

The Crane's Call

Shire of Caer Dun January 2023 LVII



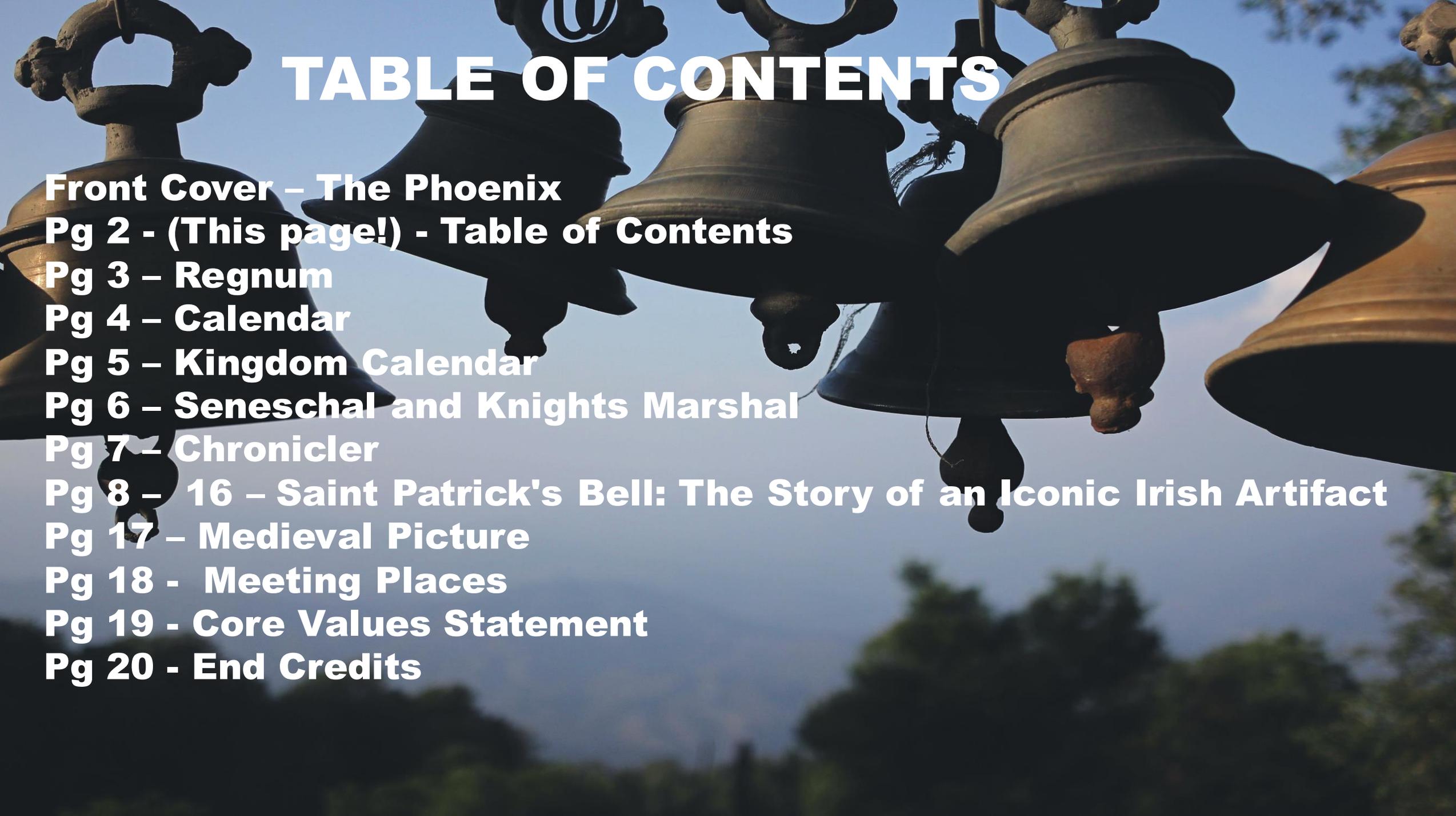


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Front Cover – The Phoenix

Pg 2 - (This page!) - Table of Contents

Pg 3 – Regnum

Pg 4 – Calendar

Pg 5 – Kingdom Calendar

Pg 6 – Seneschal and Knights Marshal

Pg 7 – Chronicler

Pg 8 – 16 – Saint Patrick's Bell: The Story of an Iconic Irish Artifact

Pg 17 – Medieval Picture

Pg 18 - Meeting Places

Pg 19 - Core Values Statement

Pg 20 - End Credits

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JANUARY 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Fighter Practice 1	 2	3	4	5	6	7
Fighter Practice 8	9	10	 11	12	13	14
Fighter Practice 15	16	17	18	19	20	 21
Fighter Practice 22	23	24	Business Meeting 25	26	27	28
Fighter Practice 29	 30	31				

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Kingdom of Gleann Abhann



12 TH Night

January 7th-9:00 am - 6:00 pm

DuPont Employee Recreational Park 28395 Forest Blvd, Pass Christian, MS

Regional Practice

January 14 – 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Bright Park 3705 Flynn Dr, Pearl, MS

Winter Wonders

January 20, 5:00 pm - January 22, 10:00 am

Bistineau State Park 103 State Park Road, Doyline, LA

Swamp Romp

January 27, 5:00 pm - January 29, 10:00 am

Chicot State Park 3469 Chicot Park Road, Ville Platte, LA

Seneschal & Knights Marshal

Happy New Year! Well, we didn't have snow but it did get pretty cold for a week. I hope everyone had a great holiday season. Now on into 2023! We will continue having our Business Meeting on the 4th Wednesday every month. The location of Aunt Jenny's Catfish House seems to be working for us. Fighter Practice will continue to be every Sunday at 3pm at the Vancleave Splash Pad. We will also be doing some extra Fighter Practices on Saturdays at McNarbs Gaming on Hwy 90 in Gautier. We'll keep you updated on this through the Facebook page until we get them set enough to add to the calendar. We will also be looking at the calendar to set up for an event for this year. All ideas and proposals will be considered for this. I hope for us to have a great year with some awesome growth! I'd like to thank McNarbs Gaming for inviting us to demo at their NarbyCon event. It was a great time! Special thanks to Bailey Rose and Avery for coming out on Sunday and a very special thanks to Baron UCLA & Sir Lugh from Barony of Osprey for coming to fight on Saturday! I'll see you all at Fighter Practice!

YIS

**Ld Karsas Sarmatae called Talan
Seneschal and Knight Marshal
Shire of Caer Dun**



CHRONICLER

Happy New Year everyone! 2022 was a pretty good year but now onward to 2023. There are things in the works here in the Shire that everyone can become involved in. Come to the meetings and get involved...we want you there!

Thanks!

**HE Devin ODonnabhain
Chronicler for the Shire of Caer Dun**



St. Patrick's Bell: The Story of an Iconic Irish Artifact



Ireland is home to many iconic historical artifacts and objects, from the Book of Kells to the Tara Brooch. Many of these items are beautifully designed but shrouded in mystery. Others have a long and rich story behind them. There are few better examples of such an artifact than St. Patrick's Bell and Shrine. Said to belong to St. Patrick himself, the bell and shrine have an unusually well-documented and fascinating history that stretches back some 1,400 years.

How Patrick became a Saint

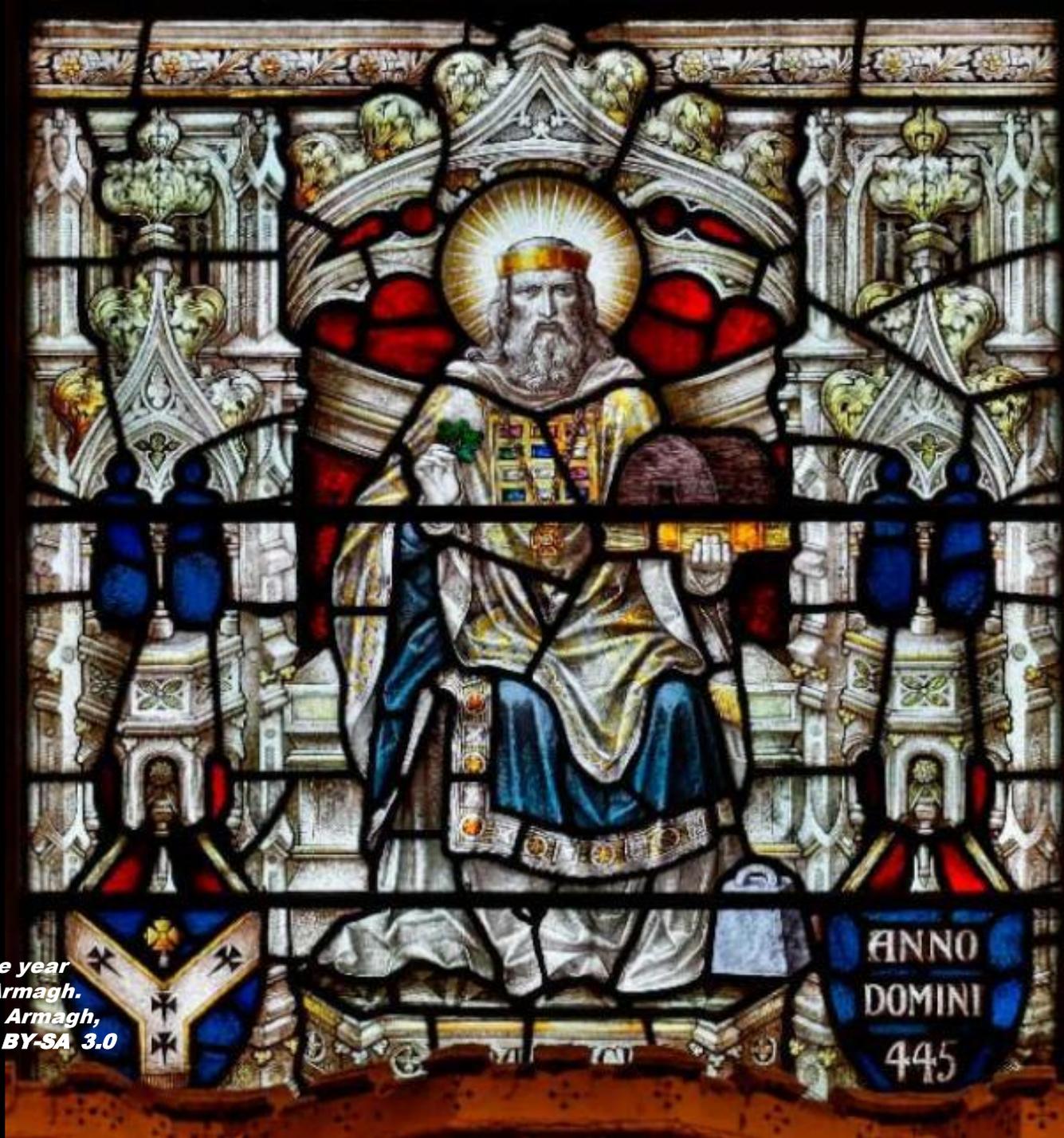
The bell belonged to St. Patrick , the patron saint of Ireland. Despite his close links to the Emerald Isle, St. Patrick was actually born in Roman Britain around 385 AD. Little is known about Patrick's early life, but we know he was the son of a deacon and the grandson of a priest. As a teenager, Patrick was captured and enslaved by Irish pirates for six years. During this time, he worked as a shepherd. He eventually escaped and returned home, where he spent a few years studying to become a priest.

After a few years had passed, Patrick had a vision telling him to return to Ireland. Patrick returned to Ireland and began preaching to the then- pagan people of Ireland , converting them to Christianity. Patrick would spend the rest of his life spreading the word of God and helping set up churches and parishes in Ireland. It was this work that led him to become the patron saint of Ireland . He received huge honors after his death, including having churches and cathedrals dedicated to him. He was also given a tomb when he died.



Around sixty years after his death, another missionary by the name of Colum Cille visited Patrick's tomb and removed three relics from it. The first of these was a goblet, which was sent to County Down; the second was the "Angels Gospel", which he kept for himself. The last relic was a small iron bell which he sent to Armagh, an important ecclesiastic site at the time and a place where Patrick had spent a lot of time.

Stained glass depicting Saint Patrick and a reference to the year 445, when St. Patrick supposedly built the first church at Armagh. Located at St. Patrick's Cathedral of the Church of Ireland, Armagh, County Armagh, Northern Ireland (Andreas F. Borchert, CC BY-SA 3.0 DE)



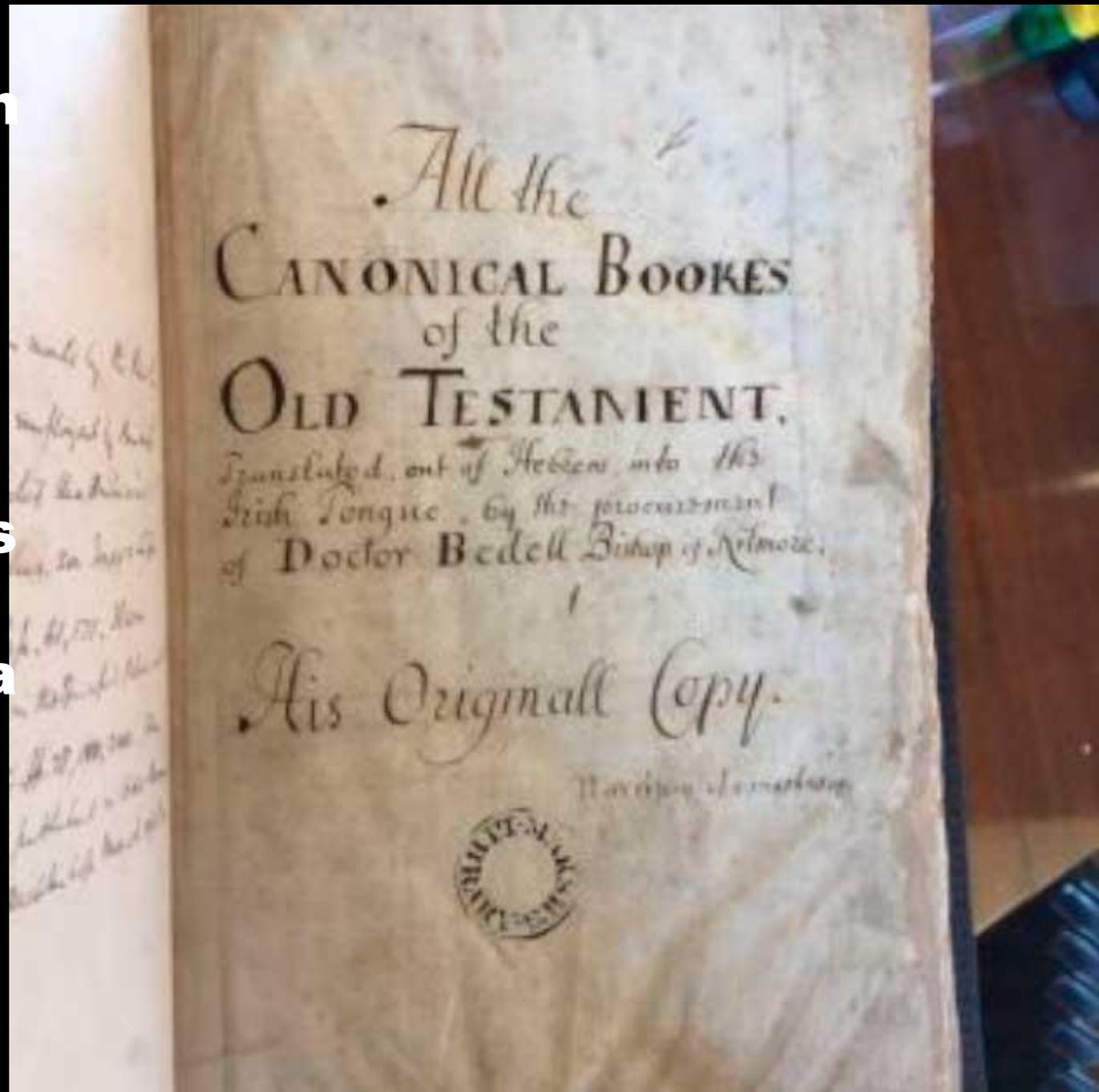
The History of St. Patrick's Bell

According to legend, when St. Patrick set up a new Christian parish or community in Ireland, he would choose one of his disciples to lead it after he left. Before his departure, he would present his chosen disciple with a bell to call the locals to prayer. Apparently, in the province of Connaught alone he had presented over fifty bells, and he had three blacksmiths following him wherever he went, who were employed full-time to make the bells. St. Patrick's bell was just like these bells.

When Colum Cille had the bell sent to Armagh, it was left in the hands of the Mulholland family. It remained in their possession and was largely forgotten about until the 18th century, when the last surviving member of their family, Henry Mulholland, transferred its ownership to Adam McClean, one of his school students. Mulholland told McClean before he died that there was an oak box buried in his backyard, and he was bequeathing it to him. In the box, McClean found St. Patrick's bell and an ancient Irish Bible of equally significant value.

The bell and shrine remained in the possession of McClean until his death, before his family sold it to a professor at Trinity College Dublin. Then, the Royal Irish Academy became aware of the items and their importance and purchased them for £625, a hefty sum at the time.

St. Patrick's Bell and Shrine were recovered in the 18th century, along with the 17th century Bedell Bible, thought to be the first translation of the Old Testament into Irish (Marsh's Library / CC BY NC ND 3.0)



The Design of the Shrine

While the bell is, of course, of immense importance, it is the shrine it sits in that is the real eye-catcher. The bell has a rather humble design. It is made of two sheets of iron that have been riveted together. A bronze coating was added sometime after the bell was sent to Armagh by Colum Cille. The shrine, on the other hand, is intricate in its detail. The shrine was crafted at a later date than the bell. An inscription on its surface indicates it was made around 1100 AD. An inscription along the edge of the backplate also gives details on who made it (Cuduilig O Inmainen and his sons), and who commissioned it. The shrine was commissioned by the High King of Ireland Domhnall Ua Lochlainn. The keeper of the bell, Cathalan Ua Maelchallain (the Irish version of Mulholland) is also inscribed here.



The humble St. Patrick's Bell was fashioned in the 7th century, one of many commissioned as he established churches across Ireland (Ceoil / [CC BY SA 4.0](#))

The shrine is trapezoidal in shape with a curved crest at the top. There are two small handles on either side of the shrine to pick it up or handle it. The front panel is covered in a silver gilt frame that once held thirty panels of gold filigree arranged in the shape of a ringed cross. It also features numerous Celtic knot patterns. The sides of the shrine are adorned with openwork panels depicting elongated beasts intertwined with a pattern of snakes, possibly a reference to the legend of St. Patrick banishing the snakes from Ireland.



Detail of the sides of St. Patrick's bell shrine (Sailko / CC BY 3.0)

The back panel of St. Patrick's bell shrine with interlocking crosses
(Sailko / CC BY SA 3.0)



The back of the shrine, meanwhile, is much plainer in style. It is decorated with an openwork silver plate featuring a pattern of interlocking crosses. Finally, the top of the shrine is perhaps the most intricately decorated part. It features two birds made of iron, as well as several more panels of filigree and a beautiful, symmetrically-patterned design in what is a distinctly Viking-influenced Celtic pattern , known as Urnes style. Today, St. Patrick's bell and shrine sit in the National Museum of Ireland.

By Mark Brophy



M e e t i n g P l a c e s

Please note that the month of January has some changes for meetings and fighter practice. Please see the Calendar on page 4

Business Meeting; Held the 4th Wednesday of every month at Aunt Jenny's Catfish Restaurant, 1217 Washington Ave. Ocean Springs, MS. Meeting begins at 6:30 pm.

Fighter Practice; Held every Sunday. Check calendar for dates and the Shire Facebook page for any updates. Fighter Practice is held at the Vancleave Splashpad at Vancleave Complex, 5400 Ball Park Road, Vancleave, MS 39564.

Updated Statement of Core Values At the Board of Directors July 2018 meeting, the following policy was approved and is to be considered effective immediately: SCA Statement of Core Values In pursuing its mission, the SCA is committed to excellence in its programs, communications and activities and to act in accordance with the chivalric virtues of honor and service; value and respect the worth and dignity of all individuals; practice inclusiveness and respect pluralism and diversity; promote a safe and respectful environment for all SCA events; act with transparency, fairness, integrity and honesty; be a responsible steward of SCA resources; and, be committed to maintaining the trust of its members and participants. It is the expectation of the SCA that its members and participants, in all events and activities of the SCA, will conduct themselves in accordance with these tenets. Comments are strongly encouraged and can be sent to: SCA Inc. Box 360789 Milpitas, CA 95036 You may also email comments@lists.sca.org. This announcement is an official informational release by the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Permission is granted to reproduce this announcement in its entirety in newsletters, websites and electronic mailing lists. Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion <https://www.sca.org/dei-office/><https://www.sca.org/dei-office/dei-resources/><https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/DEI-handbook.pdf><https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/DEIMissionVision>

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