

THE FRIENDLY SONS OF SAINT PATRICK OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY

March 16, 2024

Welcome to the 118th annual dinner of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Lackawanna County. I am honored to serve as our society's President as we come together to honor St. Patrick and celebrate our Irish heritage.

The Friendly Sons are thoroughly excited to welcome the 42nd President of the United States of America, William Jefferson Clinton, back to the City of Scranton, and we are truly honored to welcome President Clinton as the Principal Speaker. During his time in the Oval Office, President Clinton was one of the most powerful forces of compromise between the parties in Northern Ireland, and the President's efforts ultimately ushered in the Good Friday Agreement of April 1998.

Bishop Walsh, tonight's Clerical Speaker, ministered with us here in Northeast PA for many years at St. Peter's Cathedral and as Pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Carbondale, and, in 2021, became the Bishop of the Diocese of Gaylord, Michigan.

We also honor my brother-in-law, Gerry McNamara, with our Society's President's Award. Gerry is the 2003 National Champion at Syracuse University and current Associate Head Mens' Basketball Coach at his alma mater.

This extraordinary event is the culmination of the hard work of many individuals, too many to name, and I thank you all. Thank you from the bottom of my heart to my wife and best friend, Meghan, and our 3 wonderful children Daniel, Jimmy, and Annie.

To my brothers, Jimmy and Matthew, and my Toastmaster and brother-in-law, Joe Collins, you have been great supporters this past year, along with Pat Sheridan and Tim Pryle who are the backbones of this great Society. I would also like to thank all the Past Presidents and our Officers, Ray Lynady, Atty. Tim Hinton and Jack Corcoran, and especially our Secretary, Atty. Tim Maloney and our Treasurer, Billy Dempsey. Tonight, I remember my dear friend, Fr. Danny Kennedy. Thank you also to my Mother, Celia, and I'd like to dedicate this Dinner to our Father, Atty. James J. Haggerty, who loved this Society and would have loved this night more than anyone.

Thank you all for the great honor of serving as your 118th President.

Happy St. Patrick's Day
Sincerely,

Daniel P. Haggerty Esq., President