



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS
"Our Lady of Knock"
Division #87 – Organized February 4, 1992

December 2025 Newsletter

Hello Sisters,

Hope this newsletter finds you well and staying warm though we have not had any really cold weather yet, just windy.

By the time you receive this we will have celebrated Thanksgiving. A huge "thank you" to the many ladies who showed up at St George's Hall on November 24, 2025 to help FOOD IS LOVE make and pack meals for those in need so they will have delicious food on Thanksgiving. You know who you are and I am sure so many did not have to work they would have been there as well. Also, as we have done in the past LAOH Division 87 generously collected and purchased non-perishable food items including an anonymous \$200.00 donation for Shoprite gift cards and we even received Tastykakes for Thanksgiving dinner to Providence House Shelter for families of domestic violence. They are always so grateful.

The AOH/LAOH Annual banquet was a fabulous and very well attended event. The Casbah always does a great job. Thanks to all involved in the planning.

Many thanks to all who participated and joined us for a Special Evening as we honored our Chaplin, Sr. Lisa Breslin SSJ with the Anna Malia Ruddy Award from the Pennsylvania State Board. Sister thought maybe we could do a "Bucket Drop" fundraiser and raise some funds for our LAOH charities as well. Monetary donations were collected from auctions baskets and tips totaling \$1400.00. Everyone's generosity was truly impressive, which includes FOOD IS LOVE who made delicious food for the event.

Moving on to our monthly division meeting/party coming up on Tuesday December 02, 2025. As we have done in the past we will have a short meeting, then some food, drinks and play "Holiday Music BINGO". The division will supply sandwiches and salads so if you would like to bring your favorite appetizers or desserts that would be great. Since we no longer do a gift exchange, we will be collecting gift cards (Walmart, Target etc.) for the Secret Santa program which are delivered to neighborhood families. If you know of someone in need this year, be sure to contact me and I will pass it along to Kieran and Jim Carr.

Be sure to check out all the upcoming event in December enclosed in this newsletter., starting off with Santa Stroll, Lunch with Santa (at St. George's Hall), HHP food delivery boxes for Christmas dinner, Visiting St Mary's home (where Sr. Lisa works) for lunch and a few games of BINGO, The club has BINGO every Thursday night, so plenty to keep you busy.

Please keep our many sisters in your prayers. We have a few with lingering health issues.

I wish you and your family a Very Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. Thank you for all you do for this organization. I hope to see you at the next Division meeting / Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 02, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

In Our Motto,

Maria Gallagher

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*Sara Colville
Kristina Scott*

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.

The joy we feel

has little to do with the circumstances of our lives
and everything to do with the focus of our lives.

Russel M. Nelson



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, December 2nd, 2025

7:00 PM

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

There will be no Zoom link for this meeting!!



TIME TO JOIN FOR NEW BOOK!!!

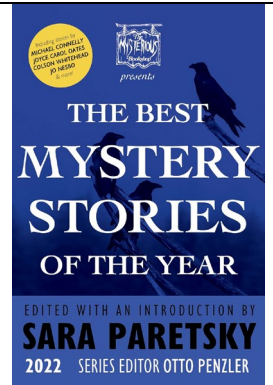
Our Book club is starting *The Best Mystery Stories of the Year - 2022*

The next book club meeting is on
December 8, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Meetings
are via zoom.

To prepare, please read:

- Introduction by Sara Paretsky
- Kiss of Life by Doug Allyn

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



Hibernian Hunger Project Philly Lottery tickets are now on sale!!!

Help raise funds for the HHP to help feed our neighbors in need this
Christmas Season!!!

4 CHANCES TO WIN!!

Based on PA Daily Number (PM)
Christmas Eve (12/24) - \$500
New Year's Eve (12/31) - \$500

Donation: \$10.00

Chances are available at the General Meeting or by contacting:
Bernadette Coyne at (215) 407-7969
bernmcoyne@gmail.com





CHECK OUT OUR NEWLY REDESIGNED WEBSITE: WWW.LAOH87.COM

You will find links to valuable information including the current issue of the newsletter, links to State and National websites, and a link to the “Saint of the Day.” Check back often for more information!!

ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR DIVISION EMAILS??

This is our primary way of communicating with you between meetings!!

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

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO OUR SISTERS!



Kristine Bucko	8
Elaine Goetz.....	13
Jeweliana Camarote.....	13
Susan Morris-Wallace	16
Natalie Smith.....	23
Theresa Banford-Dietzel.....	28

We also hope the following sisters had a very happy birthday!!!
We don’t have their birthdays in our file but blessings to you too!

- Patricia Kozlowski
- Michelle Ludwig
- Maureen McKeown
- Tailynn Miller

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

LAOH / AOH DIVISION 87 PRESENTS



LUNCH & PICTURES WITH *Santa Claus!*

DECEMBER 6TH, 2025 FROM 11 AM TO 1 PM

BRING YOUR WISH LIST AND HAND
DELIVER IT TO SANTA!

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!!

SANTAS ELVES WILL HAVE PRESENTS AND ARTS & CRAFTS FOR THE CHILDREN
LUNCH OF CHICKEN NUGGETS, HOT DOGS AND MAC & CHEESE

JOIN US AT ST. GEORGE'S HALL, 2700 E. VENANGO STREET!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
BERNADETTE COYNE
(215) 407-7969
BERNMCYOYNE@GMAIL.COM

AOH 87 PRESENTS: SANTA STROLL

Tommy "Wengo" Wenger Memorial
1 MILE STROLL

DEC
6TH

\$35 / ADULT
\$25 / CHILD
\$15 PANCAKE
BREAKFAST
ONLY*

8AM
REGISTRATION
9AM
START

* Pancake
Breakfast &
Shirt included
for all Stroll
participants

All proceeds to be donated to
AOH 87 for Secret Santa

Contact: Kieran McGovern
267-249-7632

Jim Hifi Carr
215-620-6047

Location:
St. George's
Hall
2700 E.
Venango St.

Sponsors Needed!
Rudolph Tier - \$300
Blitzen Tier - \$200
Dasher Tier - \$100
Santa's Helper - \$50

Make Checks Payable to AOH 87 Or
Venmo: @AOH87



*Advent:
A Season
of Hope
and
Anticipation*



CHRISTMAS & CHARITY ALERT

AOH - LAOH DIVISION 87 PORT RICHMOND SECRET SANTA PROGRAM

FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS, AOH, LAOH 87
HAVE BEEN DOING A GREAT THING.
OUR SECRET SANTA PROGRAM GO'S LIKE THIS:
* WE COLLECT DONATIONS, MONETARY, TOYS,
GIFT CARDS, SUPERMARKET CARDS.
* WE COLLECT NAMES OF DESERVING
FAMILIES WHO NEED A HAND UP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.
* WE DISTRIBUTE THE DONATIONS TO THESE
DESERVING FOLKS, JUST SAYING THAT IT IS
FROM SOMEONE WHO CARES.

IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE IN NEED LET US KNOW!
EMAIL: JIMGUTTERS@COMCAST.NET
CALL KIERAN MCGOVERN 267-429-7632
OR JIM CARR 215-620-6547.
AOH 87 CHARITY FUND

TO DONATE:
WRITE CHECKS TO AOH 87
3524 THOMPSON STREET
PHILADELPHIA PA 19134.

IF DONATING GIFT CARDS:
THE MOST NEEDED ARE DRUG STORES,
SUPERMARKETS AND TOY STORES.

YOU CAN ALSO DONATE THROUGH:
WWW.VENMO.COM/AOH87JCARR
OR
WWW.-PAYPAL.ME/PAYHIF

*WRITE SECRET SANTA IN NOTES.

AS ALWAYS, IN OUR AOH MOTTO:
FRIENDSHIP, UNITY AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY.

UPCOMING EVENTS




**Christmas
Celebration**
St. Mary's Home

Sunday, December 15, 2025
12:00 PM

Please join us in providing the ladies with an afternoon of refreshments, singing carols and bingo. Also, a gift will be distributed to the residents.

If you plan to attend, please reach out to Maria Gallagher so we know how many of Santa's helpers to expect.

❄️ St. Mary's is located at:
247 S. 5th Street, Philadelphia.
Parking is behind the building off 5th Street.



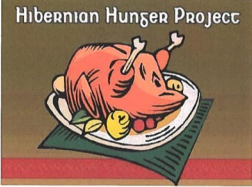
LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, INC.
NATIONAL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE 2025-2026

30 CHANCES TO WIN!
If you win, your ticket goes back in the bin!
6 months of winners

Drawings

- **Early Bird Drawings**
 - \$100.00 - Thanksgiving 2025
 - \$100.00 - Christmas 2025
- **\$100.00 - St. Patrick's Day, March 17th 2026**
- **26 weekly drawings \$25 each**
 - Mondays starting on January 5, 2026
- **Grand Prize drawing \$1000**
 - To be drawn at the National Convention in 2026

Tickets are \$20.00 each
Make checks payable to LAOH, Inc.
Mail to: Ellen McCrane, LAOH National Fundraiser
21 Titus Court, Richboro, PA 18954
If you need additional tickets, please email Ellen at nationallaohrafflechair@gmail.com
Get your entries in early to be eligible for the 2025 Early Bird drawings on Thanksgiving and Christmas
Winners are posted weekly on our website: www.ladiesaoh.com/NationalOfficers/2024-2026/Fundraiser



Hibernian Hunger Project

The HHP is collecting Turkeys, Hams and Super Market Gift Certificates from now until Friday December 12, 2025. Last year through the generosity of our AOH/LAOH members and Non-profit Organizations, along with Shamrock Foods we were able to help about 230 families.

If you can volunteer, we will be delivering the food baskets on **Saturday December 20, 2025**. We will need assistance with packing and delivering. Pick-up is **9:00 Am** at Shamrock Foods.


Donations of Turkeys and hams can be dropped off at Shamrock Foods no later than December 15, 2025. Supermarket gift cards and donations (made out to Hibernian Hunger Project) can be sent to Brian or Jeanne.

If you or someone you know needs help, please reach out to your Division President or a HHP committee member by December 4th or contact:

Jeanne Hermley 267-266-4081 or jeanneh1629@gmail.com
Brian Coleman 215-779-1330 or poncho2143@comcast.net

Thank you for your continued support. HHP wishes you and your family a Blessed Holiday Season.

Drop off location:
Shamrock Foods
2251 Fraley Street (off State Road) Philadelphia, PA 19137
Matt Cavan 484-467-3050
Donations accepted: Monday - Friday Appointment Necessary



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ

A couple of weeks ago, I went into Lowes. Lo and behold, Christmas decorations everywhere. My inner voice cried, NOOOOOO! We hadn't even gotten to Thanksgiving yet. Our consumer-oriented culture sends us messages constantly, but we know the truth. Halloween, then Thanksgiving, then ADVENT, then Christmas, then New Year. Let's not forget Advent, that sacred time when we await the coming of Jesus. I am not a theologian and to be honest, I don't quite understand the concept of waiting for someone who has already come. In faith, I get it. I do understand the longing I have, we have, for Jesus' presence in our lives and in our world. Jesus brings peace and hope and joy. We can all use a dose of peace, hope and joy!

This Advent, as you go about the craziness of Christmas preparations, please take one minute each day to stop, to breathe and to consciously acknowledge the "reason for the season," namely, the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. The Incarnation is God literally coming to us as we are and where we are. Jesus' coming is an act of pure unconditional love for you and me, and even the neighbor down the street who gets on your last nerve. Pray to welcome God's presence more deeply in your heart and life. The prayer below may provide an Advent devotion for you. One minute a day.....

Holy One,
awaken my heart,
quiet my mind,
open the door of my being
to perceive your presence.
Settle what stirs endlessly within me.
Quiet the voice of haste and hurry.
Awaken my inner senses to recognize
your love hiding beneath the frenzy.
Enfold me in your attentiveness.
Wrap a mantle of mindfulness
around every part of my days.
I want to welcome you with joy
and focus on your dwelling place.
Abundant peace,
Joyce Rupp



Happy Advent THEN Happy Christmas!!!
Sister Lisa

STATE OF THE HEART



The next State of the Heart will be held on December 15th, 2025 at 7:00 PM. It will be held at AOH 87 Hall (2nd floor).

State of the Heart is a meeting facilitated by Sister Lisa Breslin. This is a space for meditation, prayer and sharing where you are at the present moment.
