

2009 Dignitaries

2009 Mr. Pat: Vince Courtney



The Courtneys, originally McCourtney, hail from County Kerry. Vince was born and raised in Saint Paul: graduating St. Mark's Grade School in 1971; Cretin High School 1975; University of Minnesota, B.A. Political Science 1981; J.D. Hamline University Law School 1984. Vince is married to Kate (nee Latimer) Courtney and the couple have one child, Ryan Nancy Courtney.

Courtney twice served as President of the Local Chapter, Division #4, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and is past-President of the State of Minnesota Ancient Order of Hibernians. Courtney is a member of 1992 Vulcan Krewe and has been active in the Royal Order of Fire and Brimstone, a Saint Paul winter Carnival Organization. He is a member of the Ramsey County and Minnesota State Bar Associations, and a Commissioner on the City of Saint Paul's Board of Zoning Appeals.

2009 Miss Shamrock: Ashley Hynes



Ashley was impressed with the sense of community and even "family" among the St. Pat's Association. She feels fortunate to be part of a large, close and very fun extended family that now numbers over 50! Her grandfather passed away a number of years ago and was the Irish inspiration for their huge clan and still has a presence you can feel today. His love of faith, family and Irish heritage has been passed down and kept strong in his memory.

2009 Distinguished Irish Woman: Jamie Harris Flynn



Jamie Harris Flynn is a life-long St. Paul resident, one of six children of the Jim and Joanne Harris brood. Harris-Flynn grew up on Pascal overlooking Cretin and Derham hall High school. Her Irish clan has hosted St. Patrick's Day parties and marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade for years. Jamie also served as a parade princess in 1990. She is a graduate of Nativity grade school, Visitation High School and The University of Minnesota and has a long history of community involvement including valuable experiences with Catholic Charities Dorothy Day Center. Harris Flynn is responsible for organizing the first Catholic Charities Furniture warehouse "Bed" float in the St. Patrick's Day parade. In addition, she provided leadership and direction in various political campaigns.

Jamie became an entrepreneur with the launch of her own business, Extended Exposure, selling custom photo albums, frames, promotional gifts and other memorabilia targeted to National Parks, corporations, hotel and resort chains, and retailers around the world. Jamie also provides products to several Irish shops including St. Paul's own Irish Indeed. Jamie and her husband Tim Flynn (of the local Irish band Paddy Wagon) live in Highland Park where they are raising their three young children Michael, Timothy, and Kate.

2009 Grand Marshal: Kevin McDonough



After matriculating at St. Michael's grade school, Stillwater High School, Carleton College and graduating from St. Thomas, Kevin decided he was called to be a priest.

Under Archbishop Flynn, McDonough served as the Vicar General. During that time he also served as the parish priest for St. Peter Claver in St. Paul, and also took over the reins of Sagrado Corozon de Jesus parish in South Minneapolis. He also sits on the Board of Trustees for St. Thomas University and The Catholic Spirit newspaper. Fr. McDonough currently serves as the Chaplain to the Minnesota State Senate.

2009 Celebrity Grand Marshal: Twin Cities Live - John and Rebekah



Twin Cities Live co-hosts

2009 Honorary Irish Person: George Latimer



George Latimer served as mayor of St. Paul from 1976 to 1990.