## 2023 Veterans Appreciation Day November 13, 2023

Assembly 905, Very Reverend Francis W Black in Medford coordinated with Sacred Heart School in Medford for a Veterans Appreciation Day.

Welcoming pray and invocation was spoken by fellow Knight and Principle Mr Curt Shenk to the students and Staff of Sacred Heart School. With over 100 people in attendance, Mr Shemk was also speaking to members of The Non Commissioned Officers Association, The Marine Corp League, The American Legion, Oregon National Guard, and a host of other veterans.

Flag Raising was accomplished by Assembly 905 Honor Guard Team, led by Oregon Marshal Ed Dinius and Color Corp Commander Mathew Sekreta, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem (Schoolwide and Caroline Olsen, 8th grader, with understudy Theo, $6^{\text {th }}$ grade, singing the anthem.

After introductions by Mr. Shenk, the keynote speaker was Lt. Col. and Sir Knight Walter Jones who spoke about the importance of Veterans Day.

Armed Forces Medley- sung by middle schoolers and invite those attending to stand when their Branch song is sung, then a reading and poem was read by a student.

A microphone was passed around in which each veteran in attendance could announce their branch, when they were in the military and where they were located during their time serving our country.

As the ceremony started winding down God Bless America was sung by the 4th grade choir and TAPS was heard.

The grand finale was when all stood and sang America the Beautiful.
Assembly 905 is honored to partner with the many Veterans Organizations and with the Catholic Students of Sacred Heart School. It is nice to partner with schools that teach their students about those that have served, and then to honor them.

## By Joe Schaecher

Non Commissioned Officers Association (Rogue Chapter \#1260) - https://ncoarogue.org The Marine Corp League (Rogue Valley Detachment \#386) - https://mcl-oregon.org/ The American Legion (Post 15) - https://www.legion.org/




