



38th Year, 1971-2009

# The Downriver Italian-American Club®

646 BIDDLE AVE ♣ WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-2727 ♣ TEL. (734)285-4044 ♣ website: [www.diac.us](http://www.diac.us)

## \*\* IMPORTANT DATES \*\*

## November 2009 NEWSLETTER

Board of Directors Meeting..... Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2009, 7:00 p.m.  
General Membership Meeting ..... Sunday, Nov. 22, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

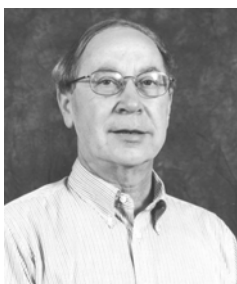


## Happy Thanksgiving – November 26, 2009

### Club Board Meeting Change Notice

The Club Board Meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, November 9, 2009, at 7:00 pm. to accommodate the pasta preparation day for St. Elizabeth Church Pasta Event. Please jot this change on your calendar and remind fellow Board members as necessary.

### A Message from the Club President



The weather got cold and now it's starting to warm up a bit. The frost already killed most of the in-ground flowers and plants. Now we rake the leaves and calling it quits in our outdoor activities. Soon we'll be looking forward to the holidays with our families and friends. I'm enjoying my new grandson

**Nicholas.** He seems to be growing day by day. Can't wait to show him off at one of our pasta events. We just celebrated his baptism this past Sunday.

I'm hoping no one catches this H1N1 flu that been in the news lately. I hope you all stay healthy.

The past "**Dancing with the Stars**" event of October 3 was a great success. Great band, great dancers, good food, and an outstanding evening out. Many thanks to the chairpersons: **Phyllis Gandol** and **Janice Labadie**, along with consultant **Mary Wierzba**.

The next Pasta Event is the St. Elizabeth "Raise the Roof" on Wednesday, November 11, 2009. Please come and help out on preparation day, Tuesday, and on serving day, Wednesday. The meal will be served from 4:00 pm till 8:00 pm. Those helping on Wednesday, please arrive at 12:00 noon. Please remind your family and friends to come and enjoy a fine, homemade meal and help out this charity cause. See related article.

**One last reminder, Florence (Sclafani) Coleman** is organizing our Club's first **Memorial Mass** set for November 8, 2009 at **St. Patrick Catholic Church, 9:00 am**. Brunch will be served at the club immediately thereafter. Please attend and honor your deceased loved ones.

The Club Hall Business will once again be holding a **Bridal Show** on November 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have a daughter, son, niece or grandchild who is planning a wedding in the near future, please advise them to come.

The **Toys for Tots** Christmas program will once again take place this year. See related article.

In December we look forward to the Member's Christmas Dinner (December 12) and the Children's Christmas Party, (December 13).

We hope this newsletter finds all of you in good health.

**Frank Giannotti, Club President**

### HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Our Father, fill our hearts, we pray,  
With gratitude Thanksgiving Day;  
For food and raiment Thou dost give,  
That we in comfort here may live!



### St. Elizabeth Pasta Event - Wed. Nov. 11



In October we served 596 Spaghetti Dinners, which gives us a total of 4,385 dinners for the year. This is 21% lower than last year and 384 dinners less than 2007. A big thanks to the many members that helped out with the dinners, without your support there would be no Spaghetti Dinners.

A few months ago, we were approached by members of **St. Elizabeth's Catholic Parish** in Wyandotte, to help them with a fund raiser to repair the church roof. St. Elizabeth will provide volunteers for table clean up, but the Downriver Italian American Club will supply its expertise and additional volunteers to help out. The dinner is scheduled for Wednesday November 11, 2009, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is the second Wednesday of the month. The preparation on Tuesday will be the

same as usual starting at 8:00 am for the sauce and meat balls and 6:00 pm for the pasta. On Wednesday we will start at noon. Because there will be no lunch, pork sandwiches will be served to the workers at about 2:30 pm.

If you cannot work, another way to support our Spaghetti Dinners and St. Elizabeth Church is to come yourself or as many of you do, bring some friends.

Sincerely, **Mark Grazioli** – Chairman #1

### Member's Christmas Dinner Dance



The Member's Christmas Dinner Dance has been set for Saturday, December 12, 2009. **Sadie Kusic**, along with **Leona Vizzini** are the chairpersons. This is a fine event with live music by the Blue Genes, a fine meal and lots of time to dance and socialize with friends. Ticket sales are going well. Make your reservation early for those good table seating. The event is open to members and to a guest of a single member. A flyer is contained in this newsletter.

### Children's Christmas Party



**Rosalie (Vitale) Karawan** will be chairing the **Children's Christmas Party** set for **Sunday, December 13, 2009**. **Santa Claus** has been booked and will be the special guest of honor. As in the past, this event is open to the DIAC members who have children that are 10 years and under.

Rosalie is looking for members who can donate cookies and other goodies. Deadline for reservation is December 1, 2009. A flyer with a return coupon is included in this newsletter.

For further information, contact **Rosalie** at (734)285-7406.

### Bridal Show set for Nov. 15, 2009



The **DIAH Business Board** will once again sponsor a **Bridal Show** for **Sunday, November 15, 2009** at the Hall. The event runs from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. The show will have models wearing wedding dresses and tuxedo menswear.

The event is sponsored by **DIAH Hall** and co-sponsored by: **Premier Bride, DJ & Music**, fashions by **One Stop Wedding Shop** and by **Jim's Tuxedo**. There will be many wedding related prizes to be given away. There will be many vendors showing their services. If you know of anyone getting married in the near future, please advise them to this valuable event. The hall will be well decorated and hopefully result in future bookings.

**Jeanne's Catering** will provide a Taste Test Sampler.

*The Downriver Italian-American Hall - Banquet & Conference Center*

Advance tickets are \$4.00 (\$5.00 at the door). For reservation and further information, please call **Diana Holmes**, at (734)285-4044.

### Toys for Tots

The families of **Joe and Anita Vitale** of Woodhaven are collecting for their Christmas tradition, **Toys for Tots**. This is a brief history on how it began.

*For about a dozen years, my family has donated toys to the Toys for Tots program.*

*Around six years ago, we decided not to buy ourselves Christmas presents, and instead buy more toys for the kids that would not have any toys under their Christmas tree.*

*The following Christmas we decided to ask our family and friends to join us for a home party. We would provide refreshments and they would bring a new toy they would like to have gotten when they were young, as an admission fee.*

*From that year on, the parties have gotten bigger every year, as more of our friends and family want to give to the Toys for Tots program.*

*We started donating toys in remembrance of **Anita's** brother who was a marine, killed in action in Viet Nam.*

*The downriver Toys for Tots coordinator, **Kim Fleske**, has been extremely helpful every year.*

*She sees that the families that ask for toys really deserve to receive them, and she works tirelessly to make sure that the toys stay in the Downriver area.*

*This is the first year we are not having the party at our home, because the number of people attending has exceeded our space.*

*My wife, daughter, and myself want to thank each and everyone that makes this program a success, our family, friends, **Kim Fleske**, and of course the men and women of the **United States Marine Corps**.*

*Yours truly*

**Joe, Anita and Mary-Beth Vitale**

If you wish to make a toy donation, please bring an unwrapped toy to the DIA Hall no later than Dec. 2, 2009.

### Dues and Assessment Committee

A **Dues and Assessment Committee** recommended dues for general membership be increased by \$5.00 per person. This equates to \$30.00 for a single member and \$60.00 for a married couple, starting in 2010.

Likewise, for honorary members, the dues is \$15.00 per single person and \$30.00 for a married couple.

The recommendation was approved by the Club Board on October 13 2009, with approval by the membership

present at the October 25, 2009 General Membership meeting.

The Assessment Initiation fee remains at \$50.00 per application. Sons and daughters of club members, the initiation fees remain at \$25.00 per application. All members that pay dues will receive the newsletter mailed to their home. Those who wish to be notified when the newsletter is available at the club website may still do so. This action will save mailing and printing cost.

In January, a letter will be sent out to all the honorary members regarding the dues change. The deadline to pay dues remains as March 31, 2010.

### November

November comes  
And November goes,  
With the last red berries  
And the first white snows.

With night coming early,  
And dawn coming late,  
And ice in the bucket  
And frost by the gate.

The fires burn  
And the kettles sing,  
And earth sinks to rest  
Until next spring."

- Clyde Watson -

### Menna Room Rental to Club Members

This information was discussed at a recent general membership meeting. The practice has been in affect for a number of years. The Club **Menna Room** can be rented to a club member without having the club chef provide the cooking. The food must be catered, and as long as the kitchen is not used.

For pricing and the various options, please contact the Hall Office – **Diana Holmes** or **Mary Cottone** at (734)285-4044.

### Sick and Good Will



Condolences to the family of **Linda D'Alfonso**, who passed away on October 12, 2009 at the age of 89. Linda and her late husband, **Cesare D'Alfonso**, joined the club in May 1990. Linda came to a lot of our meetings with the **DiMarco** families. May she rest in peace.

Condolences to the family of **Phyllis Cottone**, who passed away on October 13, 2009 at the age of 86. Phyllis and her late husband, **Anthony Cottone**, joined the club at it's beginning, in July 1971. They were both very active in our club. Condolences to the following family relatives: **Grace Badalamente**, **Jenny Finazzo**, **Nancy Marcantonio**,

**Rosalie (Angelo) Giaimo**, **Mary Cottone**, **Rose Gaglio**, **Fay Palazzolo**, **Fred (Stella) Marzano**, **Mike and Vivian Palazzolo**, **Mike and Nina Palazzolo**. May she rest in peace.

### Congratulating New DIAC Members

Please welcome the following new members who recently joined the DIAC membership:

**Patrick and Patricia (Ugljesa) Mastrogiacomo, Jr.** of Wyandotte, MI. Sponsored by **Nino Trupiano**.

**Cheryl (Zoratti) Putz** of Trenton, MI. Sponsored by **Stella Moccia**.

### Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno

We wish to extend our Congratulations and Best Wishes to our members who are celebrating their Birthday this month.

<i>Dolly Chirco (11/1)</i>	<i>Jack Palazzolo (11/15)</i>
<i>Violet Jenson (11/1)</i>	<i>Robert Coch (11/16)</i>
<i>Mary Lavine (11/1)</i>	<i>Vincetta Smith (11/18)</i>
<i>Sam Palamara (11/1)</i>	<i>Jacqueline Jagiello (11/19)</i>
<i>Marco Vitale (11/1)</i>	<i>Angelo Giaimo (11/21)</i>
<i>Angelina Carlone (11/2)</i>	<i>Angelo Schiraldi (11/22)</i>
<i>Rosalie Martino (11/2)</i>	<i>Phyllis LoPiccolo (11/23)</i>
<i>Marlene Erno (11/4)</i>	<i>Patrick McMahon (11/24)</i>
<i>Cora Muffi (11/7)</i>	<i>Fioravante Norscia (11/25)</i>
<i>Emilia Gonella (11/9)</i>	<i>Giovanni Santi, Sr. (11/25)</i>
<i>Angelo Norscia (11/11)</i>	<i>Thomas Battaglia (11/26)</i>
<i>Joanne Cuva (11/12)</i>	<i>MaryJane Grazioli (11/27)</i>
<i>Providence Evola (11/12)</i>	<i>Piera Vitale (11/27)</i>
<i>Katherine Finazzo (11/13)</i>	<i>Antonio Ventura (11/28)</i>
<i>Faro Gaglio (11/13)</i>	<i>Fara Pizzo (11/29)</i>
<i>William Barrett (11/14)</i>	<i>Gertrude Ventura (11/29)</i>

### Happy Anniversary - Felice Anniversario

We wish to extend our Best Wishes for many Happy and Healthy Years together, to our couples who will be celebrating their anniversaries this month.

<i>Marco and Theresa Talluto (11/3)</i>
<i>Norman and Colleen Tabaka (11/7)</i>
<i>Gaspere and Mamie Misuraca (11/8)</i>
<i>Michael and Gabriela Loria (11/10)</i>
<i>Guy A. and Maria Vitale (11/10)</i>
<i>Anthony and Sherran Sclafani (11/13)</i>
<i>Salvatore and Katherine Finazzo (11/18)</i>
<i>Robert and Susie Coch (11/21)</i>
<i>Joseph and Sharon Pagano (11/22)</i>
<i>Frank and Nina Liberati (11/25)</i>
<i>Don and Nancy Capezza (11/27)</i>
<i>Aldo and Rose Gerbi (11/28)</i>
<i>Bruce and Valarie Yinger (11/28)</i>
<i>Angelo and Rosalie Giaimo (11/29)</i>

### Thanks

**T** Thanks for time to be together, turkey, talk, and tangy weather.

**H** For harvest stored away, home, and hearth, and holiday.

**A** For autumn's frosty art, and abundance in the heart.

**N** For neighbors, and November, nice things, new things to remember.

**K** For kitchen, kettles' croon, kith and kin expected soon.

**S** For sizzles, sights, and sounds, and something special that about.

That spells **THANKS** for joy in living and a jolly good Thanksgiving.

- Aileen Fisher, *All in a Word* -

### A Message from Fay Palazzolo

Fay would like to thank **Dolly Chirco, Theresa (Caparaotta) Herbert and Elisa Norscia** for bringing dessert to the September membership meeting. The dessert was very delicious.

**Shirley Cavataio, Theresa (Caparaotta) LeSage, Nancy Marcantonio and Pina Milewski** have volunteered to bring dessert to the November 22<sup>nd</sup> membership meeting. If you would like to bring a dessert, please contact **Fay Palazzolo** at (734) 282-0539.

### The Night After Thanksgiving

'T'was the night after Thanksgiving

But I just couldn't sleep

I tried counting backwards,

I tried counting sheep

The leftovers beckoned ---

The dark meat and white,

But I fought the temptation

With all of my might

Tossing and turning with anticipation...

The thought of a snack became infatuation...

So I raced to the kitchen and flung open the door,

And gazed at the fridge full of goodies galore

I gobbled up turkey and buttered potatoes,

Pickles and carrots, beans and tomatoes.

I felt myself swelling so plump and so round,

Till all of a sudden, I rose off the ground!!

I crashed through the ceiling,

Floating into the sky...

With a mouthful of pudding and a handful of pie,

But I managed to yell as I soared past the trees...

HAPPY EATING TO ALL!!!

PASS THE CRANBERRIES PLEASE!!

### A Halloween Moment

A cabbie picks up a nun. She gets into the cab, and notices that the very handsome cab driver won't stop staring at her. She asks him why he is staring.

He replies: "I have a question to ask you but I don't want to offend you."

She answers, "My son, you cannot offend me. When you're as old as I am and have been a nun as long as I have, you get a chance to see and hear just about everything. I'm sure that there's nothing you could say or ask that I would find offensive."

"Well, I've always had a fantasy to have a nun kiss me."

She responds, "Well, let's see what we can do about that: #1, you have to be single and #2, you must be Catholic."

The cab driver is very excited and says, "Yes, I'm single and Catholic!"

"OK" the nun says. "Pull into the next alley."

The nun fulfills his fantasy, with a kiss that would make a hooker blush.

But when they get back on the road, the cab driver starts crying.

"My dear child," says the nun, "why are you crying?"

"Forgive me but I've sinned. I lied and I must confess, I'm married and I'm Jewish."

The nun says, "That's OK."

"My name is Kevin and I'm going to a Halloween party."

### Quotes for November

"The longest journey begins with a single step."

- Lao Tsu, *Tao Te Ching*

"Some people like to make a little garden out of life and walk down a path."

- Jean Anouilh

"He who limps is still walking."

- Stanislaw J. Lec

"*Solvitur ambulando*," St. Jerome was fond of saying. To solve a problem, walk around."

- Gregory McNamee

"It is not talking but walking that will bring us to heaven."

- Matthew Henry

"Hiking is the best workout! ... You can hike for three hours and not even realize you're working out. And, hiking alone lets me have some time to myself."

- Jamie Luner

"Since the day of my birth, my death began its walk. It is walking toward me, without hurrying."

- Jean Cocteau

"To find new things, take the path you took yesterday."

- John Burroughs

"Walking isn't a lost art - one must, by some means, get to the garage."

- Evan Esar

"Walking is the natural recreation for a man who desires not absolutely to suppress his intellect but to turn it out to play for a season."

- Leslie Stephen



## Top Ten Signs You're Too Old to Be Trick or Treating

10. You get winded from knocking on the door.
9. You have to have another kid chew the candy for you.
8. You ask for high fiber candy only.
7. When someone drops a candy bar in your bag, you lose your balance and fall over.
6. People say, "Great Keith Richards mask!" and you're not wearing a mask.
5. When the door opens you yell, "Trick or..." and can't remember the rest.
4. By the end of the night, you have a bag full of restraining orders.
3. You have to carefully choose a costume that won't dislodge your hairpiece.
2. You're the only Power Ranger in the neighborhood with a walker.
1. You avoid going to houses where your ex-husbands/wives live.

## Abruzzo Earthquake Relief Fund

I am please to report the monies collected for the Abruzzo Earthquake Relief Fund was accepted by a charitable organization, **Fondazione la Stampa – Specchio Dei Tempi – Torino, Italia**. Their message read:

Egregio Presidente,  
 In allegato troverà la ricevuta della Vostra generosa offerta.  
 Il contributo sarà utilizzato per la Scuola Elementare di Cugnoli.  
 Sul nostro sito web potrete visualizzare le foto della scuola in costruzione.

<http://www.specchiodeitempi.org>

Vi ringraziamo per il vostro prezioso contributo.  
 Cordiali saluti.

**Paola Schinco**

Fondazione LA STAMPA - SPECCHIO DEI TEMPI Onlus

Via Carlo Marengo 32 - 10126 Torino (Italy)  
 tel. +39 011 65.68.376 - fax +39 011 65.68.187

The message states our donation will be utilized toward the construction of an elementary school, in Cugnoli, located just northeast of L'Aquila, Abruzzo. To view the construction site, use your internet browser and enter:

<http://www.specchiodeitempi.org>

Once there, you will see a map, locate the city of Cugnoli, and click on the camera icon by this town. A site picture will appear showing the progress of this project. The Club sent \$4,300.00 toward this relief effort. We received an

official document stating 2,848.07 Euros was the exchange rate, from the US dollars sent.

## Consulate News

Tra le domande che più di frequente vengono poste a questo Consolato, un posto di rilievo occupano quelle relative alle informazioni sulla normativa riguardante la cittadinanza italiana, ed in particolare al riacquisto.

A tale proposito ritengo utile ed opportuno ricordare che i casi di riacquisto dello status di cittadino italiano (Articolo 13 della legge 91/92) sono i seguenti:

Su domanda

- ❖ Stabilendo la residenza in Italia entro un anno dalla dichiarazione di riacquisto
- ❖ Assumendo un pubblico impiego alle dipendenze dello Stato

Automaticamente

- ❖ Entro un anno dalla fissazione della residenza in Italia se non vi è stata rinuncia espressa da parte dell'interessato

Ulteriori informazioni sulla normativa italiana relativa alla cittadinanza sono facilmente reperibili – anche in lingua inglese – dal seguente indirizzo internet:

<http://www.interno.it/mininterno/export/sites/default/it/temi/cittadinanza/>

Si prega di dare la massima diffusione alla presente comunicazione.

*Il Console, Marco Nobili*

## Calendar of Coming Club Events

- Nov. 8, 2009** ..... **Memorial Mass.**  
 Florence (Sclafani) Coleman
- Nov. 11, 2009** ..... **St. Elizabeth Pasta Event.**  
 Committee, Membership, St. Elizabeth.
- Nov. 15 2009** ..... **Bridal Show.**  
 DIA Hall
- Dec. 12, 2009** ..... **Member's Christmas Dinner Party.**  
 Sadie Kusic, Leona Vizzini.
- Dec. 13, 2009** ..... **Member's Children Christmas Party.**  
 Rosalie (Vitale) Karawan & Helper.

The **Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter** is Published Monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club Membership. Editors: Frank and Liliana Giannotti. (734)283-7394. Forward your comments, corrections and items of interest to: DIAC Newsletter, c/o Frank A. Giannotti 14823 Williamsburg Blvd. Riverview, MI 48193-7703

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# DIAC Member's Christmas Dinner Dance

DIA Hall, 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192-2727

## Saturday, December 12, 2009

Live Music Band by: The Blue Genes

Family Style Dinner by Chef Jeanne Liedel

6:30 pm Hors D'oeuvre, 7:30 pm Dinner



**Hors D'oeuvres**  
 Cheese, Relish, Cracker Dish Centerpiece  
**Main Entrées:**  
 Wedding Soup  
 Tossed Salad, Sliced Italian Bread w/Olive Oil  
 Bowties with Pesto Sauce  
 Herb Baked Chicken  
 Italian Sausage with Peppers and Onions  
 Roast Pork /Aujus  
 Oven Roasted Potatoes  
 Mixed Vegetables  
**Dessert**  
 Sanders Cream Puff/Hot Fudge  
 Beverage, Coffee or Tea  
 Your Favorite Beverage  
 Each Table with 2 crafts of wine



\$35.00 per member, \$40.00 per guest of a single member

Reserved tables of 10 only. All other seated where available. Door Prizes

Tickets must be paid at time of reservation:

Make check or money order payable to: Downriver Italian-American Club

Mail to: Sadie Kusic

22888 Coachlight Circle

Taylor, MI 48180-6398

For further information call: Leona Vizzini at (313) 383-4775

Sadie Kusic at (734) 374-1699



I (We) will be attending the D.I.A.C. 2009 Members Christmas Party on Saturday, December 12, 2009.

This ticket and payment must be received no later than November 30, 2009.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club.** Table No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and check to: Sadie Kusic ♣ 22888 Coachlight Circle ♣ Taylor, MI 48180-6398

If you would like to sit with a friend (at their table), please print their names on the back of this coupon.

# The Downriver Italian-American Club®

646 BIDDLE AVE • WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-2727 • TEL. (734)285-4044 • WEB [WWW.DIAC.US](http://WWW.DIAC.US)



## Member's Children Christmas Party

Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.



This Party is for **Member's Children Only**. The child must be 10 years and under.

This year's party will again consist of fun hands-on activities for all the children and a pizza luncheon. Directly from the North Pole, Santa Claus will be the special guest. Moms and dads, don't forget to bring your camera and catch those special moments with Santa.

**If you wish to donate cookies, please call Rosalie Vitale-Karawan. at (734)285-7406.**

Return the coupon below to:

Rosalie Vitale-Karawan  
17120 Kennebec  
Riverview, MI 48193-7608

**\*\*This form must be received no later than December 1, 2009 This deadline must be strictly enforced to ensure your child will receive a gift.**

✂-----✂-----✂

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone:-----

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City-----

Print Child's Name	Age	Girl	Boy
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Mail to: Rosalie Vitale-Karawan, 17120 Kennebec, Riverview, MI 48193-7608

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# St. Elizabeth Parish

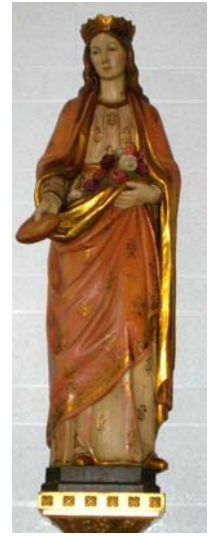
## “Raise the Roof”

### Charitable Fundraiser Dinner

Choice of Spaghetti or Penne Pasta

Meatballs, Salad, Roll, Dessert, Coffee or Tea

### The Downriver Italian-American Club



646 Biddle Avenue (North of Goddard)

Wyandotte, MI 48192-2727

(734) 285-4044

## Wednesday, November 11, 2009

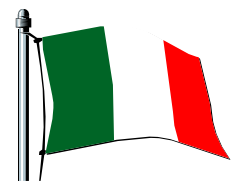
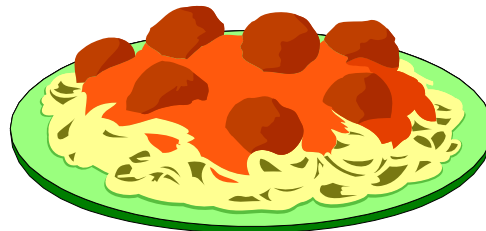
Dinner Hours: 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Adults: \$7.00



Children (10 & Under): \$4.00



### Carry-Outs Available

Tickets are sold at St. Elizabeth Rectory

138 Goodell Street, Wyandotte, MI (734)284-7727

or at the Door the Day of the Dinner



### Banquet Hall Available for Public Rental

