



**ICC**  
OF WESTERN MASS., INC.  
PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

*Italian Cultural Center  
of  
Western Massachusetts, Inc.*

**dicembre 2020**

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## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS**

Ciao a tutti,

Welcome to the December issue of La Voce. While the Italian Cultural Center is not quite up and running yet, we still have been very active and involved in our community. We held a flag raising ceremony with Springfield Mayor Dominic Sarno at City Hall to commemorate the beginning of National Italian American Heritage month. We had a wreath laying ceremony on October 31st in remembrance of our Italian soldiers who bravely fought for America, and with the City of Springfield, we celebrated Veterans Day by laying a wreath at the foot of the statue of Christopher Columbus in the South End.

While we are still observing Covid-19 restrictions, we are planning an Italian dinner take-out fundraiser for Friday, April 9th. You can pre-order delicious Italian food. We do the cooking and you pick it up. How easy is that! Don't forget to save the date.

Covid restrictions have certainly taken a toll on the financial health of the ICC. We are working on a number of future events and will keep you posted. In the meantime, we welcome all donations, big or small so that we remain solvent. Donations can be made directly to the Italian Cultural Center at 56 Margaret Street, Springfield MA 01105. All donations are tax deductible, greatly appreciated and necessary to continue our mission to promote Italian culture in Western Massachusetts.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors of the Italian Cultural Center, we wish you and your family a healthy and merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Charlie Becker and Marcia Capuano  
Co-Presidents

## OCTOBER NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



ICC Co-President Charlie Becker with Springfield Mayor Dominic Sarno at the flag raising ceremony held at City Hall on October 2. This ceremony marked the beginning of Italian American Heritage month.



Paul Picknelly, area businessman and a long time supporter of the ICC, spoke at the October flag raising ceremony at Springfield City Hall. He made a major announcement that a satellite Italian Consulate would soon be located in Springfield.



ICC Co-Presidents Charles Becker and Marcia Capuano at the wreath laying ceremony on Veterans Day.

# WELCOME ~ BENVENUTI

A warm welcome to our returning members. We appreciate your prompt response to the ICC recent mailing. We also welcome our new members, and hope to see new and old at our events as soon as we are able to safely reopen the ICC.

Benefactors: Frank Colaccino; Lena DeCarlo; Anthony and Dawn Sarage

Friends: Peter Gagliardi and René Lake-Gagliardi; Mayor Domenic and Carla Sarno

Patrons: Lucille Brindisi and Elizabeth Knowles; Pauline Casey; William and Jane Devlin; John Michael Discenza; Susan LaVoie; David and Jennifer Lemieux; Judith Matt; Paul Picknelly; Andrew Scibelli and Linda Melconian; Robert and Maria Wilson

New Members: Barbara C Bernard; Peter Vincent Caminati; Robert Caprile; Annette DeMaio; John Michael Discenza; Jerry Nardi; Joanna Paier; Peter A. Serafino; Gail Wapner

## ICC RETAIL STORE



The ICC has a retail store within 56 Margaret Street in Springfield , and is open for business by appointment. We have wonderful Italian-themed merchandise that is perfect for gifts or your own personal use. Baseball caps, aprons, tee shirts, baby clothes, totes, just to name a few, and our own ICC cookbook that contains many family recipes from people you may know. Our merchandise is high quality and priced to sell. Christmas is just around the corner, and our ICC merchandise will make wonderful gifts. The bonus is it's a terrific way to support your ICC.

**SPECIAL ONE DAY SALE—SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13**

**9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Stop by before or after Mass at Mt.Carmel, or make a trip down to the ICC at 56 Margaret St.



## THE CUISINE OF ANCIENT ROME

The first century AD saw the beginning of a culinary awakening in ancient Rome. On one hand, Rome's conquests carried her customs far beyond her borders; while on the other hand, the traditional Roman lifestyle was refreshed with changes brought from the East after the conquest of Greece, particularly in the area of cuisine. New found culinary delights were artichokes from Africa, cherries from Asia Minor, pistachio nuts from Syria, and dates from Egypt. Gastronomy reached the pinnacle of sophistication, as we can tell by the famous supper at Trimalchio described by Petronius in his *Satyricon* (first century AD).

*“First of all we were offered a pig with a crown of sausage and homemade bran bread. The next dish was a cold cake with hot honey, over which a Spanish wine had been poured. After that we found before us a portion of bear meat. And lastly we were offered a soft cheese, fruit mustard, a snail for each person, some tripe, a dish of liver, some smothered eggs, turnips, mustard. Then a bowl of olives in vinegar was passed around. When the prosciutto arrived, we surrendered...”*



### 2000 YEAR OLD CAKE RECIPE

1 1/8 cups whole wheat flour	3/4 teaspoon instant yeast
1/2 teaspoon ground rosemary	1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/3 cup ground almonds	3 1/2 fluid ounces sweet white wine
3 tablespoons honey	extra honey to drizzle
Chopped hazelnuts for top	



Combine dry ingredients in a bowl. Add wet ingredients and stir until combined. Pour into a greased baking dish and leave in a warm place to rise. Bake at 350 degrees until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. While still hot, drizzle with honey and sprinkle chopped hazelnuts.

If you make this cake, please let us know how it turns out.

## GRAZIE MILLE

As you are aware, your Italian Cultural Center has been going through difficult financial times due to Covid-19. It is very expensive to maintain the building at 56 Margaret Street, and with little income from our usual programs and events, we have been depleting our reserves. We asked you for help and some of you have opened your checkbooks. Many thanks to Maria and Michael Ardolino, Lena DeCarlo, Irma Langone, Marci LeFort, Susan and Philip Mantoni, Phyllis Mandrachia for your kindness and generosity.

A reminder: All donations, large and small, are greatly appreciated and are tax-deductible.

## 2021 MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

By now you have received your membership renewal form for the Italian Cultural Center. If you haven't yet sent in your form, please do so as soon as conveniently possible. The ICC depends on your support and your membership dues play a huge part in keeping the lights on at 56 Margaret Street. We have some great plans for 2021, and we would love for you to be part of it all. Please invite your friends and family to join us this year. We have a new membership category. Students who are younger than 18 are now able to join at a reduced rate of \$15. Membership forms are available on the ICC website at [www.iccwm.org](http://www.iccwm.org). or by calling the ICC at **413-784-1492** or emailing us at [ICCWM@comcast.net](mailto:ICCWM@comcast.net).



**Visit our Facebook page for the latest information on programs and events sponsored by the Italian Cultural Center.**

We also have a Members Only group on Facebook. The Members Only group enables you to receive special invitations to upcoming events, and instant notifications to any changes or cancellations. "Like" us on Facebook and we will add you to the Members Only group. It's that easy! Or send us a message at [ICCWMFB@gmail.com](mailto:ICCWMFB@gmail.com) to find out how to join.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### ITALIAN TAKE-OUT DINNER APRIL 9, 2021

We promised you some new programs and events and we're happy to announce our Italian Take-Out Dinner on April 9th. Italian food is the most popular food in the world, and we are fortunate to have some of the best Italian chefs right here within the Italian Cultural Center. We have set our menu and will be taking pre-orders for take-out. More information to follow.

#### MENU

Sausage with Potatoes, Peppers and Onions  
Chicken Parmigiana  
Porchetta and Mushroom Sauce  
Tortellini Soup  
Homemade meatballs with sauce  
Baked Ziti

We are looking for more volunteers for this event. If you're interested in being part of our team, please call the ICC at 413-784-1492.



56 Margaret Street  
Springfield MA 01105  
413.784.1492

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**ICC OFFICERS**

Charlie Becker	Co-President
Marcia Capuano	Co-President
Dan Cohen	Vice President
Kathy Smith	Treasurer
Patty Albano Murphy	Secretary
Sandra Vella	Historian
Sandra Haskins	Director
Maria Placanica	Director
Maria Silvestri	Director

*The Mission of the Italian Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts, Inc. is to promote Italian culture, traditions, heritage and the Italian language, through the sponsoring of social, culinary and educational events, and to foster appreciation and respect in the community for the rich contributions that Italians have made locally and throughout the world.*