

# CIAO TO ALL MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS!

Hoping this finds you and yours well .... and happy! Spring, Spring, glorious Spring – is finally here!

The Grand Lodge is moving forward and away from this pandemic. I, for one, am glad to see everyone in person the past couple of months. We have been having our Council meetings in person, and with help from Mike Castino and Tony Montcalmo, are also able to incorporate a zoom meeting for those Council members who live a distance and may still be a little leery about meeting in person.

The Grand Lodge held its Oyster & Bull Roast in March and it was successful to boot! Thanks to Vince Zaccaria and his committee. Now, we're getting prepared for our Crab Feast coming up in August (see flyer inside).

Considering the pandemic (or whatever we call it these days), our membership has not taken a severe toll. Our numbers are steadily coming back to what they were a year ago – that's a really good thing! For those of you who are members of the Order, you can help SUPPORT YOUR HERITAGE by signing up family members – give membership as a gift! There are lots of good lodges, who do lots of good and fun things. Check it out.

I am reminding all of you that the OSDIA is not only a fraternal organization, it is VERY, VERY PHILANTHROPIC as well, raising and contributing almost 180 MILLION dollars to many different charities and scholarships over the years. FYI: Considering all that lodges throughout the country have been through the past two years, and no major events, the OSDIA was able to send \$30,000.00 to the Doug Flutie Foundation for Autism, and \$50,000.00 to the Cooley's Anemia Foundation just a few weeks ago. All of this because of you and your generosity.

**SO** – what does the OSDIA do? Among the many things we do, we take pride in helping others. Oh, and by the way, I should mention the OSDIA HOMH Program (Help Our Military Heroes) was able to supply another van for a disabled veteran this year. We contribute \$20,00.00 each year to have a van fully made over for the veteran receiving it and their disability. It's presented to the vet at the NELA dinner each year. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> year for the OSDIA contributing to this project. Thank you again.

**Thanks to you and your generosity**, the OSDIA is able to do these things to help others. Pat yourselves on the back – you deserve it. But, I know how generous and loving and caring Italians are, so no big surprise to me.

Have a great summer! I hope to see some of you at the Crab Feast. Stay well ....

Sincerely and fraternally,

Anita Lombardi Riley



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Congratulations to a very fine, successful young lady, one of our Grand Lodge Scholars!



Intercepted in an email from Doannie Tambascio of the Annapolis Lodge:

My granddaughter, Summer, graduated Magna Cum Laude! I always knew she was a smarty pants :-) She has to work a year in Maternity at Anne Arundel Medical Center and then is going back to Stevenson to get her Nurse Practioner degree, which is her goal



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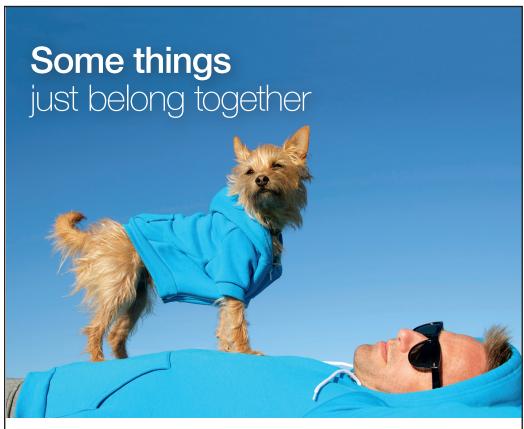


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### WHERE DID THE POPE COME FROM?

Article by Leonardo De Chirico Pastor, Rome, Italy Part II

If the papacy isn't the office of Peter's apostolic successors, where did it come from? A look at history shows that it's far more a product of the Roman Empire than of Peter's ministry. The Roman imperial pattern was the influential blueprint that shaped the papal institution from the fourth century onward. The papacy is more a child of imperial categories than biblical ones. The papacy never would have emerged if there were no empire forming the political and cultural milieu of the life of the early church.

The slow process that led to the formation of the papacy depended on the importance of Rome as the capital city of the empire and the power it exercised in the ancient world. The ideology of the Roma aeterna (eternal Rome) crept into the church and influenced the way Christians perceived the role of the church of Rome in relation to the role of the city in the affairs of the empire.

As the Roman Empire gradually abandoned the West, what was left in Rome was the "imperial" structure of the church with the pope as its head. Then, between the fourth and fifth centuries, popes applied to themselves the title of pontifex, the name of the chief high priest in ancient Rome.

Several centuries later, confronted with the Protestant Reformation, which invited the church to turn from its self-absorption and rediscover the gospel of God's grace, Rome strengthened a sacramental system that made the church the mediator of divine grace. Then, confronted with modernity, which pushed for a review of the prerogatives of the church over people's consciences and society, Rome elevated the papacy to an even more accentuated role through the dogma of papal infallibility — a move without any biblical support whatsoever.

The papacy is a child of the Roman institutional church, rather than a child of Scripture. This is why the Protestant Reformers took issue with it. In writing against the Catholic theologian Johannes Eck in 1519, Martin Luther developed his critical approach towards the papacy with a full set of arguments.

According to the German Reformer, the authority of popes and councils should be subordinate to that of the Bible. The papacy was not instituted by Christ, but was instead established by the church over the course of its history. So it does not come from "divine law," but is instead a human institution.

Luther argued, further, that the "rock" of Matthew 16:18 is not a reference to Peter, but is either his confession of Jesus on behalf of the whole church or Christ himself. Christ alone is the solid foundation of the church (1 Corinthians 3:11). The Roman popes have nothing "Petrine" about them, nor is there anything "papal" in Peter. The papacy is not commanded nor foreseen in Scripture, and therefore obedience to the word of God must take precedence over obedience to any mere human. Luther stressed that if the pope disobeys Scripture, the faithful Christian should follow the latter without hesitation. Christians are not obligated to obey an unfaithful pope.

Part III Next Issue

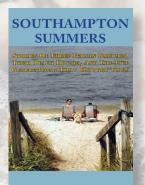


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By Albert Marra

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Although many already know the benefits of olive oil, I wasn't one of them. I knew it was better for you than the vegetable, canola or peanut oil, but I didn't realize it was as good for us as it is. So, I will enlighten those who don't know, and begin using it much more often!

**OLIVE OIL** reduces your risk for skin cancer. It contains polyphenols, highly potent plant antioxidants that protect against cell mutations.

**OLIVE OIL** keeps your heart healthy by keeping your good cholesterol levels up and lowering your bad cholesterol levels. It also reduces inflammation in the body.

**OLIVE OIL** keeps your blood pressure down with those potent polyphenols.

**OLIVE OIL** can help you lose weight. All oils have the same number of calories, giveor take, but olive oil is flavorful, making you less likely to add on extra sauces and dressings.

**OLIVE OIL** eases headaches, thanks to oleocanthal, a natural compound that blocks pain and inflammation, similar to how ibuprofen works.

**OLIVE OIL** moisturizes and nourishes dry skin and hair.

I also learned since reading the good olive oil does, that the 'extra virgin' is better to use.





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# **ZUCCHINI & TOMATO RAGÙ**

6 TABLESPOONS EXTRA-VIRGIN OLIVE OIL
1 ONION, PEELED AND ROUGHLY CHOPPED
2 GARLIC CLOVES, PEELED AND LIGHTLY CRUSHED
1 MEDIUM ZUCCHINI, SLICED
1 MEDIUM SUMMER SQUASH, SLICED
KOSHER SALT AND FRESHLY GROUND BLACK PEPPER
7 OUNCES RIPE, FLAVOR FUL TOMATOES, CHOPPED
4 OUNCES MOZZARELLA, ROUGHLY TORN
4 CUP PARSLEY LEAVES, ROUGHLY CHOPPED
4 CUP BASIL LEAVES, TORN

1. HEAT THE OIL IN A LARGE NON-STICK SKILLET OVER MEDIUM HEAT. ADD THE ONION AND GARLIC AND COOK, STIRRING OFTEN, UNTIL THE ONION IS TRANS-LUCENT, 8 TO 10 MINUTES.

2. ADD THE ZUCCHINI AND SUMMER SQUASH; SEASON WITH SALT AND PEPPER. COOK, STIRRING FREQUENTLY, UNTIL THE ZUCHHINI AND SUMMER SAUCE TURN GOLDEN, ABOUT 2 MINUTES.

3. STIR IN THE TOMATOES AND COOK UNTIL THEY HAVE JUST BECOME TO SOFTEN AND THE ZUCCHINI AND SUMMER SQUASH ARE AL DENTE, ABOUT 2 MINUTES. SERVE TOPPED WITH THE MOZZARELLA, PARSLEY AND BASIL. MAKES 6 SERVINGS.



I read an article many years ago (which I saved) that said "studies show that singing is not only good for your mental health, it's also physically good for you." Since I used to sing with my sisters as a trio many years ago, I believe that to be true.

Singing to me, is fun, joyful, relaxing - all rolled into one!

" AND, needless to say, we have many, many great Italian singers (past and present) to whom we might want to relate – but of course, not in their league. But ahhhh, – the sweet sound of Tony Bennett, Frankie Valle or Andrea Boccelli.

The article says, "we sing in the shower, we sing in the car" and sing mainly when no one is around or listening. "STOP! Get over it," the article says. I agree. Who cares how you sound? You like to sing, sing – because...

Belting out a song, it turns out, is GOOD for us! (What Italian does NOT like to sing?) The article says that singing can improve the body's immune response. In elderly people, it can reduce the use of prescription drugs, doctor visits and emergency room care. "The conscious breathing from the diaphragm involved in singing can reduce stress – stress affects the immune system. If you feel good about what you're doing, the immune system recovers and gets a boost."

So, let it all hang out. Sing (or warble) to your heart's content – who cares, except maybe the person sitting next to you! Life's too short to worry about the 'small' stuff. Enjoy yours and...SING, SING, SING!





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### **UPDATE ON COLUMBUS STATUE...**

tossed into Baltimore Harbor on July 4, 2020.

On April 27, 2022, the Baltimore Sun did an article (with picture) of the replica statue and its sculptor Will Hemsley on its front page, regarding its destruction and now - its replacement.

The sculptor is a gentleman named Will Hemsley from the Eastern Shore of Maryland. His statue is beautiful – but hardly replaces (sentimentally, of course) the original statue donated to the City of Baltimore in 1984 by Italian American Organizations United (IAOU) and unveiled by then President Ronald Reagan.



The original statue was 14 feet 2 inches tall, and weighed in at 17 tons. It was carved in Italian Carrara marble by sculptor Mauro Bigarani. The new statue is 9-1/2 feet tall and weighs 2,000 pounds. The cost of the project to replicate the statue was approximately \$80,000-\$90,000, paid for by private donors and a grant from National Endowment for the Humanities. It was a tedious project that took 19 months to complete while working with much of the original parts of the statue taken out of the Harbor, to make sure it looked as close to the original as possible.

Baltimore City wanted nothing to do with the statue after its destruction, because they regarded 'Columbus' as a political 'hot button'. Therefore, in August 2020, the City Department of Recreation and Parks agreed, and signed a termination agreement, to give the statue back to Italian American Organizations United. Once it was returned, the IAOU began work immediately to make sure that Christopher Columbus was and is recognized as the hero he truly is – and recognized by all Italian communities - not by the myths that surround him today.

There are many organizations out there that still have no regard for Columbus.. About that, we can do nothing EXCEPT continue to recognize Columbus each year and the holiday bestowed upon him (October 12) by President Johnson in 1968.

The base of the statue still remains at the Piazza, and a fence placed around it for protection. No concrete decisions yet as to where the two statues will go to remain safe. There is talk of a name change for the Piazza, and placement of a different statue at some point in time, as well.

Meanwhile ... 'CELEBRATE' Christopher Columbus!



#### UPER RAFFLE WINNERS **SUPER RAFFLE WINNERS** SUPER RAFFLE WINNERS MARCH MAY APRIL ZJÁCOB BÁLMAGES CHARLES FERRARO 1 SANDRA ZITZER SUZANNE CORZO 2 ADDILYN WALLACE 2 2 KIRK MILLER 3 BUDDY CEFALU 3 KATHERINE PALERMINO 3 VERA GIROLAMI JAMES CONIGLAND 4 RICHARD DURKIN\_ 4 4 **JOSEPHINE PALERMINO** 5 ARLENE NUNZIATI 5 JOE PORTERA ANN ANGELETTI SUSANNA WITTSTADT 6 GEOFF GAMBLE **ELIZABETH NEVINS** 6 6 7 7 ROSINA TUMINELLO **RAY GAMBLE ROB URICK** 8 **DONNA WALLACE** 8 DAN ZACCAGNINI 8 AL FERRARO 9 9 9 DIANE ZACCARIA **CHARLES FERRARA** KRIS ROEDER 10 TINA WITTSTADT 10 SALLIANN ALBORN 10 IIM SCRIVANI 11 ANN ANGELETTI 11 **KELLY RILEY** 11 **ELEANOR MARANO** 12 AMICI FRATELLI LODGE 12 **REGINA KIDD** 12 MARY CASTORINA 13 DAVID MATTHEWS 13 ASCENZA DIFERDINANDO 13 STEVEN DEGEORGE 14 JENNIFER HEIFNER 14 MARY MAIONE 14 TRACY SCAGLIARINI NANCY SHACKELFORD 15 15 15 KRIS ROEDER TOM IACABONI **IOE HARTMAN CHRIS LEWIS** 16 **DOROTHY PINTO** 16 16 17 MARY MAIONE 17 JOYCE CROSWELL 12 EMMA ROEDER 18 **GEORGE JOHANSEN** 18 LISA CONNOLLY-BAILEY 18 MARIA D'ALFONSO 19 **ANNE DOBBS** 19 **IIM SCRIVANI** 19 LEO & HANIA ROMEO 20 LARRY FOLK 20 TINA GUGGLIOTTA 20 FRAN TRANSPARENTI 21 **MARTY FUHR** 21 HARRY MAGGIO 21 CHAD MILLER 22 22 FRANK LOTMAN STEPHANIE DONAHUE 22 DYLAN WOODS 23 23 **CHRISSY HAMPT** SANDRA MARANTO 23 **GLORIA PEARSON** 24 ARMANDO GRAZIOSI 24 24 MARIE CHAMBERLAIN MICHAEL PASTORE 25 **ED ROBERTS** 25 AL FERRARO 25 MARY ALBERTA 26 **IOE SEPCZYNSKI** 26 ANTHONY PALERMINO 26 VINCENT MOLLICONE 27 27 27 MARY ALBERTA **BRANDON HETHCOAT** ANNE DOBBS

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