



Independent Loyal Orange Institution
10 Edward Street, Ballymoney
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Northern Ireland
United Kingdom

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500, USA.

June 2020

Dear President Trump

Greetings on behalf of the Independent Loyal Orange Institution, a Protestant fraternal organization formed in 1903 and based in Northern Ireland. Although small, we are active in our community in several key areas including charitable work, and, in common with the other loyal orders in Northern Ireland, we hold parades as a witness to our faith.

Normally the parading season in Northern Ireland reaches its height in the parades held on July 12 to celebrate the civil and religious liberties won by King William III at the Battle of the Boyne in July 1690, but these have all been suspended this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

At our annual demonstrations on July 12, we pass a series of resolutions, and this year will be no different. In one of our resolutions this year, we mark the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower Pilgrims sailing from England to the New World in September 1620 to escape religious persecution. That was a seminal moment in British and American history for, although others sailed from the old world to the new world in the years before and after the Mayflower, there is, as you will be fully aware, something hugely symbolic about the Mayflower and the settlement established at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Not only did the Pilgrim Fathers make a major contribution to the development of the Protestant faith in the USA, but they were also pivotal in securing the civil and religious liberties they had been denied at home and, by so doing, they laid many of the foundations of the modern United States of America. Indeed, Thanksgiving Day in your nation is an annual reminder of the significance of the Mayflower and her pilgrims!

Ironically, it was the victory of King William III in 1690 that finally secured civil and religious liberties in the land the pilgrims had left behind some seventy years previously.

We give thanks to God for the Pilgrim Fathers, and we encourage you to ensure that the 400th anniversary is well remembered in the USA this fall.

As we write, your great nation is grappling with the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and racial tensions, and we just want to assure you of our prayers and best wishes in these difficult times.

God Bless America!

Yours sincerely

James Anderson

Imperial Grand Master, Independent Loyal Orange Institution

