Message from the 2026 Parade Committee Chairman

As we gather to celebrate the **91st Annual Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade**, we are reminded once again of the extraordinary legacy entrusted to all of us who are privileged to carry this tradition forward. Since 1936, the Newark Parade has stood as a proud symbol of Irish heritage, faith, culture, and community — not only in Newark, but throughout New Jersey and beyond.

As New Jersey's oldest St. Patrick's Day Parade, we have a history written by generations of dedicated volunteers, honorees, marchers, musicians, and supporters. We honor the Grand Marshals, Deputy Grand Marshals, General Chairmen, Officers, Aides, and Committee Members whose leadership shaped this Parade, as well as the countless spectators who have lined Newark's streets year after year — from Broad Street and South Orange Avenue to Mulberry Street — to celebrate Irish pride.

The continued success of this Parade would not be possible without the unwavering support of our sponsors, community partners, and civic leaders. We extend our sincere gratitude to the Newark Police and Fire Departments, Essex County Administration, the Essex County Sheriff's Department, and all public safety professionals who ensure a safe and successful celebration. We also thank the pipe bands, marching bands, cultural organizations, and community groups whose music, color, and spirit bring the Parade to life.

It is my great honor to recognize our **2026 Parade Honorees**, whose dedication reflects the very heart of this tradition:

- **John "Jack" Doll, Grand Marshal**, whose lifelong commitment to the Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Irish-American community exemplifies leadership, generosity, and service.
- **Sister Jane McKenna, SSJ**, whose faith-filled life and devotion to education and community embody the values upon which this Parade was founded.
- **Father William Reilly**, whose spiritual leadership and guidance have strengthened generations within our community.
- **Chase Hamilton**, whose dedication and enthusiasm represent the future of Irish heritage and civic engagement.
- **Frank Yorke**, who proudly carries forward a family legacy deeply rooted in the history and leadership of this Parade.
- **Sean Mannion, Honorary Deputy Grand Marshal**, whose commitment to Irish culture and community service is deserving of special recognition.

Together, these honorees represent faith, service, heritage, and continuity — the pillars that have sustained the Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade for more than nine decades.

As we march toward the Parade's centennial, we do so with gratitude for the past and optimism for the future. On behalf of the Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, thank you to every family, volunteer, sponsor, and supporter who continues to believe in and sustain this cherished tradition.

May God bless our Parade, our honorees, and our community.
Sláinte!

Michael K. Farrell
General Chairman
2026 Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade