

**RITUAL**  
**OF THE**  
**CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS**  
**AUXILIARY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



**National Headquarters**  
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## **PREFACE**

The Ritual Book should be used as a reference guide on all echelons for conducting meetings, the installation of officers, services for a deceased member, memorial services and other rituals of the Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary.

It is also a source of information on the standardized uniform and the proper dress code for various occasions.

A copy of this book should be given to each person when they join our organization.

## RITUAL FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE MEETINGS of the AUXILIARY to the CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS OF THE U.S.A.

The Ritual of the Auxiliary to the Catholic War Veterans should be conducted with dignity.

The official Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary cap should be worn to all Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary functions. Whenever possible, the regular Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary functions. Whenever possible, the regular Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary uniform should be worn at all meetings, Masses, ceremonies, etc. (See section on Standardized Uniform.)

Once the meeting is open and the altar candle is lit, one should be careful never to approach the President's station or the altar on the side where American Flag is posted, for this is known as "**No-Man's Land**" in memory of the battlefield where our veterans fought and died.

If a member desires to be excused from the room while the meeting is in progress (except during a period of silence, during prayer or while members are being obligated) the member shall advance to the center of the room, render a salute and leave.

Upon entering the meeting room after the meeting has begun, the member should advance to the center of the room, in line with the altar, render a salute to the chair and after the salute is returned the member takes a seat.

The parts of the Ritual assigned a member should be memorized.

The charter of the Department, Chapter, or Unit may be draped in memory of a member deceased after the last meeting for a proper period determined by the echelon.

In the event of the death of a Past National President, the National Charter shall be draped until the next annual Convention.

Draping material (black and purple covers, bows, frame corners, etc.) should be kept with the ritual supplies.

A Military salute-fingertips of right hand touching center tip of cap – is proper when wearing the Auxiliary cap. The Heart salute is given by placing the right hand over the heart.

**CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**  
**PLAN OF AUXILIARY MEETING ROOM**

The meeting room shall be set up as follows:

**FRONT AT CENTER**

Chaplain   Secretary   President   Treasurer   Liaison Officer

**ALTAR**

Miniature Flags

Charter

Crucifix

Candle or Votive Light

Holy Bible

The Ritual Officer should be stationed at the door.

Officers/guest are escorted on the Ritual Officer's left arm in advancing the dais. When approaching the dais, one must **Never** cross in front of the American flag.

NOTE: Duly invited guests shall be seated at the direction of the President

## **CERMONY FOR CONDUCTING MEETINGS**

1. Opening and closing ceremonies of all echelons must be conducted according to the ritual.
2. Minutes should be recorded of all meetings, whether Regular, Special or Committee.
3. Committee meetings may be held informally. Opening and closing prayers must always be included.
4. The President should call the meeting to order with three (3) raps of the gavel.

## **OPENING CEREMONIES**

### **President:**

“The officers will take their respective stations. All persons not members of the Auxiliary to the Catholic War Veterans or duly invited guests, will please retire. Ritual Officer, are all present entitled to remain?”

### **Ritual Officer:**

“President \_\_\_\_\_ (name), the meeting is in order and I find all present entitled to remain (all members having shown their membership cards). If there are any visitors, the Ritual Officer continues: There are \_\_\_\_\_ visitors. (State the number of visitors.)”

### **President:**

By the power and authority vested in me, I am about to open this \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary Post Number \_\_\_\_\_ of the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A. for the transaction of any business that may be lawfully come before it. Ritual Officer, please present the visitors.”

The Ritual Officer escorts the visitors to the altar and introduces them. Care should be taken in making the introductions. The President instructs the Ritual Officer where the visitors are to be seated.

Upon three (3) raps of gavel by the President gives, everyone in the meeting room should stand at attention. The President continues: “Ritual Officer, prepare the altar and advance “the colors.” (Miniature flags may already be on the altar.)”

## PREPARATION OF ALTAR AND PRESENTING COLORS

When summoned by the President to prepare the altar the Ritual Officer should be sure to have matches, if needed, available and conveniently places. (Matches should never be left on the altar.) The Ritual Officer advances to the altar, lights the candle or votive lights, opens the Bible and reads a short passage from it before placing the Bible on the altar. The Ritual Officer places miniature flags in the holder.

### **IF LARGE FLAGS ARE USED:** (Large flags are used at Conventions)

After placing the miniature flags, the Ritual Officer then does an about-face, returns to the rear of the room and prepares to advance the colors by assembling the Color Guard and instructing them to "Carry Colors". Upon "Forward March" the Color Guard advances. As the flags reach the first member in the meeting room from the rear, the Ritual Officer Commands "Salute Colors". When arriving about two (2) feet from the altar, the Ritual Officer gives the command "Halt".

When the flags come to a halt, the President commands "Two" and all hands come down. The President then commands "**Place Colors**".

At this command, the American Flag is advanced first and the bearer will oblique (angle) to the left, the bearer of the Auxiliary Flag oblique to the right; they both advance with the American Flag always in the advance. The Flags are placed in the holders which have been placed **ahead** of the President's station, **not** in line with or behind it. The bearers as they post the Colors, look up and make certain that the Cross and the Eagle are facing the delegates. They then adjust the Flags so they drape properly. The bearers return to the front of the altar and face the President.

The Ritual Officer commands "About-face, forward march." (When back at the starting point the Color Bearers are commanded to "Halt and Fall Out.")

### **President:**

The Chaplain (or in the absence of the Chaplain, the First Vice President) will lead us in the opening prayers."

### **Chaplain (or First Vice President):**

The Lord's Prayer. . . . Immaculate Mother of God, assist us. Saint Sebastian, pray for us. Saint Agnes, pray for us."

### **President:**

"Let us pledge allegiance to the Flag of our Country". (In Pledging Allegiance to the Flag, all face the Flag.) At the opening words, "I pledge allegiance" all salute.

**“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.”**

The President raps gavel once (1) – all are seated.

**PRESIDENT:** “Members, by the grace of God, we have been permitted to assemble to conduct the business of this Auxiliary, for our mutual benefit. We must proceed in all our deliberations with the true spirit of Catholics, always remembering our motto, for **GOD, COUNTRY, and HOME**. May our Blessed Mother guide us by the spirit of kindness, friendliness, and loyalty to each other. We are true Americans and we will promote Americanism at all times. We love our homes and will strengthen them with our might. With the help of God, we will prosper in our endeavors in His work.”

“We will now proceed with the regular order of business.”

(Anyone waiting and showing proper credentials may now be admitted by the Ritual Officer. Those coming late will approach the altar and salute the Flag before being seated. The President will acknowledge the salute.)

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. Roll call of officers.
2. Reading of minutes of previous meeting, (Action on minutes.)
3. Reading of communications and action thereon.
4. Presentation of Bills and action thereon.
5. Director’s Report.
6. Treasurer’s Report.
7. Reports of all Officers and Chairpersons.
8. Report of the President. (When President gives report the chair is not relinquished. First Vice President asks for acceptance of President’s report.)
9. Unfinished Business.
10. New Business.
11. Good of the Order.
12. Chaplain’s remarks.
13. Closing Ceremonies

In situations arising not covered by the above, refer to **Robert’s Rules of Order**.

## CLOSING CEREMONIES

### **President:**

“There being no further business to come before this meeting, we will proceed to adjourn. The Chaplain (or First Vice President) will recite the closing prayers.” The President raps the gravel three (3) times. All stand.

Chaplain (or First Vice President):

Recites three (3) Hail Mary’s for the conversion of all communist and oppressed countries.

### **Prayer for the Holy Father:**

“Oh God, the Shepherd and Ruler of all the faithful, Look mercifully on your Servant Pope \_\_\_\_\_, whom You have appointed Pastor over Your Church. Grant, we beseech You, that by word and example, he may edify those over whom he is placed, and together with the flock committed to his care, may attain life everlasting. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.”

“We will now observe thirty seconds of silent prayer in memory of our beloved dead. . . . . May the souls of our faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.”

### **President:**

“Ritual Officer, extinguish the memorial light, close the Bible and retire the Colors”. (As colors are retired, the President orders “Salute” and “Two”.)

## RETIRING THE COLORS

### **WHEN LARGE FLAGS ARE USED:**

The Ritual Officer has the color guard ready and upon command from the President, orders “Color Guard, forward march”. Upon arriving two (2) feet from the altar, Ritual Officer Calls “Halt”, steps forward, extinguishes the votive light or candles, closes the Bible and steps back to Color Guard and then commands: “Retrieve Colors”. The American Flag Color Bearer and the Unit Flag Color Bearer go round to the rear of flags and removes them from the stands. As they retrieve the colors, the Ritual Officer does an about-face to be ready to march with colors to the rear of the hall as the Color Bearers come alongside. When reaching the rear of hall, the Ritual Officer commands: “Color Guard, halt.” And then “Fall Out”.



Where there is no room to advance or retrieve colors, colors may be posted prior to opening meeting and in closing, President may instruct the Ritual Officer to render proper respect to the Colors. "Salute, two."

**WHEN MINIATURE FLAGS ARE USED:**

When the colors are miniature flags placed on the altar, color bearers are not necessary. At the opening of the meeting, the Ritual Officer places the flags in appropriate flag-holders; at the closing, removes the flags and lays them on the altar or carries them to the rear of the room. As flags are removed, President says: "Salute, two".

**PRESIDENT:**

"I now declare this meeting of the (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary to Post Number \_\_\_\_\_ of the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A. adjourned." One (1) rap of gavel is given.

**DIAGRAM FOR RETRIEVING COLORS**

**PRESIDENT'S STATION**

**ALTAR**

**RITUAL OFFICER**

American Flag

Unit Flag

Color Bearer

Color Bearer

The American Flag should **NEVER** be given command of About-Face.

## **RITUAL FOR THE INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

The newly elected President takes charge immediately **after** the close of the meeting at which elections took place. The outgoing President is given the privilege of closing the meeting.

As the installation of Officers is a most important function of the Auxiliary to the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A., ceremonies should be carried out with solemnity and dignity.

Whenever practicable, the Installing Officer shall be the President of the next higher echelon or a designee in that echelon. In other instances, the Installing Officer shall be the retiring National, Department, Chapter, or Unit President, or a Past President of the echelon being installed.

The newly elected Unit Officers should be installed at the earliest opportunity after election and not later than December 31st.

### **RITUAL TEAM**

The Ritual team shall consist of an Installing Officer, a Secretary and a Ritual officer (or designee of these respective officers).

#### **Chairperson (or President):**

“Ritual Officer, please escort the Installing Officer to the dais.” After the Installing Officer is escorted to the dais, the Chairman relinquishes the gavel to the Installing Officer who then proceeds with the ceremonies.

#### **Installing Officer:**

“Ritual Officer please escort the Chaplain to the dais.” (Out of respect to the dignity due to his priesthood, the Chaplain should never be requested to stand in any formation for any length of time and should never be requested to take an oath or pledge.)

#### **Installing Officer:**

“Ritual Officer, present the officers-elect to the altar for installation.” (The Ritual Officer does an about-face and returns to the rear of the hall or room and assembles the officers-elect in the following formation and escorts them to the altar.)

**ALTAR**

**DIRECTOR**

**DIRECTOR**

**DIRECTOR**

**HISTORIAN**

**TREASURER**

**RITUAL OFFICER**

**WELFARE OFFICER**

**SECRETARY**

**THIRD VICE PRESIDENT**

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

**PRESIDENT**

**Note:** When space in meeting room is limited, officers-elect may form a semi-circle in front of the altar, with the President-elect next to the American Flag and other officers (by listing) to the right.

**RITUAL OFFICER:**

“Installing Officer, the officers-elect of the (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary are ready for installation.”

**INSTALLING OFFICER:**

The Secretary will call the roll and as your name is called, answer ‘Here’.”

## **INSTALLING SECRETARY:**

Calls the roll. After last name is called and answered, the Installing Secretary faces the Installing Officer and says, "The roll call is complete."

## **RITUAL OFFICER:**

"The officers-elect are ready to be installed."

## **INSTALLING OFFICER:**

"Officers-elect, attention. The members of this unit have shown their confidence in your ability by electing you to your respective office. Study your By-Laws so that you will be of great assistance to your unit, as the welfare and success of this auxiliary depends on you. Your duties coincide with those listed in the Officer's Manual. A copy of this book should be in your possession during your term of office. In addition, you shall perform such other functions as the President shall direct. (Raps three (3) times with the gavel-all stand.)

## **INSTALLING OFFICER:**

Ask the officers-elect to place their left hand on the right shoulder of the officer-elect immediately to the left (if semi-circle formation is used) or on the left shoulder of the officer immediately in front (if in-line formation is used). (President places left hand on the flag.)

"Raise your right hand and repeat after me: On my honor/ as an American citizen/ and member of the Auxiliary/ to the Catholic War Veterans/ of the U.S.A., / I promise/ without reservation/ to uphold the Constitution/ of the United States, / to obey its laws / and defend its flag / against all its enemies / whomsoever. / I further promise / upon my honor / to uphold the Constitution / of the Catholic War Veterans / of the U.S.A., / and the By-Laws of the Auxiliary / and to fulfil the duties of my office/ to the best of my ability. / that, at no time / through word or deed / bring discredit to the organization."

(Installing Officer raps once (1) with the gavel – audience sits down.)

## **INSTALLING OFFICER:**

"Ritual Officer, present the Directors-elect before the altar."

**Directors-elect: "This organization puts its trust in you. It is your duty to assist the treasurer in financial problems, audit the unit books, and prepare a working budget. Congratulations, you may be seated."**

## **INSTALLING OFFICER:**

"Ritual Officer, present the historian-elect before the altar."

**Historian-elect:** “It is your duty to keep a complete record of your unit that is all the activities of the officers, committees and projects. Photos, contests, and publications will supply a source of information and always remain as a link with the past. Congratulations, you may be seated.

### **Installing Officer:**

“Ritual Officer, present the Ritual Officer-elect before the altar.”

**Ritual Officer-elect:** “It is your duty to see that all the ceremonies of the Auxiliary to the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A. as prescribed by the Ritual Book are carried out. Study the proper presentation of the American colors and Unit colors and display them at all occasions. You shall be the custodian of the meeting ritual supplies and act of Ritual Officer at all meetings. It will also be well for you to know the proper method of presenting and displaying the American Colors and Unit banner. Congratulations, you may be seated.”

### **Installing Officer:**

“Ritual Officer, present the Treasurer-elect before the altar.”

**Treasurer-elect:** “As the custodian and disbursing officer of this Unit’s funds, you shall keep a permanent record. A report must be prepared for presentation at each meeting. You shall be the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Congratulations, you may be seated.”

### **Installing Officer:**

“Ritual Officer, present Welfare Officer-elect before the altar.”

**Welfare Officer-elect:** “You shall co-operate with and assist the Post Welfare Officer. Any duties assigned to assist in veterans welfare shall be performed by you. Congratulations, you may be seated.”

### **Installing Officer:**

“Ritual Officer, present the Secretary before the altar.”

**Secretary:** “You shall assist the Board of Officers in the administration of the policies and mandates of the Unit. Your duties shall be keeping records, correspondence, supplies, notices, and custodian of the Unit’s Charter. In the event of the death or resignation of the President, you shall be authorized to summon the board of officers of this unit for the election of a successor. Congratulations, you may be seated.”

### **Installing Officer:**

“Ritual Officer, present the Third Vice President-elect before the altar.”

**Third Vice President-elect: Your duties will be centered in one of the most important programs and this is youth activities. There is much need of an active program and a well-organized committee will be of great assistance to you. Congratulations, you may be seated."**

### **Installing Officer:**

"Ritual Officer, present the Second Vice President-elect before the altar."

**Second Vice President-elect: "It shall be your duty to direct activities for increasing membership. The potential for membership is great, as there are several eligible Auxiliary members I the family of one veteran. Membership is open to Catholic fathers, mothers, spouses, widows, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, nephews, nieces, grandfathers, grandmothers, stepfathers, stepmothers, uncles, aunts, grandsons, and granddaughters not less the eighteen(18) years of age, of living or deceased Catholic veterans, including the spouse of an individual who is a Prisoner of War or Missing in Action, and provided further, that the dues of such member shall be waived for so long as the individual remains a Prisoner of War or Missing in Action. Membership in the Auxiliary is also open to Catholics recommended by a Catholic War Veteran. Earnest campaigning will increase your membership. Congratulations, you may be seated."**

### **Installing Officer:**

"Ritual Officer, present the First Vice President-elect before the altar."

**You shall act as the representative of your President in all matters referred to you. Your specific duties shall be Catholic Action, Americanism and Civics. An active committee will be of great assistance to you in order to carry out your program. Your activities should acquaint the public with the ideals and ideas of the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A. and it's Auxiliary. Congratulations, you may be seated."**

### **Installing Officer:**

"Ritual Officer, please present the President-elect before the altar."

Installing Officer raps three (3) times with gavel, all stand.

**"President\_\_\_\_\_, you are the leader of this Unit and shall enforce all provisions of the Constitution of the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A. and the By-laws of the Auxiliary. As President, you must appoint all committees necessary to aid your officers in carrying out the mandates of you Unit. The success of your term will be due largely to your leadership. Study well the aims and ideals of the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A and its Auxiliary. At all times be concerned of the welfare of your unit and in times of stress and hardship, always seek the guidance and blessing of Almighty God and his Blessed Mother."**

"Ritual Officer, please conduct the President to the dais."

## **Installing Officer:**

The installing officer presents the President with the gavel and with congratulations, wishes the President and newly-elected staff a good year plus other sentiments, in response, the newly elected President gives an acceptance speech.

The installing Officer is then seated.

## **President:**

“Ritual Officer, escort the past president to the dais.”

When the past president is brought forward, the new president states: “You have performed your duties well. We trust you will always be ready and willing to avail us of your past experience as president.”

(The new president then presents the Past President’s pin to the past president.)

The outgoing president is given the privilege of closing this meeting.

## **CLOSING CERMONIES**

Refer to Page 6

## INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

### INDUCTING OFFICER:

“Ritual Officer (they exchange Salutes) present the applicants for induction.”

The Ritual Officer conducts the applicants to the Altar and states:

**“I find these applicants qualified for membership in this Auxiliary to the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A. and they are seeking membership therein.”**

### INDUCTING OFFICER:

“On behalf of the (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary to Post Number \_\_\_\_\_ of the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A., I am happy to welcome you. The Catholic War Veterans and their Auxiliary hold dear five great principles:

### **UNITY—JUSTICE—TRANQUILITY—WELFARE—LIBERTY**

“Before you are asked to assume the obligations these principles entail, they will be explained to you.

The Constitution of the United States stands for **UNITY**. As an Auxiliary, we stand united to assist the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A. in perpetuating their aims, ideas, and purposes.

**JUSTICE**, guided by faith and charity, is the code by which humanity should be governed. Justice views all sides impartially without distinction of persons. In all our meetings, we must be vigilant to preserve always a true spirit of **Justice**.

Harmony, Peace, and Order will promote **TRANQUILITY**. Let us pledge our loyalty to our Country and the principles of the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A. As an Auxiliary, let us promote Peace and Harmony for **OUR GOD, OUR COUNTRY AND TOWARDS ONE ANOTHER**.

As members of the Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary, in co-operation with the unit **WELFARE** Officer, we are pledged to assist in the relief and rehabilitation of the veteran and his or her dependents.

As true Catholics and Americans we must do our utmost to keep American Liberty secure. We must do our best to preserve the foremost right of American Citizenship- **LIBERTY!** Liberty to God, to serve our Country and help one another.”

“Ritual Officer, conduct the applicants to the Altar. The Chaplain will led us in prayer.”

Inducting Officer raps three (3) times with gavel, all rise



**CHAPLAIN:**

**PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Come O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of love.

Send forth your Spirit and our hearts will be regenerated;

And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us Pray

O, God who by the light of the Holy Spirit

Did instruct the hearts of your faithful,

Grant us by the same Holy Spirit, a love and desire

For what is right and just, and

The constant enjoyment of His consolation,

Through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

**INDUCTING OFFICER:**

“Are you ready and willing to obligate yourselves to the laws and principles as expressed in the oath of the Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary?”

**APPLICANTS:**

“I am.”

**INDUCTING OFFICER:**

“You will raise your right hand and repeat after me, giving your name where I give mine:

On my honor as an American citizen/I \_\_\_\_\_/promise without reservation/ to defend the Constitution/ of the United States of America/ to obey its laws/ and to defend its flag/ against all enemies/ whomsoever./ That I will fulfill my obligations/ as a Catholic/ and obey the laws of the Catholic Church./ That at no time, / will I introduce for membership/ any who are not entitled thereto./ That I will not at any time/ through word or deed/ bring discredit to this organization.”

(At the conclusion of the oath there should be a ten-second period of silence.)

“Assembly be seated.”

**Inducting Officer** continues to the new members: “Our emblem consists of several parts. The Celtic Cross represents for us the symbol of Christianity preserved and protected by our valiant forefathers. The letters AUX means we are an Auxiliary to the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America. The Wreath is for remembrance of those who died that Liberty might live. The Circle denotes the Perpetuity of the Church which will last until the end of time, as guaranteed by its founder Jesus Christ. The Olive branch of Peace signifies our attitude towards all men in fulfillment of our Lord’s behest, “Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself.”

“Note the setting of the room.

The space between the President’s station and the Altar represents **NO-MAN’S LAND** in memory of the battlefield where our veterans fought and died. No one may cross the space during a meeting or ceremony.

Note the following objects in this room: the Altar, the Bible, the Light, and the Flag.

**The Altar**—represents Calvary—a place of sacrifice—and serves as a reminder to us that the veterans made sacrifices in the name of our Republic and that we do our utmost to preserve our American principles.

**The Candle or Votive Light**—is the symbolic of Jesus Christ, the LIGHT of the world, the light of Faith. The rays of the light should fire us with a new zeal to continue to work for the cause for which we are banded together. May this light keep before our minds the memory of our beloved dead.

**The Bible**—is the sacred book of inspired writings. The knowledge of its contents should inspire and guide us in our work.

**The Flag**—represents our Republic and is symbolic of the sacrifices made by our forefathers to establish these United States.

The Red Stripes—represent the bloodshed in the fight for Liberty.

The White Stripes—represent the purity of purpose for which blood was shed. The thirteen stripes (seven red and six white) represent the thirteen original states.

The Stars—one for each State, are grouped together in the Blue Field of Loyalty.

May we cherish and imitate what they represent.”

**Inducting Officer:** gives three (3) raps of the gavel all rise.

Face the American Flag—Salute.

Let us sing the last stanza of the Star Spangled Banner” (all join in singing).

“Oh, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand  
Between their loved homes and the war’s desolation;  
Blest with vict’ry and peace, may the Heav’n rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave.”

“I am happy to welcome you as members of the (Name) \_\_\_\_\_Auxiliary to Post  
Number \_\_\_\_\_to the Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A.”

The President steps out in front of the altar and introduces each new member to the members present.

The Ritual Officer places the new members among the members of the Auxiliary.

**NOTE** – If this is the last order of business: Closing ceremonies shall follow.

# STANDARDIZED UNIFORM AUXILIARY TO THE

## CATHOLIC WAR VETERAN OF THE U.S.A.

### FEMALE UNIFORM

**BLOUSE:** Plain white jewel neckline.

**SKIRT:** Black A-line skirt, no pleated skirt are allowed. Length to knee or below knee. Above knee skirts are not allowed.

**SLACKS:** Straight legged black slack, at least to the ankle. No shorter style pants are allowed. Slacks may be worn at the discretion of the President.

**HOSIERY:** Neutral color. No other color allowed.

**SHOES:** Black walking shoes (low to mid-heel, closed toe and heel; no sandals or high heels should be worn. Prescribed shoes are permissible.

**JEWELRY:** Small button or C.W.V. earrings, No necklaces are permitted. Saint Agnes awardees should wear their Saint Agnes medal proudly at every occasion.

### MALE UNIFORM

**SHIRT:** White tailored

**SLACKS:** Black straight legged

**HOSE:** Black

**SHOES:** Black

**JEWELRY:** Saint Agnes medal is to be worn proudly at every occasion.

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**BLAZER:** Medium light blue, emblem of C.W.V.A. (small patch) on left sleeve, 3" down from the shoulder seam. Gold C.W.V. and AUX. cut-outs on collar.

Only one medal, and preferably the highest ranking award may be worn on the left lapel of the blazer. A Past President Pin of any echelon may also be worn on the left lapel with the award medal. Other medals can be worn on the blouse or shirt. Use of a ribbon for these is optional.

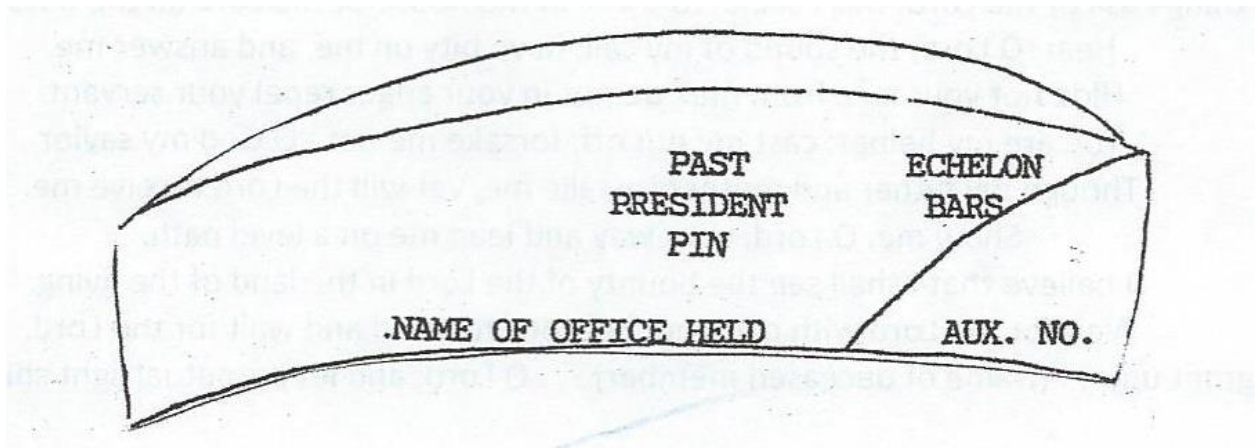
Full uniform includes WHITE GLOVES. They are to be worn in parades, for installation and memorial services, and marching into church. In church, if member is to take gifts to the altar, the gloves are removed. For installations, the right glove is removed when the oath of office is given. Name tags used for conventions or meetings are to be worn on the right lapel. (When you are introduced to someone, you extend your right hand for the handshake and this draws their attention to you name.)

Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary members shall wear caps in the color designating the echelon (National, State Department, Chapter or Post) in which they are currently serving. Upon completion of such service they shall no longer be entitled to wear the color cap of the echelon served, but shall instead revert to the Post Color cap unless they are serving some other higher echelon. In cases where service to a higher echelon has been rendered, members will be entitled to wear C.W.V. Service Bars designating echelon served. Life member pins may be worn on the left side of cap. Chapter, Department and National Presidents **only** may continue to wear the color cap of the highest echelon served with the lettering to read: "Past President" with the years served, or by using the gold "Past President" pin, worn on the right side. (Pin, and stars designating uninterrupted years of membership, are available from the National Supply Officer).

## PLACEMENT OF PINS, BARS, AND LETTERING

### RIGHT SIDE OF CAP

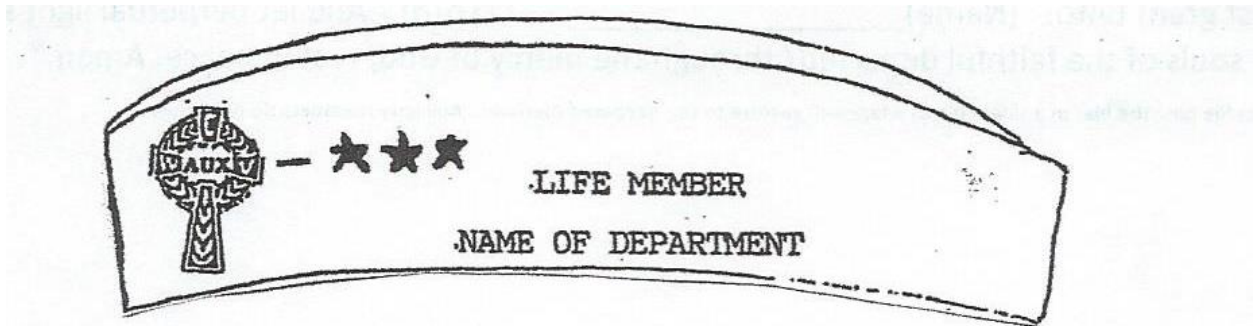
(Diagram of cap, right side)



NOTE: Name of office can be a patch or embroidered lettering on cap.

### LEFT SIDE OF CAP

(Diagram of cap, left side)



## **RITUAL TO BE PERFORMED ON THE DEATH OF A MEMBER OF THE AUXILIARY TO THE CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES**

When the family agrees to allow the C.W.V. Auxiliary Ritual service, uniforms should be the dress for the occasion. If uniforms are not to be had, at least the Auxiliary cap is to be worn. Refer to the standardized uniform section of this book.

The President and First Vice President or their representatives, in uniform, light a candle and recite the following:

### **Psalm 26:**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?  
The Lord is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?  
..Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.  
Though war be waged upon me, even then will I trust.

One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call; have pity on me, and answer me.  
Hide not your face from me: do not in your anger repel your servant.  
You are my helper; cast me not off; forsake me not. O God my savior  
Though my father and mother forsake me, yet will the Lord receive me.  
Show me, O Lord, your way and lead me on a level path.

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living.  
Wait for the Lord with courage; be stout-hearted and wait for the Lord.

Eternal rest grant unto... (Name of deceased member) . . . O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon our dead.

### **Pause and continue with this prayer:**

“We lift our voices in prayer/ to almighty God/ for the eternal repose/of the soul of . . . (Name\_\_\_\_\_). . ./ our faithful departed member./ May the flame of the burning candle/ serve as a token/ of the rekindling within our hearts/ of the flame of our dedication/ to the ideals and purposes/ of the Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary/ of which. . (Name)\_\_\_\_\_ . . / was so worthy a member.”

Eternal rest grant unto. . (Name)\_\_\_\_\_ . . , O Lord! / And let perpetual light shine upon our dead.  
/ May the souls of the faithful departed/ through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.”

Note: Members file past the bier in a single file as a farewell gesture to the deceased member. Auxiliary members do not salute.

## **MEMORIAL VERSE:**

(To be used for Memorial Services)

“As we place these flowers here upon the Ritual Altar of the Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary, may the sweetness of their fragrance rise in tribute to the memory of those whose services to this organization we now commemorate:

(Here name the deceased)

And we lift our voices in prayer to Almighty God, for the eternal of their souls, may the flame of the burning candles serve as a token of the rekindling within our hearts of the flame of our dedication to the ideals and purpose of this Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary of which these, our beloved, were so worthy a part.” (Mary Bradfield)

## **PRAYER TO BE SAID ON PATRIOTIC OCCASIONS:**

### **PRAYER FOR THE PRESIDENT AND FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

We pray You, O God of might, and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted and justice decreed assist with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude, the president of the United States(Name)\_\_\_\_\_ that his/her administration may be conducted in righteousness, and be eminently useful to your people over whom he/she presides; by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by restraining vice and immorality. Let the light of your divine wisdom direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government, so that they may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety, and useful knowledge; and may perpetuate to us the blessing of equal liberty.

We recommend likewise to your unbounded mercy, all our brethren and fellow-citizens throughout the United States, that they may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of your most holy law; that they may be preserved in union and in that peace which the world cannot give, and, after enjoying the blessings of this life, may be admitted to those which are eternal, through the same Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior. AMEN.

(By Archbishop Carroll)

## **C.W.V. MARCHING SONG**

Sound the drum, here they come. Catholic Soldiers  
Hearts so true, caps of blue, Catholic Soldiers  
They march from coast to coast, the nation's greatest boast  
With steady beat on town and village street.

### **CHORUS**

C.V. now we're on parade for the glory of God and Nation.  
C.V. now we're on parade with a cross and a flag formation  
We're proud, marching down the street, with our colors flying high  
And we're there to a man,  
For you, Uncle Sam  
Carry on, fall in line



## MANUAL OF COLORS

**CARRY COLORS:** Lift Colors to position where heel of pike rests in the socket of sling, right hand at level of shoulder, left hand at waist height.

**ORDER COLORS:** Heel of pike rests on ground adjacent to the right toe, right hand midway between shoulder and waist holding pike on vertical position with left hand at side.

**PRESENT COLORS:** **National colors** (all large & heavy type) Pike straight up from the socket of sling, right hand gripping pike at eyes height with palm facing outward away from face, left hand gripping pike just below right hand.

**PRESENT COLORS:** **Post colors** (all large & heavy type) Right hand on pike at eye level, left hand at waist level, then dip pike by extending right hand outward at arm's length.

**PARADE REST:** The heel of the pike rests on the ground in front of the middle of the body gripped by both hands waist high, left hand uppermost on the pike.

**ATTENTION:** On this Command **ORDER COLORS** is executed.

**TRAIL COLORS:** Usually given from **CARRY COLORS** position to avoid obstacles. It is executed by lifting pike out of socket with both hands and lowering pike sufficiently to pass obstacle. Usual command thereafter is **CARRY COLORS**.

If marching, the salute is executed when at six (6) paces from the one entitled to the salute; the carry is resumed when six (6) paces beyond him or her.

National, Department, Chapter or Unit Colors render **NO SALUTE**

When carried in a procession with another flag or flags, the Flag of the United States of America should be either on the marching right, that is, the flags own right, or where is a line of other flags, in front of the center of the line.

The Flag of the United States of America should not be dipped to any person or thing.

Organization flags are dipped as a mark of honor.

(As per National Catholic War Veterans Color Code)

