



Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans

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Associazione Veneti Nel Mondo
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Chicagoland Italian American
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Italo National Union (IANU)
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Sicilian American Cultural
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Società Santa Fara di Cinisi
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St. Mary of Sambuca Society,
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Join Us on State Street for the 2021 Columbus Day Parade Honoring Jasper B. Sanfilippo

Chicago, IL- On Monday, October 11, 2021, the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans (JCCIA), will produce the annual Columbus Day Parade in downtown Chicago. Beginning with Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii at 9:00 a.m., the Columbus Day Queen & Court, Elected Officials, and Dignitaries will then process over to Arrigo Park immediately following Mass at approximately 10:30 a.m. for a Veterans Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony. The Columbus Day Parade will officially kick off on State Street and Wacker Drive at 1 p.m. and will be televised by WLS-ABC7 with Val Warner, Ryan Chiaverini, and Anthony Rago in the booth sharing commentary throughout the broadcast.

The largest televised parade and civic celebration sponsored by the Italian American community in the Midwest, the JCCIA has hosted the Columbus Day Parade since 1952.

This year's theme is "Columbus and The American Dream". We are honoring the memory of Jasper Sanfilippo, a Chicagoland Italian American business icon. Mr. Sanfilippo took a dream started by his grandfather in 1924, shelling pecans on his kitchen table in Chicago, and took it to the world power the John B. Sanfilippo Company is today.

Held dearly in the hearts of Italian Americans across the nation, Columbus Day is a day that the contributions made by Italians to the development of this great country, this beautiful county, and this wondrous city are underscored. It is a tradition that goes back several generations. Additionally, many cultures participate and march in the parade reflecting the mosaic of ethnicities and traditions present throughout our great nation.

This day is important to the Italian American community. The message of peace, unity, and hope runs deep. Additionally, "The parade route will be filled with live musical performers including the Garage-Rock Greats, The Buckingham's and original drummer of the band CHICAGO, Danny Seraphine," said JCCIA President Ron Onesti. Join us on State Street as we celebrate together!

For more information, please contact media@jccia.com

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About JCCIA: Founded in 1952, the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans (JCCIA) serves as a congress for the Chicagoland Italian American organizations and represents the community on a local, state, national and international level. The JCCIA is dedicated to its heritage and promoting the Italian American community. One of its main goals is to assist young Italian Americans through education. The JCCIA gives away numerous scholarships to promote the advancement of students. In addition, Italian American Heritage and Cultural Month, the Columbus Day Parade, Columbus Day Queen Contest, and the Dante/Mazzei Award luncheon are well-known annual JCCIA events.