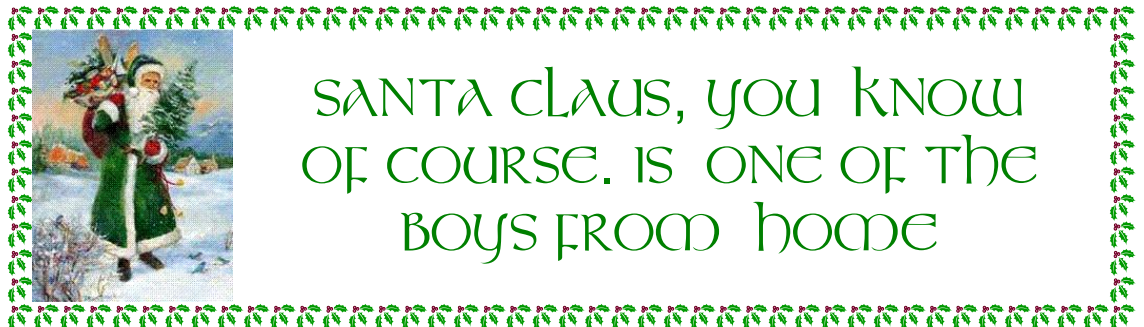


**THE TOLEDO HIBERNIAN
NEWSLETTER
C/O MAURY COLLINS
2847 NASH ROAD
TOLEDO, OHIO 43613**



BORDERLINE GENIUS, LLC

IN GOD WE TRUST



SANTA CLAUS, YOU KNOW
OF COURSE. IS ONE OF THE
BOYS FROM HOME



- Dec. 1 ~ Toraigh An Sonas session at The Blarney**
- Dec. 15 ~ Hibernian Christmas Party**
- Dec. 19 ~ Toraigh An Sonas session at Logan's**
- Dec. 21 ~ Winter Solstice**
- Dec. 25 ~ Merry Christmas**
- Dec. 26 ~ Ardan dancers at Toledo Art Museum**
- Dec. 31 ~ New Years Eve**



HIBERNIANS OF TOLEDO NEWSLETTER



December, 2018

Mother McAuley Division

John P. Kelly Division

Annual Hibernian Christmas Party

December 15, 6 -10pm at the Kelly Room @ Blessed Sacrament
4255 Bellevue Rd. Toledo, OH 43613

Monsignor Chris Vasko will celebrate Mass at 6:30 pm
Music and readings by Robert McMahon.

Potluck dinner ~ Bring your favorite dish to pass

**Please call or text your RSVP to Maury Collins
419-699-6710 or E-mail maurycollins61@outlook.com**

A wonderful Toledo Irish tradition. Please honor us with your presence.



The last two years have not been kind to the John P. Kelly Division. I could not duplicate the magical time of excitement and growth enjoyed during 2002 and 2003. I gave it my best, but it was not meant to be. But after saying that, I am optimistic!!!! The president-elect is a young man, who sees a problem and finds a solution. St. Patrick's Day 2017 we found ourselves without a band. Robert McMahon put together a group of friends to play, calling themselves "The Men From the Bog". They were great!!! 2018 found us without cookers. The church we usually borrowed them from, was having an event of their own. Robert went out and found a new source. Also Dan McCarthy returns to a leadership role. His experience should be a great help. John McNulty, who cleaned up a mess for us, is back. I believe these 3 young men along with some of us old timers, will bring the division back. I invite each of you, who may have quit for one reason or another, or who never joined, to come join us. Bring your ideas!!! The state convention will be held here in 2019. Toledo has a rich Irish-American heritage. Let's show that pride at the convention. Be Toledo Irish proud. See some highlight pictures from the last two years on page 12.

Go to <https://maurysirishnewstoledo.weebly.com/> for information about two tours to Ireland in 2019 and Larry Minor's 2020 tour for the Notre Dame Football Game in Dublin.

**Nollaig Shona Duit ~ Happy Christmas!!!!
Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Duit ~ You have a prosperous New
Year!!!!**

DECEMBER, 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 <i>Session at Blarney</i>
2 <i>Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM</i>	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 <i>Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM</i>	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Hibernian Christmas Party</i>
16 <i>Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM</i>	17	18	19 <i>Session at Logan's</i>	20	21 <i>Winter Solstice</i>	22
23 <i>Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM</i>	24 	25 	26 	27	28	29
30 <i>Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230AM 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM</i>	31 	1 Happy New Year!				

THE ARDAN ACADEMY IRISH DANCERS AT THE ART MUSEUM PERISTYLE @ 2 PM DEC. 26

Important December dates in Irish History

Dec 1, 1846 ~ The paddle steamer The Londonderry, with immigrants fleeing the famine, takes shelter in Derry harbor. When the covers are removed from the hold it is discovered that 72 men, women and children have suffocated

Dec. 2, 1999 ~The Good Friday Agreement comes into operation as the British and Irish governments formally notify each other that all the necessary arrangements are in place. The notification ceremony takes place at Iveagh House, St Stephen's Green, headquarters of the Department of Foreign Affairs, at a joint signing by Foreign Affairs Minister, David Andrews, and the Northern Ireland Secretary of State, Peter Mandelson

Dec. 4, 2006 - Staff at an equestrian centre in Mullingar, Co Westmeath, return to the workplace prior to a planned Christmas party - and discover Gus, a newly-arrived camel from Morocco, had munched through 200 mince pies and cans of Guinness.

Dec. 5, 1921 ~ After lengthy negotiations, the British give the Irish a deadline to accept or reject the Anglo-Irish treaty. In the words of Lloyd George, rejection would mean "immediate and terrible war"

Dec. 5, 1976 - A rally of twelve to fifteen thousand Peace People from both north and south takes place at the new bridge over the Boyne at Drogheda

Dec. 6, 1921 ~ Representatives of the Irish government appointed by President Eamon de Valera, and those negotiating for the Crown sign the Anglo-Irish Treaty, ending the Irish War of Independence against England. Michael Collins declares: "I have signed my own death warrant"

Dec. 11, 1225 - Laurence O'Toole is canonized by Pope Honorius III. It will be 750 years before another Irish person is canonized

Dec. 14, 1918 ~ Sinn Féin, pledged to an Irish Republic, wins 73 of 105 Irish MP seats. Winners include Constance Markievicz who becomes the first woman elected to the Parliament of England

Dec. 15. 1760 ~ John MacNaghten, a gambler, duelist and criminal, is hanged at Strabane jail for his involvement in the killing of Mary Anne Knox, daughter of Andrew Knox MP. At the first attempt to hang him, the rope breaks but, ignoring offers from the crowd to help him make his escape, he declares that he does not wish to be known for ever as 'half-hung McNaghten' and asks the hangman to proceed.

Dec. 16, 1922 ~ Arthur Griffith and his ministers assume seat of government at Dublin Castle

Dec.24, 1889 ~ Captain William O'Shea files for divorce, citing Parnell as his wife Kitty's lover, thus causing moral outrage and the subsequent loss of Parnell's political power



ADVENT ~ A TIME OF PREPARATION

Advent, which comes from the Latin word for "arrival" or "coming," is a period of preparation for the birth of our Lord. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and is the start of the Christmas season, which lasts through the Baptism of Our Lord. The first Sunday of Advent also marks the beginning of the liturgical year, the Church's "New Year's Day," at which time we change the cycle of readings we are using at Mass. Advent is a period of preparation, and refers to the coming of Christ. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; but second, to the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to His Second Coming at the end of time. Our preparations, therefore, should have all three comings in mind. We need to prepare our souls to receive Christ worthily.

Advent is a time of joyous anticipation, but also of penance and preparation for the great Christmas feast. The liturgical color of the season is purple, a sign of penance, which is also used during Lent. The Church discourages excessive ornamentation, boisterous music and even weddings during Advent, in order to foster a sense of quiet hope. The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday because in Latin, the first words of the opening antiphon for that day's Mass are "Gaudete in Domino semper" ("Rejoice in the Lord always"). On this Sunday rose-colored vestments are permitted and the rose-colored candle is lit as a reminder that we are called to rejoice.

A Traditional Irish Christmas



Anyone interested in folk and traditional music will also be glad to know that December is a brilliant time to be in Ireland. Fairy lights, crackling fires and creamy pints are perfect scene-setters for an evening of music in a traditional Irish pub

The Winter Warmer: According to Esquire magazine, "There are few drinks as instantly delightful as hot Irish whiskey punch. Made with whiskey, lemon, cloves and a touch of brown sugar (if you need it), it warms you up from the inside out. Traditionally, the hot whiskey is consumed through the coldest months of the year. And there's nothing like the scent of cloves to get you in the Christmas spirit.

Spiced beef: This is the ultimate Christmas dish in Ireland, and one that the people of Cork hold particularly close to their hearts. Spiced beef, cooked with sugar, spices and berries, dates back centuries to a time when it was a way of preserving the meat. Today, the tradition continues and claims its place on a dinner table at houses all over the island at Christmas time.

Hanging the holly: The Christmas tradition of hanging a ring of holly on the door is thought to have originated in Ireland, as it was a plant that was abundant on the island in December. These days, it's customary for everyone to hang a ring on their door.

The Candle in the Window The placing of a lighted candle in the window of a house on Christmas eve is still practiced today. It has a number of purposes but primarily it was an symbol of welcome to Mary and Joseph as they traveled looking for shelter. The candle also indicated a safe place for priests to perform mass as, during Penal Times this was not allowed. A further element of the tradition is that the candle should be lit by the youngest member of the household and only be extinguished by a girl bearing the name 'Mary'.

Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve: If you're looking for a Church packed to the rafters, look no further than any church in Ireland at midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. This is a huge social gathering where family, friends, and neighbors who you may not have seen all year come together and celebrate Christmas. With Christmas carols being sung and, often, live music being played, midnight Mass in Ireland is a great place to catch up with old friends and get in touch with the local community at Christmas.

Reading of James Joyce's story, "The Dead": "The Dead" is a short story from James Joyce's collection "Dubliners." A group of Dubliners gather together for a post-Christmas celebration in James Joyce's transcendent tale of the banality and magic in life and death. This tale has rather become like an Irish version of "The Christmas Carol," a tale of reflection on our past, our present, and future.

Tin of biscuits: There were about ten types of biscuits in each layer of the tin but you were not allowed to break through to the second layer without finishing the first layer. This would cause at least one fight a day among the family. The tins were also filled with old fashioned biscuits like pink wafers and bourbon creams.

The Christmas cake: There are hundreds of different recipes for Christmas Cake, all with slight variations on the same theme. In all cases it is a moist, rich, slightly spicy cake crammed with fruit and nuts, which is traditionally baked at least 6-8 weeks before Christmas, and then fed whiskey regularly in the run up to the big day. The finished cake will usually have both marzipan icing and white icing or frosting.



Eight things you may not know about Christmas in Ireland

The unique Christmas spirit in Ireland is irresistible. Even the Grinch himself would be charmed by a Christmas in Ireland. To prove it, here are 8 things you'll need to know about celebrating Christmas on the island of Ireland

Number 1: The early birdí Christmas will never come soon enough. Come December 8th, Christmas officially begins in Ireland. The landscape begins to twinkle with festivities, Christmas markets are buzzing, and friends and family far afield come home to celebrate the season.

Number 2: Gets the treeí Did you know: the use of evergreen Christmas trees is a relatively new decoration in Ireland. Historically, holly and ivy were used to brighten up homes during the festive season. Superstitious? Apparently, the more berries on the holly bush, the better luck to come next year

Number 3: These carols weren't born yesterday, you know òGood people all, this Christmas time, Consider well and bear in mindí òWhat's Christmas without carols and hymns? One of the longest sung Christmas carols, The Wexford Carol, is believed to have originated in Enniscorthy, County Wexford, hence its name. It dates back to the 12th century and tells the tale of the Nativity.

Number 4: There's more than one way to say òHappy Christmasö Fancy wishing someone Happy Christmas in Irish? ñNollaig Shona Duitö(NO-lihg HO-nuh ghwich) translates roughly as ñHappy Christmas to youö In Ulster Scots (or Ullans) the words are òAbylthe Yuletideö. Different words, same message ó and all on the one island!

Number 5: Mistletoe's not just for kissing Before being used to steal kisses, the ancient Celts believed that mistletoe possessed magnificent healing powers. It was even banned for some time as a symbol of paganism. Homes in Ireland now hang mistletoe in doorways to symbolize peace and goodwill (kisses sometimes welcome, of course).

Number 6: Festively freezing Head to the Forty Foot, Sandycove, County Dublin, or to Portstewart Strand in County Londonderry on Christmas morning, and you'll spot hundreds of brave souls taking to the sea in the spirit of Christmas. The Christmas Day swim takes place all over Ireland's coastline, with participants taking the chilly plunge, often for charity.

Number 7: One day, two names In both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, 26 December is a celebrated public holiday. In Northern Ireland, though, the date is known Boxing Day, while in those in Republic of Ireland refer to it as St Stephen's Day. In the Republic, keep your eyes peeled for 'Wren Boys' parading the streets in straw suits (particularly in Dingle, County Kerry) dancing and singing to raise money for charity.

Number 8: Women's rest Often referred to as Women's (or Little) Christmas, January 6 is officially the last day of Christmas. It's also traditionally the day when women must avoid all housework, and the men of the house stay home, take down decorations (it's bad luck if you don't!) and prepare all the meals. Women meet up, have a day out and treat themselves.

Smile and be Happy!!!!

There's no way you can win at gambling. Not really. I knew one man in Reno, who went down to the gambling table each night making mental bets. He lost his mind.

Little Michael watched, fascinated, as his mother smoothed cold cream on her face. 'Why do you do that, Mummy?' he asked. 'To make myself beautiful', said his mother who then began removing the cream with a tissue. 'What's the matter?' asked little Michael, 'Giving up?'

Robert went to his lawyer and said, 'I would like to make a will but I don't know exactly how to go about it.' The lawyer smiled at Robert and replied, 'Not a problem, leave it all to me.' Robert looked somewhat upset and said, 'Well, I knew you were going to take a big portion, but I would like to leave a little to my family too!'

The bidding was proceeding furiously and strong when the Head Auctioneer suddenly announced, 'A gentleman in this room has lost a wallet containing ten thousand dollars. If returned, he will pay a reward of two thousand dollars. There was a moment's silence in the auction house and from the back of the room came a shout, 'Two thousand five hundred.'

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it. The six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, 'Good morning Alex.' 'Good morning Pastor,' he replied, still focused on the plaque. 'Pastor, what is this?' The pastor said, 'Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service. Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked, 'Which service, the 8:30 or the 11:00?'

One night a Viking named Rudolph the Red was looking out the window when he said, 'It's going to rain.' His wife asked, 'How do you know?' 'Because Rudolph the Red knows rain, dear.'

At the end of Mass, Father Pat read aloud a note that was just handed to him. 'It says here that I should announce that there will be no B.S. tomorrow morning.' He tucked the piece of paper in his pocket and added; 'I'm hoping they mean Bible Study.'



Remembering Liam Clancy, the "best ballad singer ever" according to Bob Dylan

[Dermot McEvoy @IrishCentral](#) Dec 12, 2017



When I was growing up in the Irish-heavy north Greenwich Village of the 1960s most of my pals wanted to be Mickey Mantle or Willie Mays. I was different. I wanted to be Liam Clancy. Why? Because he was a rebel. And a rogue. He taught me about the audacious Brennan on the Moor and deadly fate of young Roddy McCorley. He sang sad love songs in that beautiful voice that would bring you to tears then tore into the English with something like "God Bless England" or "Mr. Moses-Ri-Tooral-i-ay."

I first learned of the pleasures and evils of drink because of "Whiskey, You're the Devil" and a young girl named "Nancy Whiskey" who'd grab you by the knees. And he didn't let the all-powerful clergy off the hook either, poking gentle, but pointed, fun at the priests and nuns in the audience.

I got to know Liam casually in the 1970s and '80s when he drank at the Lion's Head saloon on Christopher Street in the Village. I would tease him about why he always wore a cap the worse show business sin, baldness! and he would go right back at me, commenting about my scrawny red beard.

At the Head, he was a regular guy and at home he was, because of his albums, part of the family. He was loved and admired on both sides of the Atlantic and as soon as his death was announced on RTE on December 4, 2009 my phone started ringing with calls from cousins and friends in Dublin. His loss was profoundly felt not as a celebrity, but as a friend.

The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem famously burst on the scene with an appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show" in January 1961. "We weren't that impressed," wrote Liam in his autobiography. "We were arrogant. Young and arrogant. As they say in Ireland, we didn't give a tinker's damn. But we accepted. "There was a cancellation of one of the acts and the Clancys and Makem filled, getting 15-minutes of uninterrupted publicity. Fifteen minutes and 80-million viewers later, they were, as Tom Clancy succinctly said, "Fucking famous!" After working at their craft in the back room of the White Horse saloon on Hudson Street in the Village for years, instantly, because of the power of television, they were celebrities.

Liam was Dylan's hero too. Clancy, in Dylan's eyes, attained new artistic heights. "I never heard a singer as good as Liam, ever," said Dylan. "He was just the best ballad singer I ever heard in my life." Liam Clancy was a man of his time through his songs. Liam could sing about anything the sea, apple orchards, traveling people but he also had a social conscience. He sang poignantly about homelessness in "Streets of London". Liam's nationalism ran deep. His family owned a pub in Tipperary during the War of Independence and the Black and Tans often paid unwelcome visits. He could as easily recite Robert Emmet's Speech from the Dock as belt out Padraic Pearse's "Oro Se Do Bheatha" in Irish.

St. Laurence O'Toole



Lorcan (or Laurence) O'Toole was born near Castledermot, Co. Kildare. His father, Maurice, was a Leinster chieftain who was engaged in rivalry with the great family of the MacMurroughs. When Laurence was 10 years old, he was handed over by his father to the MacMurroughs as a hostage for his father's loyalty. At first, he was treated as a member of the family but, when Maurice O'Toole was again suspected of treachery by the MacMurroughs, the boy Laurence was taken far away and imprisoned in a herdsman's hut in a desert, stony place, where he was given barely enough food to keep him alive. Laurence remained in this prison until he received sanctuary in Glendalough from the then Abbot who mediated between the two families. When Maurice O'Toole arrived at last in Glendalough to claim his son, Laurence informed him of his desire to enter the monastery there in this holy place where he had received sanctuary from the hardships of his life.

Laurence remained in Glendalough and eventually became abbot of the monastery. When he was 32, he was forced to leave this retreat as he was appointed archbishop of Dublin, the first native-born Irishman ever to fill the position. Laurence fulfilled his duties as archbishop during a turbulent time in Irish history. During his time in office, Ireland was invaded by the Anglo-Normans in a catastrophic event which was precipitated by the treatment of Laurence's sister who had been given in marriage to Diarmuid MacMurrough. Laurence was thus deeply implicated in the national disaster which brought two sieges and a famine to the city of Dublin.

Wherever he could, Laurence sought to mediate between the parties to bring about peace. During the first siege of Dublin, he was actually negotiating peace terms with the Normans outside the gates when some of the soldiers treacherously broke into the city and ran amok among the civilians. Ever the father of his people, Laurence had to rush from the peace talks to save the citizens from being massacred. In all the subsequent vicissitudes of the invasion, Laurence kept steadfastly on the side of the Irish and sought to bring back the peace that had been lost. Twice he went to see King Henry II as an ambassador of peace. On his second embassy in 1180, Henry refused to see him in England and he was forced to follow him to France. The weeks of strain and travel told heavily on Laurence and, by the time he reached the abbey of St. Victor at Eu, he was mortally ill. The plight of his people in Dublin continued to trouble him on his death-bed and his last words were: "Alas, you poor, foolish people, what will you do now? Who will take care of you in your trouble? Who will help you?"

Laurence was an ascetic. Even when he was archbishop, he continued to live in community as a canon regular of Arrouaise. He wore a hair shirt, never ate meat and fasted every Friday on bread and water. However, he did not let his personal discipline spoil the hospitality he provided for others which was always generous. To have had to leave Glendalough was a deeply personal sorrow. Every Lent he returned to the sacred valley to make a forty days' retreat in St. Kevin's cave on a precipice overlooking the upper lake. In this way, he was a living link with the Celtic saints.

. Most significant of all, he was canonized only forty-five years after his death in a vindication of the life he led of holiness, charity and, above all, peace.

WINTER SOLSTICE AT NEWGRANGE



Newgrange is a prehistoric monument in County Meath, Ireland, located about 1/2 mile north of the River Boyne. It was built during the Neolithic period around 3200 BC, making it older than Stonehenge and the Egyptian pyramids. The Megalithic Passage Tomb at Newgrange The kidney shaped mound covers an area of over one acre and is surrounded by 97 kerbstones, some of which are richly decorated with megalithic art. The 60 foot long inner passage leads to a cruciform chamber with a corbelled roof. It is estimated that the construction of the Passage Tomb at Newgrange would have taken a work force of 300 at least 20 years.

Winter Solstice (December 21 this year)



The passage and chamber of Newgrange are illuminated by the winter solstice sunrise. A shaft of sunlight shines through the roof box over the entrance and penetrates the passage to light up the chamber. The dramatic event lasts for 17 minutes at dawn on the Winter Solstice and for a few mornings either side of the Winter Solstice.

Admission to the Newgrange chamber for the Winter Solstice sunrise is by lottery, application forms are available at the Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre. About 30,000 applications are submitted annually. In

September each year, 50 names are drawn with 2 places are awarded to each person drawn.

Some Hibernian highlights from the last two years!!! Thank you all!!!!

