



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

Eighth Edition

est. 11/24/2015

October 2016



Father Vincent Robert Capodanno, M.M.

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**NEXT MEETING IS**  
**WEDNESDAY November 2nd**  
**AT 7:00 PM**  
**At Our Lady of Mercy Country**  
**Home**  
**2115 Maturana Dr.**  
**Liberty MO**

**New National Officer**

On October 15, 2016, our post commander, John F. Kopp, was sworn in as National Director 3 year of the Catholic War Veterans of the USA.

This appointment can be extremely important for several reasons. First of all, being our post commander, I will represent our post, meaning what is decided on and/or discussed during the national board meetings will be will be reported to our members. No more secrets or left in

the dark. Also, I will be the only board member that comes from a post that does not belong to a department or chapter. We presently belong to the only post in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska. There are several post in the same position and most times information from the National Office does not filter down to these posts. And, finally, I can push harder to get the national office to consider more seriously moving to the Catholic Center, downtown Kansas City. It is time that our wonderful organization begins to realize that there are thousands of Catholic veterans west of the Mississippi and we must begin to serve them, also.



Installation of Post 1974 Commander John F. Kopp as National Director 3 Year. Vicar General Fr. Charles Rowe holding the bible, Commander Arminda Crawford administering the oath to John F. Kopp

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**What We Do**

I have been asked several times what our post does. When you stop and think about it we each have our ministry. As a post, we are reaching out to veterans all over our diocese and beyond by participating in Veteran Fairs, Stand Downs, wearing our shirts and caps with our patch on it and, when asked, talk about the CWV and what we stand for and what we do. But, each individual has his or her own ministry. For me its serving at Our Lady of Mercy, interacting with the residents, holding communion services, and assisting at Sunday Mass, plus being Aumonier (chaplain) for the Grand du Missouri and Voiture 1379 of the 40&8 and Chaplain for District Three of the Department of Missouri of the American Legion. For Vernon, he works with hospice and ministers to those in their final days before going to their real home, Our chaplain, Father Richard, works in the prisons, bring the Word of life, love and compassion to inmates and shares with us many experiences. Ann serves her parish by teaching in the school of religion and working with the special needs children, plus too many other things to mention here. Tammy serves her parish with those in physical therapy and helping those dealing with divorce and bereavement. Patrick serves by working at the VA hospital and interacts with other veterans on a daily basis. Tom and Dirk are active in the Knights of Columbus serving many various needs. Robert is in various organizations and passes along the word and is busy with us working on our upcoming National Convention. As a post, we are in the process of attempting to get the addresses of as many active duty chaplains so we can begin a program of sending them "thank you" cards and words of support, We are also gearing up for the Christmas Poster Contest and other children activities. These are just a few of the ministries performed by just a few of our members; We have members all over our state as well as in Kansas, Iowa, and Alabama. All these things mentioned above are not intended to boast about what we are doing, but it is go give people and ideal what our post as a whole does. Most of what we do is alone, quietly, and for our fellow veterans, their families, and our community.

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**Father Capodanno Memorial Mass and Ceremony**

On a warm Saturday afternoon, October 15, 2016, friends, veterans, and members of the Father Vincent R. Capodanno, MM Memorial Post 1974 gathered at the Post Home of Post 1974, Our Lady of Mercy Country Home, together for a Memorial Mass and Memorial Ceremony honoring Servant of God Father Vincent R. Capodanno.

The main celebrant for the Mass was the Vicar General for the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph in Missouri, Father Charles Rowe. The con-celebrants were Rev.

Msgr. Ralph Kaiser, former Navy Chaplain, Rev. Kenneth Criqui, former Air Force Chaplain, and Rev, Richard Colbert, CPPS, Chaplain for Post 1974. Honored guests included Catholic War Veterans National Commander, Arminda Crawford accompanied by her husband George Crawford and Mr. Frederick Tanke, an eye witness to the events leading up to the death of Father Capodanno. Mr. Tanke was also the first person to recommend Father Capodanno for the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Following the Mass, Commander Crawford, along with Father Rowe, installed post commander John F. Kopp into the national office of Director 3 year.

After a simple lunch, Commander Kopp began the memorial service with explaining the events involved in the post choosing its name of Father Vincent Capodanno, MM Memorial Post. Commander Kopp explained how he, and many other post members, truly believe that the Holy Spirit was very instrumental in the selection. Following the short introduction, Commander Kopp introduced Mr. Frederick Tanke who presented a very moving and emotional discussion on the final hours of Father Vincent Capodanno.

The ceremony concluded with Commander Kopp reading the names of all the Catholic Chaplains who had lost their lives during war time while on active duty concluding with the poem "Our Dead" and Taps, played by Gene Welch, of American Legion Post 95.

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**PRAYER to Obtain a Favor Through the Intercession of the Servant of God Father Vincent R .Capodanno, MM**

May God who has offered healing and strength through the hands of His Son, Our Lord, and through Christ's many servants grant me the favor of His healing hand through the intercession of His servant, Fr. Vincent Capodanno, priest, missionary, and chaplain, who always sought to heal and comfort the wounded and dying on the field of battle. May I be granted this request on my own field of battle, I pray in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

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**POST DUES**

Our membership year runs from October 1st through September 30th. It is get already past October 1<sup>st</sup>. So, for all who are not life members, when you have thirty dollars handy, please send it in and I will send you

your 2017 membership card. Just make your check out to CWV Post 1974 and send it to either me or to the post address:

**CWV Post 1974  
2115 Maturana Dr. #208C  
Liberty MO 64068**

For life members, you will not receive a new card. If you would like a printed card, other than the plastic card that you already have let me know. I would be happy to print you a yearly card. Thank you  
John

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### **Post Officers**

#### **Chaplain**

Fr. Richard Colbert, C.P.P.S.  
2115 Maturana Dr.  
Liberty MO 64068

#### **Commander**

John F. Kopp  
2400 NE 59<sup>th</sup> St.  
Gladstone MO 64118  
816-699-8719  
jfkopp@att.net

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**

Tammy Scott  
703 W. Jenkins  
Maryville MO 64468  
[scottmyt@netscape.net](mailto:scottmyt@netscape.net)

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander**

Vernon Hudspeth  
P.O. Box 7343  
Kansas City MO 64116

#### **Adjutant**

Robert Emery  
2115 Maturana Drive  
Liberty MO 64068  
remery18@comcast.net

#### **Treasurer**

Dirk Stapleton  
603 NE 97<sup>th</sup> Terr.  
Kansas City MO 64155  
[dirkastapleton@msn.com](mailto:dirkastapleton@msn.com)

#### **Historian**

Tammy Scott  
703 W. Jenkins  
Maryville MO 64468  
[scottmyt@netscape.net](mailto:scottmyt@netscape.net)

#### **Officer of the Day**

Thomas F. Maschler, Jr  
2115 Maturana Dr Apt 206A  
Liberty MO 64068

[rmaschler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rmaschler@sbcglobal.net)

#### **Welfare/Service Officer**

Patrick J Weitekamp  
. 5125 N. Lawn  
Kansas City MO 64119

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The Memorial Mass is over, now it is time to start thinking of our next big project, the Annual Keep Christ In Christmas Coloring Contest. Our post needs the help of every member to get the word out to all of the schools in our diocese. Last year just two people did all the work, and, for two people, it is a lot.

All that would be required from you is to take a list of schools, copy the entrance form and contest rules, and mail that information to the schools on the list.

When the entrants are received, it will take just a couple of people to judge them and select the best from each school, then the best over all to send to National.

Last year Hannah Storey from St. Elizabeth School in South Kansas City was awarded second place nationally.

We can do it again.

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### **Chaplains**

One other thing we would like to do as a post is to support our Catholic Chaplains who are serving our military. The main problem is obtaining their mail addresses. Just a "Thank You" card once in a while, Christmas cards, Easter cards, etc. So, once we can get some names and addresses, we will begin the project. Ideas are always welcome.