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



IN GOO WE TRUST



- Feb 1 ∼ Toraigh An Sonas session at The Blarney
- Feb. 1 ~ St. Brigid's Feastday & Imbolc
- Feb. 2 ~ Candlemas Day
- Feb. 3 ∼ Feast of St. Blaise
- Feb. 12 ~ St. Patrick's Day Planning Meeting
- Feb 14 ~ Valentine's Day
- **Feb. 15** ∼ **Prelude To St. Patrick's Day Party**
- Feb. 19 ~ Toraigh An Sonas session at Logan's
- Feb. 20 ~ LAOH Meeting
- Feb. 20 ~ AOH Shamrock Banquet
- Feb. 26 ~ Ash Wednesday



HIBERNIANS OF TOLEDO NEWSLETTER



January, 2020

John P. Kelly Division

A Message from AOH President Robert McMahon



Just as Christ is the light of the world so we must also bring the light of Charity Unity and Friendship to others each day. February 1 being St. Brigid's Day /Imbolc followed by February 2 Candlemas and St Blase on February 3. The Irish have long had both Catholic and Secular ways of bringing family and friends together in light during the darkest times of the year. I ask all brothers to reach out to another and be a that light. A great opportunity to celebrate will be our Annual Shamrock Dinner later this month. May God Bless.

Planning Meeting for the St. Patrick's Day Party Wednesday, February 12th 7:00 PM

In the O'Toole Room at Blessed Sacrament

All of you are welcome!!!!
Share your ideas
Volunteer to help!!!!!

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

FEBRUARY, 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Session at Blarney
2 Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230 AM 11:30 AM ~ 1:30 PM	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230 AM 11:30 AM ~ 1:30 PM	10	11	12 St. Patrick's Day Plan Meeting	13	14	15
16 Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230 AM 11:30 AM ~ 1:30 PM	17	18	19 Session at Logan's	20 <i>Division</i> <i>Meetings</i>	21	22
23 Echo's of Ireland WCWA 1230 AM 11:30 AM ~ 1:30 PM	24	25 Marcii shutterstock - 124688698	26 Ash Wednesday	27	28	29

Toledo Irish Articles

My two articles in the Ohio Irish American News magazine each month: Toledo Irish and When Irish eyes are smiling are avail-

able free at various locations including The Blarney, Shawn's Irish Tavern 2-locations: Heatherdowns and Bancroft, St. Patrick's Historic Church and McCarthy's Port Clinton



JOHN P. KELLY DIVISION

SHAMROCK BANQUET

and February Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 20 2020 7:00 pm

Manhattan's Pub 'n Cheer 1516 Adams St. Toledo, OH 43604

Cost Per Member Attending is \$25.00 Potential Members Welcome Reservations **Required**

RSVP by Feb. 16, 2020 Robert McMahon, 419-902-6559 aohjohnpkellydisision@gmail.com

A Message from LAOH President Ann Dollman



Greetings and Warm Salutations! We are nearing the õGreen Seasonö Looking forward to celebrating St Patrick& Day with our community and sharing a taste of our heritage on March 17th. We are asking for baked goods and volunteers to help with the festival. Anndollman@yahoo.com is my email to volunteer for the festival.

We will be meeting February 20th at St Patrick of Heatherdowns Holy Family center are 7pm. Join us in planning the years fun!

On a side note join us at Owens community college Feb 28, 29 or March 1st for the play õGreaseö Hibernian sister and my daughter Sarah Dollman will be singing and performing in it.

Looking forward to a wonderful year together!



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Grease - The Musical

ADULT - \$16.00

STUDENT - \$11.00

SENIOR - \$13.00

Saint Brigid of Kildare - the Mary of the Gaels

BY BERND BIEGE



Saint Brigid (or to be really correct Saint Brigid of Kildare) is a saint of many names: Brigid of Ireland, Brigit, Bridget, Bridgit, Brid, Bride, Naomh Bhríde or "Mary of the Gaels."

Living from 451 to 525. Brigid was an Irish nun, abbess, founder of several convents, held the rank of bishop and soon generally venerated as a saint. Today, Brigid is considered to be one of Ireland's patron saints, ranking only behind Saint Patrick himself in importance. Her feast day, Saint Brigid's Day, is February 1st, also the first day of spring in Ireland. So who was Brigid and well is she so widely celebrated in Ireland today?

Traditionally, Brigid is thought to have been born at Faughart (County Louth). Her father was Dubhthach, a Leinster pagan chieftain, her mother Brocca, a Pictish Christian. Brigid was named after the goddess Brigid of Dubhthach's religion, a goddess of fire. In 468, Brigid left behind her half-pagan roots and converted to Christianity, having been a fan of Saint Patrick's preaching for some time.

Receiving the veil from Saint Mel, Brigid embarked on a career as convent founder, starting in Clara (County Offaly). However, she is really known for her activity in Kildare, which became her most important life's work. Around the year 470, she founded Kildare Abbey, a co-ed monastery for both nuns and monks. Kildare comes from cill-dara, meaning "the church of the oak" because Brigid's cell was located under a large oak tree. As abbess, Brigid held considerable power ó in fact, she became a bishop in all but name (as women were not and still are not allowed to become Bishops within the Catholic Church). Nevertheless, the abbesses of Kildare had an administrative authority equal to that of a bishop until 1152.

Dying in or around 525, Saint Brigid was first buried in a tomb before the high altar of Kildare's abbey church. Later her remains are said to have been exhumed and transported to Downpatrick - to rest with the two other patron saints of Ireland: Patrick, and Columba (Columcille).

In Ireland, Brigid was quickly and still is regarded as the holiest native saint after Patrick ó a ranking that secured her the somewhat ambiguous name of "Mary of the Gaels," even though she is not at all associated with a virgin birth. Because of her venerated position in Irish religious life, Brigid remains a popular name in Ireland and there are hundreds of place-names honoring Brigid found all over Ireland.

According to legend, Brigid made a cross from rushes for a dying man she was trying to convert to Christianity. Though the origins of this story are unknown, even today many households in Ireland have a Saint Brigid's Cross in honor of the saint. The cross may take several forms, but in its most common appearance it bears a (distant) resemblance to a fylfot or even swastika. These crosses are often remade and rehung in homes as part of the celebration of her saint's day and to prepare and protect the house for the arrival of spring.

Apart from being the second patron saint of Ireland, St. Brigid is also the patron saint for babies; blacksmiths; boatmen; cattle; chicken farmers; children whose parents are not married; dairymaids; dairy workers; fugitives; infants; mariners; midwives; milk maids; poultry raisers; printing presses; sailors; scholars; travellers; watermen; creativity scholars and poets.

SMILE AND BE HAPPY

I asked my friend if he'd bought his wife a gift for Valentine's Day. He's a bit of a chauvinist pig so he surprised me when he replied, "Yeah, I've got her a belt and a bag." I said, "That's very thoughtful of you. I hope she appreciates it ."mm He said, "So do I. And hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work much better now."

Yesterday morning, my wife woke up with a start. When I asked her what the matter was, she said, "I just had a dream you gave me a diamond ring and diamond earrings for Valentine's day. What do you think it means?" I winked and said, "You'll know tonight." In the evening, I came home with a small package and gave it to my wife. She was delighted and opened it excitedly. In it was a book called "The meaning of dreams".

It's always exciting to get a Valentine's Day card pushed through your door, with no stamp on it - just your name on the envelope. Except when you're in prison..

Last Valentine's Day, my fiancée of four years bought me a lottery ticket and I won \$5 million. I wonder what he doing nowadays?

My girlfriend told me she hoped I had something special planned for Valentine's Day. I said, "I'm working on it." and she smiled. which was weird; I thought she'd be upset that I'm having to work on Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day is a day when a lot of people are reminded just what a bad shot Cupid was.

As a waiter, on Valentine's Day I would put a fake engagement ring into a lot of meals.

"If you step on a purple mushroom, you'll be forced to marry the ugliest person in the world," warned the old gnome, so the man continued carefully through the woods. He didn't step on any purple mushrooms. Suddenly a beautiful woman walked up and said: "We have to marry." "Why?" asked the man, smiling. "I just stepped on one of those pesky purple mushrooms!" she replied.

There once was an old man of Lyme Who married three wives at a time When asked, 'Why a third?' He replied, 'One's absurd! And bigamy, Sir, is a crime.'

What did the chocolate syrup say to the ice cream? I'm sweet on you!

What's the best part about Valentines Day? The day after when all the chocolate goes on sale.

A prince was put under a spell so that he could speak only one word each year. If he didnøt speak for two years, the following year he could speak two words and so on. One day, he fell in love with a beautiful lady. He refrained from speaking for two whole years so he could call her õmy darling.ö But then he wanted to tell her he loved her, so he waited three more years. At the end of these five years, he wanted to ask her to marry him, so he waited another four years. Finally, as the ninth year of silence ended, he led the lady to the most romantic place in the kingdom and said, õMy darling, I love you! Will you marry me?ö And the lady said, õPardon?ö

The guy, who bought his girlfriend a \$1 box of chocolates, got a snicker in return!!!!

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!!!!!!!

FEBRUARY 2nd ~ CANDLEMAS DAY



Candlemas is celebrated on the 2nd day of February of each year. The day is celebrated as a day of renewal, hope, and purification. February 2nd is exactly 40 days after the birth of Jesus Christ and it is on this day that Mother Mary along with Joseph brought forth their newborn son, Jesus, to the Temple. Mother Mary was cleansed on this day. Jesus was presented to the Lord in the Temple on this day. During this time, an elderly holy man named Simeon was

staying in Jerusalem. Simeon was told by the Holy Spirit that his death would not come until he saw the Messiah. When Simeon held the baby Jesus, he knew that Jesus had come for the salvation of all. Simeon stated that Jesus was "A light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of thy people of Israel. The light was the inspiration for the celebration with candles. It was and still remains to this day a Christian celebration of the purification of Mother Mary and the first appearance of Jesus in the Temple.

Why was Mary purified at the Temple?

Leviticus 12 states that when an Israelite woman gives birth she becomes ritually unclean:

if child is a boy, she is unclean 7 days after birth and that her uncleanness endures for an additional 33 days due to the flow of her post-partum blood flow. So after 40 days, she is presented herself at the Temple to be purified and readmitted to the liturgical life of Israel.

if child is a girl, she is unclean 14 days after birth and that her uncleanness endures for an additional 66 days due to the flow of her post-partum blood flow. So after 80 days, she is presented herself at the Temple to be purified and readmitted to the liturgical life of Israel.

Jesus is male and so the timeline is 40 days. Dec 25 + 40 days = Feb 2.

The woman is to bring a sacrifice to the Temple to dedicate the son or daughter: Ideally, she brings a lamb. However, õif she cannot lay her hand on a lamb fit to be offered, she must bring two turtle-doves or two young pigeons, one as a burnt-sacrifice and one by way of amends.ö

Mary, being poor, brought two doves ó but in reality she brought THE Lamb of God.

Christ submitted to Baptism not because he needed grace or the remission of Original Sin, but because He wanted to unite himself to sinners while at the same time instituting the Sacrament of Baptism.

The same is true of Mary ó both for the Old Law and the New Law. She submitted to the entire Old Law even though she knew that her Son fulfilled the Law and stood above the Law as God.

Important February dates in Irish history

February 1st - In the liturgical calendar, today is the feast day of St. Brigid. It is also celebrated in the Celtic nations as Imbolc - the first day of spring.

Feb.1, 2008 - Taoiseach Bertie Ahern visits Ballymena to meet Northern Ireland First Minister Ian Paisley in his Co Antrim constituency. Dr. Paisley says the Taoiseach's visit to north Antrim is a historic day, and Mr. Ahern says his visit is another tangible benefit of the ongoing peace process

February 2nd - In the liturgical calendar, today is the feast of Candlemas.

Feb. 2, 1882 - Birth in Dublin of James Joyce

Feb. 3, 1919 - Harry Boland and Michael Collins engineer Eamon de Valera's escape from Lincoln Jail in England. He is dressed as a woman

Feb 4, 1868 - Birth of Irish patriot and revolutionary, Countess Constance Markievicz

Feb. 9, 1923 - Birth in Dublin of playwright Brendan Behan

Feb. 10, 1844 - Daniel O'Connell is convicted of "conspiracy," fined and sentenced to 12 months in prison

Feb. 11, 1858 - The Miracle of Lourdes takes place when St Bernadette - Bernadette Soubirous - has her first vision of the Virgin Mary

Feb.12, 2003 - Mystery surrounds the identity of an artist as 24 of his paintings are launched at the Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA). Known only as õJohn the Painterö, he has been in psychiatric care in Cork city for more than 30 years

February 14 - Valentine Day

Feb. 20, 1979 - A group of 11 Loyalists known as the 'Shankill butchers' were sentenced to life imprisonment for 112 offences including 19 murders. The 11 men are given 42 life sentences and receive 2,000 years imprisonment in total, in the form of concurrent sentences. The Shankill Butchers had begun killing Catholics in July 1972 and were not arrested until May 1977. The sectarian Loyalist gang operated out of a number of Ulster Volunteer Force drinking dens in the Shankill Road area of Belfast. The gang was initially led by Lenny Murphy but it continued to operate following his imprisonment in 1976. The Shankill Butchers got their name because not only did they kill Catholics but they first abducted many of their victims, tortured them, mutilated them with butcher knives and axes, and then finally killed them.

Feb. 22, 2002 - A unique record of the life and times of Irish emigrant families throughout the world is launched by President Mary McAleese in Manchester. This first ever social history of emigrant activity will be set down by descendants and will detail the difficulties, frustrations and ultimate successes of ancestors in their adopted lands.

Feb.23, 2003 - Daniel Day-Lewis is named Best Actor for his role in Martin Scorseseøs epic Gangs of New York, the only prize which the film takes at the British version of the Oscars.

February 3rd Feast of St. Blaise

Patron: of throat illnesses, animals, wool combers, and wool trading

Death: 316



Saint Blaise was the bishop of Sebastea and a doctor. The first known record of the saint's life comes from the medical writings of Aëtius Amidenus, where he is recorded as helping with patients suffering from objects stuck in their throat. Many of the miraculous aspects of St. Blaise's life are written of 400 years after his martyrdom in the "Acts of St. Blaise."

Saint Blaise studied philosophy in his youth, was a doctor in Sebaste in Armenia, the city of his birth, who exercised his art with miraculous ability, good-will, and piety. When the bishop of the city died, he was chosen to succeed him, with the acclamation of all the people. His holiness was manifest through many miracles: from all around, people came to him to find cures for their spirit and their body; even wild animals came in herds to receive his blessing.

In 316, Agricola, the governor of Cappadocia and of Lesser Armenia, having arrived in Sebastia at the order of the emperor Licinius to kill the Christians, arrested the bishop. As he was being led to jail, a mother set her only son, choking to death of a fish-bone, at his feet, and the child was cured straight away. Regardless, the governor, unable to make Blaise renounce his faith, beat him with a stick, ripped his flesh with iron combs, and beheaded him.^[10]

In another tale, Blaise was being led to the prison in Sebastea, and on the way came across a poor old woman whose pig had been stolen by a wolf. Blaise commanded the wolf return the pig, which it did -alive and uninjured - to the amazement of all. When he reached Sebastea, the woman came to him and brought two fine wax candles in an attempt to dispel the gloom of his darkened cell. Saint Blaise is often depicted holding two crossed candles in his hand, or in a cave with wild animals.

The blessing of throats may be given by a priest, deacon, or a lay minister

With the crossed candles touched to the throat of each person, the celebrant says: Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Take a right turn at Exit 5 off US 23 A good time and the traditional start to the Toledo area Green season!!! Join us and make some new memories!!!!

FR. JOHN A KENNA COUNCIL



Knights of Columbus 11430
Presents the 17th Annual



A prelude to St. Patrick's Day

Featuring

EXTRA STOUT

& IRISH DANCERS

Saturday February 15, 2020

7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

at St Anthony Kenna Hall • 4635 St. Anthony Road - Temperance, Michigan Tickets: \$8.00 (table of 10 - \$70.00) - includes snacks • Children 12 & under: \$6.00 Bangers, Reubens, Corned Beef Plates & Bar Available

For Ticket Information Call (734) 888-1192 Or (419) 343-0579



Congratulations to Vince Lysaght



Vince was awarded the Patrick J. Killeen Biennial Memorial award at the Michigan State Convention. The award was given for outstanding contributions to the Order. It is given every two years and is named for Patrick Killeen, who was instrumental in the growth of the Order. Vince was the founding treasurer of the St, Patrick Division and was treasurer of the Michigan State board for almost 9 years. In addition he was the National Board chairman of the Notre Dame Hibernian fund, which includes both a scholar-ship fund and an endowment for the Notre Dame Cushwa Center for the study of the Irish in America. He is a member of the Sr. Patrick Division Adrian Michigan and is a National Life Member of the Order.

Valentine's Day in Ireland

B Claddagh Design on Jan 31, 2018 @ 1:09 pm in Ireland, Special Days 0



Just like many other countries in the world, Irish Valentine® celebrate this day dedicated to their love for one another. Enjoying romantic dinners together, giving gifts like jewelry flowers or chocolate along with various other gestures to show their affection for one another. However, what most people don® realize is that Ireland has a stronger connection to Valentine® Day than most. Here we look at how St. Valentine came to be associated with Ireland, our Irish Valentine traditions and beautiful Irish sentiments

to celebrate your day and show your significant other that you care.

Who was Saint Valentine? Oddly enough, very little is known about Saint Valentine life, or how he came to be a saint, or even why he is associated with love. The few concrete facts we know to be true are that he was venerated on February 14th, lived during the 3rd century AD, and was buried on the Via Flaminia north of Rome. Because so few facts have been established about his life and work, his name was removed from the General Roman Calendar in 1969, although the Roman Catholic Church does still recognize him as a saint. The feast day of Saint Valentine has been celebrated since the year 496 AD. There are of course plenty of myths and legends surrounding Saint Valentine, none of which are based on fact. After his highly illegal marriage of Catholics, when he had been imprisoned and was awaiting execution. He is said to have healed his jailer deaf daughter, who he had become very fond of, through prayers. On the morning of his execution he left a note for her that was signed ÷your Valentine

The Irish Connection So where does Ireland come into all of this? It all down to a priest by the name of Father John Spratt, a legendary preacher who lived and carried out his work in Ireland. In 1836 after giving a particularly good sermon in Rome, he was showered with gifts from all of the influential figures of the city; including none other than Pope Gregory XVI. Naturally, the Pope gift was bound to be even more impressive than any of the others; it was a relic of Saint Valentine himself, along with \div a small vessel tinged with his bloodøand a letter proclaiming them to be genuine relics from the saint. Father Spratt brought them back to Ireland and had them installed in a shrine to Saint Valentine in the Carmelite Church on Whitefriar Street (now Aungier Street). They are still there to this day, and the shrine is open to the public for anyone who wishes to pay their respects to the patron saint of love.



HAPPY VALENTINE®S DAY!!!!!



Lucas County Hibernian Family Friendly
St. Patrick's Day Party
March 17 2020 4 PM until 10 PM
ST. CLEMENT HALL

35



ST. CLEMENT HALL
2990 TREMINSVILLE
TOLEDO, OH 43613
ADMISSION \$5.00
KIDS FREE WITHAN ADULT









Food Menu
Jigg's Dinner
served all day
Irish Bangers ,Hot
Dogs for the kids
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St. Clement Hall 2990 Tremainsville Toledo, Ohio 43613

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