

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc



July 30, 2016

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Dear State Missions & Charities Officers and State Presidents,

Please forward this letter to every division in your state and ask them to share with their entire membership so they have the most up-to-date information. One special request to all: please check your email at least once a week. Sometimes we may need a clarification and it is very important that we stay in touch with you! There is no better or quicker way than email.

Thank you for choosing me to be your 2016-2018 LAOH National Missions and Charities Officer at the National Convention in Atlantic City! I have thoroughly enjoyed the last two years serving as your Catholic Action Officer and I am looking forward to the next two years in my new role!

I have been a member of John F. Kennedy Division #2, Pottsville PA since 1994 currently serving my sixth term as Division President. I was PA State President from 2007-2009. I will share my personal LAOH history with you in a little bit but right now I want to concentrate on Missions and Charities. Thank you to my predecessor, Dee Wallace, for sharing so much information with me which I am now going to share with you!

We have three National charities: Columban Fathers, www.columban.org, Columban Sisters, www.columbansisters.org, and Appeals for Aid. If you have not done so, you should order a "Starter Kit" from the Columban Fathers (877-299-1920), which contains forms and cards that your members may elect to use when making donations to the Columban Fathers. It is recommended that you submit a \$10 payment when ordering a "Starter Kit". The starter kit contains cards and envelopes for In Memoriam, Spiritual Gift, Recovery, Birthday, Healing, Deceased Mass and Living Mass as well as green enrollment forms, pink Mass forms and white Healing forms. Basically, everything you need!

Each Division, County and State should order a subscription of the Columban Magazine for their Missions and Charities Officer. You can order on-line or by calling the Columban offices at the above toll free number. The subscription fee is \$10. The Missions and Charities Officer can then share information with the members at each meeting.

I just this week received a congratulatory letter from Father Tim Mulroy, the Regional Director of The Columban Fathers. In the letter, Father Tim had to say, *“This fall, Fr. Kurt Pala, the most recently ordained Columban from the Philippines, will take up his first assignment as a priest with Columban missionaries in Myanmar. After fifty years of government repression, and isolation from the rest of the world, the generosity of LAOH will enable Fr. Pala to be a source of support, encouragement and hope for the people of that country, particularly the Catholics who are a tiny minority on the margins of society there. The ongoing generous support of LAOH makes this and may other similar Columban mission stories possible. Thank you!”*

I am looking forward to celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Columban Fathers in 2018! I will send information to you as I receive it. In honor of the upcoming celebration, **Immediate Past President, Mary Hogan, issued a challenge at the New Jersey Convention for each division to donate \$100 extra during the next two years** to the Columban Missions. I hope your division is up to this challenge!

All of the appropriate forms for my office will be on the National website in the near future under Missions and Charities. I can't stress enough how important it is to follow the instructions for each of them before sending! I am attaching the following forms updated with my information for your convenience:

- Missions and Charities Report Form (to be used each time you make a donation to one of our National Charities – never send money directly to the charity, you will not receive LAOH credit). If your Division, County or State elects to use the Columban Fathers' LAOH Mass Form (pink), LAOH Healing Prayer Form (white), or LAOH Enrollment form (green), you are to send these forms only to the Columban Fathers as stated on the form. You must also complete the National Missions and Charities Report form and indicate how you want your donation to be allocated and mail the completed form along with your check. Keep a copy of the report and forward a copy to Division, County, and State levels.
- Acknowledgement Forms for donations made to the Columban Fathers (in case you are out of Mass Cards), Columban Sisters or Appeals for Aid, if you are making the donation in memory of someone or in honor of someone. The acknowledgement form is to be sent to the person you want to inform of the donation.

A few housekeeping hints: Never send cash in the mail. Do not staple checks. Some banks now use electronic check readers when accepting deposits, staple holes interfere with the feeders. Also, ensure that your return address is on the mailing envelope.

I am looking forward to working with all of you for the next two years. If you have any questions or if there is anything I can do to help you, please call or email me. My contact information appears below.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
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