

JCCA - Columbus Day 2009



We have much to be grateful for

The following greeting and prayer was presented at the Columbus Day Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii on Oct. 12.

Father Fragomeni, Clergy, Consul General, Dignitaries, Ladies and Gentlemen.

As Italian Americans our focus is on family and community. Our passion for family and community never retires. Our passion for our rich running heritage overwhelms the senses. As we return to the Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, the home of our spiritual and ethnic heritage, I pray.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on our parade chairman, Dominic Stramaglia, and co-chairman, Domenico Gambino, for their strong leadership and dedication to make the parade a success.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on our primary parade sponsor, Case New Holland (CNH), for their generous contributions to our parade again this year.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on Marie Palello and our entire force of skilled volunteers who rise to this rigorous undertaking each year.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on our immediate past president, Joanne Spata, who makes preparations for the liturgy and who exerts numerous hours writing the television script year after year.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on our president emeritus, Dominic DiFrisco, who delivers that commentary with perfection year after year.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on our past president, Louis Rago, and sons Anthony and Joseph for their articulate planning to ensure a highly organized most anticipated event year after year.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on Judge Angela Petrone who follows her mother as theme coordinator, this year acknowledging the monumental contributions of Italian Americans to the food industry.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on every sponsor, vendor and volunteer of Fiera Italiana, our newest expression projecting the best image of our heritage and uniquely blending this festival with our parade to capture the influence of our heritage in America.

We thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on our 92-year-old grand marshal, who has traveled thousands of miles to join us in our display of elation, Academy Award-winner Ernest Borgnine who is proud to celebrate Columbus and his heritage.

And most of all, we thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings on every man, woman and child carrying on our Columbus Day tradition. We pay tribute to all who have passed away who left their footsteps for us to follow for our families and for our community.

For all of this, we thank you, Lord, and ask your blessings.

— Jo Ann Serpico



Mille Grazie a Tutti!

We would like to thank the following for playing pivotal roles in the success of the 2009 Columbus Day Parade.

DOMINIC STRAMAGLIA Parade Chairman

DOMENICO GAMBINO Parade Co-Chairman

RALPH TRAVIATI (CASE NEW HOLLAND) Major Parade Sponsor

LOUIS H. RAGO Parade Marshal

DOMINIC DIFRISCO ABC TV Announcer

JUDGE ANGELA PETRONE Theme Coordinator

JOANNE SPATA Television Script Writer

COMMISSIONER PETER SILVESTRI, STATE REPRESENTATIVE ANGELO "SKIP" SAVIANO, RICHARD PELLEGRINO, MAYOR ANTHONY CALDARONE - Commentators

MAYOR RICHARD M. DALEY AND THE CITY OF CHICAGO

THE CHICAGO OFFICE OF SPECIAL EVENTS

BANK OF AMERICA

Columbus Day Queen NATALIE LOSS & Court: SAMANTHA G. AIELLO, PATRICE GIUSEFFI, SARAH LUKCAS, ALEXA ROSE MAZZA, DOMINIQUE MAZZA, MARISA SCHULLO

Queen Isabella ANNA MARIE LAUDATI

Christopher Columbus DAN BARILE

WE THANK THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND DEDICATION FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE WITH THE COLUMBUS DAY PARADE:

Robert Allegrini, Maria Grazia Barghini, Albert Belmonte, Peter Camaci, Paul Ciminello Orchestra, Tom Cirrincione, Dean R. Dalaly, Vito D'Ambrosio, Giacomo D'Amelio, Carlo DeBenedictis, Mary DeSanto, Fr. Richard Fragomeni, Marilyn Fredericks, John Galuzzi, Italian American Executives of Transportation, Daniela & Jim Marnos, Jim Glimco, Joseph Glimco, Maggie Glimco, Lilia Juarez, Angelo Lollino, McGowan Durpetti & Associates, Laverne Marcheschi, Ceil & Chuck Mascari, Don Mazzoni, Marie Palello, Theresa Paterno, Joe Perillo, Margaret Porcelli, Louis H. Rago, Rosemary Ranallo, Tony Rizza, Naomi Serpico, Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii Mothers Club, Robert Syracuse, West Suburban Women's JCCIA

DEPUTY PARADE MARSHALLS

Danny Amato, Matthew Amato, Bob Anzaldi Jr., James Bassi, Dan Battista, James Battista, Mark Battista, Joe Bavone, Nina Bavone, Thomas Bellino, Frank Caputo, Mike Castellan, Robert Cavallo, Jerry Di Simone, Terry Duffy, Ray Garro, Giddion Garcia, Pasquale Genova, Dean Gorder, Dan Italia, Grag Klitz, Paul Kmiecik, Andrew Kunstler, Frank LaSalvia, Sonny LaSalvia, Terry Manzardo, Sam Marzo, Sonny May, Bob Migliorini, Gail Migliorini, Dennis Natale, Frank Paolucci, Jeff Pierce, Anthony Rago, Joseph Rago, Joseph Ritrovato, Michelle Sachs, Sam Scardino, Demi Schmidt, Michelle Schmidt, Terry Schultz, James Stegall, Nancy Volda, Tom Volda, Dan Wojcik, Steve Wojcik,

ENTERTAINERS Vince Amore, Liliana Bartolotta, Jack Muccio, Anthony Rago

MAYOR CALDERONE (Forest Park) supplied the Radio & Charger units used by the volunteers

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