Leitrim Society of New York March 2021 Online Newsletter

**Dear Member**,

 Welcome to March, usually the **month of Parades and Dinner Dances**. However, things are not yet back to normal, so we must comply and cooperate. Vaccinations are on the increase so there is a brighter light appearing at the end of this tunnel. Spring is in the air, and with that comes new life and hope.

 Our **March meeting** will be conducted via **Zoom** on **Thursday, March** **18th, 2021 at 7:30pm**. If you would like to participate, please contact **Meg McKeon-Baker** at 718-445-8365 for details.

 Our **2021 St. Patrick’s Day Dinner Dance** is still **postponed indefinitely**. We will continue to review all regulatory updates and will inform you of any changes as they impact our holding this event at a later date.

 The **2021 NYC St. Patrick’s Day Parade goes virtual**. Since we cannot be together in person this year, the **Parade Committee** invites us to join virtually as they honor **First Responders and Essential Workers** who have made enormous sacrifices this past year due to the pandemic. We are truly blessed to have so many of these brave men and women march in the parade every year and because of the heroic work they have done since the pandemic started, they are most worthy of the title “**Honoree”** for the **260th NYC St. Patrick’s** **Day Parade**. You can join live on Twitter and Facebook on March 17th. The link is **NYCStPatricksParade.Org.**

 **Payment of dues for 2021** should be mailed to the **Financial Secretary** at the **P.O.** **Box** address above. Dues are **$20.00 per person** or **$30.00 per couple.**

 **The Executive Board Committee** held a zoom meeting on **Thursday February 25, 2021.** The purpose of this meetingwas to review unfinished updates to our ***Constitution and By-Laws***. This work has been **completed**. A **reading of the changes** will take place at the **March meeting** and a **vote will be taken** to **implement these changes.**

 **Congratulations** to ***Sharon Brady*** for being recognized by the **Leitrim Observer** this week for ‘**Keeping the Leitrim Flag Flying in New York’**. This is for all the work she does promoting Leitrim pride and heritage through her work. **Well done Sharon**. Keep up the good work.

Please remember our sick members, **Aileen Kilcommons, Noreen Regan-Leggiero, Lisa Cullen, Michael O’Rourke, Elizabeth Keenan Papierowicz, Gerry Gilrane, Kay Quinlivan, Terence Regan** and all who are ill. We also pray for those affected by **Covid-19.** We wish them all a complete recovery. We are very happy to report that Lisa Cullen’s parents were able to come to New York and be with Lisa.

**Condolences** to **Sean Kelly** and his family who recently suffered a **double** **bereavement.** Sean suffered the unimaginable loss of both his parents **John and Anne Kelly** (originally from Dromahair) one day apart. Sincere sympathy to **Hugh and Deirdre** **Cooke** (Pat Murray’s daughter) and **all the Cooke family** on the death of Hugh’s father, **Paddy Cooke** on March 8th. Paddy was in his **97th year** and lived in **Carrigallen**, Co. Leitrim. We also remember a great lady **Maggie (McGreal) McGovern**, Glangevlin, Co. Cavan who passed away recently in her **101st year.** Maggie was born in **Ballinaglera**. She was cared for at home by her son Oliver and daughter-in-law Maureen for many years. May these and all our deceased **Rest in Peace**.

**One year later** we continue to pray for all our ***first responders,******medical staff and all essential service employees*** who continue their heroic work on the **front lines.** We thank them for all they continue to do, and ask God to keep them safe and well. We also remember all our families in Ireland during these very difficult times. We hope that with the safe use of these new vaccines this virus will be eradicated in the very near future.

**Wishing you and your families a very Happy St. Patrick’s Day.**

**We also wish you a very Happy and Blessed Easter**

**BE SAFE AND BE WELL**

 **Sincerely,**

**Donal O’Connell Anna Mulvey Buggy**

***President* *Corresponding Secretary***