



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
IRISH • CATHOLIC • AMERICAN

Ohio State Board
Newsletter
July 2026
Volume 8 Issue 7

President's Message



Brothers,

Happy Fourth of July and Happy 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. On this occasion, I encourage all members to pause and give thanks to God for the many blessings we enjoy as Americans

The AOH National Convention will be held later this month in Omaha, NE. I look forward to seeing many of you there. For those of you attending, please take an opportunity to attend some of the workshops being offered. There will be a workshop on geofencing which allows you to place ads on Facebook or other social media platforms and target a specific geographical area based on ZIP codes or city. Additional workshops will focus on Division leadership and the implementation of our new membership roster system.

By the time you receive this newsletter, you should have received or will be receiving shortly, a nomination form for the inaugural Martin L. Sweeney Ohio Hibernian of the Year award. A nomination can be made by a National/State elected or appointed officer from Ohio, a County Board President, a Division President or a Division in meeting assembled. The purpose of this award is to honor a brother Hibernian from Ohio who has made outstanding contributions, a positive impact and shown exemplary behavior as a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in

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Chaplain's Comments



Well, summer is upon us! I know we all have wonderful things planned with our families, our friends and our brother Hibernians as the nice weather seems to afford us more opportunities to see one another and get things done. Summer is the time we work outside in the yard, visit friends and family for graduation parties and weddings, or plan our larger charity events that are held outdoors. It is a lot of fun and easy to get caught up in all the excitement. There will be many memories made and good times had by all.

As Hibernians, we understand the importance of taking care of those who are in need. This week's readings were not from memorable parables, or important events in the life of Christ, but the message is at the core of our faith. Love God and you shall receive your just reward.

If we love God with all our heart, all our mind and all our soul; our entire being, we will be transformed by this love. God's love is greater than anything we can imagine. Our love for God should transform us in such a way that we love others as God loves us. Our love will order our lives. We received a glimpse of it through Jesus and how he treated everyone, even the least of his brethren. Jesus was the embodiment of God's love. In all things, His actions and His words were directed towards God. Everything He did gives glory to God. Upon the cross, at the breaking point of His human existence, He asked that this cup be taken from Him, but He accepted God's will as His own and offered His life for the world.

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President's Message

Ohio. I look forward to honoring our inaugural recipient.

Our membership continues to grow in Ohio. If you receive an online application from our State Organizer Joe Casey, please contact the prospective member in a timely manner.

Thank you, brothers, for your continued dedication, hard work, and commitment to strengthening the Ancient Order of Hibernians throughout Ohio and beyond.

In Motto,
Denny

Chaplain's Comments, cont.

Image it brothers, to be loved so much and feel that love so much, that you would give up your life for others! God may not be asking us to give up our lives for others, but He does ask us to give of our selves for others. Many of you do this every day and the love of God shines in your life. Thank you for all that do for those in need.

God rewards all the faithful that love Him and their neighbors as themselves. I did mention a reward earlier. The reward is of course, eternal life. We know that the reward is not something we can earn. We do not take care of those who are in need expecting payment. We cannot perform charitable work to earn our way into heaven. We do these

things out of love. The love that God shares with us and the love that we have for Him, comes forth from us in our words and our actions as we take care of our brothers and sisters.

I bring this up as it is easy to get caught up in our busy schedules this summer. Take the time to give thanks for the opportunity to be so busy and spend time with your family and friends. Take the time to remember those who are less fortunate and in need, who do not have the opportunities that we do. Love God with all you heart and allow His love to come out of you as you serve Him and your fellow man in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

God Bless,
Deacon Bruce

Mark Your Calendars

2026 National Convention

**July 15 - 18
Omaha, NE**

2027 State Convention

**June 24 - 27
Cherry Valley Hotel in Newark OH**

2025 - 2027 Officers

Chaplain	Deacon Bruce Dobbins brunomusarra@yahoo.com
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Jim Casey's Email Addressjjcasey973@icloud.com**Newsletter News**

If you have information for our monthly newsletter, please send it as an attachment to an e-mail to Editor, Jim Casey at

jjcasey973@icloud.com

The Editor requests that articles be submitted by the 21st of the month preceding the month of publication.

State Organizer Report

Since the first of the year, Ohio has now received a total of 55 applications from the National Organizer's office. Thanks to all those divisions who have responded quickly. This is helping the state of Ohio increase in size. If divisions do not get with these applicants in a timely manner they are then offered *At-Large* memberships which helps the Order but does not help Ohio. Please continue to work to get these applicants to join your division.

There are still some divisions who have not added their new members to the Form 9 on-line for several months. Make sure your Financial Secretaries are inputting the names and contact information into the system so new cards can be issued. Remember, once you have entered the information and have gone back in and found the new member's number, send an email with this information to our National Secretary, Ray Lynch so he can have their cards created and mailed to you.

Work continues on getting a division started in Jefferson County (Steubenville area). Denny Parks and I were on a Zoom call in late June with a gentleman who is working hard to get enough applicants to get the division going. If anyone has family or friends from that area who are interested in joining, please have them fill out an application from the National website (aoh.com) or get with me. This young man is very excited about this venture and we want to be there to give him all the assistance he needs. We have already received 4 applications for Jefferson County.

The National Convention takes place in July in Omaha; I hope to see some of you there. We should know more about the progress of the new application program at that time

Thank you all for your hard work and assistance.

Joe Casey

Ohio State Organizer

qualityjoecasey@yahoo.com

AOH National Convention

The National Convention in Omaha, NE is fast approaching. If you or anyone in your Division is attending, please get your delegate forms into State Secretary Pete Chrystal immediately. **As you know, I was appointed interim National Treasurer in February. I will running to keep this position in Omaha. It is my hope that we have a full Ohio delegation.** Since it is a National Convention year, we will be co-hosting a hospitality suite with N. Carolina, S. Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Louisiana and Texas. Past National President Danny O'Connell has made a motion that we allocate \$3,500 towards the suite. State Director Dale Norris seconds the motion. This money comes from our National Convention fund. The money allocated to this fund is to be used to offset the cost of the hospitality suite at National Conventions (Ohio State Board Bylaws Article VIII, Section 8.1).

In motto,

Denny

“My Father’s House“

Reprinted from Msgr. Donal O’Carroll Div. #1, Washington Co. July/August Newsletter (Pat Kelly and Chip Rogers Editors)

Brother Chip Rogers recalls from his youth:

As I work through a day, I have my “smart speaker” play Irish Pub Radio. I look at it as background comfort music. The other day, I took the time to listen to the words of the old song (written by Kevin Sheeran in the 1980’s) song, “My Father’s House.” No doubt I’ve mentioned the small, love filled home in which I was raised. The song brought back memories those safe, secure days of our blue-collar neighborhood. Our little home cost my parents \$3,500 in 1940. It cost \$35 a month for a six-room bungalow. There was two bedrooms, one bath, a very small kitchen, dining room and living room. The furnace was coal fired. Naturally the tiny kitchen was the hub of activity. Everyone used the backdoor and Ma always had a pot of tea or coffee on the boil. Ma was always good for “a cookie or six.” The living room was saved for “invited guests.” In the song, some of the verses end with the refrain, “In my father’s house when I was young.” Be assured. It was indeed “My Father’s House!” We had reminders, sometimes stern about whose house it was and who made the rules. Joe and I did not want to “challenge the throne!” That did not prevent us, behind his back, poking fun at him. Neither of us, however, “poked the bear!” Thanks to Ma, who was the buffer between us and the Old Man. She was a gem. This refrain best represents her influence -

In my Father’s house we were poor but rich in love.

No TV but music we had plenty of

And my mother hummed those melodies and we all sang along

In my Father’s House when I was young.

In keeping with family history and tradition, it was incumbent upon Joe and me to keep the faith, carry on the traditions and preserve the history. As I look at our children and our grandchildren, I can safely say, “I believe we’ve done just that. This refrain sums it up -

Come the time when I am older

My own children are reared and gone

I wonder then will they fondly remember

The days of long ago when they were young

I very much appreciate the fact that there are triggers in life that remind us of who we are where we came from. It makes the statement “I wasn’t born in Ireland, Ireland was born in me,” come to light. It’s that brightness that shines in our lives, which makes our paths clearer and more enjoyable. Take the time to remember, your father’s house, as well as your kith and kin and appreciate it all.

As I wrote this column, Pat Kelly recalled “My Father’s House” from the Cleveland Irish Festival many years ago when it was sung by Dermot Henry. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8-VIcsvKs4>

“My Father’s House” - sung by Daniel O’Donnell <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPL8-IiUgjj>

Pat Lally Obituary

Pat was the Ohio State Board Catholic Action Chair and the Past National Chair.



Patrick J. Lally, 74, passed away peacefully Sunday morning June 21, 2026. Born in Youngstown on February 12, 1952, to the late Richard T. and Mary M. Lettau Lally. After graduating from Cardinal Mooney High School in 1970, Patrick went on and received a B.A. in history, summa cum laude from St. Joseph College in Indiana, an M.A. in history with honors from Western Michigan University, and a Ph.D. in medieval history from the University of Chicago. Patrick retired from U.S. Navy after 31 years of service, where he served as a medic in the Hospital Corp. during Desert Storm, Desert Shield and Enduring Freedom, and obtained the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer. During his service in the Navy, Patrick Received many awards including Navy Commendation medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, Fleet Marine Force Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Navy Rifle Marksmanship Ribbon and the Navy Pistol Ribbon. Being an active person, Patrick was self-employed as a house painter, was the extension services manager for the Portage County Library, a Latin translator at the University of Chicago, an assistant manager for K53 CH TV, St. Paul MN, security officer at Sims Security in St. Paul, Research Fellow at the Institute of Medieval Canon Law at the University of California School of Law and a Library Assistant in the Special Collections Dept, Joseph Regenstein Library at the University of Chicago.

Patrick was a member of St. Dominic Church, American Legion Post 15, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Men and Woman United for Life and the Fish and Game Club of Vienna, plus a member of the Youngstown YMCA.

His faith and family were important part of his life, he was a Big Brother, and went on many camping trips with his family and attended many events of his many nieces and nephews...

Patrick leaves to cherish his memory, his brother Richard Lally of St. Paul, MN., sisters Miriam (Charles) Holden of Youngstown, Martha (Michael) Hurtuk of Ashtabula, Anne Lally of Canfield and Kathleen (Douglas) Burkhardt of Strasburg, Ohio, Nieces Fiona Lally, Rebecca Shrake, Emily Martinez, Maggie Thompson, nephews Connor Sullivan, Kevin Lally, Patrick Lally, Kevin Hurtuk and Ryan Hurtuk, and sixteen great nieces and nephews.

Family and friends may call from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday June 25, 2026, at the Fox Funeral Home, Boardman.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Rev Frassati Davis, O.P. at 10 Friday June 26, 2026, at St Dominic Church 77 East Lucuis Ave.

He will be laid to rest at Calvary Cemetery.

Material tributes can be made in Patrick's memory to St. Dominic Church, 77 East Lucius Ave, Youngstown, Ohio 44507.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Edward J. Fox & Sons Funeral Home, 4700 Market St. Boardman.

To [send flowers](#) to the family or [plant a tree](#) in memory of Patrick J. Lally, please [visit our floral store](#).

Pro Life



Patrick Lally, the current state Catholic Action chair and previous national Catholic Action chair passed away last week. Patrick was a great fellow Hibernian who truly lived out his Catholic faith, including involvement in the pro life movement. He attended the Ohio March for Life for at least the last 3 years and I know he's been at the national march as well. His Catholic Action articles often mentioned ways to defend life and various other information about the Catholic faith. I attached a picture of Patrick with some fellow Hibernians at the state march last year, he is the second from the left. Please

keep Patrick and his family your prayers.

Jacob Durda



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
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Elect

Denny Parks
National Treasurer



Currently: Serving as Interim National Treasurer and second term as Ohio State President

Thirty-Two Years And No Conviction: The Murder Of Rosanne Mallon Part One:

*Judge Michael C. Mentel



Roseanne Mallon was a lovely person. She was a retiree, unmarried, who lived with her sister-in-law Bridget Mallon. Bridget's adult children, Paula, Alice, Ann, and Martin all lived beside each other in Killmoyle, Dungannon, County Tyrone. Christopher lived with his mother Bridgid. Paula lived opposite her mom and her house overlooked her mom's house.

Roseanne was not a political person nor was she involved in any paramilitary activity. She was simply a 76-year-old woman who loved sharing time with her family. Her life came to an appalling end on the evening of Saturday, May 8, 1994 when their home was attacked. On that evening, a volley of automatic gunfire was launched through the window of the home killing Roseanne as she was watching television. Thirty-two years on, no one has been charged, indicted, or convicted in her murder.

A Prelude to Murder

In 1993, Martin Mallon, Roseanne's nephew, was released from Long Kesh after serving a seven-year sentence for possession of explosives. After his release he worked with others toward a political solution to the Troubles. In 1994, he became chair of Sinn Féin in County Tyrone. This growing movement toward a political solution eventually helped bring about the Provisional IRA's 1994 ceasefire.

Sometime in 1994, before Roseanne's murder took place, Martin Mallon was arrested and taken to an RUC Barracks. He was likely targeted because of his involvement with the Provisional IRA. During our interview, Mr. Mallon recounted that, "[he] was locked up overnight and interrogated the next morning. I didn't have my solicitor. A well-dressed Englishmen entered the room. He said he was there to negotiate with me on behalf of MI5. He told me that I didn't have to say anything, I could wink or nod to show if I agree [with an offer]. He went on to tell me that I would make a good candidate for [elected] office; and I would be protected and so would my family. After he said that I didn't blink or move. When

he saw that I didn't agree to his offer, he said that 'at their time and convenience a member of your family will be executed'. When he stood up to leave he made the offer again and I didn't react. He then said a member of my family would be killed." This would not be the final time Mr. Mallon and his family would be threatened.

Three weeks prior to Roseanne's murder, Mr. Mallon was stopped on an isolated road by armed Special Branch officers and held there for almost one hour at the roadside. During the detention, Mr. Mallon recounted, "after I was stopped, I was asked where I was coming from. I said Dungannon. They got me out of the car and searched [the car]. After the search, I asked if I was under arrest. They said no, but I had to wait here for a while. After some time Billy Wright and Tony McNeill pull up in a car and talked with the officers". [For context, Billy Wright was the founder and leader of the Loyalist Volunteer Force (the "LVF") and was a ruthless figure during the Troubles. He founded the LVF in 1996 following his expulsion from the Ulster Volunteer Force (the UVF"). Billy Wright was also an alleged "agent" for the Special Branch. He also carried the nickname "King Rat", given to him by the media because of his notorious murders. Tony McNeill was a close associate of Billy Wright and also carried out murders as a member of the UVF and later the LVF.] "When Billy and Tony got there, the police ID me to both of them saying, 'that's Martin Mallon sitting in the car'. They [Billy Wright and Tony McNeill] shouted insults and things I won't repeat here. Wright and McNeill drove up next to my car and said they would kill me and my wife. It was clear that the situation shifted from being about me to being about getting my family".

It was reported that, as a lead up to Roseanne's murder, RUC Special Branch members issued death threats three weeks before the murder threatening to kill Mr. Mallon's wife. Mr. Mallon and his brother Christy were regularly subjected to threats from the RUC. Like Martin, Christy was also a former IRA political prisoner having served time in Long Kesh.

May 8, 1994: The Murder

On Saturday night, May 8th, Roseanne and her sister-in-law, Bridgid Mallon, had been out together and

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Thirty-Two Years And No Conviction: The Murder Of Rosanne Mallon Part One:, Cont.

returned home by car around 10:30 p.m. Roseanne sat down on the couch (the “settee”) in the living room at the rear of the house with her back to the window. The lights were on in the living room and the blinds were drawn partially. Brigid left the room to telephone her daughter, Paula, who lived with her husband and family on the other side of the road. Paula’s home had a view looking at her mom’s home.

As Brigid and her daughter Paula were talking on the telephone, Paula noticed a large passenger sedan (a “saloon car”), dark in color, stopping at the entrance to Brigid’s home and two men running up the driveway towards the house. Paula told her mother to see what was happening and to get to a safe place. Brigid put the telephone down but left the line connected while she went into the living room. Brigid in an audible whisper to Roseanne, and signaling with her hands, to get out of the room. Roseanne began to get up but her arthritic condition made it slow to get up. Brigid had by then gone back into the hall when she heard a volley of gunfire and the room filled with smoke. She heard Roseanne say “oh dear”. Brigid heard a car drive off with its wheels spinning.

Despite her age of 60, being shot in the hand, and with shrapnel wounds to her leg she went back to the living room and went over to where Roseanne was laying. Roseanne gave a couple of sighs as Brigid watched the color drain from her face. Brigid called out to her daughter who was still on the telephone. Paula, who had heard the gunfire over the open telephone line, made two 999 calls to the police just before midnight. An ambulance arrived at around 12:13a.m. Upon arriving, the responders could find no signs of life. They remained with Roseanne’s body until her doctor arrived and pronounced death on May 8th, at 12:40 a.m.

The pathology report determined that “Death was due to bullet wounds of the trunk. Numerous bullet

fragments, including the steel cores of bullets, had struck the back of the body and passed forwards. Some had made their exits on the front whilst others had lodged in the body. They had fractured two right and two left ribs as well as severely lacerating the lower part of the right lung and lacerating the intestines and the aorta in the abdomen. The combined effect of these injuries would have caused her rapid death. Other fragments had also struck the head and limbs... The injuries were of a type caused by bullets of high velocity.”

The weapon used to kill Roseanne Mallon was a fully automatic VZ58 assault rifle, similar to an AK-47, located on May 14th, hidden under a piece of corrugated metal at a derelict house not far from the murder scene. A report by the former Historical Enquiries Team alleges that British intelligence agents were involved in the plot or knew of the shipment that brought the VZ58 to Northern Ireland used to kill Roseanne Mallon, and that members of the military were believed to have been involved in several of the later killings in which the weapon was used.

Next month’s article, Part Two of “The Murder of Rosanne Mallon” will examine the British authorities’ collusion and cover-up of the murder, as well as the contradictions in the coroner Judges’s verdict.

Judge Michael C. Mentel is an appellate court judge on the Ohio Court of Appeals for the Tenth District. He has participated in round table discussions on the British Legacy Bill at the National Committee on American Foreign Policy and participated in panel discussions on Irish Unity. Judge Mentel is an author and a columnist with Irish newsmagazine and is a contributor to other publications. He is a member of The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Patrick Pearse Division 1, Franklin County, Ohio, The Shamrock Club of Columbus, Ohio, The Irish American Club East Side, Euclid/Cleveland, Ohio, the Irish American Law Society, Cleveland, and The Brehon Law Society of New York.

Division News

Bluestone Div. #3, Cuyahoga Co.

On May 31, 2026, the Bluestone Division organized a Hibernian mass at Immaculate Conception Church, located at East 41st Street and Superior in Cleveland. The mass was attended by other AOH and LAOH Hibernians in the Cleveland area. It was the last mass for Immaculate Conception as a parish, which was founded in 1865 due to the growing Irish population on the east side of Cleveland. The parish became known as the "Mac" due to the large number of parishioners with the last name of MacDonald or MacCoul and others with a surname that began with Mac. Irish parishioners belonging to the "Mac" were primarily from County Mayo, which was common at the time, depending which county you emigrated from. Earlier this year the Diocese of Cleveland announced the "Mac" would merge with St John Cathedral in downtown Cleveland. See the picture of Hibernian attendees.





**Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS**
Irish • Catholic • American
Bluestone Division



Robert M. Fitzgerald Memorial Gold Outing
8TH ANNUAL, FRIDAY JULY 17, 2026
BRIARDALE GREENS GOLF COURSE
EUCLID, OHIO

11:30 AM CHECK-IN  1PM SHOTGUN START

\$130 PER PERSON INCLUDES:
LUNCH, BEER, SODA, WATER & QUALITY DINNER
AT THE IRISH AMERICAN CLUB EASTSIDE

Free range balls, door prizes, pin shots and long drives
 Test Bluestone Hibernian Bob Mullin 216-538-7035
 Proceeds Benefit A.O.H. Scholarship Fund for
 area Catholic high schools and Seminarians

Checks for hole sponsors and corporate donations can be sent to
 1300 East 260th St. Euclid, OH 44132 Attn: Bob Mullin



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**AOH NATIONAL CHAPLAIN
FR MARTIN O'REILLY
INVITES YOU ON A PILGRIMAGE
February 15 through 25, 2027**

The AOH will travel to Rome in 2027 for an 11-day Pilgrimage to Italy.

The scheduled departure is on Monday, February 15, 2027, and the return flight departing/arriving on Thursday, February 25, 2027.

Availability is limited, so register soon to save your spot. Click the link above for the itinerary and more details.

Price:

Price per person in double occupancy: \$4,475

Land Only Pilgrims: \$3,575

For individual travelers wanting a single room, the single supplement fee is: + \$900

Please send all inquiries to Carolyn Norbut (732) 216-8073 www.journeyoffaithtours.com

Itinerary for the Trip

February 15 - 25, 2027

- Ancient Order of Hibernians
Spiritual Director: Fr. Martin O'Reilly, National Chaplin
- **Day 1. Monday, February 15:** Transatlantic flight to Rome, Italy
- **Day 2. Tuesday, February 16:** Rome | Walking Tour
- Welcome to Rome! After meeting our guide at the airport, we transfer to the city center and begin our pilgrimage in the heart of the Eternal City. Our walking tour includes Piazza Navona, Spanish Steps, Via del Corso, the iconic Trevi Fountain, and the magnificent Pantheon (from outside). We celebrate Mass together, marking the spiritual beginning of our journey. Hotel check-in, welcome dinner, and overnight in Rome. (B, D)
- **Day 3. Wednesday, February 17:** Papal Audience | Vatican Museums | St. Peter's Basilica
This morning we will attend the Papal Audience in Saint Peter's Square (subject to the Holy Father's schedule). Following the audience, we celebrate Mass. In the afternoon, we enjoy a guided visit of the Vatican Museums, including the Tapestry Gallery, the Raphael Rooms, and the breathtaking Sistine Chapel. Finally, we visit St Peter's Basilica, and admire Michelangelo's Pietà, depicting the Virgin Mary holding Jesus after the Crucifixion. Overnight in Rome. (B)
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Continued on Page 12

Itinerary for the Pilgrimage to Italy, cont.

- **Day 4. Thursday, February 18:** Major Basilicas | Catacombs

Today we visit the oldest of the four major basilicas in Rome, the Archbasilica of Saint John Lateran, the cathedral church and seat of the Bishop of Rome. We then cross the street to the revered Scala Sancta, the Holy Stairs traditionally believed to have been climbed by Jesus during His Passion. Holy Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore, dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. Later, we continue to the magnificent Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, built over the tomb of Saint Paul the Apostle. In the afternoon, we visit the ancient Catacombs of Saint Sebastian, where early Christians gathered and buried their dead during times of persecution. Overnight in Rome. (B)

Day 5. Friday, February 19: Ancient Rome | Colosseum

Today, we celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St Peter's in Chains. We will then make our way to our Ancient Rome tour where we will see the Colosseum, the Roman Forum and Palatine Hill. Access the Palatine Hill and discover the hill where Rome was founded at the beginning. Then reach the Colosseum and be amazed by this monument that is the symbol of Rome in the world. The Amphitheater created to entertain ancient Roman citizens with bloody show of gladiators, animals and cruel games, is now one of the most fascinating landmarks of the city. Overnight in Rome. (B)

Day 6. Saturday, February 20: Day Trip to Castel Gandolfo

After breakfast, we depart for Castel Gandolfo, the picturesque town overlooking Lake Albano and known as the traditional summer residence of the Popes. The Mass location today is TBD. We visit the Papal Palace of Castel Gandolfo and the beautiful gardens. Following free time for lunch and personal devotion, we return to Rome for overnight. (B)

Day 7. Sunday, February 21: Rome at Leisure

Today, after Mass, there is free time for personal activities, prayer, shopping, or independent exploration of Rome. Guests may choose to revisit favorite churches and monuments or enjoy optional excursions. Overnight in Rome. (B)

Day 8. Monday, February 22: Rome | Orvieto | Assisi

After breakfast, we depart Rome and travel north toward Assisi, stopping first in beautiful hilltop town of Orvieto. Here we visit the magnificent Orvieto Cathedral, renowned for its stunning Gothic facade and Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena. Here we will have Mass. After lunch and some free time, we continue to Assisi for overnight. (B)

Day 9. Tuesday, February 23: Assisi

Today we explore Assisi, the hometown of St. Francis. We celebrate Mass at the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi followed by a guided tour of the basilica. We continue with visits to the Basilica of Saint Clare and the Santuario della Spogliazione, where the tomb of Saint Carlo Acutis is located. Time permitting, we also visit the Basilica of Saint Mary of the Angels to see the Porziuncola. Overnight in Assisi. (B)

- **Day 10. Wednesday, February 24:** Siena or Assisi

Today will be dedicated to an excursion to Siena, one of Tuscany's most beautiful medieval cities. In Siena, we visit the famous Siena Cathedral, celebrate Mass and enjoy time in the historic Piazza Campo. Return to Assisi for the farewell dinner and overnight. (B, D)

Day 11. Thursday, February 25: Departure airport for our return flight home, bringing our pilgrimage journey to a close.

—Buffet Breakfast (B); Dinner (D)

- **In case of any unforeseen events, this itinerary is subject to change.