

# ***CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS***

**OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY**

November, 2016

Bishop Protector Higgins, Msgr. Coyle, National Commander Crawford, National Board Members, Past National Commanders, Past National Chaplains and Fellow Department Commanders:

My report begins with a note of sadness as I recall the many accomplishments and achievements of Colonel John "Jack" O'Neil. Jack served our nation, our Church, his community and the Catholic War Veterans with distinction and dignity. We will always miss his passing and never forget his spirit and love of his fellow man.

Five and a half months into my second term as Commander, our Department continues to move in additional directions to make the Catholic War Veterans a more recognizable presence in the veterans' community of New Jersey.

We have maintained our association with Governor Christie's office and are attempting to establish a State Catholic War Veterans Office co-located with the offices of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Jewish War Veterans. We continue to participate in meetings at the East Orange Veterans' Administration Hospital and have worked with the Veterans Alliance of Raritan Valley in preparing for their annual Veterans' Day Parade. Our presence at the Menlo Park New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home has increase with more Posts conducting bingos or providing financial assistance and volunteer service hours. To support our "prolife" position, I have accepted a position as Board Member for a local Life Choices Center. Let us never forget our Catholic belief that life is precious from conception to natural death.

We frequently meet with representatives of the Apostolate for Military and Veteran Families of the Diocese of Metuchen and with the cooperation of a local Post provide some needed help to our active duty personnel at Joint Base MDL. We continue in our efforts to establish at least one, if not two new posts in the State, while working with the National Judge Advocate to clarify and determine the viability of a former post.

The Department of New Jersey has also participated in many more traditional religious activities (Blessed Miriam Teresa Mass and Commemoration, Memorial Masses, etc.); patriotic activities (Veterans' Day Parades, wreath laying ceremonies on POW/MIA Weekend, Veterans' Day, POW/MIA Commemoration Ceremonies etc.); fraternal activities (bingos at and visits to Veterans' Homes, local Veterans' Alliances, blood drives, etc.); youth activities (Eagle Scout recognitions, school programs, scholarships, etc.); as well as ecumenical activities.

Finally, we will encourage our Posts, through their Commanders, to continue and expand their patriotic, membership, youth, fraternal, and ecumenical activities. Working as a team, the Department of New Jersey will become a true force for Veterans and their families.

Respectfully submitted,

*Anthony J. Moskal*

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Commander  
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