Proclamation

Office of the Mayor

Italian-American Heritage Month

Whereas, each October, our nation celebrates Italian-American Heritage Month to honor the rich culture, traditions, and contributions of Italian-Americans whose influence has profoundly shaped the United States; and

Whereas, today there are more than 26 million Americans of Italian descent across the country, and since their arrival generations ago, Italian-Americans have helped shape our society and steer the course of our history; and

Whereas, Italian-Americans have made significant contributions in every field of endeavor, including the arts, science, education, business, government, and public service, helping to build and strengthen our nation; and

Whereas, an Italian-American broke the gender barrier in U.S. politics when Geraldine Ferraro became the first woman to appear on a major party ticket, running for Vice President alongside presidential candidate Walter Mondale; and

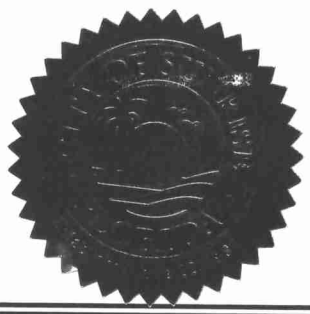
Whereas, Italian-American men and women have distinguished themselves and contributed to society and culture in remarkable ways — from Physicist Enrico Fermi, creator of the world's first nuclear reactor, to Automobile Executive Lee Iacocca, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, Baseball Legend Joe DiMaggio, Singer and Actor Frank Sinatra, and acclaimed actors Dom DeLuise, Al Pacino, Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro, and John Travolta; and

Whereas, in 2016, the United States Postal Service introduced a Christmas stamp featuring the Florentine Madonna and Child, a 15th-century piece of Italian Renaissance art, to celebrate and raise awareness of the profound influence of Italian art and culture; and

Whereas, Italian-Americans have preserved their cultural heritage while embracing and enhancing the American experience, sharing with us beloved traditions such as Italian cuisine, music, art, and festivals that celebrate life and unity; and

Whereas, the City of Sunrise proudly recognizes the achievements and enduring legacy of Italian-Americans whose spirit of innovation, courage, and community pride continues to inspire future generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael J. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Sunrise, Florida, along with the City Commission hereby proclaim the month of October, 2025 as **Italian-American Heritage Month** in the City of Sunrise, and we encourage all residents to celebrate the history, culture, and countless contributions of Italian-Americans to our community and our nation.



Witness My Hand and Official Seal of
The City of Sunrise, Florida

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Michael J. Ryan, Mayor