

**Father William Corby Division**  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
2 April 2023

The meeting came to order at 1:11 PM, chaired by President Kevin O'Brien. Nine Members attended the meeting.

**Officer Roll Call:**

President	Kevin O'Brien (P)
Vice President	Peter O'Neill (E)
Recording Secretary	Ed Lacey (P)
Financial Secretary	Fred Parker (P)
Treasurer	Phil Torrey (P)
Chaplain	Fr. Peffley (E)
Chairman, Standing Committee	Fred Burgess (P)
Marshal	Peter Garry (P)
Sentinel	John Murphy (P)
Historian	Jim Noone (E)
Parliamentarian	John Murphy (P)
Chairman, Charities & Missions	Joe Boyle (E)
Chairman, Catholic Action	Peter O'Neill (E)
Chairman, Freedom for All Ireland	John Murphy (P)
Chairman, Pro-Life	Fred Burgess (P)

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** A motion to waive the reading of the minutes was approved.

**Correspondence:** The Division received thank you letters and notes from Bethany House, Civil War Trails, and the Gabriel Project.

**Committee Reports:**

- Charities & Missions (Joe Boyle)
  - Joe submitted a motion to add a \$300.00 donation to the St. Mary of Sorrows Car Ministry to the Division's 2023 Charities Budget. The proposal was made by Peter Garry who provided the appropriate justification and will serve as sponsor.
  - Peter spoke on behalf of the motion, and the motion was approved without objection.
  
- Freedom for All Ireland (John Murphy)
  - John commended the Division for its earlier decision to donate \$1,000.00 this year to the AOH Freedom For All Ireland (FFAI) fund.

- Pro-Life (Fred Burgess)
  - Two current court cases bear on the issue of chemical abortions.
  - One is a lawsuit in Federal Court in Texas challenging the 2000 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) decision to legalize chemical abortifacients. The plaintiffs argue that the FDA decision ignores the evidence that chemical abortions are more harmful to women than surgical abortions.
  - Another case in West Virginia is challenging that state's law banning the sale of abortifacients.
  - Closer to home, a Students for Life rally at Virginia Commonwealth University was disrupted by pro-abortion protesters who harassed and attacked the pro-life students. After permitting the pro-abortion demonstrators to disrupt the rally, Campus Police eventually stepped in and arrested two of them – both who were found to be non-students at the University.

**Membership:** Our membership remains unchanged.

**Treasurer's Report:** Phil Torrey reported that our current bank balance stands at \$23,131.98. Net proceeds from the St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance amounted to \$6,530.32.

**Unfinished Business:**

- ***Coloring Contest:*** Ed Lacey circulated an article from the *Arlington Catholic Herald* about the St. Patrick Coloring Contest for grades KG through 4. He noted that there were winners from two of the schools we sponsored – KG student Frances Mantooth from Angelus Academy, and Third grader Carmen Maria Caballero from St. Timothy's.
- ***Shamrock Degree:*** Ed Lacey again pleaded for the Division to conduct a Shamrock Degree induction ceremony. He asserted that attending the ceremony would even be beneficial for Division members who already hold the degree.
- ***Installation of Officers:*** President O'Brien is working with the State AOH President to schedule an Installation ceremony. The last Division Installation was held in September 2020. He said it might be possible to hold the Installation in conjunction with a Shamrock Degree ceremony.

**New Business:**

- ***Division Elections:*** In early 2020, the Division had voted to schedule annual elections in June, rather than October. However, due to Covid 19, this was never implemented. We will need to decide how to proceed going forward.

- **Memorial Day:** Joe Boyle submitted a note reminding the Division of the upcoming Memorial Day weekend activities at the St. Mary of Sorrows Historic Church and cemetery. Flags will be placed on graves on Saturday, 27 May. The Mass and procession will be on Monday, 29 May. We will need to secure a Piper and Bugler, two Division Members to carry the Colors in the procession, and to place a notice in the Church bulletin in early May. The Associates will provide refreshments. Thereafter, a date will have to be set to collect the flags.
- **Division Scholarship:** After discussion, a motion to forgo award of a Division scholarship for a rising High School Senior this year was approved.
- **Growing the Division:** Mike Torrey suggested we hold a separate meeting for the exclusive purpose of considering how we can expand Division membership, and attract younger members. Several ideas were discussed. President O'Brien suggested we consider holding a meeting on this issue sometime after Easter.

**Good & Welfare of the Order:**

- VFW Honor Flight: Johnny Restivo noted that the Historic Church Hall would be in use on 22 April for a VFW sponsored Honor Flight.
- Angelus Academy Shoe Drive: Ed Lacey mentioned that he was still collecting new and used shoes for the Angelus Academy shoe drive, and solicited donations. He noted that several of the Associates had been particularly helpful in this effort and expressed his heartfelt gratitude for their assistance.

**Prayer Intentions:** Prayers were offered for the intentions and individuals on our prayer list.

The meeting concluded at 2:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Lacey, Recording Secretary