

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



**BORDERLINE GENIUS, LLC**

**IN GOD WE TRUST**



**April 1 ~ April fools day  
April 1 ~ Traditional Irish music at the Blarney 5 –8  
April 9 ~ Happy Easter  
April 20 ~ AOH & LAOH Meeting @ Ernest Brew Works  
4342 South Detroit Toledo Ohio 43614**



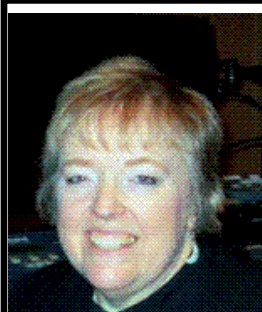
Mother McAuley Division

# HIBERNIANS OF TOLEDO NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 2023



John P. Kelly Division



## A MESSAGE FROM LAOH PRESIDENT, ANN DOLLMAN

Happy Easter! Caisc Shona Dhuit! The Lord is Risen, Hallelujah! As we welcome in the warmer springtime weather, I want to personally thank everyone who helped celebrate St Patrick's Day with us! It was a JOY to see so many people come out to enjoy our family friendly event! I look forward every year to Penny Collin's soda bread, the Irish dancers, the drums and bagpipes, the Ardan step dancers, the bands playing our music and the community coming together to celebrate! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

We will be doing a little beer (and wine) tasting at our April 20th meeting at Ernest Brew Works 4342 South Detroit Toledo Ohio 43614 6:30-8:30pm. The meeting space is rustic. In the beer prep room, but we Irish know how to make the most of that!!! There will be food trucks and a chance to sample the beverages! I am so happy that this festival was such a success! Happy the clown was a huge asset for entertaining the kids! Jimmy and Dan (and family) did a great job cooking, even wheelchair bound Sherri did a great job with the money! And of course Kathy Moeller at the baked goods and Mary Pat with the raffle and Maury's program was TOP notch! I am so thankful to my Hibernian family for putting on such a Fabulous event!

Continued on page 4



## A MESSAGE FROM AOH PRESIDENT, ROBERT McMAHON

May God be with you all during this Holy week until we can finally say Beannachtaí na Cásca ort! Happy Easter! Tá Críós ar éirigh! – Go deimhin, tá e ar éirigh! Christ is Risen!- Indeed he is Risen!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To all of the volunteers who made the St. Patricks Day celebration a success. We were very well attended and ran out of places for patrons to eat. We will have to set up some extra tables next time. We will be having our joint April outing with the Ladies AOH Thursday 20th April 6:30 at Earnest Brew Works 4342 South Detroit Ave. Toledo OH




We will want to start planning the Spring Golf Outing, Summer Picnic and Boat Ride as well as have a few great new local brews now that Lent is over. Perhaps we could even consider a new summer Irish Road Bowling activity.

### Project St. Patrick

Thank you also to those who participated in the book sale. We were able to send the \$89.00 raised to Toledo seminarian and AOH member Declan Reimer who had asked for assistance while studying at the Atheneum in Cincinnati. I am hoping also that we will consider additional support to our seminarians through the Project St. Patrick campaign that the National AOH runs to give grants to each diocese where there are AOH Divisions. This year the AOH was able to send grants to over 40 different dioceses as well as sending additional support to the seminarians in Ireland. Every diocese that requested a grant received one.

Continued on page 8

# APRIL, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2 	3	4	5	6 	7 	8
9 	10	11	12	13	14	15 
16	17	18	19	20 AOH & LAOH Meeting	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CRAZY EDITOR, MAURY COLLINS



April 15, 1967

56 years later and Penny still thinks I am number one, at least I think that's what that finger means

**Happy Anniversary**



### A MESSAGE FROM LAOH PRESIDENT, ANN DOLLMAN (Continued)

One other event that happened the Irish Holy Week was Cooking at the Library! What FUN!!!! I enjoyed sharing Irish dishes with the community! My sisters Charlene. Blankenship and Jean Gillen and daughter Sarah Dollman did a wonderful job sharing our dishes and culture with those who attended. It was wonderful having Maury and Penny, Tricia Cassidy, John and Linda Reitzel to support us I. This endeavor! Thank you thank you, thank you!!! See you April 20th!

Lots of love and hugs!

## Palm Sunday in old Ireland

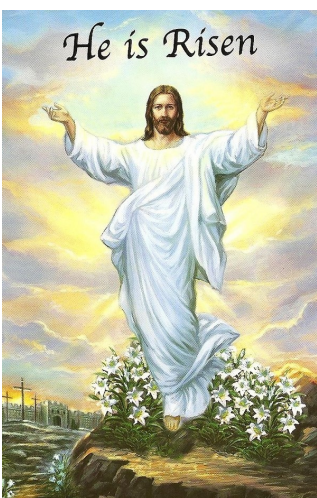
by Bridget Haggerty

Irish speakers once referred to Palm Sunday as Domhnach an Iúir - Yew Sunday. That's because the "palm" was most often a sprig from the yew tree or some other conifer such as a silver fir, spruce or cypress. In County Fermanagh, early on every Palm Sunday morning, a Protestant cut down sprigs of yew and placed them on his garden wall.

In the old days, families brought their own fronds of "palm" to the church to be blessed. While he didn't have a Palm Sunday ceremony in his own church, it's on record that this very considerate Protestant soul offered palms to his less than fortunate Catholic neighbors on their way to chapel.

It was expected that every member of a family would be present at Mass to receive a blessed palm in commemoration of Christ's entry into Jerusalem. After Mass, the men and boys broke off a sprig and wore it all day in their hat or lapel. Often, it was worn for much longer.

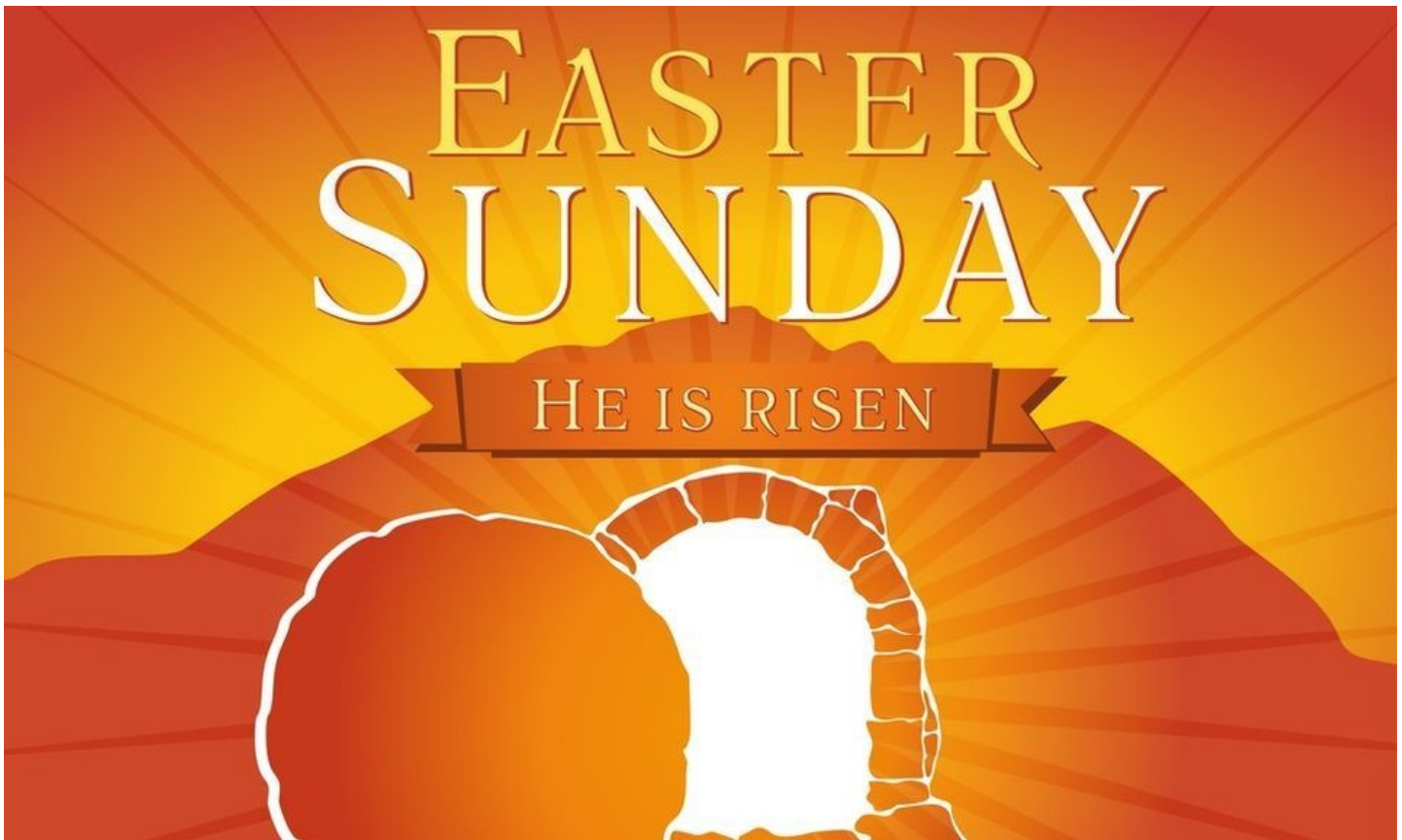
In Spencer T. Hall's *Life and Death in Ireland*, he writes: "...most of the men and boys I met had small bunches of palm in their hats or buttonholes (lapels), which they said had been consecrated by the priest, and which many of them wore or renewed for a nearly a fortnight afterwards." In this context, we are assuming that the author is implying that renewal meant more blessings - perhaps on Good Friday, Easter and beyond.



The significance of Easter is Jesus Christ's triumph over death. His resurrection means the eternal life that is granted to all who believe in Him. The purpose of Easter also means the full confirmation of all that Jesus taught and preached during His three-year ministry. If He had not risen from the dead or simply died and not been resurrected, He would have been thought just another teacher or prophet. However, His resurrection rebuked all that and provided final and undeniable proof that He was the Son of God and that He had overcome death once and for all.

**Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, - John 11:25**

**HAPPY EASTER**



## Easter in Ireland

In Ireland, the religious significance of Easter is widely celebrated and Catholic tradition is more strictly adhered to than in some other countries. Irish Easter tradition stems from the Christian view of Easter as the time of Christ's Resurrection. As with most predominantly Catholic countries this period begins with the 40 days leading up to Easter Sunday, known as Lent. This time begins with Ash Wednesday, when the faithful are anointed with ashes and during Lent people are required to give something up as an act of penance. The Sunday before Easter is Palm Sunday, when palm leaves are hung to mark Christ's entrance into Jerusalem and the Friday before is Good Friday.

On Good Friday, the day Christ died, you'll find everywhere is closed in Ireland. The day is a Bank Holiday, the banks, schools, businesses and even the pubs are all closed! People don't eat meat on Good Friday and traditionally people in Ireland would go barefoot on this day. Many ate nothing until midday, no wood was to be burned, no nails were driven and no animals were slaughtered on this day.

But come Easter Sunday, everyone is out celebrating, Christ is risen, Lent is over and the pubs are open! Many towns and villages hold processions of some sort, while out in the countryside, Easter Sunday is usually a high point of the social calendar with events such as fairs and horse races packing out the pubs. And as the following Monday is also a Bank Holiday, you don't have to worry about work in the morning.

In some circles in Ireland, Easter Sunday is a time when people remember the Easter Uprising of 1916, a hugely significant event in the shaping of recent Irish history, with processions and rallies held by Republicans.

## Happy Easter

**CONGRATULATIONS  
HIBERNIAN OF THE YEAR 2023  
MSGR. CHRIS VASKO**



## SMILE AND BE HAPPY

Two old guys, one 80 and one 87, were sitting on a park bench one morning. The 87-year-old had just finished his morning jog and wasn't even short of breath. The 80-year-old was amazed at the guy's stamina and asked him what he did to have so much energy. The 87-year-old said, "Well, I eat rye bread every day. It keeps your energy level high and you'll have great stamina with the ladies."

So, on the way home the 80-year-old stopped at the bakery. As he was looking around, the sales lady asked if he needed any help. He said, "Do you have any rye bread?" She said, "Yes, there's a whole shelf of it. Would you like some?" He said, "I want five loaves." She said, "My goodness, five loaves! By the time you get to the 3rd loaf, it'll be hard." The old man says to himself, "I can't believe everybody knows about this but me?"

It was Patrick's 80th birthday. He told his wife, Mary that his men's club was throwing a party for him. Mary wasn't very happy about it, but it was his birthday so she told him to go and have fun, but behave. Off he went. About three hours later, he calls Mary; "Mary, I got to the club and had a few drinks with the other members. They treated me to a wonderful steak dinner. A few minutes ago, they wheeled out this gigantic birthday cake. A young lady jumped out of the cake with nothing on. What should I do?" Mary replied; "If you think you can do anything, come home"

Paddy and Murphy were working on a building-site when a large, slate tile, slid off the roof and hit Murphy on the side of his head, slicing off his ear. Murphy screamed out, "My ear, my ear. Paddy I've lost my ear." After much shouting, screaming and frantic searching Paddy cries out, "Murphy, I've found it. Holding up a bloody ear Paddy says, "Murphy, is this your ear?" To which a puzzled Murphy replies, "No Paddy, mine had a pencil behind it "

Maureen's husband, Patrick, was a typical Irish male chauvinist. Even though they both worked full-time, he never helped around the house. Housework was woman's work! But one evening, Maureen arrived home to find the children bathed, one load of clothes in the washer and another in the dryer, dinner on the stove, and the table set. She was astonished; something's up, she thought. It turns out that Patrick had read an article that said wives who worked full-time and also had to do all the housework were too tired to make love. The night went well and the next day she told her office friends all about it. "We had a great dinner. Patrick even cleaned up. He helped the kids do their homework, folded all the laundry and put everything away. I really enjoyed the evening." "But what about afterward?" asked her friends. "Oh, that was perfect, too. Patrick was too tired!"

A lady walked in to find her husband standing on the bathroom scale, holding his stomach in. "That won't help" she said. "Yes it will" her husband responded, "that's the only way I can see the numbers."



## A MESSAGE FROM AOH PRESIDENT, ROBERT McMAHON CONTINUED

Without priests we would not be able to have the sacraments. Please consider a personal donation to this worthy cause. Each division is charged with contributing at least \$500 towards this goal. We will pool our donations and send in with each \$ 500 being named in honor of a loved one, favorite priest or someone who has died. Please call me for more information or details on how you can contribute to this vital responsibility of the order. We have been supporting our priests for 187 years. Let's keep it going. Robert McMahon 419-902-6559

### Irish Holy week Customs

#### Good Friday

Cleaning the house from top to bottom.

Blessing of the house by the local priest.

Planting a small quantity of seed (crops not flowers) to bestow a blessing on the family.

Go to confession and remain quiet for part of the day.

Avoid any possible bloodshed by downing your tools and refraining from working outdoors.

Mark an Easter egg on Good Friday to be eaten on Easter Sunday (just the one!).

Visits should be paid to holy wells and graveyards.

Get a haircut to prevent headaches (no official confirmation on this one yet).

No fishing to be done from boats – only seafood gathered on shore should be eaten.

#### Easter Saturday

Be a good Christian and go to church. It doesn't need to be mass, just go and say a few prayers.

Give yourself and your nearest and dearest a holy water blessing. Drink 3 sips of it for health and sprinkle on each family member for good luck. Farm owners often take some to sprinkle on cattle.

Attend Easter vigil on Saturday night. At 11 o'clock, all lights in the church are turned off and a Paschal candle is lit to symbolize Christ's rising from the dead.

#### Easter Sunday

Rise with the sun and dance in celebration.

Butchers carry out a mock funeral in honour of a dead herring. A "herring procession" then marches to the local church. This symbolizes the end of Lenten abstinence. Some people believe you should whip the herring too.

Take down the "spolin meith na hinide," a small piece of meat pinned up on the wall during Lent, and burn it to give a pleasant smell to the inside of the house.

Conduct a "cludog", where children gather eggs and roast them on a special device on a farm. Shells are saved and placed around the bottom of a Maybush.

Easter feast – dig into a typical Sunday roast with your loved ones. The options are wide open, but people usually have lamb with this meal.

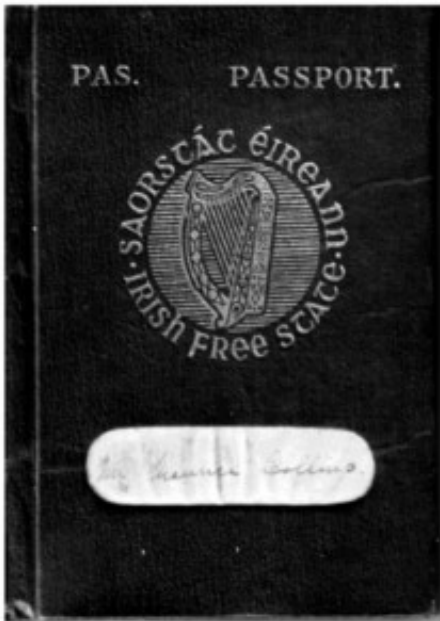
Easter eggs are traditionally only given to children after they've eaten their dinner, but over the years that has become much less the case. If you don't fancy a chocolate egg, why not dig into a hot and buttery hot cross bun?

Celebrate with a "cake dance", a contest where the best dancer wins a cake.

Build a bonfire to close out Easter. Don't be confused with Halloween, there are no spooky connotations to this whatsoever.



## Maurice J. Collins April 12, 1909 ~ March 27, 1979



On August 14, 1978, Maurice Collins recorded these thoughts while visiting Ireland. "I am in the old homestead now. It has been locked up since a new house was built. My thoughts go back to May 13, 1928 when I said good-bye, with a broken heart, to my Mother and all the family. I leave today, perhaps for the last time, again with a broken heart. I hope and pray that I will be able to visit Ireland again. I ask God to bless all my friends and relations in Ireland. God bless them all." (Seven months later, he died.)

Rest in Peace, Dad. I love you. God Bless You!



### *'The Crying stone,'* Bangor Erris

By Colm Brennan,

This statue was commissioned as part of the Millennium Initiative of Mayo County Council. It represents the sorrow felt by inhabitants of Ireland when their kinsfolk went to start off a new life in America.

# The Family Friendly St Patrick's Day celebration was a great success



## Áine the Irish Goddess: The story of the Irish Goddess of Summer and Wealth



Áine, the legendary Irish Goddess, is the Celtic Goddess of Summer and Wealth who, while known for her healing nature, also had a dark side, as she became famous for how she took revenge on a cruel Irish king.

Áine, pronounced 'awn-ya', was a legendary Irish goddess who was said to represent the sun, fertility, and love. She was also said to possess the power to grant a bountiful harvest.

Áine has always been associated with the west of Ireland and with County Limerick in particular, where there is Knockainey Hill, Cnoc Áine in Irish, which was named in her honor.

Before she became known as Áine the Irish Goddess, Áine was already special as she was the daughter of a Sea God called Manannán. She was known and well-liked for her healing nature and knowledge of natural remedies and was widely seen as a symbol of hope and love that people adored.

Áine was said to be very beautiful, and as such, it was said that she had many different lovers who would be consumed by her passion. It was also said that she had a very vengeful nature that was to be feared if provoked.

Oilill Olum, otherwise known as Ailill Ollamh or Ailill Aulom, was the semi-mythological King of Munster who had a huge problem. He made the shocking discovery that the grass in his many fields simply would not grow, which meant that soon his livestock and people would starve and die. Oilill Olum sought the help of a Druid called Ferchess, who instructed him to go to Knockainey on Samhain Eve, better known as Halloween. When Oilill Olum arrived there, he suddenly fell into a deep sleep and had a vision of Áine, who came to him as she was the Goddess of bountiful harvests and fertility.

When Oilill Olum met Áine, instead of listening to the Goddess and heeding her advice, Oilill Olum was overcome with lust and desire and forced himself onto her. During this assault, Áine, of course, became outraged and exacted immediate revenge by biting off his ear. This act would go on to have huge ramifications for Oilill Olum because, according to ancient Irish law, only a person who is "unblemished" would be allowed to rule. By biting off his ear, the mythical Goddess had forever maimed Oilill Olum, and he lost his kingdom as he was now deemed by ancient Irish law to be unfit ever to rule again as he was now imperfect. From that time on, the surname of the king, Olum, became known as meaning "one-eared" in Irish. Surprisingly despite this, his descendants, who went on to become known as the Eoghanachta, became a powerful Irish dynasty based in the Cashel area in Tipperary that dominated and controlled the southern part of Ireland for many years. This fact helped the legend of the Goddess Áine to grow wide as she became associated with having the ability to grant power and sovereignty.

Áine was also widely known as the Queen of the Fairies and as Áine Chlair (Áine of the Light). Rites in her honor were held regularly as recently as 1879, where Midsummer rituals were performed by locals in hopes of encouraging fertility and bountiful harvests. The legacy of Áine the Irish Goddess is still strong today as she is remembered as being among one of the most revered and most powerful of the Irish Goddesses. She is also remembered for how she took revenge on a terrible king who wronged her.

Most of all, Áine, the Goddess of Healing, Goddess of Sovereignty and Goddess of Sun, will probably be remembered for the duality of her personality. This is because she was both loving and caring whilst also being quick to get angry and vengeful.

## St Kevin's Church, Wicklow Gap, Co Wicklow

Stair na hÉireann



St Kevin's life is not well documented, as no contemporaneous material exists. His Latin vita maintains that he was descended from a royal line and was related to the Dál Messin Corb. He was given the name Cóemgen, which means "gentle one", was baptized by Cronan, and educated by St Petroc during that saint's sojourn in Ireland. He lived in solitude at Disert-Cóemgen for seven years, sleeping on a dolmen (now known as "Saint Kevin's Bed" – from which he reputedly hurled a seductive maiden into the lake below in a determined effort to preserve his chastity) perched on a perilous precipice, that an angel had led him to, and later established a church for his own community at Glendalough. This monastery was to become the parent of several others. Eventually, Glendalough, with its seven churches, became one of the chief pilgrimage destinations in Ireland. His legend says that he lived to the age of 120.

There is a legend which claims that St Laurence O'Toole used the "Saint Kevin's Bed" as he frequently made penitential visits to Glendalough, especially during the season of

Lent. Michael Dwyer, the famous Wicklow rebel, is reputed to have taken shelter in the "bed" while he was on the run from British soldiers. The story goes that he escaped capture one morning by diving into the lake and swimming to the opposite side.

St. Kevin is said to have first lived in Kilnamanagh (church of the monks) in what is modern-day Tallaght, Dublin 24, but moved on to Glendalough in order to avoid the company of his followers, a group of monks who founded a monastery on the site. Locals say that it was his monastery that was demolished by developers in the 1970s when building the housing estate that is there today. St. Kevin's well is all that remains today as the plot was unsuitable for building. It is now surrounded by a garden kept by locals in the saint's honor. St. Kevin is today the patron saint of the Kilnamanagh parish.

One of the most widely known poems of the Nobel prizewinner Seamus Heaney, "St Kevin and the Blackbird", relates the story of Kevin holding out his hand with trance-like stillness while a blackbird builds a nest in it, lays eggs, the eggs hatch and the chicks fledge.