

Sample short speech to be given before or after Mass

As you approach the Sanctuary, reverence the Altar/Tabernacle by bowing, then immediately come to attention and hand salute the American Flag.

Once at the Lectern (microphone), in a clear and slow voice state:

Speaker: **Good** (morning, afternoon, evening). **As Fr.** (Msgr., His Excellency {Bishop}, His Eminence {Cardinal}) **name** _____, **announced, my name is** _____, **and I am a Member of the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Post #** _____. (If you are an Officer of the local, state or national post, state this as well.) **Thank you, (title and name of celebrant _____), for this opportunity to speak to your congregation.**

Speaker: [*Emphasize*] **My purpose today is not to seek any funds, donations or to sell raffle tickets! Rather, I am here to recruit new members into the only Catholic organization of and for Catholic veterans.**

At this time ask for a show of anyone who wore or is currently wearing the uniform of any military branch of the USA to stand and be recognized.

Once they stand say:

Speaker: **I salute you and thank you for your service to the United States of America! Each and every one of you is eligible to become a member of the Catholic War Veterans, and your family members are eligible to join our Auxiliary. (YOU begin applause)**

Speaker: **Today, we live in most difficult times, especially the religious persecution of Christians and Christianity throughout the world. Our own government is attacking the Catholic Faith**

and slowly eroding our basic beliefs by skewing the facts we hold dear and sacred. The slaughter of Christians in countries the US Government supports with finances, arms and food but does not lift a finger to save these brothers and sisters of ours is deplorable. In our country “God” is being removed and replaced by the “Evil One.” We must stand together and defend what our Founding Fathers fought for. We must not let our faith or our country fall into the hands of those whose only intent is to destroy us.

Speaker: This is why I come before you today. Today has been designated as Catholic War Veterans National Recruitment Day across the United States and globally at all military posts and bases. The date was chosen for its proximity to the CWV’s Patron Saint’s Feast Day– St. Sebastian on January 20 and the CWV Auxiliary’s Patron Saint’s Feast Day – St. Agnes on January 21.

(If you are attempting to start a new post, add) It is my desire that a Catholic War Veterans Post be established here among you at _____ parish.

Speaker: In some areas we work in a very close partnership with the Knights of Columbus.

Speaker: I am certain you have many questions about the Catholic War Veterans, questions like “What is the CWV?” “What does it do?,” “What are the requirements in order to join?”

Speaker: I would love to spend the time addressing these concerns, but time restraints limit me to invite you to meet with me in (pre-determined location, back of church, church hall, etc.) where I have information and applications available that will answer these concerns. (Hold up application brochure)

Speaker: What is most important is a commitment to become a current day crusader warrior to defend our faith. While our arsenal does not consist of shields and lancers, or automatic weapons and ammunition, it does contain these – (hold up a Bible and a set of Rosaries.) We believe our strongest weapon is prayer. Our motto is “For God, For Country, For Home.” And we must set the example for the generations to come.

Speaker: Once again, thank you (title and name of celebrant _____) and you, the parishioners of _____, for allowing me to speak to you on behalf of the Catholic War Veterans. Please take some time to meet me after mass. God bless you and the United States.

Return to center of sanctuary, reverence the Altar/Tabernacle by bowing, then immediately come to attention and hand salute the American Flag.