



Ancient Order of HIBERNIANS

Irish • Catholic • American



MSGR. CHARLES A. KELLY, JR.
DIVISION 44PO010007

MAY 2021 EDITION
VOLUME 11, ISSUE 5



Jack Simila
Division President

Worthy Brothers,
I hope that everyone had a blessed Easter, and I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful spring weather that May brings us.
Great news everyone, we had our first in-person meeting in almost a year on April 9th. Thank you to everyone who showed up; it was great to be with our brothers in person again.

We also installed two new



members that evening, so please welcome Dennis Mulligan (r.) and Kevin Purnell (l.) to our Division.

Covid is still preventing us from planning any events, but we do have the "Trip to Ireland" raffle this year. The raffle is on, and the drawing date is July 4, 2021. Both online sales and paper tickets are available. If you are interested in obtaining hard tickets, give me a call; I have tickets in my possession, and I will bring them to the monthly meeting or contact me, and we'll make arrangements to meet. To get the raffle online, click the link below. For our Division to get credit for the sale, remember to check the AOH Kelly-Powhatan box when purchasing tickets. Remember, you can share this link with friends and family:

<https://go.eventgroovefundraising.com/aohraffle>

Our next division meeting will be conducted in person at St. Joseph's in Bon Air on Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 7 pm. If you plan on attending, please send me an email or text to have an accurate headcount. Also, the number of members present may determine in which room we hold our meeting.

Please continue to be safe during the pandemic.

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Business Meetings

NEXT Business Meeting will be held at St. Joseph's, Bon Air, on May 13, 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!

Contact [Keltex](#) or call
(609)624-3252

Dues Notice

2021 Dues are now payable. Dues remain at \$40 and, if 75 or older, dues are \$20. Please pay at Division Meetings or mail check payable to:

AOH Msgr. Kelly
Division

at:

Larry Kelly
120 Carriage Point Ln. Glen
Allen Va. 23059



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The coronavirus has affected many of our brother Hibernians and their families, as well as our community. If you know of any brother Hibernian in need, please contact me.

If you need to reach me, please call or send a text message to my number 919-730-7394. An email will also work, but sometimes I can't check my email for a few days, and my response to emails may be delayed.

I hope to hear from you and see you during our meetings and activities.

Please be safe,

IOM

Jack Simila

919-730-7394

A Bit of Irish History

The Irish Wolfhound

A true gentle giant, the Irish wolfhound has imposing stature but a calm demeanor that makes it a wonderful companion. This sighthound is the tallest of the AKC-recognized dog breeds and tops out at nearly 36 inches at the shoulder and more than 100 pounds.

Also referred to as the 'Wolfdogs of Ireland' or 'the Great Hounds of Ireland,' this breed has a long and storied history as a hunter but today is best known for being a lovable family dog.

The history of the Irish wolfhound stretches back centuries, to the time of the earliest trade between the British Empire and the Middle East. The earliest account of the breed is believed to be from



Roman Consul Quintus Aurelius who in 391

described seven Irish hounds he received as a gift as being objects of intense interest and wonder by the Roman citizens.

The Irish wolfhound is considered a native dog breed of Ireland. With little competition in terms of stature, these tall and lanky stand head and shoulders above most other dog breeds. And while their gentle demeanor made them loyal companions, their fierce hunting nature earned their keep.

It's believed that the breed was originally utilized as a hunting dog. Ireland's native wolf population was kept in check—and eventually hunted to extinction—by these hounds of tremendous size.

Additionally, Irish nobility and land owners used the wolfhound to hunt Irish elk (also now extinct) along with other game, like boar.

While these dogs clearly have Gaelic roots and played a key role in the early history of the Emerald Isle, it's unclear as to exactly what contributed to the gene pool that became the Irish wolfhound breed. Some sources believe that the largest of Britain's hounds were bred to sighthounds from the Middle East—and the Irish wolfhound's graceful limbs and carriage certainly seem to point to the grey-

hound as an early influencer in the breed.

Whatever the case, the wolfdog was highly coveted in early Irish life. In fact, the number of wolfhounds a person could own was determined by social status and position. Estate owners and nobility viewed the hounds as prize possessions, and the dogs served to hunt and protect the land.

It would seem that nothing could challenge the wolfhound's commanding position as a hunter, guardian, and companion. However,



the breed began to decline and was on the brink of scarcity by the mid-1800's. Ireland's native wolves and the oversize Irish elk became extinct, reducing the need for such a large-scale hunting companion.

One man is often credited with helping to preserve the Irish wolfhound as we know it today. George Augustus Graham, a captain in the British army, began a concentrated effort to locate and develop a breeding program that would ensure the survival of the wolfhound and standardize the breed as we know it today. By the 1900's, the wolfhound began to attract the fancy of American kennels and dog owners. The breed gained official AKC recognition in 1897.

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40th Anniversary Bobby Sands Death

On May 5th, 1981, Bobby Sands died in the H-Block prison hospital at Long Kesh, the Maze prison outside Belfast. Sands was elected a Member of Parliament for Fermanagh/South Tyrone while he was jailed. He embarked on the fatal hunger strike while imprisoned for activities related to the IRA's armed campaign against the British government.

Sands's death launched enormous reaction around the world; hundreds of thousands marched in support of the prisoners' demands, a statement of "deep regret" was issued by the US government, Irish unions



waged strikes, newspapers around the world condemned Mrs Thatcher to allow a fellow member of parliament to die, and riots flared up on the streets of Northern Ireland.

Prayer List

-**Mike Dougherty** being treated for Chron's disease; 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**, Diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis and now back at Brookdale. Will be entering hospice.

All those who have health problems

In Memorium

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

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

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 children
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 010007
POWHATAN, VA

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2021 Division Officers

President-*Jack Simila*
jacksimila@gmail.com

Vice President- Open

Treasurer-*John Frampton*
firemedic45@comcast.net

Recording Secretary-*Mike Norton*
mnortonstn@aol.com

Financial Secretary-*Larry Kelly*
jlkelly1@verizon.net

Standing/Compassion Comm.-*Mike Dougherty*
dianadougherty46@yahoo.com

Marshal-*Sonny Dorish*
fmdorish@yahoo.com

Sentinel-*Jim Dunn*
jimdunn367@gmail.com

Webmaster-*Dan Harrington*
joydan1073@verizon.net

The Msgr. Charles Kelly, Jr. Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was formed in December, 2009 and conducted its 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:

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.AOHKELLY.ORG

[Contact Editor](#)



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

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2480 Batterson Road

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Powhatan, VA 23139

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