

ST. PATRICK PARADE

March 15, 2026

Baltimore, MD



Brendan Pelan
GRAND MARSHAL

James White
HONORARY
GRAND MARSHAL

Colleen E. Monahan
CHAIRWOMAN

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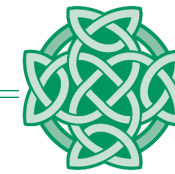
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2026 PARADE MARSHALS

GRAND MARSHAL
Brendan Pelan

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL
James White

DEPUTY MARSHALS

AOH Division 3, Towson
Joe O'Halloran

St. John's Old Tenth Ward
Bonnie Fowler Hjemvick

Metropolitan Baltimore Fire Emerald Society
Kristin Carlsen Lublinsky

Irish Charities of Maryland
Bob Baker

AOH Division 5, Baltimore City
John Moore

AOH Division 1, Harford County
Dan Schepers

AOH Division 1, Catonsville
Timothy Harvey

Friendly Sons of St. Patrick
Maurice "Bubby" Himes

Hibernian Society of Baltimore
Matthew Stewart

Friendly Daughters of St. Patrick
Pamela Wampler

Police Emerald Society
Gary Cofflin

Emerald Isle Club
Leslie McGuinness

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians
Katie McCune and Mary Anne Loftus Smith

Baltimore St. Patrick Parade is a Production
of St. Patrick Celebrations, Inc.

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Marching Units and Bands; Line of March
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Catherine Reinholdt & Colleen Monahan,
Parade Fundraisers
Chris Welsh, *Installation Mass*

MEDIA

Lauren Merrill; Colleen E. Monahan

WEBSITE

Kevin J. Leonard

GUIDE DESIGN

Stephanie Pierce-Conway



BRENDAN PELAN
2026 GRAND MARSHAL

To my fellow Irish Men and Women and their families of Baltimore and all of our esteemed Leadership, I am truly honored and blessed for this position. May I say God bless you and your families with great health and Have a Wonderful Parade and Happy Patrick's Day!

Patrick Brendan Pelan, born in Belfast, Ireland to Mom Lucy Pelan, Dad Alexander Pelan (an accomplished violinist) and two sisters Rosemary and Patricia immigrated to New York when he was four. They settled in Takoma Park, MD, where three additional daughters were born into the family: Dolores, Maureen and Marian. Brendan, married to wife Diane, presently lives in Scaggsville, MD.

He has been performing music in the Washington/Baltimore area since 1963. He was singer and bass man in his band, The Majestic Neons, who released a record "My Baby Don't Love Me" locally in the Washington, DC and Maryland area. The band was showcased by an invitation to perform at the 1965 New York City World's Fair, United States Pavilion. His musical career continues today as a solo guitarist and singer for many Irish engagements and other events. He has the distinction of performing at the Maryland Irish Festivals since 2006 and through the current 2025 Maryland Irish Festival. Also, he contributes at Christmas celebrations including for AOH Division 3, Towson.

He is a proud member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) Catonsville, Division 1 Padraic Pearse, and was a prior member of AOH, Division 5, Baltimore City. He is also a proud member of the Police Emerald Society of Baltimore, The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick and participates annually performing our National Anthem and Ireland's National Anthem, "The Soldiers Song." He also performs annually the Anthems at the Annual Wreaths for Fallen Heroes ceremony hosted by Baltimore Police Emerald Society each year.

His business career began as an employee at Johnsons Drug Store, Berwyn, MD through High School and then spent 40 years with Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company/Verizon. In this role, he was assigned as Project Director of a Worldwide Quality Consortium, The QuEST Forum, for which he was awarded as a "Lifetime Fellow" in recognition of outstanding contributions and dedication in pursuit of Global Telecommunications Quality and Performance Excellence.

His Military Career spanned 5 Years assigned to the Washington, D.C. Army National Guard, 171st Military Police Battalion from 1965 - 1971 as a Military Police, Specialist E4. He holds a Business Management Bachelor's Degree from the University of Maryland, College Park.

"All God's Creatures have a place in the choir; some sing low and some sing higher"

Author: Bill Staines



JAMES WHITE
2026 HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL

IT'S A GREAT DAY FOR THE IRISH!

As the grandson of Irish immigrants, I am proud and honored to serve as the Honorary Grand Marshal of the 2026 Baltimore St Patrick Parade.

James White was born in Baltimore City in 1960, the youngest of 5 boys to Thomas and Kathleen Kinsella White. At a young age, they moved to the Cub Hill area of Baltimore County. Although living in the county, the family still traveled each day to school at Blessed Sacrament on Old York Road; their family parish. James graduated from elementary school at St. Mary's Govans then attended Calvert Hall and Towson State University graduating with a degree in Mass Communications.

Although having a Communications degree in Public Relations and Special Events, James started working in the Restaurant industry in High School. He has worked at several Baltimore and Ocean City, Maryland restaurants over the years. For the past 27 years he has worked as a Restaurant Manager at Red Brick Station Restaurant and Brew Pub in White Marsh, MD.

James' Irish roots stem from his mother's side of the family. His maternal grandparents, Patrick Kinsella from County Wicklow; Mary Moran from County Galway immigrated to the United States where they met and married. They settled in the 10th Ward in the parish of St. John the Evangelist. The organization is now known as St. John's Old Tenth Ward which is how James got his first start in the Baltimore Irish Community.

After living many years in Ocean City, he still resides part time in Berlin, MD. James moved back to Baltimore and started volunteering at St. John's Old Tenth Ward events. He has been instrumental in organizing and supporting all events for over 20 years. As a result, James helped St. John's Old Tenth Ward (since our inception in 1966), donate over \$500,000 to St. Elizabeth Special Education School. James has served as Vice President of St. John's Old Tenth Ward for many years. James has been instrumental in the planning and implementation of our fundraising efforts, including the St. John's parade fundraiser and organizing the yearly bus for the parade.

James is known throughout the Irish community in Baltimore and the surrounding areas; as a result, he has served many roles in other organizations. Including a tenure on the board of the Irish Festival and the Irish American Museum (formerly Irish Railroad Workers Museum). He also is a driving force at the festival, as he organizes the St. John's stew and champ booth. One of his favorite responsibilities is acting as cross bearer and lector at the annual festival Mass. As a member of the Emerald Isle Club, he also serves as a lector at the Emerald Isle Club Annual Memorial Mass.

In 2006, James represented St. John's as Deputy Marshal in The Baltimore St. Patrick Parade and in 2007, he represented Irish Charities of MD as Deputy Marshal. Now as Honorary Grand Marshal, he is proud to represent St. John's 10th Ward and his large Irish family both here in Baltimore and those still residing in Ireland.

WELCOME TO THE 68TH ANNUAL BALTIMORE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE!

Hello! As outgoing Chairperson, I have been truly honored and proud to hold this position during my term and I'm so grateful to all of the committee members, our Board as well as all of the organizations, participants, and spectators who have helped in so many ways to keep the parade a success. I've been a part of this amazing Irish community for over two decades and continue to love every minute of it while I am volunteering and contributing to various Irish organizations and boards.



The St. Patrick Parade is a special day on which we can all come together and celebrate our Irish heritage and honor the Patron Saint of Ireland. As we march down Charles and Pratt streets, it's always such an amazing experience to hear the cheers from spectators and watch all of the participants smiling and waving back to the crowds. Our parade committee works very hard for many months to produce a fun event for all of those who come out to support our Irish heritage and Baltimore's history.

This year I have the honor to congratulate and acknowledge two wonderful Irishmen. Brendan Pelan, this year's Grand Marshal, is a military veteran who was born in Belfast, Ireland and came to America at the age of 4. He holds his Irish heritage very dear to his heart and he shows that love in everything he does whether he is performing at a fundraiser, festival, fallen hero's ceremony, or even if he is just out and about supporting our Irish community. He has been performing music in the Washington/Baltimore area since 1963 and has been a cornerstone of the Maryland Irish Festival since 2006. He is also a proud and dedicated member of various Irish organizations where his contributions are truly valuable.

James White, our Honorary Grand Marshal, is a grandson to Irish immigrants and has lived in Baltimore since he was born in 1960. His maternal grandparents were from County Wicklow and Galway in Ireland and they settled in the 10th Ward in the parish of St. John the Evangelist which is now St. John's Old Tenth Ward, and where James started out with the tremendous number of contributions he has given to the Irish community. For 20 years he has been instrumental in organizing and supporting all of St. John's events and I can say for a fact that he LOVES baskets . He has also been their Vice President for many years and has served in many roles within other organizations including the Maryland Irish Festival, Irish American Museum, and Emerald Isle Club.

The parade could not happen without the dedication and organization of our Parade Committee, which begins planning and working in September, nor without the advisory oversight of the St. Patrick Celebrations Board who guides our legal and financial affairs. I would like to recognize everyone's efforts and dedication and couldn't be prouder to work with this great group of individuals. I would also like to thank those in the Baltimore City Special Events and Parks & Rec office (along with other departments) and the Baltimore Police Department who help ensure that everything runs smoothly prior to and on the day of parade. And a huge thanks to the many Irish organizations who generously donate or hold fundraisers as well as the businesses that purchase ads in our guide and the participants who march in our parade. To all of you who support our parade – thank you!

In my closing, I just want to again thank everyone for allowing me to be Chair and President of this wonderful parade. I am truly humbled and blessed.

With much love, Sláinte!
COLLEEN E. MONAHAN
2026 Parade Chairwoman



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR
100 Holliday Street, Room 250
Baltimore, Maryland 21202



March 15, 2026

Welcome to Baltimore's 2025 St. Patrick's Day Parade and Shamrock 5K Race! Today, thousands of spectators will crowd the streets and sidewalks of downtown Baltimore to watch participants march in celebration of Irish culture.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade is one of Baltimore's most memorable annual traditions and the longest-running parade in Baltimore. Participants and spectators come from far and near to participate in one of the largest parades in the state of Maryland while honoring the rich traditions of Irish heritage.

Thanks to St. Patrick Celebrations, Inc., the parade committee, participating Irish organizations, and all of the parade participants for making this event possible. Best wishes for a memorable celebration. Sláinte!

Sincerely,



Brandon M. Scott
Mayor
City of Baltimore

phone: 410.396.3835 fax: 410.576.9425 e-mail: mayor@baltimorecity.gov



STATE OF MARYLAND

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Wes Moore

March 15, 2026

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Baltimore. Today we recognize the enduring legacy and spirit of determination and optimism that the Irish community has contributed to the state of Maryland.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the parade committee and everyone whose hard work has made this parade such a lasting success. Together we are building a Maryland that leads and I am personally grateful for your contributions to that vital cause. My administration and our entire state are deeply proud of you and your work.

Sincerely,

Wes Moore
Governor

100 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21404
(410) 974-3400
TTY Users Call via MD Relay
governor.maryland.gov



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH MARCH 2026

- WHEREAS,** *Since our nation's founding, millions of Irish have immigrated to America with a spirit of determination and optimism that has strengthened our country's character and enriched our history; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The friendship between Ireland and the United States has deep roots, and Irish Americans have played an integral role in making our country a place of hope and opportunity. During Irish American Heritage Month, we recognize the vital contributions of Irish Americans to our State; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Since our founding, Irish immigrants have come to America's shores through the Port of Baltimore in search of better lives and millions of American citizens are of Irish descent, and they and their forebears have helped shape our way of life, strengthened our economy, contributed to the arts, and protected our way of life; and*
- WHEREAS,** *During the month of March, it is appropriate to reflect on our past and how Irish Americans helped create the State we live in today. This month-long celebration provides an opportunity to applaud the achievements of all our Irish American citizens; and*
- WHEREAS,** *All Marylanders join in honoring the proud history and many accomplishments of Americans of Irish ancestry, who contribute to our nation in virtually every aspect of life.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim MARCH 2026 as **IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH** in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of March
Two Thousand and twenty-six

Anura Miller

Lt. Governor
Susan C. Lee

Secretary of State

PARADE MARSHALS

PARADE GRAND MARSHALS SINCE 1956

1956 John J. Sweeney, Jr.	1979 Rev. Patrick A. Magnier, C.Ss.R.	2002 Michael P. Flynn
1957 George H. Fallon	1980 R. Emmet Guerin	2003 Brian K. McHale
1958 James C. Anderson	1981 John Montgomery	2004 Mary Frances Swan
1959 C. Ferdinand Sybert	1982 John McBride	2005 David W. Keelan
1960 Joseph J. Duffy	1983 Joseph A. Roche	2006 Timothy G. Harvey
1961 James Robert Tweedy	1984 Gilbert Johnson	2007 Catherine E. Reinholdt
1962 J. Harold Grady	1985 Frank X. Gallagher	2008 Michael P. Riley
1963 Charles F. O'Donnell	1986 Sarah E. Murphy	2009 Ann C. McDonnell
1964 William J. Guerin	1987 Albert E. Guerin	2010 Chuck Connolly
1965 Thomas B. Finan	1988 Peter J. O'Connor	2011 Daniel Patrick Mead
1966 Joseph G. Finnerty	1989 Michael P. O'Shea	2012 Arthur C. Casserly
1967 Robert F. Sweeney	1990 George C. McGinn	2013 Daniel Layden
1968 James Foley, Jr.	1991 Frank X. Gartland	2014 John Schell
1969 James Foley, Jr.	1992 Leo I. Welsh	2015 Stacie Guerin
1970 James J. Lacy, Jr.	1993 William D. McCloskey	2016 Jay Linahan
1971 Francis B. Burch	1994 William L. Davis	2017 John M. "Jay" Kerney
1972 William J. O'Donnell	1995 Thomas E. Bracken	2018 Don Doherty
1973 J. Joseph Curran, Jr.	1996 James A. Jones	2019 Joanna Miskelly Cox
1974 William J. Cahill, Jr.	1997 Rita A. McDonough	2020 Michael McConnell
1975 Robert C. Murphy	1998 Edward McBride	2022 Michael Willis
1976 Gerald J. Curran	1999 John T. Harvey, Jr.	2023 Tom Lawler
1977 D. Chester O'Sullivan	2000 Martin J. O'Malley	2024 Sean Hackett
1978 D. Chester O'Sullivan	2001 Kevin J. Leonard	2025 James Patrick Farace
		2026 Brendan Pelan

HONORARY GRAND MARSHALS SINCE 1986

1986 William Donald Schaefer	1999 Msgr. A. Thomas Baumgartner	2012 Kelly Parks
1987 Thomas McMillan	2000 Perry Sfikas	2013 Little Sisters of the Poor
1988 Mary Pat Clarke	2001 Hank Arnold	2014 Brother Kevin Strong
1989 Jeremiah E. Casey	2002 J. Michael Riley	2015 Msgr. John Fitzgerald
1990 Rex Barney	2003 Gerry Farrelly	2016 St. Elizabeth's School
1991 Sr. Kathleen Feeley	2004 Rev. John J.B. Ward	2017 Stephanie Arthur Town
1992 Sr. Mary Thomas	2005 Sisters of Mercy	2018 Billy McComiskey
1993 Msgr. Myles McGowan	2006 Thomas Ward	2019 Terry Patrick Brennan
1994 The Spalpeens	2007 James M. Fagan	2020 Tim Sisk
1995 Archbishop William Keeler	2008 Ed Hale	2023 John McMaster
1996 Frederick J. Byrnes	2009 Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien	2024 Michael P. May
1997 John Steadman	2010 Bill McCarthy	2025 James W. Burns
1998 Rev. John McLoughlin	2011 Charles Donald Waters Sr.	2026 James White

IRISH TRIVIA

Q1	Years St. Patrick lived A. 359-410 B. 387-461 C. 396-459 D. 415-476
Q2	St. Patrick lived about the same time as A. Confucius B. King Tutankhamun C. St. Augustine D. St. Brendan the Navigator E. the Prophet Mohammad F. Caesar Augustus G. Charlemagne
Q3	St. Patrick's writings A. Twelve Years a Slave B. Summa Theologica C. Confessio and Epistola D. Apologia Pro Vita Sua E. Serpenti Exterminato F. The City of God
Q4	Wolfe Tone A. Description of sound made by an Irish double bass/bull fiddle B. Actor who did the voice of Wylie Coyote in Road Runner cartoons C. Irish Revolutionist called Theobald D. American Kennel Club sub-breed of German Shepard dogs
Q5	Legendary Irish fishmonger A. James Faidley B. Betty Crocker C. Nick's Fish House C. Simon, James and John, Ltd. D. Molly Malone
Q6	Mischievous small man in a green coat, suspected of hoarding pots full of gold coins A. King McMidass B. the Geico Geko C. An elusive leprechaun D. Danny DeVito
Q7	Population of Ireland (Republic only) in 2025 A. 3.5 to 4 million B. 4 to 5.5 million C. 5.5 to 6.5 million D. 6.5 to 7.5 million
Q8	Official Name of the 398 ft. tall structure in downtown Dublin A. Celtic Shaft B. Eifel Tower C. The Spike D. Nail in the Pale E. Monument of Light F. RTE Tower
Q9	Holy hill in County Mayo A. Lumpmor B. Denali C. Spancil Hill D. Croagh Patrick E. Benny Hill
Q10	Ireland's National Anthem A. A Nation Once Again B. Soldier's Song C. The West's Awake D. Danny Boy E. the Minstrel Boy F. God Save the Taoiseach
Q11	The second most famous of Irish stouts A. Murphy's B. Beamish C. Guinness D. O'Hara's E. Natty Boh Dark
Q12	Bestselling Irish whiskey in America A. Tullamore DEW B. Bushmills C. Jameson D. Tealing E. Powers
Q13	Where good Irish fishermen end up A. Van Demon's Land B. Harper's Fairyland C. Greenland D. Mick O'Shea's Pub E. Fiddlers Green F. St. Stephen's Green
Q14	Whose quote? "I can resist everything except temptation." A. George Bernard Shaw B. James Joyce C. Brendan Behan D. Oscar Wilde
Q15	Whose quote? "It is not that the Irish are cynical. It is rather that they have a wonderful lack of respect for everything and everybody." A. Henry VIII B. Jonathan Swift C. William "Boss" Tweed D. Brendan Behan E. Queen Victoria
Q16	Meaning of "Cead Mile Failte" A. May the Force be with you B. About a mile from here C. It's not my fault D. A hundred thousand welcomes

Submitted by Michael Kenney

ANSWERS ON PAGE 18

2026 PARADE PATRONS



SHAMROCK
CENTURY CLUB

Pat Gillease
Lisa & Sean Hackett
Timothy Harvey
The Oriole Advocates
Scott Hammond
Shannon Hammond
Dan and Libby Maher Layden
Bob and Karen Williams



CLADDAGH CLUB

Blatchley Family
Bracken Family
Terry & Denise Brennan
Chase Coleman
Susan Kelley
Jay Linahan
Iron Mike and Kathi McConnell
Ira Lynn Mitchell, Jr. Elaine & John Monahan
Rosemary Rappa
Kevin D. Reed
Everett Smith Jr
Kenneth and Susan Sturek
Sophia and Kelsey Sturek
Robert Waldron



SAINTS

Keith & Cori Brennan	Declan Layden
Kevin & Kim Brennan	Ian Layden
Mumsy Brennan	Owen Layden
Patrick & Jessie Brennan	Jake Layden
Steven Brennan	Michael Daniel Layden
Erin Bruce	Thomas Joseph Layden
Craig Collins-Young	Ira Lynn Mitchell, Jr.
Erin Davis	Sean Patrick Mitchell
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Gabi & Luther Daigle	Becky Odum
Andrew Eierman	Colleen & Jon Poehlman
Joyce Eierman	Mary Sutherland
Carl Klein	Sara Willett

SCHOLARS

Corneilous Brennan
Elizabeth Bruce
Jackson Davis
Brooke Davis
Lauren N. Hartzell
Alison Klein
Delaney Klein
Adyn Linahan
Kaelyn Linahan
Declan Layden
Ian Layden
Jake Layden
Owen Layden
Ranee O'Connor

SIPPERS

Katie Brennan
Eric Brennan
Melody Heinbuch
Ted Heinbuch
Christine McCoy Reed
Joseph Odum
Keven B. O'Connor
Peter J. O'Connor
Leopold Butterscotch Walter
Josephine Willett



MEMORIALS

Paul Alisea	Jane Gutridge	John Joseph Monahan
Apryl Bancroft	John T. Harvey Sr.	Nancy Monahan
Winston Bancroft	John T. Harvey III	Jesse Moseley
Patricia Bennett	Louise R. Harvey	Brendan Mulvihill
Blackburn family	Mary Callan Harvey	Kenneth Nugent
Ronie Blaze	Owen Harvey	Chief Peter J. O'Connor
Barbara B. Bolger	John T. Harvey Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Peter J. O'Connor
Chuck Bollack	Hazel Heinbuch	Mark Odum
Virginia Bowen	Mary Burke Honenberger	Mary O'Rourke
Margaret Boyce	Paul Hoke	Mark Parry
Hon. Alfred Brennan	Jim Keefe	Dawn Raynor
Daniel Brennan	James Keenen	Mike Ricciardella
Daniel Cuddy	Tony Kerrigan	Ed Snedicker
John Cuddy	Nancy Margaret Loiro, nee Knott	Owen Sweeney
J. Ralph Donovan	Ralph Malin	Farrell Sullivan
James Gallagher Sr.	John McCall	Norah Talbott
Vincent & Mary Gillease	William McCloskey	Charles 'Sonny' Thompson
Dennis Gillease	Mary Helene Miller, nee Johnson	Maisey Tully
John L. Greene	Mary McGough	Margaret Toughy
Jacqueline H Grossnickle	Ira Lynn Mitchell, Sr.	Patrick Tuohy
Ellen Lawlor Greene	Elaine M. Monahan	Paul J. Reed, Jr.
Henrietta Greene Harvey	John J. Monahan	

LEPRECHAUNS

Minerva Bancroft	Hunter Brennan	Chud Heinbuch
Luna Bolton-Fitzroy	Charlie Connolly	Baby Mitchell
Tommy Brennan	Natalie Joy Daigle	Grant Patrick Reed
Ethan Bruce	Eli Darman	Brendan Paul Reed
Gracey Brennan	Arden Doherty	Liam Williams
Georgia Brennan	Harper Flynn	Reese Williams
Grayson Brennan	Choco Heinbuch	



THE DUBLIN SISTERS COME TO TOWN

Luke F. McCusker III

Baltimore's Irish Catholic community, and the city in general, has benefitted immensely from the efforts of **Women Religious**, i.e. **Nuns or Sisters**. Many religious orders dedicated themselves to the spiritual, medical and educational needs of waves of immigrants to the city, including the Oblate Sisters of Providence, "the first successful Roman Catholic sisterhood in the world established by women of African descent". The Sisters of Charity played an essential role in Baltimore's earliest years, educating thousands in Baltimore's earliest parishes. These Nuns cared for the Irish arriving on coffin ships. Some laid down their lives after contracting ship's fever from the new arrivals. Their nursing saved many, and the Sister's efforts in parish classrooms helped transition formerly rural Irish into educated, capable contributors in a vibrant urban setting.

West Baltimore's St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church and schools placed an Irish order of Nuns to begin the 1855 school year. Archbishop Kenrick contacted the Diocese of Pittsburgh, requesting members of the **Sisters of Mercy**, a Dublin based order with its first American posting there, to take over St. Peter's Female School. The community was established by Sister Mary Catherine McAuley in 1831 in Dublin, Ireland. They arrived in Baltimore June 28, 1855, led by Reverend Mother M. Catherine Wynne.

A neighboring building (*pictured below*) was purchased by Mrs. Emily Caton MacTavish, the favorite granddaughter of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, and presented a gift to the Order. The **Convent of the Immaculate Conception** became a home for nuns, support staff and future novitiates. Seeing the multitude of young girls seeking an education, Mother Wynne exclaimed, "There must be well nigh a thousand in that crowd!". Thankfully she had been accompanied to Baltimore by Sisters M. Neri Bowen, Mary Colette O'Connor and Mary Anne Rigney. Many of their charges lacked any semblance of formal education. The nuns gathered their pupils in the church hall and did their best to form them into class groups without benefit of walls between them. Some classes were held on elevated platforms and students were moved to the next grade level based on behavior and aptitude, not age. These girls were described by the Sisters as "listless and lawless", but slowly assumed better demeanors.

The Academy of our Lady of Mercy, was opened by the Sisters that same year for girls from wealthy families that could afford to pay tuition. Courses in music, needlework and fine art were offered. The Sisters also separately established a home for distressed women, known as the **House of Mercy**. Poor families of the parish also benefitted from the Sisters' distribution of food collected at the end of the day from Hollins Market.

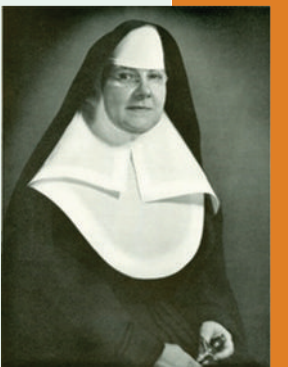


Several religious Orders adjusted their priorities during the Civil War. Two of those earliest Nuns, Sisters M. Colette O'Connor (*pictured above with military officers*) and M. Anne Rigney, joined 22 other Sisters of Mercy Nuns at Douglas Memorial Hospital in Washington D.C. to care for the wounded. They have been remembered on Washington D.C.'s "Nuns of the Battlefield" memorial.

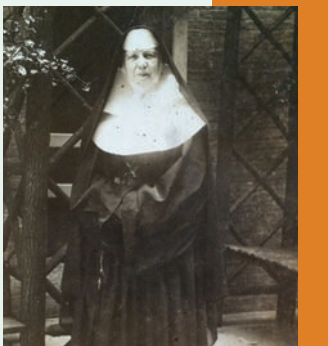
After the war, the Sisters of Mercy continued educating the young girls of West Baltimore.

The Female School met in the church basement until 1869, when a school building of six classrooms was added behind the convent. Attendance grew and their good work was an example to many neighborhood girls, encouraging many to join them once their initial years of education were complete.

Among them was Ann Liberty, the future Sister Mary Rita Liberty (*pictured*), baptized at St. Peter's Church in 1868 and a niece of James and Sarah Feeley whose 918 Lemmon Street home is now the Irish American Museum. Ann studied under the Sisters of Mercy at St. Peter's Female School. She entered religious life and taught at Mount Saint Agnes College (established by the Sisters in 1878) in Mount Washington. She returned to St. Peter's School in 1910, teaching boys and girls. She became Mother Superior at St. Vincent's Male Orphanage. Sister Liberty also taught at both Gonzaga School in Washington, D.C., and Sacred Heart Convent in Mount Washington. She died November 25, 1922, at the age of 54.



Teresa Julia Holbein (*pictured*) also grew up near St. Peter's Female School. She followed an older sister into the Sisters of Mercy order in 1905. Becoming **Sister Mary Hildegard Holbein**, she traveled two different vocational tracks: an educator and a nurse. She did several stints as a teacher at St. Peter's Female School. She served primarily at Baltimore's 375-bed Mercy Hospital as a Nurse and Instructor for 43 years. Her time was interrupted briefly in 1943 by a placement at St. Martin de Porres Maternity Hospital in Mobile, Alabama: a modest five-bed facility where she served as supervisor and midwife for five years. Her experiences there enriched her life, and she encouraged other Nuns to become "pioneer workers" in similar settings, giving care to "Miniatures of Christ in Ebony". She passed away in 1977.



Thanks to Sharon Knecht, Nancy Van Horn, Kathleen Garvey Norris, the Oblate Sisters of Providence and the Sisters of Mercy for their contributions to this article. Explore Baltimore's Irish history Further by visiting the Irish American Museum web site and their **Big Pivot** blog at www.irishshrine.org/learn/the-big-pivot.



FINDING MY IRISH FAMILY

By Denny Lynch

Have you ever wondered where your family really came from and longed to find the answer? Perhaps you've heard a story about one of your ancestors who came to America and established a new life here. Based on recent U.S. Census records over 30 million Americans claim Irish ancestry. However, it is a lucky few who have been able to trace their family's history and then actually journey to the exact location of their origin. No matter what your heritage may be, that personal experience has meaning beyond measure. By taking that journey you become the bridge between the past and the present. You can also become the keeper of the flame: the person who keeps the family history alive. Believe me, that's a mighty role. This essay highlights such an experience.

In my case, both sides of my family are of Irish descent, but growing up I knew very little about the life of my ancestors. No one had ever conducted a proper genealogical search or travelled to Ireland. However, as I got older I developed a burning desire to find out more. The big breakthrough came when I inherited a box that served as a repository for my family's history; the plethora of items in the box covered four generations. Among the items were photographs, birth certificates, deeds, rosaries, mass cards and four letters from Ireland. The letters were dated from 1899 to 1906. When I began to read the letters to myself it was like the roof fell in on my head! Here was the key to unlock my family's past! Strangely enough, it felt as though the letters were just waiting for me to find them.

The recipient of the letters was my maternal great-grandmother Fannie McIntyre who was living in Baltimore, Maryland. All four letters were written by her sister Hannah. There was such grace in her language and the cursive writing made Hannah's words come alive. To my amazement the heading in the first letter dated June 11, 1899 contained the sender's post office: Belturbet. And in that same letter Hannah mentions the names of all their siblings and she informs Fannie how each one is doing. In the second letter dated July 12, 1903 she mentions a place named Derrykerrib twice which made me suspect that it could be the location of the original family homestead.

The letters were a portal into Ireland's past when tenant farmers were still living under a feudal landlord system which provided them little security or rights. At one point Hannah states: "We have a great deal of wages to pay. Everyone is busy to meet the landlord." She also discloses that many members of their family made the decision to emigrate to America. This is understandable since there was no real promise of a positive future for Irish Catholics. Though short in length, these four letters spoke volumes about my ancestors' lives, and it dawned on me that the letters could serve as a blueprint for an earnest investigation in Ireland.

So equipped with my camera and tape recorder I embarked on my venture. This was the summer of 1990, before the World Wide Web and Internet were made accessible to the public, so you had to be very resourceful in order to launch a search. That's why, after landing in Dublin I paid a visit to the Valuation Office. There I learned about Griffith's Primary Valuation of Tenements, the historic record used by genealogists. It provides researchers with names of townlands (the smallest unit of land division in Ireland) and the name of each occupier and immediate lessor. Next, I made my way to Belturbet to explore the town from which Hannah's letter was mailed. Located in County Cavan, this lovely old-fashioned rural town, is situated just a few miles south of the border with Northern Ireland. To become familiar with the area I



purchased an ordinance survey map in a shop. As luck would have it, I spotted the word Derrykerrib; it was one of the many islands that were part of Upper Lough Erne.

While in Belturbet I established my headquarters at a friendly B&B and I received assistance from other members of the community: a postman provided directions to the island of Derrykerrib, and the local parish priest explained some of the idioms that were used in the letters. Suddenly things were coming into focus. I had figured out that Derrykerrib was also an example of a townland and my intuition told me that the island was the key piece to this puzzle. And like a good detective I thought to myself: "Ok, the game is afoot!"

My drive to the island entailed traveling from north Cavan into County Fermanagh, which is part of Northern Ireland. Along the route I saw lovely lakes, gorgeous landscapes and the ruins of a castle. In addition, I encountered a British checkpoint. This unsettling experience left me a little rattled, but more importantly made me realize the harsh reality that confronted the Irish daily living in this area. It would be another eight years before the removal of such border checkpoints would be addressed by the Good Friday Agreement. After being cleared at the checkpoint by the soldiers I pressed on to my destination.

To reach the island of Derrykerrib I had to cross what appeared to be a very old wooden bridge. I later learned the bridge was erected in 1939 and that before the bridge was built the island's inhabitants travelled to and from the mainland of Fermanagh by way of a boat called a cot. The cot ferried children to their school, transported livestock and was even used during funerals. The island itself was composed of 500 acres and was dotted with a dozen houses. In short order I met an islander who suggested I go talk with the Donohues, a family that had lived in Derrykerrib for generations. With great anticipation I arrived at their charming thatched cottage where I was greeted by hydrangea and fuchsia shrubs as I passed through their gate. It was like something out of a storybook.

The next thing I knew I was sitting with a cup of tea in my hand engaged in deep conversation with the two Donohue brothers John and Tosh; John's wife Mary was also present. The earthy scent from the turf burning stove filled the air of the cozy room. There was something noble about these people who welcomed me into their home without hesitation. They seemed to possess a dignity and intelligence that comes with years of working the land. And so with my foreign American accent I commenced to read the letters aloud. There was silence in the room until I finished. Smiles appeared on their faces as they told me I had found my family. Their grandfather John was my great-grandmother Fannie's brother. The gravity of the moment was not lost on me. The improbable became reality: a family separated for nearly a century was united once again. From this small island in County Fermanagh to the streets of Baltimore, it was clear that my family was part of the Irish diaspora.

On subsequent summer visits to Fermanagh, John and Tosh shared with me more family history and sometimes shepherded me to sites on Derrykerrib where other ancestors once lived. They also introduced me to additional relatives living on and off the island and these new cousins in turn broadened my family's story. And at one stage my cousin Thomas arranged for me to have a photography exhibition at the library in Enniskillen, Fermanagh's largest town. The exhibition documented my family's history, my homecoming in 1990 and the beauty of the Lough Erne area. It was a dream come true to see all my friends and relatives gathering at the opening reception of the exhibit. In many ways finding my Irish family has been like a gift that keeps on giving and by connecting with my Irish past I have discovered who I really am.

Denny Lynch has been exhibiting his work in New York, Paris, and parts of Ireland since the 1990s. His photographs have become part of the permanent collections of the Museum of the City of New York and the New York Historical Society. You may contact Denny at: denny@dennylynch.com.





Maryland Ladies Ancient
Order of Hibernians
Congratulates

Brendan Pelan
Grand Marshal



James White
Honorary Grand Marshal

MD LOAH 2026 Deputy Marshals
Katie McCune & Mary Anne Loftus-Smith



COUSINS

Trivia Answers: 1B 2C 3C 4C 5D 6C 7B 8E 9D 10B 11A 12C 13E 14D 15D 16D

HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY
From
ST. JOHN'S OLD TENTH WARD

Congratulations to the 2026 Grand Marshal
Brendan Pelan

2026 Honorary Grand Marshal
James White

2026 St. John's Deputy Marshal
Bonnie Fowler Hjenvick

In memoria
Nancy Loiero (Knott); Charles "Sonny" Thompson;
Mary Helene Miller (nee Johnson); Mary Burke Hohnenberger

Best Wishes for a Grand Parade



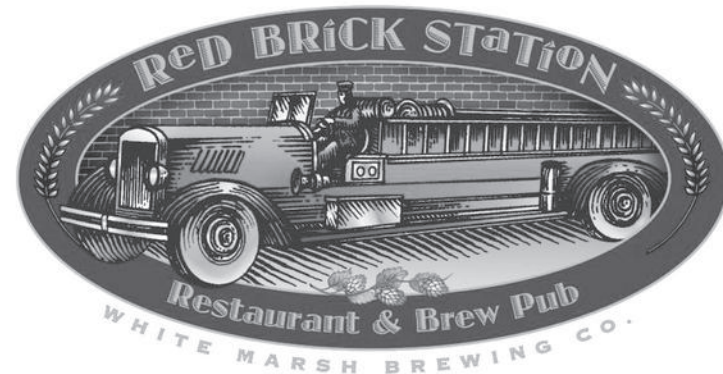
St John's Old Tenth Ward

LIVING IPA GCOPAI

Peggy Kinsella Boyle	Sean Hull	Cathy Reinholdt
Laura Cadden	Eleanor M Jett	Fred Reinholdt III
Shirley Cadden	Norah Kalkman	Max & Maren Reinholdt
Maggie Carthy	John E. King	Reed & Freya Reinholdt
Arthur C Casserly	Joanne & Laura Lough	Carson Runge
Bobbi Casparriello	Denny Lynch/ Paula Bogert	Hannah Ellen Runge
Aiden Cate	Harry James Mahoney	Audrey Schwemmer
Leah Marcuri-Cate	Katherine Nanci Mahoney	Trevor Keith Sears
Nikos Cate	Alex & Jenna Marcuri	Kerry G Singleton
Tom Cate	Gus Marcuri	Lily G Singleton
Ellen "Betty" Colvin	Mark & Jenn Marcuri	Miles R Singleton
Mary J Coyne	Nancy Mattingly	Darby & Meredith Sim- mons
Robert S. Coyne	A. McCarthy	Frank & Lisa Sladko
Christine Crawford	Donna Miller	Harley & Hunter Sladko
Ed Crawford	Joseph E Miller	Joe & Ginny Sladko
Jaime Crawford	Jeffrey Morris	Kyle Swindell
Crogan Family	Leland P Morris	Mollie Swindell
Paul & Nadia Cross	Marie Mulgrew	Ryan Swindell
Driscoll Family	Catherine J Murphy	Trish Swindell
Egan Family	Connie Murphy	Talbott Family
Terri L Fields	Dennis S Murphy	John Vesperman
Colin Flanagan	Kathleen Norris	Santa Wallace
Mary Kate Flanagan	Michaeline O'Neill	Berkleigh Warren
Michael Collins Flannery	O'Toole Family	Brandon Warren
Peggy Fox	Pat Ozborn	Dublin Warren
Mallory Adeline Frase	Emily Grace Parmer	Kaileigh Warren
Mary Regina Giles	Maureen Patrick	Karleigh Warren
Jim Gentil	Jim & Katie (Fox) Phelan	Ryan Warren
Brendan Guerin	James Phillips	James T. White
Hannah Guerin	Patricia Phillips	Patricia A Wilhelm
Kevin Guerin	Ann Pribyl	Mary Ellen Wittich
Bill Guerin	Bill Pribyl	M/M Wolf
Boots Heidenreich	Jeraldine Ragan	Pat Zaccari
Craig Hull		

DECEASED CUIMNEACHAIP DON DUPEPACH MAIREAPP

Frances D Ackerman	John M Dougherty	Thelma Graziano	Nick Marcuri	Noreen Ragan
George Ackerman	Timothy M Dougherty	Helen & George Grice	Frank Mattes	Pat Ragan
M/M Anderson	Driscoll Family	Eileen Grund	Sam Mattingly	Fred Reinholdt
Hank Arnold	Cornelius Driscoll	Melvin Gryczkowski	Rita Matoska	Kate Reinholdt
Tracey A Waltham	Tom A Dromgool	Albert Guerin	Luke F. McCusker Jr	Margee Reinholdt
Goro Asaki	"Bunky" Dudderar	Bill & Margaret Guerin	McNamee-Neal Family	Eleanor McCusker Roshvizen
Midge Battaglia	Shizuko Dudderar	Charles B. Guerin	Alfred Middleton	Preston Petty Rowland
Betty Berger	Joyce Dunnagan	Stacie Guerin	Elizabeth Corr Middleton	James Russell Sr
Elizabeth Coleman Berger	Margaret Eder	Darla Hale	Raymond Middleton	Mary Russell
Mary Ellen Berger	Gengy Egan	Mrs Lillian Hale	Eleanor "Lady" Miles	Michael Russell
William T Berger Sr	Jerry Egan	Mr William Hale	S. Miles	Nanny and Pop Ryan
Mildred E. Braden	Linda Mulgrew Enders	Jackie Hall	Amelia P Miller	Anthony Sallese
Martin K. Bradin	Betsy Ellwood	Ken & Catherine Hall	Betty R. Miller	Anna Mahoney Schaubert
Catherine Bevans	Richard J Ellwood Sr	Catherine Harrison	Bert F. Miller	Marge Schwartz
Otts Bevans	John E Epple	Paul F Harrison Sr	Bertha E Miller	Toots Schwartz
Ann Rowland Blair	Lavinia L Epple	John Harvey	Charles (Bud) Miller	Karl Schwemmer
Frederick Bowser	Stella Falk	Bobbie Hawkins	Edwin Miller	C J Scilipote Jr
Robert "Butsie" Boyle	Mary Ellen Berger Fanton	John H Heagy	Mary Helen Miller	John R Scilipote Jr
Martin K Bradin	Francis X Fields Sr	Edward Heath Sr	Helen Molloy	John R Scilipote Sr
Michael S Bradin	James Jim Finch	Nora McCleary Heath	Joseph and Santa Mooney	Sean M. Simmons
Mildred E Bradin	Mary Irene Finch	Mary Burke Hohnenberger	Elsie M. Morris	Edith Simms
Thomas M Bradin	Ted Fisher Family	Vernon Jett	Leland P. Morris	Larry Simms
Helen Burke	Marie Folan	Agnes B Johnson	James T. Morris	Bernard E. Smith
Nellie Burke	John Ford	C Gilbert Johnson	Mary J. Morris	Nancy Driscoll Smith
Thomas J. Burke	Mary C. Ford	Edward & Marie Junghans	George Morrow	Alice Stine
Burns/Ford Family	Michael Ford	Rita Karwacki	Rose Morrow	John Stine Sr.
James Cadden	Michael J. Ford	James I Keenan Jr.	Terry Morrow	Hilda Storto
M/M F Campbell	Cass Burns Ford	Mary Jane Kelly	Thomas Mulgrew	Mag Streets
Bill Canby	Dorothy Forster	Anna Leahy Kenney	Aunt BeBe Murphy	Mary F Dougherty Swan
Joe & Margie Carrigan	Margaret J (Donahue) French	Daniel Kenney	Cecelia Murphy	John Talbott
M/M C Cason	Raphael French	Claire Kincaid	Catherine J Murphy	Eddie Tighe
Ray & Marge Cason	M/M Fred Gammon	James Kincaid Sr	Dennis Murphy	Peggie Tighe
Raymond Cason Jr*	Emma Green	Michael Kincaid	James W Murphy	Robert J Thommen
Anita & Anthony Caspariello	Ruth Green	Ellen (Nellie) King	Mary A Murphy	Charles J Thompson (Sonny)
Jack Casparriello	Glenn-O'Dea Families	John E King	Michael Murphy	Trionfo Family
Ewin W Chalmers	M/M Fred German	John J King	Robert Murphy	Bill Van Daniker
Mary C Chalmers	Harry Gilmore	John Kirby	Sally Murphy	Laura Eleanor Wade
Colleran Family	Leona O'Neill Gilmore	Patrick & Mary Kinsella	Betty Nelson	Samuel Wade Jr
Ellen Betty Colvin	Jack B Gollick	Thomas & Kathleen Kinsella	Dr/Mrs James I Nolan	Samuel Wade Sr
James C. Colvin	Joseph Gollick	Warren Koogle	Alex & Paulen Nolfi	Mary Wallace
Ann Coyne	Sara Gollick	Thomas R Knott	Betty & Duke O'Connor	Thomas Leo Wallace
Thomas Coyne	William Gollick	Barbara B Knutsen	John F. O'Neill	Wallace Family
Emma & Howard Crawford	M/M Barond Goodhues	Helen Kummer	John G O'Shea	Ward Family
Sadie Crawford	Barbara Goodhues	James P Landerkin	Nellie O'Shea	Ward-King Family
Margaret Mary Crogan	Barry E Goodhues	Jim Landerkin	Tom J O'Shea	Rose Marie Weaver
Wilhelmina Cumbest	M/M Fred Gorman	Joseph G Loiero	Rosarie M. O'Toole	Margaret Welsh
Margaret Curran	Eileen Burke Gossman	Mary Loiero	Mary Panuska	Thomas & Kathleen Kinsella White
William R Curran	Gould Family	Nancy Loiero	Lee O'Toole Pfister	Ag McLaughlin Wildt
DaSilva Family	Gilbert Graill	Thomas M Loiero	James F Phillips Sr	Charles Wilhelm Sr
James F Delaney	Nellie Graill	Vincent J Loiero	Joseph Phillips	Ethel Wilhelm
Henry Denhardt	Cheryl Graham	Jimmy Lucas	Pierce Family	Eve Wilhelm
Esther Green Denisio	Frances Graham	Lyons Family/Sadie	John T Rafferty	John Dutch Wilhelm
Michael Denisio	Emma Green	Thelma Rebecca Macciola	Wm J Rafferty Jr	Walter E. Wilhelm, Sr
DiVenti Family	Ruth Green	Phyllis Madonna	James J Ragan	Margaret & Jim Wittich
Sarah Dolliver	Frank Graziano	William Madonna Sr	Jerry Ragan	Jeannie Young
		Sarah S Mahoney	Nora Heath Ragan	



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR VERY OWN
JAMES WHITE!**

**THE HONORARY GRAND MARSHALL OF THE
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**ST. PATRICK
PARADE**



AOH Division 3 is proud to congratulate this year's Marshals

**2026 Grand Marshal
*Brendan Pelan***

**2026 Honorary Grand Marshal
*James White***

**2026 Deputy Marshal
*Joe O'Halloran***



**AOH St. Brendan Division 3
*Towson, Maryland***

Visit our web site for more information
and membership inquiries.
www.AOHTowson.com

*Friendship, Unity
and Christian Charity*



CONGRATULATIONS James White

Brother, Uncle, Cousin, Friend

Honorary Grand Marshall
2026 St Patrick's Parade

The White, Kinsella, Caskey
and Flanagan families

Friendly Daughters of
Saint Patrick of Maryland



CHEERS TO OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS MARCHING IN
THE 2026 BALTIMORE ST. PATRICK PARADE

Pam Wampler

Friendly Daughters of Saint Patrick Deputy Marshal

Brendan Pelan

Grand Marshal

James White

Honorary Grand Marshal

The Friendly Daughters of Saint Patrick, or FDSP, is a Maryland-based non-denominational society for women of Irish heritage. Our goal is to support and give back to Maryland's women, children, and families, as well as the Irish community. FDSP is a charity, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that donates both time and money to persons and groups in need. We honor yesterday's traditions by giving back today in order to create a better tomorrow.
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Honorary Grand Marshal - James White
Division 5 Deputy Marshal – John Moore

AOH 5 Officers

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AOH 5 is an Irish Catholic fraternal organization in Baltimore City, founded in 1895. For more information or to find out about joining AOH 5, please contact us at gstegjr@gmail.com.



The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Baltimore



Wish our sincere congratulations to:

Grand Marshal – Brendan Pelan

Honorary Grand Marshal – James White

&

Deputy Grand Marshal – FSSP President:

Maurice “Bubby” Himes



2025 FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK, BALTIMORE MEMBERSHIP

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**The Metropolitan Baltimore Fire Emerald Society
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**2026 Grand Marshal, Brendan Pelan
2026 Honorary Grand Marshal, James White
Our 2026 Deputy Marshal, Kristin Carlsen Lublinsky**

**Keep your Irish up!
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Congratulations

Brendan Pelan

Grand Marshal

James White

Honorary Grand Marshal

Bob Baker

Irish Charities of Maryland

Deputy Marshal



52nd Annual Maryland Irish Festival

November 13, 14, 15, 2026

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Police Emerald Society of Baltimore Maryland



Eric Brennan
President

The PESB wishes the
best of luck to:

Brendan Pelan
Grand Marshal

James White
Honorary Grand Marshal

Gary Cofflin
PESB Deputy Marshal

We would like to congratulate and
recognize the PESB 2025 Awardees:

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Tactical Flight Officer Andre Smith

Flight Officer Craig Hoover

Sergeant Mark F. Parry
Distinguished Service Award

James Clark

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Congratulations to the 2026:

- Parade Grand Marshal: **Brendan Pelan**
- Honorary Grand Marshal: **James White**
- Emerald Isle Club Deputy Marshal: **Leslie McGuinness**

beannachtaí na féile pádraig azaibh!



The Padraic Pearse Division #1 of Maryland of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Catonsville, Maryland wished to congratulate **Brendan Pelan** for being the 2026 St. Patrick's Day parade Grand Marshal.

Additionally, we say congratulations to **Tim Harvey**, our Deputy Marshal



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blessings be more,
and nothing but
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through your door.”

— *Irish blessing* —



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Congratulations to the 2026 Grand Marshal Brendan Pelan
and 2026 Honorary Grand Marshal James White.

Inspired by the Gospel mandates to love, serve and teach, Catholic Charities provides care and services to improve the lives of Marylanders in need.