September 2026 - Chairman's Corner

Friends – I don't know about you, but my face is turning blue. I have been holding my breath and praying that Rome will complete their review of Father Vincent to determine that he is a Venerable Servant of God but the review continues, and we still do not know the outcome. I maintain: the fact that they are taking so much time is actually POSITIVE – if the outcome was negative, we would already know. So….let's discuss other things.

This has been an amazing three months with numerous events. We will only be able to cover a select few but the ones we are covering were truly impressive, and Father Vincent was represented at all of them. We hosted the Father Vincent Memorial Mass – with Archbishop Broglio delivering a powerful homily once again. We attended two events honoring American saints and those souls who have causes for canonization. One in Champion, WI, and one at the Seton Shrine in Maryland. Details of these and other events are below.

Please continue your prayers – we need them more than ever. You can access our novena at Novena for Father Vincent's Cause - Capodanno Guild.

God bless, Steve Stanley

Memorial Mass – 3 September:

This was an awe-inspiring celebration of Father Vincent's heroic life and chaplaincy that was streamed live on EWTN. Here is the YouTube link: Mass for Father Vincent. Archbishop Broglio's homily was powerful. Even if you heard it during the Mass, listen again. It starts at about 23:45 on the video. Recall that the Gospel reading was Luke 5:1-11 where Jesus tells Peter to "Put out into the deep and lower your nets…." Archbishop Broglio commented that the miraculous catch of fish that Peter hauled in was insignificant compared to the catch of souls that he would make in the future by preaching. He took this insight and used it to explain why we want Father Vincent's canonization, "We see in his example an opportunity to open ourselves to our full potential and to shatter the barriers that separate one from another. We long to see Father Capodanno raised to the altars—not because he needs the notoriety or something more lasting than the posthumous Medal of Honor. Rather we believe that his heroism, his authentic chaplaincy, his goodness, and his example will serve to build up the Body of Christ, inspire other chaplains, and draw all of us more easily into that heavenly company in the Kingdom of God." Doesn't that say it all?

Saints of America Event – Champion, WI:



Steve and Jean Stanley represented our Guild. The event was wonderful and included exhibits of 76 American Saints, Blesseds, Venerables and Servants of God. The estimate is that about 10,000 people attended and it resulted in a live interview about Father Vincent on Relevant Radio, the Mark Swartzberg Show. Here is the link: Relevant Radio Mark Swartzberg. Also, the Diocese of Arlington, VA picked up an article for their newspaper, the Catholic Herald: Arlington Catholic Herald Capodanno. Champion is the site of the only approved Marian apparition in the United States – perfect to reflect on our Grunt Padre.

Saints on Their Way Event – Seton Shrine MD:



Mary Preece, the Stanleys but more importantly, Father Mode (the author of The Grunt Padre) represented us. It is interesting that the Seton Shrine published a reflection about Father Vincent the day before this event: Seton Reflection Capodanno. The event attracted many folks who stopped by our table to learn about Father Vincent. Look at this photo. That young woman is seeing the chalice that Father Vincent used in Vietnam. Look at her eyes – they say it all. But even more than that, the event included two presentations by Father Mode about the early years of our cause's journey. Father opened the eyes of other causes to the path we walked with Father Vincent.

Spreading the Word about Father Capodanno:

- Father Mode blessed a new portrait of Father Vincent that was commissioned by Christendom College as a private gift. Although we will not be able to make it available, it is another example of Father Vincent's continued impact in our world.



- Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis who serves New York's 11th Congressional District (encompassing Staten Island) made a statement about Father Vincent on the House floor. Her ending is beautiful, "His last act did not create the man we honor; it revealed him." Don't you just love it when our leaders get it right? Malliotakis Honors Capodanno
- Dom Micillo and Father Mode gave a presentation to over 140 Naval Academy midshipmen during a Catholic Midshipmen Club Meeting. They loved the story of our Grunt Padre and got up for a sunrise run to honor him.
- Tom Draude gave a Father Vincent presentation at Brightview Assisted Living Facility in Alexandria, VA to over 20 residents.

Scheduling a Presentation:

Presentations about Father Capodanno's heroic life continue across the country. They are given in person or by Zoom. Speakers are all volunteers. These presentations spread the word about our Grunt Padre and help ensure continued visibility of his Cause for Sainthood. If you have a group that would like to learn more about Father Capodanno and his life, please contact the Guild through the website or Don Campbell at donald.b.campbell.jr@gmail.com.

Products that will help you spread the word:

- The Guild offers two sizes of the portrait of Father Vincent. The 9x12 lithograph is available for a minimum donation of $40. It is a meaningful gift which can be displayed in a home or smaller meeting space. The larger 15x22 lithograph, useful for churches, meeting halls and other public spaces, is available for a minimum donation of $75.
- *Called and Chosen*, our award winning DVD is available for a donation of $20, either as a hard copy or by on-line streaming via: https://www.capodannoguild.org/stream/.
- Two Challenge Coins: the smaller is 1.5 inches and the larger is 2 inches in diameter. They are $10 each.

Please go to http://www.capodannoguild.org/ to place your orders.

Product from steel-hearts.org :

Don't forget the memorial bracelet that honors Father Vincent. It is available from LT Vincent Robert Capodanno — Steel Hearts.