



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

Twenty-sixth Edition

est. 11/24/2015

June 2018



Father Vincent Robert Capodanno, M.M.

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY**  
**July 11, 2018 AT 7:00 PM**  
**At Our Lady of Mercy Country**  
**Home**  
**2115 Maturana Dr.**  
**Liberty MO 64068**

**Memorial Day 2018**

For the third year in a row Father Vincent Capodanno, MM Memorial Post 1974 was honored to commemorate Memorial Day by conducting the annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Mount Olivet Cemetery.

We started the day by attending the Memorial Day Mass, which was celebrated outside in 95 degree temperatures. I estimate about 100 faithful attended the Mass.

Shortly after the Mass we meandered toward the Veteran Memorial where we set up for the ceremony.



**Veterans Memorial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery**  
**Kansas City, MO**

We were honored to have Boy Scout Troop 214 from St. James Parish in Liberty MO. They did an excellent job in assisting with the ceremony.



We placed wreaths at both the Veterans Memorial and the First Responders Memorial.

After the ceremony we met with a fellow Navy Veteran who just happened to have served on the USS Vincent Capodanno.

### Across Our State

On May 28, 2018 there was a Memorial Day Service held at the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. Mr. Max Kaiser, Jr., member of Father Vincent Capodanno, MM Memorial Post 1974, CWV (OUR POST) represented Catholic War Veterans for the first time

Max joined our post last year during the national convention and made it a point to have CWV included in the ceremony.

Below in the list of all of the organizations that participated in the ceremony.

### INTER-VETERANS MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE COMMITTEE

#### MEMBERS AND PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| American Gold Star Mothers                                  | Military Order of Cooties  |
| American Gold Star Wives                                    | Military Order of The Purple Heart                                   |
| The American Legion & Auxiliary                             | Missouri Veterans Leadership Program                                 |
| American Merchant Marine and Navy Vets                      | Missouri Veterans Vigil of Honor                                     |
| The American Legion Riders                                  | Montfort Point Marines Association                                   |
| American War Mothers  | Navy Mothers Club of America   |
| AMVETS  | Ninth Missouri Battalion Sharpshooters                               |
| Ancient Order of Hibernians                                 | 101 <sup>st</sup> Airborne Division                                  |
| Armed Forces Museum of St. Louis                            | Paralyzed Veterans of America  |
| Blue Star Mothers   | Pearl Harbor Survivors   |
| ✓ Catholic War Veterans of America                          | POW/MIA Association  |
| China-Burma-India Veterans                                  | Royal British Legion, St. Louis Consortium                           |
| Civil Air Patrol  | Salvation Army   |
| Coast Guard Spars   | Scottish-American Military Society                                   |
| Commemorative Air Force – Missouri Wing                     | Seabee Veterans of America   |
| Daughters of The American Revolution                        | Sea Cadets   |
| Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War                | Sixth Infantry Division  |
| Desert Shield   | Society of Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army                        |
| Desert Storm  | Sons of The American Legion  |
| Disabled American Veterans                                  | Sons of Confederate Veterans   |
| 82 Airborne Division  | Sons of The American Revolution                                      |
| Enduring Freedom  | Sons of Union Veterans of Civil War                                  |
| Forty et Eight/Eight et Forty                               | Sons of Veterans Reserve   |
| First U. S. Regiment, War of 1812                           | South St. Louis Detachment, Marine Corps League                      |
| Fleet Reserve Association                                   | Special Forces Association   |
| Fourth Marine Division                                      | Submarine Veterans   |
| Fifth Marine Division                                       | Team Rubicon   |
| Friends of Fort Sam Carlos                                  | Team RWB   |
| Gateway Waves   | The Mission Continues  |
| Iraqi Freedom   | Third Infantry Division  |
| Jefferson Barracks Chapel Association                       | Thirty-Fourth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers Infantry, Turner Brigade |
| Jefferson County Veterans Wall of Honor                     | U. S. O.   |
| Jewish War Veterans   | United Daughters of the Confederacy                                  |
| Knights of Columbus Veterans Affairs Committee              | U. S. Navy Seabees   |
| Korean War Veterans   | Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary                                 |
| Marine Corps League   | Veterans of The Battle of the Bulge                                  |
| Military Officers Association of America, St. Louis Chapter | Vietnam Veterans of America  |
|   | Wells Fargo Rep-Vets   |
|   | Women Army Corps   |
|   | Women Marines Association  |

Out thanks goes out to Max. Thank You

### One Busy Weekend

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 7, 8, and 9 were pretty busy days. On Thursday, Ann Roberts and I started the day off by preparing for the Mid America 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Veteran Stand Down and then spent the afternoon volunteering at our VA Hospital.

Our time at the hospital is spent sitting at the information desk and directing Veterans to the clinic, doctor, room, patient, or wherever they wish to go. It isn't a difficult job, and is rather rewarding, especially when you can put a smile on a fellow veteran's face with a joke or two. What I usually do when a person comes to our desk is say, "Good afternoon, how may I misdirect you today?" Ninety-nine percent of the time I will get a smile. That makes the entire time there worth it.

Friday was the Stand Down. The doors opened to Veterans at 7:00 AM. That meant getting up and leaving the house at O Dark Thirty, driving to St. Michael's Vet Center, setting up our table, and wait for

the doors to open. Then talk to every veteran that passes by.



**Manning the information table at the Stand Down**

There isn't a lot we can directly do for these veterans except try to answer their questions and direct them to the agency that can and will assist them.

Saturday was a little more easy and relaxing. It was the annual Vet-2-Vet Veteran Fair, held in St. Joseph, MO. We didn't have to be there until 8:00 AM.

After getting our table set up. We were talking to the lady who organizes the event. During the conversation, she asked if we knew someone who could give the invocation. Miss Roberts immediately volunteered me. I really didn't mind since I am already chaplain as a couple of the organizations I belong to.



**The Invocation**

It was quite an honor for me to be asked. A little later on we were asked to assist the VA representative as he presented the Vietnam 50 year pin presidential proclamation.

The rest of the day was spent talking to veterans and the other agencies present. Our main objective is to show the flag, so to speak. So many people have not heard of CWV or Fr. Capodanno and are quite surprised when we give them the information. We also spread the word about the Honor Flight of Kansas City. We gave out quite a few applications.

Finally we can rest and then start preparing for the next event, which will be the annual Vet Salute, which is a lot of fun.

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**Our Post Home**



Since many of our members do not live in the Kansas City area, or close to Liberty, I thought it would be nice to show where we meet every month.

This is Our Lady of Mercy Country Home, a retirement community and assisted living community. The Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz own and operate the facility. I have been a volunteer there for over ten years and love and admire every one of the fantastic Sisters.

It is a beautiful facility and we are honored and extremely thankful to have this as our post home.

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**Veteran Retreat**

The Retreat originally scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> had to be cancelled due to lack of interested participants. We discussed a future date and decided on August 18<sup>th</sup>. It will be a one day event and will include Lunch and Dinner. I have included a flyer with this newsletter.

I believe it could be a very meaningful day for all and should be well worth your time. Please make plans to attend.

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**SICK CALL**



Bud McCay, Vernon Hudspeth

**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 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 7<sup>th</sup> Marines  
**03 July 1967** – Reported to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion 5<sup>th</sup> 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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**Coming Up**

Here are the activities, so far, for the upcoming year.

**Fr. Capodanno Memorial Mass – September**  
**One day Veterans Retreat- August 18**

**As the dates become available I will let everyone know.**

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**Prayer to Obtain a Favor(s) Through the intercession of Father Vincent Capodanno**

Almighty and merciful God, look with favor on those who plead for your help. Through the intercession of your servant, Father Vincent Capodanno, missionary and Catholic priest, grant the favor(s) I/we earnestly seek. May Vincent, who died bringing consolation to the Marines he was privileged on serve on the field of battle, intercede in my/our need(s) as I/we pray in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen

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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 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Public School 44
- 04 February 1947** -Graduated Curtis High School
- 1947 – 1949** – Attended Fordham :University and worked on Wall Street

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**On The Go**

It takes a lot of work and expense to put on a Veteran Fair and the outcome is always iffy. Finding a suitable location, contacting all of the participating agencies, advertising, etc. takes a lot of time and work. And if there is food involved, purchasing, preparing, and serving is tedious and expensive. Our post, still being rather small, help is always a problem.

During our last fair, we talked with the representatives from Catholic Charities. They received information about every Veteran Fair in the local area. So, we are going to partner with them and they will keep us informed as to when and where the fairs are being held so we can register and have our table set up at as many as possible.

At the fair last month, we picked up one new member and possibly two more. At the writing of this newsletter we presently have 33 paid up members with six members who still have not paid their dues for 2018.

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**Capodanno Speakers**

**Miss Ann Roberts and I are presently speakers for the Guild for the Cannonization of Father Capodanno. We are more than willing to give our presentation to any group. If you have a group of people who might be interested in the life and service of Father Capodanno, contact one of us to make arrangements. The presentation is free of charge. For areas outside of the Kansas City area, financial assistance may be needed. We are not paid for the presentation, and can possible travel throught the state of Missouri, depending upon circumstances.**

So, ask the various parish groups, Knights of Columbus Councils, or other groups that you think might be interested.

Contract either one of us:

John F. Kopp:  
2400 NE 59th St.  
Gladstone, MO 64118  
(816) 699-871

Ann Roberts, Service/Wellfare Officer  
1104 Pier St  
Liberty MO 64068  
(816) 469-0271

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### Veteran Honor Flight

For those of you who have never heard of Veteran Honor Flight, here is what it is all about.

In the Kansas City Missouri area there are two organizations, Heartland Honor Flight and Honor Flight of Kansas City. Each of these organizations, as a what to say "Thank You" for serving our country. What they do is take a group of veterans, fly them to Washington, D.C., then take them to many memorials throughout our Capitol.

I had the honor of going on one in October of last year. The day started out early in the morning at KCI aiorport with registration and breakfast – lots and lots of food and drink. We boarded an American Line plane reserved only for the veterans and flew to Reagan Airport in DC.

As we were taxiing to the gate we were met by two fire trucks who proceeded to give us a water canon salute. Then we boarded buses and it was off to the various memorials, WWII, Womens Musieum, a stop at Arllington Cemetery for the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with a front row view, Vietnam Wall, Korean War, Women Combat Nurses, Air Force Memorial, etc.

After a full day, it was back to the airport and our flight home. As we left the plane and endered the terminal, there was an aisle with hundreds of people there to welcome us home.

All of this is totally free of charge for the veteran.

I have applications for. If you would be interested, drop me a line and I will mail the applications to you.

# *A Veteran Retreat*

## *We Were Called to Serve Then and Now*

### *Come Explore How*

#### **Presented by the Veteran Retreat Team**

Fr. Ron Will, CPPS; Fr. Garry Richmeier, CPPS; Kathy Keary;  
VA Chaplain Windy Lovett; and veterans, Ann Roberts and John Kopp

The Veteran Retreat Team will present on the following topics: We are the Beloved of God, Dying and Rising, We are Called, and We are Sent followed by group discussion and personal reflection. The day will also include prayer and fellowship as we explore that as the beloved of God we are called and sent to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.



**Saturday, August 18th, 8:30 AM—6:30 PM**

**Suggested donation: \$40.00 (includes lunch and dinner)  
Scholarship Funds Available**

**Register by August 11th  
at [info@pbrenewalcenter.org](mailto:info@pbrenewalcenter.org) or 816.415.3745**



**PRECIOUS BLOOD  
Renewal Center**

a ministry of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood 

2130 St. Gaspar Way  
Liberty, MO 64068

[pbrenewalcenter.org](http://pbrenewalcenter.org)