



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
IRISH • CATHOLIC • AMERICAN

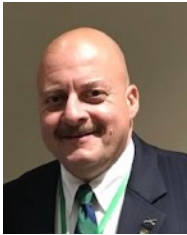
Ohio State Board

Newsletter

July 2021

Volume 3 Issue 7

President's Message



Brothers All,

Well, we did it. The Convention has happened, and what a weekend!

Our Cleveland brothers and sisters hosted a bang-up convention, which was truly "Fun in 21", as they promised. Thanks again to the committee for their creativity, leadership, and hard work.

Thanks to you all, and especially the appointed chairs, for a productive, informative, engaging weekend. We got a lot of business done, and a lot of learning shared. I learned a lot from all of you, and I hope that all our attendees did as well.

Look for invites for **upcoming board meetings**; let's tentatively assume a Zoom board meeting in late August, and an in-person board meeting in late fall.

Recruiting and Retention: I'll continue to beat this drum, because membership is the lifeblood of our order. As we continue through the year, please... be positive, be engaged, and be excited about who and what we are. It's hard to get others excited about our organization unless they see our passion and love.

Remember those bottles of Redbreast 12. Get out there and win one of those bottles! Summit County #2 has already driven a stake in the ground...Worthy President Nick Jacobs said at the convention that they're gonna win again, and says that no one can beat them!

I'll be **attending a number of upcoming Division meetings and events**, including Medina and Washington Counties. Where and when you deem appropriate, I'll be glad and grateful to attend your meetings and events whenever and wherever possible, too. Please feel free to send invites, and you can bet I'll attend if at all possible.

As always, thank you for your commitment, passion, and leadership. God Bless you all, God Bless Ireland, and God Bless our great Nation.

Slan, Bob

Chaplain's's Comments



This past Sunday I was sitting on the porch with my dog Arwen after a long day, trying to catch a bit of the cool breeze on what was a very hot and humid day. The longer we sat there, the darker the sky became and the more the wind picked up. There was one strong gust which came so suddenly that Arwen jumped off the chair on which she had been sitting and hid beneath it. As the rain suddenly began to hammer the porch roof and the thunder began to roll, she remained in hiding under the chair.

So many of us, over this past year and a half, have felt like we were caught in a storm, whipped first in one direction, then in another by the events which have occurred. So many have been overwhelmed by turmoil, by the stress of isolation, by the anxiety of facing the unknown, even by the death of someone we loved. So many still struggle with anxiety caused not only by the pandemic and civil unrest but also by the fear mongering of the media and a never ending news cycle. We do not need the perils of a violent summer wind or storm to remind us that our world is not always peaceful and that with all of the turmoil we experience, it is sometimes difficult to find the time and space we need for rest and refreshment. And it is easy for us to allow the storms of life to overwhelm us to the point that fear and anxiety become a way of life for us.

In that day's passage from the Gospel of Mark (4:35-41), the disciples of Jesus are so overwhelmed by the storm that overtakes them on the lake that they fear for their lives. I can only imagine that it is in complete exasperation that they awaken Jesus, who is sleeping through it all, oblivious to the turmoil that surrounds them. But in awakening Jesus, they also reveal their fear, their lack of faith. And Jesus rebukes not just the wind and the sea but also his disciples, who have given into their fears, forgetting what it means to trust in God.

Continued on Page 2

Chaplain's's Comments, cont.

How do we react to the storms of life which at times batter us? Do we react like the disciples, in fear for our lives? Or do we react like Jesus, over whom the storm has no power? Do we allow our problems to overwhelm us so that we are afraid and anxious, even to the point that we feel paralyzed, unable to make a move for fear of what will happen? Or do we trust that no matter what happens, so long as we maintain our faith in God, God will not abandon us?

There are times when we all experience doubts. There are times when we are so blinded by our fears and anxieties that we fail to recognize God's presence in our lives and in our world. Today's good news is that in the midst of troubled hearts, in the midst of raging storms which toss us about and frighten us, there is hope. There is hope because God is truly present, even when we cannot see him, even when we feel all alone.

Throughout the Gospels Jesus tells his disciples not to be afraid. Throughout the Gospels, he reminds us that God does not abandon his people but remains faithful, even in the midst of our infidelity. God remains present, even when we cannot see him, even when we experience anxiety and fear. If we are believers, then we cannot give into our fears and anxieties for the future. We must place our faith not in the prophets of doom and gloom but rather in our Lord and Savior, who calmed the wind and the seas. We must place our faith in our Lord and Savior who knew what it was to be human, who knew what it was to experience anxiety, as he did in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night he was betrayed but who still, in the midst of that anxiety, remained faithful. In the midst of that anxiety, he was still able to say, "Father, not my will but yours be done." He was still able to carry the cross for each of us, dying for us in order that we might live with him forever. We must place our faith in our Lord and savior who reminds us that fear is useless and that what is needed is faith—faith that God does love us—faith that God does not abandon his people—faith that God will remain with us until the end of time, if only we have the eyes to recognize his loving presence not just in the calm but even in the midst of the storms of life.

Fr. John Keehner
Chaplain for the State of Ohio
National Chaplain

From the Desk of President Daniel J. O'Connell

Brothers and Friends,

I wish you and your families a Happy Fourth of July as we celebrate our Independence Day across the United States of America. I think of all the brave men and women who are serving our country today and who severed our country throughout history protecting our Freedom and Liberty. We owe these men and women a tremendous debt of gratitude. God Bless each and every one of them.

As I write this note to you, I can't help but to think of Ireland's independence from the same colonial tyrant the USA battled away from so many years ago. My thoughts then go to partition, the six counties who have yet to become free and United with Ireland. With that in mind, today we officially announce our next Freedom for All Ireland virtual webinar event and our upcoming **2022 AOH Hibernian tour to Ireland**, that includes **the 50th anniversary commemoration of the tragic Bloody Sunday in Derry. See page 15 for more information.**

MAKE BRITAIN KEEP PROMISE OF LEGACY JUSTICE webinar Saturday July 17, 11AM Eastern Time, 4PM Ireland time.

In closing, I want to remind everyone how important our state conventions and state board meeting are. Please make every effort to attend when scheduled. We are looking forward to the release this fall of hotel rooms and packages for the 2022 AOH-LAOH National Convention. I hope to see you in Pittsburgh July 13-17 2022 at the Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh located at Point Park.

Happy 4th of July!

Danny O

Officers

Chaplain Fr. John Keehner
jkeehner@youngstowndiocese.org

President Bob Harper
harper.bg@pg.com

Vice President Dennis Parks
dparks121@yahoo.com

Secretary Pete Chrystal
 pvchrystal59@gmail.com

Treasurer Liam Lehn
liamlehn@gmail.com

Director John Myers
johnmyers216@gmail.com

Director Patrick Williams
karimcwilly@gmail.com

Past President Ron Hagan
rhagan@hagancpa.com

OHIO DIVISIONS

Clermont Charles McCafferty
CMACMAC11@aol.com

Cuyahoga #2 Dan Berry (VP)
 danberry@ameritech.net

Cuyahoga #3 Kevin McCluskey
spanky40368@yahoo.com

Franklin Ken Stebleton
 kstebleton@live.com

Hamilton Christopher Schulte
crpschulte@gmail.com

Lucas Robert McMahon
aohjohnpkellydivision@gmail.com

Mahoning Ray Kelly
aohrpk@gmail.com

Medina Scott Manley
Scott.manley@assuredpartners.com

Montgomery Steve Smith
sesmith7@earthlink.net

Summit #2 Nick Jacobs
njacobs@clashmore.com

Summit #3 Josh Arbogast
 josh.hibernian@gmail.com

Trumbull Marty McQuaide
emcqu@aol.com

Washington Thomas Binegar
binegarth@gmail.com

Appointed Officers

Catholic Action Patrick Lally
lally8404@hotmail.com

Pro Life Dave Manley
ruthannanddavid@gmail.com

FFAI Patrick Williams
karimcwilly@gmail.com

PEC Scott Partika
spartika11@gmail.com

Missions & Charities Chris Konik
chriskonik@mindspring.com

Organizer Joe Casey
qualityjoecasey@yahoo.com

Historian Mike Finn
FCoolavin@aol.com

Veterans Affairs Danny Eakins
dannyeakins@hotmail.com

Immigration John Myers
johnmyers216@gmail.com

Newsletter News

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

jjcasey973@gmail.com

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

The Preamble to the AOH National Constitution

**It is hereby declared that the purpose of this Organization,
The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc. is**

1. To promote Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity
2. To foster and sustain loyalty to country and community
3. To aid and advance by all legitimate means the aspirations and endeavors of the Irish people for complete and absolute independence, promoting peace (with justice) and unity for all Ireland
4. To foster the ideals and perpetuate the history and traditions of the Irish people
5. To promote Irish culture
6. To encourage civic participation
7. To encourage an equitable U.S. Immigration law for Ireland, and to cooperate with all groups for a fair American Immigration Policy
8. To accept and support, without prejudice, the concept of free expression of religious practices for the people of the world
9. To protect and defend all life born and unborn

Membership is confined exclusively to males residing in the United States who can prove their Irish ancestry or who have been legally adopted by those of Irish Ancestry, or be a member of the Roman Catholic clergy, or be enrolled as a Seminarian regardless of ancestry if they meet all other requirements and be a practicing Roman Catholic.



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



State Historian's Report

By: J. Michael Finn, AOH State Historian

The Meaning of "O'Donnell Abú"

One of Ireland's most historically significant songs is "O'Donnell Abú." Unfortunately, for both singers and listeners, it is one of the most obscure in meaning. It was originally known as "Clan Connell's War Song" when it was written in 1843 by Michael Joseph McCann. It was originally published in the nationalist newspaper *The Nation*. The song deals with the struggle of Red Hugh O'Donnell and Hugh O'Neill against the forces of Queen Elizabeth I, who sought to destroy the influence of the Irish earls. "O'Donnell Abú" means "O'Donnell Forward" and was the war cry of Hugh O'Donnell's clan.

The struggle began in February 1595 and would continue until the spring of 1597. Red Hugh O'Donnell united his forces with those of Hugh O'Neill and prepared to fight the English for the first time on an all-Ireland national level. The song begins with a call-to-arms for the O'Donnell clan.

Proudly the note of the trumpet is sounding
 Loudly the war cries arise on the gale,
 Swiftly the steed by Lough Swilly is bounding
 To join the thick squadrons on Samier's Green Vale.
 On, every Mountaineer, strangers to flight and fear;
 Rush to the standard of dauntless Red Hugh.
 Bonnaught and Gallowglass, throng from each mountain pass;
 On for old Erin, O'Donnell Abú!

O'Donnell's lieutenants are sounding the trumpets to call upon all of his troops, advising them that a united force is gathering near Lough Swilly. They should assemble on "Samier's Green Vale." Samier is Irish for Morning Star and is the ancient name of the River Erne that flows through the counties of Fermanagh and Donegal. Those living in the mountains are urged onward and any strangers (the English) in the area are encouraged to flee and be afraid as the forces gather under Red Hugh's banner. Bonnaughts were Irish mercenary soldiers and the Gallowglass were Scottish mercenary soldiers. Both groups were in the employ of O'Donnell and were used to guard the mountain passes. They are urged to leave the passes and advance to join O'Donnell's force.

Princely O'Neill to our aid is advancing
 With many a chieftain and warrior clan.
 A thousand proud steeds in his vanguard are prancing,
 'Neath the Borderers brave from the banks of the Bann.
 Many a heart shall quail under its coat of mail;
 Deeply the merciless foeman will rue,
 When on his ear shall ring, borne on the breeze's wing,
 Tyrconnell's dread war cry, O'Donnell Abú!

Hugh O'Neill, the Earl of Tyrone, is advancing with his clansmen to join forces with O'Donnell. He is following the course of the River Bann that runs through Antrim, Derry and Armagh – which the O'Donnell clan knew in their day to be O'Neill land. The English, who wore coats of chain mail, will be afraid and they will deeply rue hearing the war cry of the O'Donnell's. Tyrconnell was the original name of County Donegal, the homeland of the O'Donnell Clan.

Continued on Page 6

State Historian's Report, cont.

Wildly o're Desmond, the war-wolf is howling,
 Fearless the eagle sweeps over the plain,
 The fox in the streets of the city are prowling,
 All who would scare them are banished or slain.
 Grasp, every stalwart hand, hackbut and battlebrand,
 Pay them all back the deep debt long due.
 Norreys and Clifford well, can of Tyrconnell tell,
 Onward to glory, O'Donnell Abú!

This verse recalls the terrific slaughter of men, women and children carried out by Queen Elizabeth's soldiers across the length and breadth of Munster, where the Desmonds once held power. The O'Donnell lieutenants are reminding them that the slaughter in Munster was so complete that the eagle and fox were boldly prowling the plains and the streets of the city because no one was there to scare them away. The song calls upon all "stalwart hands" to grasp the hackbut (a type of musket) and battlebrand (an Irish sword) to pay the English back for the numerous atrocities they had committed in Desmond territory.

Queen Elizabeth, anticipating a tough war in Ireland appointed Sir John Norreys to the post of commander-in-chief of all her troops in Ireland. O'Donnell and O'Neill won most of their battles against Norreys and his experienced troops. Another of Elizabeth's commanders, Sir Conyers Clifford, was in charge of Connaught Province. O'Neill and his clansmen soundly defeated Clifford. Clifford was killed by O'Donnell at the Battle of the Curlew Mountains in County Sligo. Both Norreys and Clifford could very well tell of the bravery of the Irish soldiers and O'Donnell urges his men to go forward with further victories over the English.

Sacred the cause that clan Connell's defending,
 The altars we kneel at, the homes of our sires,
 Ruthless the ruin the foe is extending
 Midnight is red with the plunderer's fires.
 On, with O'Donnell then, fight the old fight again,
 Sons of Tyrconnell, all valiant and true.
 Make the false Saxon feel Erin's avenging steel,
 Strike for your country, O'Donnell Abú!

O'Donnell's lieutenants are reminding all of the clans that their cause is indeed a sacred and holy one and the safety and security of their homes and religion is at stake. The Saxon enemy will be ruthless, as the burning of Munster is again recalled. But, now is the time to "fight the old fight again." This is the time to set aside any clan loyalties and strike as a unit for the country of Ireland.

O'Donnell and O'Neill ultimately lost their fight with the English. Red Hugh O'Donnell went to Spain in 1602 to seek Spanish help, but died there under mysterious circumstances. Hugh O'Neill and the other Irish Earls were forced to flee the country in 1607 in what was called "The Flight of the Earls." This flight resulted in the end of Gaelic Ireland, confiscation of the clan lands in the north of Ireland, and ushered in centuries of English rule.

2021 AOH State Convention

Convention chairs



Jim Kilbane and Ray McGann



Patricia Lavelle



2021 AOH State Convention

Elected Officers - 2021-2023

President	Bob Harper
Vice President	Denny Parks
Treasurer	Liam Lehn
Secretary	Pete Chrystal
Director	Patrick Williams
Director	John Myers

Charitable Donations

Project St. Patrick - \$1000

FFAI - \$1000

Birthright - \$200

Resolutions Passed

1. Recently two of our Past State Presidents have passed. There were no announcements sent to Ohio AOH Divisions. Members were not able to express their condolences to the families or to brother Hibernians. In order to keep all brother Hibernians aware of a Brother Hibernians's passing, it is important for notification to be made in a timely manner.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

Each Division Recording Secretary shall notify the State Secretary and the State President of the death of an AOH member as soon as possible for state-wide notification to all Ohio AOH Divisions.

2. Since the pandemic, social activities, including

Hibernian events, have been curtailed. This Convention is the first opportunity for many of our members to meet since the last State Convention in Toledo in 2019.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

We extend our thanks and congratulations to the Cleveland Hibernians the: Boland Barry Division #2, the Blustone Division and Our Lady of the Rosary Division #5 & #10, for a job well done

Ohio AOH Veterans Affairs

1) Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Veterans: www.va.gov/coronavirus

Brothers – As of 6/23/2021, the VA in Ohio has completed vaccinations for 104,958 individuals. More details can be found at this website: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/>

VA-Tracked* Cumulative Cases in Ohio: 11,095; 511 Deaths; Active Cases: 42

2) US Department of Veterans Affairs Life Insurance Programs:

The VA currently facilitates access to veterans who have completed their service. Those services include Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI), Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (S-DVI), and Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI). Here are key details for each program:

- Veterans' Group Life Insurance is essentially an extension of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) for folks transitioning from active or reserve component service. To qualify, a veteran must be within at least one year from their separation from a qualified active or reserve military unit. Veterans can qualify from \$10,000 to \$400,000 of coverage. More details re. eligibility and applications can be found here: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/vgli/>
- Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance is available to veterans who have been determined by the VA to have a service-connected disability status, even if the disability connection rating is at 0%. Veterans can qualify for up to \$10,000 of coverage with \$30,000 in supplemental coverage available for veterans under 65 years of age who become unable to work or who qualify for a life insurance premium waiver. More details on this program can be found here: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/s-dvi/>
- Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance offers mortgage protection insurance to the families of veterans with severe service-connected disabilities who've adapted a home to fit their needs. Veterans can qualify for up to \$200,000 in mortgage life insurance that would be paid directly to the bank or lender that services the veteran's mortgage. Details on eligibility, applications, and premium information can be found here: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/vmli/>

More information about all the insurance programs for military members, including Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI), and veterans can be found on the VA website here: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/>

National VA Committee meetings are held online every third Tuesday of each month at 7pm ET. Please contact me if you are interested in participating. Also, be sure to visit the Ohio Department of Veterans Services at www.ohiovets.gov to learn more about veterans benefits at the federal, state, and local level in Ohio as well as the National AOH site at www.aoh.com/veterans-affairs for information about benefits and other services around the country.

Danny Eakins

Veterans Affairs Chair

614-893-8833 | dannyeakins@hotmail.com

**Patrick Pearse, Division 1
Tara Hall
274 Innis Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43207**

Catholic Action

The month of July is comprised of Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar, the vestments being green. The calendar includes two saints of the Americas, Junipero Serra and Kateri Tekakwitha.

MAJOR SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS OF JULY

Junipero Serra		July 1
Thomas, Apostle	Feast	July 3
Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr		July 6
Kateri Tekakwitha	Memorial	July 14
Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor	Memorial	July 15
Our Lady of Mount Carmel		July 16
Mary Magdalene	Feast	July 22
Joachim and Ann, Parents of Mary	Memorial	July 26
Martha	Memorial	July 29
Ignatius of Loyola, Priest	Memorial	July 31

SOME IRISH SAINTS OF JULY

Serf, Bishop (6th century) July 1

The life of St. Serf, or Servanus, is rather murky, due to the number of legends and re-workings of old folk tales which have found their way into it. He may have owed his consecration to Palladius. Some think him the apostle of the Orkneys, though evidence that he labored there is slight. It is likely that he evangelized the Scots around Culross, Fifeshire, where he is buried.

Palladius, Bishop (d. 432) July 7

Palladius probably came from Roman Gaul or Britain. Having served as a deacon for some years, Palladius was consecrated bishop by Pope Celestine, in 431, and sent to be the first bishop of the Irish. After a year of little progress against stiff pagan resistance, Palladius departed for the land of the Picts, and was perhaps headed ultimately back to Rome, but he died among the Picts.

Oliver Plunket, Archbishop and Martyr (1629-81) July 11

Oliver was born in County Meath, connected on his father's side to the earls of Fingall, and on his mother's (a Dillon), the earls of Roscommon. During the turbulent time of the rebellion in the British Isles against Charles I and the radical Protestant ascendancy which followed his execution, Oliver began studies for the priesthood at the Benedictine Abbey of St. Mary's, Dublin, under his kinsman, Patrick Plunket. In 1645, he was sent to Rome for further study, earning a scholarly reputation at the new Irish College. After further studies in canon and civil law, he was ordained in 1654. There followed a busy life in Rome for twelve years, during which Plunket taught theology and served as a counselor to the Index and procurator at Rome for the Irish bishops.

In March, 1669, the archbishop of Armagh, Edward O'Reilly, died in exile. Pope Clement IX chose Plunket to succeed him and thought the time seemed opportune to return the Primate of All Ireland to Ireland. After consecration at Ghent, Plunket journeyed to London, where he was in contact with Charles II's Catholic queen before travelling on to Dublin.

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Catholic Action, cont.

The Irish church was in sad shape, due to the penal laws and the Protestant ascendancy, but due also to ignorance, neglect, rivalry, timidity, and the presence of schismatic and disorderly elements within the church. Fortunately, due to various causes at that time, among them the Catholic leanings of the British monarch, Charles II (married to a Portuguese Catholic princess), there was a lessening of pressure upon Catholics in Ireland, and indeed throughout the British Isles. The Protestant viceroy of Ireland, Lord Berkeley of Stratton, was a fair and moderate man. Plunket also enjoyed cordial relations with the Protestant clergy in Ireland. The archbishop always had to be wary that his efforts did not open him to prosecution under the still-enforceable laws, but during this window of a few years, Plunket worked diligently to improve the state of his flock and put things in order.

In 1673, there was a fresh outbreak of persecution. Some of the Irish hierarchy fled or were banished; Plunket and some others operated from hiding. Things got worse after the Oates Plot of 1678. Archbishop Plunket was apprehended and imprisoned in Dublin Castle, and later in London's Newgate, charged with supporting armed insurrection. The winding trail of Plunket's prosecution is too much to follow in detail here; but the prosecution could not get an Irish grand jury to indict, no reliable witnesses were found, measures of questionable legality were forwarded. Most shameful of all, it was the perjured testimony of renegade Irish Catholics which brought about Plunket's condemnation. He was sentenced to be hanged, drawn, and quartered. Plunket suffered martyrdom at Tyburn, the last Catholic martyr to die there. On the scaffold, Plunket proclaimed his innocence of fomenting armed insurrection and his loyalty to the king, and prayed for the king and for the people who had brought about his condemnation. The Archbishop's remains have done some travelling; his body is now at Downside Abbey, while his head is at St. Peter's, Drogheda. Plunket was canonized in 1975.

REEK SUNDAY

In Ireland, the last Sunday of July--July 25 this year--is "Reek Sunday." It marks the annual pilgrimage to the summit of Croagh Patrick, St. Patrick's holy mountain, in County Mayo overlooking Clew Bay. The word "reek" denotes a hill or mountain. St. Patrick is said to have spent Lent of the year 441 fasting and praying on the mountain. Last year, due to pandemic measures, the pilgrimage was cancelled, though the archbishop of Tuam offered a live-streamed Mass. As of this writing the bishops of Ireland have posted nothing regarding plans for this year, but according to local parish sources (www.westportparish.ie), the pilgrimage will occur.

ISSUES OF INTEREST

--The U.S. bishops marked Religious Freedom Week, beginning June 22 with the feast of the the English martyrs Thomas More and John Fisher. Prayer reflections for each day emphasized various challenges and threats to religious freedom in our time.

--Anyone completely reliant upon the secular media for news might have gained the impression from its coverage that the Zoom assembly of the American bishops in June was all about producing a statement denying Communion to Catholic politicians who are pro-abortion. While this is certainly an issue the bishops are wrestling with, it is only one facet of a larger problem they are facing: a more general lack of reverence for the Eucharist and possibly widespread unworthy reception of the Sacrament. A related issue--related perhaps as cause to effect--is the fact that many Catholics do not adhere to Catholic doctrine on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. For those interested in Catholic Action, it is useful to recall the admonition of Pope Pius XI--the Pope of Catholic Action--that we need to arm ourselves with a true knowledge of our Faith to be of service (*Divini Redemptoris*, 1936).

Do you have local news? Please send for inclusion in this report

Pat Lally
330-791-7135
lally8404@hotmail.com

Division News

Patrick Pearse Div. #1 Franklin Co.

The Division is in the process of putting together a Brochure for new and existing members that explains some history of the AOH in Ohio and in Columbus. This will also contain a list of current Officers, a list of all Past Presidents, Commodore Barry Award recipients and Hibernian of the Year recipients. Also included will be committees and charitable activities.

Mahoning Co. Div. #6

Hibernians of Joseph Nalley Sr., Division 6, Youngstown, are selling front license plates featuring the AOH logo. For more information contact Liam Lehn at liamlehn@gmail.com

Msgr. Donal O'Carroll Div. #1, Washington Co.

We celebrate the Washington County Division #1 43rd Anniversary on July 23, 2021. We also remember the naming of our division, the Msgr. Donal O'Carroll Division, 24 years ago on August 18, 1997. We have included memories from both events in this issue. Please join us in celebrating at our next meeting on July 31, 2021. There has been some interest in having a live Shamrock Degree at the July meeting for those who received the degree by zoom, due to the pandemic.

An AOH Memorial Certificate honoring the memory of Charter Member Thomas L. Schwendeman was issued by the Division and presented to brothers Larry Schwendeman and Mark Schwendeman by President Tom Binegar. Thomas Schwendeman was the first Division Vice-President in 1978 through 1982.

Congratulations to Chip Rogers, the Division's first Marshall a Cúig recipient. We thank Brother Rogers and all our brothers who have contributed to the fund to increase the Division imprint and reach in Southeast Ohio and adjoining West Virginia.

A fund, entitled the MARSHALL A CÚIG (Marshall Five) FUND was established to honor the late Brother Marshall Griffin. The number five (a cúig) was designated by Bro. Griffin, himself. It was his considered opinion that an operational budget of five-thousand dollars would allow the Division to increase its imprint and reach in Southeast Ohio and adjoining West Virginia. The fund is set up to recognize donations, in cash or in kind, to the Division to help with its outreach projects.

Any Division member who reaches the cumulative goal of \$250 in donations will be eligible for a Marshall a Cúig pin as a symbol of their dedication and their tribute to Bro. Griffin. The pin will be offered with each succeeding cumulative effort. The designation has already garnered the fruits of remembrance and generosity of many members.

Mark Your Calendars

March for Life

January 21, 2022 13-17, 2022

<https://marchforlife.org/>

2022 AOH National Convention

July 13-17, 2022

Pittsburgh PA

2024 AOH National Convention

Orlando FL

AOH National Pro Life Newsletter

States Introduced Over 500 Bills Saving Babies From Abortions and 61 Have Become Law

States have introduced [more than 500 pro-life pieces of legislation](#) in the first few months of President Joe Biden's administration, in what the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute is calling the "most devastating" legislative session in decades.

The pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute [announced](#) Friday that lawmakers have introduced 536 pro-life pieces of legislation since January. This includes 146 abortion bans, the institute noted, and 61 of the pro-life laws have been enacted across 13 states. The institute called the sheer quantity of the legislation "unprecedented."

"Right-wing ideologues are engaging in a shock and awe campaign against abortion rights that is largely getting lost against the background of a broader attack on other basic rights, including a wave of voter suppression laws and attacks on LGBTQ people," the institute said in a press release.

"The number of abortion restrictions—and specifically bans on abortion designed to directly challenge *Roe v. Wade* and the U.S. constitutional right to abortion—that have swiftly been enacted over the past four months is unprecedented," the press release said. "If this trend continues, 2021 will end up as the most damaging antiabortion state legislative session in a decade—and perhaps ever."

Susan B. Anthony List President Marjorie Dannenfelser praised the surge in pro-life legislation, [saying](#) that it proves "life is winning in America." Across the nation, state lawmakers acting on the will of the people are taking bold steps to humanize our laws and challenge the radical status quo imposed by *Roe v. Wade*," Dannenfelser said in a statement. "The 61 new laws enacted and hundreds of bills introduced include legislation to stop late-term abortions after five months of pregnancy, end lethal discrimination against unborn children for reasons like a Down syndrome diagnosis, protect unborn babies from the moment their heartbeat can be detected, safeguard women from dangerous abortion drugs, and more."

The slew of pro-life legislation comes as the Biden administration continues to expand access to abortion throughout the country. The new president [promised](#) within the first few days of his administration to revoke the Mexico City Policy, which prevents federal funds from going to abortions abroad, and [vowed](#) to make *Roe v. Wade* the law of the land. He has [also taken steps](#) to undo former President Donald Trump's Protect Life Rule, which [prohibited](#) Title X Family Planning Program funds from going to organizations that perform or promote abortions, and [reversed](#) Trump's ban on using abortion fetal tissue for taxpayer-funded research.

Earlier this month, the Biden administration [announced](#) it is lifting the Food and Drug Administration's former restrictions on abortion drugs, allowing the abortion pills to be delivered by mail during the coronavirus pandemic.

Prayer for America

By Archbishop John Carroll (1791)

Charles Carroll, was the only Catholic member of the Continental Congress to sign the Declaration of Independence. Pope Pius VI named his cousin, John Carroll the first bishop of the United States of America in 1789.

PRAYER FOR AMERICA

We pray, O almighty and eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed thy glory to all nations, to preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church, being spread through the whole world, may continue with unchanging faith in the confession of your name.

We pray Thee, who alone are good and holy, to endow with heavenly knowledge, sincere zeal and sanctity of life, our chief bishop, the pope, the vicar of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the government of his Church; our own bishop, all other bishops, prelates and pastors of the Church; and especially those who are appointed to exercise among us the functions of the holy ministry, and conduct your people into the ways of salvation.

We pray O God of might, wisdom and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment decreed, assist with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude the president of these United States, that his administration may be conducted in righteousness and be eminently useful to your people over whom he presides; by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by restraining vice and immorality.

Let the light of your divine wisdom direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government, so that they may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge; and may perpetuate to us the blessing of equal liberty.

We pray for his excellency, the governor of this state, for the members of the assembly, for all judges, magistrates, and other officers who are appointed to guard our political welfare, that they may be enabled, by your powerful protection, to discharge the duties of their respective stations with honesty and ability.

We recommend likewise, to your unbounded mercy, all our brethren and fellow citizens throughout the United States, that they may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of your most holy law; that they may be preserved in union, and in that peace which the world cannot give; and after enjoying the blessings of this life, be admitted to those which are eternal.

Finally, we pray to you, O Lord of mercy, to remember the souls of your servants departed, who are gone before us with the sign of faith and repose in the sleep of peace; the souls of our parents, relatives and friends; of those who, when living, were members of this congregation, and particularly of such as are lately deceased; of all benefactors who, by their donations or legacies to this Church, witnessed their zeal for the decency of divine worship and proved their claim to our grateful and charitable remembrance. To these, O Lord, and to all that rest in Christ, grant, we beseech you, a place of refreshment, light and everlasting peace, through the same Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

Joe Gill, Catholic Action Chairman, Irish Brigade Div. 1, Medina Co.



**2022 AOH Ireland Tour – 50th anniversary commemoration of Bloody Sunday
Wednesday January 26th thru Saturday February 5th**

Land Package: Double Occupancy \$1400 - Single supplement \$1750

The AOH is proud to be working with Derry Blue Badge Tours once again creating a historical/political and educational tour of the North of Ireland that includes participation in the 50th anniversary commemoration of Bloody Sunday.

Space is limited to 50 travelers; reservations will only be held based on receipt of non-refundable deposits.

Air transportation is responsibility of traveler.

A \$500 non-refundable deposit is due by August 1, 2021 with the balance due by December 1, 2021

Make Checks payable to Sean Pender, credit cards not accepted, checks or money order only.

Please write in memo area: FFAI 2022 Tour

Mail deposit and reservation form below to:

Sean Pender AOH Vice President

13 Scullin Drive

Yardville NJ 08620

Contact Sean Pender for additional information:

Email Sean: paddyspeed@yahoo.com

Telephone: 609-462-7056

[Link to Aer Lingus 4th of July Discount.](#)