

# Erin's Echo

Maryland State Board  
Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.

## President's Message



Dear MD LAOH Sisters, I am so excited to see that so many of our MD LAOH divisions are holding in person meetings and reaching out into the community as they continue helping those in need.

The MD LAOH/AOH State Convention is coming up at the end of October, and it is so good to hear that many of you are planning to attend. This year's convention will be a true celebration of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity: Three powerful words defining who we are as an organization, and if we allow, guide us as we build the road for future LAOH generations.

I will not repeat the hardships this pandemic has caused so many but reflect however on the miracles that were born despite it. Ask yourself, what miracle did you experience during COVID-19?

In Celebration of the 59<sup>th</sup> Biennial State Convention, we are taking it up a notch, as we "Hang Loose" with the DJ, "Groovin" to a 60's theme ice breaker party, followed by an "Outta Sight" Bonfire on the beach, we say goodbye to the old and reflect on the new year to come.

So, get your 60's themed costumes out of the attic and join us for a "Far Out, Unreal" MD LAOH State Convention.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

*Uachtarán* (MD State President)

**-Kathy Norris-**

## LAOH Website

Go to [www.marylandlaoh.org](http://www.marylandlaoh.org) for events, flyers and forms.

There are links to items of interest in the local Irish Community as well as information on the national scene. You can also find us on <http://www.facebook.com/marylandlaoh>



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## Calendar

### August

**Aug. 1:** Early Bird registration for Maryland AOH-LAOH Convention in Ocean City (10/28-30) [tgharvey@aol.com](mailto:tgharvey@aol.com)

**Aug. 8:** Anne Arundel LAOH 40<sup>th</sup> Celebration with Mass, meal, 6 PM, Carroll House, Annapolis, \$30, **Flyer**

**Aug. 15:** Our Lady of Knock Mass, 1 PM, St. Ignatius Church, Baltimore, Lunch, \$15, **Flyer**

### September

**Sept. 11:** MD LAOH State Board Meeting, 10 AM, St. Mark, McCall Center

### October

**Oct 15:** Erin's Echo Deadline

**Oct 19:** LAOH Harford 2, Rosary Mass, 6 PM, St. Mark

**Oct. 28-30:** Maryland AOH-LAOH State Convention, Holiday Inn, 6600 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, 410 524 1600

### November

**Nov. 1-21:** LAOH Anne Arundel's Tinsel Treasures fundraiser: Bids- Nov. 1-14; Basket pick-up Nov. 20-21

## Cultural Corner

Irish Book Club Meetings

July 26 RETURN TO RAVENSWOOD by Jean Grainger

August 23 THE ELEPHANT OF BELFAST by S. Kirk Walsh

September 27 LITTLE CRUELITIES by Liz Nugent

Meet at Bluestone Restaurant at 1:00pm. Contact Susan Legg if you plan to attend, [susan.legg@icloud.com](mailto:susan.legg@icloud.com)

**-Joanna Cox-**



## Gatherings

Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting homebound patients when she ran out of petrol.

As luck would have it, she was near the Tesco supermarket pumps. She walked to the station to borrow a petrol can and buy some. The attendant told her that the only petrol can had been loaned out, but she could wait until it was returned.

Since Sister Mary Ann was on her way to see a patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car. She looked for something in her car that she could fill with petrol and spotted the bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, Sister Mary Ann carried the bedpan to the station, filled it with petrol, and carried the full bedpan back to her car.



As she was pouring the gas into her tank, two Protestants watched from across the street. One of them turned to the other and said, "If it starts, I'm turning Catholic."

Hope everyone has a happy, safe, and healthy summer, taking some time to honor ourselves and to reflect on all the good things God has done for us.

Recall Jesus words in Mark 6:31, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

*-Sharon Sullivan-*

## Baltimore City, Division 1

Happy summer from the ladies of the Venerable Catherine McAuley Division in Baltimore City...

Earlier this year we collected donations for the Maryland Food Bank.

We hope to soon be able to hold in-person meetings again, on the third Tuesday of every month at 7pm, location to be determined. Until then, we will continue meeting virtually.

We invite you to join us in helping those in need and celebrating our Irish history and culture.

*-Dorothy Reed, Reporter*

## Harford County, Division 2

In our April monthly newsletter Vice President Thelma Graziano wrote about Easter traditions in twelve countries.

State Board President Kathy Norris and Cyrile Sincock, Spirituality Chair, attended the May 18th Morning Mass at St Mark. Our sisters presented generous donations to the Gabriel Network and to Angels Supporting Your Troops.

Father Foppiano and Father Foley celebrated the mass and blessed the donations. It was especially meaningful to Father Foley since it was the 46th anniversary of his ordination and he is Irish, too.

Our St Ita division meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on September 21st in the St Mark Chapel. We are further honored to host the September Quarterly meeting of the State Board. The meeting will be on September 11, 2021 at 10:00 AM in the St Mark McCall Center. All sisters may attend as observers to see a working State Board meeting. Light breakfast fare will be served.

On October 19, our division will have a Rosary Mass celebration at 6:00 pm at St. Mark Church. All sisters are invited to attend and purchase a memorial rose or honorary rose for loved ones for \$1.00 per name. We ask that you make a list of names on one paper and submit it to Mary Asaki at [mary.asaki@gmail.com](mailto:mary.asaki@gmail.com) or 443-504-3260. Proceeds will go to support our charities. Attendees may bring Gabriel Network and Angels Supporting Your Troops donations.

Peace,

*-Gleela Kolakowski, Reporter-*

## Baltimore County, Division 1

After fourteen months we finally had a meeting and no masks – YEAH - "Let's give thanks and praise to the Lord 'cause it's gonna be alright"!

We had a lunch on June 12<sup>th</sup> just to get together and found out we could start having our meetings again at Charlestown on the standard 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. We were so happy to get together again. I won the Basket of Cheer from Harford County raffle but due to some regulations still in effect from the pandemic I couldn't bring a bottle in. Hope to be able to in another month or so.

We're working on plans for a fundraiser and ideas for recruiting new members. Looking forward to seeing everyone at Our Lady of Knock mass in August and the Convention in October...

*Maureen Shettle, President-*

### Anne Arundel County, Division 1

While we continued to meet virtually in April, we were very excited to meet in person in May and June---outside! Our May meeting was exciting, inching back to normal; our regular time and day and almost our regular spot. It was a trifecta; that Sunday, the Juniors hosted a very successful collection for Birthright, we installed a new member, and our chaplain, Fr. Patrick Woods stopped by to say *Hi!* during our meeting which we held on the back lawn of St. John Neumann Church under the shade of the cherry trees.

In June we tested the waters for our 40th anniversary celebration and met at 6pm in the Charles Carroll Garden for dinner. It was a lovely evening on the waterfront, under the semi-permanent, big, white tent that St. Mary's kindly erected for the season for celebrating mass outside!



This brings us to August! *August 8, 6pm to 8pm to be exact!!* Please make time in your calendar and join us in celebrating our 40 year anniversary as an LAOH Division. We are extending our registration date. Please contact Marilyn Haney (at 443-803-5511) or me, Jane Bannon (at 410-507-1826) by **July 26** if you will be attending. We will need to place your boxed meal order (\$30). We are looking to have more people sign up. If we don't, we will reschedule and refund those that have paid thus far.

Thank you, God Bless and Keep you safe!

*-Jane Bannon, President-*

### Carroll County, Division 1

Happy summer to all! Hoping everyone is well and enjoying being able to spend time together again. Carroll County Division is enjoying our summer break. We postponed our May Baby Shower so we could attend Fr. Roach's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination. Our Division attended his Mass with our sashes



on to show our love and support for our dear Division Chaplain. We are truly Blessed to have Fr. Roach as our Chaplain.

In June we had our annual Division Retreat at Aisling House. It is one of our Divisions treasured time together with Sr. Eileen, Sr. Mary Therese and Sr. Cecelia. It was a wonderful day, we are so glad to have this Spiritual Retreat every June. We also took the time to celebrate Mary O'Brien's Birthday.

We are looking forward to seeing our Sister Hibernian at the Lady of Knock Mass in August. We are preparing for our half way to St. Patrick's Day bake sale in September at St. Bartholomew's Church. We can't wait to see everyone at the Bi-Annual Convention in October down the Ocean Hon. We continue to pray for all our Sister Hibernians and hope you have a safe and wonderful summer.

*-Mary Beth Connolly, Secretary-*

### Howard County, Division 1

Summer has arrived and our Division is attempting to redefine our new 'normal.' At our June meeting, the last before our summer hiatus, several members and two potential members gathered in my back yard to enjoy the pleasant weather and each other's company. Gathering together has been complicated by a lack of meeting site since the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center remains closed for gatherings and members' schedules impacting a consistent meeting day.

Nonetheless, this quarter we were able to send a donation to Fr. Bowen, Pastor, to be used at his discretion for the needs of St. John the Evangelist. Some of our members are looking forward to attending the Our Lady of Knock Mass in August and are planning on attending the Convention in October. Although we don't usually meet during the summer, we hope to gather informally with our families and potential members as a bridge until resuming monthly meetings in the fall.

We pray that our Sisters, families and friends remain safe and healthy as we continue to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic.



May the Good Lord, his Blessed Mother, Saints Joseph, Brigid and Patrick watch over you and those dear to you!

Bail ó Dhia ort! (The blessing of God on you! – pronounced Bal oh Yee-Ah urt)

**-Sharon Strobel, President-**

### Cecil County, Division 1

On May 5, 2021, we met at the Cecil County Pregnancy Center for our annual baby shower. What a fun and informative event as we shared a bounty of diapers and other baby supplies and took a tour of the facility.



In June some of us got together for lunch and took care of some division business. We drafted our annual calendar, discussed upcoming events, priced some of our old merchandise, and organized a raffle basket for the state convention.

I'm looking forward to the Lady of Knock Mass in August and hoping to bring a truckload of Cecil Sisters along with me.

In Friendship, Unity and Charity,

**-Christine Hild, President-**

### Baltimore County, Division 4

We had our meeting in June at a restaurant. What a change after the past year. It was great seeing everyone in person and the meal was very good.

We are trying our best to stay informed about all that is going on in the LAOH environment. We have decided to take off July and August but will meet in September. We will be discussing our plans for the State Convention and planning a baby shower for the Center for Pregnancy Concerns- More to come about those plans.

We are still promoting chances on our gift basket. Chances are available now from Pat Zaccari. They are \$2 a piece or 3 for \$5. You can reach Pat by email [vangoghatphoenix@aol.com](mailto:vangoghatphoenix@aol.com) or 14100 Blenheim Rd N. Phoenix, MD 21131. The drawing is postponed until our Christmas Party in December 2021.

Please pray that more people will be vaccinated and if possible, encourage those who are not vaccinated to discuss their concerns with their doctor. Remember to pray for our sisters who are ill or are in need of the Lord's help. Be safe and may God bless you until we can all meet again.



**-Pat Zaccari, President-**

### Harford County, Division 1

We are thrilled to announce that Maureen Shettle, President of Baltimore County, Division 1, is the lucky winner of our Basket of Cheer! Thanks to all who supported our raffle, making it a very successful fundraiser.

We met in person in May and welcomed a new member, Frances Murphy, who has recently moved to Harford County from Charleston, S.C., where she was an active LAOH member. We are excited for Fran to share her ideas and experiences with our members.

Plans are in the works to gather with our Sisters from Catonsville in the near future. And next Spring we hope to entertain you with a "surprise" fundraiser.

In June our meeting was moved to Sapore de Mare Restaurant in Joppatowne, following which we had a lovely afternoon of great food and fellowship. Meetings will resume in September at St. Mark's.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Lady of Knock Celebration as well as the State Convention.

Wishing all many blessings and good health!

**- Kathy Lay, Reporter-**

### Baltimore County, Division 14

It has been an exciting summer for the ladies of Division 14, Baltimore County. In June, the ladies resumed meetings in person. It was wonderful to get to see everyone again! By now, you should have received your annual mailing from Denny regarding the division's annual fundraiser. Following along with previous years, there will not be a meeting in August. We will meet again



on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month in September.

This September's meeting will be a bit different. Traditionally we have a baby shower for the Mercy Hospital NICU. Because of COVID, this year, we will be having our baby shower at the September meeting. If you have any items you would like to contribute, but are unable to attend, or are from a different division, please reach out to Ashley Knapik (443) 690-8352. Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer!

**-Ashley Knapik, President-**

### Worcester County, Division 1

No report

**-Mary Rosenhagen, President-**

### Let Us Pray

*Let us remember in prayer our Sisters who are sick and suffering, especially those in nursing homes and hospitals, as well as our deceased sisters, that they may rest in God's eternal embrace.*



### The Apparition at Knock

On the evening of the 21<sup>st</sup> of August 1879, a heavenly Apparition occurred at the gable wall of the Parish Church when Our Lady appeared, in the company of St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist. Unique to the Knock Apparition was the appearance of a Lamb standing before a Cross on a plain altar and surrounded by angels.

The Apparition lasted for about two hours and 15 official witnesses gave their testimonies to a Commission of Enquiry in October of that year.



### Prayer to Our Lady of Knock

Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your divine Son, remembering his promise, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find". Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to Heaven. Fill me with love and concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who live with me.

Comfort me when I am sick, lonely or depressed. Teach me how to take part ever more reverently in the Holy Mass. Give me a greater love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for me now and at the hour of my death. Amen.