

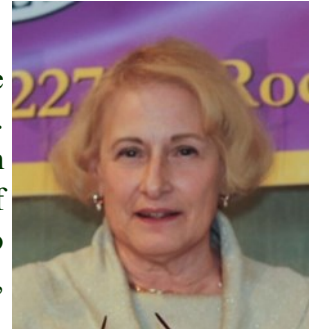


The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé Przepiora, editor
December 2021 Edition

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is said “patience is a virtue” but waiting is hard whether we are a child, a teen, a young adult, or a senior. We don't like to wait. We like things to happen when we want it to happen. It puts us in an emotional state of anticipation, and then, we start to think of alternatives. We have spent more than a year looking forward to each next stage, something that will move us towards normalcy, but even normalcy has changed.



Will we return to a business type dress, or have we gotten use to “pandemic” casual and remain working from home? We have gotten use to not going to the store and engage in Instacart at the grocery store, curbside meals from restaurants, and ordering online. Will we again feel comfortable going to malls or even the “big box” stores when it is so easy to click and pay with debit or with credit card. And what about money, when we do go to the store, there are signs that there is a shortage of coins, so correct payment is appreciated. What about doctors’ visits? Virtual exams, face time, messenger, or some sort of computerized appointment. It’s nice not to have to deal with traffic, find a parking space, pay for parking, or wait in the waiting room with all those other sick people. But do we feel like our doctor really knows what’s going on with our health—no blood pressure taken, no listening to the heart or lungs, no weight or height taken. Our children and grandchildren have engaged in remote learning, and while they saw their classmates on a screen and interacted electronically with each other and their teachers, is this the best methodology for elementary children to learn. Some of these changes will stay and some will not, although they most likely will not return to exactly the way it was pre pandemic.

Where does our Lodge fit into all of this? We have been able to stay connected through zoom meetings, which served its purpose, but not “warm and fuzzy” like we want. We are slowly moving towards our own normalcy, which may not look the same as it once did. We have members who want to stay involved but meetings, which is when we do the work of the Lodge, find them unexciting and boring. Perhaps we try something different and more stimulating. Here is where we wait and see what happens! Be sure to keep a watch for something different.

Take care, God Bless, and Happy Holidays
Marjorie

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Ettore has spent the last five years in jail for a robbery. Once out of prison, he has nowhere to go, his wife broke up with him and doesn't want him to meet their little daughter who was born right before he was arrested. Alone and desperate, Ettore roams the streets of Rome and meets a strange old man, Nicola. He decides to take advantage of him and rob him. But after breaking into his house, Ettore realizes Nicola doesn't have anything worth to be stolen and furthermore, the old man tells him a rather stranger thing: he affirms to be Santa Claus...and he wants Ettore to be a good man. Now, the opportunity for a thief to be able to enter people's homes and stores create many possibilities for a thief, even if he professes to be an ex-thief.

Our lovable "mascalzone" Marco Giallini (Loro Chi, Io Sono Tempesta) is Ettore in this highly entertaining feature to round up our Christmas holidays.

Streaming to your homes on <http://watch.eventive.org> or through our website <http://www.ameritalroc.com>

Sunday and Monday after Christmas, December 26 and 27 only. Available throughout the USA, so tell your friends and family.

Buy the OSDIA ticket and \$2 will be donated to the scholarship fund. Purchase tickets here: <https://watch.eventive.org/ameritalroc/play/619d4c10f71d7c16055ed251>

Buon Natale a tutti.
Tony Mangione

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/649063955>

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 2022 Calendar

January 6th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
January 13th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

January 23rd, 12:30pm: After Holiday Dinner, Otto Tomotto's (Phoenix Mills Plaza, Route 96, Victor)

February 3rd, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
February 10th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

*****Winter Clambake, TBD*****

March 3rd, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
March 10th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

April 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
April 14th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

May 5th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
May 12th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

June 2nd, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
June 9th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

July 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
July 14th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

August 4th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
August 11th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

*****Summer Picnic - TBD*****

*****Scholarship Awards - TBD*****

September 1st, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
September 8th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

October 6th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
October 13th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

November 3rd, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
November 10th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

December 1st, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
December 8th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting





12/1: Charles Schiano Jr
12/4: Nellie DiCesare
12/6: Franca Cinelli
12/7: David DiNicola
12/9: Marisa Przepiora, Ken Nudo

12/11: Char Dodgson
12/15: Ezio Bonanni, James Vazzana
12/19: Becky DiFilippo
12/20: Eva Fantauzzo, Jennie Gugino
12/23: Maurice Palucci



Sending love and good health to all of our members who have been ill, including Brother David DiNicola, Brother Ezio Bonanni, and Brother Tony Palucci.

Request for Volunteers



We have an open council position that we are hoping to fill...that of Master of Ceremonies. If you have interest in joining our council, this is a great place to start!

We are also seeking a Corresponding Secretary. The person in this position would be in charge of sending get well cards and other correspondence to our lodge members, and sometimes members of other lodges or the Grand Lodge. This position is not required to attend our lodge council meetings.

If you are interested in pursuing either of these roles, or would like further information, please contact President Marjorie.



It is with deep appreciation and gratitude that the Vincent Lombardi Lodge thanks all of our donors throughout 2021. While it was a difficult and challenging year for everyone, organizations who had to shut down were unable to fund raise to support scholarship and charities. We have been most fortunate for the generosity of those who made it possible for us to award six scholarships this year and look towards providing some financial aid to students in 2022 and to aid in research and assistance for charities at both the local level and at the Grand Lodge.

James Vazzana
Mark Chester
Angela & Frank Giancaterin
Lila and Enzo Bonanni
Stephanie & Rufus Brey
Joseph Polizzi
Elizabeth Osta
Charles Schiano
Joann & Mike Chester
Daniel DeJohn
Grace & Leo Iacobelli
Kitty & David DiNicola
Vincent Giannantonio
Gates Historical Society
Mary & Tony Naccarato
Gates Public Library

Cynthia Herriott
Ann Marie & Marc Iacona
Carol DiNicola
Karol Shapiro
Michael Sciortino
Ray Macera
Michele Ment
Pat & Gordon Rask
Suzanne Tydings & Joseph DiMaria
Nancy & Joe Rube'
Marisa & Chris Przepiora
Louis DeCarolis
Edward Grozsewski
Vincenzo Buonomo
Ann Marie Taddeo
Stephen Cataldi



I want to wish you health and happiness, joy and peace, laughter and

goodwill, love and Christmas delight. May the year ahead bring you. May 2022 bring you all the contentment and enjoyment you want, and may the magic of the holidays never end.

Marjorie



*Buon Natale
e
Felice Anno Nuovo*

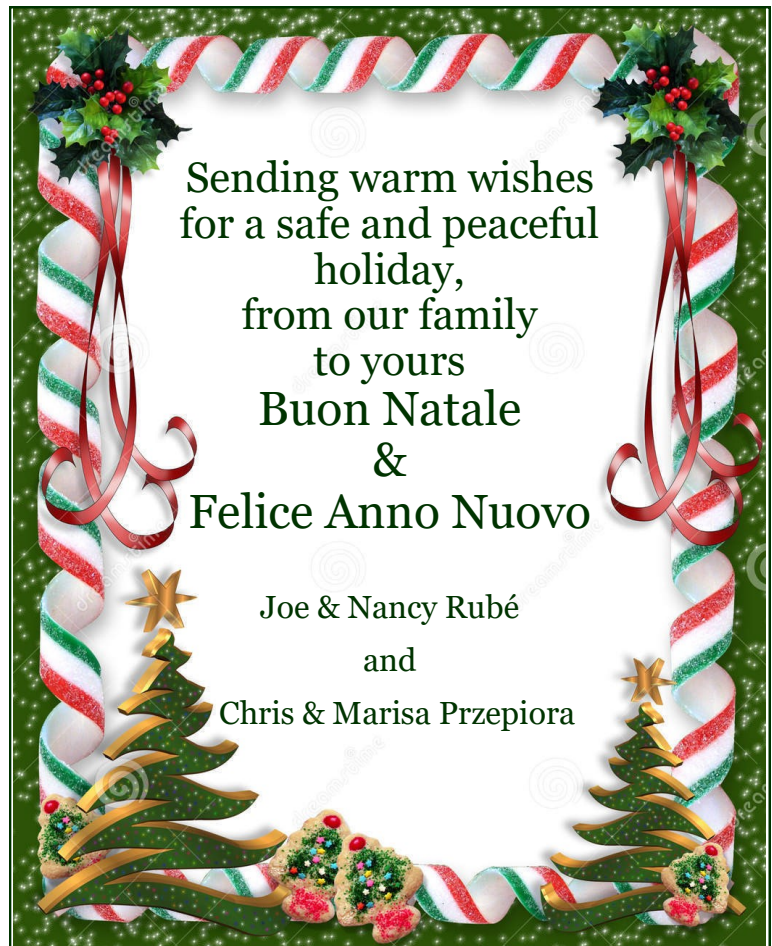
To all our Brothers and Sisters and their families. Joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy 2022.

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270
Council Members



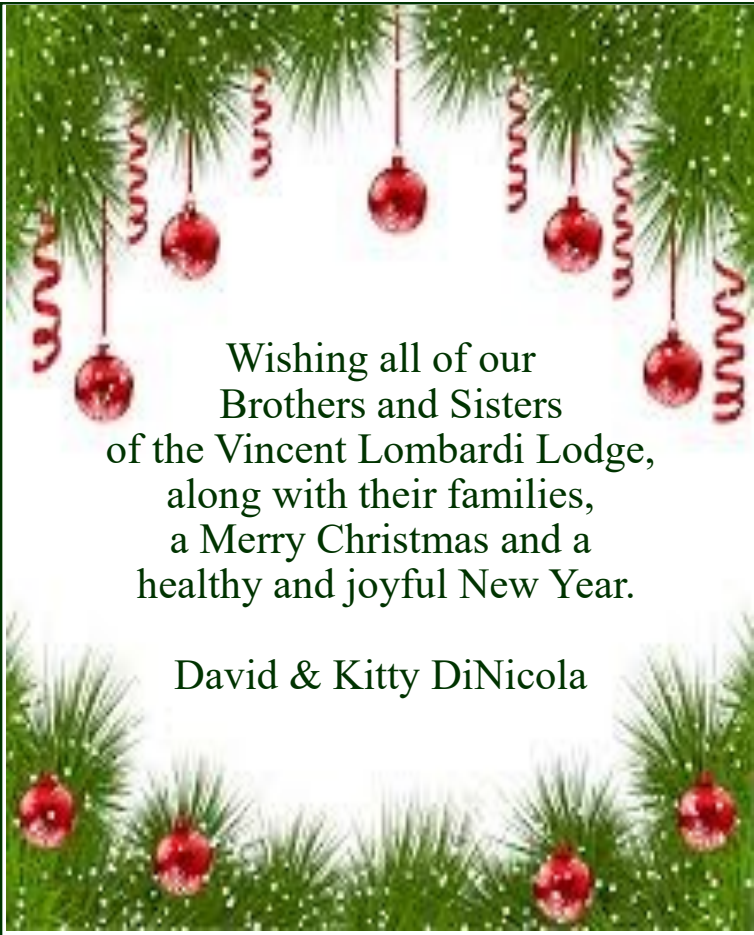
Wishing everyone happiness throughout the holiday season and a very Merry Christmas

*Marjorie Focarazzo
and
Ron Santoli*



Sending warm wishes for a safe and peaceful holiday, from our family to yours
**Buon Natale
&
Felice Anno Nuovo**

Joe & Nancy Rubé
and
Chris & Marisa Przepiora



Buon Natale

&

Felice Nuovo



A friend of Matteo Teresi



To Our Sons & Daughters of Italy Family

We Wish All a Blessed Merry Christmas

And a Healthy & Happy New Year

***Let us pray that the Good Lord
will deliver us safely
through these challenging days.***

MERRY CHRISTMAS

from Sandy & Tom Meleca

OSDIA Members Holiday Décor



8 Italian Christmas Traditions



1. Extended Celebrations

One of the best Italian Christmas traditions is that they celebrate for much longer than other countries. Their festive season officially starts on December 8 - celebrated with the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception. It lasts right the way through until January 6, the 12th day of Christmas, known as the Epiphany. This means that the rest of the Christmas traditions described below last even longer than you'd think!



2. No meat on Christmas Eve

In what is a very traditional tradition, the Italians don't eat meat on Christmas Eve, or la Vigilia. Instead they eat a variety of fish dishes - sometimes up to seven courses of seafood! This is typical on the day and night before any religious celebration; you are supposed to 'eat lean' and purify your body ahead of the holidays! Popular fish dishes vary across the country. In Rome, they enjoy the local dish of pezzetti: artichoke, zucchini and broccoli fried together - whereas in Naples, seafood and broccoli are sautéed.



3. Visiting the Vatican for Midnight Mass

A popular Christmas tradition for those who live or are staying in Rome is visiting the Vatican for midnight mass with the Pope on Christmas Eve. This actually happens at 9.30pm, rather than midnight, and is free to attend. It is also televised in St. Peter's Square for those who don't manage to get into the basilica to see the Pope - and participate in the mass - up close. If you have been on a guided Vatican tour, then you will know big the square is; it is even more magical at Christmas time, with its huge tree and nativity scene, and people celebrating the holidays as one.



4. Skiing into Christmas

While some Italians are attending midnight mass on Christmas Eve, others are whizzing down the slopes on Christmas Day. In northern Italy people ski down the mountains at midnight, carrying torches as a festive celebration!



5. Bagpipes on the piazzas

In various Italian cities, and especially in Rome - the Eternal city - you are likely to find men playing bagpipes in the squares across town. Known as 'zampognari', they dress as shepherds; this is because, traditionally, it was the shepherds who made the journey from their mountain homes into the piazzas to earn some extra money by playing the bagpipes to anyone who would listen. This was based on the story of the shepherds who visited Jesus on the night of his birth and played the bagpipes for him. The zampognari tradition dates back to ancient Roman times, and it's so much fun to see it still continuing in Italian cities and hillside towns today. The pipers wear short breeches with leather leg-gings, a sheepskin vest with a woolly cloak and also a peaked cap.



6. Gifts from the Good Witch

It is not only Santa who brings Christmas gifts. Right across Italy, on January 6 - marking the end of the holiday season - there is a visit from la Befana. This translates literally as 'the good witch', and legend says that on this date she would fill stockings with candy for the children on the good list, and coal for the naughty children. But she didn't stop there, as she would also sweep the floor: being a good housekeeper, as was in her nature, but it is said that this was also to sweep away the problems of the previous year and leave the family with a fresh slate to go into the year ahead. Her housework, according to the tale, stopped her from venturing out with the three kings on the night they went off in search of baby Jesus. She went off later on, with a bag full of gifts for the newborn king.



7. Sweet Treats

At Christmas, the Italians are especially big on sweet food. Of course, it varies across the country from the city to city - but they definitely have a collective sweet tooth over the holidays! Panettone and pandoro, both examples of sweet bread, are popular across the country and enjoyed by all. But in Siena you'll find cavallucci on offer: cookies decorated with the image of a house - and on a tour of Rome city you're bound to spot someone eating spiced nut pastries known as mostaccioli.



8. Displaying a ceppo

In most Italian households you will likely find a ceppo on display during the festive season. Believed to have originated from the Tuscan area, a ceppo is a pyramid-shaped wooden frame which can be anywhere up to a few feet high. Within the frame there are shelves: the bottom shelf will display a small Nativity scene and those above will have candy, fruit and small gifts on them. A star or little doll may be placed at the top, and sometimes candles are attached to the sides - everyone does their ceppo slightly differently, but the basic premise is the same and they are a popular decoration in Italian homes during the holidays.







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Patricia Bartholomew

Financial Secretary
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Carol DiNicola

Orator
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Edward Groszewski

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