

# THE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

## THE KELLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020 EDITION VOLUME 10, ISSUE 10

MSGR. CHARLES A. KELLY, JR. DIV. 44PO 01



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## JACK SIMILA



**Jack Simila**  
**Division President**

### Worthy Hibernian Brothers!

Let me take this opportunity to wish each of you and your families a happy and joyous Christmas.

We have gone through one of the most challenging years in modern history, but we still have so many reasons to be thankful. We have family and friends. Even though we may not be able to get together with them as we have in the past, we still have people in our lives that care for us. The other good news is there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and with God's blessing, things will start going back to some sort of normal in 2021.

Please join us for our monthly meeting on Thursday, December 10, 2020, at 7 pm. Once again, this will be a zoom meeting. We have a couple of important issues to cover this month, especially our officers' election for 2021.

I will send an email out during the week inviting all members to join our meeting. If anyone is interested in joining the video meeting but unsure how it works, I'll be happy to go over the particulars with you. Just give me a call at the number below. If video conferencing is not for you, we can arrange for you to join by audio.

With social distancing and our attempts to keep our families and each other safe, it isn't always easy to see each other or stay in touch. We certainly can be available by phone, and if any brother is in need or knows of a brother in need, please reach out to me or any of the members of our division. It's always good to have someone to talk with during these times of uncertainty.

Please know that each one of you is in Carol and my prayers. I

### Business Meetings

NEXT Business Meeting at St. Joseph Church on January 9th, 2021 at 7 PM.

Regular Monthly Business Meetings are held at 7 PM on the 2nd Thursday of the month. No meetings are held during July and August.

Ancient Order of  
**HIBERNIANS**  
Official Apparel

All items brought to you by the AOH's official partner, Keltex Imprinted Apparel

Keltex is happy to announce our partnership with the AOH National Board to provide quality merchandise to members throughout the country.

**Celebrate Your Brotherhood!**  
We offer custom quantity discounts for your division!

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[Ulster-Scots Park](#), Omagh, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland. Home of early Ulster-Scots settlers to America.



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hope to see you all at the video conference on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please be safe,

IOM  
Jack Simila  
919-730-7394

### **Division Sponsored Irish History Presentation**

Professor John Countryman gave a very interesting presentation this year on December 1st on "The Royal Sites of Ireland", by way of ZOOM. John covered many tales of mythological Ireland, touching on the individual provinces of Ulster, Leinster, Munster and Connaught. Thanks to Matt Dullaghan for organizing this Division presentation again this year!

### **A Bit of Irish History**

The Burren is one of the wonders of Ireland. A rolling rocky landscape of limestone hills and plains in northwestern County Clare, it is marked with history stretching back thousands of years. Nestled in between the limestone slabs are herbs and plants you'd be hard pressed to find elsewhere, hailing from places as far afield as the Arctic and the Mediterranean, kept warm in the cold wailing winter months by the rock around them. As desolate as it seems - one of Cromwell's men described it as "there is

not a tree to hang a man from, water to drown one in nor dirt to bury one in" - it holds many secrets and mysteries.

There are passage graves beside ring forts alongside abandoned homes and 19th century churches. Ancient caves like Ailwee dot the area, along with dolmens and places rich with folklore. Visitors are well advised to take a look at Kilfenora stone cross and Cathedral, Newtown castle and Poulawick cairn. No journey to the Burren would be complete with-



Figure 1 Poul nabroune Dolmen

out a stop by Poul nabroune dolmen - built by the first farmers to come here, almost six thousand years ago - and Gleninsheen or Parknabinna wedge tombs, or the stone fort at Caherdoonerish. Earthen barrows are widespread as are remarkable castles protected by upright stone fortifications.

An example of a ring fort on the Burren is Caherdoonerish, located at the summit of Gleninagh Mountain in the north Burren region of County Clare. Originally constructed on a rock plateau overlooking Galway Bay, there are some astounding elevated views of the Aran Islands, Fanore Beach and Galway Bay. The fort was

built sometime between 6th and 9th centuries. Although the Caherdoonerish fort is in



Figure 2 Caherdoonerish Fort

poor condition, many other ring forts still exist in very good condition throughout Ireland, such as the Grianan Aileach fort in Donegal, which



Figure 3 Grianan Aileach Fort

dates back to 3,000 BC. The fort is open to visitors and provides a beautiful view of three counties of Ireland.

Wild cats and goats roam the stands of hazel woodland throughout the Burren, along with red squirrels, foxes and voles, and on a rare summer evening you may chance to see a peregrine falcon soaring high in the warm blue skies above. And looking down, what does he see but hundreds of stone forts built in antiquity, many ancient monuments from the stone and bronze ages, and a wealth of Christian history.

# Nollaig Shona 2020



Memories of Christmas Parties Past



## Prayer List

-**Mike Dougherty** and also his wife, Diana, who is being treated for spinal stenosis; Mike's brother-in-law James Cramsie with incurable leg infection

-**Mike's** sister, Maryellen, suffering from multiple strokes

-**Chuck Mulherin's** wife, Vera, diagnosed with cancer

-**Jim Calpin**, Neuropathy Pain and irregular heart beat

## In Memorium

-**Mike Norton's** sister, Mary Bracken

-**Mike Norton's** niece, Debbi Rossi

-**Brother Paul Kiniry**, Msgr. Kelly Division

-**Brother Bob O'Connor** Msgr. Kelly Division

God grant them eternal rest

## CLOSING THOUGHT/PRAYER



Hail glorious Saint Patrick,  
we honor thy name

Tho' Erin may claim thee,  
the world knows thy fame

The faith of our fathers is our  
treasure too

How holy that faith that they  
learned from you

Through crosses and trials its  
fires burn bright

It shows us the way, the truth

and the light

Great Saint intercede, that  
we always may be

Devoted and loyal true chil-  
dren of our heavenly father

And the Blessed Mother and  
thee

Our faith and devotion be  
ever like thine

Our thoughts be of Jesus,  
Our hearts, minds and souls

be his shrine

And when to the end of life's  
path we have trod

Be near and intercede for us  
great bishop of God

MSGR. CHARLES A. KELLY  
AOH DIV. 44PO 01  
POWHATAN, VA

### 2019 Division Officers

President-Jack Simila  
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Treasurer-John Frampton  
[firemedic45@comcast.net](mailto:firemedic45@comcast.net)

Recording Secretary-James Calpin  
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[jlKelly1@verizon.net](mailto:jlKelly1@verizon.net)

Standing/Compassion Comm.-Mike Dougherty  
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Sentinel-Jim Dunn  
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The Msgr. Charles Kelly, Jr. Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was formed in December, 2009 and conducted it's first meeting on January 21, 2010 at St. John Neumann Church, Powhatan, Virginia. The next few meetings were taken up with election of officers and the many procedural items needed to get our group started.

Since that time we continue to grow, adding new members and supporting and donating to Catholic schools and Churches in the area, in line with our commitment to Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

For Further Information:

[Contact Editor](#)

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

[WWW.AOHKELLY.ORG](http://WWW.AOHKELLY.ORG)



### THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

Take into consideration all those on our prayer list as well as those among the faithful departed. We are supporting the Knights of Columbus at St. John Neumann parish with their rosary tabulation ( one million rosaries is the K of C goal). As our past state president used to encour-

age us, "Pray the Rosary." We have a LOT to pray for and pray about. In addition to those mentioned above we have **a lot at stake in this upcoming election in November**. I hope the US Constitution and the part about religious freedom still applies.



### Links

[AOH National](#)

[Irish Museum-DC](#)

Ancient Order of Hibernians

[AOH Virginia](#)

[The Wild Geese](#)

Msgr Charles A. Kelly, Jr. Division

[AOH Kelly](#)

[Irish Times](#)

2480 Batterson Road

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Powhatan, VA 23139

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