



Michael F. Crowley Lectures

4th Program of the 2019-2020 Series ~ Our 18th Annual

***Here's the church, here's the steeple,
open the door and see all the people:***

Newport's early Irish community and
Rhode Island's first Catholic church

Guest Speaker: Steve Marino

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 ~ 6:00 p.m.

NOTE: Change in venue:

The Knights of Columbus Hall

7 Valley Road, Middletown, RI 02842

(near corner of W. Main & Valley Road)

The 1820s were tough times for Newport. No longer was the harbor the international entrepôt that it had been during the colonial era. The mills along Thames Street were yet to be built and summer visitors were scarce. Yet, in 1828 Bishop Benedict Fenwick, Archbishop of Boston, decided to purchase a schoolhouse on Barney Street in Newport, thus creating Rhode Island's first Catholic Church. There is a great deal of mystery and controversy surrounding this schoolhouse/church but the church and the individuals that worshiped in it, would inevitably change the course of Newport History.

With the help of sacramental records, contemporary newspapers and genealogical sources, we will attempt to shed some light on the early history of the Newport Irish community

STEVE MARINO taught history in Connecticut for 35 years and retired to Newport. He has been giving tours at Fort Adams since 2008. He is also on the Board of the Museum of Newport Irish History. He holds degrees from Williams College, Brown University and the Hartford Seminary. This is Steve's third presentation to our membership.

A reception with light hors d'oeuvres will be held following the lecture. Cash Bar

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Email/Computer Users: Please visit www.NewportIrishHistory.org, click "Lectures" page, then click on the link to Reserve, under the listing for the Mar. 24 lecture. You will receive an immediate confirmation via email.

To Reserve by phone: Please call Ann at (401) 841-5493 or (917) 270-3372 and leave your name and phone number.

Museum Members—\$5 donation

Non-members—\$20 donation, applied to a new 1-year Individual membership.