



April 2019

Dear Friends,

Good news! Word of Father Capodanno and his Cause for Sainthood continues to spread far and wide. Requests for the DVD *Called and Chosen* continue at a pace of 5-10 per week. Many of these requests are from you!! Thanks so much for spreading Father's story – we cannot complete our Cause without you. Additionally, there are many other indications of support. A group at Archbishop Ryan High School in Philadelphia is sponsoring a website entitled "Prayers Unite the World" which enables prayer requests from religious groups around the world: www.prayersunitetheworld.org. The Father Capodanno Guild website is listed under "Communities, Causes for Sainthood". In February, a Staten Island track meet involving over 1,000 High School kids competing in ten races featuring "The Father Capodanno Mile" as the first race. On the right is a photo of the winners receiving a trophy from Gloria Holman, Father's sister.



Presentations to spread the word about Father Capodanno's virtuous life and heroic death occur frequently around the country and always receive enthusiastic and generous support. Bob and Nancy Giglio addressed the faculty and students at St. Anthony's High School on Long Island, NY where Mark Capodanno (a relative of Father's) is a teacher.

Mark Helms presented Father Capodanno's story on Veteran's Day to 40 students in the Youth Group at St. Aquinas parish in East Lansing, MI; and in December two Marine Corps JROTC groups of over 200 members at Michigan City High School, IA and River Rouge High School, MI (photo on left). In March Guild Board member Don Campbell addressed parishioners at St. Maria Goretti Parish in Hatfield, PA. Approximately 60 people attended, and over \$500 in donations were raised. Other Guild Board members, Father Dan Mode and Mary Preece collaborated at St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church in Fairfax VA, to describe their involvements with promoting the story of the Grunt Padre and his Servant of God status.

The signed, numbered lithographs of Father Capodanno provide another reflection of support and admiration. Many of the religious and military groups that are named in his honor have graciously donated the \$150 required to receive the portrait and are hanging it in their meeting places as a source of inspiration. Others have chosen to gift the portrait to their parish or chapel – a significant remembrance of Father's care for our faith. Portraits are still available for a contribution on line or by check.

Our next newsletter will provide an update regarding the "ACTA" required documents, that the Tribunal submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in 2017. In addition, there will be information about the annual Memorial Mass in September. Last year, our Guild's Board of Directors decided that we could not afford to pay EWTN to televise the Mass. We heard your disappointment and recognize the lost opportunity to use television to advance The Cause. Our Board has reconsidered and has decided to televise this year's Mass.



It is expensive - \$8000 to EWTN - all from Guild funds - but thanks to your continued support we are in a better fiscal position, and we know that you will continue to be there with us as we move forward. Please consider any additional assistance you can provide to help defray this expense.

During Holy Week 1966 Father Vincent Capodanno arrived in Vietnam to begin his ministry to the Marines. As we prepare to celebrate the gift of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross, may we be mindful of Father's demonstrated love for souls – a love that was so strong that he gave his life ministering to them – a reflection of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thank you all for your continued support and God Bless you and your families.

The Father Vincent Capodanno Guild Board



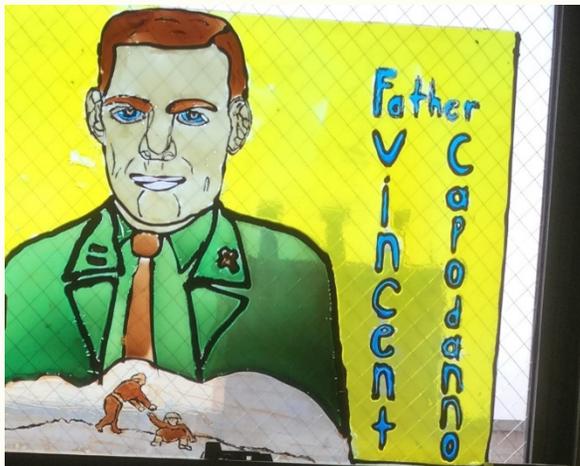
Reputation of Sanctity

A candidate considered for beatification and canonization must have enjoyed a reputation by a significant number of people of having reflected a virtuous life. This status or Fama is a spontaneous, stable widespread expression among trustworthy people and is one of the major criteria for the initiation of a Cause.

Since his death over fifty years ago, Father Capodanno has inspired enduring love and respect from thousands of people. They wish to honor his memory and have chosen specific and eloquent ways to honor the holiness that this man of God radiated in his lifetime and afterwards. In subsequent update newsletters, the Guild Board will provide the supporters of the Cause, our Guild membership, with such examples of his Fama.

Last year, fifth graders at St. Joseph Catholic Academy in Long Island City, NY conducted research detailing the process of canonization. After this initial investigation, each student was assigned a fellow New Yorker who is on the path to sainthood. Dressed in battlefield fatigues and a stole to portray Father Vincent Capodanno, M.M, one young man, presented to the audience of fellow students, staff and family members the life of The Grunt Padre. This event was featured on the Diocese of Brooklyn television news broadcast *Currents*.

The enthusiastic response by the Father Vincent Capodanno Guild led the members to expand the project this year, so sixth and seventh graders who are members of the Aquinas Society decided to continue interest in Father Vincent Capodanno by utilizing their individual talents. The artists created a coloring book explaining Father's life. The gardeners were able to successfully propagate coleus plants and had a very successful plant



sale for St. Patrick's Day; the students sent the money collected to the Father Capodanno Guild. And the composters plan to grow herbs which again will provide donations to the Guild.

The students are also currently preparing oral reports and creating different display boards which they will share at the end of the academic year. One of the creations, a stained-glass window of Father Vincent, will be at the exhibit when the artist team explains how they created this memorial piece and also the coloring book which they hope to publish.

In another elementary school just a few boroughs away on Staten Island, the students of St. Adalbert School will participate in an annual American History Exhibition in May. This year in an effort to promote patriotism and build faith among the Catholic community on Staten Island, they will share the story of Father Capodanno with the other 24 schools involved.

As the principal so powerfully stated, "We will continue to aid the Guild in its mission and are praying that Father Capodanno's Cause will be furthered in our lifetime. It is humbling to know that we walk the same streets in the neighborhood that Father Vincent did."