

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE INC.

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THE LADIES AND MEN
OF THE ANCIENT ORDER
OF
HIBERNIANS,
METROPOLITAN NEW
YORK

CLAN-NA-GAEL OF GREATER NEW YORK

FRIENDS OF IRISH FREEDOM IN AMERICA

COUNCIL OF GAELIC SOCIETIES

GRAND COUNCIL OF UNITED EMERALD SOCIETIES, INC.

UNITED IRISH COUNTIES ASSN. INC.

COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS, EMERALD SOCIETIES, AND OTHER AFFILIATED IRISH SOCIETIES, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK

## The St. Patrick's Day Parade and Celebration Committee

P. O. Box 295 Woodlawn Station, Bronx, NY 10470 Phone: 718-231-4400 Fax: 718-231-4401 NYCStPatricksParade.Org On The Streets Of New York City Since 1762



January 3, 2025

Dear Friend of the NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade™:

You are cordially invited to join us for the Grand Marshal and Aides Installation Reception to be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 23, 2025, at Antun's (96-43 Springfield Boulevard, Queens Village, NY.)

This is the only event on the Parade calendar that offers an opportunity to honor both the Aides to the Grand Marshal and the Grand Marshal, Michael Benn for the historic 264<sup>th</sup> NYC St Patrick's Day Parade<sub>TM</sub>. We look forward to an afternoon that will include a buffet dinner, an open bar, and music by Gerry Finlay and the Cara Band.

To commemorate this occasion, we will publish a Souvenir Journal in print and virtual format on our website. This will provide an opportunity for you to demonstrate your support for the 2025 Aides and the Grand Marshal. Information related the event is available on our website at: <a href="NYCStPatricksParade.Org">NYCStPatricksParade.Org</a> You will also be able to reserve tables and submit Journal ads online. For your convenience, we have enclosed a mail-in Journal contract and RSVP card. However, online transactions via our secure website are preferred.

The deadline for Journal ads is Tuesday. February 10, 2025. Adverts should be uploaded with your payment through our secure payment portal (preferred method) or mailed with your check payable to St Patrick's Day Parade Inc. If you have any questions concerning the journal, feel free to call the Parade office at 718-231-4400, contact a journal chairperson, or email: <a href="mailto:journal@NYCStPatricksParade.Org">journal@NYCStPatricksParade.Org</a>

<u>To reserve tables</u>, please use our secure portal (preferred method) or mail in the RSVP card with your check payment to the office. If you have any questions about the reception, please call 914-833-8363 or email <u>GMevents@NYCStPatricksParade.Org</u>

The NYC Saint Patrick's Day Parade<sup>TM</sup> takes great pride in the selection of 2025 Aides to the Grand Marshal, who have been chosen by our affiliated organizations, in recognition of their outstanding dedication and contributions to Irish culture and heritage. We are delighted that they will join Grand Marshal, Michael Benn, as he leads us on March 17<sup>th</sup> in the greatest Parade in the world.

Michael Benn, is a proud son of Limerick, and the longtime chairman of the Queens County St. Patrick's Parade Committee in the Rockaway. In 2013, just months after the devastation caused by Superstorm Sandy to the Rockaways, he and his committee held a St Patrick's Day Parade, an event credited with boosting morale and helping the Rockaway community come together after the loss of live and property during the storm. Mike Benn was one of the communities' leaders credited in helping the Rockaways rebuild following the devastation. Mike Benn is a very proud union man having been a member of Local 30 International Union of Operating Engineers and Local 608 Carpenters Union. His dedication to the Rockaway community, Limerick, to his faith and his Irish traditions is an inspiration to all. We, as a community, are proud of him and we know that all New Yorkers will look to and admire him as he leads the greatest Parade in the world!

We look forward to greeting you, your family, and friends on February  $23^{\rm rd}$  at Antun's.

Very truly yours, New York City Saint Patrick's Day Parade™

**Reception Chairs** *Katie Barrett & Hilary Beirne* 

**Journal Chairs** 

Treasa Smyth, Cathy Hogan, Bridget O'Brien, Veronica Barry, Eileen Collins, Bill Lewis. Noel Ruane