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

Eighty Eighth Edition

est. 11/24/2015

October 2023



Father Vincent Robert Capodanno, M.M.

**MEETING NOTICE**

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, November First** at 6:30 PM at our normal meeting place, Our Lady of Mercy Country Home, Tighe Lounge..

**DUES**

It is that time of year to renew our membership. Dues are still only Thirty dollars. Please think about renewing as soon as possible.

Send dues to:  
CWV Post 1974  
2400 NE 59<sup>th</sup> St  
Gladstone MO 64118

PRAYER FOR PEACE

God of Peace and Justice,

We pray for those caught up in the current violence in Ukraine.

We implore you for peace.

Holy Spirit, Our Consolation, comfort all those who fear.

Grant wisdom and discernment to those in power.

Holy Family, who fled to Egypt, guard all those who have sought refuge away from the land they love, and bring them safely home again.

Mary, Mother of us all,

cast your protecting veil around all suffering lands and peoples.

Turn all hearts back to your Son, our only Savior and the Prince of Peace.

Amen.

Report from our National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander on our Post's Father Capodanno Presentation.

Date: October 15, 2023

From: 2nd Vice Commander Stephen Leon, National Department

To: Commander Larry Wulf, National Department

Subject: EVENT REPORT - FATHER VINCENT CAPODANNO, MM, MEMORIAL MASS AND PRESENTATION

On Saturday, September 16, 2023, I attended the Father Vincent Capodanno, MM, Memorial Mass and Presentation at St. James Catholic Church in Liberty, Missouri. I was accompanied by Catholic War Veterans (CWV) National Adjutant Denise DeBlois of Manchester, New Hampshire and CWV Southwest Region Commander Susan Chavez of Del City, Oklahoma.

The event was planned, coordinated and facilitated by the members of CWV Father Vincent Capodanno, MM, Memorial Post 1974 (Liberty, MO). Post Chaplain Father Michael Volkmer, Post Commander John Kopp, and CWV National Welfare Officer Ann Puck, who was also the Post Welfare/Service Officer, were instrumental in the success of this event.

On Friday, September 15, 2023, the attending National Officers, Guest Speaker Ken Fields (U.S. Marine Corps and Vietnam War Veteran from Columbus, Missouri) along with a fellow Marine Veteran, and some members of CWV Post 1974 were treated by Gary and Ann Puck to a scrumptious dinner at the area-renowned Strouds Restaurant, "The Home of Pan Fried Chicken." The dinner provided the attendees with a pleasant opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of veteran fellowship before the next day's important events.

The memorial event was held at the stunningly beautiful, yet respectfully modern, parish with the full support of Pastor Father Michael Roach and Senior Priest in Residence Father Michael Volkmer, who was also the CWV Post 1974 Chaplain. At the beginning of the Mass, the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly provided an escort for the procession.

The Mass was celebrated by Vicar General Father Charles Rowe of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, who was assisted by an unknown Deacon, himself a military veteran. In his homily, Father Rowe spoke of the selfless service provided by Father Capodanno to Marines and Sailors on the battlefield, which ultimately led to his tragic death, and was consistent with Christ's commandment in John 15:13 to lay down one's life for his (her) friends.

Commander Kopp read the Prayers of the Faithful, and Welfare Officer Puck presented a portrait of Father Capodanno to Father Rowe, on behalf of CWV Post 1974. Father Rowe assured those attending, the portrait would be proudly hung up in the Diocesan Chancery. I had an excellent opportunity to converse with Father Rowe about his familial experience with military veterans. He provided me with his contact information and welcomed a future discussion about CWV growth opportunities within the Diocese.

Following the Mass, a luncheon and presentation by Mr. Ken Fields were provided in the Parish Center, located in the church's state-of-the-art basement. A parish ministry decorated the hall in patriotic colors and served the delicious Kansas City-style barbeque meal to the attendees. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Fields provided a riveting and highly-detailed account of the events leading up to and including the death and identification of Father Capodanno on that fateful day. The video slides were prepared with precision to promote an accurate understanding of the complex situation, and Mr.

Field's narrative made understanding the events possible for all, even those with no military experience.

In summary, the whole weekend, from the time I was picked-up at the airport by Gary and Ann Puck to the time I was dropped-off back at the airport by Gary Puck, the level of service provided by this particular post was first class. This trip was well worth it and represented a good investment on the part of the

CWV National Department. CWV Post 1974 is to be commended for their diligent efforts to honor Servant of God Father Capodanno and, in doing so, represent, with distinction, the entire CWV organization.

Respectfully Submitted

RESPECT - SERVICE - UNDERSTANDING

I was told of a couple of instances that has occurred to one of my close friends. He is a veteran, served as corpsman and medic during different combat areas and presently suffers from PTSD. Luckily, he is receiving treatment to help him cope.

He went to one veteran organization of which he is a life member and was treated like dirt. He took a veteran friend to a Stand Down and was treated like dirt.

There is absolutely no excuse for this type of behavior. If a veteran has earned an honorable discharge he or she has earned the right to be respected and to be served with respect. If you have ever judged someone of something he or she has done since discharge, no matter what it may have been, maybe you should look into why, or what caused, that person do to the act.

We are here to serve and honor ALL veterans.  
John

Minutes from Fr. Vincent R. Capodanno Memorial Catholic War Veterans, (CWV) USA Post 1974 Meeting- October 4, 2023:

\*Introductions/Greetings - those new and attending by Zoom - ( 2nd Vice National Cdmr.- Membership; Mark Nelson, Adjutant Quinn Knabe). Note: we are still having a little trouble with ZOOM, but, hopefully by next meeting issues resolved.

\*Opening Prayers, and CWV Opening Rituals;

\*Opening comments before reports and upcoming events:

1. Heartfelt Congratulations and thanksgiving for all who attended and helped prepare and initiate the Holy Memorial Mass for Fr. Vincent R. Capodanno, MM and Presentation by Mr. Kenneth Fields-(USMC). IF ANY MEMBER could not observe by livestream or participate- it's available on Capodannoguild.org, or simply contact Ann Puck- for a resource to watch both events that took place September 16, 2023 at St. James Catholic Church, Liberty, MO.

\*Reports: Treasurer- \$400.00-bank after donations and membership renewals; National CWV 2nd Vice Commander stated again how grateful he was at the Memorial Mass and Presentation, especially the dinner Friday and pick- up and take back to the airport- (Mr. Stephen Leon) who also stated that he was going to donate \$100.00 to the Post.

\*Report: Membership and then Children and Youth- ( writing letters to Chaplains, Military families activities, such as pen- pals, awards for essays and art, and Fr. Vincent Capodanno Patch. Those members with children or grandchildren can desire to participate.

Membership- Alternating meetings between Our Lady of Mercy Country Home and St. James-( hopefully); and Mr. Stephen Leon (2nd Vice- National- membership)working and networking with Fr. Charles Rowe- Diocese of Kansas City- St. Joseph (MO) Vicar General to network for fellow Catholic Veterans and Military persons in the Diocese.

\* Welfare/Service Officer- Veterans Standdown and Volunteering at the VA-( where ever the member lives. ( example- KCVA- Kansas City, MO). Standdown- Location-

Honor Annex-( KC,MO). October 13,2023-8:00-2:00pm. Call Ann to volunteer at VA- Or donate to the “Wish List” FOR veterans in need.

\*Report/Catholic Action and Military Action-Military- Veterans Holidays:

1. October 26th- Day of the Deployed- Donate items , collect items for Military Care Packages- similar to “Soldiers Angels,” contact Ann Puck, or online - Soldiers Angels- items. Collection for weekend of 21 October 2023; ( locally we the Post is aware of 16 military and Guard personnel. Contact Ann if know of Military personnel deployed in your community and- or Ann to locate a drop off location,etc. This INCLUDES- Veterans BUDDY Check- call and or cards.

2. Looking forward- Veterans’ Day-( November 12th at St. James Parish-( American Legion of Greater Kansas City) time: 6:15 to 8:00 pm. Please if like bring a snack, dish, goodies, etc. Beverage available. IF, you have another idea or Veterans Day event or idea, let the Commander or Welfare Officer-Ann know; FYI- DAV in conjunction with “Golden Corral” all over offers a FREE meal/Supper and spouse has to pay. Generally-\$7.00. \* 3. BEST and Good NEWS:

3. Fr. Vincent R. Capodanno Award is prayerfully being reviewed by the CWV Standards Committee- pray all!

4. Final, questions and answers- membership dues time, surprise for a new member, or- Family Member- Auxiliary.

\*Closing Catholic Military Service Prayers- including the prayer to God- canonization of Fr. Vincent Capodanno and 3 Hail Marys- isms of our times- by Fr. Michael- chaplain.

God bless,

Ann Puck