



# THE KELLY NEWSLETTER

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

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2022  
*Division President's Message*

**Matt Dullaghan**



## President's Message

**Nollaig shona dhaoibh!** Happy Christmas to all! As the year draws to a close, and many of us are fortunate enough to have time to spend with family and friends, I hope you also have a chance to remember and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Each of our parishes has programs reaching out to those who need help with food, shelter, and clothing, and I commend to you these opportunities to share the spirit of the season.

We did indeed have a wonderful year, thanks to the hard work each of you contributed. After two years away, we

enjoyed a successful St. Patrick's Day Event at Church Hill and a celebration at O'Toole's. Despite having barely six weeks to accomplish our raffle ticket sales, you all met the goal we usually strive for over four or five months. While it was disappointing not to have the Celtic Festival and Games back yet, we're hopeful for next year. We had a wonderful (if lightly attended) Irish History Presentation, and we just had a wonderful Christmas dinner at O'Toole's, enjoying John's usual wonderful fare and hospitality for a great close to the year.

Our new officers, including our new incoming President, Dennis Mulligan, were elected at our November meeting. They will be installed at our next regular meeting on January 12, 2023.

Our raffle ticket sales this past year allowed us to continue our Charitable Missions Funding. Checks have been going out this month. Raffle ticket sales continue to account for the bulk of our fundraising. They should be available to pick them by our next regular meeting.

As you may have assumed, we have not scheduled our informal "Fourth Thursday" meetings in November and December, owing to the conflicts with the holidays. I leave it to our worthy incoming President to decide if we will resume those meetings in January. But I vote yes.

The next quarterly state board meeting will be on January 28, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m., and hosted by the Father Corby Division in Farrell

## 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

### 2023 Business Meeting Schedule:

*Our next regular Division Meeting is January 12, 2023*

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

Hall at the St. Mary of Sorrows Worship Center, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA 22032. A Major Degrees exemplification will begin at 1:00 p.m., following the state board meeting. You do not need to attend the board meeting to take part. Just let me know if you are interested. The fee is \$25. I highly commend the experience to any brother who has not yet taken the opportunity.

I have enjoyed our Division's presentations on Irish history, and I am hopeful we will be able to continue both the formal talks and the briefer highlights at the monthly meetings. Please share any ideas

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you may have for further presentations, both for topics and how to encourage broader attendance.

And new members. We need to recruit new members. Bring him to a meeting, or give his name to one of the officers for a follow-up call.

Until we meet again, raise a glass one more time with my father's favorite toast: *Sláinte mhaith agat!* Good health to you!

For upcoming events:

**January 12** Monthly membership meeting, St. Joseph's, 828 Buford Road, Richmond, VA 23235

**January 26** Fourth Thursday, O'Toole's Restaurant, 13919 Midlothian Turnpike, Midlothian, VA 23114

**January 28** State Board Meeting, Father Corby Division, St. Mary of Sorrows Worship Center, Fairfax

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Matthew Dullaghan, President  
Msgr. Charles A. Kelly Division,  
Ancient Order of Hibernians

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*Sláinte mhaith agat!*

## A Bit of Irish History

### The Battle of the Four Courts

The Four Courts (*Na Ceithre Cúirteanna*) is Ireland's most prominent courts building, located on Inns Quay on the River Liffey, in Dublin. The Four Courts, since the first case heard in them in November 1796, have been at the epicentre of the Irish legal system. Built on the original 13th century site of a Dominican Friary garden which would later become the old King's Inns, the present Four Courts emerged in the twenty years between 1776 and 1796. The work of architects Thomas Cooley and James Gandon, they were originally designed to bring together the various offices of the Courts and legal records which were, until that time, dispersed in a variety of houses between the river and High Street. In the two hundred years since, the life of the courts has paralleled that of the nation. The Four Courts is the principal seat of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal, the High Court and the Dublin Circuit Court. Until 2010 the building also housed the Central Criminal Court; this is now located in the Criminal Courts of Justice building.

The Four Courts and surrounding areas were held by Commandant Edward Daly's 1st Battalion during the Easter Rising in 1916. Some of the most intense fighting of Easter Week took

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place in the Church Street/North King Street/North Brunswick Street area. At the end of the week, the Four Courts building itself became the headquarters of the 1st Battalion.

On 14 April 1922 the courts complex was occupied by IRA forces opposed to the Anglo-Irish Treaty, with Rory O'Connor, an Irish Republican, acting as their spokesman. On 28 June the new National Army attacked the building to dis-



lodge the "rebels", on the orders of the Minister for Defence Richard Mulcahy, authorised by President of Dáil Éireann Arthur Griffith. This attack provoked a week of fighting in Dublin. In the process of the bombardment, the historic building was destroyed. The west wing of the building was obliterated in a huge explosion, destroying the Irish Public Record Office at the rear of the building. Nearly a thousand years of archives were destroyed by this explosion, the ensuing fire, and the water poured onto the fire.

The IRA was accused of mining the records office; however, those present, who included future Taoiseach Seán Lemass, said that, while they had used the archive as a store of their ammunition, they had not deliberately mined it. They suggest that the explosion was caused by the accidental detonation of their ammunition store during the fighting. For a decade after the destruction of the Civil War, the courts sat in the old vice-regal apartments in Dublin Castle. In 1932, a rebuilt and remodelled Four Courts was opened. However, much of the decorative interior of the original building had been lost and, in the absence of documentary archives (some of which had been in the Public Records Office and others of which were among the vast amount of legal records lost also), and also because the new state did not have the funds, the highly decorative interior was not replaced.

## In Memorium



*Brother Mike Dougherty* passed away on August 6th. Mike was the Compassion Committee and Standing Committee Chairman of the AOH Kelly Division for many years.

Diana says, "He was a Wonderful Husband" and she misses him dearly! Diana wanted all of us to know how much our Prayers and contributions meant to her.

## Sick List

New update from Jack Simila about his wife Carol's condition:

*It was great to see Jack Simila and wife Carol at our Christmas Dinner. Carol looked great and is on the road to a rapid recovery.*

*Please continue to hold Carol in your thoughts and prayers. They're working!*

Dan Harrington-Being treated for Lukemia

Christmas Dinner 2022



## **2022 Division Officers**

President-*Matt Dullaghan*  
[mdullaghan@comcast.net](mailto:mdullaghan@comcast.net)

Vice President- *Dennis Mulligan*  
[mullighan.dennis@yahoo.com](mailto:mullighan.dennis@yahoo.com)

Treasurer-*John Frampton*  
[firemedic45@comcast.net](mailto:firemedic45@comcast.net)

Recording Secretary-*Mike Norton*  
[mnortonstn@aol.com](mailto:mnortonstn@aol.com)

Financial Secretary-*Larry Kelly*  
[jlkelly1@verizon.net](mailto:jlkelly1@verizon.net)

Standing/Compassion Comm.-*Sonny Dorish*  
[fmdorish@yahoo.com](mailto:fmdorish@yahoo.com)

Marshal-*Bob Cavanaugh*  
[bobcavanaughmb@gmail.com](mailto:bobcavanaughmb@gmail.com)

*Sentinel-Jim Dunn*

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### **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.