



ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA
Office of the Archbishop

19 March 2024

Dear Monsignor/Father,

On the Solemnity of Saint Joseph I am pleased to send you my best wishes from the Edwin Cardinal O'Brien Pastoral Center in Washington, DC.

It is time to begin planning for your participation the required National Conference of VA Catholic Chaplains to take place. It will be held at from 13 to 17 May next at the Hampton Inn Nashville Vanderbilt, Nashville, TN. The themes are Catholic chaplain ministry within Hybrid 38 standards; ministry to diversity in the Veteran population; and suicide prevention and postvention competencies.

As you know, all full-time and part-time VA priests endorsed by the Archdiocese for the Military Services are required to attend this training event in order to enhance your professional competence and maintain your ecclesiastical endorsement.

If you have any questions about your attendance, please write to me. While a simple e-mail will suffice: archbishop@milarch.org , I expect the motivation for any exception to the required attendance to be sufficiently serious.

The conference also represents a unique opportunity to gather as a presbyterate in service to the VA. The obligation to participate is a serious one. Each of you should have already received information about this event. My Vicar for Veterans Affairs, the Most Reverend Joseph Coffey, is also planning to join me for the training.

Registration forms and details of the event are available on the NCVACC website www.ncvacc.net. Please bring an alb, white stole and breviary with you for the Conference. Attire is otherwise casual.

Ever grateful for the important ministry that is yours and invoking abundant blessings upon you and your work with the infirm Veterans and their families, I remain

Fraternally in Christ,

(The Most Reverend) Timothy P. Broglio
Archbishop for the Military Services, USA