

2016 Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade

MEDIA ALERT

February 22, 2016

WHO: Sponsored by: The Irish Society for Education & Charity, Inc.
Produced by: Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Parade Committee

WHAT: 2016 St. Patrick's Parade Schedule of Events

WHEN: February through March 2016
Parade Date: Saturday, March 12, 2016, Rain, Snow or Shine

WHERE: Downtown Pittsburgh and the Strip District

SUMMARY:

As in the past, the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee asks everyone's support for the second-largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the United States. All fundraisers listed here are conducted to help defray the costs for the non-profit committee. **Please note the 2016 parade will follow the same route as last year - detailed below.**

A Special 2016 Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade Theme – *The Easter Rising 100th Remembrance*

This year, **we in Pittsburgh join the Republic of Ireland** and the world in commemorating in April the 100th Anniversary of The Easter Rising, which led to the Irish Revolution and ultimately to the establishment of the Republic of Ireland. To learn more about the historical significance of the event and what Pittsburgh is doing to mark this very important anniversary, please see www.PittsburghRemembers1916.com.

Friday, March 4, 2016 – Annual St. Patrick's Parade Button Party at Mitchell's Pub

Location: Mitchell's Pub, 304 Ross Street (Downtown) from 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Description: Commemorative buttons available from parade committee members and at the door for \$30 donation. Beverages and a hot buffet included.

Sunday, March 6, 2016 – AOH Division 9/Allegheny County Communion Breakfast

Location: Crowne Plaza Greentree (401 Holiday Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15220) with Mass celebrated by Bishop David Zubik at 10 a.m., followed by a breakfast banquet.

Description: Kick off St. Patrick's Season with the traditional Mass & Breakfast with the Pittsburgh Irish community. The event includes the formal introduction of the Parade's Grand Marshal and Miss Smiling Irish Eyes and her Court. Also introduced at the event is the AOH Hibernian of the Year. Many local, State, and National political leaders and local Irish community leaders address the gathering.

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 – City Proclamation of "St. Patrick's Week in Pittsburgh"

10 a.m. – City-County Building (Downtown) in City Council Chambers

Friday, March 11, 2016 – Crowning of 2015 Miss Smiling Irish Eyes by Allegheny County Chief Executive Rich Fitzgerald.

Location: River's Club, Oxford Center (Downtown) at 12 Noon

Description: Luncheon cost \$30 includes buffet.

Saturday, March 12, 2016 – Parade Day Mass at St. Patrick’s Church in the Strip District

8 a.m., at St. Patrick’s Church in the Strip District. This is the third year for parade-goers and marchers to start their day off in the true spirit of St. Patrick with Roman Catholic Mass.

Saturday, March 12, 2016 – The 2016 St. Patrick’s Parade!

Location: Downtown at 10 a.m.

Description: Second–largest St. Patrick’s Parade in the USA. 23,000 participants. 200 marching units including 18 marching bands. Floats and many other groups representing several Irish heritage and other ethnic heritage organizations. In 2012, the Parade drew over 350,000 spectators on a warm, sunny day. Participants will include the 2016 Grand Marshal Sarah McAuliffe, and the yet to be announced Miss Smiling Irish Eyes 2016, along with St. Patrick Himself. Mass will precede the parade at 8 a.m. at St. Patrick’s Church in the Strip District.

Saturday, March 12, 2016 – The Family-friendly Parade Fest in Market Square!

Location: Downtown at 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Description: On stage will be Weekend at Blarneys and Irish dance performances from Shovlin Academy of Irish Dance and the Pittsburgh Ceili Club. Buskers will entertain in the square and the little lads and lasses will be able to have their faces painted for the holiday!

Special “Thank You” to Sponsors:

The parade committee gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors whose support makes this Pittsburgh Irish tradition possible:

Grand Marshal Sponsor – Clearview Federal Credit Union

Green Sponsors – Gateway Rehab, Cleaveland Price, Gallagher Home Health Systems

Vehicle Sponsor – Ford Motor Company

Parade Route:

Formation begins at the Greyhound Bus Station (Liberty Avenue and 11th Street). Staging will take place from the bus station and away from Downtown to 27th Street. The parade will proceed from the intersection of Liberty and 11th Streets to Grant Street to the Boulevard of the Allies, where it will turn right. Proceed on the Boulevard of the Allies to the Reviewing Stand at Stanwix Street. Disburse at Commonwealth Place.