

**CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY**

March, 2017

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

As we move into the spring of 2017, the Department of New Jersey continues to make the Catholic War Veterans a more recognizable presence in the veterans' community of New Jersey.

We continue to communicate with Governor Christie's office, as well as, other agencies to ensure that our organization does not become a step-child of the veterans' population in the State. Working with a local Assemblyman, we hope to have office space co-located with the other Veterans' Organizations at the State level.

Fortunately, we continue to work with a local veterans' charity (organized and funded by one of our posts) to provide the Veterans' Memorial Home at Menlo Park (a refurbished dining area to include lighting and seating), Veterans' Haven North (a refurbished residents' lounge), the Archdiocese for the Military Services, the Diocese of Metuchen Apostolate for Military and Veteran Families, the Chapel of the Four Chaplains, active duty personnel at Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst with additional funding to enhance their commitment to our Brothers and Sisters (commissary cards for Thanksgiving and Christmas, children's Christmas Party). We also plan to sponsor a number of multiply disabled children from the Joint Base with the opportunity to attend summer camp.

Since membership is a priority, we continue to work with the establishment of a new Post in the Department. Twenty-one individuals have expressed an interest in becoming members, so we continue to look for a suitable meeting place. Additionally, we will participate in a job/information fair at Joint Base MDL and information fairs at two other locations. The Department continues to place advertisements in the Diocesan newspaper which covers the central portion of the State. We hope to expand our outreach to the other dioceses in the coming year.

The annual Mass in memory of Fr. John P. Washington and the Chaplains of the U.S.A.T. Dorchester took place in February. Members of CWV Post #1612 provided the Honor Guard led by our own Frank Perrucci. Representatives of many Veterans' organizations were in attendance and as Department Commander, I was privileged to lead my brothers and sisters into St. Stephen's Church for the Mass. St. Stephen's (the last parish at which Fr. Washington served before being inducted into the Army) was also dedicated as the Archdiocesan Sanctuary of the Four Chaplains.

Our 81st Department Convention will take place at the Diocesan Center of the Metuchen Diocese. We hope to have the son of a U.S.A.T. Dorchester survivor as our guest speaker.

Finally, we will encourage our Posts, through their Commanders, to continue and expand their patriotic, membership, 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,

Tony

Anthony J. Moskal, Commander
Department of New Jersey