

Irish Pastoral Centre Newsletter



"We are a Parish without Boundaries."

*Serving the Greater Boston
Irish Community since 1987*

ST. BRIGID'S DAY AT THE IPC

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our St. Brigid's Day Mass, and a special thank you to talented harpist and singer Áine Minogue who accompanied the Mass with beautiful music. We are so grateful Maureen McNally who braced the cold again this year to pick rushes and show everyone how to make the traditional St. Brigid's cross. The St. Brigid's Cross design *made from woven rushes* is thought to keep evil, fire and hunger from the homes. After Mass, everyone enjoyed tea, coffee and sandwiches from the Greenhill's Bakery served by our wonderful staff and volunteers. What a beautiful way to honor the day of the Patroness saint of Ireland.

See photos on Page 17



IPC ANNUAL POLAR PLUNGE

A huge thank you to the Boston Irish Dippers who returned with the Boston Irish Community to Wollaston Beach in Quincy, New Years Day.

The group bravely took on the New England cold for the annual Polar Plunge which set out to raise much needed funds for the Irish Pastoral Centre's Health and Wellness Program, which allows the IPC to support our community with confidential services and access to local resources. Thank you to everyone who came out to support on the day and took a dip for such an important cause! A total of \$23,000 was raised from this event.



Ard-Chonsalacht na hÉireann | Bostún
Consulate General of Ireland | Boston



Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

IPC News Desk

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2025! It won't be long now until winter is behind us! We really enjoyed our Saint Brigid's Day on January 31st at the Centre and I extend my appreciation to our staff, volunteers and in particular to Fr Dan, Áine Minogue & Maureen McNally. Thank you to Greenhill's Bakery and Pat Kelly for the wonderful sandwiches!



The month of January is when we review our finances and structure of the organization. As a grateful recipient of funds from the Government of Ireland's Emigrant Support Programme, we prepare reports for Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs along with local city and state funding opportunities that highlight our progress, our community partners and our growth.

As we head into March, please be sure to register your attendance for our Annual Saint Patrick's Day Mass and luncheon on Friday March 14th at Florian Hall.

Finally, as we go to print, our events coordinator Andrea is ready to welcome her fourth baby. All of us extend our heartiest congratulations to Andrea and Fran Carly, Frankie and Oisín! We welcome well known Laurie Vallas who will cover for Andrea's maternity leave along with our new part time team member Geraldine Murphy.



As Spring approaches, enjoy the stretch in the evenings and we look forward to seeing you all along the way.

Mind Yourselves,

Mary

HAPPY
ST. PATRICK'S
DAY

SAVE THE DATE: BLOOD DRIVE !

Boston Children's Hospital will host another blood drive at the IPC on **Thursday April 24th from 9AM- 4PM.**

Spots are expected to fill up quickly so visit bostonchildrens.org/halfpints, call 617-355-6677 to reserve. Code for this drive is: IPC.

For more information, contact Andrea at events@ipcoston.org

Boston Children's Hospital

Blood Drive

Thursday April 24th
Irish Pastoral Center
540 Gallivan Blvd REAT
Dorchester, MA 02122
9:00AM-4:00PM

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A PAGE OF THE IPC NEWSLETTER?

Contact Amy at aocarroll@ipcoston.org or Call the IPC 617-265-5300

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IPC News Desk

Boston Welcomes United States Ambassador to Ireland, Claire D. Cronin!



IPC staff and volunteers had a lovely morning attending the Irish American Partnership Nollaig na mBan (little women's) breakfast with honored speaker United States Ambassador to Ireland, Claire D. Cronin. Nollaig na mBan is held each year in January throughout Ireland to celebrate women's leadership within the family and community. The Irish American Partnership commemorates this tradition with a celebration event highlighting Irish and Irish-American female leaders and the positive impact they have worldwide.

Thank You Donegal Boston!



IPC Board President Mike Carey was delighted to accept this very generous check from Gregory Ashe on behalf of Donegal Boston's annual charity fund.

Thank you St. Brendan's!



This month, we had a visit from students from Saint Brendan's School at the IPC. The students enjoyed a fun-filled tour of our space, followed by some time meeting the toddlers in our playgroup. They performed some Irish songs and Irish dancing for our Senior Coffee group, some of the toddlers from our play group even joined in. The students also delivered handmade valentines card for our seniors, what a thoughtful gesture. **Read more on page 6.** A special thank you to all the teachers and staff at St. Brendan's School on planning this meaningful visit.

Join us for our Monthly Trad Session !



Our monthly sing-a-long and Trad session is continues into the Spring with our next session taking place on Sunday, March 23rd!

Join us social afternoon filled with traditional Irish Music and song from 3pm to 5pm at the IPC. Tea, Coffee, great company and a top class session all included!

Musicians of all levels, dancers and listeners are all welcome!

GAA SPORTS QUIZ ANSWERS: 1. Dublin, 2. Tipperary, 3. Mary Leacy, 4. Breffni Park, 5. 2000, 6. Aoife Murray, 7. Diane O'Hara, 8. Twelve, 9. 2004, 10. Mary Kirwan

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IPC BUCBLE BEE KNITTERS



IPC News Desk

A Kanturk Reunion!



It was a full Kanturk reunion at the centre when IPC volunteer and local artist Vincent Crotty visited with his sister Ciara to the IPC with her partner Brian. Ciara also spent time living in Boston.

News from our IPC Toddler Program

This month the IPC added a fun “Barber Shop” to the morning playgroup! The activity encouraged teamwork, social interaction, and communication, all while developing fine motor skills as the children carefully used the hair toy tools on the toy mannequins. Our Toddler Program takes place every Tuesday at the center from 10AM-12PM. Infants from 4 weeks old to preschoolers joined to sing nursery rhymes, finger plays and danced to children’s songs at our Music and Movement on Wednesdays 10AM-12PM with Miss Kathy. The IPC Toddler Program will celebrate St. Patrick’s Day on Wednesday March 5th at 10AM—12PM. All are welcome!



Congratulations Petrocelli Academy of Irish Dance!

Boston, Massachusetts—Irish Dancing Magazine has named Billy Petrocelli, founder of the Petrocelli Academy of Irish Dance, as a recipient of the prestigious 2024 Global Excellence in Teaching Award. This honor recognizes exceptional teachers who inspire their students and foster community through the art of Irish Dance.

Billy Petrocelli’s journey in Irish Dance began at the young age of five, leading to a successful competitive career that included a podium finish at the World Championships. However, it was his passion for teaching that inspired him to open the Petrocelli Academy of Irish Dance in 2022. Based in Massachusetts, the academy has quickly grown into a supportive and vibrant community with multiple locations. Billy’s engaging and positive approach creates an environment where dancers of all ages and skill levels feel valued and encouraged. Billy’s commitment to cultural education is evident as he incorporates traditional Irish dances like the ceili and brush dance into his classes and performances. Reflecting on the honor of receiving this award, Billy shares, “This recognition goes beyond any competitive achievement – it’s about the lifelong impact we have on our dancers. My goal is to create a safe, joyful place where students grow in both dance and life.” Denise Keane, Publisher of Irish Dancing Magazine, remarks, “Billy Petrocelli is a shining example of how Irish Dance can foster community, confidence, and cultural pride. His ability to connect with each dancer and inspire joy in the art form is truly extraordinary. Billy’s academy is not just about dancing; it’s about creating a positive and inclusive space for all.”

Congratulations to Billy from all at the IPC on this well deserved recognition of your work. Petrocelli Academy of Irish Dance hosts Intro to Irish Step at the Centre on Mondays from 4:30PM. We were lucky to see some of Billy’s talented students perform at our Annual St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon last year!



PETROCELLI ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE IRISH PASTORAL CENTRE

Come join our Intro to Irish Step Program on Mondays from 4:30pm at the Irish Pastoral Centre

- ✓ Accepting students ages 3 & up
- ✓ First class for new students always free
- ✓ No prior dance experience is necessary
- ✓ Both Competitive and Recreational programs available

📍 540 Gallivan Blvd. (rear), Dorchester, MA 02124

✉ **QUESTIONS? CONTACT BILLY @**
Petrocelliacademyid@gmail.com




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IPC News Desk

Meet the IPC 2025 Marathon Team

The Irish Pastoral Centre is pleased to announce that Mary Nevin Walsh and Dana Lawson will our 2025 Boston Marathon runners!

To support Mary and Dana, visit our website:
www.ipcboston.org/boston-marathon-2025.



MEET MARY:

My name is Mary Nevin Walsh. Originally from Galway, Ireland, I'm now living in Milton with my husband Declan and our 4 kids. I have been running with a great group of friends for as long as I've been in Milton. We meet up rain or shine, and run the roads and backroads of Milton, Quincy, and Dorchester.

We have supported several local charities through the years that include Dana Farber and Boston Children's Hospital. This will be my 5th Boston Marathon, and I am excited to be running it for the amazing local organization that is the Irish Pastoral Center. The Irish Pastoral Center does so much for our local community, providing many services that include Senior Outreach, Immigration and Citizenship assistance, Pastoral support, Mother and Toddler groups, Health and Wellness and Bereavement Counseling. I am truly honored to be running the 2025 Boston marathon raising money for this amazing organization.



MEET DANA:

I live in Quincy and am a mother of two little girls, Michaela, age 10 and Neely, age 5. This will be my first Boston Marathon, and my fifth marathon overall. I train in the wee hours of the morning with my "early bird" running friends from the Quincy Running Club. I am excited (and terrified!) to run Boston, it has always been my dream to get a chance to run this course. I am honored to be running for the IPC and supporting the Irish Community in Boston.



Calling all J1 Summer Students: SAVE THE DATE!

J1 Orientation 2025



THE IRISH PASTORAL CENTRE
WELCOMES 2025 J1 SUMMER STUDENTS



Tues. June 10th, 3-5PM

We have received emails and messages from students who are interested in spending Summer 2025 in Boston. Students can access our J1 guide from www.ipcboston.org/J1 which has lots of helpful information on settling into life in Boston, finding jobs and accommodation.

For all J1 Queries reach out to:
j1@ipcboston.org

We are also delighted to announce that we will host our 2025 J1 orientation here at the IPC on June 10th. Save the date! In collaboration with The Consulate of Ireland Boston, Boston GAA and Rian Immigrant Center, this event provides important insight and safety reminders for the student's time in Boston.

J1s will also be able to open their bank accounts and meet other J1 students!



THIS PAGE IS IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL McDONAGH

NEWS FROM OUR SENIOR PROGRAM

Dear Friends -

Welcome back to all our seniors! We hope all enjoyed the holidays with family and friends. Our weekly coffees started back in February, after a short break in the month of January 2025. During the next few months, seniors will continue to enjoy fun filled and educational activities at the coffees. If you haven't attended one of our coffees, we invite you to stop in at one of the four coffees held in Brighton, Dorchester, West Roxbury and Weymouth.

It is hard to believe that our annual St. Patrick's Day event is around the corner. The event will be held on 3/14/2025 at Florian Hall. Registration is required before the event. Please see our website under events, or call our office at 617-265-5300, for further information.

Best to all---The IPC Senior Team



SHINE Appointments Available at IPC

We also offer individual counseling is available from SHINE at the IPC by appointment.



If this is something that may benefit you, call the IPC at 617-265-5300 for more info



IPC NEW PROGRAM!



Learn about community and statewide transportation programs for older adults and individuals with mobility issues. Please call us if you need help accessing transportation services.

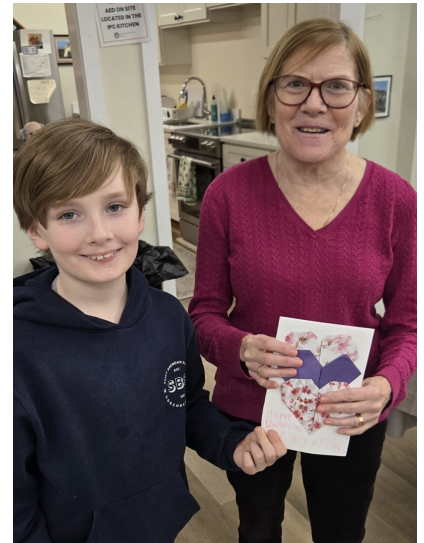
This service is made available to the Irish Pastoral Centre through funding awarded by Massachusetts Department of Transportation.



VISIT
www.ipcboston.org
Or call us at +1 (617)-265-5300

A Valentines Day Delivery to Café Éireann

Students from St. Brendan's spread love and kindness this Valentine's Day by delivering handmade cards to the IPC Dorchester coffee group. The students passed out the valentines day cards after they sang a few classic Irish song and Irish Danced.



Thank you to Deevine Yoga Instructor Deirdre Kelly who regularly gives classes at our coffee groups for helping organize this visit. Deirdre's son Aaron was part of the visiting group and played the fiddle! A huge thank you to the teaching staff at St. Brendan's for coordinating such a lovely and memorable visit.

THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED KATHI SULLIVAN

COFFEE GROUP CALENDAR



IPC March 2025 Coffee Group Calendar

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

3 Cara Club: 1-3PM BINGO	4 Young at Heart: 1-3PM BINGO	5 Café Éireann: 11AM-1PM BINGO	6 Crossroads Café: 1-3PM Exercise w/Eileen Smith	7 SUPPER CLUB 5-7PM Call IPC to register: 617-265-5300
10 NO PROGRAMS RUNNING	11 NO PROGRAMS RUNNING	12 NO PROGRAMS RUNNING	13 NO PROGRAMS RUNNING	14 St. Patrick's Day Luncheon 11AM-3PM @ Florian hall
17 IPC CLOSED 	18 Young at Heart: 1-3PM YOGA W/Deirdre Kelly	19 Café Éireann: 11AM-1PM Ginger Bread Houses w/Kathy	20 Crossroads Café: 1-3PM AUTHOR VISIT: MIKE BERNARD	21
24 Cara Club: 1-3PM YOGA W/Deirdre Kelly	25 Young at Heart: 1-3PM WEYMOUTH FD FIRE SAFETY TALK	26 Café Éireann: 11AM-1PM YOGA W/Deirdre Kelly	27 Crossroads Café: 1-3PM BINGO	28
31 Cara Club: 1-3PM BINGO				

Cara Club:

Monday, 1-3pm,
Veronica Senior
Center, 20 Chestnut
Ave, Brighton MA,

Young at Heart:

Tuesdays, 1-3pm,
St. Jerome's,
632 Bridge St,
Weymouth, MA,

Cafe Éireann:

Wednesdays, 11am-1pm,
The Irish Pastoral Centre,
540 Gallivan Blvd. (REAR),
Dorchester, MA,

Crossroads Café:

Thursdays, 1-3pm,
Crossroads Café: St.
John Chrysostom,
4750 Washington St,

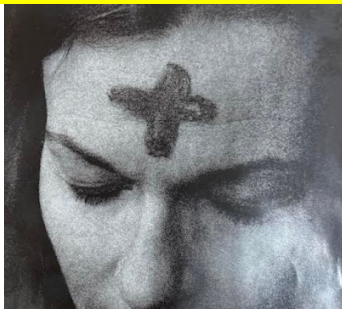
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JOE WALSH

Fr. Dan's Page

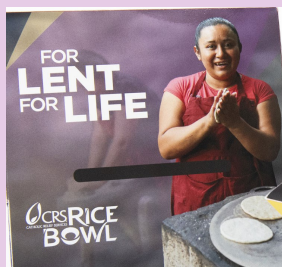


What am I doing for Lent?

We enter the season of Lent by putting ashes on our foreheads. What's symbolized here? Perhaps the heart understands better than the head because more people go to church on Ash Wednesday than on any other day of the year, including Christmas. The queues to receive the ashes in many churches are endless. Why? Why are the ashes so popular? Their popularity, I suspect, comes from the fact that, as a symbol, ashes are blunt, primal, archetypal, and speak the language of the soul.



Use the CRS Rice Bowl Lenten calendar daily to pray, fast and give-and encounter our global family. Each week includes creative ways to give alms, which you can donate at the end of Lent to CRS Rice Bowl. Your Lenten giving helps people experiencing hunger and poverty in your local community and in more than 120 countries around the world. Donation amounts throughout the calendar are suggestions-please feel free to give as you are able. **CRS Rice Bowls are available at the IPC if you wish to take part this year!**



Praying the Rosary

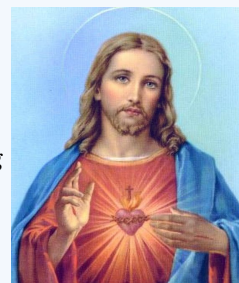
Living with Christ

This past June, the Boston Celtics won the NBA championship for the 18th time. In an NBC Sports docuseries released in May, Celtics head coach, Joe Mazzulla, confirmed that, before every game, he arrives early so that he can walk around the court and recite the Rosary. It can be argued what role that practice played in the Celtics' success. Perhaps it helped Coach Mazzulla, as it has so many other Catholics throughout the centuries, to calm his nerves, to ask Mary's help in carrying out his responsibilities well and in dedicating himself completely to her Son. **Praying the Rosary allows us to slow down and focus on what feeds our soul.** Certainly Coach Mazzulla wouldn't hesitate to encourage us in this regard.



The Way of Love

Rita Ferrone



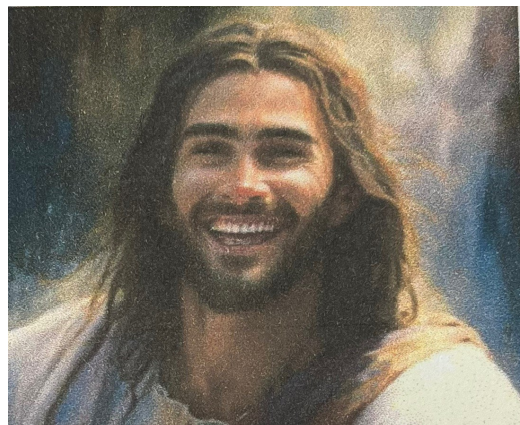
I cannot think of the Sacred Heart without remembering my grandmother's house. On the wall of the upstairs bedroom where we slept as children, one large devotional picture was displayed: the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The image says a lot. The way of love is a way of suffering, hence the crown of thorns. Yet love is also full of gentleness and patience. The flame symbolizes what sacred fire always signifies: warmth, power, and the illumination of the Holy Spirit. The readings for the feast of the Sacred Heart, tell us the rest. They show the maternal tenderness of God toward the chosen people; they pray that our lives may be rooted in love; and they recall Christ's ultimate sacrifice which begets the Church. It's all a mystery of love. It's our own mystery too, if we choose to follow the way of love.

When Jesus points to his heart, he is showing us the way.

This is how Jesus felt when He made YOU!

You are especially Loved.
You are wonderfully made.
God does not make mistakes.

Saints to be God.



THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED BY MARIE & PHIL MAGUIRE

In Loving Memory

We remember those in our community who have recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers and with all the bereaved families, and we hope that in time lovely memories will surround them. Eternal rest grant unto them oh lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they Rest in Peace & Rise in Glory

January 1st, 2025, John "Johnny" McCarthy, Randolph, Co. Kerry

January 2nd, 2025, Coleman "Coley" Mullen, Braintree, Co. Galway

January 2nd, 2025, Irene Murphy, Quincy, England and Co. Limerick

January 9th, 2025, Patrick "Paddy" Preston, Braintree, Co. Sligo

January 11, 2025, Elmer Claire Mezzetti, Atkinson New Hampshire, Co. Dublin

January 12th, 2025, Michael Geary, Quincy, Co. Sligo

January 23rd, 2025, Breda O'Sullivan, Cohasset, Co. Cork

January 24rd, 2025, Bridget "Bridie" (Kearney) Conroy, Dorchester, Co. Galway

January 25th, 2025, Mary "Mamie" Fenton, Dorchester, Co. Galway

January 31st, 2025, Mary Honan, Allston

February 3rd, 2025, Joseph Patrick Queally Sr, Milton, Co. Clare

February 7th, 2025, Rose Mary (Cusack) McCarthy, Brighton, Co. Cavan

February 7th, 2025, Winnie Forde, Norwood, County Galway.

February 2025, Kathleen "Kay" (Folan) Sweeney, Quincy, Co. Galway

February 8th, 2025, Brian Coffey, Milton, Co. Roscommon



Kieran Clavin

Dec. 30th,
2024

Of Boston
MA and
Co. Meath.

Much loved husband of Denise Trimble and loving father to John and Evan. Dearly beloved son of Sean and Joan and loving brother of Martin, Allan, Donal, Philip, Raymond, Gary, Darina, Yvonne and Amy. Deeply regretted by relatives and a wide circle of friends at home and abroad.



Elmer Mezzetti, Atkinson

Jan. 11th, 2025

Of Newton
and Co. Dublin.

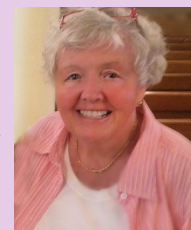
Elmer is survived by her beloved children: Ronald McNeil Jr., his wife Krystal, and their children, RJ, Oliver, and Órlaith; daughters Devin Kelly McNeil and her son Walter Munger; and Shannon McNeil and her partner Diego Fiori. Deeply devoted to her parents, Emer and William (Liam) Mezzetti of Dublin, IRE and Newton, MA, and Boynton Beach, FL. She is also survived by her siblings: Santina Ferri (Michael), Marguireta Heger (Dennis), William L. Mezzetti III (Anna), and Cara Salmon (Shaun).



Mary Honan

Jan. 31st, 2025

A cherished member of IPC Cara Club in Brighton Mary was born to Irish Parents in Boston. Her beloved husband of 59 years, Patrick J. Honan of Co. Clare died in 2014. Devoted mother of Clare M. Coughlin and her husband Michael of West Newton, State Rep. Kevin G. Honan and his wife Colleen of Brighton, and the late Boston City Councilor Brian J. Honan. Loving grandmother to Patrick Coughlin and his wife Sarah Rifai of Waltham, Michelle Coughlin of Arlington, Stephanie Coughlin-Caplis and her wife Nichole of Billerica and Molly Honan of Marina del Rey, CA. Great-grandmother to Amelia & August Coughlin-Caplis and Leila & Cameron Coughlin. Sister of her late twin, Marie, who died at birth, the late Charles Doyle, John Doyle and his late wife Madelyn.



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IPC COMMUNITY NEWS

Commemorating 150 Years of the Irish Contribution to the State of Montana

In September 2023, The Boston Beara Society and a number of community groups from the Beara peninsula, in West Cork and Kerry, organized a highly successful event in Boston to Commemorate 300 Years of Irish contribution to the State of Massachusetts. This year, the Boston Beara Society is again collaborating with those groups, to Commemorate 150 Years of the Irish Contribution to the State of Montana. A delegation of more than fifty people from the Beara peninsula will visit the City of Butte from 6 th to 26 th of May. They will be accompanied by representatives from Cork, Waterford and Cavan County Councils. Events will be hosted at the State House in Helena and the City Hall in Butte, where three musicians accompanying the delegation from Beara – sisters Natalie and Giselle O'Mara, who sing and play a range of musical instruments, and Emily O'Sullivan, who plays the harp - will perform. The visitors will also enjoy a full schedule of social events during their stay in Butte.

Anyone living around the country, and particularly those with a connection to Beara, are very welcome to join us for the trip.

*For further information, please contact:
Mike Dwyer. 617 462 9311 Mikedwyerinc@comcast.net*

Irish Echo's Irish American of the Year for 2025.

All of us here at the Centre extend our heartiest congratulations to our Coalition of Irish Immigrant Centre's partner Siobhan Dennehy who has been named Irish American of the year by the Irish Echo newspaper. As Executive Director of the Emerald Isle Immigration Center in New York. Siobhan is a tireless and outstanding frontline advocate for Irish immigrants in the United States, and a champion for quality of life for these new Americans is the Irish Echo's Irish American of the Year for 2025. Under her leadership since 2002, the EIIC has increased its budget, staffing, and programs, including a great expansion to social service programs and services to non-Irish clients (with 130+ nationalities now being served). Along with Siobhan's many accomplishments and years of service to EIIC and the larger community, we look forward to the opening of our new capital project in the Bronx. Siobhan is the recipient of numerous awards for her unflinching dedication to serving the immigrant communities of New York. The IPC is proud to celebrate Siobhan's success and wish to congratulate her as she receives this important recognition.



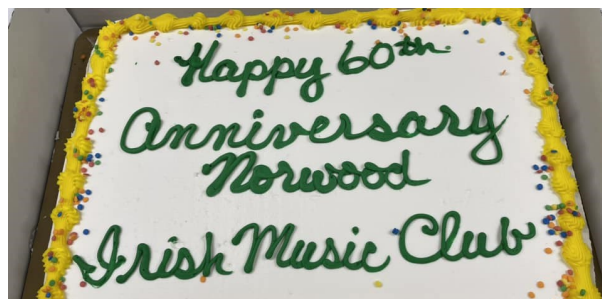
US/Irish Driver's License Reciprocity Campaign

Irish organizations in the USA in collaboration with Safe Home

Ireland have launched a dedicated campaign to advance the reciprocal exchange of U.S./Irish drivers licenses. This campaign aims to facilitate the easier return to Ireland for emigrants, including reciprocal driving license arrangements with the USA, Australia and Canada and the creation of a one-stop-support to assist with obtaining PPS numbers and other administrative issues. For more information and to join our mailing list to keep informed about the latest updates and progress on the Irish-U.S. Driver's License Exchange Campaign, please visit <https://www.irishlicenseexchange.com/> Your help is needed! Take action today – please sign up on the website to support this crucial step toward improving international mobility and community support.



Norwood Irish Music Club Celebrates 60th Year!



Congratulations to the Norwood Irish Music Club who celebrated their 60th Anniversary this month! They will have their next dance at the Knights of Columbus in Norwood with music from "Erin's Melody" with Margaret Dalton. Starts at 7-10.30 PM. Admission is \$10.00. Free parking, raffle and more!

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: Peter O'Malley

Written by Joseph O'Malley, Caught in Southie paper



If you know Peter O'Malley, you've likely seen a man who knows how to keep moving, whether it's running marathons, working out, or making his rounds across Dorchester and Southie. At 70, Peter's life is a testament to the power of perseverance, community, and grit.

For those of us in recovery, we hear the word "trudge" often. It is not glamorous, but it's real. It's the slow, steady push forward through mud, sand, and whatever else life throws in your way. My father has embodied that journey, showing those of us who need a power of example exactly how it's done.

Peter's story begins in 1955 in the Gaelic-speaking region of Roskeeda, Rosmuc, County Galway, Ireland. Born into a small farmhouse as the only boy among seven siblings, he grew up in a world of resilience, sharing cramped quarters without indoor plumbing.

When he came to America, speaking mostly his native Gaelic and barely knowing English, he was just another young Irish immigrant searching for his place. But much like the countless immigrant families who settled in Boston, Peter found strength in his community.

He joined his sister Mary and her husband John Walsh, whose family helped establish Laborers' Local 223 to lift up new arrivals and provide opportunities. The Walsh Family – Pat and his siblings – were true giants, building a foundation for working-class families to rise into the middle class. My father benefitted from that legacy, joining the union himself, securing job stability, and building a life where he could support a family, send us to parochial schools, and provide opportunities that wouldn't have been possible otherwise. Today, the Walsh Family legacy continues with the third generation now in leadership positions throughout the Boston Building Trades and beyond.

Family connections run deep for us all. My father is not only the proud uncle of Marty Walsh, but he has also been a constant presence in the lives of all his nephews, nieces, and countless godchildren. Marty, as many of you know, went on to become the Mayor of Boston, U.S. Secretary of Labor, and now the Executive Director of the NHL Players Association. Long before that, he was just another nephew who battled life threatening cancer, being shot, and alcoholism. A nephew that could count on his uncle for unconditional love and support. My father's steadfast commitment to family mirrors his larger role in the community, where he's always been a pillar of support – the kind of guy you can count on, no matter what.

That doesn't mean it was easy. Life has a way of testing us. My father survived a devastating accident in a paper mill that cost him all the toes on his right foot, yet he refused to let it define him. Doctors said he wouldn't walk again, but Peter said otherwise – and went on to run marathons, some sub-3:10:00.



The IPC is delighted to share this article by Joseph O'Malley about longtime IPC volunteer Peter O'Malley. Wishing Peter a Happy 70th Birthday from all of us here at the Irish Pastoral Centre

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MG2

A Moment to Mind Yourself

Interrupt the Stigma of the “New Year” Resolutions Cycle

Danielle Owen



It's that time of the year again. The time when you decide to change all your “bad” habits at once. No more cookies, ice-cream, or candy in between meals. No more shopping for clothes you don't need. You are going to give up smoking or try to drink less. No more...no more...no more...!! You pledge to be the healthiest, most efficient person around. Here we are, already in February, another year that somehow you haven't managed to be as slim, smoke-free, or perfect as your plan had called for. You take a kind of comfort in this, throw up your hands and say, “what's the point anyway?” You swallow the guilt, throw away the list and pledge to try again next year. Some of us are able to replay this routine year after year.

For others, however, where alcohol or other substances are a problem, the danger is that there may not be a next year. Are you concerned about the way you used alcohol or drugs over Christmas and the New Year? Does it feel like the party is continuing but no one around you is smiling? Perhaps you are sick and tired of cleaning up the mess of a loved one, someone with a drinking or drug problem. Maybe you just want some support in dealing with your partner /brother/ sister/ parent's drinking or drug use?

Unfortunately Stigma stops many people from being able to reach out for help, because they believe people will judge them for not being able to make the changes they want. The truth is a human being's ability to

make changes is not as simple as “just say no” or “just quit”. A recent article in the Boston Globe * illustrates just how complex change is and how one tool, a medication like Wegovy, appears to help reduce the cravings for a variety of substances and behaviors that people have historically struggled with alone. Food, alcohol, drugs, gambling and even shopping compulsions appear to have a biological base that could unlock some of the question “why can't I change”.

The first step, however, is reaching out; without fear of stigma or judgement. Reach out to a friend, your doctor, or a trusted community member. We here at the IPC are happy to help if we can. We are in the process of planning some community workshops addressing similar issues like smoking cessation, substance use disorder education and family support groups.

*<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2025/02/03/business/obesity-drugs-ozempic-wegovy-glp-drinking-alcohol-gambling-online-shopping/>

There are lots of ways we can support you in 2025. All those resolutions you have made may not be in your trash can by the beginning of February after all.

Call Niamh or anyone in our Client Services department, in confidence and without judgment, at the Irish Pastoral Center.

Telehealth appointments are offered as well as in-person appointments available on Mondays and Wednesdays 5-8PM.

Phone: 617-265-5300

E-mail: nhealy@ipcbboston.org



**Irish Pastoral Centre
Boston**

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AMERICA**

News from Celtic Angels

The Heart of Compassionate Care: A Reflection on the Irish Spirit in Home Health Care

By Maria Burke, RN, Celtic Angels Home Health Care



For many of us in the Irish community, caregiving is not just a profession—it's a calling. Rooted in our culture is a deep respect for family, faith, and the responsibility to care for one another. At Celtic Angels Home Health Care, these values guide our mission every day as we provide compassionate, high-quality care to seniors and those in need.

March is a special month for the Irish, as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day and reflect on the rich traditions of our heritage. It is also a time to honor the strength, resilience, and kindness that define our people. Whether it's through a warm smile, a gentle hand, or simply listening to someone's story, the spirit of the Irish is alive in the way we care for others.

As a nurse and business owner, I have witnessed firsthand the impact that compassionate home care can have on families. The ability to keep loved ones in the comfort of their own homes, surrounded by familiar settings and cherished memories, is a gift. Our dedicated team of caregivers ensures that those we serve not only receive medical attention but also the emotional and spiritual support they need.

The role of faith in caregiving is undeniable. It provides strength during difficult times, offers solace in moments of uncertainty, and reminds us of the greater purpose in our work. Many of our clients and caregivers share stories of how their faith has carried them through life's challenges, reinforcing the belief that love and care are among the greatest blessings we can offer.

This March, as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, let us also take a moment to appreciate those who dedicate their lives to caring for others. Whether it is a family member, a professional caregiver, or a neighbor offering a helping hand, their kindness and generosity embody the very best of our community.

May we continue to uphold the values of faith, family, and compassion, ensuring that the Irish spirit of caregiving remains as strong as ever.

Wishing you a blessed and joyful St. Patrick's Day.

Sláinte!



The Boston Globe Names Celtic Angels Home Health Care Top Place to Work in 2024

Special edition of Globe Magazine honors the best employers in Massachusetts



Weymouth, MA – Celtic Angels, Inc, a home health care company has been named one of the Top Places to Work in Massachusetts for the 4th year in a row. Top Places to Work recognizes the most admired workplaces in the state voted on by the people who know them best, their employees. The survey measures employee opinions about their company's direction, execution, connection, management, work, pay, benefits, and engagement. The employers are placed into one of four groups: small, with 50 to 99 employees; medium, with 100 to 249 workers; large, with 250 to 999 staff members; and largest, with a workforce of 1,000 or more employees.

Celtic Angels, Inc was ranked #7 in the Large Companies category, an incredible distinction for a privately owned home health care business. "We are so honored to receive this very special award," said owner Maria Burke, RN. "Our company has been recognized by USA Today as a Top Workplace for 4 consecutive years and The Boston Globe has awarded us the Top Places to Work in Massachusetts for the second time. I want to acknowledge my amazing caregivers and staff. Without them, this award would not be possible,"

About Celtic Angels Inc.

Celtic Angels Home Health Care is a privately owned Home Health Care Agency that was founded by Maria Burke, a Registered Nurse, who has worked in the home health care field for the majority of her career. Celtic Angels Home Health Care specializes in providing the highest level of personalized home health care services for seniors and those requiring in-home support. Their team is dedicated to providing a customized program that will enable clients to reach their maximum level of health, comfort and function while remaining in their homes or residences. The organization's driving philosophy is to offer care that has been tailored to each client's unique situation and to maintain a progressive and insightful approach in order to meet the health needs of their patients.



Celtic Angels Home Health Care

OUR CLIENTS LOVE US!

"Your CNA Kelly takes care of my every need. I'm in excellent hands."
— Truly, Susan C.

Hi, I'm Milo.
The Celtic Angels Home Health Care Mascot.



www.celticangelsinc.com • 781-331-0062

Immigration News

Immigration & Citizenship Support Services Program

What we do: The IPC's Immigration and Citizenship Program provides information and support to immigrants from Ireland and elsewhere including obtaining legal status, adjusting status, matters related to Green Card applications and renewals, visas, U.S. Citizenship eligibility, and applications for U.S. Citizenship. The IPC can also provide information about how to apply for Irish passports. Staff is available during normal business hours to help to answer questions related to these matters. Additionally, the IPC offers bi-monthly Legal Immigration Clinics where individuals can have a free and confidential phone conversation about their particular immigration situation with a volunteer immigration attorney.

The IPC offers free telephone consultations with an experienced immigration attorney on the 2nd Tuesday evening of each month. If you would like to schedule a phone consultation with an attorney, please contact Maryann Casavant at 617-265-5300 or by email mcasavant@ipcboston.org.

Learn More About Our Monthly Legal Clinics

The IPC offers monthly free legal immigration clinics twice per month. If you have a question about your immigration status, Green Card, visa, eligibility for citizenship and would like to talk to an experienced immigration attorney – we can schedule a free phone consultation at the Immigration Legal Clinic. We are very fortunate to have Maura Kelly, a very experienced immigration attorney who donates her time and talent to provide current, and accurate legal guidance to the IPC community through this Clinic. Maura generously donates her time to offer free consultations monthly on the second Tuesday of the month. These consultations are over the telephone and appointments are made in advance.

If you would like to make an appointment or have a question about the Legal Immigration Clinic, please contact Maryann Casavant or Niamh Healy at the IPC at 617-265-5300.

Consider applying for U.S. Citizenship

If you have questions about eligibility for U.S. Citizenship, questions about how to apply, or need help with the process, please reach out to the IPC. Staff is available to assist you and can direct you to helpful resources. If there are some questions, or your situation is a bit complicated, we can schedule an appointment for you with one of our experienced immigration attorneys at one of our Legal Immigration Clinics.



Free Immigration Consults: City of Boston

The Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement offers free one-time immigration consultations on the first and third Wednesday of every month from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. Consultations are by telephone. Due to high demand, you must register for an appointment beforehand. To register for an appointment with a volunteer lawyer, call 617-635-2980 or email immigrantadvancement@boston.gov.

Free Immigration Consultations

FEB 19

Free Immigration Consultations

MAR 5

Free Immigration Consultations

MAR 19

Free Immigration Consultations

APR 2

Free Immigration Consultations

APR 16

Free Immigration Consultations

MAY 7

Free Immigration Consultations

MAY 21

Free Immigration Consultations

JUN 4

Free Immigration Consultations

JUN 18

Free Immigration Consultations

JUL 2

Free Immigration Consultations

JUL 16

Free Immigration Consultations

AUG 6

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Aer Lingus 

Immigration News



Applying for an Irish passport?

Here's some advice from the Consulate General:



Renew online

If you are over 18, you can apply to renew your passport online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The service is fast, convenient, and secure. Processing takes about 10 working days - for details, visit ireland.ie/passports



Original Certified Documents

Consult ireland.ie/passports to ensure that you include original documents with your application. If you are a first time applicant, make sure to include a notarised copy of a valid photo ID as well as 2 original documents showing proof of your name and address. If your citizenship is based on having a parent born in Ireland, make sure to include an original certified copy of their Birth Certificate and/or Marriage Certificate, if applicable. These can often be found at hse.ie. If you are a citizen through Foreign Birth Registration (FBR), make sure to include your FBR certificate.

Question about your Irish passport application?
Contact our team of dedicated passport agents via WebChat at ireland.ie/dfa/passports/contact-us



Ard-Chonsalacht na hÉireann | Bostún
Consulate General of Ireland | Boston

www.ireland.ie/passports
+1 617 267 9330



Before submitting a passport application, DOUBLE CHECK



Am I eligible?

You can apply for an Irish passport if you are an Irish citizen. You are automatically an Irish citizen if you or a parent were born on the island of Ireland. If you have a grandparent who was born on the island of Ireland, you are eligible to apply for Irish citizenship. HOWEVER, you must apply and obtain citizenship before applying for a passport.

Photo guidelines

Check the photograph guidelines on our website carefully. You can take a digital photo on a smartphone or tablet or get one from a photo shop and have it emailed to you. For details, visit ireland.ie/dfa/passports/photo-guidelines



If you're travelling & have lost your passport

Emergency Travel Certificates can be issued but only in strictly emergency situations such as the death of a family member abroad. Applicants will need to produce written proof of the emergency situation



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Consulate General of Ireland | Boston

[@IrelandBoston](https://www.instagram.com/IrelandBoston)
www.ireland.ie/passports
+1 617 267 9330



Am I Eligible for Irish Citizenship?



What does it mean to be an Irish citizen?

Becoming an Irish citizen means that you are formally recognised as a national of Ireland and a citizen of the European Union (EU). It gives you certain rights, including the right to possess an Irish passport, live and work in Ireland and the EU, and receive consular help from Irish embassies and consulates abroad.



Who is eligible to be an Irish citizen?

You may be an Irish citizen (or entitled to citizenship) based on when and where you, your parents, or your grandparents were born.

If you were born on the island of Ireland

Persons born on the island of Ireland before 1 January 2005 are automatically held to be Irish citizens. If you were born on the island of Ireland on or after 1 January 2005, your right to Irish citizenship depends on your parents' citizenship at the time of your birth and the residency history of your parents before your birth



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[@IrelandBoston](https://www.instagram.com/IrelandBoston)
www.ireland.ie/citizenship
+1 617 267 9330



Am I Eligible for Irish Citizenship?

If you were born outside of the island of Ireland



Parent born in Ireland:

You are automatically an Irish citizen if one of your parents was an Irish citizen who was born on the island of Ireland. In this case, you may apply immediately for an Irish passport, should you wish to do so.



Grandparent born in Ireland:

You can become an Irish citizen if one of your grandparents was an Irish citizen born on the island of Ireland. In this case, to obtain Irish citizenship, you must apply to be entered on the Foreign Birth Register. Once entered, you are an Irish citizen and, as such, entitled to apply for an Irish passport.



Parent on the Foreign Birth Register:

You can also become an Irish citizen if your parent was on the Foreign Birth Register at the time of your birth. In this case, you too can apply to be entered on the Register and, following that, apply for a passport.

Applications for Foreign Birth Registration are made online at ireland.ie/citizenship. In addition, submission of documentation confirming eligibility is required.



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ANNUAL POLAR PLUNGE



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ST. BRIGID'S DAY



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News From Ireland

Limerick Gardaí Use Tractor to Save The Day

When Garda John Clifford, based in Murroe, Co. Limerick heard that a couple living up in the Reenavanna Hills required assistance. The snow made the road impassable to most and certainly to all by car. In trying to figure out a solution, Garda Clifford remembered that a Garda colleague based in the nearby village, Doon had a fine red tractor so he gave him a quick buzz. Without hesitation, Garda Clifford agreed to tip over to Doon to collect the medication in the pharmacy while Garda Fitzgerald, who was off-duty, got the tractor's engine going. Garda Mike Fitzgerald played county for Limerick during the late 2000s so he knows all about the value of team work. The pair of them took off up the hills in the tractor and dropped off the prescriptions as needed.



New Speed Limit Law Changes Across The Country

Speed limits on many Irish roads are set to be reduced by 20 km/h on February 7th, in a move aimed at eliminating the most common types of road accidents. Default speed limits on rural local roads will decrease by 25% from 80km/h to 60km/h and new speed limit signs will replace existing ones to reflect this change. The speed limit in urban cores (which include built up areas as well as housing estates and town centres) will be reduced to 30km/h from the current 50km/h limit. The speed limit on national secondary roads will also decrease from 100km/h to 80km/h. In the period between 2006 and 2021, there was a strong downwards trend in fatalities - from 365 fatalities in 2006 to 132 in 2021.



Cork Songwriter Wins First Grammy— RTE

Cork singer-songwriter Cian Ducrot has said he is "so blessed and grateful" to win his first Grammy Award for songwriting, after co-writing SZA's hit track Saturn, which was named Best R&B Song at the 2025 ceremony in Los Angeles. The musician received the RTE Choice Music Prize for Irish Song of the Year with his track Heaven and has since played a series of high-profile concerts in Ireland and abroad. This spring he is set to play a string of sold-out dates across Europe, including two nights at Dublin's 3Arena. He will return to Cork for a massive homecoming gig at Live at the Marquee on 19 July.



Rural Doolin Restaurant Awarded First Michelin Star

A restaurant in a small village in County Clare has been awarded its first Michelin Star. Homestead Cottage. Homestead Cottage is located at Lough North, Doolin, and is run by Robbie and Sophie McCauley. Homestead Cottage was described by inspectors as the most rural of the newly awarded restaurants and it was praised for both its character and excellent quality ingredients. The Michelin Guide website reads it offers "Modern Cuisine" as the inspectors explained: "On Ireland's west coast, we have what is surely the most rural of the newly anointed Stars. Run by Robbie and Sophie McCauley, who met while working at Gregan's Castle, Homestead Cottage in Doolin is a thoroughly charming place.



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FADÓ FADÓ

Ireland's Dry Stone Walls



An ancient and enduring method of construction in Ireland, has recently been added to the prestigious UNESCO list of protected cultural heritage practices. This marks the fifth Irish cultural practice to be recognized, following hurling, uilleann piping, Irish harping, and Irish falconry. Dry stone walls are a common feature across rural Ireland, with examples dating back thousands of years. The oldest known dry stone walls in Ireland, located in the Céide fields of Co Mayo, are approximately 5,800 years old. There are over 400,000 kilometers of dry stone walls throughout Ireland, especially in the east of the country.

Dry stone construction involves building structures without using mortar, relying on the precise placement of stones to form stable and durable walls. The materials used for these walls are typically locally sourced stones, most commonly limestone in Ireland. This building method has been applied to create various structures, including walls, bridges, arches, tombs, beehive huts, oratories, and fortifications. The craft of dry stone construction is considered a vernacular skill, passed down through generations. It is deeply embedded in Irish culture and has long been a practice among farmers, masons, and sculptors.

The practice of dry stone walling began with simple field boundaries and evolved over time, leading to more complex structures such as corbelled arches seen in the ancient Passage Tombs. Dry stone construction was crucial to the early development of Irish culture, contributing to the creation of sheltered living spaces, areas for livestock, and spaces for growing crops. These structures also played an important role in community life, serving as locations for social gatherings, feasts, and trade. The cooperative labor system known as Meitheal was essential to this process, as communities would come together to build or repair walls. Meitheal encouraged intergenerational cooperation, where younger members would learn from older generations, ensuring the continuity of the craft.

Dry stone walls also had symbolic significance in Irish culture. Stone is seen as a material representing permanence and timelessness, making it the ideal material for honoring the dead, creating safe living spaces, and constructing sacred sites. Over the centuries, dry stone walls gave rise to more elaborate structures, such as Court Tombs and Passage Tombs during the Stone Age, and Beehive Huts, Wedge Tombs, and Dolmens in the Bronze Age. In the Iron Age, large dry stone forts like Staigue, Lough A Dun, and Doon Mor were constructed. Early Christian monastic sites, including Skellig Michael and Gallarus Oratory, were also built using dry stone techniques.

In the 19th century, the majority of the dry stone walls seen across Ireland today were constructed, often by farmers and wallers commissioned by landlords during periods of land changes or times of famine. Dry stone walling became a key part of farming life, helping to maintain field boundaries, protect livestock, and support crop cultivation. It also had ecological benefits by maintaining biodiversity. While traditionally a solitary activity for farmers, dry stone walling was also a communal endeavor, with neighbors and communities helping each other to clear stones from fields and repair walls.

Today, dry stone walling is experiencing a revival, thanks to the efforts of community groups, farmers, and heritage professionals who recognize the cultural and historical importance of the craft. The Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland (DSWAI), founded in 2009, has played a leading role in promoting the preservation of Ireland's dry stone building heritage. Through workshops and events, DSWAI raises awareness about the craft and emphasizes its continued relevance in modern Irish life. Despite these efforts, dry stone walls and landscapes remain vulnerable to the pressures of modern farming practices and environmental changes. While some dry stone structures are protected by legislation such as the National Monument Acts and Planning Acts, many others still lack sufficient safeguarding.

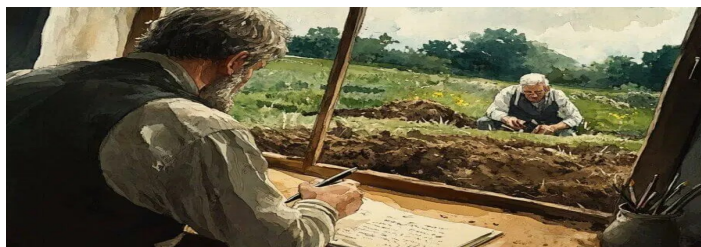
The inclusion of dry stone walling on the UNESCO cultural heritage list ensures the recognition of its importance to Irish identity and history. As interest in the craft grows, the hope is that future generations will continue to appreciate and maintain this vital tradition, ensuring that Ireland's dry stone landscapes remain an integral part of its cultural heritage for years to come.

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CELTIC SCRIBE

Digging

By Sheamus Heaney



Between my finger and my thumb
The squat pen rests; snug as a gun.

Under my window, a clean rasping sound
When the spade sinks into gravelly ground:
My father, digging. I look down

Till his straining rump among the flowerbeds
Bends low, comes up twenty years away
Stooping in rhythm through potato drills
Where he was digging.

The coarse boot nestled on the lug, the shaft
Against the inside knee was levered firmly.
He rooted out tall tops, buried the bright edge deep
To scatter new potatoes that we picked,
Loving their cool hardness in our hands.

By God, the old man could handle a spade.
Just like his old man.

My grandfather cut more turf in a day
Than any other man on Toner's bog.
Once I carried him milk in a bottle
Corked sloppily with paper. He straightened up
To drink it, then fell to right away
Nicking and slicing neatly, heaving sods
Over his shoulder, going down and down
For the good turf. Digging.

The cold smell of potato mould, the squelch and slap
Of soggy peat, the curt cuts of an edge
Through living roots awoken in my head.
But I've no spade to follow men like them.

Between my finger and my thumb
The squat pen rests.
I'll dig with it.

Saint Patrick's Day

by Jean Blewett



There's an Isle, a green Isle, set in the sea,
Here's to the Saint that blessed it!
And here's to the billows wild and free
That for centuries have caressed it!

Here's to the day when the men that roam
Send longing eyes o'er the water!
Here's to the land that still spells home
To each loyal son and daughter!

Here's to old Ireland—fair, I ween,
With the blue skies stretched above her!
Here's to her shamrock warm and green,
And here's to the hearts that love her!

This page sponsored by the family of Margaret 'Peggy' Roach

St Patrick: A Fourth Century Prodigal Son

- He was born about 389 A.D. in a family of Celtic Christians.
- Patrick rejected his family's Christian faith and had no desire for God.
- When he was about 15 a marauding gang of pirates kidnapped him, took him to Ireland, and forced him into slavery.
- He served his Irish master as a shepherd. His education was interrupted. For the rest of his life he was self-conscious about his lack of education and eloquence.
- During his captivity he had a profound conversion experience that changed the course of his whole life. (See Excerpt from his *Confession* below)
- He was able to escape after six years and return to his homeland and parents.

From Patrick's Confession

I was sixteen years old and knew not the true God and was carried away captive; but in that strange land (Ireland) the Lord opened my unbelieving eyes, and although late I called my sins to mind, and was converted with my whole heart to the Lord my God, who regarded my low estate, had pity on my youth and ignorance, and consoled me as a father consoles his children... Well every day I used to look after sheep and I used to pray often during the day, the love of God and fear of him increased more and more in me and my faith began to grow and my spirit stirred up, so that in one day I would pray as many as a hundred times and nearly as many at night. Even when I was staying out in the woods or on the mountain, I used to rise before dawn for prayer, in snow and frost and rain, and I felt no ill effect and there was no slackness in me. As I now realize, it was because the Spirit was glowing in me.

- Then one night Patrick had a vision: *I saw a man named Victorious, coming as if from Ireland, with innumerable letters; and... I read... 'The voice of the Irish' and while I was reading... I heard the voice... 'Please, holy boy, come and walk with us again.'*
- Against his parent's wishes he returned to Ireland to bring the Gospel of Christ.
- He spent some thirty years there and evangelized and baptized many thousands, some estimate over one hundred thousand. He lost count. Some two hundred churches were established. His ministry confronted and challenged pagan practices there such as infants sacrificed to harvest gods, prisoners of war sacrificed and their skulls used as ceremonial drinking bowls.
- He also spoke out unequivocally against human slavery, and some say he was the first to do so.
- Patrick often annoyed his church members in Ireland because he would return their gifts and the jewelry they wanted to give him.
- His work through his successors brought a shining light to the so called "Dark Ages."
- For those of you who think St. Patrick belongs only to the Irish Catholics, you should know that Patrick himself was neither Irish nor Roman Catholic. He was a Briton by birth. And he was part of Celtic Christianity which in his day was independent from Rome. As you will see from the piece on page four, there is a sense in which Patrick really belongs to all of us.



Patrick's tomb at Armagh, Ireland

COMMUNITY EVENTS

St. Patrick's Day 2025 New England Parade Schedule



This schedule was sourced from Boston Irish Tourism Association. For more info please visit www.irishmassachusetts.com

Saturday, March 1 @Noon
Pawtucket, RI

Sunday, March 16 @Noon
Worcester, MA

Saturday, March 8 @11AM
Cape Cod, MA

Sunday, March 16 @1PM
Abington, MA

Saturday, March 8 @Noon
Providence, RI

Sunday, March 16 @1PM
Boston, MA

Saturday, March 15 @11AM
Newport, RI

Sunday, March 16 @1PM
Sittuate, MA

Sunday, March 16 @1:30PM
New Haven, CT

Sunday, March 23 @11:10AM
Holyoke, MA

Sunday, March 30 @NOON
Manchester, NH



The County Sligo Association of Boston's 15th Annual St. Patrick's Corned Beef and Cabbage Banquet & Scholarship Drawing Guest of Honor: Rory Killalea and Maura Killalea

When:

Saturday March 8th, 2025
Cocktail hour: 6pm
Dinner: 7pm
Event: 6-11pm

Where:

Florian Hall
55 Hallett St.
Dorchester, MA 02122



Entertainment:

Music by Mossie Coughlan

Rededication of 2024 Golf Tournament Trophies

Scholarship Drawing

Irish Dancing

Raffle

For Tickets or Table

Reservation info contact:

Ray McVeigh: (617) 293-4069

Kevin Johnston: (617) 908-2050

Mary Gorman: (617) 293-7047

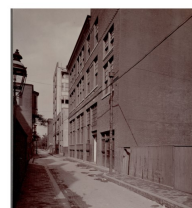
Proceeds benefit The County Sligo Association Scholarships

We are a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization

UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS



A St. Patrick's Day Tour Experience
at the Gibson House Museum



Join us for a **self-guided tour** of the Gibson House Museum, and learn about the work and the lives of the young, Irish immigrant women who worked as cooks, laundresses, nannies, and chambermaids.

Finish your tour experience by enjoying **Irish-themed snacks** and **live fiddle music** in the working spaces of the Gibson House.



Saturday, March 15th, 1 - 4pm

*Timed tickets on the half hour at 1pm, 1:30pm, 2pm, 2:30pm, and 3pm

General Public \$25

Museum Members \$22

thegibsonhouse.org

**GIBSON
HOUSE
MUSEUM**
Historic • Authentic • Educational

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

IPC Weekly Events Calendar

Mondays:

Cara Club @ Veronica Smith
Senior Center-1-3PM
20 Chestnut Hill Ave
Brighton, MA 02135

Monday Night: Social Work
Clinic by 'Appointment.

Tuesdays:

Young at Heart @ St. Jerome's
Parish Center 1-3pm
Toddler Group 10am—12PM

"Le Cheile" Woman's Group @ IPC
7PM

Wednesdays:

Café Eireann @ IPC 11-1 PM
540 Gallivan Blvd, Dorchester MA

Thursdays:

Knitting Club @ IPC 11AM-1PM
Crossroads Café @ 1-3PM St.
John's Chrysostom 4750
Washington St, West Roxbury, MA
25 Cards 7:30pm

Saturdays:

"Le Cheile" Here Together Sobriety
Support Group 6PM

MONTHLY EVENTS AT IPC

**First Friday of the month—
Fish and Chips supper Club**

**Monthly Sunday Sing a longs
and Irish Traditional Music
Sessions.** Keep an eye on our
monthly Calendar!!

*Special thanks to Ricard Archer of the Knights and Ladies of St Finbarr
Cork Club, for compiling the Boston Irish Community monthly dance
calendar. For additional info email Richard at richarda10@hotmail.com.*

THE IRISH SOCIAL CLUB: 119 Park Street West Roxbury, MA

Mar 02: Black Velvet Band

Mar 09: Mossie Coughlin

Mar 15: DEREK WARFIELD and the Young Wolf Tones.
Clover Rebels will open for Derek Warfield

Mar 17: "CLOVER REBELS". (Opening their U. S. Tour) Check with
the ISC for times for March 15th and 17th

Mar 16: Erin's Melody with Margaret Dalton 6-9PM

Mar 23: Silver Spears

Mar 30: Mossie Coughlin

THE IRISH CULTURAL CENTRE: 200 New Boston Dr, Canton MA

The regular weekly events will continue as before such as the Seisiuns and Set
dancing. For info and reservations on any event, call the ICC at (781) 821-8291.

Mar 02: Monthly Mass 11.00

Mar 04: 5th Annual St. Patrick's Dy Celebration in Boston from 5.30 - 8.30
PM honoring Eithne and Colin Bell from KBRT at the UMass club,
1 Beacon St. Boston, Mass 02108 (32nd Fl.) GA \$50.00

Mar 04: Joanie Madden and Cherish the Ladies Inaugural Show,
celebrating 40 years of Magic. Sold out.

Mar 08: "I can't believe it's not Ireland" by Paddy Cullivan. Starts at 7PM
From \$30.00

Mar 09: From Co. Donegal - "ONoir"

Mar 13: "Sina Thiel", Multi-Instrumentalist @ 7.30 PM for tickets call the
ICC at (781) 821-8291 or <https://shorturl/3EWGy>. From \$20.00

Mar 28: "Sean Keane" Live in concert

THE KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF ST. FINBARR - CORK CLUB

The Cork Club does not hold a dance in the month of March or August 2025 The
next dance will be on April 12, 2025 at the K of C 15 Winslow St. Arlington on April
12, 2025. Music by Kenneally and Keohane.

THE NORWOOD IRISH MUSIC CLUB

Mar 15: Will have their dance at the K of C in Norwood. This month the
Norwood club has "Erin's Melody" with Margaret Dalton. Starts
at 7-10.30 PM. Admission is \$10.00. Free parking, raffle and more

COMHALTAS CEOLTOIRI EIREANN

Reynolds, Hanafin-Cooley Branch will continue with their sessions from
3 - 7PM at the Canadian American Club 202 Arlington Street Watertown.
Please check to verify that no changes have been made to their regular
schedule. The Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Annual Convention is being held from
April 03 - April 06 at the "Double Tree" on International Drive, Orlando.
Always a fantastic time. Contact a member of the Reynolds,
Hanafin-Cooley Branch for Add'l information. www.cceconvention.com

Note: It is always advisable to double check with your club or organization on
any event you may be Interested in. Changes are made from time to time. Sincere
thanks to the Irish Pastoral Centre for help with the monthly events and the
Boston City Paper. The listing is prepared by the Knights and Ladies of St. Finbarr
- Cork Club P.O.Box 1241 Dedham 02027

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IPC SPECIAL EVENTS

FRIDAY
MARCH 7th

SUPPER CLUB

5pm - 7pm

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
CONTACT RÓISÍN: 617-265-5300



WEDNESDAY
MARCH 5th

Toddler

ST Patrick's Day Party

Playgroup at the IPC from 10am! All are welcome!



FRIDAY
MARCH 14th



SAINT PATRICK'S

Celebration

Annual Mass & Blessing of Shamrocks | **TICKET \$40**

11am-3pm @ Florian Hall

Register at www.ipcboston.org or call 617-265-5300

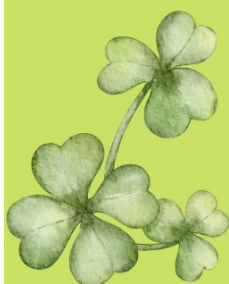


SUNDAY
MARCH 23rd

TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC SESSION

3PM- 5PM

@IPC



IPC ST PATRICKS DAY EVENTS



SAINT PATRICK'S *Celebration*

FRIDAY
14th
MARCH

**Annual Mass & Blessing
of Shamrocks**

TICKET
\$40

Corned Beef Dinner Followed by music & dancing with Erin's Melody

11am–3pm

****REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BEFORE THE EVENT****

**Tables of 10 available - if you would like to be seated next to
someone please purchase tickets together**

Payment must be made at the IPC or www.ipcboston.org before the event.

Mail checks to Irish Pastoral Centre, 540 Gallivan Blvd, Unit Rear,
Dorchester, MA 02124

Florian Hall, 55 Hallet St, Dorchester, MA 02124

ANSEO LE CHÉILE - HERE TOGETHER

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WEEKLY IPC PROGRAMS



Le Cheile Sobriety Support Program

ANSEO LE CHEILE - HERE TOGETHER

Saturdays, 6PM | Tuesdays, 7PM (Ladies Group)

Toddler Tuesdays

Bond with your child & socialize with other families in a relaxed Freeplay environment.

10AM-12PM



Music & Movement

With Miss Kathy!

**EVERY WEDNESDAY
10AM-12PM**

Help develop your child's motor skills, balance, co-ordination and rhythm through music and movement. Followed with a free play session.

Have fun and meet other families!



IRISH 25s CARD NIGHT

Come play Ireland's national card game, every Thursday evening. Tea, coffee and snacks provided. All welcome.

7:30PM



IPC BUMBLE BEE KNITTING & CROCHET CLUB

**EVERY THURS.
11AM-1PM**

All levels Welcome!

540 Gallivan Blvd. (REAR),
Dorchester, MA, 02124



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MARCH

IPC EVENTS AND PROGRAMS CALENDAR

2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
REMINDER DUE TO OUR PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON ON MARCH 14TH AT FLORIAN HALL, THERE WILL BE NO SENIOR COFFEE PROGRAMS RUNNING THE WEEK OF MARCH 10TH. SEE MORE INFO ON PAGE 25.						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM Coffee group Brighton: 1-3PM	At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM Coffee group Brighton: 1-3PM	At IPC: Toddler Group: 10am Ladies le Chéile Sobriety: 7-8PM Coffee group Weymouth: 1-3PM	At IPC: Toddler St. Patrick's Day Party: 10AM- 12PM Coffee Group: 11am- 1PM	At IPC: Knitting: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM Coffee group W. Roxbury: 1-3PM	At IPC: Fish & Chip Night! 5-7PM	At IPC: Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM	At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM	At IPC: Toddler Group: 10am Ladies le Chéile Sobriety: 7-8pm	At IPC: Music & Movement Toddler: 10AM- 12PM	At IPC: Knitting: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM	St. Patrick's Day Luncheon @ Florian Hall 11AM - 3PM	At IPC: Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
IPC CLOSED						
		At IPC: Toddler Group: 10PM Ladies le Chéile Sobriety: 7-8PM Coffee group Weymouth: 1-3PM	At IPC: Music & Movement Toddler: 10AM- 12PM Coffee Group: 11am- 1PM	At IPC: Knitting: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM Coffee group W. Roxbury: 1-3PM		At IPC: Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
At IPC: Trad Session: 3-5PM Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM Coffee group Brighton: 1-3PM	At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM Coffee group Brighton: 1-3PM	At IPC: Toddler Group: 10PM Ladies le Chéile Sobriety: 7-8PM Coffee group Weymouth: 1-3PM	At IPC: Music & Movement Toddler: 10AM- 12PM Coffee Group: 11am- 1PM	At IPC: Knitting: 11AM 25's Cards Night: 7:30PM Coffee group W. Roxbury: 1-3PM		At IPC: Le Chéile Sobriety: 6PM
30	31					
At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM Coffee group Brighton: 1-3PM	At IPC: Social work Clinic: by appointment Petrocelli School of Dance: 4:45PM Coffee group Brighton: 1-3PM					

For expanded Calendar for our coffee groups, see Pg.6

Events in **ORANGE** are **NOT** at the, 540 Gallivan Blvd REAR location.

IPC Community Partners



Home to Irish Bread & Scones; Coffee & Tea; Perfect for Cakes, Cookies and Bakes; Breakfast & Lunch Sandwiches, Hot Dinners
DAILY HOT LUNCH SPECIALS INCLUDE:

Monday: Chicken Pot Pie, Shephard's Pie

Tuesday: Roast Turkey Breast, Stuffing, Gravy & Cranberry

Wednesday: Greenhill's Baked Ham, Shephard's Pie

Thursday: Irish Boiled Dinner w/ Irish Boiled Bacon, Corned Beef, Cabbage, Spuds, Veg & Homemade White Sauce

Friday: Chicken Pot Pie, Chicken Curry, Rice and Fish dinner

Saturday: Shephard's Pie, Full Irish Breakfast

Sunday: Full Irish Breakfast



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FOR DINE-IN &
TAKEAWAY!

FULL IRISH BREAKFASTS | DAILY ROASTS | WEEKEND TRAD SESSIONS

Sports News From Ireland

Limerick hurlers appoint new captain and vice-captain for the 2025 Season—Joe.ie

Ahead of their 2025 National League campaign, 29-year-old Cian Lynch has been named as the new captain of the Limerick hurling team, with William O'Donoghue as vice-captain. The 2021 Hurler of the Year replaces Declan Hannon, who has captained Limerick to five All-Ireland titles, including four in a row from 2020 to 2023. In a statement Limerick said "Declan has led the group by example in everything he did on and off the pitch. He has been a wonderful example to those around him and a great support to all players and the management team throughout his time as captain."



Dublin to host Ireland's first NFL regular season game

Dublin's Croke Park stadium is to host Ireland's first regular season National Football League (NFL) game. The Pittsburgh Steelers were announced as the designated home team for the Dublin game, which is to be held at the end of September. "I'm honoured to confirm that in 2025 the NFL will play an historic, first-ever regular season game in Dublin, Ireland," NFL executive vice president Peter O'Reilly said. "The first regular season game in Ireland will be played at the iconic, historic and magnificent Croke Park stadium, home to the Gaelic Athletic Association, the GAA, and host to many tremendous sporting events and moments over the years."



Six Nations: Ireland beat Scotland to keep Grand Slam alive—ESPN

Ireland put on a superb display as they dominated Scotland in a 32-18 victory to stay perfect in this year's Six Nations, adding fuel to their bid for an unprecedented third straight title. Tries from Calvin Nash, captain Caelan Doris, James Lowe and Jack Conan plus 12 points off the boot of rookie fly-half Sam Prendergast saw Ireland to victory and left them as the only unbeaten team after the opening two rounds of the tournament. Ireland, seeking to become the first team to win three successive Six Nations titles outright, further stretched their lead in the 70th minute as 21-year-old Prendergast put over his second penalty to add to three conversions.



Dublin awaits as NFL announces 2025 Dates— RTE

The Galway native had surgery on his brain a week ago. Irish boxer John Cooney has died a week after his Celtic super-featherweight title fight at the Ulster Hall in Belfast. Cooney was stopped in the ninth round of his fight against Welshman Nathan Howells on February 1 and was taken to hospital, where he underwent surgery on a brain bleed and was admitted to intensive care. Cooney became the Celtic super-featherweight champion with a first-round victory over Liam Gaynor in Dublin in November 2023, part of the same sell-out show that saw Katie Taylor defeat Chantelle Cameron by majority decision.



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PAT WALSH SR RIP& PAT WALSH JR IN THEIR MEMORY

LOCAL SPORTS

New England Fenian's Player to Represent USAGAA in Ireland

A huge congratulations to New England Fenian's player Haley Reiersen who was selected by the USAGAA Camogie Development Committee to represent the USA in Ireland this May! The USGAA Camogie Development Workgroup announced "Camán to Carnew", an International Camogie Festival that brings together counties and camogie clubs from Carnew Emmets Camogie Club (Co Wicklow), Glenmore Camogie Club (Co Kilkenny), and a select panel of Homegrown or resident Irish USGAA camogie players.



SAVE THE DATE: USAGAA FINALS 2025

The official dates for the USGAA finals have been confirmed to take place on:

Aug. 15 to Aug. 17 in Philadelphia.

Be sure to add these dates to your calendars!



2025 Boston North East GAA Board



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Gareth Ruddy

Treasurer

Christina McGlaughlin

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John Farrell

Mike Conneely

Connemara Boxer Thomas O'Toole Remains Unbeaten



Nolan Bros Boxing Promotions returned to Royale in Boston on Saturday, February 8th with 11 action packed bouts featuring top local talent. Connemara professional boxer Thomas "Kids" O'Toole is now unbeaten in thirteen fights following a dominant win over James "Pitbull" Perkins of Lynn, MA at the Royale nightclub in downtown Boston. Dominant from the start, Thomas won the fight by TKO in the fourth round. The win moves Thomas to number 57 in the World.

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Local Sports

2025 Boston North East Minor Board



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PRO

Angie Dowling
St. Brendan's

Boston Féile Practice Begins for 2025

Practice has commenced at Union Point in Weymouth to prepare for The John West GAA Féile Peile na nÓg, a Club festival for Gaelic football and Ladies Gaelic football at U15 level. The tournament will be hosted in Derry, Ireland on June 28, 2025. The Boston Féile team is made up of players from the youth teams in the North East.



GAA QUIZ-LGFA and Camogie throughout the 2000's

Answers on Page 3

How well do you remember ladies football and camogie from through the 2000s?

1. Who won the 2010 All-Ireland senior football championship, disrupting Cork's dominance?
2. Which county won back-to-back O'Duffy Cups in 2000, 2001, 2003 and 2004?
3. Who captained Wexford to a first All-Ireland title in 32 years in 2007?
4. Where was the 2006 Ladies International Rules Series played?
5. When did Cora Staunton win her first All-Star?
6. Which Cork camóg was named Player of the Year in 2008?
7. Who scored a last-gasp goal for Mayo in the 2003 All-Ireland football final as they beat Dublin?
8. Ann Downey first managed the Kilkenny camógs in the 2000s. But how many All-Irelands did she win as a player?
9. In what year did Galway win their first - and only - All-Ireland ladies football championship title?
10. Who scored the final free kick which lead to Laois' victory against Mayo in the 2001 Senior Ladies All Ireland football final?



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Dorchester,
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 **617-265-5300**

 **www.ipcboston.org**

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