



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

"Our Lady of Knock"

Division #87 – Organized February 4, 1992

February 2024 Newsletter

President's Message

Hello Ladies,

After two years of no snow, this past week we dealt with two "fairly small" storms followed by cold temperatures. Bring on Spring!!! But for now, we need to get through February.

Speaking of February, Happy Anniversary to LAOH Division #87! We are celebrating 32 years in our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. The list of all the events, fundraisers and get togethers are so very numerous. Congratulations and thanks to the original founders of this amazing fraternal organization.

Did you know that we have moved into the 21st Century and you can attend the meeting on Zoom. Watch your email!!! The link will be emailed to you either the day before or day of the meeting.

We will start off February with our monthly division meeting on Tuesday the 6th. Our charity for this meeting is Guiding Star Ministries, home for single moms. Ed Blaney has been running a fundraiser for years and last year we had a baby shower and collected so many needed items, why not do it again?

In the past there has been many successful "bucket drops" and we will be starting off this year with our first on Friday, 01/26/2024 with all donations collected going to Special Olympic Polar Plunge. In case you are not aware, our very own Terry Welsh donates her time as a coach for bowling and bocce and will be participating in the Polar Plunge at Citizen's Bank Park!!! WAY TO GO!!!

On Saturday, 02/03/2024 will be the next "bucket drop." The club will open as usual at 12:00 pm and the Drop will begin starting at noon for Henny J. (he is not aware of this fundraiser so if you know him please don't tell) along with 30 auction baskets in the AOH Division 87 upstairs hall. If you can, stop by and help a friend in need. At 5:00 pm everything moves over to St George's for a Beef and Beer. Food and beer for \$30.00 donations. Winners of the auction Baskets will be picked at there at 9:30 ish.

And still another "bucket drop" on Friday 2/09/2024 for AOH #87 member Joe Martin who lost his daughter Ashley. Stop by and grab a cocktail, snack, and some tickets for fabulous auction baskets.

Remember to celebrate the Feast of the Patroness of our Order, St Brigid on February 1st. The AOH LAOH County Mass will be held Sunday 2/11/2024, 11:00 am at Father Judge Chapel. Flyer is enclosed. She educated hundreds of women who otherwise would have gone without and refused an arrange marriage to instead dedicate her life to charity. St. Brigid's cross along with the shamrock and harp, is a distinctive symbol of Ireland.

This year, Ash Wednesday takes place on 2/14/2024 coinciding with Valentine's Day. Ash Wednesday is the first day of the season of Lent. Whether you decide to give something up or do something, extra use this time to prepare for the Rising of Our Lord on Easter Sunday. Look up some books on Amazon or go to Francis House of Prayer website www.FHOP.org and check out the Zoom Lenten series for as little as a \$15.00 donation will

help you receive the discipline of prayer, fasting and almsgiving along with others wanting to receive some graces this Lenten season. Also Happy Valentines Day !!

A few more events so mark your check out the flyers inside for AOH 87 Beef and Beer- 2/18/2024 Guiding Star Fundraiser 2/24/2024, St Patrick's Day Parade Fundraiser 2/25/2024, Irish Night at the Flyers game 2/27/2024 and last but not least IRISH POTATOES 2/29/2024, 3/01/2024, 3/02/2024.

In Our Motto
Maria



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!!!

Mixing and rolling Irish Potatoes will take place beginning Thursday, February 29, 2024 at Grace Baptist Church at 4544 Almond St, Philadelphia, PA 19137.

We will be rolling on Thursday, February 29 – and finishing on Saturday, March 2nd. Exact times are not yet available but please watch your email for updates or contact any officer.



As you all know this is our largest fundraiser of the year – we need everyone's help to make this a success. Please stop by and lend a pair of hands. You don't have to spend all day – no time is too little. Remember, many hands make light work.

The cost is still \$7.00 per container. Please contact Anne Foody to place your order, preferably by email at afoody813@aol.com or text at (215) 421-7359.



**GUIDING STAR
MINISTRIES**

PRO-LIFE UNION OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA



In February, we will be collecting the following items for the women and babies in need. The items below are particularly useful.

- Maternity Clothing
- New Baby Clothing (NB-1 yr)
- Diapers, Wipes, Towels, Blankets
- Cribs, Crib Sheets Sets, Crib Mattresses
- Twin Sheet Sets
- Baby Bottles, Burp Cloths, Bibs
- Infant Formula
- Baby Accessories (toys etc.)
- Baby Care (thermometer, nasal aspirator)
- Accessories for New Moms
- Toiletries for Babies and Moms



- 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

- I am happy to report that our sister Liz Gaydosh is out of rehabilitation and is back home



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO OUR SISTERS!



Christi Riley-Hensler	11
Nancy Jones	12
Debbie Bednarz	15
Grace McDowell	17
Eleanor Zimmerman	22

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.

OFFICERS LIST

Chaplain

Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ
(267) 592-0841
lisabreslinssj@gmail.com

Historian

Anne Foody
(215) 421-7359
afoody813@aol.com

By-Laws

Eileen Smith
(215) 688-0190
eileenlaohdiv87@gmail.com

President

Maria Gallagher
(609) 304-7929
meglaoh@gmail.com

Missions & Charities

Kris Bucko
(609) 206-5613
Krisine.bucko@icloud.com

Hibernian Hunger Project

Bernadette Coyne
(215) 407-7969
bernmcoyne@gmail.com

Vice President

Kathy Annan
(215) 901-3364
Annank73@gmail.com

Catholic Actions

Ann Marie Kuvik
(215) 901-8052
amkuvik@gmail.com

Immigration & Education

Megan Glanz
(302) 757-5965
magirishdancer@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Terry Welsh
(215) 280-5992
TerryLAOH87@gmail.com

Mistress At Arms

Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ
(267) 592-0841
lisabreslinssj@gmail.com

Publicity / Newsletter

Terry Welsh
(215) 280-5992
TerryLAOH87@gmail.com

Financial Secretary

Donna Kearney
(215) 915-3205
kddfam@aol.com

Sentinel

Angie Hines
(267) 346-7174
Ahines1027@gmail.com

Webmaster

Nancy Jones
(267) 241-4677
nancyssimplefood@gmail.com

Treasurer

Bernadette Coyne
(215) 407-7969
bernmcoyne@gmail.com

Freedom for All Ireland

Bunny Clark
(267) 679-2886
thebun28@gmail.com

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.





UPCOMING EVENTS

TGIF Happy Hour For Special Olympics



Friday, January 26, 2024
AOH Division #87 Clubhouse
3524 E. Thompson Street
Parking Available
Caskah Caterers at Tioga Street
(Just avoid numbered spots)
6:00- 9:00 pm

Guest Bartenders - Terry Welsh and Maria Gallagher!!!!

Join us to support a great cause!!!

Snacks, Music and Raffle Baskets

All tips will be donated to Special Olympics Polar Plunge being held on
Saturday, February 10th at Citizen Bank Park

Interested in helping the cause but can't attend the event;

Please visit my fundraising page:

<https://give.specialolympicspa.org/fundraiser/5149901>

**Mass of St. Brigid
Fr. Judge Memorial Chapel
3501 Solly Avenue
Philadelphia, PA**

Between Fr. Judge H.S. &
The Most Blessed Trinity Mother House



Sunday, February 11, 2024
11:00 am

Sponsored by L.A.O.H. and A.O.H.
Philadelphia County Board

Please be mindful when you arrive at the Chapel.
Please speak quietly as the sisters are in
meditation for the celebration of the mass.

AOH 87 ANNUAL BEEF AND BEER FUNDRAISER!
AOH DIVISION 87 PORT RICHMOND
ANNUAL CLUB FUNDRAISER
FEBRUARY 18TH FROM 2:00 TO 7:00.
THE HALL AT SAINT GEORGE
VENANGO AND EDGE MONT
SUNDAY OF PRESIDENTS DAY WEEKEND.
AT THE HALL AT SAINT GEORGE.
2700 E VENANGO STREET (AT EDGE MONT)
LIVE IRISH MUSIC
NOT ONE BUT "4" GREAT IRISH BANDS:
"THE SHANTYS" AND THE
"THE NATTERJACKS"
"STALL THE DIGGER"
"PIC O"
ENDING WITH A BIG JAM SESSION!
IT IS GOING TO BE EPIC!
\$50 PER PERSON INCLUDES LIVE ENTERTAINMENT,
CZERW'S KEIBASA, DOMESTIC CAN BEER,
"ROAST BEEF MEAT BALLS, SALADS, DESERTS.
THIS IS A BYOB EVENT. BRING YOUR OWN
FANCY BEER AND OR BOOZ.
WE WILL HAVE SOFT DRINKS MIXERS AND DOMESTIC CAN BEER.
ALWAYS A FUN TIME, GREAT MUSIC, GREAT PEOPLE.
IN OUR MOTTO:
FRIENDSHIP, UNITY AND TRUE CHRISTIAN CHARITY.

AOH 87 - Hibernians Bus Trip!
**Irish Night
@ The Flyers!**
Tues. February 27th 7:00
Bus leaves club @ 5:30
Philadelphia Flyers Irish Heritage Night
February 27th, 2024 | 7:00PM
\$50
Includes ticket and bus
*** Free shirt at the game**
Bring the Family!
Contact:
Wally 267-307-7962
or Hifi 215-620-6547
to sign up

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS
AT
PENGUINS
Irish Heritage Tickets include a Flyers t-shirt!
• Lower Level Tickets - \$20
• Upper Level Tickets - \$30
• Balcony Level Tickets - \$40
Tickets are available by visiting:
<https://www.flyers.com/tickets/irish-heritage>



Meet the 2024 St. Patrick's Day Parade, Grand Marshal: Thomas J. Farrelly

& 2024 Ring of Honor:

Michael Boyce, Sara Conaghan, John P. Delaney Jr., Esq., Art Hunter, Maureen McGlone, Battalion Chief John McGuire, P.F.D., Karen Conaghan Race



WHEN: Sunday, February 25, 2024 – 3:00PM til 7:00PM

WHERE: Hero's Hall – FOP Lodge 5 (11630 Caroline Rd., Phila., PA. 19154)

TICKETS: \$40.00 per person (\$20.00 Children 16 years of age and under)

Includes: Live Irish Music and Irish Dancers, Emerald Pipe & Drum and Cummins School of Irish Dance, food and beverages



This year's Parade Theme: ST. PATRICK, Bless Philadelphia with A New Dawn of Hope.

Tickets or Questions, please contact:

Kathy Fanning, 267-237-2953, Ed Dougherty, 267-879-6107 or Joe Fox, 215-429-0193

AUCTION BASKETS DONATIONS: Kathy Fanning, 267-237-2953

Please check our website for updated information: www.phillyparade.com

26TH ANNUAL BENEFIT FOR GUIDING STAR MINISTRIES

ST. GEORGE PARISH HALL
2700 E. VENANGO ST.
PHILA PA 19134

FEBRUARY 24TH 2024
7P-11P

\$40 DONATION

LIVE MUSIC BY PAUL MOORE BAND

RAFFLE BASKETS,
BUFFET, SODA, COFFEE,
2 COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS

NO BYOB

50/50 RAFFLE

\$10 A SPOT

WHEEL SPINS AT EVENT

VENMO NAME TO:

@GUIDINGSTARPHILLY

ED BLANEY 215-840-8550



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Sunday,
March 10, 2024

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

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

**OFFICER DANIEL BOYLE
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
Social
**AT
HEROES HALL**
AT THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE - LODGE 5
SATURDAY 10 FEBRUARY

HEROES HALL • 7PM-11PM
11630 CAROLINE ROAD
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Ticket Includes
BUFFET • BEEF • BEER • WINE • CASH BAR (LIQUOR) • SODA

AND DJ BOB SACCO

FOR TICKET INFO, PLEASE CALL
PAT BOYLE (215) 964-3492 • TOM KUHN (215) 900-6379

Donation \$40

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ

Early on in my ministry, I felt frustrated that I couldn't be more helpful to others and make a difference in our suffering world. A very wise person told me, "A hero (heroine) does what he/she can do. God gave you unique gifts so being yourself and doing what you can do in little ways, even a smile or a listening heart, is enough." These words bring to mind Bridget of Kildare (453 AD to 524 AD) as we celebrate the 1500th anniversary of her death. If you google *Bridget 1500* you will see that the community of Kildare, Ireland has planned multiple celebrations, as has our own National LAOH.

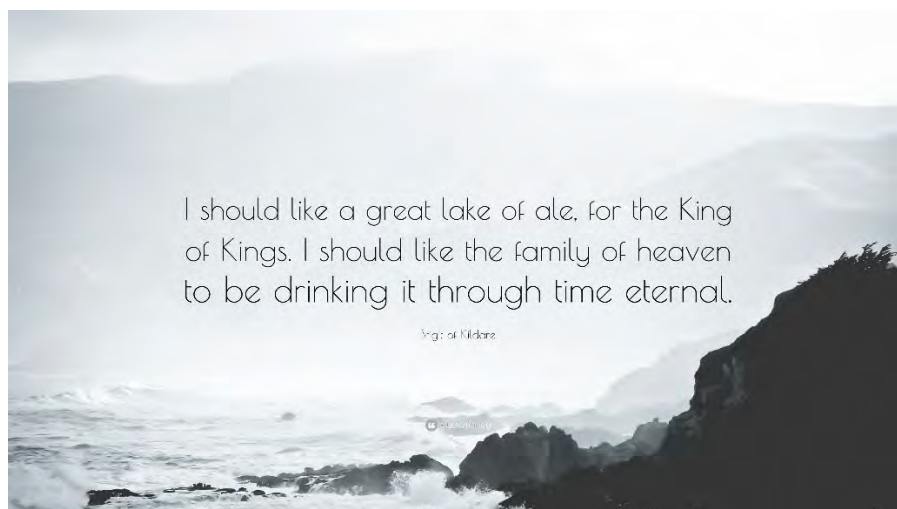
Most of what we know about Bridget was handed down in the oral tradition so actual facts are scarce. What we can garner from the literature is that, like the quote above, Bridget did what she could do in her milieu, and she had a tender heart, even giving away the milk she was supposed to sell for her father. Sometimes we too are tender-hearted and so zealous about helping others that we try to do the impossible. That trait is reserved to God, and I would like to believe that Bridget knew that very well though she didn't always follow that maxim. You can read the history of St. Bridget, and I strongly recommend you attend the St. Bridget's Mass this month. A few aspects of Bridget's life caught my attention, but one in particular.

Like us, Bridget's life straddled two eras. No pun intended, but she was a "bridge" builder. She bridged the pre-Christian and Christian eras. Like her, we are challenged to bridge two eras: the Christian era and the Secular era. As you know organized religion is not popular and is no longer a foundation of our society. What can we do? Bridget's approach integrated the pagan and Christian. She was not a theologian or teacher, but preached with her actions. That, I believe is our challenge. We give witness to Christ by our actions and choices. Bridget knew that the "creator dwells within all creation" and acted accordingly. Easier said than done.

During this month and year of Saint Bridget of Kildare, I challenge all of us to see the Creator dwelling in everyone, even those in whom it is difficult to see God's presence because of their behavior. Somewhere in that gossiping, mean, or uncooperative person (fill in your own experience) dwells our Creator and deserves the respect and even love due him or her. We all need to see beyond behaviors to the heart, even if that means forgiving the other. Even in ourselves!

So a heroine does what she can! Do what you can, and be the hero God created you to be! Not a superhero and you don't need a cape. Just be yourself the way Bridget was totally herself.

In fact, you can even enjoy a pint or two in Bridget's name!



STATE OF THE HEART



February'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.

LAOH Division 87 T-Shirts for Sale!



Sizes available S – 3XL

\$15.00 each

Limited supply available at the meeting

Sweatshirts coming soon!!!



GENERAL MEETING:

Tuesday, February 6th, 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.



In Case You Missed January's Irish History Report:

THE IRISH DONKEY

Ireland is seen internationally as the home of the donkey; donkey or ass – both terms are correct - the origin of 'ass' being the Latin name *Equus Asinus*. The Irish word *Asal* is well derived. Donkeys are generally loved here and are part of our culture but closer examination of the facts of their lineage yields interesting results.

Is there truly an Irish donkey? Despite popular belief, the donkey is not a native to the Irish shores at all but probably originated in North Africa and other parts of the Middle East. Large packs were used in Egypt in the period leading up to the building of the great Pyramids. When we see the different sizes, colors and types of donkey, we assume that they have not come from a single source. There are wild asses from both Africa and Asia. Our donkeys are most likely descended from two types:

- The Nubian Wild Ass – native to the area between the Mediterranean coast and the Sahara Desert. Nubian asses have a cross but no leg stripes.
- The Somali Wild Ass – from further east into the Middle East and east of the Red Sea. Somali asses have no cross but feature prominent leg stripes, almost as marked as those of the zebra.

The mixing of breeds must have occurred when donkeys were used as pack animals on the so-called Silk Road when they carried bales of silk and cartons of spices from the Orient to Western Europe. No single donkey would have been able to make the journey of thousands of miles, so cross breeding was inevitable.

Donkeys were used during the years of the Roman Empire throughout all the lands which the Romans conquered. The donkeys which were brought to England by the Romans two thousand years ago were used as pack animals. There is very little evidence of donkeys in Ireland before the seventeenth century insofar as they are not mentioned in the early literature nor are they depicted in art very much. Yet, there are depictions of donkeys on 'The Flight into Egypt' on some Irish High Crosses dating back to the ninth and tenth centuries' which may be difficult to explain – where did the stone masons of old see these donkeys? Packs of donkeys were the first builders of towns and cities. They served also as the first forms of public transport and as mounts for riding, they preceded horses by an estimated 500 years at least.

Until about 1500, no one took much notice of donkeys in England and Wales until horses became scarce when they were needed as mounts in England's many wars. Horses were requisitioned by the army or were seized as payment for taxes. Thus, donkeys came into prominence as general workers instead of horses. When horses were scarce in England, the army bought up lots of Irish horses and introduced donkeys to do the farm work, both in England and in Ireland -carrying turf, milk and flax etc. so, the Irish donkey is probably an English import with a genetic background from many parts of the Orient.

In the 15th century, the second voyage of Christopher Columbus carried four male and two female donkeys to the New World. They were used to breed with local horses to produce mules that would constitute good strong workers for the conquerors' expeditions into the American mainland. In the late 19th century, there was a huge increase in donkey numbers that worked in the mining industries of the Gold Rush.

In 1897, there were 247,000 donkeys in Ireland, many, if not most of them, working on farms and in villages. After World War 1, horses were no longer needed for war and so they became plentiful again for working on the farm and donkeys were no longer needed.

By the 1960's, the donkey in England and Wales was totally neglected except for those few who worked on beaches in Summer giving rides to children. Then something amazing happened! Hundreds of donkeys were

imported from Ireland to act as companions/pets and not to work. Thus, after thousands of years, the donkey gained a new status as a riding animal, show entry and carriage-driver.

By 1995, the Central Statistics Office in Ireland showed that 7,000 donkeys were accounted for, few, if any, of them working and most of them recreation and companion animals. Estimated figures in 2017 suggest that there are less than 5,000 donkeys in Ireland but in the absence of a reliable census, they cannot know the true situation.

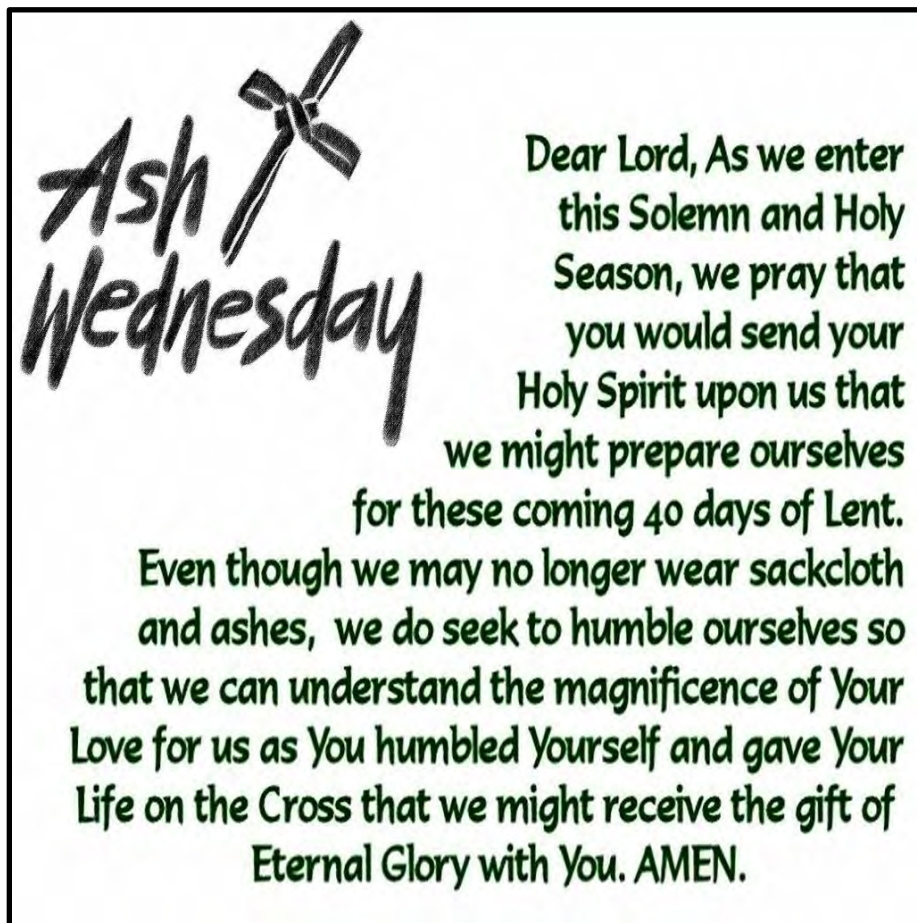
As the 19th century wore on, the donkey became a central image in the representation of Ireland, both at home and abroad, both negative and positive. Decades after having been replaced by the tractor, the donkey remains an icon in Ireland.

Submitted by: Anne Foody, Irish Historian, Division #87
January 2, 2024

See: <https://donkeysociety.ie/history-of-the-irish-donkey/>

See: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/317719690_The_Strange_History_of_the_Irish_Donkey

Book: *Sanctuary: The True Story of an Irish Village, a Man Who Lost His Way and the Rescue Donkeys Who Led Him Home* written by Patrick Barrett and Susy Flory



Valentine's Day

Find the words on the list in the word search below!

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

ARROWS
CUPID
FUN
HEARTS
LOVE
RED
SHARE

CANDY
FLOWERS
GIFTS
KINDNESS
NICE
ROSE
SWEET

CHOCOLATE
FRIENDSHIP
HAPPINESS
LETTERS
PINK
SERVICE
THOUGHTFUL



Saint Brigid's Blessing

May Brigid bless the house
wherein we dwell.
Bless every fireside, every wall
and door.
Bless every heart that beats
beneath its roof.
Bless every hand that toils to
bring its joy.
Bless every foot that walks
portals through.
May Brigid bless the house that
shelters us.
Amen

Photo of the statue of Saint Brigid,
Secondary Patron of Ireland, at Saint
Brigid's Well in Kildare town, Ireland.
We celebrate her Feast on 1 February.

LAOH Division 87
c/o Terry Welsh
2817 Sellers Street
Philadelphia, PA 19137