



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

"Our Lady of Knock"

Division #87 – Organized February 4, 1992

March 2023 Newsletter

President's Message

Hello Ladies,

Hard to believe how nice the weather has been this month so far. Since I'm not a big fan of the cold it suits me just fine.

A "HUGE" thank you ladies for all of the gloves, hats and scarves donated for our divisions January/February charity collection. With such an overwhelming number of items they were split between St Joan Of Arc Mission and St Francis Inn. Your generosity is amazing. Our next charity collection for February/March is for St Joan of Arc pantry. See information inside the newsletter.

As you know, our big Irish Potato event was this past weekend. With the hard work of our members and huge amount of help of Franklin Towne Charter High School National Honor Society students and Mercy Tech High School we were finished in record time.

The season of Lent began on Wednesday, February 22. It's a time set aside each year to remember the love of God who sent His son Jesus and through Christ love for us was crucified, died and buried. He defeated death, sin and was resurrected bringing about Eternal Life. This might be a good time to set aside some time each day for prayers. There are so many families and friends who sure can use them.

If you placed an order for a parade jacket and plan on marching the cost will be \$55.00. This covers the jacket, parade pin and buses. I have not received a confirmation date for when the jackets will be ready but be sure I will keep you up to date. Remember in order to march, your dues will need to be paid. The after parade has been booked at the Casbah Caterer but no cost yet.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 7th at 7:00 pm. Once again Angie Hines, our LAOH sentinel and bartender will have a specialty drink. I hope you will be able to attend.

In closing let's ask St Patrick to pray for us.

In Our Motto,

Maria Gallagher



MARCH 19
THE FEAST
DAY OF
ST. JOSEPH

LET US MAKE ST. JOSEPH
OUR LENTEN SAINT
ON THE WAY TO EASTER.
MAY WE HAVE A SEMBLANCE
OF HIS HUMILITY, GREAT
FAITH & TRUST IN GOD.

ST. JOSEPH, PRAY FOR US!



**NEXT
MEETING**

GENERAL MEETING:

Tuesday, March 7th, 2023

7:00 PM

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



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** and **Macaroni & Cheese!!**

Bring your items to the March meeting!!

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

2023 DUES ARE NOW DUE!

If you have not paid your 2023 dues please be sure to see Donna Kearney at the next meeting. 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 "2023 Dues".

Please remember you must be a member in good standing in order to march in the parade.

UPDATE:

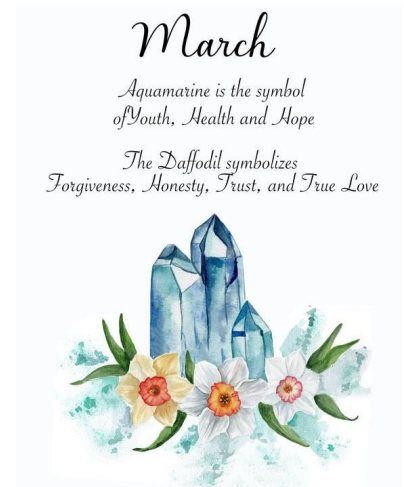
If you have paid your dues and need a new or updated dues card – reach out to Donna as soon as possible.

Phone: (215) 915-3205

Email: kddfam@aol.com

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



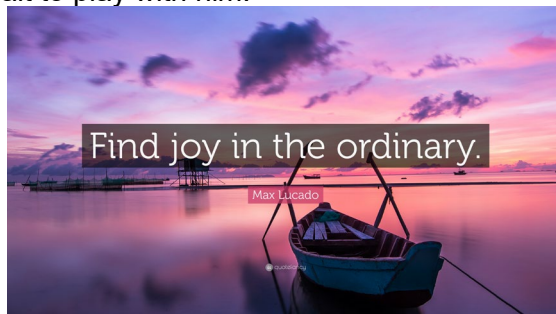
It brings us so much joy to celebrate your birthday with you. We pray that God blesses you and wraps His mighty arms of protection around you on this extra special day and forever.



- Kathy Annan
- Kate Centofante
- Bunny Clark
- MJ Hayes
- Nancy Jones
- Linda Nevedomsky
- Ed Halligan
- Dennis James (Joanne James' husband)
- Drew Kearney
- All the unspoken concerns we hold dear in our hearts

Simple
JOYS

- Anne Foody's first great nephew was born! His name is Kellan Patrick O'Hara. Kellaa has 2 older sisters and 2 girl cousins that can't wait to play with him!



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 NATIONAL – www.ladiesaoh.com

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

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.

Update for Immigration and Education:

By: Megan Glanz

30 years ago a professor in Ireland rescued a number of very old documents from being thrown away. Boxes and boxes of documents had been put out with the trash, but this particular professor saved as many boxes as he could though it was only a small percentage of what was there. He and other university colleagues have spent the past 30 years cataloguing these documents, many of which were lists of tenant farmers that had been lost. These documents will help to fill in many of the genealogy gaps in Irish family histories.

Link to article:

https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-41073983.html?fbclid=IwAR0gnIM6_-zzZH3XADQ-la3v1DIWmPj-a5DLfbD_3NZ07SFf1m9PBYrVACo



UPCOMING EVENTS

DIVISION 87 GROUP MASS

On Sunday, March 12th, 2023 please join your AOH/LAOH Division 87 brothers and sisters as we attend mass together as a group before the St. Patrick's Day Parade (even if you aren't marching). Join us at St. George's for the 8:30am mass.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The Parade will be held on Sunday, March 12, 2023.

The theme of the 2023 parade is: ST. PATRICK, LET THERE BE PEACE. The Grand Marshal of the 2023 Parade is: Dan Harrell.

More details to come!

FROM OUR MEMBERS!

Tish Dugan has a blog that she posts on every Monday. It is Canonlaw101.com. Tish is a canon lawyer and a regular old lawyer and this website and blog especially talks about all kinds of issues. But it is NOT for canon lawyers and lawyers. It's for everybody else.

Because she was sick for a while last year, she has only been able to do her blog regularly starting with this new year. She already has a thousand subscribed viewers from all over the world. Check it out if you have a chance.

Congratulations to Division 87's own (and Maria's son) Frank Gallagher, Jr. who recently opened his own Real Estate brokerage. If you are looking to buy or sell real estate in New Jersey, Frankie is your guy!!



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- ASSOCIATES -

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Office: (856) 543-5051
HTRJersey.com

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ

To me, one of the most perplexing Gospels is the one in which the woman asks Jesus to leave the scraps from the table and reminds him that even the dogs get them at times. Jesus rewards her for her insight. Here is a condensed version of the story from the Gospel of Mark.

Jesus went to the district of Tyre. A woman begged him to drive the demon out of her daughter.

He said to her, "Let the children be fed first. For it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She replied, "Lord, even the dogs under the table eat the children's scraps." Then he said to her, "For saying this, you may go. The demon has gone out of your daughter." When the woman went home, she found the child lying in bed and the demon gone. ([Mk 7:24-3](#))

Have you ever felt like you were under the table with the dogs? That life is just too much and even the scraps God throws at us aren't enough? I imagine the answer is yes. Sometimes our experience of God feels like this. We ask for a cake and we get the crumbs. I usually complain and eventually realize that from God, even the crumbs are enough. Unless I'm having a full-blown pity party, I try pray to trust Him to help me let go of control, of the false belief that I know better than God. When the pity party is over, my perspective shifts. I remember that my experience of God is that God gives us what we need, when we need it, and often in abundance. God is abundantly generous and gives us "more than we can even ask for or imagine" (Eph 3:20).

In keeping with Irish heritage month, many outlandish stories about Saint Patrick have circulated for centuries. Some are factual, some are not, but all have a "wee bit of the truth" in them. Consider this one.

Once upon a time at a pub, Saint Patrick ordered a whiskey, but was shocked and offended when the bartender's pour did not fill his glass. He said the man had a devil in his cellar feeding on his dishonesty, so he'd best get his act together. The man immediately changed his ways. Like Scrooge on Christmas Day, he became the guy who filled everyone's glass to the rim. Today that story is remembered in the "Drowning of the Shamrock." Each St. Patrick's Day at the very end of the night, shamrocks are dunked into the last round of drinks (ideally whiskey) and a toast is offered to St. Patrick, in honor of his preferential option for the full pour. Do not try this at home!!!

God is the Divine Bartender and we don't even have to tip Him to get a "full pour." God is willing and ready to give us the more than we can ask or imagine: cake and crumbs and scraps. God will even get us out from under the table. We just need to let Him. Let us trust in God as we honor Saint Patrick and our Irish heritage!

STATE OF THE HEART



State of the Heart will be held Monday, March 20, 2023 at 6:30pm in the St. Joan of Arc Rectory. The rectory is located at 2025 East Atlantic Street. Pull into the parking lot off of East Atlantic Street. If anyone has any questions or needs a ride from Port Richmond, please contact Ann Marie Kuvik (215) 901-8052.

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:

The Irish Roots Behind America's Groundhog Day

In the U.S., Groundhog Day predicts the end of winter with the appearance of a shadow by a groundhog, but its true history lies with a witch of Celtic myth, Imbolc, the holiday associated with St. Brigid, and Roman hedgehogs!

The true history of the day goes right back to the Irish Celtic festival, Imbolc, which marks the beginning of Spring. Celebrated on February 1st and associated with the goddess of fertility, now known as St. Brigid, Imbolc marks the halfway point between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. It is a celebration of the upcoming spring and the longer days ahead. It was said that on the eve of Imbolc, the Celtic fertility goddess, Brigid was said to travel from home-to-home granting blessings to virtuous inhabitants while they slept. The people even left milk and food for Brigid as she went about her travels. The goddess was believed to have had the power to shift the season from the months of darkness to the months of light, and people would light candles to symbolize this.

Fire was always a central theme in this battle between winter and spring. In Celtic myth, it was said that an old woman or witch, known as the Cailleach, gathered firewood for the rest of winter. The Cailleach wished winter to last longer and would ensure February 1st was bright and sunny so she could collect enough wood for the rest of the winter. If the day was dark and cloudy, it meant the Cailleach would sleep and be unable to gather more wood and, therefore, spring would surely arrive soon.

Eventually, these pagan traditions merged with Christianity and became what is known in the Catholic Church's calendar as Candlemas. Celebrated on February 2nd, Candlemas is the commemoration of the purification of the Virgin Mary and the presentation of Christ in the Temple. Candles were traditionally blessed at this festival. It is believed that if there is bright weather on Candlemas, there would be more bad weather to come (just like the Cailleach).

You might well ask well, where did the groundhog come into the telling this tale? For that, we must look back to the ancient Romans who also believed they could predict the year's weather. However, in their case, it was linked to soothsaying. The Romans looked to hedgehogs for guidance. It was said that if during hibernation, the hedgehog looked out of his den on February 2nd and saw his shadow, it meant there was a clear moon and six more weeks of winter, so he would return to his burrow.

This tradition was carried through Europe, including in Germany. It was with the arrival of Germans to Pennsylvania that they took up the tradition once more. However, as hedgehogs are not native to the state, they turned to the now-famous groundhog for their predictions.

So as Punxsutawney Phil in Punxsutawney, PA is held aloft each February 2nd, remember the ancient Irish and European history of this day, and pray for an early spring!

Submitted by: Anne Foody, Irish Historian, Division #87 – February 7, 2023

See: <https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/groundhog-day-irish>



March 8th, 2023

A Woman's Prayer

Make us, O God, spirit- filled women..women of prayer..women of vitality..

women of vision..women of courage..risk –taking women.

Fill us with your love..a love which affirms..a love which calls forth ..a love which challenges..a love which frees. Grant us your gift of Godliness..a reverence for you.

Instill in our hearts the spirit of holy Joy..the joy that sanctifies..the joy that gives..the joy of one who loves..the joy that imparts to others the spirit born of self-control.

Make us Peace-seeking women..instruments of your peace..directed by your Wisdom, bridge builders..working with others for justice to bring about true peace. Give us Patience..a strong patience which enables us to trust and to keep heart in the face of disappointments, frustrations and failures. Plant deep within our attitudes your kindness..make us women who are open and friendly..women of hospitality..women who image our people friendly God. Impart to us your spirit of Goodness..Make us women who believe in the good of the other..who speak the good to each other and about each other..who do good for one another.

Bestow on us your gift of knowledge that we may know you who are the source of all good. Root us in your Fidelity..a fidelity that keeps us true to you..walking in integrity in our presence.

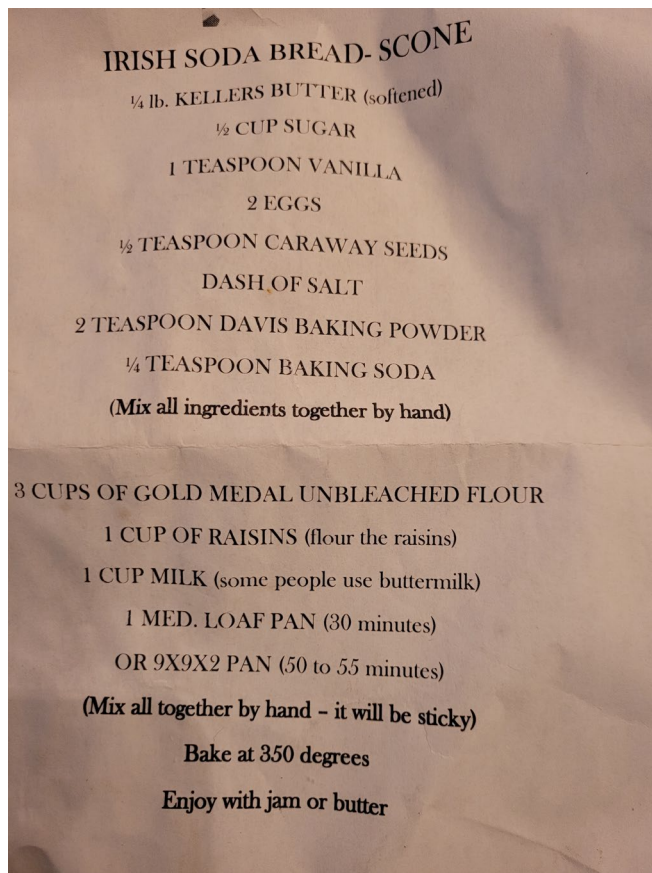
Mold us into faithful women..women who are true to ourselves..true to others ..true to life and all creation. Form us into women who follow your Counsel in all things, who uphold true values and the rights of all people.

Make us, O God, Spirit- filled Irish women, trusting you and one another as we move into this 21st Century.

By Sr. Peggy Flaherty, CDP
Late LAOH Pennsylvania State Chaplain



Submitted by: Maria Gallagher



LEPRECHAUN MILKSHAKE

Submitted by: Kris Bucko

Ingredients:

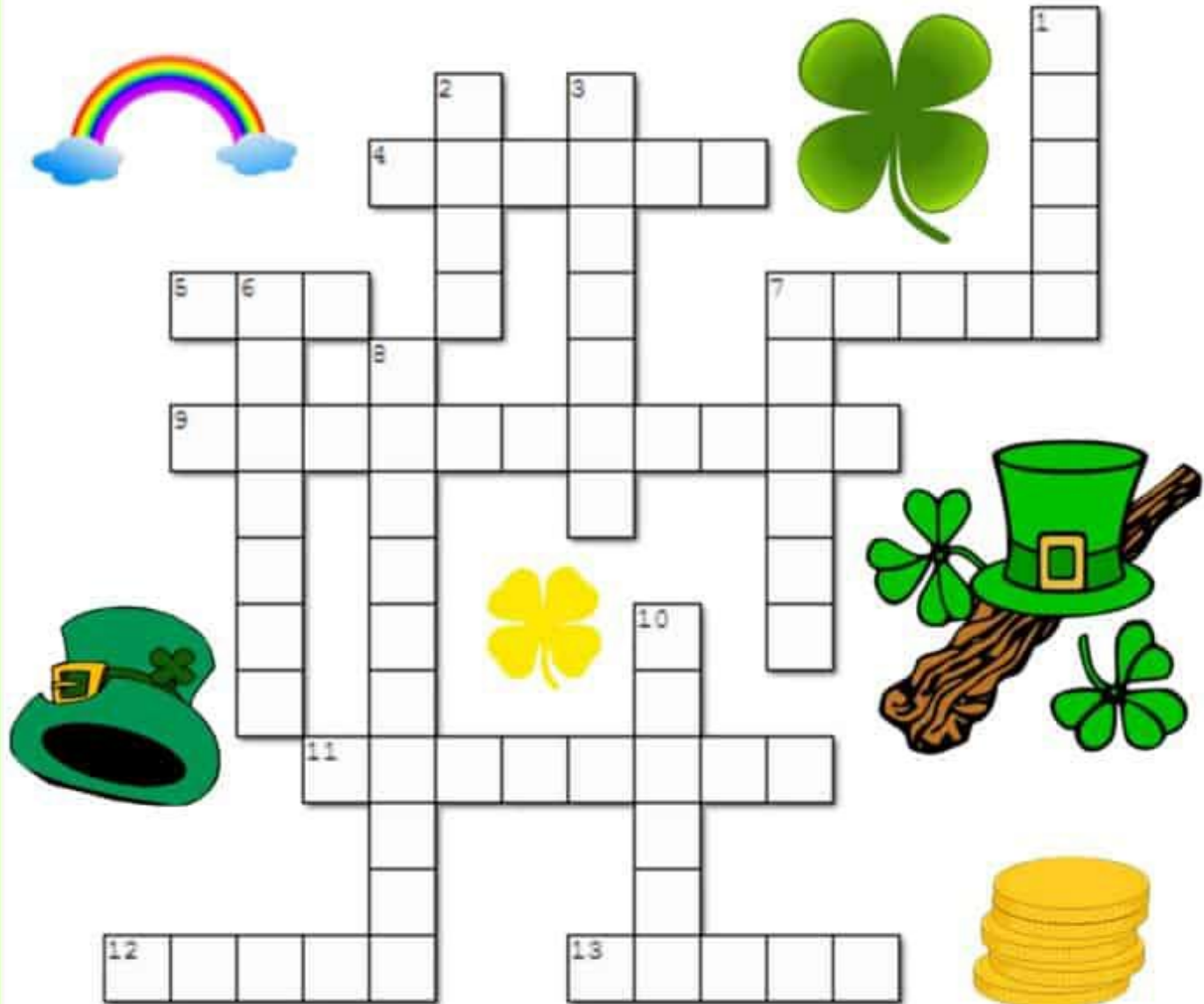
- 4 Cups milk
- 1/2 Cup or one large pistachio pudding mix package
- 4 Scoops vanilla ice cream

Directions:

Add ingredients together in blender and mix.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

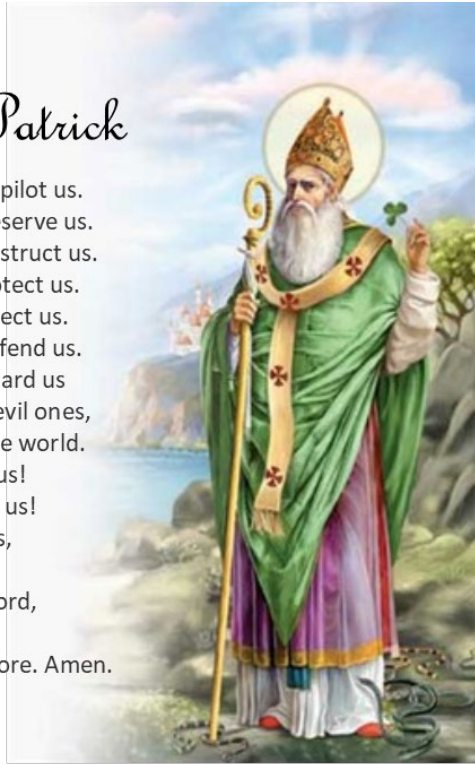
4. capital of Ireland
5. a type of Irish dance
7. if you do not wear green on March 17 this will happen
9. the day St. Patrick's Day falls on
11. the national emblem of Ireland
12. yellow and blue make _____
13. from Ireland

Down

1. the 3rd month of the year
2. good fortune
3. nonsense or misleading talk
6. called the Emerald Isle
7. a starchy vegetable
8. a sprite
10. 4 leaf _____

Prayer of St Patrick

May the Strength of God pilot us.
May the Power of God preserve us.
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
May the Hand of God protect us.
May the Way of God direct us.
May the Shield of God defend us.
May the Host of God guard us
Against the snares of the evil ones,
Against temptations of the world.
May Christ be with us!
May Christ be before us!
May Christ be in us,
Christ be over all!
May Thy Salvation, Lord,
Always be ours,
This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.



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