



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

“Our Lady of Knock”

Division #87 – Organized February 4, 1992

March 2025 Newsletter

President's Message

Hello Ladies,

Can you believe it's March already? Spring will be here before you know it unless you believe the groundhog prediction of six more weeks of winter.

February was an exciting month if you are a football fan, well if you were an EAGLES fan that is!!! Seems everywhere you went all you heard was “GO BIRDS”. My granddaughter was learning how to spell her day in daycare, so I asked her how to spell it and she said EAGLES. Ok, we need to work on that. 😊

We ran two successful Superbowl Pools which was needed to help build up our treasury since we will need to pay for supplies and ingredients for Irish Potatoes.

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

So, a quick story about our biggest fundraiser, Irish Potatoes. There were some issues when the mixer needed to be moved once again from Grace Baptist Church to St. George's cafeteria. The mixer is old and very heavy so when it was moved it toppled over, it leaked oil which made us nervous that it might leak into the dough. The officers discussed what to do and it was decided it would be best to skip making them this year. Long story short, a generous donor purchased a 30-quart mixer for us. By the time you read this mixing and rolling will be completed, so we owe a great debt of gratitude to Linda Nevedomsky's son, Tommy.

Lent begins on March 05, 2025 with Ash Wednesday.

Now for a few updates that I have for the Philadelphia St Patrick's Day Parade.

The 2025 Parade will be held on Sunday, March 16, 2025. The theme this year is ST. PATRICK, BLESS THOSE DEDICATED TO SERVING OTHERS.

Our uniform will be black jackets we wore a while back with a green shamrock and gold claddagh. We are working on getting some to order but if not, a black jacket would be fine along with black slacks. We will be attending St. George's Church for 8:30 am Mass then walking over to the club around the corner and wait there to board the buses. Once the lineup is posted we will have a better idea of what time. The after party will be at the Casbah Caters when we return – more details to follow.

Be sure to keep reading inside for updates on upcoming events. If you have any questions or concerns, be sure to contact me or any other officer.

In Our Motto,
Maria Gallagher

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*Donna Foley
Maureen Janda*

Prayer Requests



Gracious and Merciful Father,

As we gather before Your presence, we bring before You our joys and concerns, knowing that You care for every detail of our lives. We thank You for the moments of joy that have filled our hearts—a new life welcomed into this world, a restored relationship, answered prayers, and the simple pleasures that remind us of Your goodness. Our hearts overflow with gratitude for these blessings.

Yet, Lord, we also lift up our concerns and burdens before You. We think of those who are facing health challenges, financial difficulties, and emotional struggles. We ask for Your healing touch, provision, and comfort to be upon them. We remember those who are grieving the loss of loved ones, and we pray for Your peace that surpasses understanding to envelop their hearts.

In this sacred time, we lay our joys and concerns at Your feet, trusting in Your unfailing love and wisdom. May Your grace sustain us, Your peace guard our hearts, and Your presence guide us through every joy and every trial.

We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus, our Savior, and Redeemer. Amen.



A Prayer to St. Joseph

O blessed Joseph, faithful guardian of my Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and protector of your chaste spouse, the virgin Mother of God, I choose you this day to be my special patron and advocate, and I firmly resolve to honor you all the days of my life. Therefore

I humbly beseech you to receive me as your client, to instruct me in every doubt, to comfort me in every affliction, to obtain for me and for all the knowledge and love of the Heart of Jesus, and finally to defend and protect me at the hour of my death.

Amen

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 collecting 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

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

2025 DUES ARE NOW DUE!

Annual dues remain \$25 for the year. Make checks payable to LAOH Division 87. You may also Venmo your dues to @LAOH-DivisionEightySeven. Be sure to include your name and "2025 Dues".

If you are unable to attend the meeting mail your dues to: Donna Kearney; 4540 Almond Street; Philadelphia, PA 19137

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

LAOH 87 BOOK CLUB



Current Book Club Choice:

The Best American Short Stories 2023
Edited by Min Jin Lee

Next Meeting date on Zoom:
March 11, 2025 at 7:00 pm



We will be discussing the following stories (we are not reading the short stories in order):

- Annunciation
- Peking Duck

Interested in joining or have any questions please contact:
Terry Welsh (215) 280-5992 or via email at
TerryLAOH87@gmail.com

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.



GENERAL MEETING:

Tuesday, March 4th, 2025

7:00 PM

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

ZOOM LINK WILL BE SENT THE DAY OF THE MEETING!!

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

LAOH DIVISION 87 – www.laoh87.com

LAOH Division 87 Facebook Group –
<https://www.facebook.com/LAOH87>

LAOH PA STATE – www.statepalaoh.com

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.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO OUR SISTERS!



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

As you celebrate another year of life, may God's love and favor be upon you.
May His joy be your strength and peace be your constant companion.
Happy Birthday!



UPcoming EVENTS

WOMEN'S MINI-RETREAT FOR SENT

LAOH Philadelphia County Board is partnering with Resurrection Parish and inviting you to a morning of prayer, meditation, and fellowship

When: Saturday, March 15th, 2025

Time: 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Where: Resurrection of Our Lord Lower Church/Life Center
2020 Shelmire Avenue, Philadelphia
Use the door in the small lot and come downstairs.

Leader: Valerie

There is no cost for this retreat, but you must pre-register, so we have an accurate head count.

RSVP to Kathy Cantz, County Catholic Actions officer via email at foris1318@aol.com or text at (215) 219-0691

The morning will include guided meditation, praying the stations of the cross through the eyes of the women who were there, an exercise in *Visio Divina* as we contemplate an image of the widow's mite, small group discussion, and light refreshments.

All Ladies are welcome to attend.

Valerie is collecting canned goods & non-perishable food items for the local food pantry.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Sunday,
March 16, 2025

More details to
come!

FreePrintable.com - 100% Easy, 100% Fun.

LAOH Division 87 Spring Retreat



SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025
Details to follow soon!

Francis House of Prayer
84 Wainford Road
Allentown, New Jersey 08501

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ



THE JOURNEY OF LENT

*Lent is not for the faint-hearted.
It demands that we, like Thomas,
Put our hand into the side of the crucified Christ.*

*Lent is a journey toward the cross,
A journey of enlightenment:
From wilderness to feast,
From desert to oasis,
It's an attempt to identify with the powerless
And the suffering in the world.*

*Lent is not tidy.
The days grow longer,
The ground thaws, there's mud and
dirt everywhere. And the windows need cleaning.*

*Lent is a journey.
So, at the end of Lent,
We should expect to find ourselves
Somewhere different from where we started.*

*Lent can be an opportunity
To explore what is the nature
Of the promised kingdom of
God on earth that we long for;
A time to discern how we are called to work for it.
No, Lent is not for the faint-hearted.*

-Author Unknown

STATE OF THE HEART



The next State of the Heart will be held March 24th, 2025, at 7:00 pm. It will be held at AOH 87 Hall (2nd floor).

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.

In Case You Missed February's Irish History Report:

ST. BRIGID'S WELL

St. Brigid's Well, located in Liscannor, County Clare only a short distance from the Cliffs of Moher, is housed in an open stone house or grotto that serves as a gateway to the ancient cemetery on the hill above it.

The well is regarded as a place of healing and inside the grotto is lined with mementos, rosaries, prayers, and pieces of offerings left by pilgrims. The peaceful sound of the running water from the well is also audible and traditionally a sip of this water should be done at the end of a visit to the shrine. The graveyard above and behind the well is the final resting place of several mythical kings and clan leaders of Ireland. Still to this day, pilgrims celebrate Brigid's roots by spending the pagan harvest festival of Lughnasadh in the circular sanctuary of this well.

St. Brigid's Day falls on February 1st. It is also the day of the old Celtic festival of Imbolc. This ancient Celtic pagan feast marks the start of longer days and is one of the "quarter days" of the Celtic calendar which marked the mid-points between solstice dates, as the earth's journeys around the sun and the beginning of Spring.

In Irish folklore, Brigid and her sisters also named Brigid are a triple Goddess and she is the goddess of higher ground, higher learning, and higher consciousness. She is the patron goddess of the Druids and visible signs of Druid language and pagan worship are still seen in the well.

Unable to eradicate Brigid's popularity with the Celts, Christendom renamed her Mary of the Gaels or Brigit who became known as the foster mother of Jesus. They placed statues in her dedicated spaces and canonized her in the 5th century, making her a saint. Her symbolic cross made from rush can be seen throughout the countryside.



Submitted by: Anne Foody, Irish Historian, Division #87
February 5, 2025

See: <https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/st-brigids-well-liscannor-clare>

Word Search Puzzle

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

ANNUNCIATION
 DONNA FOLEY
 LENT
 MARDI GRAS
 PIDAY

AQUAMARINE
 FASTNACHT
 LEPRECHAUN
 MAUREEN JANDA
 SHAMROCK

ASH WEDNESDAY
 KAREN SNOW
 LINDA SWEENEY
 PARADE
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 KATHLEEN EVANS
 LORI ANN STOPYRA
 PATRICIA LEACH
 ST PATRICK



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