



Ancient Order of HIBERNIANS

Irish • Catholic • American



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

APRIL 2021 EDITION
VOLUME 11, ISSUE 4



Jack Simila
Division President

Worthy Brothers,
Happy Easter to you and your families; I hope this joyous time finds you all healthy and ready to enjoy our beautiful spring weather. Along with the warmer weather and longer days, we also have encouraging news almost daily about the pandemic. Availability of the vaccine seems to be increasing, and cases in many areas are on the decline. All this good news is excellent, but we still need to be alert and practice social distancing and wearing masks when required or appropriate. As a country, we're not out of the woods yet, but we are getting there. Our next division meeting will be conducted in person at St. Joseph's in Bon Air on Thursday, April 8, 2021, at 7 pm. Yes, we are finally back to our old meeting place. Before our

business meeting, we will be swearing in two new members, so I hope as many of our members as possible can attend to welcome our new brothers. If you plan on attending, please send me an email or text to have an accurate count. The number of members may determine in which room we hold our meeting. 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 will be available. The Dooley Division has once again invited us to participate in this event. 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/aohaffle>
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 April 8, 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 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

Oliver Plunkett

A GORGEOUS FRENCH GOTHIC CHURCH holds a somber, morbid reminder of the religious persecution that scars Ireland's past. Inside, the preserved head of a saint lies within an intricate shrine that resembles both an ornate cage and an oversized golden crown.

Oliver Plunkett, a 17th-century Irish martyr, became Ireland's first new saint in nearly 700 years after being canonized in 1975. In 1997, he was deemed the country's

patron saint for peace and reconciliation.

Oliver Plunkett became a Catholic priest in the 1650s, during the turbulent aftermath of the Cromwellian conquest of Ireland, which saw the persecution and execution of Roman Catholic clergy. Despite the prolific anti-Catholic sentiment, he was still able to found a Jesuit college. His college contained both Protestant and Catholic students, making it Ireland's first integrated school.

But sadly, Plunkett was unable to escape eventual persecution. He soon became a vic-



tim of the Popish Plot, a fabricated conspiracy concocted by an Englishman that was meant to create further anti-Catholic hysteria. Plunkett was found guilty of high treason for "promoting the Roman faith" and sentenced to death. As was customary for those accused of high treason, he was brutally hanged, drawn, and quartered on July 1, 1681.

Plunkett's various body parts were buried in the courtyard at Saint Giles-in-the-Fields, though they were exhumed a couple years later. After spending brief stints in Rome and elsewhere in Ireland, his head arrived

The Relic of St. Oliver's Head now stands in an impressive new shrine, which was erected in 1995. Pilgrims have the

opportunity to walk around the shrine and view at close quarters this precious relic of the Irish church. One can also view the original document of authentication of the relics, which was signed shortly after St. Oliver's martyrdom, by Elizabeth Sheldon and surgeon John Ridley. After St. Oliver was hung, drawn and quartered at Tyburn, the Head was thrown into the prepared fire nearby. His friends quickly retrieved it however and scorch marks from the fire may still be seen on the left cheek of the Head. The Head is heavy and not just a bare skull and is in remarkably good condition considering that it has never been hermetically sealed. The Shrine at Drogheda also includes some bone relics of St. Oliver, donated by the Benedictine Community, Downside around the time of his canonization. Overhead is the Canonization Picture, which hung from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome during the canonization ceremony on October 12th 1975. In a glass cabinet nearby, is the door from the condemned cell of Newgate Prison, London and St. Oliver would have occupied this cell as a condemned man for the last few weeks of his life. Renowned for his letter writing, it was during this time that St. Oliver wrote his most poignant letters. He also wrote during this time, his last speech, which he delivered from the gallows at Tyburn and is famous for showing forgiveness to all those who had anything to do with his death.

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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 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

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2021 Division Officers

President-*Jack Simila*
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Vice President- Open

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.-*Mike Dougherty*
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Marshal-*Sonny Dorish*
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Sentinel-*Jim Dunn*
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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

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