Ancient Order of Hibernians

AOH National FFAI Chairman

Martin Galvin

AOH-FFAI.
PO BOX 904
JEFFERSON VALLEY, NY 10535
Phone: (718) 665-1800
(201) 315-5889
E-Mail: mgalvinesq@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 2026

2026-27 Freedom for All Ireland Christmas Appeal Mailing Contents:

- ★ Christmas Appeal Letter
- ★ Criteria for Financial Support
- ★ Groups Supported by the 2026 Christmas Appeal
- ★ $1000 Pledge Form *(State, County, Division, and Individual)*
- ★ The FFAI $10+ Club
- ★ Boards & Divisions who contributed $1,000 or more in 2026

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A chairde,

British Prime Ministers change, but British crown views on letting the Irish vote for national freedom remain the same. The Good Friday Agreement says it is for the people of Ireland alone to exercise their right of national self-determination "without external impediment". Yet the British ignore any signs of nationalist advances which should trigger a border poll. A vote on Irish reunification goes from "not even on the horizon", under Keir Starmer to "off the table" under Andrew Burnham.

On legacy justice, Labour promised to "repeal and replace" the law drawn up by the Conservatives to take away legal mechanisms which gave truth to murder victims' families. Now they not only want to keep the Independent Commission on Reconciliation and Information Recovery (ICRIR), set up by the Tories to bury the truth, but are dragging families like Sean Brown's to the London Supreme Court, rather than accept Belfast Court of Appeals judgements, that the ICRIR does not comply with the European Convention. They want "special protections" for former British troopers like those who murdered a priest, parishioner and 3 teenagers in the Springhill Massacre, and a blanket veto on all documents showing the British crown directed murders by paid loyalist agents.

Now they are trying to make the Croppies lie down for Orange Order marches on the Garvaghy Road, Road, to humiliate the nationalist residents including 21 murder victims' families.

Last April, Hibernians joined a special live webinar broadcast from the Houben Centre, Holy Cross Church, in Belfast, where 17 grant recipients spoke about their work for freedom for all Ireland, and how much they count on Christmas Appeal donations.

Grants were awarded to justice campaigners like Relatives for Justice, Ballymurphy Massacre Committee, Bloody Sunday Trust and the Witness Project; groups helping ex-prisoners or bereaved like EALU and Green Cross; heritage groups like the St. Patrick Centre, Martín McGuinness Foundation and Duchas Oriall; groups keeping patriot graves like Belfast National Graves and Tyrone National Graves; cross-community groups like the Houben Peace Centre Project, Bridges Beyond Boxing and Ardoyne Youth Club; commemorative groups like O'Neill-Allsopp Flute Band and Greater New Lodge Committee; and Ireland's Future, working for a vote to unite Ireland under the terms of the Good Friday Agreement.

These groups are appealing to the AOH. **Because the British want to close down work for freedom for all Ireland, these grant recipients desperately need us to come through for them!** We cannot let down those working for freedom for all Ireland, at a time when their work is needed most.

I am personally appealing to every State, County and Division President, to take a lead, to donate through special fundraising or donations from funds. Don't let them down! Help make Freedom for all Ireland, not an aspiration or endeavor, but the reality for those Irish people still denied it!

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Criteria for FFAI Financial Support

The FFAI Christmas Appeal enables the AOH to provide financial help to groups that assist in our goal of achieving complete and absolute independence, peace, and unity for all Ireland. The defined categories of Hibernian support include (a) support for former Republican political prisoners, (b) truth and justice groups, (c) cross-community and local community groups, (d) Irish culture, heritage, and language, (e) preserving Irish Republican history, and (f) cross border groups, forums, and initiatives. Groups requesting financial support from the FFAI Christmas Appeal, must submit an application that **describes how their activities promote freedom for all Ireland.**

Groups that received FFAI Christmas Appeal support for 2026

Bloody Sunday Trust: Operates the Museum of Free Derry and aids Bloody Sunday campaign.

Ballymurphy Massacre Campaign: Campaigns for justice for the victims of the Ballymurphy Massacre

Duchas Oriall: Armagh/Dundalk-Promoting cross-border and heritage projects in South Armagh- North Louth.

Holy Cross Ardoyne Trust in North Belfast: Cross-community Centre on Crumlin Road. Support enables the group to continue the essential cross-community work, reconciliation and the improvement of community relations within North Belfast through the Houben Centre Development Project.

National Graves Association in Belfast: Support for the upkeep of Belfast republican graves and memorials.

EALU -East Tyrone: Republican Ex-Prisoners group assisting in the needs of ex-prisoners and their families.

Relatives for Justice in Belfast: Supports victims of State violence and collusion within a safe environment. Engages courts, requests investigation, creates awareness & provides data. Lobbies Congress with AOH support.

St. Patrick Centre: In County Down, near Saint Patrick's final resting place, this cross-community center is the only permanent exhibition in the world celebrating the life and relevance today of Ireland's Patron Saint.

Green Cross in Belfast: Provides financial help and material assistance to bereaved families of the troubles.

Greater New Lodge Republican Commemoration Committee: Provides support for republican ex-prisoners and maintains memorials in the New Lodge area of Belfast.

Bridges Beyond Boxing: Cross-community boxing club in Belfast.

Tyrone National Graves: Maintains republican memorials and patriot graves in Tyrone.

Witness Project: Film project to research, document & preserve personal narratives of events during the Troubles

Ardoyne Youth Club: Offers youth facilities and programs that benefit young people in the Ardoyne community

O'Neill & Allsopp Memorial Flute Band: From Greater New Lodge Belfast, teaching young people Republican history through the playing and learning of music.

Martin McGuinness Foundation: preserving legacy of Martin McGuinness

Ireland's Future: working to achieve a successful vote for the reunification of Ireland.

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$1000 Pledge Form

Customized Award for Division, County, or State Contributions

Division _____ , County _____ , or State _____

President *(Division, County, or State)* _____

Home Phone: ( ) _____ - _____ Cell Phone: ( ) _____ - _____

E-Mail: _____

Division, County, or State Address (where the award will be sent)

Attn: _____

Name of Board as it should appear when recognized:

_____

Our Division, County, or State *(circle the correct board)* pledges a minimum of $1,000 for the FFAI Christmas Appeal. We will forward that amount by January 29th, 2027.

President's Signature _____ Date _____

Special Note: You do not have to send a Pledge Form with your contribution. However, we strongly recommend that you send this form along with your check or otherwise make sure you identify the individual, Division, State, or County Board making the contribution, so we can credit you properly and deliver your award.

DESIGNATED DONATIONS

If you would like to direct your funds specifically to one organization, just note that organization in the memo portion of your check and your request will be honored. Direct donations should be at least $50 per donation.

Please make all checks payable to Ancient Order of Hibernians - FFAI

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Please donate to this year's **CHRISTMAS APPEAL**. Together we are making a difference. All checks must be made out to "**Ancient Order of Hibernians - FFAI**". Payments should be sent to **AOH-FFAI at PO Box 904 JEFFERSON VALLEY NY 10535**. For further information, please refer to our contact information listed in the heading of our letter.

Donations of $1,000 or more will be recognized with a special award.

Patrick Williams and Joe McCormick (President Mahoning County Division 6 in Ohio). A J Smith (New York State Secretary) accepting their Awards from Martin Galvin.





"Ireland Unfree Shall Never Be At Peace."

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The FFAI $10+ Club

The $10+ Club is a voluntary membership donation effort, separate from and in addition to Division, County, and State contributions. Division Presidents should circulate the $10+ Dollar Club Donation List (included in this packet) among his members and strongly encourage participation. This part played by Divisions can and does add to the success of the Appeal. No donation is too great or too small. Donations are not limited to just $10. Please give as to what you can personally afford.



Brother Bill O'Neill from Division 17 Allegheny County in Pittsburgh accepting their Freedom For All Ireland Award.

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AOH Boards, Divisions and Individuals who contributed $1,000 or more to the 2026 FFAI Appeal

Individual Donors 2026	City	State
Edward T. Walsh	Delray Beach	FL
Liam Donovan	Tucson	AZ
Daniel J. O'Connell	Girard	OH
Jim McLaughlin	St Regis Falls	NY
John Bernard Kelly Jnr	New City	NY
Bill McKinney	Johnstown	PA
Richard Thompson	Watertown	MA
Christopher Thompson	W. Islip	NY
AJ Smith	Manhasset	NY
Ed Cahill	Albany	NY
Pat Harkin	Alva	OK

State Board Donations	City	State
AOH New York State Board	Onterion	NY
AOH Connecticut State Board	New Milford	CT
AOH California State Board	Long Beach	CA
AOH Virginia State Board	Nokesville	VA
AOH Pennsylvania State Board	Warminster	PA
AOH Ohio State Board	Copley	OH
AOH Montana State Board	Anaconda	MT
AOH Massachusetts State Board	Watertown	MA
AOH Kansas State Board	Lenexa	KS
AOH New Jersey State Board	Tuckerton	NJ

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County Board Donations	City	State
AOH Bronx County Board	Bronx	NY
AOH Rockland County Board	Pearl River	NY
AOH Suffolk County Board	Commack	NY

Division Donations	City	State
AOH Fr. Henry Tansey Division 5 Albany, NY	Albany	NY
AOH Col Thomas J Cunningham Jr Division VA	Heymarket	VA
AOH John F Kennedy Division 1 Schenectady, NY	Schenectady	NY
AOH Patrick Pearse Division 1 Columbus, OH	Columbus	OH
AOH Monsignor Charles Owen Rice Division 1 PA	Pittsburgh	PA
AOH Our Lady of Knock Division 1 Johnstown, PA	Johnstown	PA
AOH Major James H Dooley Division Richmond, VA	Henrico	VA
AOH Division 36 Worcester, MA	Worcester	MA
AOH Division 5 Bucks County Levittown, PA	Levittown	PA
AOH William F. Fennelly Div 1 Watervliet, NY	Watervliet	NY
AOH William J Shanahan Division 1 Manchester, NH	Manchester	NH
AOH Cpl. Bernard McCarren Division Bear, DE	Newark	DE
AOH Dean Michael Barry Division 1 Oswego, NY	Oswego	NY
AOH Father Abram J Ryan Division Louisville, KY	Louisville	KY
AOH Msgr. Thomas J. Rilley Division 39 Philadelphia, PA	Philadelphia	PA
AOH Mark Heffernan Division Akron, OH	Akron	OH
AOH Michael Dougherty Div 1 Bristol, PA	Fairless Hills	PA
AOH Fighting 69th Division 18 Peekskill, NY	Moheghan Lake	NY
AOH Tomas Cardinal O'Fiach Division 14 Watertown, MA	Watertown	MA
AOH John Cardinal D'Alton Div 3 Pearl River, NY	Pearl River	NY
AOH Msgr Sheahan Division 1 Wappingers Falls, NY	Stormville	NY
AOH Monsignor Bradican Division Burke, VA	Alexandria	VA
AOH Mahoning County Division 6 Youngstown, OH	Youngstown	OH
AOH Division 32 Chicago, IL	Chicago	IL
AOH Anaconda Division 1 Anaconda, MT	Anaconda	MT
AOH Rev. James T. O'Reilly Division 8 Essex, MA	North Andover	MA
AOH Division 10 Lynn, MA	Lynn	MA
AOH Division 9 Plymouth, MA	Kingston	MA
AOH Thomas W. Carroll Division 1 Buffalo, NY	Buffalo	NY
AOH Herbert Cady Division Alexandria, VA	Alexandria	VA

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AOH Division 32 Carnegie, PA	Carnegie	PA
AOH Division 25 Philadelphia, PA	Jenkintown	PA
AOH Division 4 Allegheny County, PA	Pittsburgh	PA
AOH Joe Cahill Division 10 Hamilton, NJ	Hamilton	NJ
AOH Colonel Patrick O'Rorke Division #7 Rochester. NY	Rochester	NY
AOH Division 1 Middlesex County South Amboy, NJ	South Amboy	NJ
AOH Joseph Plunkett - Joe McDonnell Div Long Beach, CA	Long Beach	CA
AOH Cardinal Gibbons Division Metairie, LA	Metairie	LA
AOH St. Clair Division #1 O'Fallon. IL	O'Fallon	IL
AOH Msgr. Michael McGarey Division 17 Monroeville, PA	Monroeville	PA
AOH General Thomas F Meagher Division Locust Grove, VA	Locust Grove	VA
Riverfront Irish Festival Monroe Falls, OH	Monroe Falls	OH





Martin Galvin and Bob Bollbach presenting FFAI Award to Dermot Moore President Rockland County AOH.

Past National AOH President Danny O'Connell and Jesse Wilson.

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Martin Galvin along with a delegation of 43 members were in Belfast as part of the 2026 FFAI fact finding tour. On April 11th they presented FFAI Grants to 17 organizations at the Houben Centre on the grounds of Holy Cross.

Below, with special thanks to Chris Cooke, is the link to YouTube showing our AOH presentation of $150,000 in Christmas Appeal grants at the Houben Centre. Watch and hear the representatives from each grant recipient, explaining the work they do for Freedom for all Ireland and how much they count on AOH grants.
I would urge you to share this with as many members as possible, especially anyone with questions about why they should support the Christmas Appeal.
Go raibh maith to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Appeal and made this possible!

https://www.youtube.com/live/TPEuyAGQPUI?si=747_XNRjLwc_GA8A&t=13



Seven of the 2026 FFAI Grant recipients at the Houben Centre in Belfast. Also pictured is Martin Galvin National FFAI Chairman, Bill McKinney FFAI Treasurer and Bob Bollbach FFAI Deputy FFAI Chairman.