



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
IRISH • CATHOLIC • AMERICAN

Ohio State Board

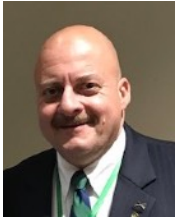
Newsletter

July 2022

Volume 4 Issue 7

President's Message

Brothers All,



National Convention Month – it's here! I'm glad and excited that we will finally be able to again gather with fellow Hibernians from across the country, to learn, to socialize, and to celebrate our heritage and faith. With the convention being in our own backyard, I hope that as many of you as possible take this unique opportunity to attend. **Attendance at a National Convention is truly worth your time and money, and I guarantee you'll be a better Hibernian for the experience.**

Recruiting and Retention: *What have you done this month to help your Division reach that 5% target, and maybe win one of those bottles of Redbreast 12, for your Division or yourself?*

Soon, I'll be announcing **which Divisions, and which individual Brother Hibernian, are the winners of one of those bottles of Redbreast 12.** At the recent state board meeting, both of our two largest Divisions claimed that they'd take the prize for the largest recruiting numbers, and one of them also assured us that they also were the home of the individual recruiting winner. Stay tuned – we'll soon see who really takes the prize!

Mark your calendars now, **the Fall State Board meeting will be on October 15th.** Location TBA, but it will definitely be that Saturday. That's a bye weekend for both OSU and UC football, so that greatly reduces your excuses for not attending!

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Chaplain's Comments



Over the years, after many moves, from home, to college, to the seminary, to my first assignment at St. Charles, to Rome and back, and several moves since, I have grown weary of things. In fact, as I was unpacking nearly ten years ago, upon moving into St. Christine rectory in Youngstown, I vowed, "I am never moving again. And if I do, I am only taking with me what I can throw out the window"—famous last words, as I was moved again less than seven years later to take up my present assignment in North Canton. Having things can be nice, when they are helpful. But having too many things can be a huge burden, to the point that they simply get in the way.

In Luke 10:1-12, the Gospel for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary time, Jesus sends his disciples out into the world, instructing them to preach the good news of salvation, to heal the sick, and to expel demons but to take nothing with them. They are to greet no one along the way who might distract them from their purpose. They are to find their sustenance solely in the good will of those persons to whom they are being sent—those persons to whom they are to proclaim the good news. Jesus is telling them, in so many words, that if they are to be his disciples, they must learn to trust in God. They must trust that God will be their strength, providing for them, opening the hearts of those who hear their word.

Now, Jesus certainly did not despise the material world he had created as the Eternal Word. Just as we know that in calling the disciples to leave

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President's Message, cont.

We're into the swing of summer, so I know that many of your Divisions host picnics, ballgame events, and other Division events. Feel free to shoot me an invite to any of these events (yes, I'm inviting myself). As always, where and when you deem appropriate, I'll be glad and grateful to attend your

meetings and events. 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 Comments, cont.

behind their families, their homes, even their dead, he did not despise family life, either. But Jesus is emphasizing the fact that we cannot so put our trust in the things of this world, with the material goods with which we so easily surround ourselves, that we forget what it means to trust in God. We cannot so center our lives on things or even people that they become idols for us, replacing God as the source of all that we have and all we are called to be. We cannot place so much emphasis on what we have and what we think we need that we forget, in fact, who we are—fellow creatures—created in the image and likeness of God, totally dependent on God even for every beat of our hearts and every breath we breathe.

Saint Paul knew this very well. In his journeys throughout the course of his life, he learned to rely not on his own ability to preach the Gospel or even on the good will of those to whom he preached, but on God's grace alone. He makes this point quite clear in today's second reading, when he states, "May I never boast except in the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." Saint Patrick embraced this reality when he left behind his homeland in order to proclaim the Gospel to the people of Ireland, who had once enslaved him. Saint Colmkillie lived out this reality when he left Ireland and settled on the desolate island of Iona, off the Scottish coast, leaving behind all that he knew and loved as an act of humility, in reparation for his sins.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to have that same world view—one in which we depend not on our own merits, our own abilities, our own riches, even our own sense of holiness, but rather on the Cross of Jesus, who emptied himself of everything—even life itself—out of love for us, in order that our sins might be forgiven and that we might share in his life. Like those first disciples, Jesus sends us out into the world as lambs among wolves. But he never asks us to go alone. Rather, through the power of the Holy Spirit, he offers to lead us himself, taking us by the hand and walking with us, guiding us on the path which lies ahead, and providing us with the only thing we really need, and that is the assurance of God's love for us. It is this assurance of God's love that allows us to walk through the perils of this world, knowing that we have nothing to fear. For the Cross of Jesus stands as a beacon of hope on the darkened horizon—shining away the darkness of sin and despair and reminding us, even when we are afraid, even when we feel abandoned, that we are never alone. God goes with us into the world, loving us, even when we are unable to love ourselves. God goes with us into the world, guiding us when we are lost, taking us by the hand and leading us even through the valley of the shadow of death to green pastures, where we will rest in his presence, and assurance of his undying love for us.

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

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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.**

Ohio AOH Veterans Affairs

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

Brothers – As of 6/23/2022, the VA in Ohio has completed vaccinations for 155,500 individuals.

VA-Tracked Cumulative Cases in Ohio: 27,417; 948 Deaths; Active Cases: 297

2) US Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP):

In an effort to assist veterans who may have been displaced from work due to the pandemic, the VA is heavily promoting their Rapid Retraining Assistance Program or VRRAP. Qualifying Veterans can receive up to 12 months of tuition and fees along with a monthly housing allowance during a period in which they are receiving training services financed by the VA. To be eligible for VRRAP, you must be between 22 and 66 years of age, unemployed due to COVID-19, able to work, and not eligible for other education or unemployment benefits (such as the GI Bill). This includes veterans who may have already exhausted their GI Bill benefits. The VA will stop accepting new VRRAP enrollments on December 11, 2022, or when they reach either the funding or participant limit, whichever comes first, so early bird gets the worm. More information about this program can be found here: <https://www.va.gov/education/other-va-education-benefits/veteran-rapid-retraining-assistance/>

3) Ohio Regional Veteran Collaborative – Greater Miami Valley MyVA Community:

This Dayton-region organization has been built out and supported by the Strategic Ohio Council on Higher Education (SOCHE), but includes stakeholders from across the region, including VA, County Veterans Services Offices, higher education institutions, employers, and non-profit veteran/community organizations. Chaired by Dr. Cassie Barlow, who is the former garrison commander for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the selected organizational objectives and scope are described below:

- Identify and highlight/advertise resources around the region available to Veterans, transitioning Service Members and Families
- Assist United Way of Greater Dayton with VetLink 211 initiative
- Regularly meet with strategic Veteran Service providers across region to share best practices via the Dayton Region Military Collaborative
- Assist veterans in identifying and reaching the existing resources via regular listening sessions and communiques through Ohio Department of Veterans Services and the Veterans Administration.
- Identify & facilitate forums where service providers can learn about each other in order to work together to enhance effectiveness and improve outcomes
- Facilitate feedback mechanisms for Veterans

<https://www.soche.org/aerospace-professional-development-center/myveteran-community/>

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 as well as the National AOH site at www.aoh.com/veterans-affairs for information about services around the country.

Danny Eakins

Veterans Affairs Chair

614-893-8833 | dannyeakins@hotmail.com



State Historian's Report

J. Michael Finn, State Historian

Turkish Muslims Help the Irish



During Ireland's Great Hunger many people from many different countries stepped up to help relieve the suffering of the Irish. Little help came from the British Government. What aid they provided was foolishly spent on "public works projects" building bridges over nonexistent rivers and roads that went nowhere.

Also, government aid was only provided to a few, who were forced to give up the small amount of land they owned. Others were forced to make the decision to either renounce their Catholic Faith or watch their family starve to death. Desperate Irish were forced into the "dreaded workhouses" where families were separated and even more died.

Most notable among the groups that actually provided real aid to the Irish were the Quakers (Society of Friends) who collected thousands of dollars in aid (money, food and clothing) and distributed it in Ireland without any strings attached to the starving Irish.

The soup kitchens established by the Quakers served thousands of starving Irish. They also made a valiant attempt to restart the Irish fishing industry in the west of Ireland. They soon had to give up their relief efforts in Ireland as the number of starving people overwhelmed their ability to aid them. The Quakers have never been properly recognized for the quantity and quality of the aid they provided to the Irish.

Much aid also came from America where shipping companies volunteered to ship any package overseas for free that was marked "For Ireland." The Choctaw American Indian Nation also contributed \$200 to Irish relief, a significant sum for the poor tribe. When some tribal members questioned why they should support Europeans given their own shabby treatment, one member replied, "We have walked the trail of tears. The Irish people walk it now. We can help them as we could not help ourselves."

The gift of the Choctaws is remembered in Ireland. A memorial plaque on Dublin's Mansion House honors the Choctaw contribution. It reads: "Their humanity calls us to remember the millions of human beings throughout our world today who die of hunger and hunger-related illness in a world of plenty."

Foreign assistance that is not so widely known is that of the Muslims in Turkey who also contributed to Irish relief during the Great Hunger. The Turkish Ottoman Empire ruler in 1847 was Sultan Khaleefah Abdul-Majid (pictured above). It seems that the Sultan had a doctor who was born in Ireland and the doctor told him of the suffering and starvation of the Irish people.

The Sultan declared his intention to send £10,000 to Irish farmers. But, when Queen Victoria heard of this, she advised the Sultan to only send £1,000. She had only given £2,000 and she did not want to be upstaged by the Sultan of Turkey. So, the Sultan only sent £1,000 to Ireland.

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State Historian's Report, cont.

However, the Sultan remained angry that the Queen should dictate to him, so, in addition to the financial contribution, he secretly sent three Turkish ships loaded with food to Ireland in May of 1847.

The British administration blocked the Turkish ships from entering Dublin. So the ships sailed up the east coast of Ireland and were able to land at the port of Drogheda. There is a reference in both the Drogheda Argus and the Drogheda Conservative newspapers to "foreign ships" that docked at Drogheda that week. The Turkish food was unloaded and distributed in County Louth and County Meath.

We always have a great opportunity to educate ourselves and the general public regarding the truth of the starvation and genocide of the Irish. Well over 1 million Irish died of starvation and disease; another 1 million were forced to emigrate from Ireland to other lands. Meanwhile the British Government refused to stop the exporting of food from Ireland, food that could have saved all who died. The Irish were fortunate that some foreign aid from many sources was able to get through, despite British attempts to stop it.

J. Michael Finn

State Organizer's Report

National Convention & Festivals Continue

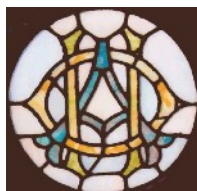
I hope everyone will be enjoying Independence Day with their families, friends and loved ones. This is a great time to celebrate a freedom denied to citizens of many countries.

For those of you planning on attending the National Convention in Pittsburgh this month, be sure to get ahold of any of the recruiting and organizing material that may be available from our National Organizer, Tim McSweeney.

Festivals will continue throughout the summer and into the fall so be ready to grab any opportunity to increase your membership. If you have business cards with your contact information on them, be sure to have them with you to be able to pass out to those interested. As I've mentioned before, check out the National website (www.aoh.com) under the column-header "About the AOH" and then "Organizer Resources". You will find downloadable recruitment material that you can personalize and use.

I hope to see many of you in Pittsburgh later this month to enjoy our Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity with brothers from around the country.

Joe Casey, Deputy National Organizer, State of Ohio Organizer



2022 AOH-LAOH JFK Memorial Medal

The In accordance with Article XXVI of the National Constitution of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, nominations were requested for the John F. Kennedy Memorial Medal for 2022. There were five nominations received from LAOH and AOH qualified nominators. The names submitted were certainly some of the worthiest candidates since the inception of this award. The purpose of the award is to recognize a Catholic of Irish birth or descent outstanding in his or her field of endeavor. On behalf of myself and vice-chair LAOH Vice President Marilyn Madigan we are proud to announce that the 2022 AOH-LAOH JFK Memorial Medal recipient is Rocky Bleier. Bleier is best known in his role as running back for 1966 National Championship Notre Dame football team and a four-time Super Bowl Champion with the Pittsburgh Steelers. While those accomplishments in themselves would merit consideration for this prestigious award, it is his work off the field in his role as soldier and longtime veteran advocate where his continued level of excellence has set him apart from so many others. LAOH Vice President Marilyn Madigan adds “President Kennedy challenged us in his Inaugural Address and in his Administration with the Peace Corps to give service to others as Americans. Rocky Bleier accepted that challenge with his Military Service during the Vietnam War where he was a Profile in Courage. His work helping other Veterans and his community involvement demonstrate his commitment to the JFK’s quote “Ask not what America can do for you ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world ask not what America will do for you but what we can do for the freedom of man”

Rocky Bleier will receive the prestigious award at the closing banquet of the 2022 AOH- LAOH National Convention in his beloved Pittsburgh on Saturday July 16th.

New Orleans AOH member John Fitzmorris prepared the following biography for Bleier’s nomination:

Robert Patrick Bleier Jr. was born in Appleton, Wisconsin, the oldest of four children to Robert “Bob” and Ellen Bleier, a solid Catholic Irish-German family; and Rocky’s maternal grandmother was a member of the McGuire family. He attended St. Joseph’s Parochial School and Xavier High School in Appleton where he excelled at both football and basketball. With neither great speed nor agility, his simple desire to succeed translated into running harder and playing smarter to stand out on the field and led him to a scholarship to Notre Dame to play for legendary coach Ara Parseghian. He played on the 1966 National Championship Team for the Fighting Irish and in the famous 10-10 tie against Michigan State in 1966.

Bleier lasted until the 16th round when he was drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers. Football often is compared to war by the overly-dramatic, but Rocky Bleier knows the difference because another draft awaited him. His induction notice to the U.S. Armed Forces joined him with the thousands of young men fighting in the fields and jungles of Vietnam. Reluctantly but with a sense of duty, Rocky put aside his professional career to serve his country—and with the same tenacity with which he played football. He was assigned as a squad grenadier in Company C, 4th Battalion (Light), 31st Infantry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade. On August 20, 1969, while on patrol in Hiep Duc, Bleier was wounded in the left thigh by an enemy rifle bullet when his platoon was ambushed in a rice paddy. While he was down, an enemy grenade landed nearby after bouncing off a fellow soldier, sending shrapnel into his lower right leg and tearing off a part of his right foot. He was later awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

Rocky began a painful rehabilitation that took two years, but he defied the odds, rejoined the Steelers, and became part of what is arguably the greatest football dynasty in the history of professional football, winning four Super Bowl rings, and finishing his career with 3,855 yards rushing.

A fixture in the Pittsburgh community, Rocky lends his name and presence to numerous charitable causes like helping his fellow Veterans. He has established The Veterans Benefit Institute, an organization that is dedicated to helping our country’s veterans receive the benefits that they deserve.

Few individuals can say that they served their country in the military and then have played in the NFL. Even fewer have been wounded in combat only to return and play for a significant period in professional football. Only Rocky Bleier can say that he survived the hell and the heartbreak of combat wounds to fight back, help win four Super Bowls, and then turn his experiences into blessings that he can share with the greater community.

Robert Patrick “Rocky” Bleier has embodied in his life and his example the highest ideals of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity, and he embodies the spirit of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Medal.

Ohio AOH license plate

Brothers, I am working on a project to possibility have an AOH license plate in Ohio but to do that I need to get 100 licensed drivers to sign the attached petition to be considered. By signing the petition does not commit you to get the plate but hopefully if it is successful, you would get the plate.

What we are asking is that each of you to get 7 people to sign the petition and if possible, scan and email it to me.

Liam Lehn, 134 Maple Leaf Drive, Austintown, OH 44515

liamlehn@gmail.com 330.518.9917



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES

PETITION TO ESTABLISH ORGANIZATIONAL LICENSE PLATE

We the undersigned do intend to support the production of specialty license plates designated to the _____ by purchasing the _____

Specialty License Plates from the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles. We understand there will be an additional cost to the standard license plate fee and also understand a portion of the proceeds will go to the designated fund.

Please do not sign this petition unless it is your present intention to purchase this plate if and when it is issued.

PLEASE FILL OUT COMPLETELY THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION (Duplicate this form as necessary)

(PRINT or TYPE)

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MI	PHONE (include area code)
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CURRENT LICENSE PLATE #	OHIO DL OR ID CARD #	SIGNATURE X	
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MI	PHONE (include area code)
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CURRENT LICENSE PLATE #	OHIO DL OR ID CARD #	SIGNATURE X	
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MI	PHONE (include area code)
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CURRENT LICENSE PLATE #	OHIO DL OR ID CARD #	SIGNATURE X	
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MI	PHONE (include area code)
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CURRENT LICENSE PLATE #	OHIO DL OR ID CARD #	SIGNATURE X	
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MI	PHONE (include area code)
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CURRENT LICENSE PLATE #	OHIO DL OR ID CARD #	SIGNATURE X	
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MI	PHONE (include area code)
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CURRENT LICENSE PLATE #	OHIO DL OR ID CARD #	SIGNATURE X	
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS PETITION, PLEASE CONTACT			
CIRCULATOR OF PETITION INFORMATION		TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATURES	
NAME		PHONE	
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PETITION DRIVE

Ohio AOH Missions & Charities

Chris Konik, Ohio AOH Missions & Charities Chair

Aid to Ukraine: UNICEF IRELAND

Donations will be used to directly support the children of Ukraine through UNICEF USA and UNICEF IRELAND. The AOH National Board will make a supporting donation as well.

This support is taking shape with a fundraising campaign through Hibernian Charities, a 501c3 organization owned and operated by the AOH. Make your division check out to Hibernian Charity, with UNICEF Ireland in the memo section. Mail payment to: Hibernian Charity, PO Box 19325, New Orleans, LA 70179.

EASTER APPEAL: Project St Patrick

A message from Ohio AOH State President Bob Harper:

Our Catholic Faith is such an important part of who we are, both personally and as an Order. A great way to live that, and make it come alive in a real fashion, is with support of our Easter Appeal for Project St. Patrick.

Therefore, we ask your support as follows:

Today we ask that every Division and Board raise one \$500 PSP Scholarship and for our larger Divisions to raise two. What better way to show our support for the clergy, our founding charge, than to support those called to serve the Lord today.

Project St. Patrick Forms and PSP Division Representative

All divisions must have a Project St Patrick representative and division information filed with your diocese. This allows the Bishop's Office to see how the AOH supports local seminarians and those pursuing vocations. Please update your forms. Name recognition scholarships can be made to honor clergy, fellow Hibernians or someone who has passed. PSP forms are posted online at: <https://aoh.com/project-st-patrick>

Local, Statewide, National and International Charities

Holy Family Mission (County Tipperary, Ireland) www.holyfamilymission.ie

Dead Theologians Society www.deadtheologianssociety.com

Catholic Relief Services <https://support.crs.org>

Division Missions & Charities News Statewide

Email news of your division's Missions & Charities work to chriskonik@mindspring.com

Please feel free to include photos and a few paragraphs, or just a caption will do. A great way to showcase your efforts and inspire your brother Hibernians.

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, Priest		July 1
Maria Goretti,	Virgin and Martyr	July 6
Benedict, Abbot	Memorial	July 11
Kateri Tekakwitha	Memorial	July 14
Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor	Memorial	July 15
Our Lady of Mount Carmel		July 16
Mary Magdalene	Feast	July 22
Bridget*	Religious*	July 23
James, Apostle	Feast	July 25
Joachim and Ann, Parents of Mary	Memorial	July 26
Martha, Mary, and Lazarus	Memorial	July 29

*The St. Bridget commemorated this month is not Bridget of Ireland, but Bridget of Sweden.

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 reworkings 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.

Kilian and Companions, Martyrs (d.c. 689) July 8

Kilian was an Irish monk who went with eleven companions to Franconia in Germany, with a papal mandate to evangelize the area. At some point he was consecrated bishop. Kilian rebuked a local feudatory named Gosbert, a recent convert, for his irregular marriage. This brought about the slaying of Kilian and his companions, though accounts differ as to whether Gosbert was involved in this.

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 31 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. After restrictions during the recent pandemic, things seem to be back in full swing for the pilgrimage this year, with a number of Masses, as well as confession, scheduled for the summit that day. For details, check the local diocesan website: www.westportparish.ie.

ISSUES OF INTEREST

The decision of San Francisco's Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone to warn House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) away from receiving the Eucharist, due to her pro-abortion advocacy, has predictably dominated any recent discussions touching upon the Eucharist. But perhaps of wider and deeper significance is the decision of the American bishops to initiate a three-year Eucharistic revitalization. Commencing this past June 19, the Feast of Corpus Christi, the revitalization is designed to recall Catholics to a true understanding of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and to revive a proper reverence and devotion to the same. The bishops have no doubt been spurred on by the revelations of recent surveys showing that large numbers of Catholics apparently do not hold to the Church's doctrine on the Eucharist. This situation no doubt contributes to the casual way in which many Catholics approach Holy Communion, as well as the way many Catholic politicians feel comfortable ignoring Church teaching. We Hibernians should look for ways to contribute to a revival, such as participation in adoration and Eucharistic processions.

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

Faternally,

Pat Lally

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2022 AOH National Convention

July 13-17, 2022

Pittsburgh PA

<https://www.2022pittsburghconvention.com/>

The 2022 Pittsburgh National Convention is fast approaching – July is just around the corner. Here’s a link to the Convention website, where you’ll find all the details you need for hotel reservations, convention event registration, program ad info, and more:

Please forward to your division email distributions ASAP. This is a great opportunity for Ohio brothers to attend a national convention, probably the best opportunity since the 2010 Cincinnati convention. Please talk this up at your Division and County Board meetings, and encourage your members to register and attend. They’ll learn so much about our Order, and have a great time, too! Slan, Bob

See you all in Pittsburgh in July!



Charter Bus Planned for the Convention

John O’Brien is coordinating a bus to transport attendees to and from the National Convention in Pittsburgh. The cost is \$100 for the round trip. It will leave on Wednesday, July 13th and return on Sunday the 17th. The take-off point is still being worked on. Reservations are needed and will be taken until the bus is sold out. John is the contact person and you can email him at jobrien@irish.us to reserve your seat or if you have any questions.

Mark Your Calendars

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2024 AOH National Convention

Orlando FL