



2018

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sportscaster Brian McKenna Grand Marshal of 2018 Hibernian Saint Patrick's Day Parade

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) have selected sportscaster Brian McKenna the Grand Marshal of the 35th annual AOH Saint Patrick's Day Parade. The Irish gala gets underway at 10:00 am, Saturday, March 17, Saint Patrick's Day.

McKenna has been commenting on St. Louis sports for over two decades. He is currently the Business Development & PR Director for several local Servpro franchises and also volunteers at Nottingham High School, a city public school for developmentally disabled students.

Brian McKenna, has been a major voice of St. Louis sports radio for nearly two decades.

McKenna started his broadcasting career in St. Louis in 1994. He covered both the St. Louis Cardinals and the St. Louis Blues for Fox Sports. He has also written comedy for Joe Buck, been a guest on the Oprah Winfrey Show and even appeared in an NBC mini-series.

A St. Louis native, he lettered in two sports at Lindbergh high school and was named First Team All-State in soccer and is a member of the Lindbergh High School Sports Hall of Fame and was presented the high school's distinguished alumni award in 2008.

McKenna is involved with many local charities and organizations including: Backstoppers, Nurses for Newborns, Our Little Haven, American Cancer Society, Missouri School for the Blind, Kingdom House, St. Vincent Home for Children, the National Neurofibromatosis Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The annual parade, sponsored by the St. Louis and St. Louis County Hibernians, honors Saint Patrick as the Apostle of Ireland, and highlights the contributions the Irish and Irish-Americans have made to the United States. The parade passes through one of St. Louis' oldest Irish neighborhoods.

The Hibernians are working with representatives of Dogtown United, that represents local residents and business owners, to better coordinate efforts with the Hibernians and to improve operations and efficiency of all events taking place in that historic neighborhood on March 17. Parade and festival organizers have once again adopted a 'no cooler/backpack' rule for both the parade and festival.

The 2018 AOH parade will start south of the Tamm Avenue overpass at Oakland Avenue, travel south on Tamm Avenue past St. James the Greater Catholic Church and end at Manchester. This year's parade will feature over 100 colorful floats and marching units. Like traditional Saint Patrick's Day parades held in Ireland, many St. Louis Irish will march under their family crests and banners.

This year's parade is once again being dedicated to firefighters, law enforcement, public safety personnel and union members killed in the line of duty since September 11, 2001. Among those being recognized as distinguished honorees during this year's parade will be firefighters and law enforcement officers from St. Louis City and St. Louis County.

This year's honorees include: St. Louis City Firefighter Mark Crun and Corey Hogan of the Cottleville Fire Protection District, St. Louis City Police Officer Sgt. Michael McCraw, Jefferson County Sheriff's Deputy Sgt. Scott Poe; Joe Jovanovich, of The Pat Connolly Tavern, 2018

AOH Civic Leader; Gina Walsh, president of the Missouri State Building and Construction Trades Council.

More information on the parade and the Ancient Order of Hibernians can be found at:

<http://www.stlhibernians.com>