



## NEWSLETTER

AUGUST agosto 2024

### JULY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This was our first Membership Meeting in our new home at the Hungarian Culture Club in Fairport Harbor. The transition seemed to go smoothly. We had our normal number of attendees, the drink service was not a problem, the dinner as catered by our friends at La Vera, was delicious, and the speaker was very interesting.



Our speaker was Joe Gionti from K9 Heroes 4 Heroes, located right here in Painesville, Ohio.



K9 Heroes 4 Heroes is a start-up 501(c)3 that specializes in training service dogs for veterans. To learn more or to contribute to their fund-raiser, go to [K9Heroes4Heroes.com](http://K9Heroes4Heroes.com).

### THE FASCINATING HISTORY OF THE FEAST OF MARY'S ASSUMPTION



Assumption of the Virgin Mary, fresco painting in San

*Petronio Basilica in Bologna, Italy. | Zvonimir Atletic / Shutterstock.*

On August 15<sup>th</sup>. Each year, Catholics around the world mark the solemnity of the Assumption of Mary, commemorating the end of her earthly life and assumption into heaven. But while the feast day is a relatively new one, the history of the holiday — and the mystery behind it — has its roots in the earliest centuries of Christian belief.

The Catholic Church teaches that when Mary's earthly life ended, God assumed her, body and soul, into heaven. The dogma of the Assumption of Mary — also called the "Dormition of Mary" in the Eastern Churches — has its roots in the early centuries of the Church. While a site outside of Jerusalem was recognized as the tomb of Mary, the earliest Christians maintained that "no one was there," theologian and EWTN News Vice President and Editorial Director Dr. Matthew Bunson explained.

According to St. John of Damascus, the Roman emperor Marcian requested the body of Mary, Mother of God at the Council of Chalcedon, in 451. St. Juvenal, who was bishop of Jerusalem, told the emperor "That Mary died in the presence of all the Apostles, but that her tomb, when opened upon the request of St. Thomas, was found empty; wherefrom the Apostles concluded that the body was taken up to heaven." the saint recorded.

By the eighth century, around the time of Pope Adrian, the Church began to change its terminology, renaming the feast day of the Memorial of Mary to the Assumption of Mary, Bunson noted.

The belief in the assumption of Mary was a widely held tradition and a frequent meditation in the writings of saints throughout the centuries. However, it was not defined officially until the past century. In 1950, Pope Pius XII made an infallible, ex-cathedra statement in the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus deus* officially defining the dogma of the Assumption.

"By the authority of Our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by our own authority, we pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory," the pope wrote.

The decree was seen as the formalizing of long-held Christian teaching. "We have throughout the history of the Church an almost universal attestation of this," Bunson said of the Assumption.

"We have this thread that runs throughout the whole of the history of the Church in support of the dogma. That's significant because it supports the tradition of the Church, but it also supports a coming to a deeper understanding of the teachings of the Church of how we rely upon the reflections of some of the greatest minds of our Church."

What's also notable about the dogma, he added, is that it "uses the passive tense," emphasizing that Mary did not ascend into heaven on her own power, as Christ did, but was raised into heaven by God's grace.

Today, the solemnity of the Assumption is marked as a major feast day and a public holiday in many countries. In most countries, including the United States, it is a holy day of obligation.

Bunson explained that on major feast days, it's fitting to mark the significance of the feast as especially vital by emphasizing the necessity of celebrating the Eucharist that day.

*The above information was taken from [catholicnewsagency.com](http://catholicnewsagency.com).*

### THE FEAST

The Feast of the Assumption Festival also locally referred to informally as The Feast is an annual four-day Catholic and Italian American street festival in the Little Italy neighborhood of Cleveland, Ohio, centered on Holy Rosary Church on Mayfield Road near its intersection with Murray Hill Road. Held annually since 1898 (with exceptions in 1917–18, 1942–45 and 2020), the Feast occurs around August 15 in concordance with the observance of the Assumption of Mary. It includes a procession of a statue of the Virgin through the streets leading to the church, as well as a nightly mass. In addition to its religious nature, the Feast is also a general celebration of Cleveland's Italian cultural heritage in its largest Italian neighborhood, which has demographically remained relatively unchanged since its establishment in the 19th century.



Highlights of the festival include live musical performances, carnival and casino games, carnival rides and fireworks. The Feast is also famous for its food, with numerous street booths operated by local restaurants and shops from around the neighborhood selling traditional Italian food and other items to the large crowds that come to the neighborhood from all over the Greater Cleveland area.

The dates and times for the event are as follows:

Thu, 15 Aug – Noon to 10:30p

Fri, 16 Aug – 6:00p to midnight

Sat, 17 Aug – Noon to 11:00p

Sun, 18 Aug – Noon to 10:00p

For more information call 216-421-2995

## LEANING TOWER OF PISA

Q – What is the angle of tilt, in degrees, of the Leaning Tower of Pisa?

A – These days, it's approximately 3.99 degrees from vertical. It used to be more, but stabilization work has been done to correct some of the tilt and prevent collapse.

*The above information was taken from page-a-day.com*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*prossimi eventi*

**13 August 2024, Tuesday**

### AIH GUARDIANS v. CUBS GAME OUTING

- Venue: Progressive Field
- Times:
  - Bus departs Happy Moose 5:30p
  - Game starts 6:40p
  - Bus departs Progressive Field immediately after game

**21 August 2024, Wednesday**

### Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Federico Tire Pros second floor conference room.
- Time 6:00p

**28 August 2024, Wednesday**

### Membership Meeting

- Venue: The Hungarian Culture Club
- Time: 5:30p
- Speaker: Tony Aveni, an attorney with Cannon & Aveni, LPA and one of the founders of AIH.

**18 September 2024, Wednesday**

### Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Federico Tire Pros second floor conference room.

- Time 6:00p

**25 September 2024, Wednesday,**

### Membership Meeting

#### AIH BOCCE' TOURNAMENT

- Committee Chair and primary Point of Contact: Tony Iliano Sr. and Ron Wassum
- Venue: The Hungarian Culture Club in Fairport Harbor
- Attendees: This is a member only event
- Time: 5:30p
- Cost: \$40.00 per member
- Reservations are required.

**23 October 2024, Wednesday**

### Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Federico Tire Pros second floor conference room.
- Time 6:00p

**30 October 2024, Wednesday**

### Membership Meeting

#### AIH CLAM BAKE

- Committee Chair and primary Point of Contact: Gus Paolucci and John Perrotti
- Venue: Regovich's Party Center
- Time: 5:30p
- Cost: Varies – see flyer
- Guests: Members, Spouses and Guests are welcome
- Reservations are required by 11 Oct 24, see attached flyer.

**13 November 2024, Wednesday**

### Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Federico Tire Pros second floor conference room.
- Time 6:00p

**20 November 2024, Wednesday**

### Membership Meeting

- Venue: The Hungarian Culture Club
- Time: 6:00p
- Speaker: **TBD<sup>1</sup>**

**30 November 2024, Saturday**

### AIH OSU V MICH FOOTBALL GAME POOL

- Committee Chair and primary Point of Contact: John Perrotti
- Kick Off Time: TBD
- Venue: Ohio Stadium, Columbus, Ohio
- The completed 50/50 Board will be posted on the club website prior to kick-off.
- Cost per Square: **TBD**

## December 2024

In accordance with our Bylaws, there is no scheduled Executive Committee Meeting or Membership Meeting in December.

**19 February 2025, Sunday**

### AIHC CHARITIES SUPER BOWL LIX POOL

- Committee Chair and primary Point of Contact: John Perrotti
- Kick Off Time: 6:30p ET.

- Venue: Caesar's Superdome in New Orleans, LA
- The completed 50/50 Board will be posted on the club website prior to kick-off.
- Cost per Square: **TBD**

**26 April 2025, Saturday**

### AIH CHARITIES ITALIAN NIGHT

- Committee Chair and primary Point of Contact: Bob Andreano
- Committee: **TBD**
- Venue: La Vera Party Center
- Time: **TBD**
- Cost: **TBD**
- Dinner: **TBD**
- Capacity: **TBD**
- Guest: **TBD**
  - Reservations are required.

## SAVE THE DATES

Be sure to mark your calendars now for these events:

**30 OCTOBER 2024, WEDNESDAY, AIH CLAM BAKE**

**30 NOVEMBER 2024, SATURDAY, AIH OSU v.**

**MICHIGAN FOOTBALL GAME POOL**

**19 FEBRUARY 2025, SUNDAY, AIHC SUPER BOWL**

**LIX POOL**

**26 APRIL 2025, SATURDAY, AIH ITALIAN NIGHT**

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

*Compleanni di agosto*

Vince Pona .....	14
Brett Wassum .....	16
Anthony Iliano Jr. ....	30

When you see these members this month, be sure to wish them a Buon Compleanno.

## HEALTH AND WELFARE

*salute e benessere*

Member David Lunardi's father, Egidio Lunardi, past AIH President, Professor Emeritus at Lake Erie College, passed away on June 27, 2024, at the age of 86.

Trustee Richard O'Keefe's wife Lynn is currently hospitalized.

Vice President Ron Wassum's wife Lori is currently recovering from surgery.

Please keep these loved ones and family members in your thoughts and prayers.

If you know of or hear of any Health or Welfare issues involving a member, please pass that information on to Richard O'Keefe at [richardokeefe65@gmail.com](mailto:richardokeefe65@gmail.com) or 440-537-8505.

## SPECIAL DAYS IN AUGUST

Here are just a few of the not so well-known special days in July for your observance.

02 Aug: Ice Cream Sandwich Day  
 02 Aug: International Beer Day  
 03 Aug: Watermelon Day  
 05 Aug: Work Like a Dog Day  
 13 Aug: International Left-Handers Day  
 21 Aug: Spumoni Day  
 23 Aug: Ride Like the Wind Day  
 24 Aug: Pluto Demoted Day  
 28 Aug: Bow Tie Day

*The above information was taken from [timeanddate.com/holidays/fun](http://timeanddate.com/holidays/fun).*

## LEFTIES

Because August 13, 2024, is International Left Handers Day, I thought we should include a special article about lefties. It's not always easy being a left-handed person in a right-handed world. In fact, only around 10 percent of the population is left-handed, which means that most things are designed for righties, often leaving lefties to fend for themselves. But being left-handed doesn't have to stand in the way of anyone's success. Some of the world's most accomplished people are lefties. Below is a partial list of some of the most famous left-handed people in history.

Oprah Winfrey  
 Ruth Bader Ginsburg  
 Prince William  
 Neil Armstrong  
 Leonardo da Vinci  
 Paul McCartney  
 Ringo Starr  
 Napoleon Bonaparte  
 Barack Obama  
 James Garfield  
 Herbert Hoover  
 Harry S. Truman  
 Gerald Ford  
 Ronald Reagan  
 George H.W. Bush  
 Angelina Jolie  
 Keanu Reeves  
 Lady Gaga  
 Bill Gates  
 Amar Bose, the founder of Bose  
 Mark Zuckerberg  
 Steve Jobs  
 Jimi Hendrix  
 Julia Roberts  
 Seth Rogen  
 Charlie Chaplin  
 Morgan Freeman  
 Lewis Carroll  
 Hugh Jackman  
 Joan of Arc  
 Mozart  
 Helen Keller

Emma Thompson  
 Babe Ruth  
 Ty Cobb  
 Ted Williams  
 Sandy Koufax  
 Barry Bonds  
 Marie and Pierre Curie  
 Matt Groening (creator of *The Simpsons*)  
 Michelangelo  
 Aristotle  
 Annie Lennox  
 Spike Lee  
 Harpo Marx  
 Judy Garland  
 Julius Caesar  
 Celine Dion  
 Kurt Cobain  
 David Bowie  
 Mother Teresa  
 Gordon Ramsay  
 Lisa Kudrow  
 Ben Stiller  
 Jerry Seinfeld  
 Tina Fey  
 Richard Pryor  
 LeBron James  
 Justin Bieber

## EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE IN AUGUST

### August 3, 1492

#### Christopher Columbus set sail

On August 3, 1492, Italian explorer Christopher Columbus set sail from the Spanish port of Palos, in command of three ships – the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria – on a journey to find a western route to the fabled gold and spice islands of Asia. On October 12, the expedition sighted land, probably Watling Island in the Bahamas, and went ashore the same day.

### August 7, 1782

#### George Washington created the Purple Heart

On August 7, 1782, in Newburgh, New York, General George Washington, the commander in chief of the Continental Army, created the "Badge of Military Merit", a decoration consisting of a heart-shaped piece of purple silk edged with a narrow binding of silver, with the word "Merit" stitched across the face in silver. The badge was to be presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action" and permitted its wearer to pass guards and sentinels without challenge. The honoree's name and regiment were also to be inscribed in a Book of Merit. Washington's "Badge of Military Merit" was awarded to only three known soldiers during the Revolutionary War: Elijah Churchill, William Brown, and Daniel Bissell Jr. The Book of Merit was lost, and the decoration was largely forgotten until 1927, when General

Charles P. Summerall, the U.S. Army chief of staff, sent an unsuccessful draft bill to Congress to "revive the Badge of Military Merit." In 1931, Summerall's successor, General Douglas MacArthur, took up the cause, hoping to reinstate the medal in time for the bicentennial of George Washington's birth. On February 22, the U.S. War Department announced the creation of the Order of the Purple Heart.

### August 8, 1974

#### Resident Richard M. Nixon resigned

On August 8, 1974, President Richard M. Nixon resigned in the wake of the Watergate burglary scandal. He was the first president in American history to resign. In a televised address, Nixon announced to the American public that he would step down rather than endure a Senate impeachment trial for obstruction of justice. Since 1972, Nixon had battled increasingly vociferous allegations that he had known of and perhaps authorized a botched burglary in which several men were arrested for attempting to bug the offices of the Democratic National Committee, located in the Watergate Hotel in Washington, DC.

### August 9, 378

#### Visigoths routed Romans at Adrianople

On August 9, 378, Emperor Valens of Rome led his army to a stunning defeat by the Visigoths at the Battle of Adrianople in what is now Turkey. Though Valens had officially conquered Visigoth civilizations via warfare between the years of 364 and 369, the Visigoth people quickly grew restless under Roman rule as they were subjected to oppressive measures. Less than a decade after the cessation of war against their people, Visigoth forces revolted, forcing Emperor Valens to engage in battle near the city of Adrianople. Despite early victories and a standing army of nearly thirty thousand men, the Roman forces were hopelessly outmatched by the Visigoth calvary, which inflicted heavy losses on Valens army. By the time the dust settled over the battlefields on August 9, 378, nearly two-thirds of the Roman forces had been slain, including Emperor Valens himself. This vicious and decisive rout of Rome's forces would cripple the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantium) for many years to come and served as decisive proof of the brutal effectiveness of a calvary in the era's warfare.

### August 14, 1935

#### FDR signed the Social Security Act

On August 14, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the Social Security Act. Press photographers snapped pictures as Roosevelt, flanked by ranking members of Congress, signed the historic act, which guaranteed an income for the unemployed and retirees. He commended Congress for what he



considered to be a "patriotic" act. Roosevelt had taken the helm of the country in 1932, during the Great Depression, the nation's worst economic crisis. The Social Security Act was in keeping with his other New Deal programs, including the establishment of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), which attempted to hoist America out of the Great Depression by putting Americans back to work. Although it was initially created to combat unemployment, Social Security now functions primarily as a safety net for retirees and people with disabilities and provides death benefits to taxpayer dependents. The Social Security system has remained relatively unchanged since its inception in 1935.

### August 23, 1989

#### Pete Rose gets booted from baseball

On August 23, 1989, as punishment for betting on baseball, Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose accepted a settlement that included a lifetime ban from the game. It was known in baseball circles since the 1970s that Rose had a gambling problem. An investigation in 1989 yielded hundreds of hours of testimony from numerous sources that detailed his history of gambling on baseball while serving as the manager of the Cincinnati Reds, including betting on his own team. Although Rose continued to proclaim his innocence, he was eventually persuaded to accept the settlement.

### August 25, 325

#### Council of Nicaea concluded

On August 25, 325, the Council of Nicaea, the first ecumenical debate held by the early Christian church, concluded with the establishment of the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Convened by Roman emperor Constantine I in May, the council also deemed the Arian belief of Christ as inferior to God to be heretical, thus resolving an early church crisis.

*The above information was taken from the 2024 "This Day in History" Page-A-Day Calendar.*

## MT. VESUVIUS ERUPTED 79AD

Mount Vesuvius is a somma-stratovolcano located on the Gulf of Naples in Campania, Italy, about 5.6 miles east of Naples and a short distance from the shore. It is one of several volcanoes forming the Campanian volcanic arc. Vesuvius consists of a large cone partially encircled by the steep rim of a summit caldera, resulting from the collapse of an earlier, much higher structure.



City of Naples with Mount Vesuvius

The eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD destroyed the Roman cities of Pompeii, Herculaneum, Oplontis, Stabiae, and several other settlements. The eruption ejected a cloud of stones, ash and volcanic gases to a height of 21 miles, erupting molten rock and pulverized pumice at the rate of  $7.8 \times 10^5$  cu. yd. per second. More than 1,000 people are thought to have died in the eruption, though the exact toll is unknown. The only surviving eyewitness account of the event consists of two letters by Pliny the Younger to the historian Tacitus.

Vesuvius has erupted many times since. It is the only volcano on Europe's mainland to have erupted in the last hundred years. It is regarded as one of the most dangerous volcanoes in the world because 3,000,000 people live near enough to be affected by an eruption, with at least 600,000 in the danger zone. This is the most densely populated volcanic region in the world. Eruptions tend to be violent and explosive; these are known as Plinian eruptions.

*The above information was taken from Wikipedia.org*

## RIN TIN TIN DIED 11 AUG 1932

Rin Tin Tin (September 1918 – August 10, 1932) was a male German Shepherd born in Flirey, France, who became an international star in motion pictures. He was rescued from a World War I battlefield by an American soldier, Lee Duncan, who nicknamed him "Rinty". Duncan trained Rin Tin Tin and obtained silent film work for the dog. Rin Tin Tin was an immediate box-office success and went on to appear in 27 Hollywood films, gaining worldwide fame. Along with the earlier canine film star Strongheart, Rin Tin Tin was responsible for greatly increasing the popularity of German Shepherd dogs as family pets. The immense profitability of his films contributed to the success of Warner Bros. studios and helped advance the career of Darryl F. Zanuck from screenwriter to producer and studio executive.



After the dog's only appearance in color (the 1929 musical revue *The Show of Shows*, in which he barks an introduction to a musical pageant), Warner Bros. dispensed with Rin Tin Tin's and Lee Duncan's services. The studio was intent on promoting its "all-talking" stars, and silent-film personality Rin Tin Tin obviously couldn't speak. Undaunted, Duncan sought further film work and signed with independent producer Nat Levine, who starred Rin Tin Tin in serials and feature films.

After Rin Tin Tin died in 1932, the name was given to several related German Shepherd dogs featured in fictional stories on film, radio, and television. Rin Tin Tin Jr. appeared in some serialized films but was not as talented as his father. Rin Tin Tin III, said to be Rin Tin Tin's grandson, but probably only distantly related, helped promote the military use of dogs during World War II. Rin Tin Tin III also appeared in a film with child actor Robert Blake in 1947.

Duncan groomed Rin Tin Tin IV for the 1950s television series *The Adventures of Rin Tin Tin*, produced by Bert Leonard. However, the dog performed poorly in a screen test and was replaced in the TV show by trainer Frank Barnes's dogs, primarily one named Flame Jr., called JR, with the public led to believe otherwise. Instead of shooting episodes, Rin Tin Tin IV stayed at home in Riverside, California. The TV show *Rin Tin Tin* was nominated for a PATSY Award in both 1958 and 1959 but did not win.

*The above information was taken from wikipedia.org*

## AUGUST 2024 EVENTS, AND FESTIVALS IN ITALY

### August 5: Feast of Our Lady of the Snows

Every August 5th, Rome celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of the Snows (La Madonna della Neve), memorializing a miraculous summer snowfall in 352 AD. According to legend, a noble Roman couple, John and his wife, prayed to the Virgin Mary, seeking guidance on donating their wealth in her honor. Mirroring their dreamy instructions, a divine snowfall blanketed Rome's Esquiline Hill, outlining where they, and Pope Liberius, would build what's now known as Saint Mary Major — Rome's largest church honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary.



*Snow falling in Piazza Santa Maria Maggiore on August 5th. (Image: Affaritaliani.it)*

Although historically unverified, this tale of miraculous snow and the ensuing feast, initially titled the Dedication of the Church of Our Lady of the Snows, seamlessly weave into Italy's rich cultural and spiritual fabric, inviting all to bask in Rome's mystical and festive spirit.

#### **August 10: La Notte di San Lorenzo (The Night of Shooting Stars)**



*A shooting star illuminates Italy's midnight sky.*

Every year on August 10th, the sky lights up across Italy for La Notte di San Lorenzo, also warmly known as the Night of the Shooting Stars. This evening, intertwined with the timely occurrence of the Perseid meteor shower, invites everyone to cast their eyes skyward to make a wish upon the streaking stars. This event in Italy has more than just astronomical significance; it's deeply rooted in the country's rich historical tapestry, named in honor of Saint Lawrence (San Lorenzo). A Christian martyr from the third century, San Lorenzo suffered a grueling fate, being burned to death under the persecution decreed by the Roman Emperor Valerian. The legend softly whispers that the annually cascading stars symbolize San Lorenzo's tears, gracefully falling to Earth each year on the anniversary of his sacrifice.



*Spectators await shooting stars by the Pantheon, August 10*

La Notte di San Lorenzo is also alternatively known as La Notte dei Desideri (The Night of Wishes). All across the country, Italians seek tranquil spots away from lively city lights – perhaps on serene beaches, atop rolling hills, or nestled in spacious parks. Then, with eyes alight with anticipation and hearts tender with unspoken desires, they gaze into the celestial abyss, silently casting their wishes upon every streaking star that graces the night sky.

#### **August 11: Sunrise Concert 2024 in Ravello**

Nestled above the resplendent Amalfi Coast, the Sunrise Concert in Ravello isn't just an event; it's an ethereal experience where nature and music converge to create an unparalleled symphony of serenity and melody. Imagine welcoming the day atop the cliffs, with the first rays of the sun gently illuminating the Amalfi Coast, all while an orchestra caresses your senses with a live performance. Held in the lush, panoramic gardens of Villa Rufolo (one of the most spectacular Italian gardens), the concert commences at dawn, enveloping its audience in a delicate blend of natural beauty and enchanting melodies.



*The stunning setting of the Sunrise Concert in Ravello (Image: Ravello Festival by Pino Izzo)*

The inspiration for the Sunrise Concert, and indeed the broader Ravello Music Festival, finds its roots in the bewitching Italian garden of Villa Rufolo. The villa offers a picturesque stage that seemingly floats between sky and sea, ensnaring the senses in a timeless spectacle of sight and sound.

#### **August 15: Assumption of the Virgin Mary and Ferragosto**

Diving into Italy's rich and harmonious traditions, August 15 unfurls a day filled with dual celebrations, each steeped in its beautiful history: the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and Ferragosto.

The Assumption Day illuminates Italy with its divine light, celebrating the belief that Mary, Jesus' mother, was assumed body and soul into heaven. This day isn't merely a religious observation but a public holiday in Italy. It cascades a wave of spiritual unity across the nation, intertwining communities in collective reverence and celebration.



*Ferragosto fireworks light up the beachside night.*

Ferragosto, initially a day for rest and celebration established in ancient Rome, has elegantly transformed over the centuries, now coinciding with the Assumption of Mary. This alignment seamlessly interweaves a spirited secular celebration with deep-rooted religious observance, reflecting Italy's flair for combining tradition with festivity.

Ferragosto intertwines with a retreat into relaxation and joy, punctuated by dazzling fireworks on the evening of August 15th. Italians bask in the warm embrace of the summer sun, flee to the cool coasts or invigorating mountain areas, and engage in lively barbecues.

In a nutshell, August 15 is a unique Italian day on which spiritual honor and festive relaxation intertwine, providing a multifaceted celebration that permeates the warm summer air.

This day, eagerly anticipated, marks a highlight in Italy's summer, offering a blend of heavenly blessings and earthly pleasures in a unified celebration.

#### **August 16: Palio di Siena**

The medieval city of Siena, nestled in the picturesque region of Tuscany, bursts into life twice each summer for the Palio di Siena. On July 2nd and August 16th, its heart-shaped Piazza del Campo becomes a vibrant spectacle as seventeen contrade (districts) fiercely compete in an exhilarating horse race, with each district represented by a horse and rider, boldly decked in their distinctive colors and emblems. The race day, particularly in August, pulsates with tradition and civic pride, from the early afternoon horse blessings to the electrifying race that entails three laps around the Piazza in the evening.

While August 16th is the pinnacle, the Palio festivities span four days filled with ceremonies, trial races, and traditional dinners. These ceremonies serve as significant build-ups to the main event, immersing locals and visitors in an escalating atmosphere of excitement and collective anticipation.



## August 2024 Calendar: Italy's: Holidays, Anniversaries, Events, and Special Days



*August in Italy: a month of rest and relaxation for Italians*

### August 1

- Celebrating the Birth of Claudius (10 B.C.), the Roman Emperor known for significant infrastructural developments.

### August 2

- Celebrating the Birth of Enrico Caruso (1921), a tenor who left an indelible mark on the operatic world.

### August 3

- International Beer Day: A toast to beers worldwide with a nod to Italy's growing craft beer industry and unique Italian brews.

### August 5

- Feast of Our Lady of the Snows: Honoring the miraculous summer snowfall in Rome with a mass and special celebration, immersing oneself in divine Italian traditions and faith.

### August 6

- Celebrating the Birth of Nicola Salvi (1697), the creative mind behind the iconic Trevi Fountain.



*Honoring Nicola Salvi, the artistic genius behind the Trevi Fountain*

### August 8

- Remembering the Death of Trajan (117), a Roman Emperor noted for his philanthropic and architectural contributions.

### August 10

- Feast Day of San Lorenzo: La Notte di San Lorenzo on August 10th envelops Italy in a warm summer tradition, where locals peer into the night sky, wishing upon glimpsed shooting stars and basking in the wonder of celestial magic.

### August 11

- Feast Day of Santa Clara di Assisi, a day of reverence for the founder of the Order of Poor Ladies.
- Sunrise Concert in Ravello (Amalfi Coast): Experience a magical dawn concert amid the stunning gardens of Villa Rufolo, overlooking the exquisite Amalfi Coast, as part of the enchanting Ravello Music Festival.

### August 13

- Remembering the Death of Giambologna (1608), a sculptor who shaped the Renaissance era with his artistry.
- International Left-Handers Day: Celebrating left-handers worldwide, discovering renowned left-handed Italians in history or arts.

### August 15

- Assumption of Mary: A sacred day honoring the Virgin Mary's ascent to heaven, deeply woven into Italy's spiritual heritage with processions and feasts.
- Ferragosto: A peak summer holiday in Italy, embracing relaxation and celebrations, traditionally involving feasts, parades, fireworks, and sometimes, a trip to the seaside.

### August 16

- Palio di Siena: The second yearly celebration of the vibrant Palio in Siena continues the July festivities.

### August 19

- Remembering the Death of Augustus (14 A.D.), the first Roman Emperor who ushered in a period of peace and prosperity.

### August 24

- Feast Day of San Bartolomeo, a day of devotion to the apostle and martyr.
- Remembering the Amatrice Earthquake (2016), a tragic event that shook central Italy and united the nation in recovery efforts.

### August 26

- Feast Day of Saint Alexander of Bergamo, a day of veneration and celebration honoring the patron saint of Bergamo.

### August 27

- Remembering the Death of Titian (1576), a master Italian artist who left a lasting impact on the art world.

### August 29

- The Venice Biennale & Venice Film Festival: Exploring international cinema and global artistic excellence, particularly spotlighting innovative and groundbreaking works presented in Venice.

- Feast Day of Saint Sabina is dedicated to the veneration of the early Christian martyr.

### August 31

- Celebrating the Birth of Caligula (12 A.D.), a controversial Roman Emperor known for his eccentric and often brutal reign.

[leamitalianpod.com/2023/09/30/August-in-Italy-events-festivals-holidays](https://leamitalianpod.com/2023/09/30/August-in-Italy-events-festivals-holidays)

## MISSION STATEMENT

### dichiarazione di missione

The purpose of this Association is to promote the moral, social, and civic advancement of its membership, and to perpetuate the customs and cultural aspects of Italian Heritage.

*Article II, Section 1 of the AIH Bylaws*

## AMERICANS OF ITALIAN HERITAGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*1 July 2024 – 30 June 2026*

President .....Gus Paolucci  
Vice President ..... Ronald Wassum  
Secretary .....Glenn Pizzuti  
Treasurer .....Vince Pona

Trustee (e) .....Rio DeGennaro Jr.  
Trustee (e) .....Jim Federico Sr.  
Trustee (e) ..... John Perrotti  
Trustee (e) .....Tony Illano Sr.  
Trustee (e) .....Carmen Federico  
Trustee (a) .....Ken Mancuso  
Trustee (a) ..... Richard O'Keefe  
Trustee (a) ..... Greg Canteri

## ATTACHMENTS

Enclosure (1) Clam Bake Flyer

## COMMENTS TO THE EDITOR



If you have any questions or comments about, or suggestions for this newsletter, please put your thoughts in an email and send them to me at [GPizzuti@GlennPizzutiArchitect.com](mailto:GPizzuti@GlennPizzutiArchitect.com)