

**Father William Corby Division**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**1 May 2022**

The meeting came to order at 1:06 PM, chaired by President Kevin O'Brien. 13 Members attended the meeting.

**Officer Roll Call:**

President	Kevin O'Brien (P)
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 (P)
Marshal	Mick Torrey (E)
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 (P)

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

**Correspondence:** There was no correspondence to report.

**Committee Reports:**

- Finance (Phil Torrey and Fred Parker)
  - The joint Finance Committee meeting with the Associates was held, and it was agreed to subsidize Members and Associates at the upcoming Appreciation Brunch.
  - The Division will pay \$10.00 per Member and Associate. All other attendees will pay full price.
  
- Pro-Life (Fred Burgess)
  - A tie vote in the U.S. Senate last week failed to overturn the Biden Administration's decision to permit Planned Parenthood to receive Title X Government funding for abortions under the guise of "family planning."

- A bill introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives to increase the penalties for Doctors performing partial-birth abortions is likely “going nowhere.”
  - The Democrat Party leadership in the Virginia Legislature defeated a bill that would have banned post-birth infanticide (i.e., the murder of babies born alive).
  - Attempts by abortion advocates to overturn the Texas Heartbeat Bill in the courts were rebuffed by the Appeals Court.
  - The state of Maine has adopted a law creating an 8 foot “zone” around abortion clinics in which pro-life advocates are prohibited from entering to pray or demonstrate.
  - The organization Students for Life is seeking to train 250 pro-life student leaders to work on college campuses.
  - Fred noted that the pro-life struggle will need to be won in the public arena and at the ballot box, and urged those who support the pro-life stance of the AOH and the Catholic Church to “make their voices heard.”
- Freedom For All Ireland (FFAI) (John Murphy)
    - Organizations in Ireland that are supporting the Irish victims of past atrocities carried out during The Troubles and battling the current efforts of the UK Government to minimize the positions of and discriminate against Catholics in Northern Ireland as an obstacle to unification with the South continue to need our financial assistance.
    - The AOH is supporting them.
    - Our 2022 Division budget allocates \$ 200.00 for this purpose. If our financial situation warrants an increase in this amount, we will consider doing so later in the year.
    - Meanwhile, we will solicit donations from individual Members and Associates at the Appreciation Brunch.

**Membership:** Division membership remains unchanged – 54 Members – 45 Regular Members, 5 Clergy, and 4 Active-duty Military.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Phil Torrey reported that our current bank balance stands at \$21,152.48. After expenses of nearly \$3,000.00, our net profit from the St. Patrick’s Day Dinner Dance was \$5,991.71.

**Unfinished Business:**

- ***Appreciation Brunch:*** The Brunch will be held on 5 June at the Fiamma Italian Kitchen restaurant on Franconia Road.
- ***Installation of Officers:*** As this was our last Division meeting until September, at which time we will hold a new election for officers, it was decided to forgo a formal installation of officers at this time.

- ***Shamrock Degree:*** A Shamrock Degree induction ceremony for the Division is still pending.
- ***Memorial Day:*** Planning for the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the St. Mary of Sorrows Cemetery is still evolving. Planting of flags on the graves will be conducted at 9:00 AM on Saturday, 28 May. A memorial Mass, procession, and blessing of the graves would normally be held the morning of Memorial Day (30 May). St. Mary's Parish members will be invited to participate in both, and the KofC 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly will provide an Honor Guard. President O'Brien will speak to the Pastor, Fr. Barkett, to request that in the event of inclement weather the Mass be shifted inside the Historic Church, rather than being moved to the main Church building. We will await final approval from Fr. Barkett. It was agreed to hold a "rehearsal of concept" for the Memorial Day service following the flag planting on Saturday.

#### **New Business:**

- ***Future of the AOH:*** President O'Brien reported that the National AOH Organization is considering opening up membership to women as well as to men. This would obviously change the nature of the AOH, but might attract a broader base of members, including younger members and married couples. Details would have to be worked out, and it was suggested that the way our Division operates might be one model for National to consider going forward.
- ***State Meeting:*** Mike Torrey noted that there will be a Virginia State AOH meeting in Leesburg on 7 May.
- ***National Convention:*** Mike also reminded everyone that the National AOH Convention will be held in Pittsburg in July.
- ***Golf Outing:*** President O'Brien announced that the Fr. Kelley Division will be sponsoring a Charity Golf Outing on 6 June. Mike Torrey said we could consider holding such an event in the Fall or next year.

#### **Historian's Report:**

Jim Noone reported on Fr. Francis Patrick Duffy, famous Chaplain of the Fighting 69<sup>th</sup> (New York National Guard Infantry Regiment), whose birthday is on 2 May. At the age of 46, Fr. Duffy deployed to France in 1916 during World War I with the 69<sup>th</sup>. An Irish Chaplain of an Irish Regiment, he was constantly in the thick of battle, fearlessly assisting the medics and ministering to the dead and wounded. He received numerous U.S. and French decorations for his efforts, and remains the most highly decorated Chaplain in U.S. Army history. He died in 1932

at the age of 62, and was mourned by millions. Jim offered up a “musical farewell” to Fr. Duffy, playing a recording of the old ballad *Bonnie Charlie* (about Bonny Prince Charlie).

**Good & Welfare of the Order:**

- Why I Go To Mass Books: Mark Roddy said that books on *Why I Go to Mass* were available at the St. Mary of Sorrows Church, one per Parish family. Copies also will be available on Amazon.com.

**Prayer Intentions:** Prayers were offered for those on our prayer list, both the living who have current medical problems, and those who are deceased.

The meeting concluded at 2:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Lacey, Recording Secretary