



**ANCIENT ORDER
OF HIBERNIANS**



February 6, 2013

Dear Principals and Teachers,

We would like to invite you and your students to take part in the St. Patrick's Day Coloring Contest sponsored by the Fr. Joseph P. Carrigan Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians and its sister group, the Ladies' Ancient Order of Hibernians, are Irish-Catholic organizations that have helped support numerous charities in Denver. They currently have more than 65 members in the Denver area, not all necessarily ancient, ranging in age from early twenties to mid-80s and from all walks of life. They are the oldest and largest Irish cultural organizations in the U.S., with roots back 300 years to groups of the same name in Ireland.

The Order also has provided a continuous bridge to Ireland for those who are generations removed from our homeland. The AOH/LAOH sponsor many of the programs associated with promoting our Irish Heritage and our Catholic faith.

The Hibernians' annual St. Patrick's Day Coloring Contest has three winners per grade this year (K-4) along with one Grand Prize winner.

Contest Winners and their families are also invited to participate in the St. Patrick's Parade and march with members of the AOH/LAOH.

Of course, the Hibernians' reason for this contest is to help the Archdiocese's school children visualize our Patron Saint as a real person, one of the first real missionaries who spread the Gospel to the then-primitive island of our ancestors.

Participation in this contest tends to be best if schools collect the entry sheets and send them in together. If you would like a Hibernian to pick up the sheets, please send an e-mail to: denveraoh@gmail.com. Entry sheets are available at www.milehibernians.com/events.html. **Please have your entries postmarked no later than 6 Mar 2013.**

Thanks for all you do for Catholic education!

In the Spirit of St. Patrick's Day,

John Aylward
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