

## **Irish History Quiz – Saints and Such**

Contributed by Brian P. Hegarty Jr., Major James H. Dooley Division Historian

1. Who was the first Bishop of Christians in Ireland?  
a) St. Palladuis      b) St. Celestine I      c) St. Patrick      d) St. Declán
2. This saint is the patron saint of Cork.  
a) St. Colmcille      b) St. Finbar      c) St. Ita      d) St. Kevin
3. This saint is the patron saint of motorcyclists.  
a) St. Ailbhe      b) St. Colmcille      c) St. Columbanus      d) St. Declán
4. The famous quote “Every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future.” originates from whom?  
a) Michael Collins      b) St. Patrick      c) St. Oliver Plunkett      d) Oscar Wilde
5. This saint is one of the three patron saints of Ireland. Born in Donegal of parents of royal decent, but left Ireland by boat because of a feud that resulted in numerous deaths. He founded numerous monasteries, including Iona and Kells, the latter being famous for its illuminated manuscripts. Who is this saint?  
a) St. Finbar      b) St. Brendan      c) St. Columba      d) St. Enda
6. This 6<sup>th</sup> century monk is one of the most celebrated Irish saints. Among their many achievements, this saint is believed to have traveled to America some 900 years before Columbus. Their nickname is “the navigator.”  
a) St. Brendan      b) St. Kevin      c) St. Declán      d) St. Grace O’Malley
7. This kindly bishop was martyred during the persecutions of Irish Catholics by England in 1681.  
a) St. Ailbhe      b) St. Oliver Plunkett      c) St. Fiacre      d) St. Thomas More
8. This saint was a bishop, preacher, and a disciple of St. Patrick. It was claimed that he left the woods as an infant and suckled by a wolf, sort of Ireland’s answer to Tarzan. Also noted for charity, kindness and eloquent sermons.  
a) St. Brigid      b) St. Ailbhe      c) St. Declán      d) St. Colmcille
9. Around the year 475, this saint was said to embody the six virtues of Irish womanhood – wisdom, purity, beauty, musical ability, gentle speech and needle skills. Many extravagant miracles were attributed to her. In one of them she is reputed to have reunited the head and body of a man who had been beheaded; in another she lived entirely on food from heaven. (Which would save you a fortune on the food budget).  
a) St. Brigid      b) St. Grace O’Malley      c) St. Ita      d) Margaret O’Carroll
10. This saint’s father opposed her religious vocation, but she went to St. Patrick and made her vows to him before founding a hospice on Lough Gara. Local tradition remembers her great healing powers. Her convents were famous for hospitality and charity for the poor.  
a) St. Brigid      b) St. Declán      c) St. Athracht      d) St. Ita

11. This saint was born into slavery and later freed, a founder of monasteries, along with Patrick, one of the three patron saints of Ireland.

- a) St. Brigid                      b) St. Ailbhe                      c) St. Athracht                      d) St. Ita

12. Legend says that, while this saint prayed with his arms outstretched, a blackbird built a nest in his hand, and the saint remained still while it laid eggs and raised a family.

- a) St. Patrick                      b) St. Declán                      c) St. Ailbhe                      d) St. Kevin

## **AND SUCH.....**

13. The Lord Mayor of Cork is the head of Cork City Council and the first citizen of Cork. The title was created in 1199 as Provost of Cork and changed to Mayor of Cork in 1273. It was elevated to Lord Mayor in 1900. The date of election is the beginning of June, and the term of office is one year. Who was the first Lord Mayor?

- a) Sir Daniel Hegarty      b) Sir Edward Fitzgerald      c) Augustine Roche      d) Tomás MacCurtain

14. This Lord Mayor of Cork and a member of Parliament, died in 1920 after a 74-day hunger strike. He was serving a two-year sentence for sedition in Brixton Prison, South London.

- a) Tomás MacCurtain      b) Thomas Ashe      c) Terence MacSwiney      d) Bobby Sands

15. The President of Ireland is Ireland's Head of State. The Office of President was established by the constitution and is elected directly by the people. Who is the current president?

- a) Mary McAleese      b) Leo Varadkar      c) Michael Higgins      d) Mary Robinson

16. How long is the President of Ireland term of office?

- a) 2 years                      b) 4 years                      c) 6 years                      d) 7 years

17. The powers and function of the role of President of Ireland includes all the following except:

- a) Supreme commander of the Irish Defence force;
- b) Appointment of members of the Government, judges and other officials;
- c) Plays a major role with relationships with foreign nations and helps shape European Union policy;
- d) Signing legislation into law and/or referring Bills to the Supreme court.

## **BONUS**

Irish Soda Bread is a traditional product of Ireland dating back to the early 1800's. According to **The Society for the Preservation of Irish Soda Bread**, it was made with only the most basic ingredients. Can you name them?