** Ancient Order of Hibernians**

 of Hampden Hampshire Counties

 PO Box 6535

 Holyoke, MA 01041-6535

 Next meeting – AOH – Monday, February 6, 7 p.m. at The Wherehouse?

LAOH – Monday, February 6, 6 p.m. at The Wherehouse?

​**In ainm an Athar agus an Mhic agus an Spiorad Naoimh, Amen.**

 **The next two months are going to be very busy for the AOH and LAOH** as we prepare for Irish Night, the month of March and the Saint Patrick’s Parade. Let us all stay healthy and safe in the coming weeks. Join the fun and celebrate our Irish heritage.

 **Mass in Honor of the Patron Saint of the LAOH, St. Brigid, will be celebrated**

 **on Sunday, February 5, 8 a.m. at St. Jerome Church.**

Matt O’Connor has kindly volunteered to play the bagpipes. Everyone is invited to show our club unity.

 **Irish Night in Holyoke will be held on Saturday, February 25 at The Log Cabin.** The evening will feature the Keohanne and Keannelly five-piece band – “a tour de force” of musical talents. The evening will also showcase the Cassin School of Irish Dance and our own heralded piper, Matt O’Connor from the Springfield Kiltie Band. The Log Cabin will serve the traditional corned beef, cabbage dinner with heaping plates of “Danny’s famed corned ribs. Reservations are required by February 20. For tickets, call Joe O’Connor at 413-627-714 or Fran Hennessey at 413-785-5687 or go on-line to Eventbrite.com. Tickets are $40 per person. The 2023 Ms. Hibernian, Mary Kate O’Connor and 2023 Mr. Hibernian, Jay Whelihan will be honored for their contributions to the club. The event is in memory of Daniel P. Curran and benefits the Maurice A. Donahue Scholarship Fund. Please call Joe or Fran if you have any gifts for raffle baskets.

 **President Joe O’Connor would like to thank everyone for your generous donations for our raffle prizes.** Whether it be supplies for a gift basket or a monetary donation, everything is appreciated. We are looking for scratch tickets to create a lottery tree to be raffled off at Irish Night. We are hoping that such a prize would sell more tickets for the raffle and thus generating more revenue for the scholarship fund. The intention is to have all members donate a ticket or multiple tickets to fill the tree. Many hands make light work.

 **Mark your calendar- The Irish American flag will be raised at Holyoke City Hall** on Wednesday,

March 1, 10:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

 **As a continued effort displaying our Christian charity in the community,** the AOH and LAOH will be making PB&J sandwiches for Kate’s Kitchen on Sunday, March 5.

 Please contact Mary Kate O’Connor at 413-627-7149 for more information.

 **The Communion Breakfast will be at Wyckoff Country Club on Sunday, March 12, 9:00 a.m.**

**after the Mass is celebrated at St Jerome’s Church at 8:00 am.** Tickets are $25.00 per person, and can be obtained by calling Jay Driscoll at 413-534-0445 by March 7. There will be a presentation of the 2023 Christian Charity Award to Brenda Lamagdeleine of Kate’s Kitchen. Nora McMahon will be the Master of Ceremonies and keynote speaker will be William Evans, former Boston Police Commissioner who was vital in the capture of the Boston Marathon bombers.

 **Our own Matt O’Connor will lead the AOH contingent into St. Jerome Church at Mass** before the Communion Breakfast on Sunday, March 12, 8 a.m.

 **Peter Hogan and JD Watson will begin working on the float early this month at the G&E garage.** The club will have 2 floats in the Parade. The traveling float will be in honor of Holyoke’s 150th anniversary with the second float, a Parade favorite, the return of the Cassin Academy Irish Dancers. Contact Peter if you would like to help at 413-330-6635. Marchers are always welcomed.

  **2023 March Saint Patrick Calendar raffle tickets are available for sale.** The price is $10. Last year we sold out all 350 tickets. Please reach out to anyone who would like to buy and sell tickets. Get yours early by attending a meeting or by calling Peter Hogan at 330-6635 or pjhogan71@gmail.com.

  **Members who owe dues for more than 3 years, please contact Peter Hogan at 330-6635, or** **pjhogan71@gmail.com****.** At the November meeting the club suspended five memberships**.** If you are not sure of your membership status, please contact Peter.

 **The Healy’s Irish Radio is now broadcasting at Kool Radio WACM 100.1 FM 1270 AM on Saturdays from 11 am to 1 pm.** You can also listen to their program at your leisure on the internet at www.healysirishprogram.com.

 **LAOH News**

 **Please keep Kit Collamore and the Collamore clan in your prayers on the passing of her father, John “Abe” Collamore last week.** The funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, February 4, 10:30 at St. Jerome Church.

 **Thank you to everyone who helped with the creation of the 2023 LAOH quilt.** It is almost ready to be sent out for the final finishing, and will make its first public appearance at the Hibernian Irish Night. Please bring suggestions for venues to sell tickets at the next meeting.

 **Suggestions are always needed for Catholic Action ideas for our members.**

 **We will have another signup sheet for the parade.** The riding float will be also available for anyone who does not want to march.  **Prayers for warm weather will always be appreciated!**

 **If you bought a long-sleeved LAOH t-shirt that had problems with the printed logo, you can get the embroidered replacement at the next meeting.**  They also will available for sale.

  **If you are receiving a printed copy of the newsletter and want it sent by email instead,**please contact Paula Paoli at paulaakpaoli@gmail.com, or 413-210-6031 to make the change.  We appreciate those who have changed to email to save our division the cost of printing and postage.

**Upcoming Events:**

**St Brigid’s Mass** – Sunday February 5, 8 a.m. at St. Jerome Church

**Irish Nite** – Saturday, February 25 at The Log Cabin - details are in the newsletter

**Irish Flag Raising –** Wednesday, March 1, 10:00 a.m. at Holyoke City Hall. All are invited.

**Kate’s Kitchen** – Sunday, March 5 making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Contact Mary Kate O’Connor at 413-627-7149 to assist.

**Memorial Mass in Remembrance for deceased Hibernians** - Sunday, March 12 -8:00 a.m. at St. Jerome Church with **Communion Breakfast**– 9:00 a.m.at Wycoff Country Club

**Holyoke Saint Patrick’s Parade –** Sunday, March 19, rain or shine or snow.

**ICC News**

**The Trinity Pub**

 **The Trinity Pub at the Irish Cultural Center is open 5 days a week; Wednesday through Saturday 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and on Sunday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Remember the AOH in Your Will**

 **Please consider the Order when writing or rewriting your will,** and add a paragraph with the lines of “I leave to the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America (X percent of my estate or a specific dollar amount) for its charitable works.”

 **In continued memory of Doc Dean and our commitment to Kate’s Kitchen.**  Providence Ministries is in need of canned goods. Please bring a can or two to the meeting on Monday night.

 **Matt O’Connor, your name card was picked at the January meeting for the 50/50 raffle. If you had been there, I’m sure the pipes would have been loudly piping.** There hasn’t been a winner since the pandemic started. The pot is almost overflowing. You have to be at the meeting to win. See everyone on Monday night.

 **And finally, before we knew it, plans are already underway for the many events for the High Holy Season.** Please consider marching in the Parade, or riding on the float. We also can always use help to get the floats ready.

**In ainm an Athar agus an Mhic agus an Spiorad Naoimh, Amen.**