



Irish Pastoral Centre Newsletter



"We are a Parish without Boundaries."

*Serving the Greater Boston
Irish Community since 1987*

LOUTH AND MAYO CLAIM BIDEN!

According to the Irish Times, the contest for the White House may be over but the battle between Mayo and Louth for who has greatest stake over president-elect Joe Biden has only just begun.

Mr Biden's great-great grandfather James Finnegan and wife Catherine lived in the County Louth Cooley Peninsula before they emigrated to America in the 1850s. Another great-great grandfather Edward Blewitt was born in Ballina and emigrated from Co Mayo to Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Cont'd on Page 4



Joe Biden's distant cousins and locals cheered in the Biden ancestral home of Ballina, County Mayo. (Embassy of Ireland USA)

MARATHON RUNNERS PREVAIL!

Mary Varden from Cork is well known in the Irish community. Her passion is running and she inspires many at the Quincy running club. With many marathons completed, Mary wasn't going to give in to the fact that this year's Boston Marathon was cancelled due to Covid 19.

Leading a team of 4, Mary set out creating their own route and the four ladies began their marathon outside the Eire pub in Dorchester.

Cont'd on Page 4



Community Partnerships

If your business serves the Irish Community, please consider joining us as an IPC community partner. We have several opportunities for you to showcase your organization or business right here in our Newsletter while fully supporting the IPC. Please email mswanton@ipcboseon.org for more information or call Mary at 617 265 5300. We look forward to welcoming you!



Contact Us:

Irish Pastoral Centre
512 Gallivan Boulevard,
Suite 1,
Dorchester, Ma 02124
Tel: 617-265-5300
Email: Info@ipcboseon.org



Government of Ireland Emigrant Support Programme



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

IPC NEWS DESK

ZOOM AND SYSTEM UPDATES

Our amazing tech team—Aaron and Hunter have been working hard over the past few weeks to make our website more user friendly. This work will make it much easier to browse our website, learn of new events and to make donations. Both lads have also been very busy helping our community engage with our online events.

Under the direction of Senior Coordinator Mary Gorman, a massive effort has been made with home visits to train our seniors both on their devices and with connecting to Zoom.

If you or a family member would like to participate in our online events but feel unsure of how, feel free to reach out to either of the boys on 617-265-5300, who will be more than delighted to assist you in getting set up.



IPC COVID 19 UPDATE

Due to the second surge of the virus, our events and gatherings at the Irish Pastoral Centre will take place over the phone or online until further notice. This includes senior gatherings, legal clinics, and mother and toddler groups.

The IPC's offices are open in a limited capacity. If you need assistance, there will be limited staff available by phone. We ask that you call the office's main number 617-265-5300 or email us at info@ipcoston.org info@ipcoston.org. Please call in advance to ensure there is staff to assist you. We realize this is a very trying and isolating time and we really miss you! Please know the IPC will do our best to support our community in any way we can. We encourage you to keep an eye on our social media for any further updates and above all, we look forward very much to seeing you all again!

Help Prevent the Spread of the Virus

Stay Safe. Stay Strong
#MaskUpMA

For updated information, visit boston.gov/coronavirus



▶ Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.



▶ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



▶ Avoid shaking hands, as handshakes are a common way to spread the virus and bacteria from one person to another.



▶ Practice social distancing. Keep your distance from others (at least six feet apart), and avoid crowded places.



▶ Wear a face covering to help prevent unknowingly transmitting the virus to others.



▶ Stay home if you are sick. We must limit in-person contact to slow the spread of the virus.

IPC NEWS DESK

Leaving No One Behind at Christmas

The IPC is launching a Christmas Groceries Gift Card Fund to support those amongst us who are most in need.

We appeal to Local Irish Organizations, friends and neighbors to assist us.

If you can help by donating, or if you know of a family or someone in need, please call the IPC at 617-265-5300 or email Fr. Dan at danfinn@ipcboston.org

Please know that requests will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

IRISH PASSPORT FORMS

Did you know that the IPC can assist you with **NEW Irish Passport Applications?**

We have the forms and can provide Notary Services also. Please call the IPC at 617-265-5300 for all the details.

IMPORTANT: This service does not apply to most passport renewals. If your passport has expired within the past five years, you must submit your application electronically. Passports with an expiration date exceeding five years require a paper application.



Subscribe to our NEWSLETTER

The IPC newsletter can be mailed to your home or business. Email mswanton@ipcboston.org. Call 617-265-5300. Donations to assist with mailing costs are most appreciated.

IPC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The IPC offers a free employment service. Through our referrals we have successfully helped connect many job seekers. We can help those looking for work or employers looking for quality employees. For more information, please reach out to Audrey at 617-265-5300 or by email at alarkin@ipcboston.org.

Mass Cards are available at the IPC



COMMUNITY NEWS



IRISH ECHO RECOGNIZES LOCAL IRISH ORGANIZATIONS

The Irish Echo Newspaper recently held an online celebration honoring those in the Irish and Irish American community who exemplify the true spirit of giving, especially in these uncertain COVID-19 times. Boston Honors were bestowed upon Mary Sugrue, Executive Director of the Irish American Partnership and Steve Burke, Executive Director of the Irish Cultural Center of New England .

BIDEN COUSINS *Cont'd from Page 1*

Irish plumber Joe Blewitt from Co. Mayo has more reason than most to cheer a Democratic victory in the US election. His famous cousin will soon be taking up office as the president of the United States.

Mr Biden's great, great, great grandfather - Edward Blewitt left Ballina for America during the Irish famine 170 years ago.

Joe Blewitt and his sister Laurita have met Mr Biden several times and have already visited him in the White House.

Meanwhile, on the east coast of Ireland, another Irish family are celebrating their famous cousin's success. Anne Kearney-Quinn, from County Louth, shares a great, great, great grandmother with Mr Biden.



MARATHON RUNNERS *Cont'd from Page 1*

All four runners have completed the Boston marathon in the past and this year, they really enjoyed running a different route. They ran a 13 mile route from Dorchester through the waterfront and back to Dorchester and off they went again to complete a 26 mile route. Each year, Mary coordinates efforts to run for the Irish Pastoral Centre and in their past efforts with fundraising have been extraordinary. This year in particular, the runners made great strides once again and it clearly meant a lot to Fr Dan when he accepted their donation.

Running alongside Mary were Lorraine Mobarak and Carol Whelan. Lorraine has been running with the Quincy Running Club for about 10 years. While she has completed many half marathons and shorter distance road races over the years, the 2020 Boston Marathon was her second full marathon, the first was Dublin. While this year's Boston race was certainly different than what Lorraine initially expected, it was a wonderful day, and she feels so blessed to have had the opportunity to both run the race while supporting the IPC. Carol Whelan has many races around the globe and has completed 7 marathons, including 3 Boston marathons. Carol credits the Quincy Running Group for keeping her running passion alive! She's married and has 2 children. Her favorite running memory was running the Falmouth Road Race side by side with her daughter Kathryn who also shares her love of the sport. The IPC is exceptionally grateful!

Covid Testing May Reduce Quarantine Time in Ireland

Following on from hopes for a vaccine early next year, the Covid-19 infection rate is coming down and Taoiseach Micheál Martin is talking about a return to Level 3 restrictions in early December, with other rules being relaxed.

There's still hope for the Irish abroad coming back home for the festive season. Rather than facing 14 days of restricting movements, people travelling in and out of the country will have the option of taking a Covid-19 test.

A negative result means those travelling from red or orange countries will be good to go. The test will cost up to €200, but it will be the difference between coming home or not. *Source—The Irish Post 11/11/20*

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dorchester's John King Gains Hero Status in Ireland

JOHN KING starred on coverage of the 2020 US Election with his incredible dedication and skillful handling of 'magic wall' mapping on all major US electoral battlefields.

King, who was raised in St Mark's parish in Dorchester left few in doubt about his ancestry during the prolonged election count after Lisa McGee, the screenwriter of comedy hit Derry Girls, tweeted: "Is @JohnKingCNN Irish yet?" "Always" replied John King in the midst of the count which sent twitter into a frenzy. MSN has reported the CNN star could be making a trip to the Emerald Isle soon. While Louth and Mayo claim President Elect Biden, Connemara will welcome King home. It begins in Doonloughan", said King to the Sunday World "and a visit is long overdue," His grandfather, Christopher King, was born in 1891 in Ballyconneely and later lived in Doonloughan in the early 1900s. He arrived in Boston in 1911 and settled in Dorchester. King's his grandmother, Bridget King (née Joyce), was also from Connemara. She was born in 1891 in Cashel, Co Galway and emigrated to Boston in 1909. Numerous invitations have already been extended as Connemara looks forward to a visit from the man on the magic wall.



Here are some of the social media quotes regarding John King: ***"Ireland has a new King and his name is John"....."He's some man for one man"... "Great to see @JohnKing CNN fast becoming a household name in Ireland,""I foresee an appearance on The Late Late Show and an honorary degree from Trinity College,"*** ***"We need John in Ireland covering the next election. Hope he brings his magic wall too."***

CITY OF BOSTON CULTURAL GRANT APPLICATION EXTENDED

The Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events has announced that there is still time to apply for a grant for general operating support for nonprofits that offer arts and cultural programming in Boston!

For all the details, please visit:

<http://boston.gov/arts-grants>



IT'S FLU SEASON IN BOSTON



The Boston Public Health Commission is offering vouchers for free flu vaccines to uninsured or underinsured adults. The vouchers can be redeemed at any Walgreens pharmacy.

For more info, call the Mayor's Health Line at **617-534-5050** or toll-free at **800-847-0710**.

REMEMBERING GERRY MCCARTHY USMC

Recently, Fr Dan celebrated a funeral mass at St Mark's for a great friend and Veteran Gerry McCarthy. Kevin Cullen at the Boston Globe paid tribute:



Gerry McCarthy was 19 years old when he left Dorchester for Parris Island, S.C. The Marines handed him a rifle and Gerry went to Vietnam.

In 1967, he was on his third tour, on a foot patrol, his best friend walking in front of him, when a round fired by the Viet Cong blew his friend's head off. The same bullet went into Gerry's forehead, destroying a chunk of his frontal lobe. At the field hospital, they dug the bullet out, stitched him up, then, two days later, sent him back to his unit.

Somehow, he survived the last three weeks of that third tour, but the Gerry McCarthy who came back to Dorchester was a different guy.

The city and the country were in upheaval. The Boston Police Department was hiring veterans, so Gerry got on the job. But the demons in his head followed him home from Vietnam and it quickly became obvious he couldn't remain a police officer. The cops found him in a park, holding his service revolver. He told them he was lying in wait for the enemy, the VC. There were many rough years. He had psychotic breaks. His longtime lawyer and guardian, Betty Dew, met him at the Shattuck Hospital, after he got kicked out of the VA hospital for being disruptive. By the mid-1990s, improvements in medication made Gerry stable enough to move into a group home in Dorchester.

He became a fixture at St. Mark's on Dorchester Avenue. If there were no altar servers, the pastor, Father Dan Finn, would give the signal and Gerry would join him on the altar. When there was a funeral, Gerry put his police training to good use, directing cars on Dot Ave like a seasoned traffic cop. While Gerry sometimes was profane, and could occasionally be very difficult, Judy Greeley, the parish secretary at St. Mark's, believed he was someone who should be held in the highest esteem.

"Gerry gave his life, a normal life, for his country," Greeley told me. "He couldn't have a relationship, or kids. He couldn't hold a job."

Gerry did odd jobs at various bars along Dot Ave. The Irish immigrant patrons of the Centre Bar loved him and were protective of him. He'd sweep out the Tara, then mosey down to the Ashmont Grill.

"He'd read the paper, have a ginger ale, then move on," Greeley said. "Everybody knew he was Gerry, the Vietnam vet who got shot in the head, so they looked after him. Once a lot of those bars started closing, he had no place to go."

But there was always St. Mark's.

"Gerry did not have a filter, at least with adults," Greeley said. "In the rectory or the kitchen, he'd say the most outrageous things. But he never swore around children. He was always kind and gentle to children. Even though part of his brain was missing, part of his heart knew what to do around kids."

Gerry used to buy crayons for the kids at the parish mother and toddlers group. He'd sit in the corner and the kids would go over to him, fascinated by this big, unkempt old man with the omnipresent Red Sox cap. The mothers asked him to play Santa Claus at the kids Christmas party. Greeley bought him a Santa outfit.

When the party ended, Gerry wouldn't take the costume off. He wore it home, yelling "Ho! Ho! Ho!" as he walked up Dot Ave.

Gerry was awarded a Purple Heart in Vietnam but never managed to pick it up, so Dew went to Senator Ted Kennedy, and his staff cut through the red tape. In 2008, 41 years after taking a bullet in the head, Gerry McCarthy got his medal. They had a time for Gerry at the Harp & Bard, where his dad used to bring him for a soda when he was a boy. The kids from St. Mark's made cards for him and showed up at his party with their mothers. Gerry stood next to his brother Dennis, beaming. Senator Kennedy, who a month before had been diagnosed with brain cancer, sent Gerry a note that Gerry treasured.

"America owes you a debt we can never repay," Ted Kennedy wrote.

The Sunday after he got his medal, Gerry walked into Mass and the entire congregation at St. Mark's rose to give him a standing ovation.

Gerry's mental health deteriorated dramatically right after the high of receiving his Purple Heart. Dew said the voices in his head were unrelenting.

About five years ago, Gerry finally found peace in the Berkshires. He got a placement in the Berkshire Rehabilitation & Skilled Care Center in tiny Sandisfield, where he grew less cantankerous and more at peace. The staff were very kind to him, Dew said.

Father Dan and Judy Greeley kept in touch, sometimes making the long ride out on the Pike.

Father Dan drove out to see him a little more than a week before his passing.

"He was in bed, sleeping," Father Dan said. "Eventually, he opened his eyes and spoke a word or two, but I couldn't understand what he was saying." Father Dan's gaze drifted above Gerry's bed, noticing that Gerry had put up a sign that said, "With God, all things are possible." On the drive home, Father Dan thought about all the gifts Gerry McCarthy gave those who knew him. "He made us more compassionate, more empathetic, more patient," Father Dan said. "More loving."

Gerry died peacefully Saturday. He was 74.

Father Dan said a funeral Mass at St. Mark's for the repose of the soul of his old friend, in a place where Gerry McCarthy found acceptance, love, and, in that bright red Santa suit, a measure of redemptive joy.

COMMUNITY NEWS



THE HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I.

Just over 116,000 Americans died in World War I, defending the lives and freedom of our European allies.

The following year, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration to honor the soldiers who fought in that war. The day was originally known as Armistice Day.

November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, the holiday became known as Veterans Day. It is estimated that more than 1 million Americans have died in all U.S. wars.

Today, there is a projected total of 1.3 million active duty service men and women in the U.S. military, with an additional 800,000 serving in reserve components. There are approximately 21 million veterans alive in the U.S. On the first Armistice Day, the nationwide celebration included parades, public meetings and a two-minute suspension of business at 11 a.m. The first celebration using the term Veterans Day occurred in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1947. This "National Veterans Day" celebration included a parade and other festivities, to honor all veterans.



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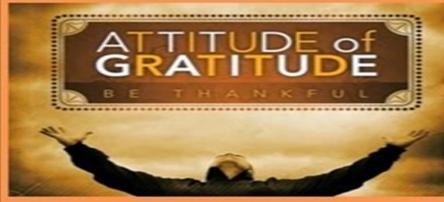
Angela Bergin was born and educated in Cork, Ireland. After finishing school and traveling in Europe she moved to the US in 1985 where she worked in Health Care and the hospitality business for many years.

In 2002, she started in Real Estate and has since enjoyed much success in the ever-changing market. Angela is a top producing agent who has built a tremendous business in Quincy and the surrounding towns.

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95 Eliot Street | Milton | MA 02186

Sports Quiz Answers: 1-Beech Hill, Clonskeagh, Dublin 1888, 2-Breaffy, -,2012, 4-Galway, 5-Waterford, 6-Kevin Moran, 7-Longford, 8-1928, 9-Offaly full-back Paddy McCormack, 10-Fermanagh

IPC COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SOCIAL WORK



November

a month of gratitude

You may have heard the saying *attitude of gratitude*. It's a great little rhyme to remind us that we live a life of gratitude – and practice it! When we practice gratitude on a regular basis, it not only impacts our mental and physical health, but those around us as well. Emotions are contagious and in these times when we are living with a pandemic and there is so much fear and anxiety, it is even more vital that we foster positive emotions to strengthen our own well-being as well as the emotional well-being of those around us.

Gratitude is the quality of being thankful and showing appreciation for what we have. At a time when many of us are struggling to adapt to a new normal, practicing gratitude is more important than ever.

Showing gratitude has the following mental health benefits:

1. **Expressing gratitude can improve your mood.** People who regularly express gratitude for the positive things in their life are shown to be happier overall, leading to lower rates of stress and depression.
2. **Showing gratitude can make you more optimistic.** Studies show that those who express gratitude regularly appear to have a more positive outlook on life.
3. **Sharing gratitude can improve social bonds.** People have reported feeling more loved and more connected to others in their lives when they routinely practice gratitude or those around them practice gratitude.
4. **Practicing gratitude can improve your physical health.** People who actively express gratitude tend to be more engaged in activities to take care of their physical health, like eating well and exercising. This leads to higher energy levels, better sleep and a stronger immune system, or the ability to fight off illness or infection. *"You were given life; it is your duty (and also your entitlement as a human being) to find something beautiful within life, no matter how slight."* –Elizabeth Gilbert

Gratitude is perhaps the most important key to finding success and happiness in the modern day. Knowing what we appreciate in life means knowing who we are, what matters to us and what makes each day worthwhile. Paying attention to what we feel grateful for puts us in a positive frame of mind. It connects us to the world around us and to ourselves. Research demonstrates that focusing on what we are grateful for is a universally rewarding way to feel happier and more fulfilled. Gratitude also helps relieve aches and pains and boosts the immune system so it could be argued that it is more important than ever to find things to be thankful for.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS PRE COVID! SEND US YOUR PHOTOS!



NORWOOD IRISH MUSIC CLUB



THE SLIGO ASSOCIATION



THE IRISH SOCIAL CLUB

NEWS FROM OUR SENIOR COMMUNITY



IPC Senior Coordinator
Mary Gorman can be
reached at 617-265-5300 or
by email :
mgorman@ipcboston.org



Congratulations to our ZOOM Bingo winners! Mary Morley won a \$25.00 Dunkin Donuts Gift Card and Kathleen Keady won a \$25.00 Gift Card to Devlin's



Seniors who are feeling lonesome as they shelter-in-place and would like a friendly check-in phone call from The Irish Pastoral Centre, should call our office on 617-265-5300 and ask for their name to be added to our call list.

ZOOM Bingo and Yoga Schedule:

Please join us every Tuesday for BINGO at 11am

ZOOM LAUGHING YOGA TAKES PLACE ON WEDNESDAYS AT 11AM

Wednesday 11/18/2020, Wednesday 12/2/2020
Wednesday 12/16/2020



IMPORTANT UPDATE:

We are planning our annual All Souls Mass at Mission Church in Roxbury on Tuesday December 8th.

Please call the IPC to add your name to our phone bank and we will notify you as soon as we have further information



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NOVEMBER BINGO GIFT CARD WINERS:
Noreen Molloy, Mary Morley and Kathleen Keady**

FR. DAN'S PAGE



Song of The Body of Christ

“We are called to heal the broken, to be hope for the poor, we are called to feed the hungry at our door.”

This verse and the story which follows are very much in the spirit of what the Irish Pastoral Centre is being called to do and be during these pandemic days. How could we not be generous?

Fashioned to Be Generous

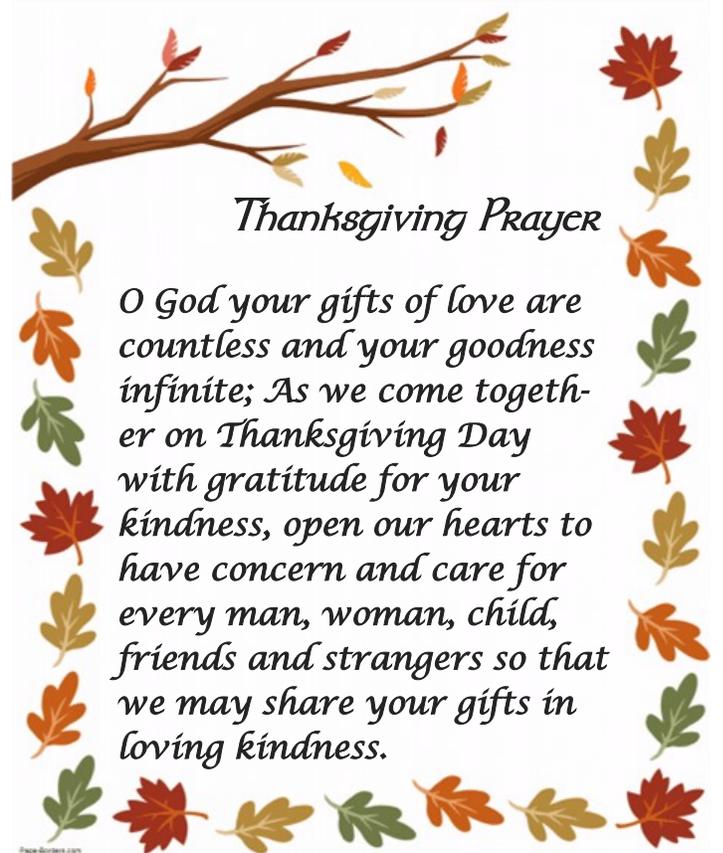
by Michelle Franc1-Donnay

When the pandemic began to rage last Spring, my son Michael arrived on our doorstep. He'd lost his job, an out of town assignment the virus had cancelled, and sublet his apartment to strangers. He had no other place to stay for the next few weeks. We gathered him back into the nest, grateful we had a bed and food to share with him.

Then came the text message from the couple subletting his basement apartment. Could they stay an extra two weeks? Without paying more rent. Of course, he told them. When I wondered aloud if he could spare so much from his tight budget, all he said was, “How could I not be generous?”

I was awed he would pay a stranger's rent. As a parent, you want to help your children grow, to help them find their wings, to make their own nests.

At Thanksgiving we gather not only to express our gratitude but to remember that we were all fashioned to be generous. The gifts we share with each other, even our very selves, were first gifts to us.



Thanksgiving Prayer

O God your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; As we come together on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern and care for every man, woman, child, friends and strangers so that we may share your gifts in loving kindness.

IMMIGRATION NEWS

IPC Immigration Program Update

- We have continued to field questions related to immigration matters including Green Cards, Irish passports, travel restrictions, adjustment of status and citizenship. Many of these have been over the phone, but as our offices have remained opened, we have been able to counsel and advise those who have visited the office seeking emergency assistance, and offer guidance on immigration matters to these individuals.
- We have helped to advise and consult with those inquiring and considering returning home to Ireland so they understand the implications of decisions they make and share available resources with them.
- We have assisted a number of people in applying for U.S. citizenship and encouraging those who are eligible for U.S. citizenship to apply before the application fee increases are effective.
- The IPC has continued to host Legal Immigration Clinics twice a month. We have transitioned from in-person consultations to scheduling consultations by phone. Our volunteer attorneys have been exceptional in their flexibility and willingness to adapt to the current COVID pandemic. Our clinic "attendance" has actually increased over the last several months.
- IPC staff has continued to connect with two Irish men incarcerated in Norfolk prison. From March to late September, the prison suspended all visits due to the risk of COVID. During that time we made a great effort to write to the inmates, and be available to take phone calls from them. In late September, the Department of Corrections permitted very limited visits and approved IPC staff visited once per week for several weeks. Due to a rise in COVID cases, visits have again ceased and the prison is in lockdown. We remain in contact with the inmates by mail, email, and phone when possible. We will continue to provide support to the inmates in any



**Maryann Casavant
is our Irish Pastoral
Centre Immigration
Coordinator.**

**Please reach out to
Maryann directly at
617-265-5300
or email**

mcasavant@ipcboston.org

Immigration & Legal Services

Irish Pastoral Centre - Free Immigration Clinics

Clients can schedule a free and confidential 1:1 consultation with an experienced immigration attorney to discuss their specific needs related to immigration status, adjustment of status and citizenship.

During this COVID-19 emergency our volunteer attorneys have offered to provide telephone consultations by appointment.



To schedule an appointment please call 617-265-5300 or email mcasavant@ipcboston.org



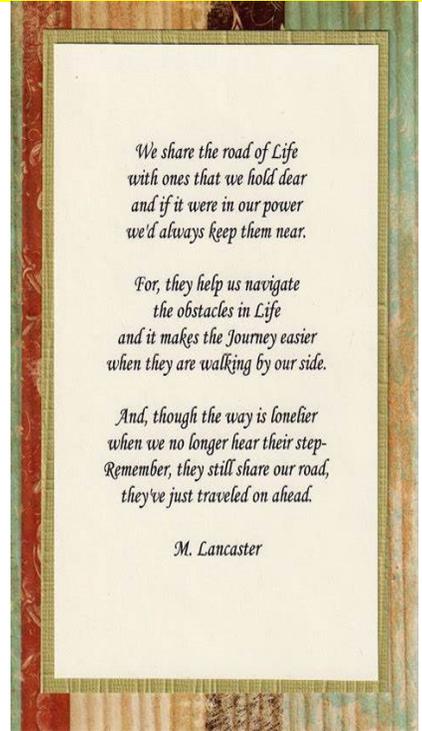
IPC CLINICS

**Monday, Nov. 16
Tuesday, Dec. 1
Monday, Dec. 21**

In Loving Memory “Ar Dheis Dé go Raiðh a Anam”

We remember those in our community who have recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers and with all bereaved families, and we hope that in time lovely memories will surround them. Fr. Dan will offer the Holy Sacrifice of Mass each month for our recently departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

- October 9, Anthony O’ Baoill, Watertown and County Dublin
- October 13, Peggy Tunney, Westwood and County Galway
- October 14, Thomas Gaughan, Walpole and County Mayo
- October 16, Kathleen Walsh, Dorchester and County Galway
- October 17, Eleanor McCabe, Roslindale and County Galway
- October 19, John Greene, Dorchester and County Galway
- October 19, Julian Hamilton, Quincy and County Cork
- October 25, Michael Hurley, Clonakilty, Co Cork
- October 31, Mary J McDonagh, Somerville County Galway
- November 3, Bill O’Brien, Roslindale and Cork City
- November 9, Michael Curran, Milton and County Galway
- November 9, Ellen “Nelly” Miskell, Dorchester and County Galway
- November 15, Patrick Costello, Norwood and County Galway



Sean M. Keane R.I.P.

The Leitrim Society of Boston are very sorry to share the news of the passing of Sean Keane, formerly of Milton and Quincy, on Thursday November 5th, 2020. Sean was the dear son of Jimmy and Julie Keane of Milton, whom most of you will know as longtime friends and members of our society.



Sean M. Keane, age 51, of Stoughton, formerly of Milton and Quincy, passed away peacefully He was the dear son of James N. and Julie T. Keane of Milton. Loving brother to Jimmy Keane and Corinne Getchell of Quincy, Gary and Lori Keane of Stoughton, Denis and Christine Keane of Stoughton, and Christine Keane of Quincy. He was the loving uncle to Connor and Caitlin Ainsley of Quincy, Keira, Korynne and James Keane of Stoughton, and Liam Keane of Stoughton. Sean is also survived by many aunts and uncles and cousins, here and in Ireland and England. Sean was an avid reader. He really enjoyed getting together for card games with his family and friends and also loved taking his nephews and nieces to the movies. He loved and thoroughly enjoyed his many trips to Ireland. A private Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Agatha Church, Milton and Sean was laid to rest at Milton Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his memory to Shriners Hospital for Children, 51 Blossom St., Boston, MA 02114

To include your loved one on our Remembrance page, please call 617-265-5300. We are happy to feature Month’s mind notices and Acknowledgements also.

Fadó Fadó - Long Ago in Ireland

An Advent Memory

by Bridget Haggerty RIP Irish Cultures and Customs

Right after supper, on the first Sunday of Advent, everyone at St. Vincent's Boarding School for Girls, waited in eager anticipation for the lighting of the first candle.

A huge wreath was somehow magically suspended below the main chandelier in the center of the dining hall. Tables and chairs were quickly pushed back so there was enough space for all of us to gather in a circle, three or four tiers deep, with the youngest in front.

As excited as we were, all of us were very careful to remain silent - that was the rule.

While we took our places, two of the sisters helped each other carry a step-ladder into the circle. One of them also carried a long, lit taper. Then, while one sister stood by to offer assistance if needed, the other one began to climb the steps. We all watched in awe as she made her ascent, one hand steadying her progress, and the other gripping the taper. As soon as she was close enough, she held the taper to the candle. At first, the wick flickered, but then flared into a bright illumination and that was when all of the other lights in the hall were extinguished.

In the glow of that single candle, a group of sisters began to sing "Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel." Then, we all joined in. I was just six years old the first time I took part in the Advent Ceremony at St. Vincent's, but I can remember it as if it were yesterday.

The ritual would be repeated every Sunday until Christmas, except that by the third or fourth Sunday, our numbers would have dwindled dramatically as girls left to go home for the holidays. One year, my family was experiencing some difficulties and I was among the few who were left on that last Sunday. I did my best to sing the carol, thankful that, even though the four candles of Advent shone brightly, it was still dark enough to hide tears of disappointment.

Imagine my joy when I was called to the Mother Superior's office late on Christmas Eve, and there stood my dad, waiting to take me home. I snuggled up to him all the way back on the train, as happy as I've ever been, before or since.

Generally, it is customary for the youngest child in the family to have the honor of lighting this candle because, as the Irish point out, they will live the longest and send the custom furthest. But, on this most special of Christmas Eve's, my parents bestowed the honor on me. I've long forgotten what gifts Father Christmas brought me that year - whatever they were, they are totally overshadowed in the light of the gifts I had already been given.



Nana's Apron

I don't think our kids know what an apron is but most of us have special memories. The principle use of Nana's apron was to protect the dress underneath because she only had a few. It was also because it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and aprons used less material. But along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs while turf and coal were brought into the kitchen in that apron also. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot range.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables and fallen apples.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds. And those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron. I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron - but love.



Ireland's Response To USA Election

Statement From President Higgins Congratulating President-elect Joe Biden

Date: Sat 7th Nov, 2020: "Today, I have conveyed my best wishes to President-elect Joe Biden, congratulating him and wishing him and the American people every good fortune for his term in office, and congratulating Vice President-elect Kamala Harris on her historic achievement.

Sabina and I, and the staff at Áras an Uachtaráin, have the warmest memories of Joe Biden's two visits to us.

On behalf of the people of Ireland, I wish President-elect Biden and Vice President-elect Harris every success in the years ahead."

The bonds between the peoples of Ireland and the United States are close and strong, and I look forward to our two countries working together to rebuild the much-needed trust in the methods and institutions of national and international solidarity and cooperation.

That solidarity is indispensable, if we are to address the urgent challenges of our time, including such diverse issues as the need to address the cause and consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic, climate change, global poverty, hunger, migration and the digitization of our economies, all issues on which the President-elect has expressed a commitment.



Phonecall From An Taoiseach Michael Martin

Taoiseach Micheál Martin and US President-elect Joe Biden spoke for more than 20 minutes after Mr Biden's victory speech.

The call was described as very warm and Mr Biden restated his deeply felt commitment to the Good Friday Agreement.

Mr Biden told the Taoiseach that he sees Ireland as a key bridge builder in his efforts to restore good relations between the US and the EU. Mr Biden said that he wants to create the conditions for a global economic recovery and he spoke too about his commitment to tackling climate change.

He told Mr Martin he would immediately sign the Paris Accord after he is sworn in on 20 January.

Mr Biden spoke at length about his Irish connections and he was aware of Mayo's win against Roscommon in the Connacht Football Championship.

He spoke too about his strong desire to visit Ireland as US President.

A Government statement said: "An Taoiseach Micheál Martin and President-elect Joe Biden spoke by phone.

"An Taoiseach congratulated President-elect Biden and Kamala Harris on their remarkable election victory.

"In a warm conversation, President-elect Biden recalled his strong Irish roots and his visit to Ireland with his family in 2016.

"The President-elect reaffirmed his full support for the Good Friday Agreement and they discussed the importance of a Brexit outcome that respects the GFA and ensures no return of a border on the island of Ireland.

"They looked forward to working together bilaterally and across a range of international areas including EU-US relations, the UN - including the Security Council, and on the important global challenges of Covid-19, economic recovery and climate change."

*"Northeast Pennsylvania will be written on my heart,
But Ireland will be written on my soul,"
Joe Biden on his visit to Ireland in 2016.*

Joe Brolly Beats World Leaders In Race To Congratulate Biden

As world leaders formed orderly queues to speak to the former US vice-president following his election victory, GAA pundit and Dungiven-born barrister Joe Brolly said he has already managed to do so.

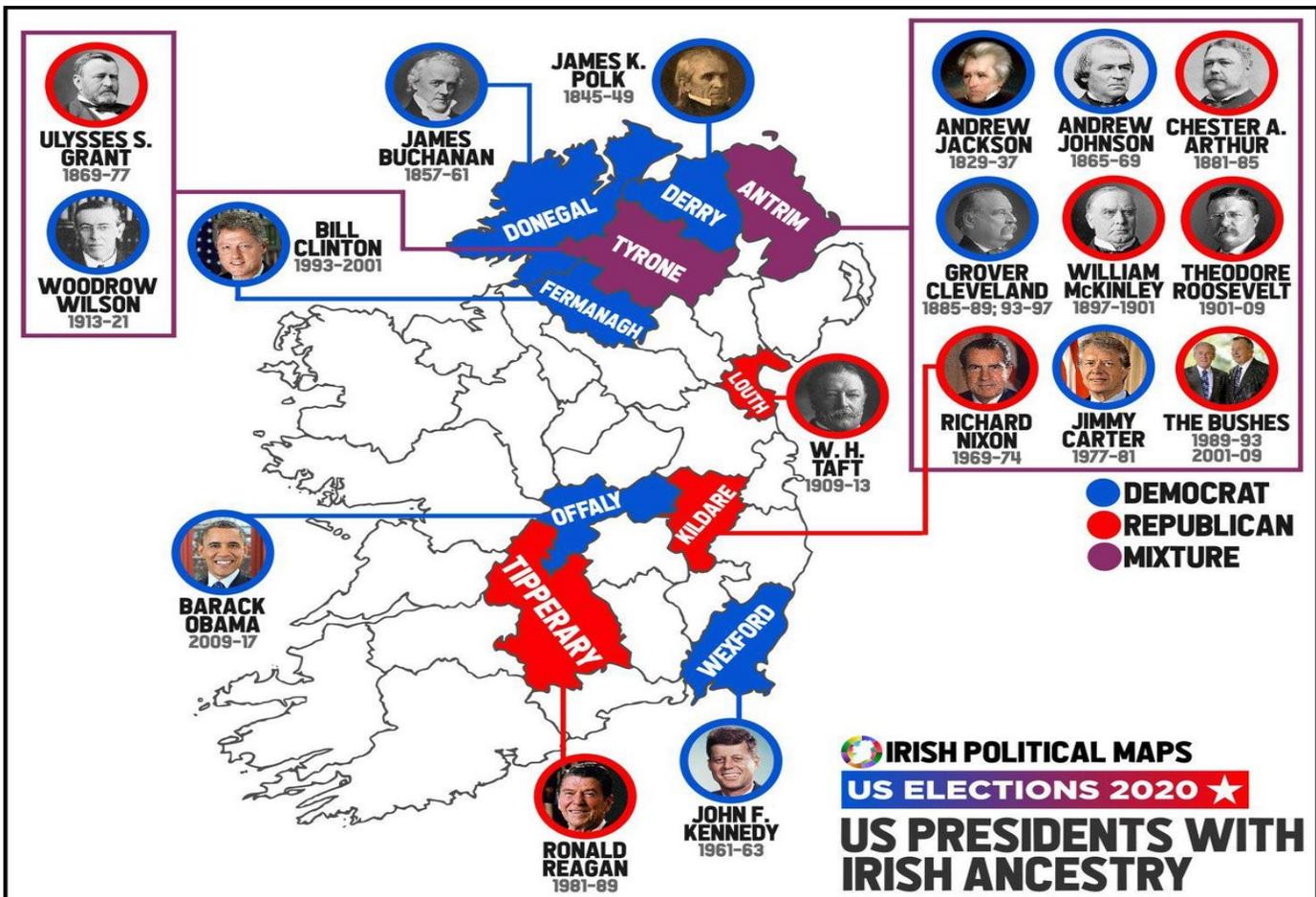
Speaking on RTÉ's Claire Byrne Live show, Mr Brolly said he had been "very privileged" to have been "in a speaker call with the family in Joe's home in Delaware the day after the election had been called and basically I said congratulations".

The Derry All-Ireland winning footballer said he had gotten to know Mr Biden "through the hospice and we've become friendly". It is believed Mr Brolly was referring to the Mayo Roscommon Hospice, of which he is an ambassador. Mr Brolly described the president elect as a "very honorable man", saying that "honor is his touch stone". *The Irish*



CHIEFTAINS TO PERFORM AT INAUGURATION

US President-elect Joe Biden has enlisted the services of The Chieftains to perform at his inauguration ceremony. Mr Biden has extended a provisional invitation to the Irish band – although it is still not certain whether they will perform virtually or in-person next year. America's [next commander-in-chief](#) is a lifelong fan of The Chieftains and the band performed for him when he visited Matt Molloy's Bar in Westport during his 2016 visit to Ireland -*the Irish Mail*



IPC SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



MEET NEIL HURLEY

If you have spent any time in any sphere of Boston's Irish community you will know Neil Hurley.

The Somerville native — and son of West Cork immigrants has been a tireless and selfless volunteer for a multitude of Irish sporting, social, cultural, and philanthropic organizations for many years.

A Math and Philosophy graduate of Boston College, Neil entered the emerging I.T. field and embarked upon a career that would include the position of deputy director of data systems for the Federal Election Commission and consulting roles for multiple businesses and government agencies.

Deeply proud of his Cork roots, Neil's mother hailed from Drimoleague and his father came from Iniskeene,

Neil was involved in Irish charitable causes throughout his working life - notably serving as Vice President of the Knights and Ladies of St. Finbarr and emulating his parents by earning the organization's "Man of the Year" Award in 1996 - but it was after retiring from the computer industry in 2000 that he was able to invest all of himself in voluntary service and here at the Irish Pastoral Centre, we are most grateful.

Neil had been greatly impressed with the intellectual abilities and work ethic of the 'new wave' of Irish immigrants he had met during frequent business trips to Clonmel with Digital, his past employer, and was very aware of the challenges new immigrants faced upon arrival. To help them with those challenges he studied as a paralegal at Bentley College and began volunteering two days per week at the Irish Immigration Center. To date, Neil has assisted hundreds of emigrants on their path to citizenship. Always more about getting things done than attending meetings to talk about doing them, Neil is a Board member at the Irish Pastoral Centre and has been active in the Abbot Celtic Football Club, the Massachusetts State Soccer league and the Charitable Irish Society.



Passionate about helping today's immigrants succeed in the journey his parents made, Neil has been a local and national advocate for newly arriving Irish. He has participated in the work of the Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers and has traveled to rallies and public meetings from New Hampshire to Washington D.C. in support of compassionate immigration reform.

A firm believer and firmer practitioner — of the principle that one generation ought to help the next, Neil sums up the length and depth of his volunteer work very simply: "My folks got help when they came over from West Cork, and so they helped other folks when they came over. You don't do it for yourself, you do it for other people.

PHOTOS: Artist Vincent Crotty portrait of Neil Hurley and a meeting with Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

Each month, the IPC will feature a Senior Spotlight Story. Please reach out to our Senior Coordinator Mary Gorman at 617-265-5300 or email mgorman@ipcbboston.org if you would like to be featured.

NEWS FROM THE IRISH CONSULATE

Passport Service Paused

Due to Level 5 Covid Restrictions, the Passport Service is open for applications but processing is paused as Ireland is at Level 5 of the National Framework for Living with COVID-19. There will be an update in 3 weeks. Visit dfa.ie/passports for the latest information



Ard-Chonsalacht na hÉireann Consulate General of Ireland

First Friday

All are welcome to sign up for [#virtual](#) [#FirstFriday](#) for an update from the New England Irish Community led by the Irish Consulate! Join us on Friday December 4th at 9AM. Visit dfa.ie/boston for all the details.

For Updated Travel Advice, please refer to

dfa.ie/boston

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS AT THE IRISH CULTURAL CENTRE IN CANTON



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We are delighted to host Donegal
Diaspora Initiative's

Evening with Packie Bonner,
Declan Houton and Waylon Deer

Join us for a transatlantic cele-
bration of community, home and
friendship as we look back on
good times, sing some songs &
celebrate the Choctaw-Irish con-
nection

Highlights of event:

- *Lifestory / Q & A with former Ireland Goalkeeper Packie Bonner*
- *Chat with Waylon Deer, Choctaw artist living in Donegal*
- *Music with Declan Houton, Malin / Boston*

Donegal – Boston “Friendsgiving”

Time: 16.00 EST/21.00 Ireland
Date: 29th November 2020

Check our Facebook page for Zoom and event
details!!!



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Notable Quotes

“As a child I stuttered and she lovingly would look at me and tell me ‘Joey, it’s because you’re so bright you can’t get the thoughts out quickly enough.’
 When I wasn’t as well-dressed as the other kids she would look at me and say ‘Joey, oh, you’re so handsome, honey, you’re so handsome.’ And when I got knocked down by guys bigger than me, and this is the God’s truth, she sent me back out and said ‘Bloody their nose so you can walk down the street the next day!’”

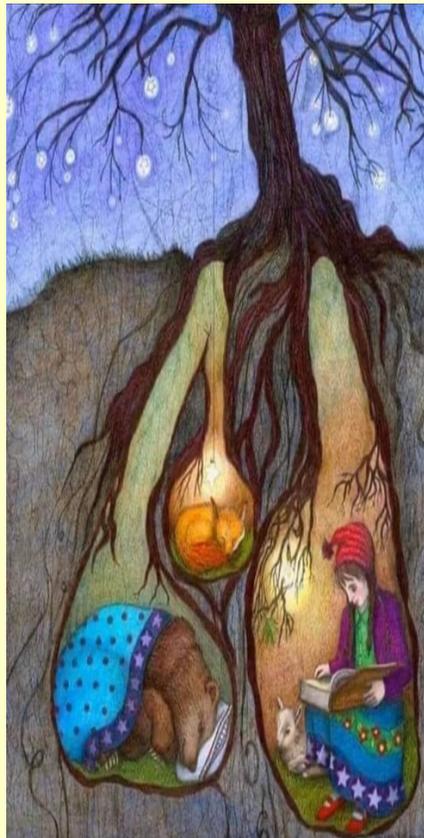
President Elect Joe Biden speaking of his late mother Catherine Eugenia Finnegan. Her roots are in County Louth



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A COVID QUOTE BY KITTY O’MEARA, Dubbed "the poet laureate of the pandemic"

"And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.
 "And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.
 "And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed."



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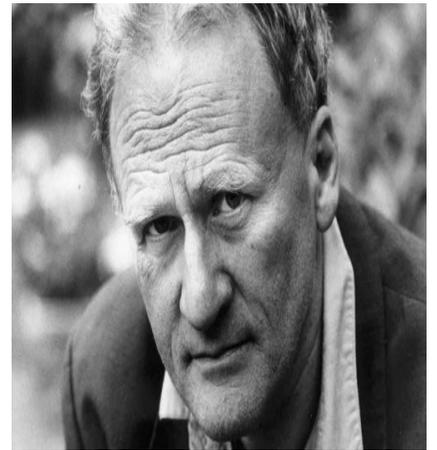
THE CELTIC SCRIBE

Going Home to Mayo, Winter, 1949

by Paul Durcan

Leaving behind us the alien, foreign city of Dublin
 My father drove through the night in an old Ford Anglia,
 His five-year-old son in the seat beside him,
 The rexine seat of red leatherette,
 And a yellow moon peered in through the windscreen.
 'Daddy, Daddy,' I cried, 'Pass out the moon,'
 But no matter how hard he drove he could not pass out the moon.
 Each town we passed through was another milestone
 And their names were magic passwords into eternity:
 Kilcock, Kinnegad, Strokestown, Elphin,
 Tarmonbarry, Tulsk, Ballaghaderreen, Ballavarry;
 Now we were in Mayo and the next stop was Turlough,
 The village of Turlough in the heartland of Mayo,
 And my father's mother's house, all oil-lamps and women,
 And my bedroom over the public bar below,
 And in the morning cattle-cries and cock-crows:
 Life's seemingly seamless garment and gorgeously rent
 By their screeches and bellowings. And in the evenings
 I walked with my father in the high grass down by the river
 Talking with him - an unheard of thing in the city

But home was not home and the moon could be no more out-
 flanked
 Than the daylight nightmare of Dublin city:
 Back down along the canal we chugged into the city
 And each lock-gate tolled our mutual doom;
 And railings and palings and asphalt and traffic-lights,
 And blocks after blocks of so-called 'new' tenements -
 Thousands of crosses of lonelineses planted
 In the narrowing grave of the life of the father;
 In the wide, wide cemetery of the boy's childhood.



Paul Durcan (born 16 October 1944) is a contemporary Irish poet.

Durcan was born and grew up in Dublin and in Turlough, County Mayo. His father, John, was a barrister and circuit court judge; father and son had a difficult and formal relationship. Durcan enjoyed a warmer and more natural relationship with his mother, Sheila MacBride Durcan, through whom he is a great-nephew of both Maud Gonne, muse of WB Yeats and Irish social and political activist, and John MacBride, one of the leaders of the Easter Rising. His work is known to display a desire to surprise the reader by resorting to surrealist eccentricity.



Could this be the year? The victorious Mayo team in 1951

LOCAL POET'S PAGE

Thanksgiving 2020:

Peter Groome, Nov. 2020

I'm thinking of all the changes this year
in our world bombarded by uncertainty and fear.
No one can deny it's a scary time,
with darkness and disruption on our mind.

Can I be thankful this Thanksgiving?
is there anything I can think of that may be fitting?
Well yes ,I can think of one or two, who deserve
A Big Thank You!!

I'm thankful to those who took the time
to check on their neighbours making sure they are
fine.

I'm thankful to those who picked up a phone,
and called an old timer living alone.

I'm thankful to those who treated, with dignity and
care
those loved ones we lost when we couldn't get there.
The Priests, the undertakers and gravediggers too
who sometimes took the place of me and you.

I'm thankful to the doctors who told us the truth ,
to the scientists working hard to tame this Covid
brut.

I'm thankful to those who wear a mask
and keep their distance while this thing lasts.

I'm thankful to those who visit the nursing homes
or sit with prisoners who are also alone.
In all these things it gives me hope
finding comfort in each other will help us cope.

So let us give thanks for the things we have
and look to the future when all this has past,
There may be no turkey but that's okay
it just means it will be bigger next Thanksgiving
Day!!!!



The Veteran

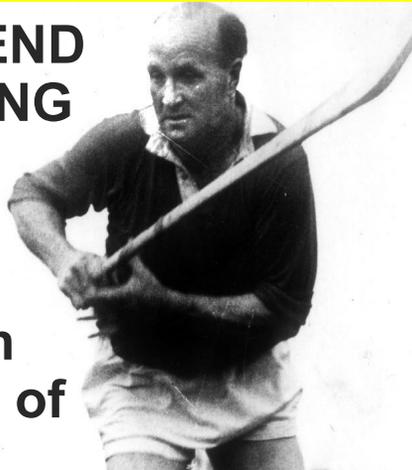
Mike Lally 11/9/2003

Once a year we stop to reminisce and reflect
Being the human beings we are often guilty of neglect
Nowhere in society is this more manifest
Than for those who won our freedom
When put to the test
The veteran soldiers carry on
Hiding the mental scars, the pain
Too often they must wonder
If their efforts were in vain
Regretfully in society we blithely march along
We raise an odd banner, sing a patriotic song
We feel we do our duty by showing up once a year
We do not know the pain or feel the silent tear
Those of you in our midst whose heroics go unsung
That silence from the closet where a uniform is hung
Those of you that gave everything you had
At times must feel anger, most of all, just sad
We oft times take for granted the price that you have
paid
The thousands that have died, the pathways of freedom
laid
Yet as the Veterans carry on, they must be proud with-
in
Regardless of the pain from society's neglectful sin
We ask for your forgiveness
Please accept our meager thanks
As you carry on tradition
from your depleted ranks

*The IPC has had a great response to our
request for local offerings—keep them
coming! Please send your submission to
mswanton@ipcbooston.org*

Sports News from Ireland

CORK LEGEND CHRISTY RING IN HIS OWN WORDS...



On the 100th Anniversary of his birth

Why did I take up hurling in the first place? The only reason I took up hurling was that there was nothing else to do in Cloyne village in my young days. There was a field where the lads went hurling and I joined them there as soon as I could. I spent many hours practicing there with the local lads. Many of them, including my brothers Willie John and Paddy Joe, were very good hurlers, but they had other interests. I had just one – to learn the game of hurling and play it well.

There is no such thing as practice. There is such a thing as hard work. Hurling is hard work – it's like carrying 100 bricks before you put up one. You must learn to carry them first. Then you'll put them up. You must work step by step. The hardest things that you must do in training will serve you well in the game because you'll never be asked to do them as hard again. The easy way happens in the game but, of course, it only seems easy because you have been doing the hard things in training.

Hurling has always been a way of life with me. It was never my ambition to play the game for the sake of winning All-Ireland medals or breaking records but to perfect the art as well as possible.

I liked to play little tricks at times. One day in a match against the College I got a small nick on the forehead, no worse than a cut you'd get shaving, but I rubbed the blood all over my face until I looked like a Red Indian. Then I grabbed the next ball and headed straight for the goalie. I think he must have stepped out of the way when he saw this thing coming at him and I scored a goal.

You can call me a gambler. I try a move a hundred times in training and, when it comes off in a big match, the crowd goes wild and I say to myself – it worked.

My advice to young players would be –

- 1: Develop the greatest possible strength in your arms.
- 2: Practice swift pucking and striking.
- 3: Never hit the ball for the sake of hitting it – deliver it to the right place. To strengthen your arms you must play the ball on the ground – a soft ball that is hard to hit far. One day you might hit the ball ten yards, then twenty, but the day will come when you'll drive it 80 yards. You'll drive it that length consistently but you can't do it without making your arms good and strong.

The impact of legendary Christy Ring

“You can bate an egg and bate a carpet but you can't bate Christy Ring”. Tony Wall, Tipperary hurler ,

“If we put Ringey away, we'll put Cork away”, but you could never put Ringey away. There was always the danger that he was going to break through, that he was going to get clear. You see, he was the danger. He was the inspiration. He was the man who put the world into hurling. **Mick Mackey, Limerick hurler.**

“Where was his greatness? I honestly don't know and I am doubtful if the camera could dissect his worth. Even hurlers themselves cannot pinpoint his superiority but they are unanimous he was the greatest and they do not give praise lightly. He was a writer's hurler, a commentator's hurler, a supporter's hurler, but, most of all, he was a hurler's hurler. **Jimmy Smyth, Clare hurler**

Song for Christy Ring

*How oft I've watched him from the Hill move here
and there in grace
In Cork, Killarney, Thurles town or by the Shannon's
race
'Now Cork is bet; the hay is saved' the thousands
wildly sing
They speak too soon, my sweet garsun, for here
comes Christy Ring*

*When age has gained this warrior brave, when
ended is the fight
And o'er the hearth he hangs at last, his stick and
trophies bright
Come counties all both great and small who boast a
hurling King
Can one tonight hold candlelight to Cork's own
Christy Ring?*

Brian McMahon, sung to the air of Skibbereen

Sports News from Ireland

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLOODY SUNDAY

The 100th anniversary of Bloody Sunday will be marked with a series of special events at the GAA Museum in Croke Park. On November 21st, 1920, the Dublin and Tipperary football teams lined out for a great challenge match at Croke Park. Spectators filled the grounds, completely unaware that the RIC were mobilizing, intent on carrying out an act of deadly retribution for the earlier assassinations of British intelligence agents by Michael Collins' Squad. 10 minutes into the game, shots rang out. The firing lasted for 90 seconds, killing 14 civilians and injuring 60 more. As the national custodian of all of the archives and artefacts of the Gaelic Athletic Association, the GAA Museum is honored to remember the 100th anniversary of Bloody Sunday.



Tipperary are set to don a special commemorative jersey to mark the 100th anniversary of Bloody Sunday during the Munster SFC final later this month as Tipperary footballer Michael Hogan was one of 14 people who lost their lives at Croke Park on November 21, 1920. Croke Park recently approved this jersey as the first official Tipperary Bloody Sunday replica which features an image of Michael Hogan on the sleeve along with the official Tipperary and GAA crests. Details of commemoration events can be found at crokepark.ie



Tyrone Manager Steps Down

Mickey Harte has stepped down from Tyrone football following 18 years managing the senior football squad. Speculation had mounted earlier this week after Harte had his request for a one-year extension was turned down and he was told clubs would have to vote on the ruling.

Harte says he has no bad feelings as he walks away. "I respect the outcome of these meetings and can say I did my very best every year I was there," he said. "I feel privileged to have been manager of any Tyrone team and to have been there from minors, under-21s and seniors for so long is an absolute privilege. "That is how I will leave it, feeling privileged to have been given the opportunities all these years." Harte won three All-Ireland titles with the senior team in 2003, 2005 and 2008. He also won six Ulster Senior Football Championship Titles, two All-Ireland Under 21 Titles and one All-Ireland Minor Title. He will go down in GAA history as one of the game's most successful managers.

Katie Taylor Hailed 'Greatest of all Time'

Following another victory Katie Taylor remains the undisputed world light-weight champion after an incredible fight against Miriam Gutierrez on Saturday November 15. The Irish star floored Gutierrez in the fourth round and was awarded a unanimous decision with scores of 100-89, 100-90 and 99-91 at The SSE Arena, Wembley. Katie retained her WBC, WBA, IBF and WBO belts following the edge of your seat fight.



Speaking after the fight, the Bray native said of her opponent: 'I thought I could get her out in the first round but how wrong I was, she was very tough and very durable.' Her manager Eddie Hearn was full of praise for the Bray fighter, gushing: 'She's the greatest to ever do it in women's boxing and she's just starting out. 'She's a global star, she's done it all but we've got so much more to do with Katie Taylor and so much more to do with women's boxing.'

GAA Sports

GAA FOOTBALL AND HURLING 2020 CHAMPIONSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



Mayo football captured their 47th Connacht football title when they held off a late Galway rally.



Limerick hurling fought off a stiff Waterford challenge to claim their 21st Munster title



Meath beat Kildare in the Leinster SFC semi-final



Kilkenny beat Galway in Leinster Hurling Final



Cork have knocked Kerry out of the championship

UPCOMING GAMES

In the Senior Hurling Championship, Galway will play Tipperary and Waterford will play Clare in the quarter finals. The winners of the quarter-finals will advance to play provincial winners Kilkenny and Limerick at Croke Park on the weekend of November 28/29. Should Clare and Tipperary both win this weekend, a draw for the All-Ireland semi-finals will take place on November 30.

In the Senior Football Championship Dublin will play Meath Nov 21, Donegal will play Cavan Nov 22, and Cork will play Tipperary Nov 22. There is no backdoor for football this year. The All-Ireland Football and Hurling GAA finals will be held in December 2020.

GAA SPORTS QUIZ

1. Where was the first All-Ireland Senior Football Final played?
2. Mayo's Aidan O'Shea plays for which club?
3. Cork last won the Munster championship in what year?
4. Who knocked Armagh out of the 2015 All-Ireland Football Championship?
5. Tom McGlinchey managed which county during the 2015 championship?
6. Which former soccer player has a senior All-Ireland football medal?
7. Which county knocked Clare out of the 2015 All-Ireland Championship?
8. What year did the Sam Maguire cup make its first appearance?
9. Who was known as the 'Iron Man from Rhode'?
10. Which of these counties never won a provincial football title? – Fermanagh, Antrim, Carlow or Leitrim?

Answers on Page 7



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MISSION STATEMENT

The Irish Pastoral Centre is committed to welcoming the 'stranger among us.' We believe in justice for all, solidarity in the face of hardship, and that the bonds of community are rooted in the best of what it means to be Irish. We provide a grassroots response to individuals in need offering spiritual, social, legal, and educational support.



Artist Vincent Crotty's
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