



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC

3RD Vice Commander's Program

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TO: Commanders and Third Vice Commanders, ALL Echelons

FROM: Juan M. Cruz, National 3rd Vice Commander
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SUBJECT: **2018 - 2019 NATIONAL THIRD VICE COMMANDERS PROGRAM**

The 3rd Vice Commander is responsible for organizing and planning child welfare and youth activities. He or she should also plan, formulate and execute athletic programs for their post. We can assist today's youth by helping them cope with their uncertainties of an ever-changing society. We can also help them channel their energies into constructive pursuits and away from the many temptations and negative distractions in their environments. We must encourage them and remind them of every opportunity to display patriotism and honor service to our country.

In the past, Post, Chapters, and Department have conducted their own independent contests throughout the year. We encourage you to continue sponsoring such contests. Our goal is to keep young minds busy. A busy mind may be the link that will have them "SAY NO" to drugs, discourage thoughts of suicide and to keep them law-abiding citizens.

Activities should be coordinated with the Auxiliary Third Vice Presidents to maximize results and to involve as many people as possible. Specific rules and regulations - awards and cut-off dates - for the National 3rd Vice Commanders activities are attached. Please read the instructions carefully.

- Grades 3-5** Veterans Day Patriotic Poster Contest
- Grades 3-5** Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest
- Grades K-2** Valentine's Day Coloring Book Contest
- Grades 6-8** Easter Poster Contest
- Grades 6-8** *What does the Pledge of Allegiance mean to me* Essay Contest
- Grade 12** Thomas J. Cuite Scholarship

Note: *Contest winners are selected by grade in each category and the judging is done by various organizations within our Catholic community. For example, the winners for last year's Christmas Poster were selected by the National 3VC's Parish priest and a few of the lay people. Every effort is made to ensure that the judging is both fair and impartial.*

Let me hear from all of you! Effective communication is a two-way process and is vital to the ongoing improvement of the National Third Vice Program. Let me know how you are doing and inform me of any issues or concerns you might incur. **Awards for the best Echelon 3VC Program are listed on the Report Form Instruction Sheet.**

REPORTS

Third Vice Commanders at each echelon are responsible for submitting two semi-annual reports. Third Vice Commanders wishing to augment their reports with additional detail may do so, e.g. description of each Youth Activity that your Echelon sponsored.

A copy of these Reports should be sent **directly to EVERY higher echelon 3VC** (one copy each to Chapter, one to Department and one to National) for each Reporting Period. Reports can be sent as an e-mail attachment. Please time your reports to arrive at each higher Echelon as follows:

First Report (covers June 16 - December 31)

Post Report to Chapter 3VC by January 1st

Post and Chapter Reports to Department 3VC by January 10th

Post, Chapter, and Department Reports to National 3VC by January 15th

Second Report (Covers January 1- June 15)

Post Report to Chapter 1VC by June 1st

Post and Chapter Reports to Department 3VC by June 10th

Post, Chapter, and Department Reports to National 3VC by June 15th

IMPORTANT NOTE: All reports should be submitted on the National Third Vice Commander's Report Form attached to this program. Time your mailing or emailing of reports so they arrive at the National 3rd Vice Commander by the deadline dates listed above. The National 3rd Vice Commander's address is:

Juan M. Cruz
National 3rd Vice Commander
2016 Buckthorn Lane
Lakeland, FL 33810
vicoconutjc@gmail.com

Department and Chapter 3rd Vice Commanders should also forward a copy of the Annual 3VC Report rendered to delegates at their Convention, immediately thereafter, to the National 3rd Vice Commander.

Bulletins prepared by Department 3rd Vice Commanders - it is requested that a copy of all bulletins prepared and disseminated to respective Posts under the office of Department 3rd Vice Commanders be sent to National Headquarters, ATTN: National 3rd Vice Commander. We welcome personal commentary and constructive evaluation of every echelon 3rd Vice Commander. Some phases of this program have been tried and tested over the years. Other areas are new. We are always looking for new innovations. We are soliciting your assistance in this regard. We want your positive input and constructive criticism.

This program requires a considerable amount of time and effort. The following are a few suggestions:

1. Please read the requirements for each activity/contest.
2. Please make note of the cutoff-due date for each activity.
3. Document everything you do, as it relates to your programs.
4. Please use the required documents contained in this package, for each activity/contest.
5. Check the National Web site and take advantage of forms provided.
6. When possible, submit forms via chain of command by e-mail.
7. Finally, transfer all documented youth activity/contest to the Youth Activity Report Form and mail to the National 3rd Vice Commander at the address listed above.