



[Above] Members of Marquis Louis de Montcalm Assembly in St. Jean, Que., display a banner they sent to Canadian soldiers serving in Afghanistan. The banner was sponsored by St. Jean Council 1145 and Vallée des Forts Council 13605, and featured signatures from many members of the community. [Left] Chip Collins III of Thomas P. Shields Assembly in Harker Heights, Texas, presents a \$100 gift to Spec. Linsey McCray and her husband, Printess. The assembly annually awards a gift to the first baby born on Columbus Day at the Darnell Army Medical Center in Fort Hood. Spec. McCray is an active-duty Army medic with two years of military service.



Honoring Capodanno

Madonna Council 5915 on Staten Island, N.Y., held a Mass and memorial service to mark the 40th anniversary of the death of Servant of God Father Vincent R. Capodanno. Father Capodanno was a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy who died during the Vietnam War while administering medical aid and delivering the sacraments to wounded Marines. Father Capodanno was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously, and his cause for canonization is currently under review by the Vatican.

New Lectionary

St. John Neumann Assembly in Millville, N.J., and Pope John XXIII Council 6621 in East Vineland donated a new Lectionary to Father James Romanowski, chaplain of the Veterans Memorial Home.

Mingling With Greats

At the request of Major League Baseball (MLB), San Xavier del Bac Assembly in Chandler, Ariz., oversaw a silent auction at

Phoenix Municipal Stadium to benefit the Pat Tillman Foundation. Tillman was a professional football player who left his career to join the U.S. Army after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. He was killed in action while serving in Afghanistan. The auction raised more than \$17,000 for the foundation.

VA Drive

Queen of Peace Council 9649 in Ocala, Fla., held a health and comfort drive to benefit the Gainesville Veterans Medical Center. Knights collected more than \$4,000 worth of goods, including clothes, blankets and more than 200 paperback books.

Hospital Visit

Members of St. Theresa the Little Flower Council 12866 in Houston visit the DeBakey VA Hospital four times each year. Knights visit with veterans and escort Catholic patients to Mass at the hospital chapel. The council has also made financial donations to the hospital to support its work with veterans.

MAKING CHRISTMAS MERRY FOR THOSE IN UNIFORM



[Above] Robert Vogel and Patrick Sweeny of Mary, Gate of Heaven Council 10194 in Myerstown, Pa., pack boxes headed for U.S. troops stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Knights collected 50 boxes full of snacks and personal care items that were delivered before Christmas.

Ascension Council 7991 in Qualicum Beach, B.C., collected care packages for Canadian troops serving in Afghanistan. The packages included general care items and treats. Canada Post shipped the packages for free in time for Christmas.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Council 13678 in Wyckoff, N.J., held its annual Christmas campaign to send care packages to U.S. troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. The council has shipped more than 1,000 packages and raised nearly \$30,000 over the past three years.

Corona (Calif.) Council 3687 delivered 12 care packages to the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twenty-Nine Palms. The packages were then shipped to U.S. troops serving overseas in time for Christmas.

Father Robert W. MacDonald Council 395 in Richmond, Va., and Blue Star Families of Richmond mailed Christmas care packages to more than 300 troops serving in the Middle East. A local VFW post provided postage for the mailings, while local school children prepared Christmas cards and other donations. Blue Star Families is a support group of families and loved ones who have relatives serving in the military.

St. Mary's Council 4065 in Fishkill, N.Y., held a Christmas party for patients at the Castle Point VA Hospital. Knights, who serve lunch at the hospital each month, dressed as Santa Claus and treated more than 80 veterans to baked ziti.