Leitrim Society of New York April 2020 Online Newsletter

**April 10, 2020**

**Dear Member,**

It is very difficult to know where to begin. We have all been living through this awful nightmare and have had to make the most dramatic changes in our daily lives for the past 5-6 weeks. We are witnessing untold suffering and unprecedented loss of life every day, and have to adjust to a whole new way of living. As with most tragedies, they seem to bring out the best in people and we see this every day. It is wonderful to see the outpouring of help, love and support coming from all our community, trying to do something to ease the burden on each other.

As most of you know, we did not have a monthly meeting in March. We were able to set up a teleconference meeting between the President and Officers of the Society. We are trying to keep up with whatever is possible. We will have another ***telephonic*** ***meeting*** on **Thursday, April 16th, 2020 at 7:30 pm.** This will continue to be the way of doing business until restrictions are lifted and it is safe. If you would like to join the meeting, please contact **Noeleen Bohan McGovern** at ***914-643-7368***.

***Regarding our Scholarship***, because of the current extenuating circumstances, we have ***extended the deadline for applications until May 15th, 2020.***

**Dinner Dance** - We were very disappointed to have to postpone our ***125th Anniversary Dinner Dance***. A tentative date has been rescheduled for **Saturday, September 12th, 2020**. Obviously this will depend on what is allowed at that time. Further updates will be communicated in the coming months.

Please remember our sick members, **Lisa Cullen, Damien Murray, Margaret Mitchell McManus, Vincent Dolan, Maureen Halligan, Anna Bohan, Kathleen Regan and Ollie Cox.** Please pray for all those who are sick with the Coronavirus, each of us have family**,** friends and neighbors who are infected. We ask God to please bring an end to this pandemic soon.

***Condolences*** to the **Brady and Verheyen families** on the passing of **Eddie Verheyen. Eddie** (***uncle*** of **Sharon Brady**) was a longtime member of the society with his late ***wife*** **Mary** and was always a familiar and welcome face at all our meetings and social functions. May he rest in peace.

We remember the ***family*** of little **Conor Campbell**, ***aged 5,*** from ***Drumshanbo***, who died tragically in a farming accident this week. May God comfort them at this difficult time. ***Condolences*** to **Gerry Gilrane** on the death of his ***sister-in law***, **Maureen Gilrane** (***Ballinaglera***) and to the ***family*** of **Margaret McTiernan**. We also remember ***renowned folk singer,*** **Mary McPartlan**, a native of ***Drumkeerin*** but lived in Galway. ***Condolences*** to **Mark and Noreen Leggiero** ***and*** ***family***, on the sad death of **Mark’s** ***uncle***, **Anthony “Algiers’ Leggiero**. Please pray for all those who have died as a result of the Coronavirus. We all know someone. May they all rest in peace.

At this time, please pray for all our **First Responders,** all **medical staff and all essential service employees** working the **front lines.** We salute the tremendous sacrifices they are making for us. We ask God to keep them safe and thank them for their selflessness.

Please keep contact with each other and reach out to someone if you need help. Follow the rules and ‘***Stay apart***’ so we can all be together later’

***Wishing you a blessed Easter***. Be safe and be well everyone.

**Sincerely,**

**Donal O’Connell Anna Mulvey Buggy**

***President Corresponding Secretary***