

“Evviva La Festa di San Giuseppe”

The Italian American Heritage Foundation

Welcomes Everyone to the

ST. JOSEPH’S DAY MASS & TABLE

Thursday March 19, 2026

425 N. Fourth Street, San Jose, 95112 (408) 293-7122

10:30 A.M. – Doors Open

11:00 A.M. – Mass

Celebrated by

Father George Aranha

12:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Lunch



THIS EVENT IS FREE - Benvenuti a Tutti / All Are Welcome

The St. Joseph’s Altar is Sicilian in origin. During a terrible famine, the people of Sicily prayed to St. Joseph, their patron saint, for relief. St. Joseph answered their prayers, and the famine ended. In gratitude, the farmers honored St. Joseph by filling an altar with their most prized possession, food.

Present day Italian families have for many decades celebrated St. Joseph’s Day during Lent on March 19th, both in their homes and at the Italian American Heritage Foundation where there is a beautiful and bountiful altar, a Catholic Mass, and a meatless dinner, followed by more desserts than one would have ever imagined they would see at one meal.

In the tradition of sharing with the poor and hungry, this celebration is free to all who come through the door. Each person is given a “take home bag” containing a prayer card to St. Joseph, an orange, a bread item, and three fava beans which symbolize the Holy Trinity. The fava beans are often kept on a kitchen cabinet shelf and considered representative of good luck.

Lunch will include Pasta Milanese or Marinara, frittata, orange salad, and many more traditional dishes prepared entirely by volunteers. Dessert will feature homemade Italian pastries such as cakes, cookies, biscotti, cuccidati, and much, much more. Join us for this Lenten (no meat dishes served) culinary treat!

Parking will be available on the street.

Donations for the St. Joseph’s Altar and Table are gratefully welcomed by using the QR code to the right.

For questions call the event chairpersons: Kathy Lohman and Larry Lohman at 408 238-4467 or leave a message at the IAHF with Stanley Olivar at 408 293-7122 or, Email to: IAHFSJ@IAHFSJ.ORG



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