



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

“Our Lady of Knock”

Division #87 – Organized February 4, 1992

March 2024 Newsletter

President's Message

Hello Ladies,

Can you believe it's March already? Spring will be here before you know it.

February was filled with quite a few fundraisers that were all very successful. From bucket drops to beef and beers a lot of funds were raised and great time with friends was had.

For now, we will be getting ready for all things Irish!!!

Have you checked out the email for ordering Irish Potatoes this year. Anne and Terry have made it very easy to fill out a form online to place your order. Take a minute and check it out. Still only \$7.00 a container.

You should have received a postcard with the schedule for Irish Potato Mixing and Rolling. IRISH POTATO SCHEDULE 2/29/2024, 3/01/2024, 3/02/2024. See inside for complete run down of the schedule. Please stop by Grace Baptist Church to help – no amount of time is too great or too small!

The 2024 Parade will be held on Sunday, March 10, 2024. The theme this year is ST. PATRICK, BLESS PHILADELPHIA WITH A NEW DAWN OF HOPE. Line-up had not been posted yet but hopefully soon. Our uniform will be last year's kelly-green Jackets and Black pants. We will be attending St. George's Church for 8:30 am Mass. We will meet at the club around the corner and wait there to board the buses around 10:30 am. No information on the after party yet but it will be at the Casbah Caters when we return.

Be sure to keep reading inside for updates on all events and fundraiser.

If you have any questions or concerns, be sure to contact me or any other officer.

In Our Motto
Maria





MEETING NOTICE!



GENERAL MEETING DATE CHANGE:

MONDAY, March 4TH, 2024

7:00 PM

3524 E. Thompson Street, Philadelphia, PA.
Parking at Thompson and Tioga Streets.
Please do not park in numbered spaces

WELCOME TO THE 21st CENTURY LAOH DIVISION 87

If you have a phone, tablet , or computer you can now join us the first Tuesday of the month for our division meeting via Zoom.

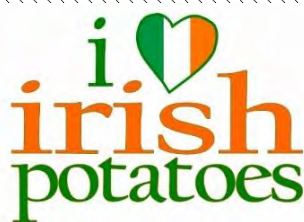
Watch your email!!!! The link will be emailed to you either the day before or day of the meeting.

We still would like as many as can attend in person to come to the club but since there are issues for some getting up the stairs or traveling distance, we hope this will be a solution.

PARKING UPDATE!!

As you are aware, Casbah Caterers has graciously allowed us to park in their lot at Thompson and Tioga Streets. Their only request is that we do not park in numbered spots as they are reserved for other neighbors. After parking, you had to exit through the main gate and walk around to Thompson Street. Well, this reporter has been told that a new gate has been installed that will allow you to walk out directly onto Thompson Street and put you closer to the Club.

THANK YOU CASBAH CATERERS!!!



IT'S IRISH POTATO TIME!!!

Rollin', rollin', rollin'!! Get those taters rollin'!!

Please join us in making these delectable delights!

WHEN: Thursday, February 29, 2024 – Saturday, March 2, 2024

WHERE: Grace Baptist Church at 4544 Almond St, Philadelphia, PA 19137.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Mixing and setup will take place Thursday, February 29, 2024. We need help bagging the dough, labeling containers and other miscellaneous tasks. This starts at 11:00 am

Rolling of the actual Irish Potatoes will start on Thursday at 3:00 pm and go to 8:00 pm. Rolling will continue on Friday, March 1st 9:00 am until about 8:00 pm. The finale (hopefully) will be Saturday, March 2nd, starting at 9:00 am until done and cleaned up.

**Remember Ladies - this is our largest fundraiser of the year and
we need EVERYONE's help to make it successful!**



IRISH POTATO SEASON 2024

CAN YOU FEEL THE EXCITEMENT IN THE AIR?

THEY ARE ALMOST HERE!!!

HOW DO I ORDER MY VERY OWN
LAOH 87 IRISH POTATOES??

\$7.00 per container

We have TWO methods of ordering this year:

1. Contact Anne Foody to place your order, by email at afody813@aol.com or text at (215) 421-7359

OR

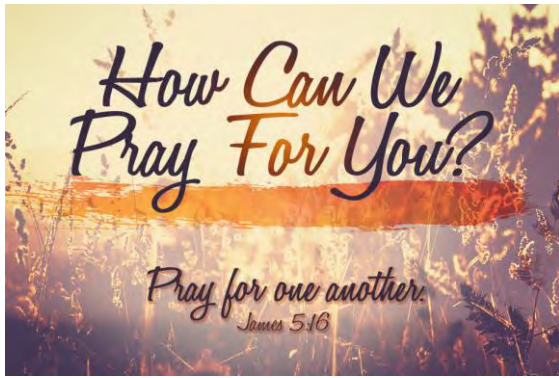
2. Simply, scan this QR Code and complete the Google Form. No calls, texts or emails required!



WHEN: Orders will be packaged and ready for pickup on
Friday afternoon, March 1st or Saturday, March 2nd

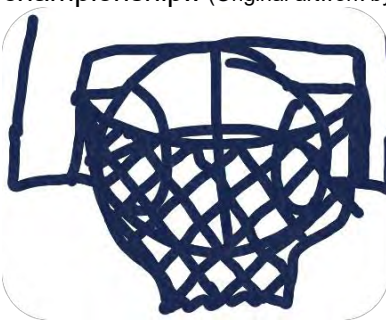
WHERE: Grace Baptist Church at 4544 Almond St, Philadelphia

ALL ORDERS SHOULD BE PLACED AS INSTRUCTED ABOVE!



- Kathy Annan
- Kate Centofante
- Bunny Clark
- MJ Hayes
- Nancy Jones
- Colleen Bowers
- Kathy Fanning
- Ed Halligan
- Dennis James
- Drew Kearney
- All the unspoken concerns we hold dear in our hearts

- Congratulations sister Alisha Bielecki on the birth of her 2nd daughter, Athena Grace! Mother and baby are doing well! So is grandma, Maria Gallagher!
- Congratulations Bernadette Coyne's granddaughter, Shannon and her St. Alphonsus CYO basketball teammates for an undefeated season and winning the championship!! (Original artwork by Shannon)



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO OUR SISTERS!



Helene Riley.....	3
Karen Snow	3
Kathleen Lindline-Evans	10
Patricia L. Leach	19
Lori Ann Stopyra	30
Linda Sweeney	30

It brings us so much joy to celebrate your birthday with you. We pray that God blesses you and wraps His mighty arms of protection around you on this extra special day and forever.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

2024 DUES ARE NOW DUE!

Please be sure to see Donna Kearney at the January meeting to pay your 2024 dues. Annual dues remain \$25 for the year. Make checks payable to LAOH Division 87.

If you are unable to attend the meeting mail your dues to:

Donna Kearney
4540 Almond Street
Philadelphia, PA 19137

You may also Venmo your dues to @LAOH-DivisionEightySeven. Be sure to include your name and "2024 Dues".

Please remember you must be a member in good standing in order to remain on the membership list.

L.A.O.H. DIVISION #87 NEWS AND INFORMATION

MEETING REMINDER

Our general meetings are held monthly on the first Tuesday of the month (except July and August). The meetings are held at AOH Division 87 located at 3524 E. Thompson Street, Philadelphia, PA. Casbah Caterers has graciously allowed us to use their parking lot at Thompson and Tioga Streets. As a courtesy, do not park in numbered spaces as they are reserved for neighbors.

The monthly general division meetings are to be held the same as a National Convention meeting, in that, for the sake of the general membership, there is to be no smoking or alcohol permitted during the meeting itself.

GOT ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Please submit any newsletter items to Terry Welsh at TerryLAOH87@gmail.com or call 215.280.5992 no later than the 20th of the month for the next issue.

Please provide information on your family's joys and concerns so we can share them with all of our sisters!

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

LAOH DIVISION 87 – www.laoh87.com

LAOH PA STATE – www.statepalaoh.com

LAOH Division 87 Facebook Group –

<https://www.facebook.com/LAOH87>

LAOH NATIONAL – www.ladiesaoh.com

ARE YOU ON OUR EMAIL LIST?

If you aren't receiving division email news, please send your email address to TerryLAOH87@gmail.com in order to be added.



MISSIONS & CHARITIES COIN DROP!

There's no better time to clean out that purse, empty those pockets and lift those couch cushions!! Gather up all that spare change that is weighing you down and bring it to the meeting and drop off to Kris Bucko. Kris will accept the folding stuff too!

All proceeds benefit Columban Missions.

The LAOH has maintained a strong relationship with the Columban Fathers and Columban Sisters. The Columban Fathers have been the primary charity of the LAOH since 1935, and the LAOH added the Columban Sisters in 2006. The donations collected help those that answered the call to mission and help facilitate their work across the world.



St. Joan of Arc Food Pantry

The food pantry is looking for donations of non-perishable foods.

There is currently a special need for **Cereal, Peanut Butter** and **Pasta!!**

Bring your donations to the March meeting!!

PROVIDENCE HOUSE EASTER BASKETS

As has been our tradition for many years, we will be providing Easter baskets for Providence House. For those who may not know, Providence House Domestic Violence Services seeks to end the cycle of domestic violence through education, empowerment and advocacy while providing a safe haven for families who are victims of abuse.

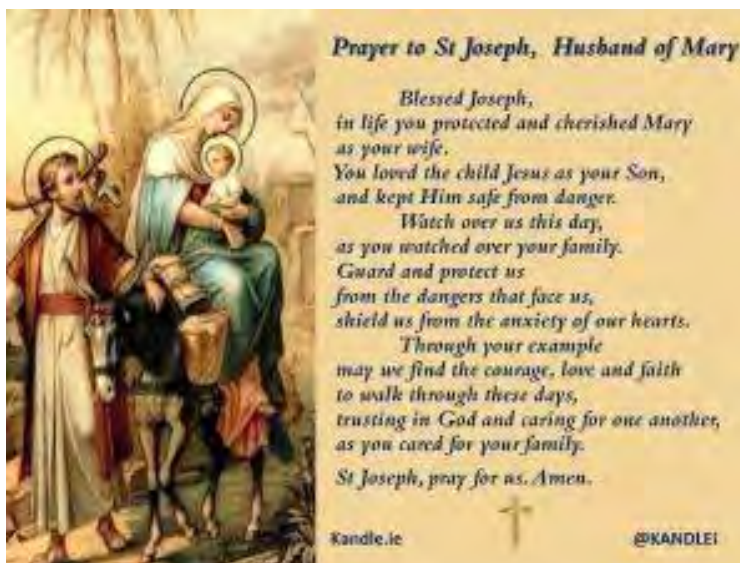
We are accepting donations of non-perishable food items, dollar store toys (such as bubbles, puzzles, games, etc.) and bags of candy. We are looking to make enough baskets for 10 residents. Suggestions of non-perishable foods are listed here from their wish list.

Interested in donating, but you don't know what to bring, feel free to make a cash donation and we will purchase what we need.

As always, thank you for your generosity!!

NONPERISHABLE FOODS

- canned tuna and chicken
- peanut butter and jelly
- microwave cups – mac n'cheese, mashed potatoes, rice
- taco kits, taco sauce, taco shells
- pasta and sauce
- noodle and rice sides
- soup, ramen noodles, cup of noodles
- cereal
- instant oatmeal packets
- cereal bars/granola bars
- snack bags of chips, crackers, cookies
- microwave popcorn
- fruit cups
- juice boxes
- mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard





UPCOMING EVENTS

A poster for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. It has a light green border. Inside, there are four green shamrocks arranged in a vertical line on both the left and right sides. At the bottom, there are two Irish flags (green, white, and orange) on poles. The text is centered in the middle.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Sunday,
March 10, 2024

Theme:
**St. Patrick, Bless Philadelphia With A
New Dawn Of Hope.**

**See President's letter for more
information and watch your email for
updates!**

No email? Just call any officer!

FreePrintbale.com- 100% Easy. 100% Fun.

STATE OF THE HEART



At the time of this writing, March's State of the Heart has not been scheduled yet – please watch your email or contact any officer for more information.

State of the Heart is a monthly meeting facilitated by Sister Lisa Breslin. This is a space for meditation, prayer and sharing

where you are at the present moment.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ

Wondering what to do for Lent? Try this.

LET GO AND LET GOD.

THIS LENT TAKE A FEW MOMENTS BY YOURSELF OR WITH A LOVED ONE IN A SECLUDED PLACE AND TRY THIS SPIRITUAL EXERCISE.

Begin by breathing 4-2-6: breath in for 4 seconds, hold for 2 seconds, exhale for 6 seconds. Pause. Repeat.

Opening Prayer: 1 John 5:14: "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to God's love and desire for us, God hears us." Loving God, we pray for light and freedom to acknowledge your presence, wisdom, power and promise in our lives. We come to you with thanksgiving and hope in our hearts. As we pray, we ask you to remain with us, to help us to know in concrete ways that you are always present and ready to help. Finally help us to place our cares and our trust in you this Lent and every day!

Let's start:

- Open your hands in front of you.
 - Think about what is distracting you right now - concerns you have, items on your to-do list, deeper worries about the future, about your family. Paying the bills. Whatever you come with today, imagine that you are holding it in your hands.
- Picture these concerns in your hands.
- Now close your hands into fists in front of you- tight fists.
- Feel the tension of holding on to all these things and the effort needed to keep your hands in fists. Squeeze tight like your life depends on it.

Saint Paul says "Cast all your anxiety on God because God cares for you."

- Now slowly open your hands and let go of your concerns and worries, raise your hands up and allow God to carry your burdens to Himself because God cares for you. Throw them at God if that helps. God will catch them.
- Next, spread out your hands wide in front of you. See now your cares in the hands of God.

Psalm 143:6 says: "I spread out my hands to you; I thirst for you like a parched land."

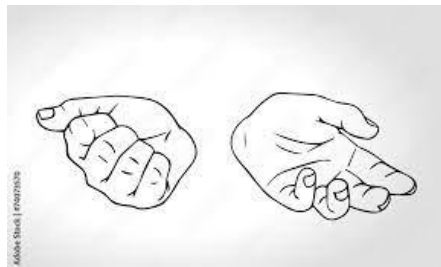
- Open your hands and raise them up to God-LET GO AND LET GOD.
- Receive God's peace in your hand and heart. Hold on to it and when your worries start to return, remember to give them over to God.

NOW JUST SIT AND BE.

Rest with God. Invite God to rest with you.

Let yourself feel the lightness of letting go and letting God.

Conclude with an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.



LAOH Division 87 T-Shirts for Sale!



Sizes available S – 3XL

\$15.00 each

Limited supply available at the meeting

March is Here!

Z D V O J A A H S B N Y Q E Y Z Q
I Q G R E E N E G G S S K S A J H
G G I L R C P Q M G T J T S D D X
L D U Q V N S Z J I M E E V S W M
E Y G U O C H N B Z K T K K K E S
P I D N E N I B V S Q N C Z C P M
R M A F I Z A N A E S O U D I B Z
E M A P N R J B H Y R B W L R B E
C Y N R T M P E E M D E O O T L A
H U B S C D Q S A H G B L G A O S
A C G Q C H R H D E M X L S P O T
U F B M T M S W Q O K L E M T M E
N U C P U K E I N D C J Y O S M R
O R T E N Y G M R A H C Y K C U L
S U C I R V Y Y S W O B N I A R G
K I P A P G E C H O C O L A T E G
H H T M G R E E N T A N I U Z Q C

YELLOW

SHAMROCK

PINK

LEPRECHAUN

GOLD

BLOOM

STPATRICKSDAY

RAINBOWS

MARCH

GREEN EGGS

EASTER

BASKETS

SPRING

RABBITS

LUCKY CHARM

GREEN

CHOCOLATE

In Case You Missed February's Irish History Report:

LEAP YEAR TRADITION

In Irish tradition, a Leap Year means the ladies get to propose! While women are certainly capable of asking a man for his hand in marriage on any day of the year that she so wishes, traditionally in Ireland, this right was reserved specifically for the Leap Year.

Looking back through ancient Irish history, it is said that the tradition began in 5th century Ireland when St. Brigid of Kildare bitterly complained to St. Patrick that women had to wait far too long for men to propose. The legend says that St. Patrick decreed the women could propose on this one day in February during the Leap Year. I'm sure the women were thrilled.

The tradition was then taken to Scotland by Irish monks. Back in 1288, the Scots passed a law that allowed a woman to propose marriage to the man of their dreams in a Leap Year, with the law also stating that any man who declined the proposal on this day would have to pay a fine. The fine to be paid if a man declined could range from a kiss to payment for a silk dress or a pair of gloves.

This tradition comes from another tale about St. Patrick and St. Brigid in which she drops straight to her knee at Patrick's decree, instantly proposing to him. Patrick declined her offer – he was probably too busy saving Ireland from snakes – but he gave her a kiss on the cheek and a silk gown to soften the blow.

Although many people believe that St. Patrick and St. Brigid met and that she offered her vows to him, Brigid would historically have been only nine or ten years old when Patrick died in 461 AD. If you believe he died later, however, in 493 AD, it may have been possible, although it's still not altogether likely.

In some upper-class European societies, the custom of denial involved buying 12 pairs of gloves for the woman you were rejecting -- to hide her shame at not having a ring to wear, of course!

Here in the United States, the tradition was also celebrated with some people referring to February 29 as Sadie Hawkins' Day. On this allotted day of the four-year cycle, women, allegedly, have the right to run after unmarried men to propose. Sadie Hawkins was a female character in the Al Capp comic strip "Li'l Abner" who inspired Sadie Hawkins Dances where girls would ask boys to attend.

Poor St. Oswald was also cast with the women as his feast day was placed on February 29. Celebrating it on the proper day when possible, his feast day is more commonly remembered on February 28.

Be warned, if you're going to give this old tradition a go, it can go just as wrong for women as it can for men.



Submitted by: Anne Foody, Division #87 Irish Historian
February 6, 2024

See: <https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/leap-year-irish-tradition-proposal>

It's a time to celebrate,
all the women in our lives.
Our mothers and sisters,
daughters and wives.

Women's Day

International Women's Day, 8 March

We must remember,
to appreciate and respect.
With their beautiful hearts,
how our days they affect.

Each woman is gentle,
caring and kind.
We must respect,
both her body and mind.

Let's acknowledge and celebrate,
all the things they achieve.
We encourage each one,
when we support and believe.

To their hardships and struggles,
we must open our eyes.
Act with compassion,
when we hear all their cries.

We must always love them,
and genuinely show.
This is the key,
for our relationships to grow.

The celebration begins,
when we are aware.
Our feelings and love,
every day we must share.



LAOH Division 87
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Philadelphia, PA 19137