



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
IRISH • CATHOLIC • AMERICAN

Ohio State Board
Newsletter
August 2026
Volume 8 Issue 8

President's Message



Brothers,

After years of trying to get an Ohio AOH license plate, we are on the doorstep. Unfortunately, as you see in the email from Danny O on **Page 11 and 13**, we need updated petitions to the Ohio BMV. I know all of us have filled this form out more than once. Please for the good of the Order, fill out a petition one more time. If everyone on this list gets 5 signatures, we will be at our number. We have a month to get the signatures so please print out the attached petition and send them in as soon as possible.

The notice went out earlier this month that the State Board is excepting nominations for the Martin L. Sweeney Ohio Hibernian of the Year. Please make sure to have your nominations in on time. Once the nominations are in, State VP Bruce McPherson will be sending out the ballots with the candidate bios and we will be awarding the winner at the fall State Board meeting on October 24th in Columbus.

Last but not least, thank you brothers all for your support in my candidacy for National Treasurer. As you know, I was recently elected to this position at our National Convention in Omaha. I want to express my gratitude to each of you for helping me along the way. I look forward to representing Ohio on the National Board and continuing our good work.

In Motto,

Denny

Chaplain's Comments



Brothers,

As we roll into the lazy, hazy days of summer, let's set aside some time to develop our minds in a spiritual way. One way to stimulate our little gray cells is to engage in reading. We can read scripture, pray the Liturgy of the Hours, or jump right in to our copy of St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologica*. The formalized structure of these texts is good, but it is not necessarily for everyone.

We all have different tastes and follow different paths, so it should not be surprising to say that we all have different interests when it comes to spiritual reading. We should read some sort of religious books to complement our participation in the Liturgy and our personal prayers. This allows us to continue to use our mind and apply what we know about our faith; to understand other's ideas and they might stimulate in us a desire to look further into one aspect of our faith or another. Whatever piques your interest!

Some of us may stick to the formalized text, while others may be interested in apologetics, catechism, charismatics, fiction, lives of the saints, prayer groups, bible study groups; whatever. It doesn't matter which one works for you, but at least try something.

One book that changed my life was Michael O'Brien's, *Father Elijah*. The story intrigued me and I love the book, but it is not what changed my life. One word did; breviary. When I first read the

Continued on Page 2

Chaplain's Comments, cont.

book over thirty years ago, I did not know what the word meant, so I started asking questions. Once I learned what it was, I wanted to check it out for myself. The breviary is the Divine Office of the Church, also known as the Liturgy of the Hours. It is a set of prayers, centered around the Psalms and has prayer times set throughout the day at roughly a three-hour interval. The hours of the prayers are also known by the time of day they are prayed; morning, mid-morning, noon, afternoon, evening and night. The following are the Latin names and times of prayer:

- [Matins](#) (pre-dawn early hours, about 2 a.m.), sometimes called [Vigil](#) (around midnight), and composed of two or three [nocturns](#)
- [Lauds](#) (at dawn, about 4 a.m.)
- [Prime](#) (first hour = approximately 6 a.m.)
- [Terce](#) (third hour = approximately 9 a.m.)
- [Sext](#) (sixth hour = approximately 12 noon)
- [None](#) (ninth hour = approximately 3 p.m.)
- [Vespers](#) (at the lighting of the lamps, about 6 p.m.)
- [Compline](#) (before retiring, about 8 p.m.)

Once I understood what it was all about, I started the practice of praying the Hours and I have been praying them ever since. This is one of the things that helped guide me on my path to the Diaconate. Each time I hear the psalms, the readings and the prayers, I hear something new as the Spirit is speaking to me at that particular time and at that particular place in my life.

If I didn't pick up that book and ask questions about things I didn't know about; I would probably not have written this message. I don't even know if I would have journeyed down the path I did, and have the fortunate opportunity to be blessed with the gift of ordination. Bottom line is; if you don't try, you'll never know.

I encourage each and every one of you, my brothers, to look at the book rack at church, look online, or venture into a religious book store and see what interests you. Who knows, you may read something that changes your life forever!

God Bless,

Deacon Bruce



Martin L. Sweeney, Ohio Hibernian of the Year Award.

Brothers All, it is my honor, on behalf of the Ohio AOH State Board, to announce that nominations are open for the Inaugural Martin L. Sweeney, Ohio Hibernian of the Year Award. The award is to honor a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America from the state of Ohio. This award shall be presented to a member of an Ohio Division who has made outstanding contributions, a positive impact and has shown exemplary behavior as a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America from Ohio.

The nominator should send a biographical sketch of the nominee's accomplishments and ascertain that the nominee, if elected, would be willing to accept the award at the Fall Ohio State AOH Board meeting scheduled for October 24, 2026, in Columbus, Ohio.

All nominations should be sent to myself at hilliardmcpherson@gmail.com by August 15, 2026 5PM. All nominations will be compiled and sent out to all eligible voters to determine the awardee with the election completed by September 15, 2026. For official rules see Article XVI of the Ohio AOH Bylaws located at ohioaoh.com/forms under bylaws.

In the Motto,

Bruce McPherson

Vice President, Ohio AOH State Board, hilliardmcpherson@gmail.com

2025 - 2027 Officers

Chaplain	Deacon Bruce Dobbins brunomusarra@yahoo.com
President	Dennis Parks dparks121@yahoo.com
Vice President	Bruce McPherson hilliardmcperson@gmail.com
Secretary	Pete Chrystal pvchrystal59@gmail.com
Treasurer	Greg Brown Gbrownsamrock@yahoo.com
Director	Dale Norris danorris64@gmail.com
Director	Chris Schulte crpschulte@gmail.com
Past President	Bob Harper harper.bg.pg.com
National President	Sean Pender paddyspeed@yahoo.com
National Oversight Committee Chairman	Dennis Parks dparks121@yahoo.com

OHIO DIVISIONS**County/Division Presidents**

Clermont	Douglas Gerrard dpgerrard@aol.com
Cuyahoga Board	Tom Ginley tgbigbass@gmail.com
Cuyahoga #2	Jim Kilbane jjk5755@hotmail.com
Cuyahoga #3	Robert Mullin bobbymulls@yahoo.com
Franklin #1	Gerard Tracy Gbtracyjr@sbcglobal.net
Hamilton #1	Patrick Ryan patrick.ryan.300@gmail.com
Lucas	Robert McMahon aohjohnpkellydivision@gmail.com
Mahoning #6	Joe McCormick macman23.jm@gmail.com
Medina	Jacob Durda jacob.durda@gmail.com
Montgomery	Art Gannon artgannon@aol.com
Stark #1	Tom Wolf tomwolfcpa@msn.com
Summit Board	Jim Meszaros meszi01@neo.rr.com
Summit #3	Michael Namsick mpnamsick@gmail.com
Summit #2	Ed Morrison edwardcmorrison@outlook.com
Trumbull	Marty McQuaide emcqu@aol.com
Washington	Bernard Lyons bernardalyons@att.net

Appointed Officers

Catholic Action	Patrick Lally lally8404@hotmail.com
Pro Life	Jacob Durda jacob.durda@gmail.com
FFAI	Patrick Williams karimcwilly@gmail.com
PEC	Mike Cosgrove irish.mick213@gmail.com
Project St. Patrick	Nick Jacobs njacobs@clashmore.com
Missions & Charities	Chris Konik chriskonik@mindspring.com
Organizer	Joe Casey qualityjoecasey@yahoo.com
Historian	
Veterans Affairs	Joe McCormick macman23.jm@gmail.com
Hibernian Hunger	Dave McLaughlin dmclaug106@sbcglobal.net
Immigration	John Myers johnmyers216@gmail.com
WebMaster	Marc Wolnitzek marc.wolnitzek@gmail.com

Jim Casey's Email Addressjjcasey973@icloud.com**Newsletter News**

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

jjcasey973@icloud.com

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

State Organizer Report

First off, I want to congratulate our own Denny Parks as being elected as National Treasurer!



It was good to see my fellow Ohio Hibernians at the National Convention in Omaha last month. Ohio was well-represented.

Since the first of the year, Ohio has now received a total of 60 applications from the National Organizer's office. Thanks to all those divisions who have responded quickly. This is helping the state of Ohio increase in size. If

divisions do not get with these applicants in a timely manner they are then offered **At-Large** memberships which helps the Order but does not help Ohio. Please continue to work to get these applicants to join your division.

At the National Convention, during the Organizers Workshop, they rolled out the new application program. Brothers, it will be quite a learning process and they stress patience as we move towards a total electronic system. Division Presidents and Financial Secretaries will be required to get a new log-on ID & password to access the program. When you receive an application in this system, the time-clock starts. You have 10 days to reach out and make contact with the applicant and work on getting him initiated into your division. If there is no action within the first 10 days, it is "bumped up" to the State level. We hope to get more information and possibly some videos on the process soon.

We continue to work on getting a division started in Jefferson County (Steubenville area). Our contact there is Ben McGinnis and we have been routing applications to him. If anyone has family or friends from that area who are interested in joining, please have them fill out an application from the National website (aoh.com) or get with me. This young man is very excited about this venture and we want to be there to give him all the assistance he needs.

As always, I thank you all for your hard work and assistance as we continue to grow in Ohio.

Joe Casey

Ohio State Organizer

qualityjoecasey@yahoo.com

2026 AOH National Convention in Omaha



It was good to see many fellow Ohio Hibernians and friends from other States, including our former State Chaplain. We knew him as Father John Keehner but now he is Bishop John Keehner of the Diocese of Sioux City Iowa!

We also got to see our own Denny Parks being elected as National Treasurer!

The 2026-2028 National Officers



Row 1, L to R: Treasurer Denny Parks, President Sean Pender, Vice President Liam McNabb, Secretary Ray Lynch
Row 2, L to R: Directors, Patrick Ryan, Ryan Curry, Keith Reynolds, Tom Beirne, Rory Schulte, Ed Dougherty.

2026 AOH National Convention in Omaha

John F. Kennedy Memorial Medal Award Recipient, 2026

Archbishop Eamon Martin Primate of All Ireland

Archbishop Eamon Martin, Primate of All Ireland and Archbishop of Armagh, is the 38th recipient of the prestigious John F. Kennedy Memorial Medal.



Archbishop Martin, a native of Derry, Northern Ireland, comes from a large and devout Catholic family. He is one of twelve children born to the late Catherine (née Crossan) and John James Martin, with deep familial roots in Counties Donegal

and Fermanagh. Raised in a strong tradition of faith, family, and Irish identity, he has carried these values throughout his distinguished vocation. Ordained in 1987, his nearly four decades of ministry have been marked by pastoral leadership, educational advocacy, and an unwavering dedication to peace and reconciliation, particularly shaped by his experience growing up during the Troubles.

In his role as Primate of All Ireland, Archbishop Martin has provided steady, principled leadership to the Catholic Church during a time of both challenge and renewal. He has been a respected voice on issues of human dignity, mental health, social justice, and the importance of dialogue across communities. His leadership reflects the highest ideals of Irish Catholic life and mirrors the enduring legacy of President John F. Kennedy's call to public service.

Nominated by the Past National Presidents of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Archbishop Martin's selection carries particular significance. His acceptance of this honor marks the first time a Primate of the Catholic Church in Ireland has attended an Ancient Order of Hibernians event, underscoring both the historic nature of this moment and the deepening bonds between the Church in Ireland and Irish America.

Established to honor a Catholic of Irish birth or descent who has distinguished himself or herself in his or her chosen field of endeavor, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Medal represents one of the highest recognitions bestowed by the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Archbishop Martin's lifelong commitment to faith, leadership, is bestowed by the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Archbishop Martin's lifelong commitment to faith, leadership, reconciliation, and service to the Irish people embodies the very spirit of this award.

Pro Life

This is a short interview I did recently with Fr. Doug Brown, chaplain of the Boland Berry Division and pastor of Mary Queen of Peace in Cleveland who just recently celebrated 20 years of priesthood. Fr. Brown has been involved with the pro life movement for a long time.

How long have you been involved with the AOH? 6-7 years.

How have you been involved with the pro life cause during your 20 years of priesthood? At the beginning of his time at Mary Queen of Peace, there used to be an abortion facility close by, and he would lead rosary and eucharistic processions to the facility, which closed 4 years later. Fr. Brown has also been involved with 40 days for life and the Bringing America Back to Life convention, as well as speaking about the sanctity of human life and the importance of voting with a well formed conscience.

What can we as Hibernians do to get more involved with the pro life cause? Pray, get involved with 40 days for life and vote in accordance with Catholic teaching.

Jacob Durda

**2026 AOH National Convention in
Omaha
Human Dignity Award
BOYS TOWN.**

Boys Town, founded by Father Edward J. Flanagan, is the 2026 recipient of the Human Dignity Award, presented in its founder's name.

Father Flanagan's Boys' Home was founded in December 1917 to serve homeless and abandoned boys from across America. Edward J. Flanagan was born in 1886 at Leabeg, County Roscommon, Ireland, to sheep herder John Flanagan and his wife, Honora. One of eleven children, Edward grew up in a home filled with love and a strong spiritual faith. In 1904, at the age of eighteen, Edward immigrated to America with his older siblings, Nellie and Father Patrick Flanagan.

Edward followed his older brother and Father Patrick, to Omaha, Nebraska, where he was ordained a Catholic priest in 1912. Servant of God, Father Flanagan began his ministry working with homeless men before shifting his focus to the care and well-being of children.

After studying the care of homeless and abandoned boys, Father Flanagan established a revolutionary home that would become a worldwide model for caring for vulnerable children. The foundation of the home was built upon love, faith, and compassion. All boys were welcomed regardless of race or religion. They lived as a family, free from corporal punishment and verbal abuse. Initially, the media, courts, and politicians denounced these innovative principles. Eventually, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared that America needed "49 more Father Flanagan's Boys Towns"-one for every state.

Over the decades, Boys Town's youth care programs have evolved to serve millions of boys, girls, and their families across America. The children served by Boys Town represent a wide variety of backgrounds, many coming from broken homes or families facing poverty. The residential program at the Village of Boys Town in Omaha cares for more than 300 at-risk children each day, providing education, behavioral health services, and a safe, supportive environment. It remains the largest residential care program of its kind in the United States.

Boys Town National Research Hospital is a world leader in audiology for both children and adults. Its programs utilize cutting-edge technology to provide exceptional care, while research and treatment in autism, behavioral health, and weight management represent some of the hospital's key priorities. A complete overview of Boys Town National Research Hospital is available at www.boystownhospital.org.

The child care ministry of today's Boys Town continues Father Flanagan's vision of saving vulnerable children and strengthening families. Boys Town has always welcomed—and continues to welcome-disenfranchised and abandoned individuals because, like all people, every person possesses inherent dignity and worth. Through its educational programs, behavioral health services, mentoring, and unwavering support, Boys Town has given countless children the opportunity to grow into healthy, productive, and successful adults who otherwise might never have had that chance.

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

*Judge Michael C. Mentel



Collusion And Cover-up

The subsequent investigation into the murder of Roseanne Mallon by British authorities, and the broad deference given to these authorities in the Coroner's Court Verdict on Inquest is striking. The multitude of evidence, of destroyed evidence, incompetent forensic analysis, and contradictory information lends itself to only one likely conclusion: that there was collusion between the RUC, Special Branch, and the UVF and that British authorities are covering up these acts of collusion.

It is difficult to illustrate all of the acts of collusion and cover-up perpetrated in Roseanne's murder investigation. However, several key pieces of evidence are insightful.

First, the presence of the RUC Special Branch camera camouflaged on a hill 550 yards from Brigid Mallon's home. The camera was specifically directed towards Brigid's home as part of an operation conducted by the RUC and Special Branch codenamed "Paucity 2". The camera was not discovered until two months after Roseanne's murder. Aside from the concealment of the camera from the family and investigators following the murder, inherent contradictions arise in the RUC's account of the camera.

Looking at the Verdict on Inquest decision, the Coroner Judge determined that the technical capability of the camera and equipment "... did not have the capacity to pick up or transmit images at night nor did it have the capacity to zoom in and out".

Issues of preserving battery capacity was accepted by the Coroner Judge as another reason the camera was not functioning that evening.

However, the Coroner Judge concluded previously that, "[o]n 9 July 1994, some two months after the death of the deceased, an elaborately-concealed surveillance camera was discovered in a field [overlooking Brigid Mallon's home]. It is clear from the evidence that the camera was part of a surveillance operation that had been initiated by RUC Special Branch ("SB"). The target of that camera was the engineering works at [Brigid's home] operated by Christopher and Martin Mallon. Its purpose was to identify persons and vehicles at the engineering works." Thus, it is clear that the camera was capable of

identifying people and vehicles from 550 yards away. Nonetheless, the assertion was made that the murder occurred at night. Even if the camera was on, it could not capture anything. Two points of contradiction on this assertion.

Point one, the Coroner Judge was factually wrong. In Dungannon on May 8, 1994, evening nautical twilight—dim ambient light with the horizon still visible—began at 10:03 p.m. BST and ended at 10:43 p.m. BST, when astronomical twilight began.

Full darkness - the end of astronomical twilight - did not occur until 11:19 p.m. BST.

The coroner Judge found that, "[i]t was around [10:30 p.m.] when [Roseanne and Brigid arrived at Brigid's home] and so it was by then dark [outside]... [Rosanne] sat on a settee in the lighted living room at the rear of the house with her back to the window on which the blinds were drawn although perhaps not fully. [Brigid] left the room to telephone [her] daughter, Paula... As the two ladies spoke the daughter noticed a large saloon car, dark in [color], stopping around the entrance [to her mother's driveway] and two men running up its driveway towards the house." Clearly, Paula was able to see with the existing ambient light that a dark colored passenger sedan pulled up in front of the driveway and that two men ran up to the house. All of this being seen from inside her home across the road. It was not dark. It was nautical twilight. The RUC camera could have captured persons and vehicles at or around Brigid Mallon's home.

Point two, the camera could capture images, not only at twilight but in darkness. As stated by the Coroner Judge, "[a]fter the equipment had been found on 9 July the Mallon family showed it to a man who had previously worked for BBC and UTV who told the family that the equipment had night sight and also the ability to zoom in and out." It was reported that the equipment being used to surveil the Mallon home consisted of one small camera with a wide angled lens and another camera with a powerful telephoto lens. Despite UTV's indisputable expertise in camera and transmission equipment, the RUC and British Army vigorously denied that either camera had a zoom or night vision capability. A fact they asserted given that all tapes were wiped and records doctored or destroyed.

The Coroner Judge nonetheless found that the testimony of the soldier who set up the cameras, and a subsequent laboratory test, confirmed the camera did not have the capacity to capture night images. Albeit the Coroner's Court made its finding, it begs the question; if "[i]t is

Continued on Page 9

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

Part Two, Cont.

clear from the evidence that the camera was part of a surveillance operation that had been initiated by RUC Special Branch” and codenamed “Paucity 2”, that the RUC and Special Branch would employ the most sophisticated camera equipment it could? The UTV expert identified it as capable of capturing images at night. The circumstances of the surveillance operation evidence that the cameras deployed by the military were sophisticated pieces of equipment that could capture images at night. This is further substantiated by the destruction and erasure of the records and tapes.

Interview Notes Thrown Away

The lack of a camera only facilitated the collusion between the UVF, RUC and Special Branch. On May 9, 1994, a telephone call was made to the UTV television newsroom. The caller said, “the Mid-Ulster Brigade of the UVF claims responsibility for the gun attack last night”, then added, “Miss Mallon” before hanging up.

Following the claim made by the caller, as stated in the Verdict on Inquest holding, investigators received information that a *“silver Peugeot 309 car had been sighted in the area by at least one and perhaps three people. As a result the investigators followed up all silver Peugeot 309 cars with the partial registration letters “IB”. Only two of these cars could not be eliminated from the enquiry including one owned by a Billy Wright, a notorious sectarian terrorist whose vehicle had the registration “TIB 2365” and the second a car whose owner had moved from his registered address and could not be traced... At [12:35a.m] on 9 May the Peugeot car TIB2365 belonging to Billy Wright was stopped by police at the junction at Sandymount Road and Armagh/Portadown Road. Wright was a passenger in the car along with two others denominated S4 and S6. All three were arrested and taken to Gough Barracks, Armagh. They were forensically examined... and held until being released without charge on 13 May 1994. Forensic tests of their clothing produced negative results and it must be presumed that their interviews also did so but the court has been told that the notes of the interviews are no longer available having subsequently been destroyed.”* The Coroner Judge was told that the interview notes were thrown out by an asbestos removal crew when they were hauling out asbestos material from Gough Barracks.

The Peugeot observed in the area of the Mallon home at the time of the murder is a nationalist rural area of Tyrone. The junction of Sandymount Road and Armagh/Portadown Road, where Billy Wright was pulled over and arrested, just outside of Dungannon, is also a strong nationalist area. During our interview, Martin Mallon made the point that *“Billy Wright would need to be guided through rural Tyrone. He would not have known the area because it was a nationalist area.”*

Taken together, the chain of circumstantial evidence creates a clear case that the RUC, MI5, and Special Branch conspired in Roseanne Mallon’s murder. Martin Mallon was told by an MI5 agent that if he refused to cooperate, a member of his family would be killed. Three weeks before his aunt’s murder, Special Branch officers stopped him and held him until Billy Wright and Tony McNeill arrived. The officers identified Mr. Mallon to them, and Wright then threatened to kill a member of his family.

Buried Below The Surface

The deliberate destruction of evidence, disregard of existing evidence, failure to establish key facts, forensic incompetence, destruction of video evidence, and the RUC, Special Branch, and British military’s rhetorical distortions—accepted as fact by the Coroner Judge—are an affront to the principles of justice.

There is far more evidence demonstrating the collusion and conspiracy by British authorities in this case than can be written here. To learn more on the murder of Rosanne Mallon please go to www.relativesforjustice.com. To review the entire Verdict on Inquest Judgment go to www.judiciaryni.uk Neutral Citation No. [2019] NICoroner 1.

Truth flourishes in the light. This is your opportunity to be the light.

Judge Michael C. Mentel is an appellate court judge on the Ohio Court of Appeals for the Tenth District. He has participated in round table discussions on the British Legacy Bill at the National Committee on American Foreign Policy and in panel discussions on Irish Unity. Judge Mentel is the author of “The 1981 Irish Hunger Strike: An Account From Declassified British Documents”. He is a columnist and contributor to local and national publications. He is a member of The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Patrick Pearse Division 1, Franklin County, Ohio, The Shamrock Club of Columbus, Ohio, The Irish American Club East Side, Euclid

Project Saint Patrick, Supporting Religious Vocations

Project Saint Patrick is celebrating its 31st year in 2026. Through the annual Easter Appeal, the program provides grants to seminarians and religious to help with the practical expenses of formation and ministry.

Participation in the grant program has increased 63% year over year. Although donations remain comparable to last year, the growing number of applicants means greater participation and additional support are needed. Pennsylvania, Illinois, and the State of Ohio have already contributed.

Ohio Participation

In addition to the State of Ohio's donation, the following Ohio counties and divisions have contributed:

Lucas County — John R. Kelly Division

Franklin County — Patrick Pearse Division

Summit County — Mark Heffernan Division

Cuyahoga County — Boland/Berry Division

Medina County — Irish Brigade Division

Five of Ohio's 15 county and local groups have participated so far, in addition to the state-level contribution. This is a welcome start, but we can do better. Every county board and local division is encouraged to place Project Saint Patrick on its meeting agenda, make an organizational contribution, and invite individual members to donate online.

How the Grants Make a Difference

These grants make a genuine difference in the lives of their recipients. Seminarians have used their awards for tuition, textbooks, theology books, vestments, hand-sewn albs, transportation to parish assignments, car insurance, and ordination supplies.

Here are a few reports of how our seminarians have used their grants:

Declan used his grant for car insurance and travel to parish assignments, as well as supplies for his May ordination to the priesthood.

Sam, a second-year seminarian, is applying his grant toward tuition, textbooks, and other formation expenses.

Dominic is using his award to purchase theology books and vestments.

Jay used his grant to purchase hand-sewn albs.

Donation forms should preferably be completed electronically before being printed and mailed. This helps ensure that recipients' names and other information are recorded accurately. **(See Page 12 for the Form)**

Mail donations to:

Kevin Delany

2532 Wood Ave.

Bristol, PA 19007

kdelaney@yaho.com

Continued on Page 11

Project Saint Patrick, cont.

Older prayer cards displaying an Ohio address or Hagan's name should no longer be used. The current donation form contains the correct address.

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed. Please help us increase participation, strengthen support for our seminarians and religious, and continue praying for vocations.

In closing, I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to Denny Parks on his election as National Treasurer. Denny, this honor is well deserved, and I wish you every success in your new role.

Respectfully,

Nick Jacobs

Ohio State Project Saint Patrick Chair

AOH Specialty License Plate

Brothers,

Thanks to the efforts of Ohio State Senator Tom Patton, the legislation authorizing an AOH specialty license plate in Ohio has been approved. Senator Patton also serves with me on the Ohio Ireland Trade Commission.

Unfortunately, we are now required to submit updated petitions before the license plate can move forward. I have attached the current petition (**See Page 13 for the petition**), and we need your help obtaining signatures as quickly as possible.

We must submit at least 150 valid signatures, but our goal is to collect 200 to ensure we meet the requirement. Those signing the petition do not need to be AOH members.

For each signature to be valid, the signer must provide the following information completely and legibly:

Signature

Printed name

Address

Either a license plate number or driver's license information

Signing the petition is not a commitment to purchase an AOH license plate.

Please make every effort to obtain as many signatures as possible. Completed petitions should be returned to me as soon as possible, but no later than August 30, by email at djoconnell@ysu.edu.

You may also mail the petitions to me. Danny O'Connell, 340 E Kline Street, Girard, Ohio, 44420.

Thank you again for your assistance in helping us get this important initiative across the finish line.



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



2026 Project St. Patrick Donation Form

Kevin J. Delaney, Chairman
2532 Wood Ave
Bristol, PA 19007
kdelaneypsp@yahoo.com

Fill Out and Return No Later Than August 31, 2026

GENERAL DONATION: (LESS THAN \$500 DONATION)

\$ _____

Please accept our donation to the Project St. Patrick Grant Fund:

NAME RECOGNITION GRANT: (\$500 MINIMUM DONATION FOR EACH DONATION)

Please Honor our Chaplain/Individual with this Grant Donation

Name: _____

\$ _____

Please Honor the Memory of this Individual with this Grant Donation

Name: _____

\$ _____

Total Donation Amount: (Payable to "HIBERNIAN CHARITY")

\$ _____

Contact Name & Position: _____

State: _____ County: _____ Division #: _____

Division Name: _____

Phone: (____) ____ - ____ Email: _____

Address to send Recognition Certificate:

Attn: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____



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 Ancient Order of Hibernians by purchasing the Ancient Order of Hibernians

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	

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	MI	PHONE (Include area code)
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CURRENT LICENSE PLATE #	OHIO DL OR ID CARD #	SIGNATURE X	

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CIRCULATOR OF PETITION INFORMATION		TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATURES	
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FFAI

A message from Martin Galvin concerning new Northern Secretary replacing Hilary Benn.

Patrick Williams, State FFAI chair

New British Secretary replaces Hilary Ben
Could mean policy change on Legacy, Border Poll but too soon to tell.

Martin

Hilary Benn was a shock departure from the British government's team at the Northern Ireland Office.

Legacy issues

While not afraid to pick fights, such as on the controversial issue of how to deal with the legacy of the Troubles, the Labour stalwart had gained the respect of the majority of political parties at Stormont.

The Irish Government was a huge fan, crediting him with helping to rebuild British-Irish relations after a series of abrasive Conservative ministers.

His successor Chris Bryant will quickly discover that political honeymoons don't really exist in Northern Ireland.

Sinn Féin, the DUP and others were out of the blocks very quickly to offer advice on how he should approach the job.

The MP for the Welsh constituency of Rhondda and Ogmore since 1986 has demonstrated the kind of steely reserve he'll require. The former Anglican priest quit the Church of England in 1991 over its stance on homosexuality, saying he could not remain a member as a gay man. Later, he and his husband celebrated the first civil partnership in the Palace of Westminster.

'An EU fanatic'

Chris Bryant will face demands for extra financial resources for Northern Ireland Legacy issues

How to deal with the legacy of the Troubles is the most politically challenging and sensitive issue he has inherited from Hilary Benn.

His predecessor's approach to the issue has been widely criticised by political parties and victims' groups, and they will all see his appointment as an opportunity to reopen the debate and press for a change in approach.

Demands for additional money for the Stormont Executive will also be high on the wish list of the local parties.

The parties at Stormont seldom agree on anything, but when it comes to money they have repeatedly pointed an accusing finger at Westminster, accusing it of short-changing Northern Ireland and being responsible for failings and shortcomings in its health service and other areas.

A VAT cut on household electricity bills announced by new UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham will bring an immediate focus on the financial issue.

The cut, from 5% to 0% in October, will not apply in Northern Ireland due to post-Brexit arrangements.

Instead, the Stormont Executive has been told it will get extra money from the UK government to use on cost-of-living measures.

The strong likelihood is that local politicians will argue that the figure is not sufficient and that the public should not have to wait until October for financial assistance.

'An EU fanatic'

Chris Bryant will also have to carefully navigate an increasingly fractious relationship between Sinn Féin and the DUP at Stormont.

The personal relationship between First Minister Michelle O'Neill and Deputy First Minister Emma Little-Pengelly has been turbulent for some time now, and the parties are increasingly clashing on a wide range of issues.

A Downing Street spokesperson said Mr Burnham had calls with the first minister of Scotland, the first minister of Wales and the first minister and deputy first minister at Stormont today.

Chris Bryant will have to tread that minefield carefully.

His stance on Brexit adds further spice.

The fact that he was a committed Remainer, and has made it clear that he remains so, will sit well with Sinn Féin and the SDLP, but not with unionists, as the debate over the impact of the Irish Sea Border rubbles on.

Jim Allister, leader of the Traditional Unionist Voice, took to social media to brand the new Northern Secretary as "an EU fanatic" who he said could not be expected to stand up for Northern Ireland "against EU colonialism in this part of the UK".

Mr Bryant was quick to respond, replying: "Jim, I look forward to working with you for a strong Northern Ireland in a strong United Kingdom."

The new man at the NIO has a reputation as someone who is not afraid to be combative or to speak his mind.

Those attributes are likely to be put to the test very quickly.

Dublin Irish Festival

IRISH UNITY DISCUSSION

Provided by

Ireland's Future

irelandsfuture.com

Panel Discussion of the Opportunities and Practical Challenges to Unification

Panelists:

Rev. Karen Sethuraman - Vice Chairperson of Ireland's Future

Andree Murphy - Board Member of Ireland's Future

Sean Pender - National President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians

Judge Michael Mentel - Appellate Court Judge on the Ohio Court of Appeals & author of numerous publications on legal and political issues facing Ireland.

**Two discussions in the Air Conditioned Abbey Theatre at the
Dublin Recreation Center in the north end of the festival:**

Saturday 8/1/26 @ 3pm

Sunday 8/2/26 @ 1pm