



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



THE KELLY NEWSLETTER

Msgr. Charles A. Kelly, Jr. Division 44PO010007

March 2022 Edition Volume 13 Issue 3

2022
Division President's Message

Matt Dullaghan



Worthy Hibernian Brothers:

Happy March! As I never get tired of saying, this is our month. Bishop McKiernan used to say there are two kinds of people: the Irish, and those who wish they were. President Biden and Governor Youngkin continue the tradition of declaring March Irish-American Heritage Month, while the Senate of Virginia has proposed designating April as "Scots-Irish Heritage Month in Virginia." Take any opportunities you can to

share our story and invite other Irish Catholic men to join us. March also brings us St. Patrick's Day, our St. Patrick's dinner, the Church Hill Irish Festival, and the conclusion of our raffle ticket sales.

The Col. Fitzgerald Division, in Arlington, Virginia, will be livestreaming the 44th Annual Gaelic Mass on Monday, March 14, 2022 at 7:30 pm, from the St. Thomas More Cathedral. The free link is <https://youtu.be/DxsZMMiWNSw>, but there is a GoFundMe link at <https://gofund.me/d2dbcfdd> to defray expenses.

And the Dooley Division has invited us to join them on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, for the 9 am Mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Church Hill, at 213 N 25th St, Richmond, VA 23223. Immediately following the Mass there will be refreshments and coffee in the church basement. Bring your green blazer if you have one. Several plan to meet around lunchtime at Rosie Connolly's, at 1548 East Main Street A, Richmond, to raise a pint.

Brother Dan has already sent out sign up links for the Church Hill

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Business Meetings

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

Meetings are held at:
St. Joseph's Church
828 Buford Road
Richmond, VA 23235

2022 Business Meeting Schedule:

Our next regular Division Meeting is March 10, 2022

Socials at O'Toole's Restaurant & Pub, 13919 Midlothian Turnpike, Midlothian, VA 23114 on the fourth Thursday of the month starting at 5PM.

Dues Notice

2022 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

Irish Festival. A link for the dinner on March 20 will follow. Please respond quickly so the organizers can get accurate counts.

We'll have more details of our plans for the Church Hill Irish Festival (<https://churchhillirishfestival.com>) at our next meeting. March 26 is less than three weeks away. We do of course have a few hectic weeks of raffle ticket sales left. Brother Jack Simila had done a great job as chairman, and I know he will look forward to any help you can give him in these last few days to man the churches and O'Toole's.

We are off to a great start for the year, and I hope to see many more of you at our next monthly meeting on March 10. Until we meet again, Sláinte mhaith agat!

For upcoming events:

March 10 Monthly membership meeting, St. Joseph's, 828 Buford Rd, Richmond, VA 23235

March 20 St. Patrick's Dinner, O'Toole's Restaurant, 4800 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225

March 24 Fourth Thursday, O'Toole's Restaurant, 13919 Midlothian Turnpike, Midlothian, VA 23114

March 26-27 Church Hill Irish Festival, 25th & Main

April 14 Monthly membership meeting, St. Joseph's, 828 Buford Rd, Richmond, VA 23235

April 17 Easter Sunday

And if you want to drop in the presidential declaration, the full text is at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/02/28/a-proclamation-on-irish-american-heritage-month-2022>, the Governor's declaration is at <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/proclamations/proclamation-list/irish-american-heritage-month.html>, and the Virginia Senate's Joint Resolution No. 134 is at <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/leqp604.exe?221+ful+SJ134+pdf>.

Thanks.
In our motto,
Matthew

A Bit of Irish History

The Irish Workhouse

by Derek Reed December 21, 2019

The workhouse was introduced into Ireland as part of the English Poor Law system in 1838. The British government believed it to be the most cost effective way of tackling the desperate state of poverty in Ireland. Some English politicians also believed that it would prevent the Irish destitute from swamping England.

Workhouses were not designed for Famine conditions.

By 1845, 123 workhouses had been constructed, one per district or Poor Law Union. The cost of poor relief was met by the payment of rates (a tax) by owners and occupiers of land and property in that district.

Each Poor law union was overseen by a Board of Guardians which consisted of elected members, magistrates and justices of the peace.



Workhouse grave

Conditions of entry into the workhouse were very strict and entry was seen as the last resort of a destitute person. Once inside the inmates were forced to work, food was poor, and accommodation was often cold, damp and cramped.

It was in the interests of those who funded the workhouse through taxation, to keep the numbers of in-

mates as low as possible.

A roll call was carried out each morning. A typical day inside an Irish workhouse was to rise at 6am, breakfast at 6.30am, work until 12noon, lunch break and then work until 6pm. Supper was served at 7pm, with lights out at 8pm.

Meals were served in a communal dining room and held in si-

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News For the Division

.At this time, the Central Virginia Celtic Festival is planning the 2022 event for October. As of now, no dates are available.

The Church Hill St. Patrick's Festival is on March 26 & 27th.



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lence. Husbands, wives and children were separated as they entered the workhouse and could be punished if they attempted to speak to each other. An inmate's only possessions were his/her uniform, mattress and blanket. Once a week the inmates bathed and the men shaved.



Kinsale Workhouse

The Famine caused a crisis in the Irish Workhouse System.

By the end of 1846 many of the workhouses were full and refusing to admit new applicants. There was widespread shortages of bedding and clothing.

Unwashed clothes of inmates who had died from fever or disease were given to the next new inmate arriving at the workhouse. There was often a shortage of coffins and burial grounds were often located close to the workhouse, sometimes next to the water supply. As panic gripped the country, and with no other options available, there was a great rush to enter the workhouse.

The road to the workhouse became known as '*cosan na marbh*' or 'pathway of the dead', and over a quarter of those admitted died inside the workhouse.

The 1847 Soup Kitchens Act gave some relief to the workhouses. However, in the summer of the same year, the newly elected British Government declared the Famine to be over and ceased providing financial relief. The Poor Law Unions were made responsible for future relief measures. There were unable to cope and large numbers of people continued to die.

The workhouse system was abolished in the early 1920s, when Ireland gained independence from Britain.

In Memorium

Paul McFadden of the Dooley Division in January 2022.

Some of you old timers may remember Paul as the actual creator of the Msg. Kelly Division back in 2010. He organized everything I can remember and helped recruit new members for us in the local parishes in our early days.

More information is in the Dooley Division website.

Prayer List

Brother Dan Harrington: Being treated monthly for Lukemia.

Michael Manning: Nephew of Dan Harrington who was just released from hospital after 21 days recovery from intestinal surgery. Diagnosed with Stage 3 colon cancer.

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

Mike Norton's wife Christine: Suffering from a C-dif infection

2022 Division Officers

President-Matt Dullaghan
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Vice President- Dennis Mulligan
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Treasurer-John Frampton
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Recording Secretary-Mike Norton
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Financial Secretary-Larry Kelly
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Standing/Compassion Comm.-Sonny Dorish
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Marshal-Bob Cavanaugh
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Sentinel-Jim Dunn
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Website:

www.aohkelly.org

New 2022 Officers Initiation Ceremony



At last month's Meeting our new Division Officers Ceremony was officiated by Brian Kiernan (center), Standing Committee Chairman for the Dooley Division.

Our Division History

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.

LINKS

[AOH National](#)

[Irish Museum-DC](#)

[AOH Virginia](#)

[The Wild Geese](#)

[AOH Kelly](#)

[Irish Times](#)

[AOH Dooley](#)

[Irish Echo](#)

[Irish Culture and Customs](#)