

The War of the Vendée

On Thursday evening, April 4, 2013, the parish watched a free screening of *The War of the Vendée*, a fact-based movie about Catholic resistance to the French Revolution. In his introductory remarks, Fr. Van Vliet pointed out that the message of the movie – Catholic fidelity and honor in difficult circumstances - resounds for our times.

The movie tells the story of a group of Catholic peasants in a small region of western France that fought valiantly for religious freedom at a time of severe persecution of the Church. In the 1790's, laws were passed that allowed the arrest of priests and religious and the closing of churches. The peasants of Vendée used whatever they had, including pitchforks, to fight for God, King and country. Because of their heroic example and willingness to suffer martyrdom, the Church was saved. In 1801 Napoleon granted freedom of worship to all Catholics in France.

The parish wishes to extend its thanks to Director Jim Morlino, who presented the film, and the Knights of Columbus for the refreshments.



Director Jim Morlino