheralded. That is changing.

Not long ago, a monument honoring 83 Catholic priest-chaplains who gave up their lives in recent wars was dedicated at Arlington National Cemetery. That includes one who died at Pearl Harbor, eight who died on a Japanese prisoner-of-war ship in January 1945 (among them Oregon's Father Richard Carberry), and Father Richard Washington of 'Four Chaplains' fame, who lost his life in the Feb. 3, 1943, sinking of the troopship Dorchester off Greenland, now 48 years ago.

The monument honors 70 Catholic chaplains who died in World War II, six in Korea, and seven in Vietnam, with two of them being Congressional Medal of Honor winners.

In addition to Father Ryan, at least two other priests from Portland - Lt. Col. D. Bruce Brown and Col. Dennis Dwyer, both with the Air Force - are on active military duty. This might be a good time to include them and all chaplains in a prayer for their safety and successful religious work with our servicemen. And that there may be enough to minister to those in need. Of course, lets also remember our very own Servant of God-Catholic Chaplain, name of our post-Fr. Vincent R. Capodanno, MM, Memorial Post 1974.

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**FOR YOUR INTEREST, AND OUR POST PRAYS FOR..!**

The work of chaplains is not confined to the chapel. They go wherever their people are—in a tent in the desert, on the deck of an aircraft carrier, in the barracks on base, on a fire-fighting line, in the VA hospital, in the halls of the Pentagon. Because military service requires extraordinary sacrifices of those who serve and their families,

chaplains strive to make themselves available and present, day or night, to offer guidance, education, and direction on Church doctrine or simply to listen. Through their words and actions, they provide a place where those in the military can take comfort in and draw strength from the sacraments and reflect on the responsibilities and challenges they have taken on to protect their fellow Americans.

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**Convention News**

**Tentative Schedule – Subject to change  
Monday August 7**

9:00 am Morning Prayer Ambassador 1-3  
9:15 am Mass Ambassador 1-3  
Breakfast on your own after Mass  
11:00 am Convention Corporation Presidential Parlor 6th Floor

**Tuesday August 8**

7:15 am Morning Prayer Ambassador 1-3  
7:30 am Mass Ambassador 1-3  
Breakfast on your own after Mass  
10:00 - 11:00 am National Directors Meeting Ambassador 1-3  
10:00 - 11:00 am CWVA Directors & Treasurer Ambassador 2-4  
11:00 - 12:00 pm Delegate Registration Open Outside Meeting Rooms  
12:00 - 1:00 pm Resolutions Committee Presidential Parlor 6th Floor  
1:00 - 2:00 pm Constitution/By-Laws Committee Presidential Parlor 6th Floor  
1:30 - 4:30 pm Delegate Registration Open Outside Meeting Rooms  
2:30 - 3:30 pm CWV Dept Commanders Meeting Presidential Parlor 6th Floor  
1:30 - 2:30 pm CWVA Dept Presidents Meeting Sue's Room - TBA  
7:00 - 11:30 pm Hospitality room open

**Wednesday August 9**

7:15 am Morning Prayer Ambassador 1-3  
7:30 am Mass Ambassador 1-3  
Breakfast on your own after Mass  
8:00 -9:00 am Delegate Registration Open Outside Meeting Rooms  
9:00 - 10:00 am Pre-Convention Board Meeting CWV in Ambassador 1-3  
CWVA in Ambassador 2-4  
**10:15 am - 12:00 pm Convention Business Sessions**  
CWV in Ambassador 1-3  
CWVA in Ambassador 2-4

12:30 pm Bus for Arch Trip loading - bus leaves at 1:00 pm

7:00 -11:30 pm Hospitality room open

**Thursday August 10**

**7:15 am** Morning Prayer Ambassador 1-3

**7:30 am** Mass Ambassador 1-3

Breakfast on your own after Mass

**8:00 - 9:00 am** Delegate Registration Open

Outside Meeting rooms

**9:00 - 10:00 am CWV/CWVA Joint Session**

**Ambassador 1-3**

**10:30 am Convention Memorial Service**

**Ambassador 1-3**

**11:15 am - 12:30 pm Convention Business**

**Sessions**

Resume

CWV in Ambassador 1-3

CWVA in Ambassador 2-4

**Thursday August 10 (cont.)**

1:00 pm Chaplains & Commander Luncheon Ambassador 5

National President Luncheon Ambassador 6

**2:30 - 4:30 pm Convention Business Sessions**

**Resume**

CWV in Ambassador 1-3

CWVA in Ambassador 2-4

**5:00 pm Bus Loading for Baseball Game**

**7:00 - 11:30 pm** Hospitality Room Open

**Friday August 11**

**7:15 am** Morning Prayer Ambassador 1-3

**7:30 am** Mass Ambassador 1-3

Breakfast on your own after Mass

**8:00 - 9:00am FINAL** Delegate Registration Outside

Meeting Rooms

**9:00 am - 12:00 pm Convention Business**

**Sessions**

CWV in Ambassador 1-3

CWVA in Ambassador 2-4

12:00 - 1:30 pm LUNCH on your own

**1:45 - 5:00 pm Convention Business Sessions**

**Resumes**

CWV in Ambassador 1-3

CWVA in Ambassador 2-4

**7:00 - 10:30 pm** Game Night Room TBA

**8:30 - 11:30 pm** Hospitality Room Open

**Saturday August 12**

Breakfast On Your Own

NO MORNING PRAYER OR MASS

**9:00 am - 1:00 pm Convention Business**

**Sessions Resumes**

CWV in Ambassador 1-3

CWVA in Ambassador 2-4

Final Business Sessions will include:

Election of CWV & CWVA National Officers

Installation of newly elected CWV & CWVA Officers

Closing of CWV & CWVA Conventions

Post-Convention Meeting for CWV & CWVA

Transition Meeting of Newly Elected Officers

1:00 pm Convention Corporation Meeting

Ambassador 1-3

4:00 pm Convention Memorial Mass Ambassador

1-3

**6:00 - 11:00pm** Cocktail hour and Banquet Room

TBA

Sunday August 13

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME – SEE YOU NEXT

YEAR!

Those items above that are bold print are the important parts of the convention and as you can see, the general sessions really don't begin until Wednesday morning. I would imagine that the Wednesday session will consist mainly of department commanders and officers reports. So, if you are planning on attending the convention Thursday, Friday, and Saturday would be the important days, especially Friday and Saturday.

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**VAVS**

VAVS- In our local Missouri Veteran Administrations (VA) Medical Centers, and Veteran Homes there are always a need for volunteers in various capacities. Once a month one can drive a veteran-(or family member and veteran) to a medical facility, donate goodies, etc. Catholic War Veterans, USA, Inc. Post 1974 can and probably do many of these volunteer functions. Maybe, some of us volunteer with AMVETS. IF YOU or a family member does such volunteer, please PLEASE let the Commander or Welfare Officer know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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**MAVO**

Catholic War Veterans of the USA is in the final stages of becoming a member of MAVO, Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations. Miss Ann Roberts has been working on this ever since our post was chartered in November of 2015. We should be hearing within in the next couple of weeks. Once we are members, we will be able to bring you firsthand information concerning pending legislation pertaining to our fellow veterans and veteran issues.



July 2017

Dear Friends of the Cause for Father Vincent Capodanno's Canonization:

Here's a brief update of important upcoming events for your consideration.

**SAVE THE DATE & RSVP- Annual Memorial Mass for Father Vincent Capodanno**

- This year's anniversary celebration of the Memorial Mass for Father Capodanno marks the 50th year since Father's heroic death on a Vietnam battlefield.
- Due to the expected attendance at this milestone celebration, your RSVP with your reservation before August 4, 2017 is critical for the Guild to be able to comfortably accommodate all participants.
  - o Mass Date | Time: Tuesday, September 5, 2017, 6:30pm.
  - o Location: The Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Michigan Avenue, NE, Washington, DC.
  - o Celebrant: His Excellency, the Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, main celebrant and homilist.
  - o To ensure your seating, please RSVP by contacting Mary Preece before August 4, 2017 at:
    - Email: [mpreece@milarch.org](mailto:mpreece@milarch.org)
    - Phone: 202-719-3642

**Documentary Update-** Progress on the documentary remains on schedule, thanks to your continued generosity.

- The combat recreation of Father Capodanno's last day with his Marines in Vietnam was filmed in California during June 1 to 5, 2017. Several of the Marines who were on the battlefield with Father that fateful day were on location to train the actors, ensure the authenticity of scenes, and to share in meaningful friendships with the dedicated cast and crew.
- Before August 15<sup>th</sup> the final cut of the documentary will be reviewed by the Guild Board and EWTN .
- **Spotlight: Father Vincent Capodanno Documentary-** On August 30, at 8 PM, during a special episode of EWTN Live, Fr. Mitch Pacwa will discuss the documentary, titled, "Called and Chosen," with George Phillips, Guild Chairman, Mary Preece, Vice-Postulator for the Cause, and Producer, James Kelty. The discussion will be followed by a showing of the documentary, which will also air on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, and again on Veteran's Day.
- Stay tuned for notice of when you can purchase the documentary through the Father Capodanno Guild website.



Actor portrayal of Father Vincent Capodanno

Share the "Good News"- A special "Thank you" to those who volunteered to share details of Father Capodanno's life and the Cause for his Canonization through group presentations throughout the USA. After this year's Memorial Mass on Sept. 5, 2017, the Guild will finalize details to help you become comfortable with the presentation process, and contact you with additional information. To express interest in becoming a Presenter, email to [ahholland3@comcast.net](mailto:ahholland3@comcast.net).

Email Address Update – Please help us to continue to best utilize your contributions to further Father Capodanno's Cause for Canonization by sharing your email address with us at [ahholland3@comcast.net](mailto:ahholland3@comcast.net).