



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

Forty-Ninth Edition

est. 11/24/2015

March 2020



Father Vincent Robert Capodanno, M.M.

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Something to Think About

MEETING NOTICE

Due to the present Coronavirus epidemic and necessary precautions advised by medical professionals, **ALL FUTURE MEETINGS OF CWV POST 1974 ARE CANCELLED.** When it is deemed safe for all involved, we will continue with our monthly meetings. Be safe, and God bless you all.

DUES

For Catholic War Veterans, our membership year runs from October 1st until September 30. So for,

this membership year shows that we are nine members who have not renewed. If you are one of the nine, I urge you to please renew as soon as possible. If you cannot pay, for whatever reason, let me know, and arrangements will be made. Just make your check or money order for \$30.00 out to CWV Post 1974 and sent it to CWV Post 1974 at the address above. Thank You

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I copied this from Facebook the other day and it is something to think about.

In regards to COVID-19, it's not about me.

I really let anything stop me, BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT ME.

I am cancelling my spring break trip to New York. I am not afraid of getting the virus myself, although it is very possible, BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT ME.

I deserve my trip, I have worked really hard, BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT ME.

This would have been my first time to go to New York alone without the agenda of other people, I was so excited, BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT ME.

I spent a lot of money on this trip that I will not get back, BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT ME.

I do not have a weakened immune system, BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT ME.

A New York doctor friend told me cases are doubling every day. A ticket taker in a Broadway theater was just diagnosed. You just don't know. Am I in panic mode ... No, BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT ME.

If I were exposed and pass it to my baggage handler who is caring for an elderly parent, IT IS ABOUT HIM

If I were exposed and pass it to my uber driver whose wife is undergoing chemo, IT IS ABOUT THEM

If I were exposed and pass it on to my sister, a teacher in Cape Girardeau who is watching my dog. IT IS ABOUT THE PEOPLE IN HER TOWN AND THE STUDENTS IN HER SCHOOL.

If I were exposed and pass it on to one or many of my students who then may be quarantined, IT IS ABOUT THEM.

IS THIS PANIC MODE? NO! IT IS BEING SMART, NOR FOR MY OWN SAKE BUT FOR THE WORLD BECAUSE IT IS NOT ABOUT ME.

Think about it.

St. Patrick

The heroics of St. Patrick are not appreciated as much as they should be. He is the first person in history to publicly condemn slavery, and one of the first leaders to champion the cause of equal rights.

There is much to celebrate on March 17. Fortunately, his writings, though slim, are eye-opening accounts of his life: Letter to the Soldiers of Coroticus and Confession reveal much about the man. Along with other sources, they paint a picture of his saintliness.

Patrick was born in Britain in the 4th century to wealthy parents. It is likely that he was baptized, though growing up he did not share his family's faith. He was an atheist.

When he was 15, he committed what he said was a grave sin, never saying exactly what it was; it appears it was a sexual encounter with a young girl. No matter, it would haunt him throughout his life.

At age 15 or 16 (the accounts vary), Patrick was kidnapped and enslaved by Irish barbarians. They had come to plunder his family's estate, and took him away in chains to Ireland. While a slave, he converted to Christianity, praying incessantly at all hours of the day. After six years, he escaped, and made his way back home.

His family thought he was dead, and with good reason: no one taken by Irish raiders had managed to escape and return. St. Patrick biographer Philip Freeman describes how his family received him, stating "it was as if a ghost had returned from the dead."

After he returned home, he had a vision while sleeping. He felt called to return to Ireland. This seemed bizarre: this is where he was brutalized as a slave. But he knew what Jesus had commanded us to do, "Love thy enemy." He was convinced that God was calling him to become a missionary to Ireland. So he acted on it, despite the reservations of family and friends.

Patrick became a priest, practiced celibacy, and was eventually named a bishop. Contrary to what many believe, he did not introduce Christianity to Ireland, nor was he Ireland's first bishop. But he did more to bring the Gospel to Ireland than anyone, converting legions of pagans, especially in the northern parts of the island.

His missionary work in Ireland has been duly noted, but his strong defense of human rights has not been given its due.

No public person before him had denounced slavery, widespread though it was. Jesus was agnostic on the subject, Aristotle thought it was a natural way of life, and neither master nor slave saw anything fundamentally wrong with it. Patrick did.

Though he did not invoke natural law specifically, he was instinctively drawn to it. He taught that all men were created equal in the eyes of God, and that the inherent dignity of everyone must be respected.

Patrick did more than preach—he lashed out at the British dictator, Coroticus, harshly rebuking him for his mistreatment of the Irish. In fact, Patrick found his Irish converts to be more civilized than Coroticus and his band of thugs.

Patrick was way ahead of his time in the pursuit of human rights. Not only were men of every social status entitled to equal rights, so were women. In his Letter to the Soldiers of Coroticus, he scolds "the tyrant Coroticus—a man who has no respect for God or his priests." More important, he made a startling plea: "They must also free Christian women and captives." His reasoning showed the power of his faith when he said, "Remember, Christ died and was crucified for these people."

He did not mince words. "So, Coroticus, you and your wicked servants, where do you think you will end up? You have treated baptized Christian women like prizes to be handed out, all for the sake of the here and now—this brief, fleeting world."

What makes this all the more dramatic is the way the pagan world thought about women: the idea that women were equal to men was totally foreign to them. But the women understood what Patrick was saying, and gravitated to him in large numbers. The Christian tenet that all humans possess equal dignity had taken root.

Did the Irish save civilization, as Thomas Cahill maintains? Freeman thinks not—"it had never been lost." But everyone agrees that had it not been for St. Patrick, and the monasteries that followed, much of what we know about the ancient world would not exist.

Indeed, it is difficult to fathom how classical Greek and Roman literature would have survived had it not been for the Irish monks who attracted students from many parts of Europe. They are responsible for preserving the great works of antiquity. And all of them are indebted to St. Patrick.

It is believed that he died on March 17, sometime during the second half of the fifth century. That is his feast day, the source of many celebrations in his honor. His impact extends beyond the Irish and the Catholic Church—human rights are a

global issue—making him a very special person in world history.

This retreat is open to men and women of any denomination who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

Cost:

We simply require a \$30 deposit to register. That is the only cost to attendees. We host a variety of fundraising events throughout the year to offset the cost of holding this retreat.

SPACE IS LIMITED!

CALL 314-416-6400 TO REGISTER.

SICK CALL



**Please keep these members in your prayers:
Thomas F Maschler, Jr
Rachel E Johnson**

Blue Star Ceremony

As with the post meetings, the Blue Star ceremony scheduled for March 28th has been postponed until a later date, to be determined.

Veteran Retreat

Every year there is a weekend retreat specifically geared to veterans. Here is the information concerning this year's retreat:

What:

A retreat for U.S. Military Veterans featuring a series of talks focusing on issues pertaining to Veterans. Each talk will be followed by small group breakout sessions for attendees to share their own experiences related to the topics presented. We will also have worship services and quiet time for personal prayer and reflection. Attendees will each receive private accommodations at White House and all meals are provided.

Why:

The retreat will help veterans focus on their military experience and how God was with them and continues to be with them. It digs in to trauma created by PTSD and guilt and shame that can accompany military experience. It does require that participants be able to enter into quiet reflection and be able to listen to the experiences of others.

When:

July 1-3, 2020 (Wednesday- Friday). Check in is from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM on Wednesday July 1st and the retreat will conclude on Friday July 3rd after lunch (around 1:30 PM).

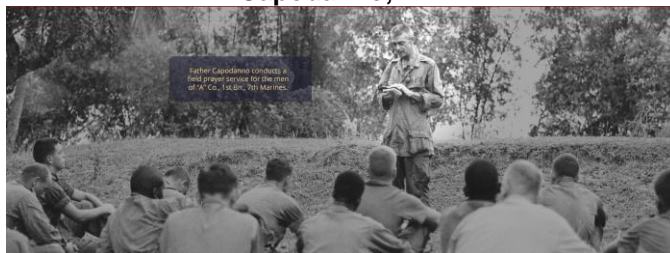
(Opening night dinner will begin promptly at 6 pm)

Where:

White House Jesuit Retreat- 7400 Christopher Drive, St. Louis, MO 63129.

Who:

Cause for the Canonization of Father Vincent Capodanno, MM



Recently received from the Guild:

Members – We have great news!! Our postulator in Rome has completed his review of Father Vincent's life works and has finished writing the Positio (the formal position). The Positio is being printed and will be formally submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints soon. Hopefully, it will agree and recommend a declaration of "Heroic Virtue" and bestowal of the title "Venerable Servant of God" to Father Vincent by the Holy Father.

This stage of our Cause is nearing completion as is our 2020 Lenten journey. Father Vincent endured the battlefield and died because he cared so strongly for the souls of his Marines – a dim but true reflection of our Lord's death for all souls. In our humble opinion, the parallel is striking.

What's next? In Rome, it will be consideration of a miracle submitted by the Diocese of Palm Beach, FL. Locally, we need to push hard to get a Veneration Chapel ready. Board Member Don Campbell will be meeting with the AMS staff to further refine our estimate in mid-March, but we already know that making an appropriate chapel will be expensive. We will keep you informed as this important project progresses.

Please know that we would not be at this stage without your generous support and that we pray for your intentions through the intercession of Servant of God Father Vincent Capodanno each day.

God bless your Lenten Journey,
The Guild Board of Directors

You can imagine that the cost of this is tremendous. So, any help would be greatly appreciated. What I am asking is that if you are active in a Knights of Columbus

Council to ask if they would donate some money for this cause. If they agree, and amount, the check(s) should be sent to:

Father Capodanno Guild
Address: 1025 Michigan Ave NE,
Washington, DC 20017
Phone: (202) 719-3642
Web Site:
<https://www.capodannoguild.org/>

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WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Things seem to be going crazy right now. You watch the news and it all seems like gloom and doom. Every place where people used to gather is closed, schools are closed, even churches are closing. In our diocese, our bishop has advised even Masses be limited to ten or less people.

Many of us are considered high risk due either to our health status or age. In my family there are three adults and one teenager that are considered high risk. So, we are pretty much in a self-quarantine. We have been avoiding crowds, we have our groceries delivered, and travel is at a minimum.

So, just what can we, as common folk, do? Let's start a buddy check. Make a list of all those you know who may be high risk, those over 65, those with a history of lung problem or cancer, those with very young children, etc. Give them a call at least once a week or more and see if they are OK or if they need anything.

Since most parishes have cancelled public Masses, and, while our bishop has granted a dispensation from mandatory Mass attendance, we still must remember that Sunday is to be holy, God's day. Several parishes are live streaming their weekday and Sunday Mass on Facebook or you tube, and there is EWTN also. Last Sunday was the first time I actually attended (viewed) a Mass on EWTN via TV. It was different, a lot of Latin. It did bring back memories of my childhood as an altar boy and having to know all the responses. But, most of all, we must PRAY. Pray for our families, our friends, those already infected those who are caring for our elderly and sick, our Bishop, priests, deacons, and religious.

Prayer to Obtain a Favor Through the Intercession of Father Vincent R. Capodanno, MM

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. May Vincent, who died bringing consolation to the Marines he was privileged to serve on the field of battle, intercede in my need as I pray in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.