



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.

The Department of Ohio

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Columbus, Ohio 43215-254

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Reverend Father,

Greetings from the Catholic War Veterans & Auxiliary, Department of Ohio. We are sending this letter to every Catholic parish in the State of Ohio to acquaint (or reacquaint) the pastors in all six Dioceses with our organization – who we are and what we do for veterans and our Church.

The Catholic War Veterans (CWV) was founded at Immaculate Conception Parish in Astoria, Queens, New York in 1935. In May of that year, Pope Pius XI gave his Apostolic Blessing to the organization and expressed his support for our mission. The Department of Ohio chartered in 1945, and our Auxiliary followed in 1952. We are the only Congressionally Chartered veterans service organization that is religious in nature.

Our members love their faith and are proud of their service to our nation. We continue that service through our programs centered on Catholic Action, Americanism, Youth Activities, and Veterans Welfare.

Unfortunately, our membership is ageing and passing away. We need to gain new members to continue taking care of “*those who have borne the battle*” with a Catholic spirit. We are working towards starting new Posts and Auxiliaries in multiple parishes in Ohio. A new Post and Auxiliary can, and do, become an instant asset to the ministries existing within your parish. Our members are actively involved serving on Parish Councils, as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, members of the K of C, Holy Name, and CYO, among many others.

The Department of Ohio CWV needs your help, our Ohio pastors, in this endeavor. **We ask you to please insert a small notice in your parish bulletin during the month of September** advising your parishioners of the existence of the Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary and how they can contact us for more information. Your bulletin notice will augment our recruitment efforts as we will be advertising in all diocesan publications, on Catholic Radio, and in other Catholic and community outlets.

“*For God, For Country, For Home*” is not just our motto - it states our goal to serve veterans, and our civic and parish communities. More than ever, our nation needs a strong and vibrant Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary to continue serving all veterans and their families, regardless of their faith, for now and in the years to come.

Thank you for your kind attention to our request and this mailing. Please reach out to our Office in Columbus or any of us below with any questions you may have and when we may be able to visit your parish.

Yours in Christ,

Mike Blau
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Commander
Ohio CWV

John Milikas
216-407-0971
2nd Vice Cdr (Membership)
Ohio CWV

Rita Wulf
419-206-9275
President
Ohio CWV Auxiliary

Margie Gillingham
419-270-2816
2nd Vice Pres (Membership)
Ohio CWV Auxiliary

THE CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY

OUR CORE PROGRAMS

(SEE DETAILS ON BACK COVER)

Catholic Action ~ ~ Americanism ~ ~ Youth Activities ~ ~ Veterans Welfare



What Our Bishops say about the Catholic War Veterans & Auxiliary in Ohio:

Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr - *Archbishop of Cincinnati*

“Recently I had the opportunity to meet with the Commander of Ohio’s Catholic War Veterans (CWV). CWV is a fine organization that provides for the welfare of veterans and their families of all faiths. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with CWV Catholic Action Programs and how its members can serve in your parish ministries. I ask that you welcome their representatives to visit your parish and learn how CWV wishes to grow its membership to better serve veterans and the Catholic Church.”

Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic - *Bishop of Cleveland*

“Recently I met with the Ohio Commander of The Catholic War Veterans who shared with me news of the important work the organization is doing by serving all United States service members and veterans. Through their programs, the Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary promote patriotism and provide much-needed assistance to veterans and their families, regardless of a veteran's religious affiliation. I applaud the good works of the men and women of the Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary who tirelessly serve those who have bravely sacrificed so much in military service for our country. I encourage the faithful to learn more about the Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary and consider lending your support. Through the intercession of St. Sebastian, patron saint of the Catholic War Veterans, may God bless the work they do in assisting all U.S. service veterans, bringing the love of Christ to veterans and their families through their generous works of mercy.”

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes - *Bishop of Columbus*

“For decades Catholic War Veterans has been the heart and hands of Jesus to our veterans, regardless of their religious affiliation. I am grateful for not only their service to our beloved country, but their ongoing service to their brothers and sisters in arms. The work of the Catholic War Veterans truly contributes to “the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom” (CCC 2239).”

Most Reverend Edward M. Lohse - *Apostolic Administrator of Steubenville*

“I am pleased to know that Ohio is among the states in which the Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary are most present. The work that the Catholic War Veterans does on behalf of veterans of all faiths and their families, the involvement with Catholic Action Programs, and the other services and ministries undertaken in parishes are of great benefit to both the Church and our larger community. I am grateful not only for their past service on behalf of our country but also for their continued service to our brothers and sisters. I encourage pastors in the Diocese of Steubenville to welcome the Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary into our parishes and offer any support you are able to offer.”

Most Reverend Timothy J. Broglio - Archbishop of Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

“The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, actively supports the Catholic War Veterans USA. I have named one of my Auxiliary Bishops, the Most Reverend Joseph Coffey, as my delegate and I try to attend the national meetings, when possible. I am grateful for the activities of the organization and their advocacy for the welfare of veterans and their families of all faiths. Their involvement in Catholic action programs and their service to parishes are well-known. I would hope that pastors in my native state of Ohio will encourage members of the Catholic War Veterans to visit parishes and recruit new, younger members to favor the blossoming of the organization.

Most Reverend Joseph L. Coffey - Auxiliary Bishop of Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

I am currently serving as the Bishop Protector for the Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary. As a Veteran of the US Navy Chaplain Corps, I applaud this Ohio initiative to reach more of our Veterans to let them know how the CWV can serve their needs. I am very involved with these men and women and their outreach to veterans in Ohio, with direct knowledge of the good they are doing to provide for the needs of all Veterans, both Catholic and other faiths. I appreciate their reaching out to every pastor in Ohio and humbly request your allowing them to contact you and schedule a visit to your parish.

ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP



Catholic War Veterans

- Be a baptized Catholic
- Have served as a member of the US Armed Forces, to include Reserve & National Guard, for a period of 90 days or more of Active Duty
- Possess and Honorable Discharge or currently serving



Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary

- Be a baptized Catholic
- Be related to a veteran, living, or deceased within 2 degrees – parent, spouse, sibling, grandparent, aunt, or uncle. This can include step-relatives.

SAMPLE BULLETIN NOTICE — please run during the month of September

Catholic Veterans and Family Members: Did you know that there is a Veterans Service Organization just for YOU? The Catholic War Veterans & Auxiliary was founded in 1935. Membership is open to all honorably discharged Catholic veterans and their families (Active, Reserve, National Guard). **Wartime service is not required - just 90 days of active-duty service.** We advocate for and support all veterans, regardless of faith, through our programs of Catholic Action, Americanism, Youth Activities, and Veterans Welfare.

We are proud of our service, and we love our faith! We would like you to join us and continue serving “For God, For Country, For Home.” Ohio has 17 Posts, and we are looking to grow our service to veterans, our Church, and our communities in your parish / area. Contact us for more information:

Department of Ohio, CWV -- 614-221-7601 -- ohiocwv@sbcglobal.net -- cwvohio.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION TO OUR MAILER! The Department of Ohio Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary would be happy to schedule a visit to discuss our organization with your parishioners, and / or set up an informational table at weekend Masses. Please reach out to us to work out a schedule that works for you!



Catholic War Veterans
Of the United States of America
Department of Ohio
35 E. Chestnut St. #510
Columbus, OH 43215-2590

Dated Material – Do Not Delay



Catholic War Veterans & Auxiliary

----- On Overview of Our Programs

Catholic Action

Support of religious and military vocations; Spiritual Bouquet for the Pope; *Keep Christ in Christmas* themed events; encouraging devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the praying of the Rosary; Pro Life activities – March for Life, 40 Days for Life campaigns; Corporate Communion Masses and Breakfasts

Americanism

Promoting patriotism and honoring of our Flag; involvement with elections at all levels of government and voting; support of our troops

Youth Activities

Programs to prepare our youth to be good citizens and the leaders of tomorrow; coloring & poster contests, essay writing contests (local or national topic) and scholarship opportunities; sponsor athletic teams; active involvement in parish ministries for children – Life Teen, PSR, Parish Youth groups

Veterans Welfare

Provide resources and free service of accredited VA Service Officers to assist veterans in preparing and defending claims for VA benefits; volunteers for VA Medical Centers – transportation assistance, host patient parties; Care Packages for Active Duty and our hospitalized or homeless veterans; provide food and clothing; Honor Guards at funerals and burials; decorate graves with flags on Memorial Day and wreaths at Christmas; offer prayers and Masses; volunteer with USO and other veteran assistance and community organizations

Pastor / Parish Office Manager - See Inside for Important Information