



Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Pennsylvania



Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity



2022 Edition III

A Word from Maria, our President...

Greeting Sisters,

It is almost time to pack up and head to Pittsburgh for the 2022 AOH ~ LAOH National Convention!

I look forward to seeing everyone since it has been four years since we have attended an "in-person" one. Anyone attending has been asked to sign up for a committee meeting, and this year along with sessions at the Convention, there have been Zoom meetings. We expect the Zoom meeting to be beneficial as they will cut down on time spent in meetings once we are in Pittsburgh.

I will keep you updated with the outcome of the AOH vote to allow women to join. As I explained in my last Presidents message, this will not be easy, but it is up to the men, so we shall see how it goes. Remember that we have been an Irish Catholic Fraternal organization for over 125 years and will continue the good works started by our sisters many years ago.

Also, this year at the Convention, the State Board of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernian is asking for National to adopt a new resolution, put forth by LAOH sister and Past State PA President Colleen Bower. The Resolution asks the LAOH to support women impacted by domestic violence. Since her daughter Melissa was killed in such a situation, Colleen has worked tirelessly to bring awareness of this horrific tragedy that happens to many women to the forefront. I will have Colleen discuss more after the Convention.

Now that the pandemic has slowed, it is nice to see the Counties and Divisions picking up where they left off in 2020 with events and fundraisers. The tremendous generosity of the LAOH from around the State has been fabulous. So many sent donations to help the Ukrainians as requested by National Catholic Action. Your works and contributions have gone directly to help the people of that county.

I wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer. I look forward to seeing many of you in July at the Convention and let's keep praying for peace in Ireland and worldwide.

*In Our Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Maria*

*Maria Gallagher
PA State President*



State Things to Know...

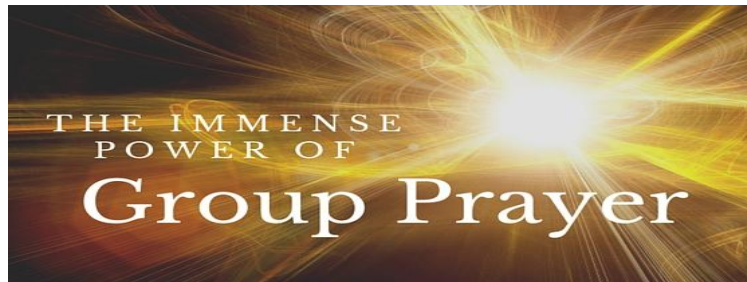
Don't forget to periodically check the our Website! ~ <http://statepalaoh.com>



- ✦ The History of the LAOH
- ✦ The History of the Pennsylvania LAOH
- ✦ State Board Members Introduction Letters and means to contact
- ✦ The Anna C. Malia Ruddy Award winners
- ✦ Bylaws
- ✦ Newsletters
- ✦ Information from Degree Teams
- ✦ Photo Albums
- ✦ Important Dates
- ✦ Fundraising from the State and Divisions
- ✦ State and National Convention details available!



Also check out our Facebook page at LAOH Pennsylvania State & Instagram page



The members of Bucks County Division 1~ MaryEllen Everett in Bristol welcomes you to join us every Tuesday at 8pm EST to say the Rosary via Zoom.

The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5420434510> and the Meeting ID: 542 043 4510.

You can also join by phone: +19294362866,5420434510#

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Brianna M. Curran ~ Brianna.M.Curran@gmail.com



LAOH and our Military Connections

If you or someone in your Division served in any branch of the US Armed Forces, please forward the following information to Maura Roszyk: maurar1117@msn.com.

Name, Division, County, Address, Phone number, Email, Branch, Rank, Years of Service, Dates of Service, and Combat Veteran? If yes, what war/conflict.

LAOH Blue & Gold Star Mothers of America

To build yet another network of support for the proud Blue and Gold Star Mothers,

the National Committee wishes for us to collect the names and information of those proud Moms.

We ask that all Division Presidents send in a list including name, phone, email, and name and service their children serve or have served. Please forward the listing to Maura Roszyk: maurar1117@msn.com



Ladies Just a Reminder!

If you send a Sister an email, **please do not assume that she has received it.**

If you do not get a response, please follow up with a phone call or reach out to someone else in the Division. With so many more people utilizing technology, emails are not always received, go to junk, or are missed by the receiver. Thank you!



2022 National Convention Update



AOH-LAOH NATIONAL CONVENTION PITTSBURGH 2022

Updates and Reminders:

A full breakdown is on the Convention Facebook page.

Like and follow the Convention on Facebook AOH LAOH National Convention PGH 2022



Our Convention Merchandise is up! ~ Get your Convention swag today!

Feel free to order early, directly from our website ~ we have golf and tee shirts, Convention glasses, canisters, and even a Convention folding chair!

All orders will be picked up at the Convention in Pittsburgh

<https://www.2022pittsburghconvention.com/shop>



Convention Parking

The hotel offers valet parking at \$35 a night,

there is also a self-parking garage near the rear of the hotel for \$22 ~ visit the iParkit site at

https://www.iparkit.com/locations/stanwix-garage-self-park?start=2022-06-30T15:00:37.466Z&end=2022-06-30T16:00:37.466Z&timezone=America%2FNew_York&destination_id=undefined&email=



Registration Hours

Registration will be located on the 2nd floor of the Wyndham outside of The Grand Ballroom

Tuesday July 12th 11am-5pm

Wednesday July 13th 9am-5:30pm

Thursday July 14th 9am-5pm

Friday July 15th 9am-5pm

Saturday July 16th 9am-1pm



Sponsors

We thank our generous sponsors whom without their support this event would not be possible.

Please support them!



Call 844-236-3200 for more information



See you in Pittsburgh!

Pittsburgh Fast Facts:

- ✓ Pittsburgh is dubbed the "City of Bridges," and rightfully so. It has 446 bridges, more than any other city in the world, including Venice, Italy.
- ✓ The Burgh should also be called the "City of Steps." There are more than 700 sets of public stairs within the city limits.
- ✓ BINGO! The first Bingo game was played in Pittsburgh in the 1920s and quickly became a nationwide phenomenon.
- ✓ Pittsburgh is the only city in America where all its sports teams wear the same colors ~ black & gold!

Join us on a ~ VISIT to OLD ST. PATRICK'S ~ Thursday July 14th, 2022

- ✓ First Catholic Church West of the Allegheny Mountains
- ✓ A fragment of the Blarney Stone is rumored to have been installed in the tower during construction
- ✓ 28 Holy Steps of Marble representing the steps between Christ and Pilate
- ✓ Home of Fr. Cox of Fr. Cox's Army

Imagine it's fall, 1808 and a newly ordained priest, **Fr. William Francis Xavier O'Brien**, rides into a small town in Western Pennsylvania at the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela River. His mission is to establish the **first Roman Catholic Parish in Pittsburgh**. He finds only 20 Catholic families in the area and none with the financial means to support a new church. So begins the saga of the first Catholic Church west of the Allegheny Mountains. With the missionary zeal of St. Patrick himself and some early support, Fr. O'Brien was able to lay a church cornerstone in 1808 and open a completed, first St. Patrick's Church in 1811: a small brick church with a wooden floor, a pitched roof and no pews, as they couldn't yet be afforded.

From those humble beginnings, the parish grew and outgrew a number of buildings until finally on March 17th, 1936, the church as we know it today was dedicated. **History reports that during its construction a piece of the Blarney Stone was inserted in the Round Tower of the church. A key feature of "Old St. Patrick's Church is that it contains 28 Holy Stairs of marble, situated within the center of the church.** These Holy Stairs represent the 28 steps between Christ and Pilate when Pilate condemned Jesus to death. There are only 5 other replicas of these stairs in the world. Ascending the Holy Stairs is a devotion that one does on their knees.

The garden features an **outdoor grotto in honor of the apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes**. Statues in the garden honor: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Bernadette, Saint Ann, Saint Joseph, Saint Patrick, Saint Anthony, and Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha -Lady of the Mohawks. The surprising beauty and oasis of solitude in the bustling city reminds us that God's grace can be found in the most unexpected places.



Over its many years of providing services to Pittsburgh's Catholic Community it has been known for its mission to the poor and needy of Pittsburgh and the surrounding areas. For many years it was home to Pittsburgh's Irish Catholic immigrant community, helping many during the periods of "No Irish Need Apply" and rampant discrimination because they were both Irish and Catholic. They also helped many of the other Catholic immigrant groups establish their early churches as well.

Throughout the lifetime of St. Patrick's Church, it has been the **Ancient Order of Hibernians** that has stepped up when the Church needed a hand to keep it going. Today the AOH has stepped up again to aid in the restoration of this historic Catholic landmark. This time, led by Allegheny County Division 9 over \$50,000 worth of concrete, landscaping and building improvement has been provided for Old St. Patrick's, all at no cost to the church.





AOH-LAOH NATIONAL CONVENTION PITTSBURGH 2022

VISIT to OLD ST. PATRICK'S Thursday July 14th, 2022 OPEN NIGHT

LIMITED BUS TRANSPORTATION

Buses will leave the Wyndham Hotel at 5:45pm on Thursday July 14, 2022,
returning to the Wyndham at approximately 8:00 PM.

Cost is \$10.00 per-person and includes a souvenir medal, and light
refreshments on the church grounds.

If you are interested in attending, please fill out information below.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____@_____

Number of those attending _____

****For the adventurous, Old St. Patrick's is a half hour walk (from the Hotel), about 1.4 miles over level ground****

Please pay online or via Check made payable to: 2022 AOH/LAOH Convention

Please mail the above and check to:

2022 AOH/LAOH National Convention

PO Box 788

Carnegie, PA 15106

<https://www.2022pittsburghconvention.com/product-page/old-saint-patrick-s-church-event>

News & Photos from Around the Commonwealth

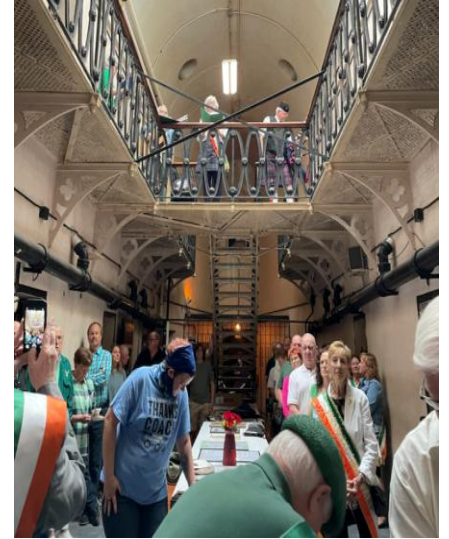


Rope Mass in Remembrance of the Molly Maguires

Once again, the Old Jail Museum of Jim Thorpe opened its doors on June 18th, 2022, for us Hibernians to hold a Mass of Remembrance with an altar positioned directly in front of the gallows for the ten victims of "Day of the Rope" – June 21, 1877.



Hosted by Carbon County's AOH Division One ~ Alec Campbell, with LAOH Sisters Kathleen Crampsie, Marcia Evans, and Dianne Mascari serving as the choir ~ Rev. Ronald Minner inspired all in



attendance to "leave our handprint, in any small way, to make your community better."

The Molly Maguires are considered leaders and martyrs in the struggle for coal miners fighting for worker's rights. Four Irish Americans died in the Jim Thorpe prison, and six in jail in Pottsville. The Coal Mine attorneys prosecuted them, and the Coal Mine's Judge convicted them, with no fairness shown to the men.



Before his hanging, one of the men, Thomas Fisher, placed his hand on the floor of his cell and then placed it firmly on the wall proclaiming, "This handprint will remain as proof of my innocence." Today, visitors can still see the handprint, even though many wardens have tried to "eradicate it by washing it, painting it, and even taking down part of the wall and re-plastering it."



We ask that all Counties & Divisions submit their Good News and Photos to share with each other for this portion of the Newsletter.



Allegheny County

The LAOH Allegheny County Board will be sponsoring the Our Lady of Knock Mass Sunday August 21st, 2022, at 10:30am at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church 330 3rd Ave Carnegie PA
All are welcome!

Many of our LAOH Allegheny County Board have been busy working on the National Convention in Pittsburgh. We look forward to seeing you there!

A special shout out to our President Eileen O'Malley, co-chair for the Convention!

We are also incredibly proud to support our immediate past president and current State VP Kathleen Diulus for a National position.

Please show your support for our dedicated, experienced, and talented, Sister!



Philadelphia County Happy Summer Ladies!

The Ladies of Philadelphia County are so excited for 2022!

Besides the amazing charity work we do all year we have many milestones within our County this year!

- Saint Brigid Division 39 - celebrating 40 years!
- Our Lady of Knock Division 87 - celebrating 30 years!
- Saint Katharine Drexel Division 61 - celebrating 25 years!
- Officer Daniel Boyle Division 88 - celebrating 25 years!

We cannot leave out our Brigid McCrory Division 25 in their 21st year and Queen Maeve Division 17 going into their 23rd year.

We are so very proud of and excited for all of our Divisions!

The time and most of all the dedication to our order and our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity is extraordinary throughout the City of Philadelphia! Congratulations ladies!

To all of the LAOH families across the state - have a safe and blessed summer and a great Convention!



Lackawanna County

Division 3 at St. Rose Family Center in Carbondale hosted our April County Meeting. It was a busy meeting with discussions of the upcoming National Convention. We encouraged all Divisions to have their members attend. A motion passed that all five Divisions participate in a collection for Ukraine. Reports from all five Division representatives were given.



From left to right: **First row:** Sister Kathleen Smith, Div. 3; Carolyn Guy, Div. 3; Karin Foster, Div. 1; Carol Kiernan, Div. 3; Rita Bannon, Div. 3. **Second row:** Alice McDermott, Div. 1; Dot Crowley, Div. 1; Nancy Yavorski, Div. 4; Kathy Connor, Div. 3, Kate Schneider; **Third row:** Nancy Earyes, Div. 3; Ann Brunori, Div. 3; Cindy Burke, Div. 3; Mary Clare Kingsley, Div. 5; Mary Ann McAndrew, Div. 4; Patty Jones, Div. 1; Cathy McGuire, Div. 3; Patricia Clark, Div. 3; Laure Carlo, Div. 3; Janice Joyce, Div. 3; and Michele Bannon.

On June 26, 2022 members of the LAOH / AOH Lackawanna County Boards, along with their Division members held a successful Membership Drive. All had “Irish camaraderie, laughter, and fun.”



Seated left to right LAOH new applicant, LAOH Division 4 President Nancy Yavoroski , LAOH division member Sharon Truman, LAOH County Board President Dot Crowley and new Division 3 applicant Sister Mary Jane. Standing left to right; LAOH new applicant, along with Division 4 Vice President Mary Anne McAndrew.

LAOH/AOH Membership Drive Basket Raffle

Front row LAOH County Board President Dot Crowley, LAOH County Board Vice President Clair Kingsley, LAOH County Board Chaplin Sister Kathleen Smith, AOH Recording Secretary Frank Truman, Laoh County Board Catholic Action Officer for Lackawanna County Kathleen Connor, AOH County Board President Chuck Schneider, LAOH County Board Historian Kate Fanning Schneider.

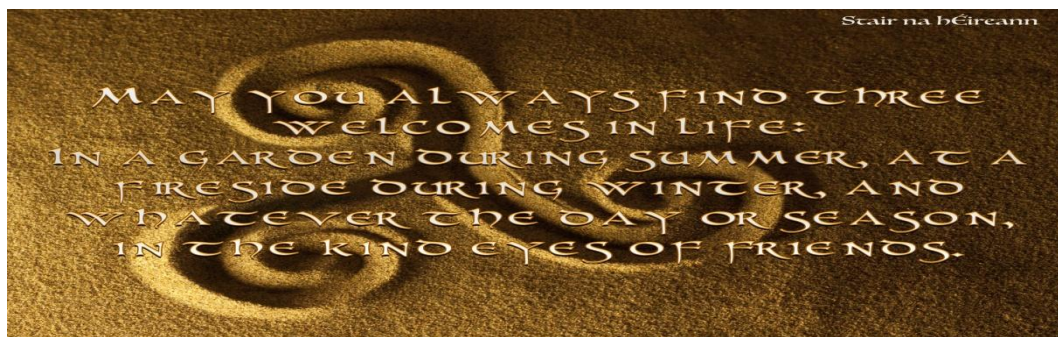
Back Row AOH County Board Treasurer Harry Smith, AOH County Board Vice President Dave Sutton and AOH member Frank Jones.



Front row; LAOH County Board President Dot Crowley, LAOH County Board Chaplin Sister Kathleen Smith; AOH County Board Recording Secretary Frank Truman, LAOH County Board Vice President Clair Kingsley, LOAH County Historian Kate Fanning Schneider.

Back Row; AOH County Board Vice President Dave Sutton and AOH County Board Treasurer Harry Smith and AOH County Board President Chuck Schneider.

Do you have a fresh and fun idea for the Newsletter?
Please reach out.
We are all members of the PA State Newsletter team!





**Division #4 ~ Maud Gonne ~ Lackawanna County
Celebrating 25 years**

We collected and donated Child/Youth bicycle helmets and non-perishable food items to the Catherine McAuley Center of Scranton for our May meeting.



Seated Left-Right: Kristin Krowiak Recording Secretary, Nancy McAndrew Yavoroski Division President and Chrissy Lavelle Mistress at Arms.

*Standing Left-Right: Sara McCormack, Mary Alice Browning, Katie Murray, Mary Anne McAndrew Vice President, Trish Corbett, Jean Hannon and Mary Kate Werner Historian.
(Photo taken by Carolyn Wahl Financial Secretary/Treasurer.)*



**Division #5 ~ St. Brigid of Kildare ~ Bucks County
We had a blast at the Langhorne Memorial Day Parade.**



Division #61 ~ St. Katharine Drexel ~ Philadelphia

Our Ladies along with the support of our Division brothers have been busy!
On May 5th (Cinco de Mayo) we celebrated the memory of our AOH brother Jim Addison where all



proceeds went to his favorite Charities: the Hibernian Hunger Project and our AOH/LAOH Christmas is for Giving program.



On May 11th, we were blessed with some beautiful weather so our Ladies took our monthly meeting to the outdoors!

We had a great meeting and were able to help three deserving 8th graders to continue their Catholic education through our Maureen T. Lavin Scholarship/Grant program. This year our amazing Ladies are able to grant these children a combined total of \$6000.00!

On June 11th, we once again were blessed to have a beautiful day outdoors where we joined in with our AOH 61 Brothers and attended a Phillies game and got to see a great win!





BUT WE ARE MOST EXCITED ABOUT

Celebrating our **25th Anniversary as LAOH Division 61 Saint Katharine Drexel** this coming October 1st!
We are getting an ad book together if anyone would like to support our celebration
The Ladies of LAOH 61 wish you all a great National Convention in Pittsburgh as well as a safe and enjoyable summer!



Division #11 ~ Oakland ~ Pittsburgh ~ Allegheny County

The Ladies of Division 11 are busy planning our annual Masquerade Charity Ball.
All are welcome the event will be on Saturday, October 15th 2022
at The Craftonian Hall 48 Division Street Crafton, PA 15205, space is limited.

SAVE THE DATE!

LAOH DIVISION 11 PRESENTS THE

MASQUERADE CHARITY BALL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 2022

COSTUMES OPTIONAL: MASKS PREFERRED * PROCEEDS BENEFIT LAOH DIVISION 11 CHARITIES



THE CRAFTONIAN HALL - 48 DIVISION STREET, CRAFTON, PA 15205
412-921-9330 - OPEN BAR - \$55 PER PERSON
FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT US AT WWW.LAOHDIV11.COM,
CONTACT MARIA IMMEKUS AT: 412.477.5363 - 420 JENNE DRIVE, PITTSBURGH, PA 15236
TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED VIA VENMO OR A CHECK PAYABLE TO LAOH DIVISION 11.



Congrats, to all our members on the Convention Committee we look forward to seeing you soon.

Be sure to follow Division 11 on

Facebook www.facebook.com/LAOH-Div-11 @ laoh_div11 on Instagram and twitter.

25th Anniversary for St. Katharine Drexel

LAOH Division #61 – Ad Book

October 1, 2022



Sponsor Name/Business Name: _____

Address _____

Contact _____ Phone: _____

You may submit camera-ready artwork, advertising message or business card or I will be happy to layout your ad for you at no cost. The booklet page size will be 5 ½ X 8 ½. Email address is as follows:

jlbp Philadelphia@gmail.com

Please check the applicable line below and make your check payable to: LAOH, Inc. Division #61

And mail to: Jenna Heron at 3836 Fairdale Rd. Philadelphia PA 19154

AD SIZE

FULL PAGE: \$100 _____

Half Page: \$50 _____

Quarter Page: \$25 _____

The deadline for advertisements will be August 1, 2022





Division #1 ~ Mary Ellen Everett ~ Bristol

Our Division participated heavily in the return of the **Bucks County Celtic Day 2022!** Celtic Heritage Foundation celebrated its 24th Annual Festival in Bristol Borough, PA. Celtic Day is a way to kick off the summer and the cultural events that Bristol Borough offers from June to September. Celtic Day is important to our community not only as a day to



embrace the heritages of the Irish, Scottish, and Welsh, but also to see friends, enjoy traditional music, shop for personal gifts, and even start your Christmas shopping plus enjoy a delicious bite to eat! We had



three fun and talented bands performing- No Irish Need Apply, The Shantys, and Birmingham Six. If you listen to the lyrics, you can hear the story of our past, the journey of our people, and the hardships they endured. Our heritage helps us examine our

history and traditions and enables us develop an awareness about ourselves.

The LAOH assisted the Celtic Heritage Foundation by running their Bake Sale, promoting the raffle items, and promoting the work of the LAOH in our community! It was a beautiful day celebrated by our Bucks County brothers and sisters! We welcome all to join us for the 25th Annual Celtic Day on Sunday, June 23rd, 2023 from 12pm to 6pm!!



Again this year, we held our our Second Annual Diaper Drive for Catholic Social Services and what a turnout! In honor of Mother Mary, we are supporting those mothers and families in need in our communities!

CSS's staff continues to provide food, diapers, formula,

and other supplies provided for their newborn and infant families as needed. We had four drop off dates with a grand total of 4,459 diapers; 9,664 wipes; 18 bottles of baby soap/ shampoo combo; 21 bottles of kid's wash; and a check for \$348.



CSS is an amazing organization that helps women and children in need! We are very proud to be an annual sponsor for Catholic Social Services!



**Division # 3~ Maire Drumm Division 3~ Montgomery County
Celebrating the 4th of July at the Skippack Parade**



Left to right: Megan Riley Bethel, Shane Clark, Alan Clark, Presidents Mike & Shawn Brown, Sheila Davis
Seated: Steve Brady



Happy Summer Everyone!



**Division #23 ~ Allegheny County
Celebrating 23 years!!!**

Happy Summer & Wishing everyone a great Convention!





Division #25 ~ Philadelphia County

In June, we loved lending a hand to our needy brothers and sisters!
Thank you to Caring for Friends for blessing us with the opportunity!



Division #2 ~ John F. Kennedy ~ Pottsville, Schuylkill County **Celebrating our 50th year!**



Due to continued Covid precautions, we continue to meet monthly via Zoom.

Our Paint & Sip is still tabled; however, it will hopefully, be scheduled later this year. Please watch for upcoming details. We have a handful of Ladies excited to attend this year's National Convention. Happy Sumer everyone!





**Division #1 ~ Tir Na'N Og'~ Lehigh Valley
Celebrating our 35th Anniversary**

This past Spring, we held a Whoopie Pie Fundraiser ~ the pies were traditional flavors, and then we added some boozy flavors! This sale was so much fun and success that the chair, our VicePresident Lorraine Clarke, decided to arrange a court of Whoopie Pie Queens based on sales. Our Queen was our Treasurer Maryclare Plucinsky, she sold 89 pies, followed by Laura Weidman who sold 74 pies, and Anne Bassler and Mary Ellen Zastko with 65 pies each ~ altogether we sold 416 pies and made a deliciously wonderful profit to put towards our charities!



LtoR: Maryclare Plucinsky~ Treasurer, Laura Weidman, Anne Bassler, and Mary Ellen Zastko

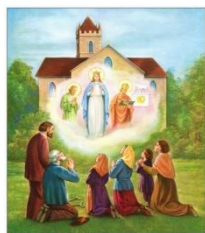
At our May meeting, we remembered the May 5, 1981, passing of Bobby Sands and the other Hunger Strikers. Our Vice President, Lorraine Clarke, organized and led the moving ceremony to commemorate Bobby and the other Strikers who sacrificed their lives for a change. The British government downplayed the Strikes until they realized the overall community's attitude, as was apparent by the 100,000 mourners that attended Bobby's funeral.



In June, we joined with the Ladies of Division One ~ Molly Maguires~ Carbon County, to remember the Day of the Rope Mass, and our very own, Dianne Mascari sang in the Choir!



L to R: Bonnie Batchelder~ past Vice President, Dianne Mascari ~ Grievance Committee, and Maura Roszyk ~ President



We look forward to our Our Lady of Knock Mass in August. This Mass is our traveling Mass, which is hosted at one of the parishes of one of our Sisters. This traveling allows us to spread our mission's message to increase awareness and membership of our Division. And, once again, we will host a Non-Perishable Food Donation in the spirit of our Hunger Initiative.



On September 20, 1987, our Lehigh Division One began. We are looking at several different options to celebrate this wonderful event.



Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life

Amy Poehler

News & Updates from the State Board

Chaplain ~ Sister Lisa Breslin SSJ.

Some thoughts for the summer...

One of my "fondest" memories of the approach of summer is the fact that in the "old days," we never had summer reading! Playing was our job during the summer, and I did it faithfully!

Well, times have changed! As we approach this summer of 2022, I decided to give my Sister-Hibernians some spiritual homework. Don't worry, I won't check it in the Fall! And I retired my yardstick long ago!

Your assignment is to continue to pray and to go to Mass. Even if it is inconvenient or not a pleasant experience, God graces us beyond what we can imagine through the Word and Eucharist.

Secondly, I have found that another grace-filled task is the work of forgiveness...of ourselves and others. How do I know if I have not forgiven myself? I feel guilty when I recall the situation or event. How do I know if I have not forgiven someone? When I recall the incident, I still feel strong emotions like resentment or anger.

Sound familiar?

Forgiveness, first, is a process. Jesus told us we are to forgive "seventy times seven times" (Matt 18:22), a number that symbolizes boundlessness. It isn't a one-and-done. It is a process that is about letting go and letting God release us of our resentments and hurts. Forgiveness comes from God (we can't do it alone). It is a grace we need to pray for seventy times seven times! There is even a Sacrament through which we are forgiven. I urge you to take advantage of Confession.

Have a blessed summer, and thank you for allowing me to journey with you through the LAOH!

P.S. This assignment is optional...God may be leading you in another direction.

In our motto,
Sister Lisa Breslin, SSJ
State Chaplain

Vice President ~ Kathleen Diulus

Happy Summer!

I hope everyone is enjoying the change of season and getting outside to relax and enjoy!

Looking forward to seeing those of you who are able to travel to Pittsburgh for the National Convention in a few weeks, if not able to attend, fingers crossed for your attendance next year at our Pennsylvania Convention.

As a member of the Convention Committee, I can tell you the Committee is excited and are working hard to ensure a fun time is had by all.

On a personal note, I am running for Catholic Action Officer on the National Board and would greatly appreciate your support. I enjoy being a member and officer in our Organization at the State and Division level. I am excited to contribute to the LAOH at this new level further. Our Organization must continue to evolve while remaining true to our mission. A balance of seasoned and fresh is essential for all groups to stay vibrant and attract and retain membership. Being a member of the National Board will allow me to continue serving Sisters in a greater capacity.

Please feel free to reach out if I can ever help you or your Division with anything!

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Kathleen

Secretary ~ Carolyn Killion

Ladies, If you have any change of officers, please send their information to me asap, so that we can keep our records up to date.

Happy Summer ~ See you in Pittsburgh!
Carolyn

Treasurer ~ Patti Flaus

Ladies, We are half way through the calendar year, just a reminder to keep your receipts in order in preparation for our year end reports.

Happy Summer ~ See you in Pittsburgh!
Patti

Irish Historian ~ Carole Cooney Syzdek

Our National Historian, Mary T. Leathem, has created a History Committee, of which I am a member, to review our current, Division, County and State, History Forms for possible changes.

We have been meeting via Zoom. This will be discussed at our National Convention.

Summer....Tuesday, June 21, 2022.....we think about it, we say it, we experience it and, for the most part, we truly enjoy it!

Summer.....what exactly is it?? It is the warmest season of the year, in the northern hemisphere from June to August and in the southern hemisphere from December to February. It is the hottest of the four seasons and arrives after spring and prior to autumn. During the summer solstice, daylight hours are longest while the dark hours are shortest. Daylight decreases as the season progresses after the summer solstice.

May you have a Blessed, safe and happy "summer"!
Carole

Missions & Charities ~ Sister Kathleen Smith RSM.

Ladies,

Just a reminder that the Donation Report Form must be completed and sent with every donation check, payable to LAOH Inc (for Columban Fathers, Columban Sisters, Mass Card/Enrollment Stipends, and Appeals for Aid) to the LAOH National Missions and Charities Officer. I ask that you please forward a copy to me so that I can track our overall state donations.

Happy Summer ~ See you in Pittsburgh!
Sister Kathleen

Catholic Action ~ Brianna Curran

In light of what is happening in our country today, I think it is important that everyone reads the official statement from our National Catholic Action Officer Peggy Cornish.

May you have a Blessed, safe and happy summer!
Brianna

Sister Hibernians,

June 24, 2022

This is an excerpt from the statement made by the USCCB after the ruling by the Supreme Court on Roe V Wade. Please read the entire statement on the website, www.USCCB.org.

"Now is the time to begin the work of building a post-Roe America. It is a time for healing wounds and repairing social divisions; it is a time for reasoned reflection and civil dialogue, and for coming together to build a society and economy that supports marriages and families, and where every woman has the support and resources she needs to bring her child into this world in love". Jose H. Gomez (LA) President, US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

We have used this prayer at our Pro-Life events.~ I believe that every baby is like Christ, a gift of God Sent into this world to lead us in the paths which should be trod. Sent to give us understanding. Sent to give us love divine. Sent to be hope's inspiration. Oh, I thank Thee for mine. Author unknown

Now is the time to show kindness and peace toward each other.

Yours in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Margaret (PEGGY) Cornish

LAOH National Office of Catholic Action



Past Presidents

We here in the Commonwealth are so genuinely blessed to have so many active Past Presidents, so we reserve this section of the Newsletter for them to add some of their knowledge, wisdom, and inspiration.

Colleen Bowers

Dear Sisters,

I hope all are healthy as the pandemic has lessened, and we are all getting back to normalcy.

As your Past State President, I wish you all a great time at the upcoming National Convention. Attendance can be an educational moment, along with learning about the workinga of our tremendous nobel order. I hope to see you there!

Personally, I have been very busy working towards support from the National AOH and LAOH concerning Domestic Violence Awareness. Many of you know how I have advocated this topic since I lost my beloved daughter in 2012, from this horrible and senseless act that can happen to anyone. In addition, our brother PA State AOH state board and some of their members are taking a stand against Domestic Violence by taking the "Men's Challenge Pledge."

The MEN's pledge and action plan have been designed to encourage men to commit to learning more about how to be a proactive bystanders and speak out about violence against women and girls.

Check out <https://www.centerforvictims.org/make-a-difference-today/men-challenge/> for more information about this pledge. It serves as a tool to educate men on how to help make a difference and end this violence.

MEN Challenge – Center For Victims

If you are in need of services, contact our 24 Hour Hotline: 1-866-644-2882

www.centerforvictims.org

In addition, Amazon is promoting an internal article they wrote about me concerning this topic and again sending this Global to all Amazonia's.

Please, Sisters, have a healthy and safe summer.

Respectively,
Colleen



Bonnie Collins

Reflections of a Past President 2022

It is that time again, and I am incredibly excited because Pittsburgh will be hosting the National LAOH – AOH Convention. I am particularly excited because I have not seen many of my LAOH friends around the country in four years. If you recall, the 2020 National Convention was not in person because of Covid.

This convention promises to be most interesting. The LAOH National Board has dedicated itself to supporting the goals of our organization. Many activities have been planned. Committees are meeting on zoom before the event. They will then meet in person at the convention. Please make sure you attend the daily sessions and vote if there are elections. You will learn much more about the LAOH and can

become more actively involved. I have also heard there are some surprises in store, so you will want to attend to experience the action!

As Past President, I have been the mentor of five Divisions: Chester County 1, Carbon County 1, Lehigh County 1, Berks County 2, and my Division, Berks County1. I must admit that because of Covid and its effect on meetings, fundraising, and social events, I have been remiss in keeping in close touch with them. Following this convention, I plan on becoming reacquainted with each of them.

See you in Pittsburgh!

Yours in friendship, unity, and Christian Charity
Bonnie


Catching up with other Committees:
Freedom for All Ireland ~ Kathleen Varady

As many of you know, a contingency of AOH and LAOH members went to Ireland to present our Christmas Appeal donation. Check this out!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIAlyCuwO5w>

Just a reminder as we live in a political climate, The LAOH is a 501 (C) 3 and the IRS watches our activities closely. The LAOH members cannot write letters to our Representatives on our letterhead, mention in the letter they are a member of the LAOH or sign the letter as being a LAOH member. Our members are welcome to send letters to their Representatives expressing their concerns as an Irish American citizen. Encourage them to keep supporting the Good Friday Agreement and let Prime Minister Boris Johnson know that America does not support the UK leaving the EU without a deal or without the "backstop". If Mr. Johnson leaves the EU without a deal it could mean chaos in Ireland and could very well mean a hard border between N. and S. Ireland.

Publicity ~ Maura O'Donnell-Roszyk

I recently read that the importance of Newsletters has resurged.

From my Division, I know that ours has allowed our Sisters to stay connected when they could not attend meetings. And, of course, we all know how valuable Newsletters, emails, and social media were during the lockdown.

Now that we are in the summer months, a Newsletter can serve as a reminder of upcoming events should you not be meeting. The Newsletter does not have to be long or include all of your regular sections. Think of it as a staying connected post. I feel confident your Sisters will appreciate it!

As always, feel free to reach out with any suggestions or questions.

If you email me and do not receive a response from me within 48 hours,
please feel free to call or text me.

Sometimes I have emails that go to spam.

Happy Summer!

Maura

610-509-0444 ~ maurar1117@msn.com



Hibernian Hunger Project

Division 39 ~ St. Brigid ~ Philadelphia

Delivered " Toiletries for Weary Travelers" to St John's Hospice in Philadelphia in June. This is an ongoing effort throughout the year. Regina Bauer, HHP, collects these at each meeting and delivers them periodically. Her efforts to support the homeless are greatly appreciated.

~Let your Good Deeds be like rain, Drop a little everywhere! ~



Degree Team Information

ALLEGHENY COUNTY CLADDAGH DEGREE TEAM

Busy, Busy, Busy... the Degree Team is busy preparing for the Degree Ceremony at the National Convention. Be sure to visit the website.



PHILADELPHIA COUNTY TARA DEGREE TEAM

The Team celebrated all their hardwork so far this year with a PotLuck Get together.



**The Philadelphia Tara Degree Team is looking for members to join our Team!
Please feel free to contact a member of the Membership Committee for further information**

Maureen Dougherty Brown
Mary Anne Dooley
Ellen McCrane
Marie Nealis
Colleen Riccardo

bmaureen51@gmail.com
biged3030@aol.com
e.mcrane@comcast.net
nealipa39@gmail.com
gram1940@gmail.com

*The Blessing of God on you ~ Bail ó Dhia ort
Let's us remember the Souls of the recently departed
Eternal rest grant unto our Dearly Departed Sisters*

*Janelle L. Donaldson, Division 23 Allegheny
Mary Denise Schneider, Division One Lehigh Valley*



Compassionate and Gracious God, we come to you today to thank you for giving us a chance to live with our loved ones who recently left this world to come into your presence. Lord God Almighty, we know that they were not perfect, but they did love you with all their heart and truly repented for their sins. May they find love and peace in your presence. Do not let our loved one to be parted from you, let your faithful servant enjoy your glory forever. In Jesus' powerful name, I believe and pray. Amen.

Prayer Requests

The Power of Prayer is so very mighty therefore, we ask you to include the following Special people in yours.



Ellen McCrane, PA Past State President, Maria Gallagher, current PA State President, PA State Vice President Kathleen Diulus, and all of our Sisters who are battling Breast Cancer or are survivors. St. Peregrine and St. Agatha, pray for them.



Denise Nowicke of Division One Bristol ~ Asking for prayers in hospital with pneumonia



Jenn Majka of Division 39~ St. Brigid ~ Philadelphia ~ son in law, Josh as he deals with medical issues.



Nancy Cullen of Division 39~ grandson, Ronan as he recovers from his surgery.



Jeanette Denton of Division One Lehigh Valley~Asking for prayers for a peaceful passing as she has moved into hospice.



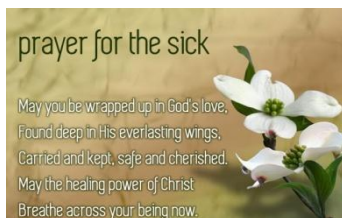
We pray for peace and civility in our home country, America and our motherland, Ireland.



Those impacted by the horrific situation in the Ukraine.



A special prayer for everyone's Special Intentions.



Additionally, we ask for prayers of strength and courage to all of those ailing & their caregivers
Also, to all the Sisters, Priests, and others without loved ones to pray for their soul.
And, a prayer for us all as each one of us faces our daily struggles, fears, and pains.



Be safe ~ BÍ curamach

*Lastly...Please send in your Good News, Committee Updates,
or Prayer Requests so together,
we can celebrate & support each other.*

*Please email them to Maura O'Donnell-Roszyk at maurar1117@msn.com
To be sure I received ~ please message me if I don't send you a RECEIVED response.*

A WOMAN'S PRAYER ~ SR. PEGGY FLAHERTY, CDP

*Make us, O God, spirit-filled women...women of prayer...women of vitality...women of vision..
women of courage...risk-taking women.*

*Fill us with your love...a love, which affirms...a love, which calls forth...a love, which challenges...a love, which
frees.*

*Grant us your gift of Godliness... a reverence for you. Instill in our hearts the spirit of holy Joy...the joy that
sanctifies...the joy that gives...the joy of one who loves... the joy that imparts to others the spirit born of self-
control.*

*Make us Peace-seeking women...instruments of your peace...directed by your Wisdom,
bridge builders...working with others for justice to bring about true peace.*

*Give us Patience...a strong patience which enables us to trust and to keep heart in the face of disappointments,
frustrations, and failures.*

*Plant deep within our attitudes your kindness...make us women who are open and friendly...women of
hospitality...women who image our people friendly God. Impart to us your spirit of Goodness...Make us women
who believe in the good of the other...who speak the good to each other and about each other...who do good for one
another...Bestow on us your gift of knowledge that we may know you who are the source of all good.*

Root us in your Fidelity...a fidelity that keeps us true to you...walking in integrity in your presence...

Mold us into faithful women...women who are true to ourselves...true to others... true to life and all creation.

Form us into women who follow your Counsel in all things, who uphold true values and the rights of all people.

Make us, O God, Spirit filled Irish women, trusting you and one another as we move into this 21st Century.

Our Late Pennsylvania State Chaplain, Sister Peggy Flaherty, also Dorothy Weldon's sister, wrote this beautiful & inspirational prayer.

Sister Peggy was a member of the Sisters of Divine Providence in Pittsburgh, PA. She was the youngest member of the Order to become a Principal of St. Peter and Paul School in Beaver County, PA until her death.

Sister was also the Chaplain of the LAOH, Allegheny County and loved by all.

She was elected State Chair of Catholic Action before her untimely death and served us well.

She was truly loved by everyone, always available to assist and a genuine Irish Catholic Woman as her Father, Martin Flaherty was born in County Galway, Ireland, and Mother, Mary McElligott Flaherty, born in County Kerry, Ireland.



ENJOY

THE REST OF YOUR SUMMER