

Father William Corby Division
Monthly Meeting Minutes
6 October 2024

The meeting came to order at 1:05 PM, chaired by President Mark Roddy. 15 Members attended the meeting.

Officer Roll Call:

President	Mark Roddy (P)
Vice President	Peter O’Neill (P)
Recording Secretary	Ed Lacey (P)
Financial Secretary	Fred Parker (P)
Treasurer	Phil Torrey (P)
Chaplain	Vacant
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 (P)
Chairman, Catholic Action	Peter O’Neill (P)
Chairman, Freedom for All Ireland	John Murphy (P)
Chairman, Pro-Life	Fred Burgess (P)
Chairman, Political Education Committee	Kevin O’Brien (P)
Chairman, Project St. Patrick	Mark Roddy (P)
Chairman, Immigration Affairs	Ed Lacey (P)

Previous Meeting Minutes: A motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the September Division meeting was approved.

Correspondence: Thank you letters and solicitations for donations were received from Students for Life Action and House of Mercy. Additionally, a very nice card was received from the Pastor of St. Mary of Sorrows Church thanking the Division for its support of the annual Labor Day Picnic.

Membership: Fred Parker reported that membership stands at 46: 38 regular members, 5 clergy, and 3 active duty military.

Committee Reports:

- Finance Committee (Fred Parker)
 - A meeting was held in the previous week to discuss finalizing the 2024 Division budget and charitable contributions.

- Freedom for All Ireland (FFAI) (John Murphy)
 - The focus of FFAI is on seeking justified compensation from the British Government for the wrongs committed by government actions against Catholics in Northern Ireland during the period known as “The Troubles” from 1969 through 1998.
 - Many were unjustly killed, imprisoned, and/or lost their livelihoods as a result of government sanctioned injustices.
 - The recently passed British Legacy Act would safeguard the government and its agents in this regard, and the AOH is seeking to have it overturned.

- Charities & Missions (Joe Boyle)
 - Members are welcome to propose charitable donations to be included in the 2025 Division budget.
 - Sponsors for the various charities we support are reminded that they are expected to be active members of the Division.

- Catholic Action (Peter O’Neill)
 - Bishop Burbidge has issued a new “Respect for Life” document, which Catholics should consider in light of the upcoming national elections.
 - The Pope will name 21 new Cardinals on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (8 December). None will be named from the United States, and only one from North America (Canada).
 - Peter Garry reminded Members of the Plenary Indulgence opportunity associated with All Souls Day (1-8 November) by visiting a cemetery and praying devoutly for the dead.

- Pro-Life (Fred Burgess)
 - Fred provided a comprehensive written report (attached). A few highlights are summarized herewith.
 - The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has made it clear that abortion remains the preeminent moral issue for Catholics. As Lila Rose of the Live Action organization has said, Life is given by God, man has no “right” to take it away.
 - 11 states have abortion rights measures on the ballot in November.
 - A little publicized fact is that 5% of all women who receive a chemical abortion end up in a hospital Emergency Room as a result.
 - Students for Life has been successful in persuading 54 of the 83 Christian colleges that have ties to Planned Parenthood – by far the largest provider of abortions in the country – to cut those ties.

Treasurer’s Report: Phil Torrey reported that our current bank balance stands at \$21,037.00. He added that he had just received \$600.00 in dues payments from the Associates.

Unfinished Business:

- *Division Elections:* See below.
- *Trivia Night (Mike Torrey):* The Trivia Night fundraiser is now scheduled for 15 November. Mike suggested holding a walk through/dry run on a Friday night later

this month. We anticipate 20 teams of up to 8-10 people, and charging each participant \$10.00. Potentially, this could bring in some \$1,600.00. Also, we hope to get additional income from sponsorships. Prizes have not yet been finalized, though Gift Cards seemed like a good idea to many. We need to get this announced in the Church Bulletin very soon.

Division Elections: The Division conducted its annual election of Officers. All of the current Officers were reelected without objection for an additional year. They will serve from January through December of 2025, as follows:

- President: Mark Roddy
- Vice President: Peter O'Neill
- Recording Secretary: Ed Lacey
- Financial Secretary: Fred Parker
- Treasurer: Phil Torrey
- Chairman, Standing Committee: Fred Burgess
- Marshal: Peter Garry
- Sentinel: John Murphy

Appointed Officers (Historian, Parliamentarian) and Committee Chairs (Charities & Missions, Catholic Action, Freedom For All Ireland (FFAI), Pro-Life, Political Education, Project St. Patrick, Immigration Affairs) remained unchanged. Appointment of a Chaplain is pending Fr. Farrell assuming the Office in December.

New Business:

- ***Hurricane Relief:*** A motion to donate \$500.00 to the Hurricane Helene relief effort was approved unanimously. The money will be sent to the Diocese of Charlotte, North Carolina, for this purpose. Members wishing to make personal donations can add to this fund.
- ***Christmas Party:*** The Division Christmas Party will be held at Auld Shebeen on 15 December.
- ***Lads Lunch:*** After a rocky start (only one Member showed up), we will endeavor again to resume the Lads Lunches. We will hold another this month on 23 October. Thereafter, we will meet every third Wednesday of the month at 12:30 PM in the Auld Shebeen.
- ***St. Patrick's Day Party (Hooley):*** President Roddy reported that Auld Shebeen will cater the party. An Irish band (*Shepherds Pie*) will perform for an hour or so, followed by dance music via a Spotify play list. We envision charging about \$20.00 per person to attend.

Historian's Report:

Jim Noone, spoke about the famous Irish song *Kathleen Mavourneen*. It was composed by Frederick Crouch in 1837. Crouch immigrated to the United States, and served with Confederate Forces during the U.S. Civil War. The song became popular in the United States and, interestingly, was quite popular during the Civil War. The song is featured in the book *The Killer Angels*, and in the movie adaptation *Gettysburg*. Jim handed out copies of the song lyrics (attached), and played a spectacular 1927 recording of the song by the great Irish Tenor John McCormack.

Good & Welfare of the Order:

- Upcoming Election: Kevin O'Brien stressed the importance of taking the upcoming national election seriously, and urged Members to remember to vote.

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

The meeting concluded at 2:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Lacey, Recording Secretary