



New York State St. Brigid Connection Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians October 2021



2021-2023 LAOH New York State Board IN THIS ISSUE

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President Message:

Aggie O'Leary

Well, welcome Fall and welcome Sisters back to the Saint Brigid's Connection!

I hope you and your families are all well.

I thank you for electing me your State President and look forward to serving you, with our outstanding Bord of Officers and Appointees.

It was wonderful seeing many of you at our July Convention. We will be holding our fall Officers Board meeting November 2, 2021, virtually. I hope to see you November 6, 2021, at the State Board General Meeting, at the Our Lady Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church Hall at 90 Euclid Ave, Middletown, NY 10940 at 10AM. Hotels can be booked at the Hampton/Harriman Woodbury, 60 Centre Drive, Central Valley, NY 10917, phone 845-782-9600, (book under AOH, \$179 per night).

In spite of the pandemic, our sisters have been busy working throughout the State. Soup kitchens, clothing drives, special Masses, Veteran's support, all types of fundraising activities!

Just to put things in perspective, of how much work you ladies have been doing,

-Nationally there are 11 Junior Divisions, we have 6 in New York.

-Nationally there are 7 Degree teams, we have 3 in New York.

-National Membership is 9433, we have 3451 members in New York. (Welcome to our new Division in Breezy Point)

For 2020 and 2021

-National donations to Project Saint Patrick \$5723, we have donated \$2727 from New York. (Almost half the total donations).

-National donations to SOAR \$2550, we have donated \$1600 from New York. (More than half the total donations).

-Freedom for All Ireland, donations over \$1000, Nationally \$8175, we have donated \$4150 from New York.

Columban Fathers - Nationally \$14490, we have donated \$3198 from New York.

Columban Sisters - Nationally \$13682, we have donated \$3970 from New York.

Mass Stipends - Nationally \$12205, we have donated \$2530 from New York.

Wonderful job Sisters!

I attended our National Board meeting on September 25, 2021.





President Message Continued:

If you would like to submit an article to the Lady Herald, the National Newsletter, please send to LAOH NationalNews@gmail.com. If you would like to receive a copy, send to the same email, or send your entire divisions membership spreadsheet including names and emails and your entire division with receive their own copies, and National news!

The Board voted to give the degree team conferring the degree at the National Convention in Pittsburgh \$500 to help defray the cost of running the degree. Marilyn Madigan, National Vice President will chair a committee addressing some degree team issues.

Kathy Linton, Past National President and National Convention Chair advised that information will be sent regarding the Convention.

Annual reports will be sent out in November and should be immediately sent to those responsible, so corrections can be made in a timely manner and not delay the reporting process. Any division, county or state that in late with their reports will be suspended.

There is an LAOH Archive Committee Chaired by Past National President Pat O'Connell information will be forth coming regards what and how to process materials for archiving.

AOH National President Danny O'Connell spoke briefly on working together with the LAOH

Speakers, Daire Courtney, Political Counsellor for Immigration, Embassy of Ireland and Ciaran Quinn, North American Representative Sinn Fein both gave informative talks and responded to questions.

I was honored to attend the Nassau County Feis & Festival, honoring AOH member John O'Connell, for his many contributions to his community, division, county, state and national. John had received recognition for his journalism and outstanding photography. It was great to be there to thank him for always helping the LAOH

Upcoming events

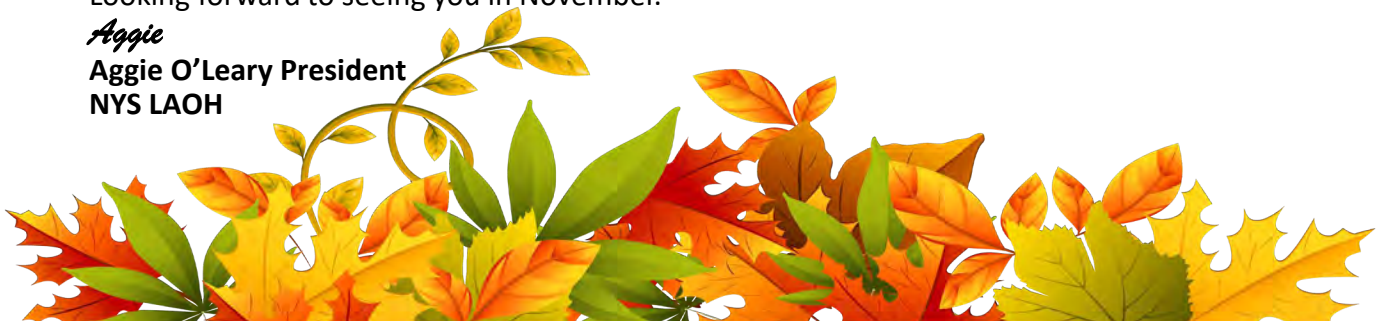
October 30, 2021, Memorial Mass for All Deceased Members that passed away during the Pandemic. 1pm sharp, must be seated by 12:30. Saint Patrick's Cathedral, East 51st Street & 5th Avenue.

And now wonderful news! Past NYS President Denise Sobus was awarded National Life Membership at the September National Board Meeting. A well-deserved honor!

Looking forward to seeing you in November.

Aggie

**Aggie O'Leary President
NYS LAOH**





St. Brigid's Connection



NYS Secretary:

Dear Sisters,

I hope this finds all well and safe. It was so good to see so many of you at our State Convention and I thank you all for your support. Now that we are going into the fall after this very wet and strange summer I need to remind you that we are still having problems with email addresses being wrong or blocked/bouncing back as undeliverable. I know many Counties had elections in June and Divisions will be having elections soon. I ask that you please send me new officers & their email, phone & addresses. This is very important as all notices of reports, updates, and changes from State officers are sent via email so if an officer doesn't have an email please list someone else's that can receive those emails for them. I previously sent the list of new emails for all State officers so if you have not seen any emails, most have come from me, please check your spam folders, and if blocked once you send to our State emails it should recognize emails from us. Below is the State email addresses just in case you didn't have them:

President	Agnes	O'Leary	nyslaohpresident@gmail.com
Vice President	Regina	Begely	nyslaohvicepresident@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Therese (Terry)	Meyer	nyslaohsecretary@gmail.com
Treasurer	JoAnn	Gundersen	nyslaoh treasurer@gmail.com
Irish Historian	Cathie	Norton Doherty	nyslaohirishhistorian@gmail.com
Missions & Charities	Teresa	Kearns	nyslaohmissioncharities@gmail.com
Catholic Action	Mary (Sissy)	Durkee	nyslaohcatholicaction@gmail.com
Immediate Past President	Mary Beth	Durkee	nyslaohpastpresident@gmail.com
Pub Rel /Press & Publicity	Becci	Enders	laohnysweb@gmail.com
Immigration and Education	Kathleen	Stevens	nyslaohimmigrationeducation@gmail.com
Freedom for All Ireland	JoAnn	Moore	nyslaohfreedomforallireland@gmail.com
Webmaster	Becci	Enders	laohnysweb@gmail.com
Sports Chair	Maureen	Caffrey	nyslaohsports@gmail.com
Scrapbook Chair	Madonna	Nulty	nyslaohscrapbook@gmail.com
Fundraising Chair	Chris	Brogan	nyslaohfundraising@gmail.com
Military & Veterans Affairs	Jeannine	Mannarino	nyslaohmilitaryveteransaffairs@gmail.com
State Website	Becci	Enders	www.laohnys.com

Our Fall State meeting will be held on Saturday November 6 at 10:00 am and will be to be held at Our Lady Of Mt. Carmel Church Hall 90 Euclid Ave, Middletown, NY 10940

The Hotel information for those of you who would need to book rooms is:

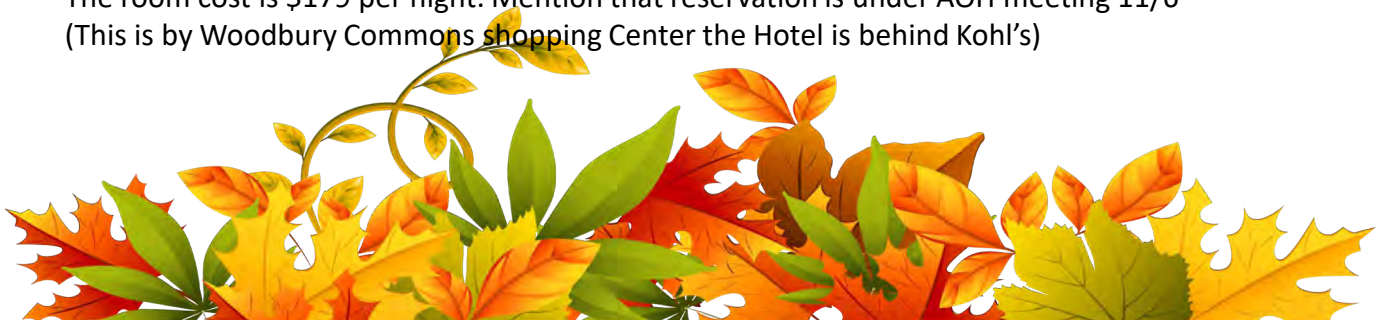
Hampton Inn/ Harriman Woodbury

60 Centre Drive, Central Valley NY 10917

845-782-9600

The room cost is \$179 per night. Mention that reservation is under AOH meeting 11/6

(This is by Woodbury Commons shopping Center the Hotel is behind Kohl's)





NYS Secretary Continued:

I will be sending out further information regarding the fall State meeting and attendance sheet shortly to all of you. Please feel free to contact me with any questions- looking forward to seeing you in November.

Take care, stay safe, and be well

Yours in our motto,

Terry

Terry Meyer/NYS LAOH Secretary

nyslaohsecretary@gmail.com

914-443-0362



May Your Blessings

Outnumber the shamrocks that grow

And may trouble avoid you wherever you go

Oíche Shamhna shona duit
Happy Halloween



Go raibh maith agat
Happy Thanksgiving



Nollaig Shona
Merry Christmas





NYS Vice President:

Dear Sisters,

I was extremely overwhelmed with all the cards, flowers, gift baskets, emails and messages I received during my convalescence after my stroke this past July. I can't thank everyone enough for all the kind words and well wishes I received. It was very overwhelming and I can't thank you enough. I'm pretty much back in the swing of things and I'm looking forward to everything going back to normal...well at least to the new 'normal'!

As NYS Vice President, one of my roles is helping out, answering questions and general oversight of the Junior Divisions. Our Juniors are the future of the LAOH. If your Division does not have a Junior Division, why not think about starting one? I'd be happy to lend a helping hand.

Another role of the State Vice President is the oversight of the degree teams around the State. If you would like to join a degree team, or learn how to start a team, do not hesitate to ask.

In other news, I had the opportunity to represent the State Board, along with NYS FFAI Officer Joan Moore, at a 9/11 Memorial Mass held at St. Peter's-Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Manhattan's Financial District. From the Church we processed to the 9/11 Memorial where the Men's State Board presented plaques to the AOH families whose loved ones were killed on 9/11/2001. It was my first visit to Ground Zero; it was very moving and although I was hesitant to go, I'm glad I did. May God continue to bless all those lost on 9/11 as well as their families.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the State Board meeting in November!

Yours in Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity
Regina Begley
LAOH NYS Vice President





NYS Fundraising Chair:

Hi Ladies,

I hope this finds you well. It was good to see many of you at the July Convention.

MaryBeth Durkee has graciously volunteered to spearhead the yearly calendar drive and you have most likely received them by now. Please promote the sale of these, as it is a major fundraiser for us. If you have any questions or concerns with calendars, please reach out to MaryBeth.

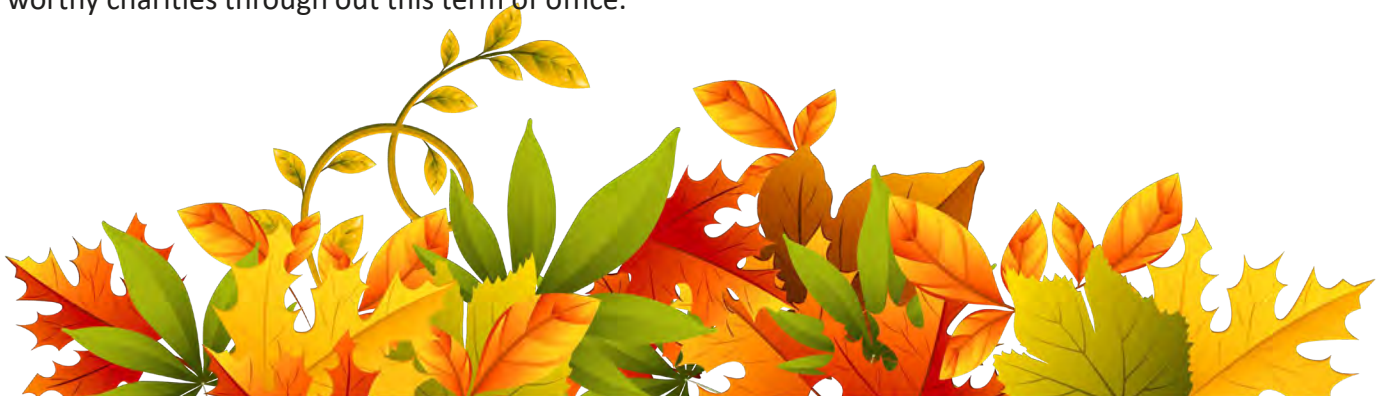
I am looking forward to working with many of you as we move to raise money not only to send our delegates to the Pittsburgh Convention, but to also support our four major charities. To kick off our fundraising this term, we will be ordering shirts. We have picked 2 different shirts available for you purchase. The first is a light weight long sleeve 1/4 zip performance polo. This polo has a very soft lightweight, almost silk like feel- but is easily washed! These shirts will be available in both Ladies and Mens sizes. Ladies sizes run XS- 3X, they do run a bit small so size up. The Men's sizes are XS- 4X. We picked a 1/4 zip so that if some ladies would like to order a men's shirt for fit purposes, there will be no difference in design. This shirt is available for \$40.00 each.

The second shirt is a light wash button down denim shirt. This shirt will also be available in both Ladies and Men's sizes. The Ladies shirt runs from XS- 4X & does not have a pocket. The Men's runs from XS- 6X and has the pocket on the left side. The cost of this shirt is \$45.00. All shirts will need to be paid for prior to placing the order.

Both shirts will be embroidered with our Logo & New York State under it.

We will be wearing the Polo's at the 2022 convention and our board members will be modeling them at the interim Board Meeting! We will also have a few available for purchase during the meeting. Will be arranging for local ladies to be points of contact for ease of ordering and shipping. If you would like to volunteer for your area, please let me know. Once we have those contacts in place we ask that you please contact your local contact to place an order. If you're not sure who that is, or have questions- feel free to reach out to me.

In addition to the shirts, Aggie has asked that we conduct various fund raisers directly targeting our worthy charities through out this term of office.





NYS Fundraising Chair Continued:

We are starting off by currently holding a 50/50 raffle board with the proceeds going to Freedom For All Ireland. We will have only 100 Spots available at a cost of \$20.00 each and the winner will receive \$1,000.00. We are hoping to have the board sold out & to pick a winner at our interim NYS Board Meeting on November 6th, so please contact me to take a box & be sure to tune into the meeting. Please see our Facebook page for updates on this and all fundraising activities.

For our future fundraising efforts we are looking into utilizing a "on line" payment option, but there is a fee involved with that and we are looking to minimize any payments to anyone other than our charities. If you have any suggestions on that- please let me know.

Our order relies on, and is grateful for your continued support in all of our fundraising activities which allow us to continue to support all of our worthy causes.

If I can be of any assistance to you on your local fundraising efforts, please let me know.

Yours In Our Motto,

Chris Brogan

nyslaohfundraising@gmail.com

631-428-3085



Chris Brogan LAOH Div VII

@Christine-Brogan-3



venmo





LAOH Albany Division 1, Albany County

September 1, 2021

LAOH Albany Division 1 is pleased to have three members with over 50 years of membership. Cecelia Leonard has been a member for 55 Years, Maggie Gilroy for 60 Years and Maureen Jeffers for 70 years! Maureen and Cecelia were presented with a 50-year pin at our recent Division meeting. Maggie will be presented with her pin at our next meeting. Congratulations sisters and thank you for your membership!



**Maureen Jeffers with Division
President Kathleen Stevens**



**Cecelia Leonard with Division
President Kathleen Stevens**



Irish History Contest

For information contact: NYS Irish Historian, Cathie Norton-Doherty
nyslaohirishhistorian@gmail.com

2021-2022 National LAOH Irish History Contest

Level 1 Grades 6,7,8

Level 2 Grades 9,10,11,12

Topic: The 40th Anniversary of the Hunger Strike 1981: What was the impact on Irish History?

Additional information may be found on the National Website:

<https://ladiesaoh.com/irish-history-contest/>

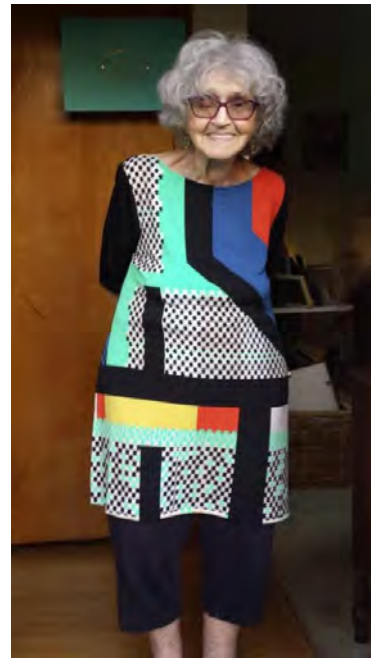




Division 18 Peekskill

Member Kathleen Hegarty celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends on July 14, 2021.

Kathleen is currently an active member of Division 18 since 2011, and has volunteered at the Hudson Valley Irish Festival selling raffle tickets for our division. She is a self-taught painter and has a great love for Irish heritage and Irish music. Her motto is "keep moving, keep living and don't worry". Happy Birthday Kathleen, from your fellow AOH and LAOH Hibernians.



***At convention, during the breakout sessions, a secretary is appointed for each group to take notes. At the General Meeting, the appointed Secretary reads this report aloud to the membership.

***During any LAOH meeting, whether Division, County, State or National level, it is customary to place your hand over your heart and acknowledge and receiving acknowledgement by the presiding officer upon entering or leaving the room

***During any and all religious events, you are expected to wear your sash.

***Officers should always wear their medallion at all meetings.





St. Brigid's Connection



Div.# 17, Oneida County, Utica, New York

Div. #17 Oneida County is alive and well in Central New York. It has been a challenging, interesting and a definite learning experience these past 18 months. Our Lady of Knock chapter started in person meetings on March 18, 2021 at the Irish Cultural Center of the Mohawk Valley. It was an absolute joy to see all the Sisters again. On March 12, 2021 the LAOH and AOH celebrated our traditional St. Patrick's Day Mass, normally held the evening before the St. Patrick's Day parade, which of course did not happen in 2021



Mary Converse LAOH Div. #17



Copyright Photo by Tom L. Smith Jr.



Dan Boyle, Piper Dr. Dan Murphy, Cathy Roach, Mary Converse LAOH Div. #17





St. Brigid's Connection



Div.# 17, Oneida County, Utica, New York - Continued

June found the sister's gathering for our annual picnic and the turnout was fantastic being that it was outside. So good to see sister's that had not been to a meeting or event in the last 18 months. It was the first chance we had to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Div. # 17 Oneida County, which was founded in June 1995.



25 Year Certificates Presented to, from left to right Sharon Morinitti, Peggy O'Toole, Founding President, Kathy Quigley and Clare Ryan.





Division 1 and 4 Monroe County

Life has become a lesson in adjusting to the “new normal”; a combination of life as usual and life with COVID. This has not stopped us from moving along with our mission of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. A perfect example of that is the fact that we have moved to hybrid meetings. We are now meeting in person (following all state and county guidelines, of course) but we still offer Zoom to those members who cannot come and those who are out of town. We have members who have moved but have retained their membership as well as members who are out-of-town for work or family obligations. We are trying to meet people where they are while holding our regular meeting schedule.

Gayle Shalvoy, our chapter President attended the State meeting in May meeting in East Durham. It is always a good meeting to attend to gather important information from the State Board.

As an organization we are always trying to expand our knowledge of Ireland both past and present. In June we did that by enjoying two wonderful presentations given by members. Amy Maher gave a well researched talk on St Oliver Plunkett. At the end she suggested that we all say the St Oliver Plunkett Novena as a way to honor the saint and a way to join us in prayer. It was a good idea and we did do that. The second presentation was given by our President, Gayle Shalvoy on the Penal Laws. For many of us it was an eye opening experience. Gayle highlighted the need for all those of Irish descent to remember what we, as a people, have endured and reminded us that there is more to do. A knowledge of our Irish culture makes us stronger as a group.

Every June we donate cookies to the Mary Cariolla Center for their graduation receptions. The Mary Cariolla Center is a private, non-profit agency that provides education, residential programs and other services for individuals with disabilities. They provide these services for people aged pre-school through 21. Because of COVID restrictions we were unable to do that so we donated money towards the purchase of cookies for their event.

Our chapter once again sponsored the Police Unity Ride in June. This is a fundraising bicycle ride from New Jersey to Washington, DC to raise money for fallen officers. It is open to anyone but is primarily current officers who make the trip. It is a tremendous way to honor the fallen and aid their families.





St. Brigid's Connection



Erie County

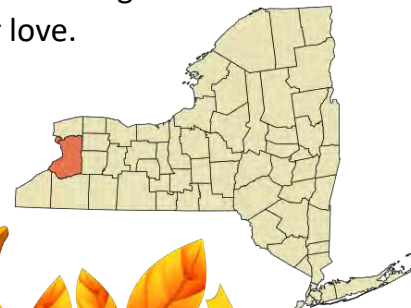
Erie County LAOH Welcomes Fall
By Joyce Burke



Greetings from the Erie County Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians! Hope you all had as good a summer as could be expected in these challenging times. Erie LAOH took a needed break to enjoy all summer has to offer in Western NY, and has started planning for a fall of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity, as is our motto. Upcoming events include a new member night in September and our annual fundraising luncheon in October. We are encouraging our members to bring interested people to first meeting of the fall to get to know us and our mission, with walk-ins welcome. Our annual luncheon in October guarantees to all participants an afternoon of good food, smiles and comradery, and they can take their chances with basket raffles and a TV raffle. Profits go toward supporting our charity efforts throughout the year.

Also this fall, we are helping our local Buffalo Irish Center BIC celebrate 50 years plus 1. Covid held us back last year but we are moving forward with the celebration this September. It will be a 3-day event including a concert, dinner, mass, and family picnic. The Irish Center has always graciously allowed us to meet there, to foster it as a sense of home to the Irish community. LAOH in turn helps out with the Summer Thursday Music under the Tent parking lot concerts, participating in event committees, and generally enjoying the food, drink, dance instruction, cultural programs and entertainment the Center has to offer. It has truly been a cornerstone in keeping our community's Irish culture and heritage alive and well, and LAOH is proud to take an active role in its support.

Wishing you all a healthy and happy Fall 2021. Our love and prayers are with all who are struggling. May they find strength and comfort in faith, family, friends and community, and soon experience better days ahead. In the words of our LAOH patron St. Brigid 'Christ dwells in every creature.' Take care and do your best to share your love.





St. Brigid's Connection



Congrats to BIC 50 years + 1!



**Erie
County
LAOH**



And Congrats to the 2021 LAOH Officers. Looking forward to the next 50 years, side by side with BIC!

50+1 years for the Buffalo, NY Irish Center and nearly as long for Erie County LAOH — a great team!





St. Brigid's Connection



Suffolk County Division 7

We had a great turn out for the Mass held for the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Following the Mass, we had a wreath laying ceremony and members had the opportunity to place a red/white or blue flower at Our Lady of Knock statue.





St. Brigid's Connection



Suffolk County Division 7

Annual Division 7 Family Picnic fun!





2021 Hibernian Lecture

Declan Kiberd, "Ireland Now: Excavating the Present"

Please spread the word and register to join us!



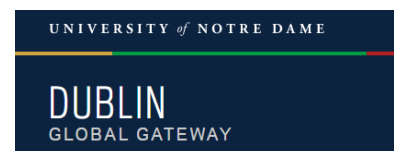
Declan Kiberd (Donald and Marilyn Keough Professor of Irish Studies Emeritus, University of Notre Dame) will deliver the 2021 Hibernian Lecture, "Ireland Now: Excavating the Present," via Zoom webinar from Notre Dame's Dublin Global Gateway (O'Connell House) on Friday, November 12 at 11:00 a.m. New York time (4:00 p.m. Dublin time).

The 2021 Hibernian Lecture is cosponsored by the Keough-Naughton Institute and Notre Dame's Dublin Global Gateway.

This virtual event is free and open to all, but registration is required to participate. Registrants will receive a Zoom link in advance of the event.

You may register for this at:

https://notredame.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SqvDTe1iROyDz08ypO5TNw





Celtic Degree Team

The Celtic Degree Team met in October with 26 new members taking their degree! Great job ladies and congratulations to our new members!





2021 State Convention Syracuse, New York

Congratulations to Kerri
Davis of Division 7,
Suffolk County for
earning the Junior
Hibernian of the Year!



Congratulations to Cathy Turk of
Division 1, Albany County for
earning the Mother Theresa
Award!





St. Brigid's Connection



2021 State Convention Syracuse, New York Installation





St. Brigid's Connection



2021 State Convention Syracuse, New York Installation





St. Brigid's Connection



2021 State Convention Syracuse, New York Officers & Appointees





St. Brigid's Connection



2021 State Convention Syracuse, New York Convention Fun





St. Brigid's Connection



2021 State Convention Syracuse, New York Convention Fun





2021 State Convention Syracuse, New York Convention Fun



Photo Cred from the convention:
LAOH Patty Kunzinger
AOH John O'Connell





Upcoming 2021 Deceased Members Mass St Patrick's Cathedral, New York



Join Us in Remembrance New York State AOH & LAOH

Memorial Mass for All Deceased Members that Passed
Away During the Pandemic across New York State.

Saturday October 30, 2021

1:00 PM Sharp (Must be seated by 12:30 PM)

St. Patrick's Cathedral East 51st Street & 5th Avenue,
New York, NY

For more information contact John Manning at jmanningnysaoh@gmail.com or (917) 589-0047





In Memorandum

Please take a moment to say a prayer for our deceased members and their families.

Roxanne L. Compoli, Division 1 Syracuse

JoAnn Durkin, Division 7 Suffolk

Christine Hinricks, Division 7 Suffolk

Margaret (Peggy) M. Hughes, Division 18 Peekskill

Margaret F. Lane, Division 2 Broome County

Barbara Leddy, Division 7 Suffolk

Mary (Irene) Miller, Division 7 Suffolk

Mary McMullen, Division 9 Kings County

Mary O'Donoghue, Division 9 Bronx

Maura Roche, Division 19 Yonkers

Roseanne Sheehan, Division 8 Nassau

Ann Walsh, Division 11 Westchester

Linda Wolfe, Division 1





Our LAOH NYS newsletter 'St. Brigid's New York Connection' will have several sections:

LAOH NYS Board articles on what is going on in their office or appointment.

Drape the Charter- this is the section we will list our death notices. If one of our members dies please send in an obituary and a photo if you have one. Please include a little personal info, her Hibernian info and any notable events in her life. If there is an address to send a mass card to the family or her division please include it.

County/Division news- every County and division should be submitting an article about what is going on in your area. Please include details, don't just say we honored someone please say why they are being honored; what is meaning behind the award/honor. Our members do many awesome things so don't be afraid to tell your sisters in New York State. Include your division/county annual events, charity, Mission work, Project St. Patrick events and history projects.

Photographs- Please send photos (Jpegs) in a separate file, DO NOT paste into a Word document. Photos should be a high quality, same as Digest submissions, over 1mb. Identify all persons in photo. DO NOT send photos of drinking- they will not be published.
Special Events- if your division/county is having a special event, charity, or history project please submit it as a separate detailed article.

Please email all submissions to LAOH NYS Webmaster / PR Chair, Becci Enders at laohnysweb@gmail.com

If you have any questions please text, email me or call – 631-413-5881

