



**THE REV. JAMES T. O'REILLY OSA DIVISION 8
ANCIENT ORDER of HIBERNIANS
LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS**

Established 1871

Web Site: <http://www.div8aoh.com/>

February 2025

Celebrating 153 Years of Dedication to Religion, Heritage, Charity, and Community."

A Joint meeting of the Rev. James T. O'Reilly O.S.A. Division 8, Ancient Order of Hibernians, and Division 8 LAOH will be held on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at the Elks Hall, 652 Andover Street, Lawrence, MA at 7 PM on the first floor. Due to a scheduling conflict, we will be unable to have an official regular Division Meeting. Following the Joint Meeting we will adjourn to the Members Lounge where we will meet and discuss plans for our Membership Drive, Upcoming State Convention and Irish Heritage Month events.

Irish Heritage Month: A full month of activities will take place during March and members of Division 8 are encouraged to take advantage of the full range of activities that will be offered, many of them free of charge. Please see the Irish Heritage Month Calendar that is enclosed with this month's newsletter for more information.

Saturday, March 1, 2025: Jeff Sullivan, our 154th Annual Saint Patrick's Day Banquet and Dance Chairman, has announced that this event will be held on March 1st at the Lawrence Lodge of Elks and will feature a full course Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner by [Simply Elegant Catering](#) with music by the Silver Spears Irish Showband. The Cardinal Cushing Award will be presented to the ***Bishop Robert Reed***, and the Irishman of the year Award will be presented to ***Mike Greenler***. The Irishwoman of the Year Award will also be given at this event. **Tickets are priced at \$50 each, and can be obtained by calling our Dinner Dance Chairman Jeff Sullivan at: 603-479-5395** (Please leave voicemail if no answer)

Friday, March 14, 2025: Division 8's 54th Annual Saint Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Luncheon featuring [Simply Elegant Catering](#) will be held at Noon. ***The Honorable John E. Fenton Citizenship Award will be presented to Patricia Mariano.*** For tickets, please contact our Saint Patrick's Luncheon Chairman, Jack Lahey @ 603 560 8192. Tickets cost \$50 per person.

Saint Patrick Day Program Book: Division 8 will publish a Saint Patrick's Day Souvenir Journal which will be distributed at our March 1st Dinner Dance. ***The deadline for Ads to be received is Monday, February 10th.*** Questions? Please contact our Program Book Chairman, Mark Alaimo @ 978 689 8822 and leave a message for him. He will return your call ASAP.

Thank You! Our sincere ***THANKS*** to those who purchased tickets for the ***"Dinner for Two and a Movie"***. Your support for our Christmas FFAI Appeal was greatly appreciated. The winner was ***David Erwin of Manchester, NH.***

Irish Heritage Month: Please see our ***Irish Heritage Month Calendar*** that is enclosed with this month's newsletter for a complete listing of all March events.

The AOH/LAOH Massachusetts State Convention: The AOH/LAOH State Convention will be held at the Cape Cod Irish Village in Hyannis over the weekend of May 30 – June 1. More information on this event will be available at our Monthly Division Meetings. Anyone interested in being a delegate should sign up with our Recording Secretary at our February, March or April Monthly Meetings. The election of Delegates will take place at our April Monthly Meeting.

The AOH Essex County Convention: The AOH Essex County Convention will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at the home of Division 11 in Peabody. More information on this event will be available at our Monthly Meetings. Anyone interested in being a delegate should sign up with our Recording Secretary at our February, March or April Monthly Meetings. The election of Delegates will take place at our April Monthly Meeting.

Scholarships, Anyone? Scholarship applications for Division 8's ***\$500 Catholic High School Scholarship***; the Division's ***\$500 Scholarship for a Study Abroad Program in Ireland***, and Division 8's ***\$750 College Scholarship for Graduating High School Seniors*** can be obtained at our February Monthly Meeting or by writing to: Robert Gauthier, 330 Sutton Street, North Andover, MA 01845. **Who's eligible for these scholarships?** Members and the son, daughter, grandson, or granddaughter of a member of Division 8 AOH. **The deadline for all materials is April 30, 2025.**

Sick Committee: Please send a note of cheer to those on this month's sick list: ***Tom Corrigan***, 7 Barnard Rd, Lawrence, MA 01843, ***Tom Cuddy***, 68 So Bowdoin St, Lawrence, MA 01843. ***Irene Dixon***, Prescott House, 140 Prescott Street, North Andover, MA 01845, ***Joe Hey***, 48 Hamlet St, Lawrence, MA 01843, ***Patricia Lyons***, the Residence of Salem Woods, 5 Sally Sweets Way, Room 10A, Salem, NH 03079, ***Don Pelletier***, 66 Amherst St, Lawrence, MA 01843, and ***Joe Sipse***y, 945 Riverside Dr, #7A, Methuen, MA 01844.

May They Rest in Peace: Sincere sympathy is extended to the family of ***Jack MacLean*** who passed on December 14, and to the family of ***Mary Keleher***, who passed on December 20. May their souls and the souls of all our departed members rest in peace.

2025 Award Recipients Announced: Division 8 is pleased to announce that ***Mike Greenler*** has been selected ***Division 8 's Irishman of the Year***, ***Bishop Robert Reed*** has been selected as the recipient of ***the Cardinal Cushing Award***, and ***Patricia Mariano*** has been selected as the recipient of ***the Hon. John E. Fenton Award***. ***Congratulations to all Award Recipients!***

Membership Drive 2025: Division 8 has kicked off a membership initiative to increase our membership. More information will be available at our February Meeting. If you know of someone interested in joining Division 8, please contact our Division Organizer @ aohdivision8organizer@gmail.com for an application and more information.

A NOTE OF THANKS: Our ***Sincere Thanks*** to the ***Lawrence Cultural Council***, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, who will help sponsor many of our Irish Heritage Month activities during March. Without the ***Lawrence Cultural Council's*** support, many of these events would not have taken place.



WELCOME: At our January Meeting we welcomed ***Fran Murphy of North Andover***. We look forward to seeing him at our future monthly meetings and events. Welcome aboard Fran!

AOH/LAOH Winter Social: The AOH Winter Social will take place on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at ***Tim Finnegans, Delray Beach, FL from noon to 3 pm***. Last year at this event there were over 70 attendees from 7 states. There are times when brothers meet up with brother and Sister Hibernians, whom they haven't seen in decades. It is a great time! If you plan to go, please email Tim Myles to make reservations. ***Tim's Email is timtam614@aol.com*** please do not call the restaurant.

2025 Jubilee: The Holy Year: The Bishop of the Manchester Diocese is sponsoring a trip to Rome from July 16 – 24, 2025. Highlights of the trip include Rome, Basilica of Saint John Lateran & the Holy Stairs, St Mary Major Basilica, St Paul Outside the Walls, Catacombs, Papal Blessing in Saint Peters Square, Assisi & the Basilica of Saint Francis, Vatican City and the Sistine Chapel, St. Peters Basilica & Holy Door Papal Audience. For information, please call Colette Tours 1-800-852-5655.

AOH National Irish Hunger Month: All brother and sister Hibernians are asked to bring a non-perishable food item with them to our ***March 12th Meeting***. All items that are received will be donated to a local food pantry. Catholic Action and Pro-Life Chairman ***Mark Alaimo*** is coordinating this endeavor.

Division 8 Website: For the latest updates on Hibernian News, please look at Division 8's website that is regularly updated by our Webmaster John Michael Pelletier.
<http://www.div8aoh.com/>

AOH National Board Scholarships: The AOH National Board offers two (2) College Study Abroad Scholarships, for members, the child or grandchild of an AOH member for study at a college in Ireland, as well as a \$1,000 Scholarship for the Irish Way Program for high school students. For more info go to: ***AOH.com or contact Bill Sullivan***.

Manchester NH Saint Patrick's Day Parade: Division 8 has been invited to march in the Manchester NH Saint Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 30. The marching route is about 1 mile long. More information will be available at our February 12th Monthly Meeting.

THANK YOU! Our sincere thanks is extended to those who helped plan our Installation of Officers, to our Chaplain, the Rev. John Delaney, and to Sacred Hearts Parish in Bradford for hosting this event.

New Mailing Address? If so, please send it to us at: PO Box 1407, Lawrence, MA 01842, so that you will continue to receive your Monthly Newsletter and Hibernian Mailings.

2025 Dues: Jack Lahey will send out Dues Notices for your 2025 Dues. Dues may also be paid at our February 12th monthly meeting. Dues for the year 2025 is \$30. ***Thanks***