



Hibernian News



Volume 7 Issue 2

Father John Murphy, Martyr for Church and Country

February 2006

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Father John Murphy was born in Tincurry, County Wexford Ireland in 1753, the youngest son of Thomas and Johanna Murphy. His early years were spent growing up in and around the small townlands of Tincurry and Boulavogue (also located in Co. Wexford) where he lived with his family. It was during his childhood when he met the man who would single-handedly have the most direct influence on his future career, Fr. Andrew Cassin. Fr. Cassin became young John Murphy's mentor and his eventual sponsor to the priesthood when John Murphy became of age in 1771.

Since Ireland at that time was no place for aspiring priests to be trained, John Murphy along with many other candidates for the priesthood boarded ship in early 1772. Fr. John and others like him set sail for Spain where for the next 8 years the seminarians would study to become priests in Seville. In the spring of 1779, Fr. John's hard work and commitment to his faith was rewarded when he was finally ordained as a priest. Following

the conclusion of his studies and ordination, Father John Murphy returned home in 1785 where he became a curate in Tincurry and Boulavogue.



In 1797, the British government began placing pressure on local Catholic clergy members throughout Ireland to swear allegiance to the British crown in exchange for receiving 'protection from harm.' While some clergy members complied with this order, Father John Murphy along with several other priests and Irish military leaders refused to comply with this and other unreasonable orders demanded of them and decided to take up arms in defense of themselves and their fellow Irishmen.

The Rebellion of 1798 officially began on May 23, in County Kildare and spread

across the south and west of Ireland. On May 27, 1798 Father John Murphy, along with a large group of pikemen, engaged and defeated a party of British Regulars at the small town of Oulart. The next day the small army, led by Fr. John, captured the neighboring towns of Camolin and Enniscorthy. Following their two days of success the small rebel force encamped that evening of May 28th upon 'Vinegar Hill' just outside Enniscorthy and discussed their next course of action.

Over the following month, the rebellion would see its share of successes and failures with many pitched battles fought across the south and west of Ireland involving hundreds of men, women and children struggling against the overwhelming British forces. The beginning of the end for Fr. John started on June 26th at the Battle of Kilcumney Hill in County Carlow which ended in defeat for the Irish forces.

On July 2, 1798 Father John Murphy, fellow rebel

Continued on Pg. 3



"Let Us Do the Cooking" **Authentic Irish Breakfast**

February 12, 2006

An authentic, delicious Irish breakfast is now being served every second Sunday of the month at an unbelievable price of only \$7.00 p/p!

9:30 AM-12:30 pm

Something for the whole family!!!



The traditional breakfast consists of Eggs, Irish Bacon, Irish Sausages, Home-fried Potatoes, Black & White Puddings and the Grilled Tomato...a must! Children's Breakfasts of Pancakes & Sausage are only \$3.00 each. Juice, coffee and tea included.
(Next month's breakfast will be held on March 12th)

A Message from the AOH Division 2 President

Dear Brothers and Friends,

February 2006

As I write my first President's message to you, I have to return to the past.

I speak for the division in thanking our Past President for the superlative job he did during his two terms. Kevin Cummings not only kept this club on an even keel, he brought us ever forward. Thanks again, Kevin!

I thank Division 2 for their confidence in me as President of their organization. I have the utmost confidence in our Board of Officers. Together, we will continue the Division's road to success.

I look forward to working with everyone in achieving the goals of Division 2, Ancient Order of Hibernians!

~ *Ni heolas go haontios* ~ There is no knowledge without unity! ~

Hope to see you all at our annual St. Patrick's Dinner Dance at the Meadow Brook Lodge on March 4th!

God Bless All,
Michael D. Shannon
Division 2 President

Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Feb 12 | Irish Breakfast—Division 2 Hall
- 9:30-12:30 pm |
| Feb 12 | County AOH Meeting – 2 pm.
All division members
encouraged to attend ~ Div 2
Hall. |
| Feb 15 | Monthly Meeting - 7 pm—All
members encouraged to attend
~ Div 2 Hall. |
| Mar 4 | 22nd Anniversary Dinner Dance
- 8:00 -12:00 pm |
| Mar 12 | Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's
Parade –Goshen -1 pm |
| Mar 15 | Monthly Meeting - 7 pm—All
members encouraged to attend
~ Div 2 Hall. |
| Mar 17 | 244th St. Patrick's Day Parade
– NYC -10:45 am at 47 & 5th |
| Mar 18 | Pearl River St. Patrick's
Parade–Pearl River -12 noon |

Division 2 ~ Ancient Order of Hibernians

invites you to attend our

Annual St. Patrick's Dinner Dance

at the

Meadow Brook Lodge

Route 94, New Windsor, NY

Saturday, March 4, 2006

8:00 PM. – Midnight

Traditional Dinner, Open Top-Shelf Bar

Music by the Chris Turpin Band
Bagpipers, Irish Step & Set Dancers

Donation \$50.00 Per Person

No Tickets Sold At Door - For additional information and tickets call:

John Greehy: 534-9315 - Mike Shannon: 389-3148 - Kevin Cummings: 562-8651



Friendly Reminder - Dues in the amount of \$50 for calendar year 2006 are now due. Please remit your payment to Dennis Malone, Division Financial Secretary. Members who have not paid their 2005 dues will be dropped from the membership roster shortly. Avoid be dropped...pay your dues today!

Irish Set Dancing for Couples & Singles



Learn how to "dance at the cross roads"—impress your friends at the next division dinner dance or family wedding! Just a few of the Set and Ceili dances you will learn include the: Clare Lancers; Connemara; Corofin Plain; Fermanagh; West Kerry and Williamstown sets. Learn to dance Jigs, Reels, Hornpipes. Do the Stack of Barley, Siege of Ennis, Walls of Limerick. Lessons are on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. For more information call Kevin 562-8651 or John at 534-9315. Lessons are \$10.00 per person. Come out—it's fun!!!

Father John Murphy... continued

leader James Gallagher and several other members of the rebellion, were captured by British pickets outside of the town of Tullow, County Carlow. They were brought before a military tribunal and charged with committing treason against the British crown even though Fr. Murphy nor any of the men who fought with him had ever served in the British army nor had any of them ever sworn an oath of allegiance to the British monarchy.

Fr. John was brutally beaten by the yeomen warders, stripped of his clothes, denied a trial by jury and finally hung from the town gallows. For the perceived insult of being a Catholic priest and not cooperating with the local authorities Fr. John's body was subjected to further desecration when the yeoman, "unsatisfied by the lack of entertainment" separated the head of Fr. John from the rest of his body, dropped the corpse into a nearby

barrel of pitch and lit it on fire until the body was consumed. As a final insult, Fr. John's head was impaled on a pike and displayed from the town's gate with his ashes being scattered in the town square.

This final gesture was meant to be a warning to all others who would dare to take up arms against the British crown.

Father John Murphy was only 45 years old when he died that July day in 1798 but his sacrifice and dedication to the cause of Irish freedom will never be forgotten. He lived as a true Irishman and true martyr for the Catholic faith. Fr. John's spirit has continued on in the hearts and minds of every Irish patriot who has lived, fought and died in the cause of Irish freedom and liberty.

It was in this spirit of faithful devotion to the cause of Irish liberty and the sacrifice made for the Catholic Faith, that keeps the flames of freedom burning on today.

God Bless Father John Murphy!

Thanks and More Thanks—to Brian Reynolds for his Basket of Cheer donation. **More Thanks** to all the volunteer bartenders: Mike, Kevin, Pat, Bill, Kevin, Clem, John and others who will open the member's bar on Saturdays from 12:30 till 5:00 pm. **Special Thanks** to Bob Morgan for cleaning the kitchen. The place looks spotless! **More Thanks** to Mike Shannon for running the Super Bowl Party pools and for working behind the bar on the day of the "big game." A **Very Special Thanks** to Bob Morgan, Kevin Cummings and Mike Shannon for cleaning the hall and setting up for the Super Bowl Party. **Thanks** to the same three for cooking all the delicious food that was enjoyed by our guests and to Kevin Moore who helped serve! **Thanks** to all our members and friends who stayed behind to help clean up and put away tables so that the step dancers had a place to practice the next day.

Division 2 Embroidered Clothing is available for purchase. Each item proudly displays the A.O.H. emblem and the words "Division 2". The parade season will be here before you know it. If you plan on marching in any of the St. Patrick Day parades this season, you will need a division jacket and hat. Hurry and contact John Greehy (534-9315) for pricing and to place your order. Time is running out!

Giant Basket of Cheer—A \$1 ticket (6 for \$5) gives you a chance at winning a basket filled with top-shelf liquors including Grand Marnier, Jameson, Bailey Irish Cream, Celtic Crossing, Irish Mist, Boru Vodka, Bunratty Meade, Paddy Whiskey, Tullamore Dew, and Dewars Scotch. Hurry don't miss your chance to win this great assortment. Drawing to be held at the Division Dance on March 4th. Tickets at the hall.



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