



FINALLY! Pursuant to hard work and stacks of paper work, our IASJS Board Members Danté V. Maraldo and Danny Imbornone and our friend John Overby were successful in having the Italian American Marching Club (“IAMC”) certified by the IRS to be a **501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization**, doing business as the Italian American St. Joseph Society, Inc. (“IASJS”). From its inception as the IAMC through today as the IASJS, we have worked to educate the public regarding Italian history, culture, and traditions. This has been accomplished primarily through our events celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph.

The IAMC’s rich history and extraordinary national reputation served as the corner stone of the IASJS. The focal point of our celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph is a New Orleans style parade through New Orleans’ famous French Quarter. This year, our IASJS events will begin on Friday, March 9, 2018 at 11:00 am with our free Pasta Party at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside Hotel. The 500 pounds of pasta con le sarde with mudrica (*Saint Joseph’s sawdust*) is prepared at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside Hotel by Chef David Greco, Owner of Mikes Deli and Arthur Avenue Caterers, located in the real little Italy in the Bronx, New York. Chef Greco has been volunteering his time and Italian culinary expertise to our organization for the past 12 years. Following the Pasta Party, on Friday night we will hold our Honoree Dinner. Saturday, March 10, 2018 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM is our St. Joseph Parade. The focal point of our St. Joseph Parade is our St. Joseph Altar float, a traditional New Orleans style St. Joseph Altar that is constructed on a special float and blessed prior to our parade. Following our St. Joseph Parade is the IASJS Gala at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside Hotel, where our young, beautiful Italian le signore are presented.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the IASJS is building on the successes of the IAMC by offering educational and enrichment opportunities for the community. The IASJS holds classes at schools throughout the Gulf South to educate the community on various aspects of Italian history, culture, and in particular, the preparation of St. Joseph’s Altars. The IASJS also assists young scholars of all nationalities to cultivate a greater understanding of Italian culture by providing scholarships based on essay competitions on topics of Italian history and culture. With an eye to the future, the IASJS is currently developing a program to provide food for the homeless both in the Greater New Orleans Area and nationally.

To accomplish these huge undertakings, the IASJS needs your help through **SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS**. Your **SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS** to the IASJS will help us develop and expand our educational and food programs. We would greatly appreciate your support. I look forward to the opportunity to provide you with any additional information regarding the IASJS. For your sponsorship or donation you may call my cell (228) 343-9893 or e-mail catoire@datasync.com.

Cordiali Saluti,
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