



Michael F. Crowley Lectures

1st Program of the 2020-2021 Series ~ Our 19th 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*

Originally
scheduled
for Mar.24

Guest Speaker: Steve Marino

Thursday, September 24, 2020 ~ 6:00 p.m.

✳ **“Virtual” Presentation via Zoom** ✳

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 Benedict Fenwick, Bishop of Boston, procured a lot of land with 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. Steve holds degrees from Williams College, Brown University and the Hartford Seminary. This is Steve's third presentation to our membership.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Please visit www.NewportIrishHistory.org, click “Lectures” page, then click the link to Reserve, under the listing for the Sept. 24 lecture. You will receive an immediate e-confirmation.

Important: The morning of the presentation you will receive another email containing a link to the virtual event through Zoom. This will allow access to the live presentation which will begin at 6:00 p.m. You can download and install Zoom on your computer or mobile device. We recommend you plan to log in early. **No fee** will be charged to participate in the Zoom lecture, but we'd ask that members who have not yet paid their renewal fee for the current membership year renew at this time on the “Membership” page of our website.

Non-computer/-mobile device Users: This lecture, including speaker's slides and Q&A, will be videotaped and a link to access will be available on the ‘Lectures’ page of our website after the event. Please consider enjoying the lecture with a family member or friend who can provide computer access. We look forward to resuming in-person lectures when safe to do so.

QUESTIONS? Please contact Ann at (401) 841-5493 or (917) 270-3372 or email her at tpm1@earthlink.net