November / Novembre 2026

The Craco Society

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The Crachesi Capture Little Italy:
An historic San Vincenzo celebration brings New York to a standstill

For the 125th time, the descendants from Craco gathered in New York City to honor their beloved patron, San Vincenzo Martire, in a celebration that transformed the streets of Little Italy and captivated all who witnessed it.

While this cherished tradition has united Crachesi families and friends in New York for more than a century, this year's observance was truly extraordinary. The feast of San Vincenzo has been celebrated continuously in Craco since 1792 (see the story on page 4), and with the arrival of Craco's immigrants in New York, the tradition flourished here as well. Since 1901, the celebration has preserved the history, culture, faith, and traditions of our hometown in North America. Yet even by those standards, the turnout and enthusiasm this year exceeded all expectations.

The day began with a special Mass at the Shrine Church of the Most Precious Blood, where more than 100 devotees gathered to honor San Vincenzo. Following the service, worshippers surrounded the statue and sacred relic, sharing personal stories of faith, family, and their deep connection to a tradition that spans generations.

What followed was nothing short of historic. For the first time in more than 80 years, the statue of San Vincenzo was carried in procession through the streets of New York. Accompanied by music from a traditional band, the procession grew as residents, visitors, and curious onlookers joined along the route. At every stop, people paused to watch, take photographs, and ask about the saint and the remarkable celebration unfolding before them.

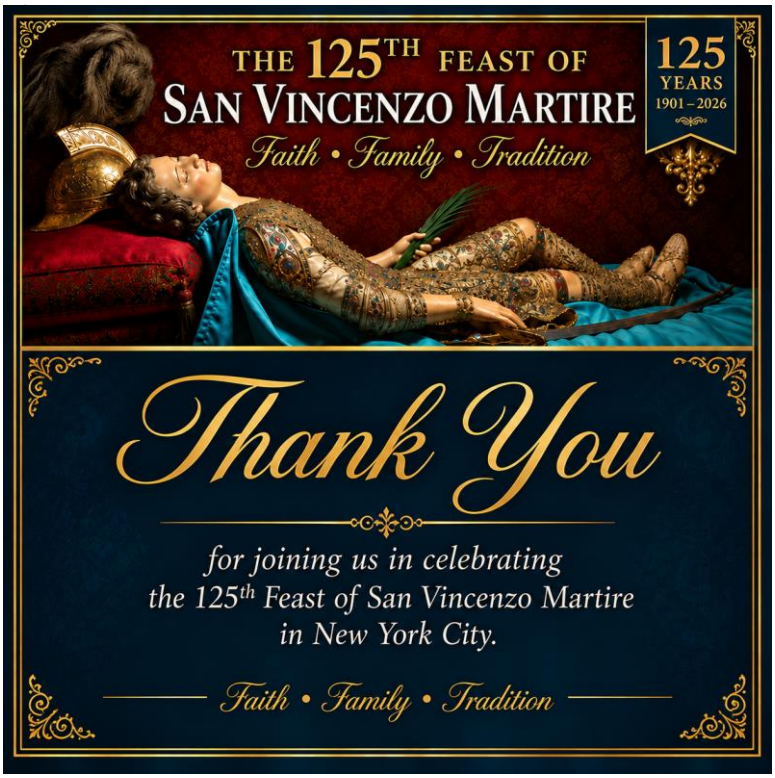
Beneath the bright autumn sun, the crowded sidewalks of Little Italy became the stage for a spectacle many had never witnessed before. For countless observers, it was a once-in-a-lifetime glimpse into a living tradition that has endured for centuries.

The celebration concluded at Da Nico Ristorante, where participants gathered as generations have always done: around a table filled with exceptional food, warm fellowship, shared memories, and pride in their common heritage.

It was a day that perfectly reflected the values of our community: faith, family, friendship, and food. If you come from Craco, you know there is no better way to celebrate life.

"Wherever Crachesi gather, the spirit of Craco lives on."

Viva San Vincenzo!



San Vincenzo's 125th Feast: A Celebration of Faith, Family & Tradition

The 125th Feast of San Vincenzo Martire was filled with unforgettable moments that connected our community to a tradition spanning generations. The photographs on these pages capture both the solemn devotion and joyful spirit that made this year's celebration one for the history books.

Faith and Devotion at the Special Mass

Jessica Petraro, Kathy Tocci, Pat Mule, Don Luigi Potularo, and Joe Rinaldi are shown at the special Mass honoring San Vincenzo Martire at the Shrine Church of the Most Precious Blood. Their presence reflects the enduring commitment of Crachesi families and friends who continue to preserve and celebrate the spiritual traditions handed down from their ancestors.

The Mass served as a powerful reminder that the Feast of San Vincenzo is more than a celebration. It is a living expression of faith that continues to unite generations of descendants from Craco, whether born in Italy, New York, or elsewhere around the world.

The Procession Begins

Following the Mass, anticipation filled the historic church as participants prepared for a truly extraordinary moment. Surrounded by devoted faithful, the statue and relic of San Vincenzo were carried toward the church doors to begin the first public procession through the streets of Little Italy in more than eighty years.

As the procession emerged from the Shrine Church, music filled the air and onlookers gathered to witness a tradition rarely seen in modern New York. For many participants, it was an emotional moment that connected them directly to the generations of Crachesi who had carried the same devotion from the streets of Craco to the streets of America.

A cherished tradition stepped out of history and into the present, inspiring all who were fortunate enough to witness it.











San Vincenzo's 125th Feast: A Celebration of Faith, Family & Tradition





San Vincenzo in Craco
A Tradition of Faith Since 1792



Solennità
di San Vincenzo Martire

CRACO, OTTOBRE 2026

SABATO 24 OTTOBRE

Ore 11:00 S. Messa nella Cappella di Maria SS. della Stella
con preghiera comunitaria davanti alla Reliquia del Santo Patrono

DOMENICA 25 OTTOBRE

Ore 16:30 Momento di preghiera in chiesa

Ore 17:00 Inizio della Processione in onore di San Vincenzo martire secondo il seguente itinerario:
Via Mons. Mastronardi, Via XXV Aprile, Via De Gasperi, Via Italia, Via Francia, Viale Europa, Via XXV Aprile, Via Zanardelli, Via G. Matteotti, Piazza della Repubblica, Via Gramsci, Via XXV Aprile, Via Mons. Mastronardi

Ore 18:00 S. Messa

Ore 19:00 Esibizione del gruppo folk **"LA PACCHIANELLA"** di Pisticci

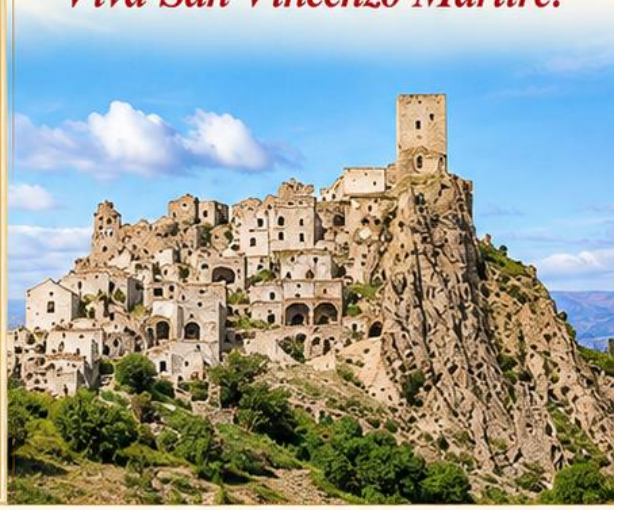
In Craco, the Tradition Continues

Each year, the people of Craco come together to honor San Vincenzo Martire, our beloved patron, in a celebration of deep faith, enduring devotion, and cherished community.

This historic feast, which has been celebrated since 1792, remains a vital expression of our shared heritage, uniting generations in gratitude for San Vincenzo's protection and guidance.

The Craco Society is proud to maintain this special bond with our hometown and to support the continued celebration of San Vincenzo in Craco.

Viva San Vincenzo Martire!



How to contact us - Come contattarci

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