

VETERANS DAY MASS

SARASOTA NATIONAL CEMETERY

NOVEMBER 11, 2025



The Very Reverend Robert Kantor, Pastor of St. Agnes Parish in Naples, brings a profound depth of experience and service to his ministry both spiritual and military. For 22 years, he served in the U.S. Navy Reserve, including deployments to Afghanistan and the Middle East, where he ministered as a chaplain for U.S. Central Command. His military chaplaincy placed him alongside service members in some of the most challenging environments, offering spiritual support, comfort, and guidance in times of great need.

His dual vocation as a Catholic priest and a military chaplain gives him a unique perspective on sacrifice, duty, and the sacredness of remembrance. That's why his leadership at the Diocese of Venice's annual Veterans Day Mass carries such weight. Now in its 16th year, this outdoor liturgy gathers parishioners, veterans, and families across the

Suncoast to honor those who have served. Held among the solemn rows of marble headstones, the mass includes prayers, patriotic hymns, and moments of reflection, offering the Catholic community a powerful way to remember and pray for those who answered the call to serve.

Each year, the Knights of Columbus assist with the mass, and military personnel both active and retired, are encouraged to attend in uniform. It is a tradition that blends reverence, patriotism, and faith. Father Kantor's own history of service makes the tribute all the more meaningful.















