



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED
Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. DIVISION NO. 1

P. O. Box 337, Monroe (Orange County), New York 10950

Vol. 30 No. 12 Newsletter/Ad Journal

December 2010

Editor — Joseph McMahon - 764-0772



Next Meeting — Friday, December 10 • 7:30 p.m.

Paddy Naughton Hall, 10 North Main Street, Monroe • (845) 783-0205

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. — Vietnam Memorial, Washington, D.C.

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DIVISION 1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feast of the Immaculate Conception..... Wednesday, December 8
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Children's Christmas Party..... Sunday, December 19

Ireland 32 Early Bird Drawing..... Sunday, December 19

Feast of the NativitySaturday, December 25
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Traditional Irish Music Seisiún.....Sundays 1:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brothers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving. We are now in the Christmas season and that means it is time for the Annual Kids Christmas Party, It will be held on Sunday, December 19th, this year along with the Early Bird drawing for Ireland's 32. Contact your Captain to ensure you are in the drawing. Remember to bring a wrapped gift with your child's name clearly displayed to make things easy on Santa. Simple gifts are the norm for the event.

We had our elections at the November meeting and the Board for 2011. President, Vice President and Standing Committee remain the same. New board members will be Neil O'Riordan: Recording Secretary, Mike Carroll: Financial Secretary, Tom McCarthy: Marshall and Tim Curtin:

Sentinel. Current Financial Secretary Ed Dennehy will be taking over as Treasurer. It is great that we have some new faces stepping up this year.

We should all be grateful to the outgoing Board members. Joseph McMahon has been our Recording Secretary for the past two years and has done a fine job keeping us updated on the goings on in our Division. Marty Hogan has served the Division in many capacities over the years. He was the Financial Secretary before I took over the role a few years back and has done and will continue to do great service to the Division and the community at large as well. John Brophy, Jr. has served as our Treasurer for the past several years and was the Marshal prior to taking on that role. John's knowledge of the workings of the

Division and the AOH as a whole will be an asset to the Division for many years to come. It is people like them that keep our organization moving forward and I am sure that when positions open up next year there will quality men to step then as well.

Have a Happy and Merry CHRISTmas and a healthy New Year.

Our next meeting will be Friday, December 10th, at 7:30 pm. Remember to bring a non-perishable food item for the Food Bank. We do an excellent job all year let's keep it going especially at this time of year.

Yours in Friendship, Unity
and Christian Charity,

JOHN O'GRADY

President

AOH Div. 1, Orange County, NY

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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Irish Breakfast

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also be used for lunch or dinner.
See Bar committee.

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CHRIS CONTE
PROPRIETOR

Hibernians for Life Protect the Unborn

CATHOLIC ACTION — We have three big Feast Days coming up, the three Holy Days of Obligations: Wednesday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception; Saturday, December 25th is the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ; Saturday, January 1st is the Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord.

FOOD BANK REPORT — Please remember to bring dry goods to the hall for the food bank this Christmas Season. Our Father's Kitchen in Sacred Heart Chapel needs volunteers to drive people to their hot dinners on Wednesday. Please stop by Our Father's Kitchen one Wednesday this Christmas Season.

GOODWILL & WELFARE — Bob Burns reports that Brother John Kelly is in the hospital with coronary problems, please keep him in your prayers.

PRO-LIFE REPORT — Our division should have visibility within the Pro-Life community. As such we are asking for volunteers to help represent us at Orange County Right to Life events. Please contact TommyFlynn@optonline.net or wolfe-tone45211@yahoo.com to find out how you can perform a spiritual work of mercy for the unborn. We will also be asking for volunteers to travel to Washington, DC for a Rosary procession in January 2011. Please try and make time to make this trip.

THOMAS J. FLEMING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND — Brother Jim Kelly reports that the scholarship fund is closed for 2011. The application deadline was December 1, 2010.

PARTICIPATION — We need your help in building a division of the AOH that is full of life. We need members to schedule time to make the meetings and bring your friends to the meetings. We also need members to pay their 2011 dues as soon as possible. This will save the division time and money, so please show up at the December meeting to pay your 2011 dues. Meetings are important because they help us build friendship and unity and Christian Charity.

OTHER HAPPENINGS — Children's Christmas Party is Sunday, December 19th. Please come down to the hall for some Christmas Cheer. **SUPER BOWL BOXES** are on sale at the hall, come down

to watch some football games on our two new flat panel screen televisions. Feel free to bring your instrument and participate in a **TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC SEISIUN** every Sunday except the 2nd Sunday of the month.

IRELAND 32 is back on; please participate in this crucial fundraiser. While you are at the hall enjoying the music and the football, pick up your Ireland 32 ticket(s). The early bird drawing is Sunday, December 19th.

Advent Season:

November 28th is the First Sunday of Advent which is the beginning of the Liturgical Year. It is also that period of the year during which the Church requires the faithful to prepare for the celebration of the feast of Christmas. The Church teaches that Prayer, Penance and Alms is a great way to prepare for the birth of Christ and so the color Purple is used in the Liturgy.

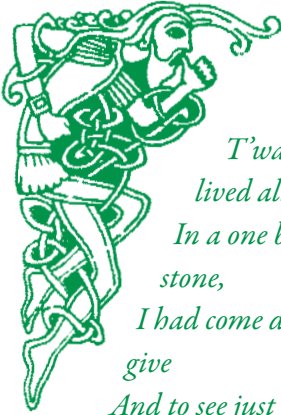
St. Andrew's Novena for Advent is an ancient prayer which is said 15 times each day; beginning on St. Andrew's Feast Day (Nov. 30) through Christmas.

Hail and blessed be the hour and the moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayers and grant my desires through the merits of Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother. Amen.



HISTORY

A Soldier's Christmas



*T'was the night before Christmas, he
lived all alone,
In a one bedroom house made of plaster and
stone,
I had come down the chimney with presents to
give
And to see just who in this home did live.*

*I looked all about, a strange site did I see,
No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.
No stockings on the mantle, just boots filled with
sand,
On the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.
With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,
A sober thought came through my mind.
For this house was different, it was dark and
dreary,
I had found the home of a soldier, once I could see
clearly
I heard stories about them, I had to see more
So I walked down the hall and pushed open the
door.*

*The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,
Curled up in this, his one bedroom home,
The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder
Not how I pictured a United States soldier.
Was this the war hero of whom I'd just read?
Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?
His head was clean shaven, his weathered face tan,
I soon understood this was more than a man.
I realized the families that I saw this night
Owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.
Soon 'round the world the children would play*

*And grown-ups celebrate a bright
Christmas day.
They enjoyed freedom each month of the
year,
Because of these soldiers, like the one lying here.
I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone
On a cold Christmas Eve, in a land far from
home.
The very thought brought a tear to my eye,
Dropped to my knees and started to cry.
The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
"Santa, don't cry. This is my life, my choice. I fight
for freedom, I don't ask for more.
My life is my God, my Country, my Corps."
The soldier rolled over and soon drifted to sleep
I couldn't control it, I started to weep.
I kept watch for hours. So silent and still,
I took off my jacket, the one made of red,
And I covered this soldier from his toes to his
head.
And I put on his T-shirt of gray and black,
With an eagle and an Army patch embroidered
on back.
And although it barely fit me, I began to swell with pride,
And for a shining moment, I was United States Army deep
inside.
I didn't want to leave on that cold dark night,
The guardian of honor, so willing to fight.
Then the soldier rolled over with a voice soft and pure,
Whispered, "Carry on, Santa, Christmas Day is secure."
One look at my watch and I knew he was right.
Merry Christmas, my friend, and to all a good night.*



Wishing you all a Happy and Holy Christmas . . . and Happy New Year.



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