



Ancient Order of  
**HIBERNIANS**  
IRISH • CATHOLIC • AMERICAN

*Ohio State Board*

*Newsletter*

*April 2024*

*Volume 6, Issue 4*

## President's Message



Brothers,

Happy Easter! I want to wish you and your families a blessed and joyful

Eastertide as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I hope all of you had an enjoyable Irish American Heritage Month. From the pictures that I saw on social media and events that I was able to attend, our Ohio AOH Divisions represented our Irish-American heritage well. Thanks to all of you for keeping our traditions and faith alive.

There are several important dates coming up in the next two months.

\* Annual AOH Easter Appeal. The Annual Easter Appeal is a part of our Project St. Patrick fundraising. The forms for the 2024 campaign can be found on the [AOH.com](http://AOH.com) website under Catholic and Project St. Patrick. If your Division has never made a donation to Project St. Patrick, please consider one this year. It is a great way to honor your Division Chaplain and more importantly, to help our diocesan seminarians.

\* Exemplification of the Major Degrees of the Order. On Saturday, April 20th, the Major Degrees of the Order will be exemplified in Akron.

Please see flyer in the newsletter or contact me for more information.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Chaplain's Comments



In the Gospel for Easter morning, the disciples found an empty tomb and were confused because *they did not understand the Scripture that He had to rise from the dead*. They thought that someone had removed the body of Jesus. We are fortunate that we know the events that followed. The Risen Christ appeared to many so the Scripture may be understood, and His victory over death could be confirmed and recorded. As Jesus revealed himself to people, they understood the meaning of his death and what it meant for them.

The Apostles had locked themselves in the upper room for fear of the Roman authorities. They thought the Romans may think that they took the body of Jesus to try and prove that he wasn't dead. They believed that they were being sought and would be tortured, imprisoned and possibly executed for their affiliation with Jesus. After He appeared to them, however, they feared no more.

They understood the meaning of the Resurrection and boldly preached the Gospel in the face of persecution. It was in the experience of the Risen Lord that enabled them to really live. The experience produced an ontological change in them. An ontological change is one that affects the very nature of something, and makes it something new. They were made new beings. After their experience of the Risen Lord, they taught and preached with a new confidence. They spoke with

*Continued on Page 2*

**President’s Message, cont.**

\* State Board Meeting. A State Board meeting will be held at TaraHall in Columbus on May 18th. More information to follow.

We've had an increase in online applications through the National website. Presidents and Division Organizers, when State Organizer Joe Casey sends you an application that was received from National, please make every effort to contact the person as soon as possible. These prospective members are prime candidates to add to our ranks.

Thanks again for all of you hard work!

In Motto

Denny



**Chaplain’s Comments, cont.**

authority that comes from Jesus and the assurance that all that Jesus taught them was true. The Acts of the Apostles, which we shall hear about in the coming weeks, details the events in the lives of the Apostles after their experience of the Risen Christ.

I hope this sounds familiar, brothers. For it is in celebrating the Sacraments that we experience Christ, and the effects of which should produce an ontological change in us. We enter into the death of Christ as we enter the waters of Baptism and we rise again, in victory over death and sin with the Risen Lord, as we are cleansed and made new. Our very nature is changed as original sin is removed, we are made new beings, and enter into communion with Christ and become adopted sons and daughters of God, the Father. It is the experience of the Risen Lord that has changed all of us and has allowed us, through Baptism, to be changed forever, and live a new life in Christ.

We, therefore; like the Apostles, are called to preach the Gospel message of life. We are to spread the Gospel message with the authority and assurance that they possessed. This is how we can help others meet the Risen Lord. Experience Christ in the Sacraments and then go forth to love and serve the Lord by sharing that experience with others. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our life. It is Christ that gives us life and offers an opportunity to share in it forever. We come to the altar to offer ourselves in communion with Christ. We come to the altar to share in the Eucharist. We come to the altar to be strengthened by the Eucharist, both physically and spiritually, so we are nourished for our journey forth. This is why it is so important to share in the feast of the Mass. It is our life, and we are called to share this “life” with the community as large.

We can do this when we see the hungry and feed them. Donate your time to work in a food bank, or deliver food to those in need. When do this when we see the homeless and provide shelter. Donate blankets, clothing, and time to help those in need. We do this when we visit the sick who are homebound or in hospitals. We do this when we visit those in prison, or help those who are imprisoned by addiction. We do this when we see someone thirsty, and give them drink. They may be thirsting for faith, knowledge, or friendship, and we can reach out to them and offer assistance. We do this when we offer prayers for those in need.

These are the Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy. This Easter season and beyond, let us make a concerted effort to reach out to those in need. Let us make a concerted effort to get more involved in the work of our division. Let us make a concerted effort to celebrate the sacraments often and experience the Risen Lord so you can share this experience with others. As adopted brothers in Christ, we share in his death and resurrection. We share in His new life and are called to share it with those we meet. Let us go forth to glorify the Lord by our lives as we work together in Friendship and Unity as we serve the Lord and one another in Christian Charity, and continue to share our experience of the Risen Lord with others.

God Bless,

Deacon Bruce



**2023 - 2025 Officers**

<b>Chaplain</b>	Deacon Bruce Dobbins brunomusarra@yahoo.com
<b>President</b>	Dennis Parks <a href="mailto:dparks121@yahoo.com">dparks121@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Bruce McPherson <a href="mailto:hilliardmcperson@gmail.com">hilliardmcperson@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Pete Chrystal pvchrystal59@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Greg Brown <a href="mailto:Gbrownshamrock@yahoo.com">Gbrownshamrock@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Director</b>	John Myers <a href="mailto:johnmyers216@gmail.com">johnmyers216@gmail.com</a>
<b>Director</b>	Chris Schulte <a href="mailto:crpschulte@gmail.com">crpschulte@gmail.com</a>
<b>Past President</b>	Bob Harper <a href="mailto:harper.bg@pg.com">harper.bg@pg.com</a>
<b>National President</b>	Daniel J. O'Connell djoconnell@ysu.edu
<b>National Catholic Action</b>	Patrick J. Lally lally8404@hotmail.com
<b>National Project St. Patrick</b>	Ron Hagan rhagan@hagancpa.com
<b>National Deputy Organizer</b>	Joseph M. Casey qualityjoecasey@yahoo.com
<b>National Oversight Committee</b>	Dennis Parks dparks121@yahoo.com

**OHIO DIVISIONS**

**County Division President**

<b>Clermont</b>	Douglas Gerrard <a href="mailto:dpgerrard@aol.com">dpgerrard@aol.com</a>
<b>Cuyahoga Board</b>	Ben Neylon <a href="mailto:BNeylon@yahoo.com">BNeylon@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Cuyahoga #2</b>	Charles O'Neill oduffy317@aol.com
<b>Cuyahoga #3</b>	Robert Mullin bobbymulls@yahoo.com
<b>Franklin #1</b>	Bruce McPherson <a href="mailto:hilliardmcperson@gmail.com">hilliardmcperson@gmail.com</a>
<b>Hamilton #1</b>	Tim Oliver <a href="mailto:toliver33@live.com">toliver33@live.com</a>
<b>Lucas</b>	Robert McMahon <a href="mailto:aohjohnpkellydivision@gmail.com">aohjohnpkellydivision@gmail.com</a>
<b>Mahoning #6</b>	Ray Kelly IV <a href="mailto:aohrpk@gmail.com">aohrpk@gmail.com</a>
<b>Medina</b>	Scott Manley scott.manley@assuredpartners.com
<b>Montgomery</b>	Art Gannon artgannon@aol.com
<b>Stark #1</b>	Tom Wolf tomwolfcpa@msn.com
<b>Summit Board</b>	Jim Meszaros <a href="mailto:meszi01@neo.rr.com">meszi01@neo.rr.com</a>
<b>Summit #2</b>	Dale Norris danorris64@gmail.com
<b>Summit #3</b>	Michael Namsick <a href="mailto:mpnamsick@gmail.com">mpnamsick@gmail.com</a>
<b>Trumbull</b>	Marty McQuaide <a href="mailto:emcqu@aol.com">emcqu@aol.com</a>
<b>Washington</b>	James W. Farley <a href="mailto:jameswfarley04@gmail.com">jameswfarley04@gmail.com</a>

**Appointed Officers**

<b>Catholic Action</b>	Patrick Lally	<a href="mailto:lally8404@hotmail.com">lally8404@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Pro Life</b>	Dave Manley	<a href="mailto:ruthannanddavid@gmail.com">ruthannanddavid@gmail.com</a>
<b>FFAI</b>	Patrick Williams	<a href="mailto:karimcwilly@gmail.com">karimcwilly@gmail.com</a>
<b>PEC</b>	Mike Cosgrove	irish.mick213@gmail.com
<b>Project St. Patrick</b>	Chris Schulte	<a href="mailto:crpschulte@gmail.com">crpschulte@gmail.com</a>
<b>Missions &amp; Charities</b>	Chris Konik	<a href="mailto:chriskonik@mindspring.com">chriskonik@mindspring.com</a>
<b>Organizer</b>	Joe Casey	<a href="mailto:qualityjoecasey@yahoo.com">qualityjoecasey@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Historian</b>	Mike Finn	<a href="mailto:FCoolavin@aol.com">FCoolavin@aol.com</a>
<b>Veterans Affairs</b>	Doug Gerrard	dpgerrard@aol.com

**Newsletter News**

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

[jjcasey973@gmail.com](mailto:jjcasey973@gmail.com)

The **deadline** for articles is the **24th of the month.**

## Pontifical College Josephinum



### Join us for Tour Day!

The Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N High St, Columbus, OH 43235, welcomes you to its annual Tour Day on Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Pontifical College Josephinum is a Roman Catholic seminary and private university in Columbus, Ohio. It was founded by Joseph Jessing in 1888 and was granted the status of a Pontifical College in 1892 by Pope Leo XIII, making it the only pontifical seminary in North America.

Learn about the fascinating history and unique mission of the only pontifical seminary outside of Italy as you explore the Josephinum's grounds, main administration building, and Saint Turibius Chapel. Tours will highlight many beautiful characteristics of this historic 1931 structure, including extensive woodwork, stained glass windows, terrazzo floors, intricate brickwork, and sacred art.

Registration is open online through Friday, April 19. [Click here to register](#) and to select your preferred tour time slot. We look forward to opening our doors once again and having the seminarians, priests, and faculty share the Josephinum's beautiful campus with familiar friends as well as new visitors!

## State Historian's Report

By: J. Michael Finn, State Historian

### Our Chaplains



In this article we will discuss a very important and honored position within the Ancient Order of Hibernians – that of **Chaplain**. The chaplain's position is an appointed position. He is appointed by the President of the particular jurisdiction (National, State, County or Local). It is generally protocol in most Dioceses that the chaplain appointment be approved by the local Archbishop or Bishop.

The Chaplain holds a position of respect and honor within the Order. At meetings and formal affairs of the Order the Chaplain should sit at the right of President and is a trusted advisor in all matters pertaining to the good and welfare of the Order.

The AOH National Constitution (Section 8) defines the qualifications and duties of the Chaplain as follows:

*State, County, District, and Division Chaplains shall be a Priest or Deacon or a Professed Religious Brother and shall:*

- *Provide spiritual guidance for their respective jurisdictions*
- *Advise on all matters pertaining to the welfare of the Order*
- *Attend meetings and participate in discussion with their jurisdictions*
- *Be a member of the Catholic Action Committee of their respective jurisdictions*

As we are an Irish Catholic organization, we must recognize that our *Practicing Catholic* qualification for membership is very important. Protection of the Church and the support of its teachings and beliefs are of historic importance to the Order. This has always been a mission of the Order going back to our ancient beginnings. It has contributed to our Unity as Irish Catholic men. Catholicism is the glue that binds us together and our faith should always be reflected in our work and activities.

At the national level the most famous National Chaplain was Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen (he served when he was a Monsignor from 1937 to 1941). The fact that Archbishop Sheen has currently being considered for sainthood should be a source of pride for all Hibernians. On July 6, 2019, the Vatican Congregation for the Causes of Saints promulgated the decree approving Archbishop Sheen's final miracle needed for beatification. Archbishop Sheen will be beatified in Peoria, Illinois at a date yet to be determined.

Also, serving in the position of National Chaplain were illustrious American Churchmen Francis Cardinal Spellman and Richard Cardinal Cushing.

The only known priest from Ohio to serve as National Chaplain was Monsignor Donal O'Carroll. The good Monsignor was born in Roscrea, County Tipperary, Ireland and served as a priest in the Steubenville Diocese (his picture is included with this article). He was appointed by National President Michael J. Coogan of Dayton, Ohio in 1989 and served until 1990. Today, the AOH Division in Washington County bears the name Monsignor Donal O'Carroll Division. Monsignor O'Carroll also served as Ohio State Chaplain for many years.

In addition to our chaplains the AOH also has members of the clergy who are regular members of our order. Some of our clergy members are retired and some are still active in their ministry. It would be a great idea for a

*Continued on Page 6*

### State Historian's Report, cont.

Division to honor the clergy who are members of their Division on an annual basis with a dinner to show appreciation for their service. In today's difficult times, they need our constant prayers and support.

A few of the many priests and clergy who served as State Chaplains were: Father Matthew Scanlon of Niles, Ohio who not only served as State Chaplain, but in 1876 was elected as State President; Father Charles Mulhearn of Martin's Ferry, Ohio who served in 1900; Father John I. Moran of Youngstown who served as State Chaplain from 1904 until 1919; Father James Patrick Ward of Dayton, Ohio who served from 1924 until 1928; and Father John J. Cunningham of Cincinnati who served until his death in 1987.

Please remember our National, State, County and Division chaplains, past and present, in your prayers. Don't forget to thank them for their service to our Order as ministers of our faith.

There is an old Irish blessing for a priest. It goes "Go mbuanáí Dia í Cota Chríost thú." Translated that means "May God keep you in the Coat of Christ."

### State Organizer's Report

I hope everyone had a grand St. Patrick's Day!

We are beginning to receive some applications from the National Organizer so be sure to check your inboxes for emails from me. As I have said in the past, these are "low hanging fruit" and need to be addressed as soon as you receive them. We also need to know when contact is made with the applicant so we can report back to the Organizer.

Remember, if you have friends or relatives who want to belong to the Hibernians but have no divisions close to them, there is still a way to join, via the At-Large membership program. Tell them to apply on-line (aoh.com) and it will then be directed to me as the At-Large program coordinator.

I mentioned last month and will do so again, you can get the QR code off the National website that will take you directly to the on-line application. You can affix this QR code to your flyers to make it even easier to apply. Here is what it looks like.



It is located along with recruitment aids. Access the National website (aoh.com), then go to "About the AOH", then scroll down to "Organizer Resources". You'll find several flyers, aids and the QR code that you can download and personalize.

Joe Casey, Deputy National Organizer, State of Ohio Organizer

## **A United Ireland is Imminent**

**Judge Michael C. Mentel**

The Irish Unity Summit was held on March 1<sup>st</sup> this year in New York City at the historic Cooper Union. I had the privilege to attend. The Cooper Union venue is indeed historic. In 1860, Abraham Lincoln gave his celebrated anti-slavery speech at Cooper Union before his election as President. It is also the venue where, in 1902, James Connelly spoke in support of a free and United Ireland. Fourteen years later, he would be executed at Kilmainham Gaol for his participation in the Easter Rising. The Cooper Union once again served as a historic venue when Mary Lou McDonald, Sinn Féin President and Leader of the Opposition in the Dáil, addressed the Irish Unity Summit declaring that, “We’ve run the numbers, and it is adding up to a vote in 2030 that will create a United Ireland.”

Ms. McDonald’s declaration was not one made-up of hope or wishful thinking. It is a declaration that recognizes the changes from the past and grounds itself in fact. Three major events within the past thirty years support Ms. McDonald’s declaration. First, no Irish Republican-Nationalist has served in any elected leadership capacity in the north following partition. This year, Michelle O’Neill, Sinn Féin Vice President and MLA, became the First Minister and leader of the Northern Ireland Assembly, with Sinn Féin holding the majority in the Assembly. This is a clear tell on the political direction the north is taking. In the Republic, a poll conducted by Politico in early March of this year revealed that, among all political parties in the Republic, Sinn Féin has a 28% support level among Irish citizens, followed by Fine Gael at 20%, and Fianna Fáil at 18%, with all other parties and independents trailing. The level of support for Sinn Féin in the north and the Republic provides an indicator of the direction that unification support is heading. Second, although a slim majority in the north presently favors remaining a part of the UK, the number is dwindling. As an example, an Irish News poll from February of this year revealed that 62% of the residents in the north would choose to rejoin the European Union following the UK’s adoption of Brexit. This is a revealing statistic. The Republic is a member of the European Union, enjoying the privileges of trade, travel, a common currency, along with having a thriving economy. From this vantage point, one can see that unification is an attractive and sensible alternative to the present situation in the north. The third factor is the success of the Good Friday Agreement (GFA). Since its signing in 1998, the GFA ended the thirty years of the Troubles, established peace, and allowed for new investment in the north, albeit slow at this time. It also opened the border with the Republic.

While all of this is good, much more must be addressed before a border poll on unification can take place. The demographic changes in the north have led to a growing Catholic, nationalist, majority. However, this growing majority does not equate to a clear win if a border poll was called today. The risk of calling a border poll before it is ready is the backlash and rigidity it would create if it failed. The GFA mandates that the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland shall call for a border poll when it ‘... appears likely to [him or her] that a majority of those voting would express a wish that Northern Ireland should cease to be part of the United Kingdom and form a part of a united Ireland.’ Dr. Brendan O’Leary, Political Science Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, speaking at the Summit, opined that political support for unification is growing albeit such support would not exist today. The necessity of addressing multifaceted cultural, economic, and governing issues must be resolved if voters are to be made comfortable with unification. Mr. Glenn Bradley, a former British soldier, a Loyalist political leader, and a declared Irish Republican, posed one example of an issue that must be

*Continued on Page 8*

### A United Ireland is Imminent, cont.

solved before some residents of the north would support unification. Because Mr. Bradley is a former British soldier he draws a pension from the British government. Many in the north are in Mr. Bradley's same position, whether as a soldier or a government worker, unionist or nationalist. Before he could support unification, Mr. Bradley wants to know which government will cover his pension. Other issues discussed included health care coverage, infrastructure, financing obligations, and how government representation will be structured; all of this must be resolved before a border poll on unification can take place. Fortunately, the planning process is underway. A non-governmental multi-party body has been formed with committees made up of individuals from various disciplines and backgrounds participating to address these issues.

A critical factor to the realization of unification is the involvement of the United States and Irish America. Summit presenters made clear that major support from the United States is vital to making any unification plan workable. This includes the pressure that the United States can impose upon the UK to support unification as well as encouraging investment and providing financial backing for the north. Some presenters questioned whether the UK would economically assist with unification should a border poll pass, making pressure from the United State on the UK a necessity. The Summit presenters also put out the call for active participation from Irish-America in the unification process. Ms. McDonald and other presenters encouraged Irish-Americans to contact their elected U.S. Representatives and Senators to tell them that, as a voter, Irish unification is important and that we want our government involved. For us, the Irish-American diaspora, now is the time to make our voices heard if we want to see an Ireland united and free.

Mike Mentel is Appellate Court judge on the Ohio Court of Appeals Tenth District and a member of Patrick Pearse Div. #1, Franklin Co.

### Veteran Affairs Report

1. The AOH National website has listed the roles and responsibilities of the Veteran Affairs Chairman ( [www.aoh.com/veteran-affairs](http://www.aoh.com/veteran-affairs) ).

2. I request that all AOH Veterans check their most recent membership card , to confirm that the word VETERAN is on the front of the card.

3. Visit the Archdiocese For The Military Services, USA [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org) to donate and find out more information about it, including information for priests interested in becoming Chaplains.

-The current Archbishop , Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D, grew up and went to school in Cleveland Heights .

-Link to the expectations for Catholics at VA facilities:

<https://files.milarch.org/offices/veterans-affairs/va-basic-expectations.pdf>

-Link to information on Father Vincent Capodanno , Medal of Honor recipient, and Servant of God, (first step of Sainthood)

<https://www.milarch.org/father-capodanno/>

4. Some Saint Vincent DePaul Societies have specific outreach for veterans.

<https://stvincentdayton.org/help/veterans-support/>

5. Additional Resources for Veterans:

Catholic War Veterans of Ohio: <http://cwvohio.org/>  
Dealhack. Discounts for veterans

6. Visit [www.ohiovets.gov](http://www.ohiovets.gov) or AOH National website [www.aoh.com/veterans-affairs](http://www.aoh.com/veterans-affairs) for a litany of organizations and websites that assist Veterans.

Doug Gerrard. Veterans Affairs Chair  
513-615-7469 [dpgerrard@aol.com](mailto:dpgerrard@aol.com)



**Catholic Action**

The month of April falls within the Easter season. The liturgical color is white. The Sunday following Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday, so designated by Pope Saint John Paul II, building upon the mystical experiences of the Polish contemplative nun, Faustina Kowalska (d. 1938). The Solemnity of the Annunciation, normally celebrated March 25, is celebrated this year on April 8, due to the usual date falling during Holy Week.

**MAJOR SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS OF APRIL**

The Annunciation	April 8	Solemnity
Stanislaus	April 11	
Mark, Evangelist	April 25	Feast
Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor	April 29	Memorial

**IRISH SAINTS OF APRIL**

**Tigernach, Bishop (d. 549)** April 4

St. Tigernach (or Tierney) was baptized by St. Conleth of Kildare; St. Brigid may have been his godmother. One might say that St. Tigernach suffered the fate of St. Patrick in reverse: as a boy, he was kidnapped from Ireland by raiders from Britain. A British king gave him his freedom. After spending some time at the monastery of Rosnat in Scotland, he embarked upon a pilgrimage to Rome, returning thence to Ireland. He was consecrated bishop at Clogher and lived at his monastic foundation at Clones, County Monaghan. Tigernach became blind in his old age and spent his time in contemplative prayer.

**Celsus, Archbishop of Armagh (1079-1129)** April 7

Celsus (Ceallach mac Aedha) was a member of a family in which the see of Armagh had become hereditary. Like many of his predecessors, he was a layman when chosen to succeed to the abbacy of Armagh (1105), at the age of 26. Shortly thereafter, he was consecrated its bishop. He proved to be a model bishop, conducting visitations, conserving the temporalities of the see, and restoring discipline. Celsus was instrumental in bringing the reform movement sweeping the continent of Europe to Ireland. He held a great synod at Rath Breasail (1111), at which he sought to enforce these reforms. One of the problems of the Irish church was its organization around the power of the abbots rather than the bishops, a situation leading to the frequent neglect of the spiritual life of the people at large. Celsus replaced the old monastic organization with a diocesan one under the bishops. There was considerable resistance to many reform measures. Celsus is also said to have rebuilt the cathedral of Armagh. The church at this time suffered from depredations carried out by the O'Briens and the O'Rourkes, and Celsus was called upon at times to mediate among warring chiefs. In his efforts, Celsus was supported by St. Malachy. At his death, Celsus broke the tradition of hereditary succession by nominating Malachy to succeed him. He is buried at Lismore. Some calendars place his feast on April 1.

**Paternus of Abdinghof (d.1058)** April 10

St. Paternus was probably an Irishman, whose sojourning on the Continent brought him to Westphalia. There he entered the monastery of Abdinghof founded by St. Meinwerk. He adopted the life of a walled-up hermit. From his hermitage, he predicted the destruction of the city by fire unless the inhabitants repented. The fire came to pass; Paternus was among its victims. The Gregorian reformer St. Peter Damian was very impressed by St. Paternus.

*Continued on Page 10*

## Catholic Action, cont.

### **Ruadan of Lothra, Abbot (d.c. 584)**

April 15

This saint was born in western Leinster. He was a disciple of St. Finian of Clonard. In Tipperary, he founded a monastery at Lothra and served as its abbot. Beyond these details, much of what comes down to us about him is considered unreliable.

### **Donnan and his Companions, Martyrs (d. 618)**

April 17

St. Donnan was one of the many Irish who followed St. Columba to Iona. Later, with 52 companions, he founded a monastery on the island of Eigg, in the Inner Hebrides. Robbers descended upon the place during the Easter liturgy in 618. The monks were permitted to finish and then murdered. Though robbery is cited as the motive, a story also recounts that the crime was instigated by a woman resentful of the loss of sheep pasturage to the foundation. A St. Donnan's Well survives on Eigg, as well as several Scottish churches named for him.

### **Laserian, Abbot and Bishop of Leighlin (d.639)**

April 18

Also known as Laisren or Molaisse, the early life of this saint is poorly documented. He may have spent several years at Iona, and then went to Rome, where he was ordained by Pope Gregory the Great. Later, he appears at Leighlin, in a monastery run by its founder, St. Goban. At a local synod held at White Fields, St. Laserian was notable as a defender of the Roman usages for Easter, as opposed to the Celtic usages still prevalent in Ireland. The synod could not reach agreement, and Laserian was sent to Rome with a deputation to seek the Pope's assistance in settling the matter. There, Pope Honorius consecrated him bishop and named him legate for Ireland. Upon his return to Ireland, the saint seems to have settled the Easter controversy, at least in southern Ireland. Upon the resignation of St. Goban, Laserian assumed the abbacy at Leighlin, an office which he held until his death.

### **Malrubius, Abbot (d. 722)**

April 21

Also known as Maelrubha, this saint became a monk at St. Comgall's monastery at Bangor, County Down. At the age of 29, he went to Scotland, likely spending some time at Iona before going to the mainland. He established a church and monastery at Applecross in Ross, which served as his base of operations for the remainder of his life. He preached to the Picts, extending his reach to the Isle of Skye. The coast of Scotland between Applecross and Loch Broom contains a number of places named after him, and at least twenty-one churches in Scotland bear his name. An island in Loch Maree contains a spring dedicated to him which till recent times was sought for its healing properties, especially for insanity. The saint ruled as abbot at Applecross for 51 years, dying at the age of 80. Some accounts say he was martyred by Vikings.

### **Asicus, Bishop of Elphin (d.c. 470)**

April 27

Also known as Tassach, this saint was a disciple of St. Patrick, a monk, and probably the first bishop of Elphin. He was said to have been a skilled brass worker or coppersmith, and also a married man. He resigned his see--accounts vary as to the reason--and retired to solitude on the island of Rathlin O'Birne in Donegal Bay for seven years. His monks eventually tracked him down. They tried to bring him back to his see, but he died on the way.

### **Maughold, Bishop of Man (d.c. 498)**

April 27

Of Maughold, also known as Maccul, we know only what is found in some early lives of St. Patrick, who converted him from a life of crime and violence. To free him from association with his former companions, St. Patrick imposed exile from Ireland as a penance. He is said to have set off alone in a coracle without rudder or oars, finding his way to the Isle of Man. There, he was welcomed by two missionaries sent there by Patrick. From that time he led an austere and penitential life. He was chosen bishop over the Manx, possibly by acclamation, and succeeded in evangelizing many there.

*Continued on Page 11*

### Catholic Action, cont.

**Cronan of Roscrea, Abbot (d.c. 626)**

April 28

Cronan came from what is now County Offaly. He first entered monastic life at Puayd. He practiced the unusual charity of building houses which he then vacated to provide a home for any anchorite who needed one. He is said to have built about fifty, taking nothing with him when he left. St. Cronan is probably the founder of monasteries in Offaly at Lusmag and Monahincha, near Roscrea. By the bog of Monela, near Senross, he built himself a cell, where he spent the remainder of his life.

**Forannan, Abbot (d.c. 982)**

April 30

Forannan is said to have occupied an Irish bishopric at Domhnach-Mor, which cannot be identified. He is reported to have embarked for the Continent with twelve companions on the basis of a dream, in which an angel showed him a beautiful valley to which he was supposed to travel. Forannan concluded that the abbey of Waulsort on the Meuse was the place pointed out to him. He was apparently appointed abbot in 962. Forannan spent some time later at the abbey of Gorze in Lorraine on a trip back from Rome. There he was seeking instruction in the Rule of St. Benedict, which Waulsort had either abandoned or never embraced. He succeeded in reforming the relaxed practices that had developed at Waulsort, and also persuaded the local nobles to observe the Truce of God in regard to all pilgrims visiting the abbey.

#### STATE NEWS AND ISSUES

As we have mentioned before, several pilgrimages will converge upon Indianapolis from different quarters of the United States for the National Eucharistic Congress in July. The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route, in progress from the East, May 17 to July 16, will pass through the Ohio (arch)dioceses of Steubenville, Columbus, and Cincinnati.

See [www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org](http://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org) and click on "routes" for more information.

Do you have local news? Please submit it for inclusion in this report. Happy Easter to all.

Fraternally,

Pat Lally

330-791-7135

[lally8404@hotmail.com](mailto:lally8404@hotmail.com)

### Mark Your Calendars

**An Exemplification of Major Degrees will be held at the Akron AOH Hall.**

**See Pages 12 and 13 for more information**

**Saturday, April 20, 2024.**

**A State Board Meeting will be held at Tara Hall in Columbus.**

**More details to follow.**

**Saturday, May 18, 2024.**

**2024 AOH National Convention**

**Orlando FL, August 7 - 11, 2024**

**For additional information, See <https://orlandoirish2024.com/home-1>**

## Major Degrees of the Order

Brothers,

An exemplification of the Major Degrees of the Order will take place on Saturday, April 20, 2024, in Akron. Please see the attached flyer for details. It is imperative that we get as many members as possible to receive the Major Degrees of the Order for several reasons:

1. Article VII, Section 12 of the AOH National Constitution states:

In addition to being a member in good standing for a continuous six (6) month period, each State may require in its respective By-Laws that: (a) a candidate for State elected or appointed office has received the major degrees of the Order before election or appointment; (b) a candidate for County elected office must have received the major degrees of the order before election; and (c) a candidate for Division President or Vice-President must have received the major degrees of the Order before election, This section does not apply to the election of officers for a newly formed Division at organization, however, no member shall be eligible to hold any elected or appointed National office unless he has received the major degrees of the Order for at least one(1) year prior to election or appointment.

2. After the St. Patrick's Pledge that we all took, the President states:

You brothers, having made this promise of your own free will, I hereby declare you, each and all, members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and commend you to the friendship of its members, subject; however, to the condition that you receive the Lessons and take the Test of the Order known as the Major Degrees of the Order in accordance with our laws.

3. It has been proven that members who take the Degrees of the Order, are more productive and are more likely to remain engaged members of the AOH.

**Presidents, please do your part to get as many candidates as possible to the ceremony.** I know that it will be easier for those candidates in NE Ohio to attend than from other parts of the State. It is my hope that we can schedule an exemplification of Major Degrees in other areas of the State in the near future. Please contact me or Brother Pat Visel at [ddanaan@gmail.com](mailto:ddanaan@gmail.com) to discuss.

As always, please email or call me with any questions or concerns. *See Page 13* for more information.

In Motto,

Dennis Parks  
AOH OH State President  
(330) 414-1963  
[dparks121@yahoo.com](mailto:dparks121@yahoo.com)  
[www.ohioaoh.com](http://www.ohioaoh.com)





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



**The Sons of Milesius Degree Team**

**MAJOR DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024**

**ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS HALL**  
**2000 BROWN ST.**  
**AKRON, OH 44319**

- Registration begins at 11am.
- Candidates should arrive no later than 11:30am. Major Degree ceremony will begin promptly at 12:00pm.
- Observers should arrive by 11:45am.
- Cost
  - Degree Candidate - \$25.00
  - Observer - \$10.00
- Cost includes lunch served after the ceremony.
- A 2024 membership card will be required for a Candidate or an Observer.

To register, contact Dale Norris at (330) 618-7101 or [danorris64@gmail.com](mailto:danorris64@gmail.com)

2024 AOH/LAOH National Convention August 7 - 11, 2024

You are invited to Orlando, Florida



For online **ROOM RESERVATION** (\$125 + taxes) and **EVENTS REGISTRATION** please go to <https://orlandoirish2024.com>

**Events Registration through the Mail:**  
 This Form is for Convention events only. **Please print neatly.**  
*(Does not include Hotel Registration.)*



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of the AOH / LAOH (circle either AOH or LAOH)

Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Division # \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Registration: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Full Events Package: **\$215** if reserved by June 15, 2024.

Full Events Reservation made after June 15, 2024 and thereafter: **\$235. Options:**

- **Full Package** encompasses **all of the following choices below**. *Includes \$25 Registration Fee.*
- **Icebreaker** (Wednesday, August 7th) **\$60**: Casual Attire, Buffet, complimentary draft beer and signature drink. Served 7pm - 9pm. *Includes \$25 Registration Fee.*
- **Irish Night** (Friday, August 9th) **\$85**: Business Casual Attire, Choice of one entrée - A combo of Chicken & Sliced Pork Loin / Vegetarian. Served 6pm - 10pm. *Includes \$25 Registration Fee.*
- **Final Banquet** (Saturday, August 10th) **\$90**: Formal Black Tie Optional, Choice of one entrée - Pan Seared Salmon / Sliced Sirloin of Beef / Vegan. Served 6pm - 10pm. *Includes \$25 Registration Fee.*
- **Registration Only: \$25**  
 \* Please consider making all reservations and payment online to streamline the process.
- \*\* If registering through the mail, please remit this form and payment to:  
**AOH National Secretary, PO Box 1742, Jensen Beach FL 34958-1742.**  
 \*\* If paying event registration by check, make payment payable to: **“The AOH/LAOH National Convention”**

### Division News

### Patrick Pearse Div. #1, Franklin Co.

Patrick Pearse Division #1 in Columbus finished up a successful St. Patrick’s (and St. Brigid’s) Day season, as St. Patrick’s Day was officially proclaimed by Columbus City Council, we brought our pikes along to “spearhead” the Parade, and also hosted six different Irish, Scottish and Americana bands over the weeks at Tara Hall. We’re the place to be to celebrate your Irish heritage in Columbus.

Next up, Major Degrees at Tara Hall on April 4<sup>th</sup>, in Akron on April 20<sup>th</sup> and our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Freedom for All Ireland Irish Road Bowling event at Deer Creek State Park (Beach Road) on April 27<sup>th</sup>.




**FOURTH ANNUAL  
PATRICK PEARSE DIVISION 1  
FREEDOM FOR ALL IRELAND  
ROAD BOWLING FUNDRAISER**



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!  
SATURDAY, 27 APRIL 2024**

REGISTRATION 10:00AM  
EVENT STARTS 11:00AM  
DEER CREEK STATE PARK BEACH ROAD  
\$60.00 PER TEAM  
4 PLAYERS PER TEAM, LIMIT OF 36 TEAMS  
\$10.00 DEPOSIT ON CANNONBALLS

ALL PROCEEDS TO  
FREEDOM FOR ALL IRELAND AND OTHER  
CHARITIES

CONTACT STUART @ (614) 207-2457  
OR [PEARSEPTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PEARSEPTA@GMAIL.COM)  
FOR DIRECTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION

## HELP WANTED: ALL Irish please apply

### All Irish Need Apply

If you have experience, talent or skills in these areas please contact

[paddyspeed@yahoo.com](mailto:paddyspeed@yahoo.com)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marketing</li> <li>• Polling / Surveys</li> <li>• Recruitment</li> <li>• Graphic design</li> <li>• Social Media</li> <li>• Coding</li> <li>• Ad design development</li> <li>• Video production</li> <li>• Knowledge of Wordpress or Canva</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government relations</li> <li>• Web site design and development</li> <li>• Publicity</li> <li>• Ad Creation</li> <li>• Ad Campaign Creation</li> <li>• Ad Campaign Performance Monitoring</li> <li>• Fundraising</li> <li>• Sponsorship</li> <li>• Non-Profit management</li> <li>• Finance / Investments</li> <li>• Newspaper Editing</li> <li>• Proofreading</li> <li>• Knowledge of AP</li> <li>• Style book</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

It has been a busy time on the National Board as we work to maintain the momentum of our historic gathering in Youngstown Ohio and move towards our 2024 National Convention in Orlando.

We have reinstated our Marketing committee which is made up of four subcommittees: Recruitment and membership growth, Digital / Technology, Advocacy and Advertising.

Subcommittee chairs and members are engaged to develop plans and execute goals. The goals for each subcommittee are:

**Recruitment and membership growth:** Grow and maintain membership. Develop a strategy to define a value proposition to make membership more appealing to prospective members. Discuss how do we best position our brand to appeal to a cross section of ages, understanding the different challenges and opportunities presented by each age group.

**Digital / Technology:** Website and roster/membership database enhancement; social media review of current channels with performance metric analysis of exposure and effectiveness.

**Advocacy:** To improve members' involvement in responding to calls for action, educate members and elected officials, develop position papers.

**Advertising:** review, oversee, monitor, and manage online and print advertising. Monitor ad performance and exposure metrics.

Additionally, we are looking for support to help Hibernian Digest Editor John O'Connell, who does such an excellent job. We are looking for those who have, experience in newspaper (print) editing or copy editing, knowledge of the AP Stylebook which is used for the Digest.

The success of our efforts will be critical to the future of our order. We hope to leverage the talents of a diverse group of members to brainstorm to develop ideas and action plans to implement, monitor, track and evaluate success. We have started that process, but we need more help. This appeal goes out to all members with talents and experience in specific areas of need. If you are student that needs volunteer hours, or looking to develop work history, a professional that has time to lend your expertise, or a retiree with time we can use your help. Please review the list of skills and talents we are looking for in the ad above and contact:

Sean Pender [paddyspeed@yahoo.com](mailto:paddyspeed@yahoo.com) or Liam McNabb [liammcnabb@hotmail.com](mailto:liammcnabb@hotmail.com)



### **McNabb Scholarship Application**

To the leadership of the AOH, This email is asking for your support to help identify and recognize young Hibernian Leaders and to identify talented members who can help our marketing subcommittees. Please send this information to your member email lists and review at division/board meetings.

Thank you for your support.

Sean Pender, National Vice President



The AOH is proud to continue the **Tom McNabb Young Hibernian Leadership Scholarship** to be conferred at the 2024 AOH National convention in Orlando. The idea is to demonstrate that the AOH wants to not only hear from its younger members but to learn from them. The AOH national board will provide an award to bring them to our National Convention to enjoy the camaraderie, sharing of ideas and new initiatives, and demonstrations of our Order's good works and energy that the Convention produces. We feel the name of the Young Leaders Award commemorates Tom, our beloved deceased Secretary Emeritus with a lifetime of commitment to our values, a leader who carried our message through many decades and was one of our youngest National Presidents.

Tom McNabb Young Hibernian Leadership Scholarship details: Six AOH members, being under age 40, are to be selected by the National Board to attend the National Convention as part of this program. Nominations can be made by the individual themselves, or division, county or state boards.

Nominations must be signed by applicant and division president then submitted as per instructions below. The Scholarship would be to reward the winner with grant to cover the costs of the entire evening package at the upcoming convention. At the convention the AOH Young Leaders would be recognized, and work with the other young leaders to develop a presentation to the convention and/or breakout session to discuss ways by which we can attract and keep younger members. Each awardee must commit to attending the functions of the Convention and a profile of each candidate is provided for marketing team use to announce the awardees and feature their profiles.

The awardees would be responsible for reporting back to their local Division, County and or State Boards on their experiences as Awardees at the National Convention and join a national marketing subcommittee.

**See application on Page 18**

**Please attach nominations (no more than 300 words). Nominations should include the nominee's short personal bio, a recent headshot photo, accomplishments, offices, and contributions to the order. \* Send applications and nominations to**

**AOH National Vice President Sean Pender at [paddyspeed@yahoo.com](mailto:paddyspeed@yahoo.com)**

**\* Applications must be received by May 1st, 2024. \***



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



**2024 McNabb Scholarship Application**

**Member Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age on July 13th 2024:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Division Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominated by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Division President's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Division President's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_