



Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

April, 2018



Brother Hibernians, _____



I hope that you and your families had a happy and blessed Easter. Our next meeting will be held on April 27th at 8pm. Welcome aboard to new members Owen Mooney, Marc Ocasal, and Tom Vesey. Congratulations once again to all our parade honorees and many thanks to all of you who marched in the various parades. The trip to Lourdes with our special pilgrims during Easter Week was truly inspiring and what a tribute it is to our Division that all of the helpers, including our chaplain Fr. Raaser, were Division 3 members or family. A special thanks goes out to Nadine and Ciaran Green, respectively our trip leader and ambassador. On behalf of all of us I extend our heartfelt thanks for your overwhelming support for Lourdes Kids of Rockland which makes these pilgrimages possible. Congrats to all our scholarship winners! I hope to see you all at our Mass and Communion Breakfast this Sunday. Congratulations to Bill Lee who will be honored at the Bobby Sands Memorial Mass and Social on May 5th. Please get your foursomes and sponsorships in for our Golf Outing on May 11th.

Dan Callanan reports the following Good and Welfare News... Please say a prayer for the repose of the soul of Paddy Kelly's son James. Chris Gallagher reports that his brother Brian is doing quite well at home with his new kidney. Frank Farrelly is experiencing some problems with his lungs which do not do well with our recent cold weather, and John Kennedy and his family can always use a prayer to two.

As always, please remember to say an extra prayer or two for our wounded warriors and their families.

*Yours in Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity,
Dermot O'Connor Moore, President.*

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Recording Secretary
JOHN GANNON

CALENDAR _____

- 4-22 Communion Breakfast
- 4-27 Division Meeting
- 5-5 NYSAOH Board Meeting in East Durham
- 5-5 Bobby Sands Memorial
- 5-11 Joe Walsh Golf outing



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LAOH

Thank you to Deirdre Heffernan and all the volunteers who made the annual St. Patrick's Day Party at St. Zita's a success. Thank you also to those who marched in the NYC and Rockland County St. Patrick's Day parades. At our April meeting we initiated Brigid Roberts to our division.

Joan Moore, Linda Sheridan, Loretta Reidy and Eileen Emsworth will be attending the NYS LAOH board meeting on May 5th. Plans are underway for our Ascension Thursday dinner being chaired by Ronnie Moroney and honoring Mae Kreider. Hope to see many of you at our May 8th meeting.

*Yours in friendship, unity and Christian charity,
Terry McGeever, President*

HIBERNIAN HOUSE

Summer is coming soon, maybe. AOH golf outing is May 11, the sign-up sheet is up in the pub. It is filling up, if you are interested come down and sign up. Another tidbit from the Captain's corner. It is possible to eat 12 ring dings one after another. However it is not possible to keep them down. An LBI record but not a pretty sight. Anyone needing work done in their bathroom contact our Sunday bartender, no names, eh John. How does a three day job turn into two weeks? Easy, just meet a perfect stranger in the supermarket and hire him. Warren is starting to arrive at the Pub at 8 in the morning to be sure he gets his seat. The next thing he will be taking the chair home with him. The Mook is recovering nicely from his injury. He is looking for witnesses to the accident, we can work something out. Cinco de Mayo at the AOH. There will be turtle races in the afternoon upstairs and at night the Russo Brothers will be playing. If you can't make the races come down at 7pm for the Russo brothers, a night of great entertainment. Hope the football draft gets here soon, Donnie and the Mook are driving everyone nuts. Finally, based on popular opinion there will be no rematch in golf between the Coyle Brothers and Gannon and Dunne. We still feel bad about how badly we beat them last time. A little Christian charity in play here.

Pete Dunne

2018 DIVISION III MASS AND COMMUNION BREAKFAST

**April 22nd at the Hibernian House
immediately following the 9am Mass at St. Margaret's**

**To volunteer for the mass
please contact Ed O'Dea at 917-974-9659**

**For breakfast reservations, please contact
Chuck Parnow at praoh3@gmail.com**

**Our 2018 Scholarship Winners will be recognized at the
Mass and the scholarships will be presented at the Breakfast.**

2018 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

**Martin Duffy, Ciaran Green, Elizabeth Gilbride, Patrick Sammon,
Christina Henahan, Daniel Peterson, Sean O'Neill, Noel Heffernan,
Olivia Toal, Kieran Scanlon**

NY STATE BOARD SPRING MEETING

Saturday May 5th
10am @ Shamrock House
Rte. 145, East Durham NY 12423
Sunday Mass
at Our Lady of Knock Shrine

JOE WALSH MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

Friday, May 11, 2018

Blue Hill Golf Course

12:30 shotgun start
10:30 registration
\$160 per player
\$100 hole sponsors
Volunteers and help needed

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Contact
Sean Walsh 845-300-1718.

BOBBY SANDS MEMORIAL MASS AND SOCIAL

Saturday, May 5th 6pm,
Rockland Irish Cultural
Center

284 Covert Ave., Blauvelt

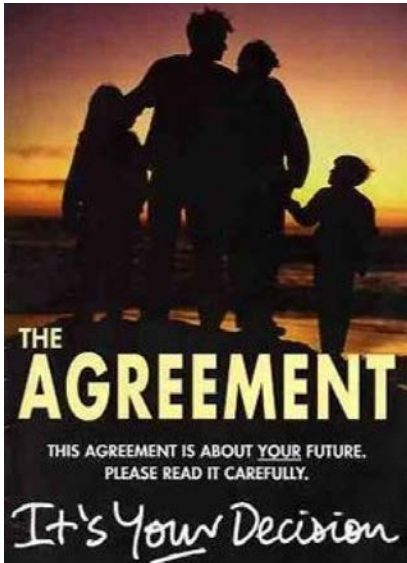
Guest of Honor- Bill Lee

Tickets-\$25.00 pp

History

The Good Friday Agreement

“What's past is prologue”



April 10, 2018 marks the 20th Anniversary of the historic Good Friday Agreement. The Good Friday Agreement ended the thirty year conflict in Northern Ireland, proportionately one of the deadliest in history. The United States in the form of Special Envoy George Mitchell was a key catalyst in bringing this historic

accord to fruition. The result has been twenty years of peace, a prospect even the most ardent optimist could not have conceived of before the Agreement. A generation has grown up in the north of Ireland with a security and prosperity their parents and grandparents never knew or could have imagined.

However, the goals of the Good Friday Agreement went beyond the simple cessation of violence. To understand that is to note another anniversary this year and that is the fiftieth anniversary this year of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Movement. It is sadly all too accepted by the media and textbooks to caricature the conflict in Northern Ireland as a conflict between Protestants and Catholics. That simplistic and uncritical analysis obscures the true trouble behind the troubles which is a desire for the civil rights and mutual respect that are fundamental to any functioning free society and democracy. “The Troubles” in Ireland do not have their roots in Martin Luther, but in Martin Luther King.

The cause of the Irish Civil Rights movement can be traced to persistent patterns of discrimination in four areas of basic human liberties: employment, education, housing, and self-determination. The history of discrimination against those who identified as Irish and Catholic long predate the creation of Northern Ireland by partition. The Harland and

Wolff shipyards which built the RMS Titanic had only 400 Catholics out of a Workforce of 10,000. In a celebrated case, Ford Motor Corporation was fined £40,000, the highest award at the time, for discriminating against a Catholic employee. Discrimination was not just based in religion, but in a belief that since these jobs were a byproduct of the Union they should be given to only those who supported the Crown. Civil service, specifically the police, was exclusively a Unionist preserve.

In education, schools that served the Catholic community were habitually underfunded. In 1963, it was decided that Northern Ireland needed a second University to the existing Queen's University in Belfast. In a rare example of cross-community bipartisanship the residents of Derry, Northern Ireland's second largest city sought to have the University established by expanding the existing Magee College. However, the final decision was to establish the University in the small, newly created town of Coleraine that was a Unionist enclave rather than the more Catholic city of Derry; not only raising an impediment to the Catholic youth in the area, but denying the economic benefit the project would create in an area desperately in need of economic stimulus.

Perhaps the most reprehensible discrimination was in supplying the basic human need of housing. Local housing authorities were almost always dominated by Unionists who would give preference to Protestants over Irish Catholic families irrespective of family size or position on the waiting list. This blatant bias reached a climax when a house in Caledon Tyrone was allocated by the Dungannon Rural District Council to single 19-year-old Emily Beattie, who was the secretary of a local Unionist politician. In fact all 14 houses in the new council development were allocated to Protestants. A protest led by Austin Currie staged a sit-in at the property until they were forcibly evicted by officers of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC), one of whom was Emily Beattie's brother. This is often cited as the foundational moment in the Irish Civil rights campaign.

The crisis in housing leads to the final area of discrimination: self-determination through the vote. Unbelievably, for 1968

History

The Good Friday Agreement, “What's past is prologue”

Continued

and not 1868, the vote in Northern Ireland was tied to being a “rate holder”, being a homeowner. If a landlord owned six properties they would receive six votes while those who rented or were in public housing were not permitted to vote at all. This combined with the creative redrawing of election districts, called “Gerrymandering”, to enhance the Unionist as oppose to the Irish vote, ensuring that all the other injustices in the North of Ireland would be preserved.

The initial reaction, and this should never be forgotten, to these injustices was peaceful marches and protests which were violent suppressed by loyalist mobs often with the active assistance of the Constabulary. The escalating violence gave rise to the introduction of the British Army to Northern Ireland, which was initially welcomed by the Catholic majority as being outside and supposedly impartial peacekeepers. However, perhaps not unexpectedly, those who drank “the loyal toast” to the Queen quickly saw themselves in common cause with Unionist and acted accordingly. When the Army executed “Operation Demetrius”, the introduction of arrest without trial all those arrested were Irish nationalist, members of loyalist paramilitaries that had started the violence were untouched. When the shooting of civilians on Bloody Sunday was whitewashed by the British Government, all faith in the resolution of injustice by peaceful means was lost, and would remain lost until the Good Friday Agreement in 1998; 30 year and thousands of lives later.

The Good Friday Agreement goal was not just a cease fire, but a framework to address the wrongs of the past and secure a lasting peace. The multi-party agreement called for

a new Northern Ireland “founded on the principles of full respect for, and equality of, civil, political, social and cultural rights, of freedom from discrimination for all citizens, and of parity of esteem and of just and equal treatment for the identity, ethos, and aspirations of both communities”. Specific provisions laid out recognition of the Irish identity through the Irish language, a Bill of Rights, and justice for the survivors of the victims of “the Troubles”. Importantly there was to be no change in the constitution of Northern Ireland without the consent of the community of Northern Ireland and a guarantee that the future of Northern Ireland would be determined by a border poll by the people of the isle of Ireland.

While there is much to celebrate about the Good Friday Agreement for the peace it has brought, twenty years on there is still no Bill of Rights, justice for the victims of the Troubles has been continually stalled, and parity of esteem for those who seek an identity through Irish language is still to be found. Economic development has come at the expense of housing and in Belfast has been steered to the Titanic quarter where discrimination was rampant. Britain is pursuing Brexit in clear defiance of the will of the people of Northern Ireland.

“He who forgets the past is doomed to relive it”, but history also shows us the warning signs that if we heed can avoid the tragedies of the past. Irish America made Good Friday possible by petitioning for a Special Envoy and signaling that the peace of Ireland should be a priority, it is now time that we call for the job started in 1998 to be finished,

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