



# *County Roscommon Society of New York, Inc.*

**Newsletter January, 2018**

*Organize July 16, 1931. Charter issued October 30, 1931 reading County Roscommon Social & Welfare League, Inc. Name changed to County Roscommon Society, Inc., by charter dated November 4, 1946. Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation of County Roscommon Society, Inc., dated December 22, 2014 changed name to County Roscommon Society of New York, Inc.*

**The next meeting of the County Roscommon Society of New York, Inc., will take place on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at 2:00 pm at Sissy McGinty's, 2567 Steinway St, Astoria, NY 11103**

Dear Members & Friends:

Hope everybody had a wonderful Christmas and here's wishing you a Happy New Year. Hopefully 2018 will be a prosperous one for all of us.

Thank you Terry Connaughton and staff at the Riverdale Steakhouse for hosting the November meeting. Thank you Msgr. Kevin Flanagan for celebrating our annual Mass in memory of our deceased officers and members.

Your annual membership dues are now due. Payment can be made via PayPal on our website at:

[www.countyrescommonsocietyofnewyork.com](http://www.countyrescommonsocietyofnewyork.com) Of course, you can pay by cash, check or money order. Please mail your payment to William Montgomery, Roscommon Society, 16-49 212 Street, Bayside, NY 11360.

I have been advised by Gabriel Doherty, a lecturer in modern Irish history in the School of History, University College Cork that an event is being held in Loughlynn Community Center on 20 January to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death in Millbank prison, England, of the prominent Roscommon Fenian Edward ('Ned') Duffy – the principal organiser of the movement in Connacht, its effective leader following the departure from Ireland of its founder James Stephens, and one of the members of the 'Provisional Government' established in advance of the 1867 Rising. Known as 'the

Fenian Emmet' as he sacrificed so much – notably a prospective marriage to the step-sister of John O'Leary (who lived to play a vital role in the 1916 Rising from his adopted American home) – he was, without question, one of the most prominent republicans to ever emerge from Roscommon. A day-long event is being organised by the local youth group in Loughlynn to mark the occasion, and it contains numerous elements – a display of photographs and newspaper clippings relating to the area, a re-enactment of scenes from Duffy's trial, recitations of poems in his honour (including one by Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa), a lecture by Gabriel Doherty on his life and legacy, and songs associated with the county. If any of you are in the area on January 20, stop in and introduce yourself to Gabriel.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Friday, January 26, 2018** mark your calendar for the United Irish Counties Annual Dinner Dance taking place at Antun's, 96-43 Springfield Blvd., Queens Village, NY. "Gael of the Year" is Sean Downes, Esq. Joseph McManus will receive the Rose Cosgrove Distinguished Service Award. Tickets are \$90 each.

**March 14, 2018 – Roscommon Solstice Choir will be performing at the Irish American Center, Mineola, NY.**

**March 15, 2018** – Roscommon Solstice Choir will be performing at St. Paul's Church, Yonkers, NY

**March 17, 2018** – St. Patrick's Day Parade, NYC. This year we are honored to have the Castlerea Brass and Reed Band lead us up Fifth Avenue. We will also have the Roscommon Solstice Choir accompany us.



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**March 18, 2018** – 12 noon Mass St. Philip the Apostle Church, 797 Valley Road, Clifton. NJ just off Route 46 and Route 3. Mass will be celebrated by our esteemed Chaplain, Msgr. Kevin Flanagan.

**March 18, 2018** – Roscommon Society Annual St. Patrick's Dinner Dance – at 6:00pm at Riccardo's, Astoria, New York with special appearance by the Castlerea Brass and Reed Band and the Roscommon Solstice Choir. Our guests of honor are Danny Burke from the Castlerea Brass and Reed Band and Dominick "Dank" Connor. Mr. Connor has been a member of the Roscommon Society since he came to New York in 1948. He also played football with the Roscommon Football Club in 1948. He is father of our past president and director Kevin O'Connor.

As always, if you have an item of interest for our future newsletters, please let me know.

The following is a list of the Committee for 2018:

Chaplain	Msgr. Kevin Flanagan
President	Mary C. Montgomery
Vice President	Bernie Sharkey
Treasurer	John Kenny
Recording Secretary	Geraldine O'Brien-Massey
Financial Secretary	William F. Montgomery
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Scally O'Brien
Sergeant-At-Arms	Martin Dowd

Best wishes,

*Mary*