



**Col. John Fitzgerald Division #1  
Ancient Order of Hibernians  
5115 Little Falls Rd.  
Arlington, VA 22207**

**March, 2022**



## **President's Message**

**Michael Hines**

On Saturday 26 February our Vice President, Alex Wilson, and I attended the quarterly Virginia State Board meeting held in Fredericksburg. I enjoyed the opportunity to see and hear in-person fellow Hibernian leaders from around the Commonwealth. They shared a wide variety of activities that their respective divisions are engaged in including charitable actions, fundraising ventures, and past and upcoming group activities, such as local parades, nearby Celtic festivals, and Saint Patrick Day Masses at their parishes. Enthusiasm to attend our Gaelic Mass seemed to be very high and all seemed to acknowledge the importance of our sponsorship of this event. In the coming weeks I will be reviewing other divisions' quarterly reports to glean more specific details.

A couple of items emphasized at the meeting that I want to share with you now include the State Board's direction for all divisions to review their respective bylaws as the National bylaws were amended in 2020 (as was the Blue Book). The other item is the need for your prayers. Prayer for peace and the

cessation of violence in Ukraine, for the safety of civilians caught in the line-of-fire, and for the welfare of an increasing number of refugees fleeing to nearby countries to avoid the ravages of the intensifying conflict. I hope our country remains united in purpose while showing compassion and demonstrating resolve during what I believe will be a tense time in the weeks ahead.

State leaders expressed a sense of cautious optimism for our organization going forward given the reduction of COVID-19 risk and the gradual resumption of widespread face-to-face social activities. Fiscal prudence still will be necessary as well as a need to continue recruiting new members.

I again urge all members to lend their assistance to our Gaelic Mass chair Alex Wilson as he orchestrates events beforehand and on the night of 14 March at the Cathedral.

## **March Events**

**March 6<sup>th</sup>** – Division Meeting,  
EDW K of C, 1:30pm

**March 14<sup>th</sup>** – Gaelic Mass – St Thomas  
More Cathedral, 7:30pm

**March 17<sup>th</sup>** – Mass at St Thomas More  
Cathedral, 7:00am. Meet for coffee and  
socializing afterwards.



## 2022 Dues

Please send your \$35 dues to our  
Financial Secretary:

Chris O'Connor  
5013 S 12<sup>th</sup> St  
Arlington, VA 22204

Thanks to all of you who have already  
paid!



## Prayer Corner

Please remember the citizens of Ukraine  
in your prayers as they battle for their  
lives and freedom. Please also pray for  
world leaders as they struggle with how  
to respond to the Russian aggression.

If you know of anything that our  
members should pray for (in hope or  
thanksgiving) call Chris O'Connor  
(703) 283-5720 or send an email  
[chris.oconnor@avendra.com](mailto:chris.oconnor@avendra.com)



## Local Irish Events

March 12<sup>th</sup> -- Shamrockfest –  
RFK Stadium

March 13<sup>th</sup> – Annual Irish Hooley, The  
Basilica School of Saint Mary's Gym,  
Herbert –Cady Division, AOH,  
Alexandria, 2-4pm

March 25<sup>th</sup> – The High Kings,  
The Birchmere

March 15<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> – Riverdance,  
The Kennedy Center

