**Father William Corby Division**

Monthly Meeting Minutes

3 April 2022

The meeting came to order at 1:03 PM, chaired by Vice President John Murphy. 14 Members attended the meeting.

**Officer Roll Call:**

President Kevin O’Brien (E)

Vice President John Murphy (P)

Recording Secretary Ed Lacey (P)

Financial Secretary Fred Parker (P)

Treasurer Phil Torrey (P)

Chaplain Fr. Peffley (E)

Chairman, Standing Committee Fred Burgess (E)

Marshal Mick Torrey (P)

Sentinel Peter O’Neill (E)

Historian Jim Noone (P)

Parliamentarian John Murphy (P)

Chairman, Charities & Missions Joe Boyle (P)

Chairman, Catholic Action Peter O’Neill (E)

Chairman, Freedom for All Ireland John Murphy (P)

Chairman, Pro-Life Fred Burgess (E)

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** Recording Secretary Ed Lacey read the minutes of the meeting of 6 March. The minutes were approved.

**Correspondence:** The Division received a very nice letter from a young lady assisted by Toward Educating America’s Children (TEACH), thanking us for our donation to that organization.

**Committee Reports:**

* Catholic Action (Peter O’Neill)
* Ed Lacey summarized a written report submitted by Committee Chairman Peter O’Neill.
* Key points included the following: (a) As we enter Passiontide, we should take the opportunity for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. (b) The Synodal process is continuing. Letters to Pastors and Bishops are welcome, and should be charitable and Christ-centric in focus. (c) The Biden Administration is continuing its assault on Catholic teaching on abortion and sexuality. (d) Supreme Court Justice Thomas is under a “full blown attack” by Government officials and the Media. (e) A new motion picture entitled *Father Stu* and starring Mark Wahlberg will soon be in theaters for a limited engagement. The uplifting story is focused on redemption and conversion. (f) The Holy Father has consecrated Ukraine and Russia to the Blessed Virgin Mary.
* Pro-Life (Fred Burgess)
* John Murphy read a written report submitted by Committee Chairman Fred Burgess.
* Highlights are as follows: (a) The World Health Organization (WHO) is promoting new measures to permit abortion for any reason, including the sex of the child, at any time. WHO also is calling for expanded access to chemical abortions, even though they are four times more likely than other abortions to result in the death of the Mother. (b) In his proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Budget, President Biden proposes doing away with the Hyde Amendment that prohibits taxpayer funding of abortions. (c) Planned Parenthood, the largest provider of abortion services in the United States, just received a $275 million private donation to facilitate its unrelenting efforts to murder babies in the womb. (d) The struggle against abortion in the United States is already moving to the individual states.
* Freedom For All Ireland (FFAI) (John Murphy)
* The Irish victims of past atrocities carried out during The Troubles continue to need our financial assistance – both as a Division and individually.
* Mike Torrey suggested that future Division fund raising events could be focused on this effort. Fred Parker said we could consider reallocating money budgeted for scholarships this year to the FFAI Fund, as we have already voted to forgo scholarship funding this year.

**Membership:** Stephen Bucher was unanimously approved for membership in the Division and was duly sworn in.

* Fred Parker reported that our membership now stands at 54 – 45 Regular Members, 5 Clergy, and 4 Active-duty Military.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Phil Torrey reported that our current bank balance stands at $20,593.68.

* The net profit from our St. Patrick’s Day Dinner Dance fund raiser was $5,851.71 (including $2,398.78 from the Silent Auction and $700.00 from Sponsors). Additional income and expense items are still being submitted, so a final accounting will not be available until the next meeting. Nevertheless, it appears that we did quite well.

**Unfinished Business:**

* ***Installation of Officers*** and ***Shamrock Degree:*** Both a formal installation of officers and a Shamrock Degree induction ceremony for the Division are still pending.

**New Business:**

* ***Easter Sunrise Service:*** Joe Boyle reported that there will be no Easter Sunrise Service at the Historic St. Mary’s Church this year, and therefore the Division will not need to assemble the outdoor tent as we have traditionally done.
* ***Memorial Day:*** Joe Boyle also reported that Fr. Barkett has mandated a number of changes to the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the St. Mary’s Cemetery. The Mass will be celebrated on the brick front before the Historic Church. There will be no tent. In the event of inclement weather, the Mass will be held at the main St. Mary of Sorrows Church. The details of the procession through the cemetery are still to be finalized. Vice President Murphy said he would discuss this with our Chaplain, Fr. Peffley. There followed some discussion as to whether we should have a Piper, a Bugler, a small Civil War themed band, or some combination thereof for the ceremony. Joe Boyle noted that flags would be planted on the graves at the cemetery the Saturday before Memorial Day. This will be open to the Parish community and needs to be placed in the Parish Bulletin fairly soon.
* ***Appreciation Brunch:*** The annual Appreciation Brunch will be held on 5 June. After much discussion, a motion was unanimously approved to direct the Joint Finance Committee to give positive consideration to modifying the budget to have the Division show its appreciation to the membership by subsidizing the brunch to a maximum of $10.00 per Member and Associate.

**Historian’s Report:**

Jim Noone noted two events in April from Irish History. On 11 April 1912, the *Titanic* set sail from Queenstown (now Cobh), Ireland on its maiden – and fateful final – voyage. Some 1,500 passengers – including many Irish immigrants – died when the *Titanic,* which had been constructed in Belfast, went down. The second event of note was the Easter Rebellion of 1916. The Rising commenced on 24 April, Easter Monday, and lasted six days before being crushed by the overwhelming firepower of the British Army.

From a cultural perspective, Jim pointed out the similarity between the well-known Catholic Hymn “I Heard the Voice of Jesus” (included in the modern Church Hymnal), and the Irish folk song “The Star of the County Down.” Jim handed out the lyrics to the folk song and led the Division in singing the song.

**Good & Welfare of the Order:**

* Easter Baskets: Fred Parker stated that some of the Associates were preparing Easter Baskets for military families and other families through the House of Mercy. He solicited financial contributions from the members to pay for the cellophane wrapping for the baskets.

**Prayer Intentions:** Prayers were offered.

The meeting concluded at 2:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Lacey, Recording Secretary