

Ohio State Board Newsletter June 2021 Volume 3 Issue, 6

President's Message



Brothers All,

Welcome to summer (almost!) and FINALLY some warm weather. I hope this note finds you all well. Lots to talk about, as this is a very important month.

Our **State Convention** month is here – June 25-27th. Please visit the convention page on our state website at https://ohioaoh.com/2021-state-convention. It already has all the information you need for hotel reservations, convention package registration, convention program book ad requests, and much more. We look forward to seeing you in late June!

We intend for this to be a very informative and engaging convention agenda. I've asked all our appointed Chairs to spend time not on a simple report of the past months' goings-on, but instead to take the time to talk:

- The reasons for the committees and what they mean for our Order and our communities,
- The duties of the respective chairs (which apply at every level of the order),
- Their views on how we bring these things to life and provide real results,
- Q&A and open discussion.

I think you'll find value in these discussions, and you'll find it helpful to your Divisions moving forward.

Continued on Page 2

Chaplain's's Comments



Several years ago, while serving as rector of St. Columba Cathedral in Youngstown, I wrote up a pamphlet which is still used by the parish and available to visitors. It tells the story of St. Columba, whose feast day is June 9.

St. Columba of Iona

Alone with none but Thee, my God,
I journey on my way:
What need I fear,
when Thou art near,
O King of night and day!
More safe am I within Thy hand
Than if a host
did round me stand.

A prayer of St. Columba Translated from Gaelic

Originally named Crimthain, which means "fox" or "wolf", St. Columba, known also as Columcille, which means "the dove of the Church", is said to have been born about the year 521 in County Donegal. Descended from Niall of the Nine Hostages, who reputedly led the raid in which St. Patrick was captured and taken to Ireland as a slave, Columba was educated in the Irish tradition, first in the fosterage of a priest, Cruithnechan, and later at the school of St. Finnian at Moville. Once ordained a priest, he spent fifteen years traveling about Ireland preaching and founding monasteries, the most renowned of which were Derry, Durrow and Kells. After a dispute with St. Finnian over a book, the Psalter of St. Jerome, which he had copied by hand, and a subsequent battle which erupted among their followers, Columba, in repentance for the violence which had ensued, and at the advice of his friend, St. Brendan, decided to go into exile and to dedicate himself to the salvation of souls in a foreign land.

Continued on Page 4

Ohio State Board Newsletter

President's Message, cont.

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!

Please share your good news and great work. I can't wait to hear about your successes and joy. Where and when you deem appropriate, I'll be glad and grateful to attend your meetings and events whenever and wherever possible. 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





Commodore Barry Medal



As a reminder, led by Worthy State Past President McKenzie, the State Board has Commodore Barry Award medals for purchase. This is a "great" way to recognize leadership and contributions to the Order, and particularly your Division. Please contact Brother McKenzie with any questions. Slan, Bob

The AOH Ohio State Board is pleased to offer the **Commodore John Barry Medal** to AOH Divisions for \$25. This medal is intended to be awarded to members for outstanding service or achievement. Each medal comes individually packaged in an attractive display case with a printed history of Commodore Barry.

Yours in our Motto.

Mike McKenzie, Ohio State Board

Mike McKenzie at: (330) 329 2652, tmmckenzie31@gmail.com

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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.





In the year 563, at the age of forty one, he left Ireland, taking with him twelve companions, all them kinsmen. embarked with twelve companions in a small boat. They landed, on the eve of the feast of Pentecost, on the Island of It was there that Columba and his companions built the great monastery which was to be Columba's home for the rest of his life and which was to become among the most famous of monastic foundations in the Western Church for many centuries. In the years that followed, St. Columba is credited with evangelizing the Scottish Picts. He made many trips to the Scottish mainland over the years in order to establish the Christian faith among the people. He also occasionally served as a diplomat between rival kings and tribes in order to negotiate peace and the rights of Christians. Although Columba visited Ireland a few times over the next several years, Iona remained his home for the rest of his life. Iona, in fact, became the constant destination of personages great and humble who, attracted by Columba's reputation as a man of prayer and wisdom, as a worker of miracles and a speaker of prophecies, came to seek his counsel. He was known, in the words of St Adamnan, a kinsman who later also served as Abbot of Iona, to be "a lover of man and beast" who, "in the midst of all his toils...appeared loving unto all, serene and holy, rejoicing in the joy of the Holy Spirit in his inmost heart". St. Columba, like so many saints, is said to have known when



he was about to die. One day he asked to be taken by cart to the field in which his monks were working. Upon arriving, he blessed the grain and the crops. Legend has it that in the midst of this blessing, an old white horse which had long served the Iona community approached the saint and rested its head on his shoulder, where it began to weep with sadness at the saint's impending departure from the world. Later that day, June 9, 597, while in the midst of copying a manuscript of psalm 34, Columba laid aside his pen, stating that someone else would have to finish the task, and died. He was buried at Iona, but later his body was taken to Downpatrick to lie in the grave of St. Patrick and St. Brigid. Said to have been gifted with the gift of prophesy, among the most famous of the words attributed to him speak of his beloved Iona:

Iona of my heart,
Iona of my love,
Instead of monks' voices
Shall be lowing of cattle;
But ere the world come to an end
Iona shall be as it was.

Many of the legends which have grown up around the saint concern his great love for creation and for animals. He is perhaps best remembered, however, for his monastic rule, which spread throughout western Europe as members of the Iona community preached the Gospel, and was utilized until the rule of St. Benedict came into common use.

St. Columba is honored, along with St. Patrick and St. Brigid as one of the primary patrons of Ireland. He is also known as the Apostle to Scotland. His Feast Day is June 9.

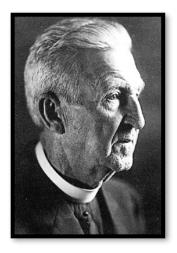
Fr. John Keehner Chaplain for the State of Ohio National Chaplain

Stained glass panels are from the main window of St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown, Ohio

State Historian's Report

Father Charles A. Mulhearn, Ancient Order of Hibernians of Ohio State Chaplain (1900-1904)

By: J. Michael Finn, AOH State Historian



Charles A. Mulhearn was born September 22, 1861, in New Jersey. His parents were Michael and Mary (Conaty) Mulhearn, natives of County Cavan, Ireland. After Charles birth they relocated and settled in New London, Connecticut.

Michael Mulhearn immigrated to this country from County Cavan in 1854 as did his wife, and they were married soon after their arrival. Michael was a shoemaker by vocation, and traveled from Maine to California in the interests of his business. The Mulhearns had three children Charles, Frank and Daniel.

Charles obtained his early education in the public schools of New London, Connecticut, later entered the Buckley High School, and graduated with honors. The next eight years of his life were spent on a steamer running between New London and Sag Harbor, New York, serving in the capacity of clerk. He then entered Niagara University in Buffalo, New York, where he completed a classical course, and

determined to become a priest. He then went to Montreal Seminary where he took a course in theology. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop Stephen V. Ryan of Buffalo, N.Y., June 15, 1889.

Father Mulhearn arrived in Columbus, Ohio in 1890 and was appointed assistant pastor of St. Joseph's Cathedral where he also assisted Bishop John A. Watterson with administrative duties of the diocese. In 1898 he was assigned as Pastor of St. Mary's Church at Martins Ferry, Belmont County, Ohio.

He served as Ohio State Chaplain of the Ancient Order of Hibernians from 1900 until 1904, during the State Presidency of Timothy S. Hogan from Wellston, Ohio. Father Mulhearn was also head of the Martins Ferry City Hospital Board of Trustees and served as a member of the volunteer fire department.

Father Mulhearn died on December 2, 1941 at the age of 80 after serving 43 years as Pastor of St. Mary's. The nursing staff from the city hospital visited the church and each nurse dropped a rose into his casket. Also, the members of the city's four fire companies marched passed his casket. His funeral services were held at St. Mary's and attended by over 100 priests from the Diocese. He is buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in Martins Ferry, Ohio.

Through sharing stories of our history we can remember those brother and sister Hibernians who came before us and on whose shoulders we stand today.

J. Michael Finn, fcoolavin@aol.com



Division News St. Brendan Div. #3 Summit Co.



2021 Riverfront Irish Festival

June 11 - 13, 2021

Bands to date:

Brigid's Cross
The New Barleycorn
Dulahan
Mary's Lane
Callahan and O'Connor
Celtic Rush
Westside Steve
and more!

Schedule to follow soon!
Check our website: www.riverfrontirishfest.org

We are excited to bring the festival back to Cuyahoga Falls this year.

> FALLS RIVER SQUARE 2085 FRONT STREET CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH 44221

Patrick Pearse Div. #1 Franklin Co.

2021 Hibernian Golf Classic, Saturday, June 5, 2021 at Split Rock Golf Club

For registration and Sponsorship information contact Chris Konic

\$85 per person -- \$340 per foursome

Dinner afterward at Tara Hall, including City BBQ

\$400 to winning foursome

Project St Patrick is the designated charity

Limited to 10 foursomes, to keep with local county health department restrictions.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Chris Konik, chriskonik@mindspring.com

2021 Hibernian Golf Classic Chair

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

Mark Your Calendars

2021 State Convention (See Pages 8, 9, 10 and 11)

June 25 - June 26

Double Tree Hilton, West Lake, OH

2022 AOH National Convention

Pittsburgh PA

Call to Convention

This will serve as a call to the Biennial AOH Ohio State Convention. The Convention will take place at the Doubletree Hilton Westlake on June 25th and 26th.

Information can be found at our state website www.ohioaoh.com, and/or by contacting the convention chairs Patty Lavelle at plave31228@gmail.com, and/or Ray McGann R4A1Y2@aol.com.

Agenda items should be submitted to President Bob Harper at harper.bg@pg.com and/or to me at Pvchrystal59@gmail.com the above address as soon as possible.

As a reminder to County/Division Presidents and Secretaries, you must submit your delegate/alternate list to Secretary Pete Chrystal at least 10 days prior to the convention opening date, in accordance with state bylaws Please work with your board now, to ensure timely submission.

Please refer to "Article IV C Representation" for information regarding the number of delegates allowed per county.

C.) REPRESENTATION

Section 4.1.C The following members shall be entitled to seats at the State Convention, and shall have a vote on all matters presented: the Board Officers, elected and appointed (See Constitution, Article VIII, Sections 3 and 4); Officers of each County, elected and appointed (See Constitution, Article VIII, Sections 5 through 8), and their Chaplain; each Past State President; each National Officer who is a member in good standing of the State; the Chaplain of each Division; the President of each Division or his alternate.

Section 4.2.C In addition, each Division shall be entitled to one (1) delegate or alternate for each (10) members, or major fraction thereof over and above the first (10) members, based on the Division membership as reported on Line 11 of the Division Membership and Financial Report for the year immediately preceding the Convention.

Section 4.3.C This same formula shall be used to determine the number of delegates entitled to new Divisions organized after the first day in January of the year of the Convention.

Section 4.4.C Representation to the State Convention is by County. In jurisdictions where a County Board is present, the County Board shall represent all of the Divisions within the County. In jurisdictions where there is no presence of a County Board, the Division shall serve as "the County Board" and shall represent the County at the State Convention.

Pete Chrystal AOH Secretaty, Ohio State Board Pvchrystal59@gmail.com Cell 440.725.8053

Ohio State Board Newsletter



Ancient Order of Hibernians
Boland Berry Division
Bluestone Division



Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians
Our Lady of the Rosary Division

Brother and Sister Hibernians,

Our Hibernian State of Ohio FUN in 2021 Convention is quickly approaching and we are looking forward to seeing you and having a very successful event.

The 2021 Convention hosted by the Cleveland Boland Berry, Bluestone, and Our Lady of the Rosary Divisions will convene at The Double Tree Hilton Westlake, a Western Suburb of Cleveland. The hotel has been booked from Thursday, June 24th for those who would like to plan an extra day in our City through Saturday, June 26th 2021.

Rooms may be booked at the following link with a cost of \$109.00 a night with breakfast included plus applicable taxes. Our block of rooms will be held until May 28th, 2021; reservations after this date will be subject to availability.

https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/? &ctyhocn=CLECRDT&groupCode=CDTAOH&arrival=20210624&departure=20210627&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK.en.DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT

We hope you will join us for our "Sock Hop" Icebreaker on Friday evening. Ladies, time to pull out those poodle skirts, bobby socks, and saddle shoes, or peddle pushers. Guys, we look forward to seeing your hair slicked back in your bowling shirt or white t-shirt and leather jacket. The fantastic duo of Kennedy and Riley will be our entertainment for the evening.

The convention will conclude with a Dinner Dance on Saturday evening after Mass with the theme "Rock N Roll Hall of Fame" and music provided by one of our favorite local bands, the Portersharks.

Please complete and return the attached Registration with your attendance and preferences.

We also invite you to participate in our "365" FUNdraiser! You pick any date from January 1st to December 31st for the low cost of \$5.00 an entry; first come first serve but no duplicates permitted. During the Banquet, three entries will be pulled with the first awarded \$500.00, second \$225.00 and the third \$100.00. Checks should be payable to WAYS AND MEANS and mailed to: 26559 Chapel Hill Drive, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070.

Please feel free to contact Chair Persons Ray McGann at R4A1Y2@aol.com or Patty Lavelle at plave31228@gmail.com should you have any questions regarding the Convention.

See you in June,



2021 Hibernian Ohio State Convention

June 25-26, 2021

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel 1100 Crocker Road, Westlake, OH 44145

Sponsored by:

AOH Boland Berry Division AOH Bluestone Division LAOH Our Lady of the Rosary Divisions

Registration Form

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Tel:	E-Mail:	
☐ AOH ☐ LAOH ☐ Guest		
Current Office:		
Division:	County:	
Registration and Voting Only	:	\$25.00
Social Events:		
Ice Breaker—Friday, June 25 Open bar, appetizers, and	entertainment by Kennedy i	\$70.00 🗌 & Riley
☐ Veget	he Portersharks	\$75.00 and Vegetable and Dessert
Full Package (includes registra	tion and all events):	8541
Member:		\$170.00
Guest:		\$145.00

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 10, 2021

Please make checks payable to Ways and Means.

Completed registration forms and payment can be mailed to: Ways and Means, 26559 Chapel Hill Drive, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

AOH 2021 Convention Meeting Timeline

Brothers All,

Revised draft AOH meeting timeline. It appears that we will probably now start with a brief joint meeting with the LOAH, as one County has indicated a willingness and intent to present/bid for the 2023 State Convention:

Convention registration will be **open Thursday evening 3-9pm**, and will continue on Friday and Saturday. Credentials as indicated below.

Friday

Opening Mass

11:00am

Credentials Open

12:00pm

Meetings Start

1:00pm

Nominations of AOH Officers

3:00pm

AOH Business Meeting Closed

5:00pm

Icebreaker

7:00pm

Saturday

Credentials Open

8:00am

AOH General Meeting

9:00am-1:00pm (or until finished)

AOH Officer Nominations Reopened

9:00am

Credentials Closed

9:30am

AOH Voting

10:00-11:00am

Registration for Major Degrees

12:30pm

AOH Major Degrees

1:00pm

Mass & Installation of Officers

4:30pm

Cocktails

6:00pm

Installation Dinner

7:00pm

I look forward to seeing you all in Cleveland soon.

Slan,

Bob



'365' FUNdraiser

Sponsored by:

AOH Boland Berry Division
AOH Bluestone Division
LAOH Our Lady of the Rosary Divisions

You pick any date from January 1st to December 31st for the low cost of \$5.00 an entry; first come first serve but no duplicates permitted.

During the Banquet, three entries will be pulled with the First Awarded \$500.00, Second \$225.00 and the Third \$100.00.

Checks should be payable to WAYS AND MEANS

Mail to:

26559 Chapel Hill Drive

North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

Ohio AOH Pro-life Bulletin

TELEMED ABORTION BAN BLOCKED, a Hamilton County judge temporarily blocked Ohio's "Telemed Abortion Ban" passed in December, 2020 and scheduled to go into effect on on April 12, 2021. The law was enacted to prevent the dangerous practice of providing a risky medication to a woman without the physician actually being present. The FDA has determined that Mifeprex, the most common form of a chemical abortion, carries with it a risk great enough that they have required a REMS (Risk Evaluation Mitigation Strategies) be deneloped.

FINAL REMAINS BILL BLOCKED, a Hamilton County Judge in April temporarily halted enforcement of Ohio's "Unborn Child Dignity Act" which requires fetal remains to be buried or cremated after a surgical abortion. The judge's order prevents the law from taking effect until 30 days after the Ohio Department of Health writes the rules. The rules have been written, but the vetting of the rules takes time. Governor DeWine has signed an executive order to the Ohio Department of Health to adopt rules to-enforce the laws immediately.

DOWN SYNDROME ACT INJUNCTION OVERTURNED, the sixth Circuit of Appeals ruled against the abortion industry by overturning an injunction placed against Ohio's "Down Syndrome Non-Discrimination Act" that passed in 2017. The court stated, "...protecting the Down Syndrome community from the stigma it suffers from the practice of Down Syndrome selective abortions; protecting women whose fetuses have Down Syndrome from coercion by doctors who espouse and advocate-the abortion of all such fetuses; and protecting the integrity and ethics of the medical profession by preventing doctors from enabling such targeted abortions".

OHIO'S BORN ALIVE INFANT PROTECTION ACT, senate bill 157 would require abortionists to provide life saving care if a baby is born alive during an abortion. Unlike the Federal version Ohio has no exception for children conceived in rape or incest.

(all the above from RIGHT TO LIFE OF NORTHEAST OHIO, April 15, 2021 e-mail)

FROM OHIO RIGHT TO LIFE, if Roe v Wade was overturned, abortion would be legal in Ohio. Senate bill 123, the "Human Life Protection Act" would change all that. The bill would make abortion illegal in Ohio and become law when the U.S. Supreme Court overrules Roe v Wade and returns control of life decisions back to the states. The bill penalizes anyone who performs an abortion, provides immunity to any women reciving an illegal abortion, provides an exception for an abortion to save the life of the mother, and bans the manufacturing, distribution and sale of drugs, medicine, instrument or devices intended for the purpose of performing abortions. The condition precedent was upheld by the Ohio Supreme Court and does not conflict with the Ohio Constitution. The bill can only go into effect upon a condition precedent by the Supreme Court. To date 10 states have enacted similar legislation.

C-FAMILY FRIDAY FAX

The administration has sent a letter to the United Nations withdrawing from the historic pro life declaration initiated by the prior administration and co-sponsored by countries representing regions all over the world. The letter called it an "honor" to withdraw from the historic document. The letter cites presidential memorandum signed January 28, 2021that directs the Secretaries of State and Health and Human Services to "withdraw co-sponsorship and signature from the Geneva Declaration" and "notify other co-sponsers and signatories to the Declaration and other appropriate parties of the United States' withdrawal".

The same executive action dubbed the "Memorandum on Protecting Women's Health at Home and Abroad" restored U.S. Taxpayer funds to international abortion groups and multilateral agencies that promote abortion. The President announced that funding would be restored to the UN Population Fund, rescinded the Mexico City Policy.

Hope to see many of you at the June State Convention in Cleveland.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED; David Manley, Ohio AOH Pro Life Chair

Ohio AOH Veterans Affairs

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

Brothers – As of 5/24/2021, the VA in Ohio has completed vaccinations for 98,054 individuals. More details can be found at this website: https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/

VA-Tracked* Cumulative Cases in Ohio: 10,949; 498 Deaths; Active Cases: 92

2) June 5th National Veterans Memorial & Museum Rally Point Event on Preventing Suicide:

On June 5th from 10am-11am, the National Veterans Memorial and Museum will host their virtual "Rally Point" event where they will present an in-depth conversation about post-traumatic stress as well as suicide prevention, intervention, and treatment. Featured speakers will include US Army Veteran and Green Beret Magnus Johnson, the founder of Mission 22, a national non-profit organization that seeks to support local veteran communities with veteran treatment programs, local memorials, and building community social impact. Also featured will be Dr. Craig Bryan and AnnaBelle Bryan of The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. The Bryans are both military veterans and are nationally recognized leaders in developing innovative programs for treating veteran behavioral health issues and preventing suicide. One of these programs hosted at OSU is called STRIVE (Suicide and Trauma Reduction Initiative for Veterans) that has established itself as one of the leading research sites for clinical trials on suicide treatment, prevention, and intervention. STRIVE includes nationally recognized treatment programs and workshops, conducts research, education, outreach, and advocacy for improving the lives of military personnel, veterans, first responders, and their families.

More information regarding the NVMM events, including Rally Point, can be found here: https://nationalvmm.org/events/events-calendar/

More information about the OSU STRIVE Program can be found here: https://medicine.osu.edu/departments/psychiatry-and-behavioral-health/strive

More information about Mission 22 can be found here: https://mission22.com/

3) Ohio Driver License & ID Card Armed Forces Emblem:

Ohio veterans of the Armed Forces are reminded that they can have the "Armed Forces" emblem added to the bottom right-hand corner of their Ohio driver license or ID card upon renewal or whenever they update their license or ID card. Applicants may visit any deputy registrar license agency in Ohio with their Ohio driver license or ID card and one of the following to document their service: DD214; active or retired military identification; county or VA issued veteran identification card; copy of current military orders. Legislative efforts are in progress to extend this eligibility to veterans of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Services and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Please 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. Also, please visit 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 first Sunday of June is the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Vestments are white. We then commence a stretch of Ordinary Time--green vestments.

MAJOR SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS OF JUNE

Justin, Martyr	Memorial	June 1
Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs	Memorial	June 3
Boniface, Martyr	Memorial	June 5
The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Solemnity	June 11
The Immaculate Heart of Mary	Memorial	June 12
Aloysius Gonzaga	Memorial	June21
John Fisher and Thomas More, Bishops and	Martyrs	June 22
Nativity of John the Baptist	Solemnity	June 24
Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr	Memorial	June 28
Peter and Paul, Apostles	Solemnity	June 29

JOHN THE BAPTIST AND BONFIRES

The custom of holding a bonfire on the eve or on the feast day itself of the Nativity of John the Baptist is an ancient one in European Christianity. Having fallen out of practice in many places, it is enjoying a renewal. There is a blessing in the Roman rite for the bonfire. The event has been marked by many local variations in custom throughout Europe, including Ireland. Irish poet Aubrey Thomas De Vere's poem, "The Sisters" makes reference to such a "Bonfire Night" or "St. John's Day Eve" as celebrated in the wake of the Great Famine.

SOME IRISH SAINTS OF JUNE

Colman of Dromore, Bishop (fl. 6th century)

June 7

There are more than 200 Celtic holy men named Dromore, so it is no wonder that their life stories have become confused. This man was supposedly a Scot, born in Argyllshire. One of his mentors supposedly assigned him the mission of establishing a monastic community on the Coba plain in Ireland, and he did, at Dromore, in County Down. Colman has been venerated in Scotland and Ireland.

Columba, Abbot of Iona (c. 521-597)

June 9

Columba, one of the greatest of Irish saints, came of royalty from both parents. His father was a great-grandson of Niall of the Nine Hostages, and his mother traced descent from both the kings of Leinster and the Scottish Dalriada. He was also known as Colmcille, a name etymologically derived from the fact that he established many religious cells or foundations. At an early age, he was sent to St. Finnian's school at Moville, where he was ordained a deacon. From there he went to Leinster to study the bardic arts. Still later, he went to the school of another St. Finnian, that of Clonard. Columba was one of the so-called Twelve Apostles of Ireland who emerged from that school. At some point, Columba was ordained a priest. He was associated for a time with another famous monastic school, that of St. Mobhi at Glasnevin, which was dispersed by an outbreak of the plague in 543. For about fifteen years, Columba went about Ireland preaching and making monastic foundations, the best known being Derry, Durrow, and Kells. Columba must have made a striking presentation to his contemporaries; he was said to be very tall and athletic, with a great speaking voice which carried quite a distance.

Catholic Action, cont.

Columba became involved in a legal dispute with his mentor, Finnian of Clonard. Finnian was in possession of a copy of Jerome's Psalter, the first one to reach Ireland. Columba borrowed it and made a copy. Finnian heard of this and demanded that the copy be surrendered to him. Columba refused. The case made its way to King Diarmaid, overlord of Ireland, who ruled in favor of Finnian. Soon after, Columba found himself in greater difficulty. He provided sanctuary to a man who had fatally injured a follower of Diarmaid in a hurling match. Diarmaid's followers violated sanctuary and killed the man, touching off a war between Columba's clan and Diarmaid's followers, a war in which many men were slain. Columba felt some responsibility for this and there were others who agreed, even asserting that Columba had instigated the war. A local synod censured him, and he only escaped excommunication due to the intervention of St. Brendan. Columba vowed to exile himself from Ireland and seek to win at least as many men for Christ as had perished in the feud. In 563, Columba left Ireland in a coracle, with twelve relatives. His wandering brought him to Iona, where he founded a monastery on land given to him by his mother's kinsmen.

Iona was to be one of the most renowned and influential monastic foundations of early medieval Europe. From Iona, Columba and his disciples evangelized the Picts and Scots, and later the English as well as continental Europeans. Columba, always noted for saintly habits, certainly progressed in those over time, with many of the rough edges seen in his earlier life being transformed. He and his disciples became identified, even after his death, with many of the unique practices of the Celtic Church. The monastic rule which he composed for his followers was used throughout Europe, until it was largely replaced by that of St. Benedict.

Moling, Bishop of Ferns (d. 697)

June 17

The Welshman Giraldus Cambrensis noted that books written by Patrick, Columba, Broccan, and Moling, whom he called The Prophets of Ireland, were extant in his day. Unfortunately, at least for Moling, these have vanished. Moling is said to have come from County Wexford, and to have been related to Leinster's royalty. After some time at Glendalough, where he took the monastic habit, Moling founded an abbey at Achad Cainigb. Moling is said to have lived for a while in a hollow tree and endured lengthy fasts. Later he succeeded St. Aidan as bishop of Ferns.

Goban, Martyr (d.c. 670)

June 20

Goban, or Gobain, was a disciple of St. Fursey, accompanying him to East Anglia. Later, he went with St. Ultan to Gaul. After some wanderings, Goban established a hermitage on what is now Mont d'Ermitage, at the town of Saint-Gobain. The saint was beheaded by barbarian raiders.

NEWS OF INTEREST

Many thorny moral questions of our time are in the field of medical ethics: in vitro fertilization, abortion, fetal tissue research, gender therapy, vaccinations, euthanasia, end of life care. An excellent place to find information, guidance, and other resources is the National Catholic Bioethics Center, www.ncbcenter.org.

LOCAL NEWS

On Saturday, May 15, In keeping with long-standing practice, a crew from Joseph P. Nalley, Division 6, in Youngstown, conducted a clean-up of the gravesites of the Ursuline Sisters who are buried in the diocesan cemetery. These dedicated women educated several generations of Catholics in the Youngstown area, including many Hibernians (some of whom have recollections of discipline meted out).

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

Fraternally,

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Ohio AOH Missions & Charities Report

Chris Konik, Ohio AOH Missions & Charities Chair June 2021

Missions and Charities during the Pandemic

From St. Patrick's Day in 2020 to today, as Hibernians we have found creative ways to continue the good work of the Order. Support of local food pantries, state and national charities and mission work throughout the globe continues at a brisk pace. Viewing parties for the Catholic Men's Conference, a national webcast promoting Project St. Patrick and a vast amount of Zoom meetings have kept us in touch and continuing our many initiatives. Thank you brothers, for all that you continue to do in the face of adversity.

Eddie Cotter at 2021 Ohio AOH/LAOH State Convention

Dead Theologians Society Founder Eddie Cotter will make a brief presentation for the AOH & LAOH during the 2021 Ohio AOH/LAOH State Convention in Cleveland. Contributions from the AOH & LAOH presented during the 2019 convention in Toledo helped DTS expand their efforts and assist new chapters in their formation.

The 25th Anniversary of DTS will be celebrated in August 2021...stay tuned. Eddie is busy compiling a list of the clergy throughout the United States, Europe, Ireland and Africa that started their spiritual journey here.

Project St Patrick

All divisions need to establish a Project St Patrick representative and have division information filed with your diocese. This allows for the Bishop's Office to see firsthand how committed the AOH is in supporting 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

Reach out to National Catholic Action Chair Ron Hagan at rhagan@hagancpa.com or Ohio AOH Missions & Charities Chair Chris Konik at chriskonik@mindspring.com if you have any questions. Ron can also have any PSP name recognition certificates printed that may have not been received from previous years.