



All-Ireland Champion Musicians, Award-Winning Step Dancers, and Teenage Musicians from County Cork Headline the 12th Annual Sober St. Patrick's Day Grand Celebration

Former Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy to Receive "The Emerald Spirit Award" on March 17 St. Edmund's Pipes & Drums to Lead the Group in New York's St Patrick's Day Parade

New York City - March 6, 2023— The Sober St. Patrick's Day® Foundation, Inc will once again “reclaim the day” with a family-friendly alcohol-free celebration of the best in Irish culture on Friday, March 17, 2023 in the heart of New York City. The day begins with a free event at 11 am to honor **Patrick J. Kennedy** with the Emerald Spirit Award, the march up 5th Avenue in the St. Patrick's Day Parade under the Sober St. Patrick's Day banner and then on to the main event, the **12th Annual Sober St. Patrick's Day Grand Celebration**, after the parade from 5-7 pm.

The Celebration features an international array of Irish music and dance, including:

- **John Whelan**, 7-Time “All Ireland Champion” Button Accordionist
- **Brian Conway**, 5-Time “All Ireland Champion” Fiddler, 2006 Mid-Atlantic CCE Hall of Fame
- **Donny Golden School of Irish Dance**, Award winning Irish Step Dancers
- **Douglas Comhaltas Youth Group**, direct from Co. Cork Ireland
- **Donie Carroll**, Singer, Guitarist, Philanthropist, Recording Artist
- **St. Edmund's Pipes and Drums Band**, from Sober St. Patrick's Day's Sister City on Enders Island in Mystic, CT
- **Jerry O'Sullivan**, America's leading Uilleann Piper
- **Brendan Dolan**, 2016 Mid-Atlantic CCE Hall of Fame, Keyboard Player
- **Liz Simmons & Flynn Cohen**, Guitarists, Mandolin, Vocals
- and additional surprise guests!

Jim Frawley will emcee the evening which includes Irish crafts, games, food and refreshments in the undercroft of The Church of Our Saviour, 59 Park Ave. at 38th St. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$30 for seniors and students, \$12 for children under 12, and there's no charge for children 2 and under. Advance ticket purchase is recommended and available at www.soberstpatricksdays.org.

Sober St. Patrick's Day has a great way to start the big day, because the Church of our Savior, steps away from the start of the St. Patrick's Day Parade will also be the site for the Pre-Parade Emerald Spirit Award Reception honoring former Congressman and founder of the Kennedy Forum, **Patrick J. Kennedy**, who will deliver remarks about the recent uptick in alcohol misuse in the U.S. and its collateral effects on American families, especially for growing numbers of young people. All are invited to attend, meet the honoree, and enjoy refreshments at this free kick-off to Sober St. Patrick's Day.

And everyone is welcome to join Sober St. Patrick's Day as it takes its place in the line of march for the 262nd New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade, before returning to 38th & Park for two hours of lively Irish music, dance, and crafts that “reclaim the day” for Irish culture and heritage with a family-friendly, alcohol-free evening of high-spirited Celtic *craic*.

Three Ways to “Reclaim the Day” with Sober St. Patrick's Day

- Emerald Spirit Award Reception honoring Patrick J. Kennedy, former U.S. Congressman & founder of the Kennedy Forum, 11 am, The Church of Our Saviour undercroft, 59 Park Ave & 38th Street.
 - March with Sober St. Patrick's Day in the 262nd St. Patrick's Day Parade
 - Sober St. Patrick's Day Grand Celebration, 5-7 pm, The Church of Our Saviour undercroft, 59 Park Ave & 38th Street
- To RSVP for the Emerald Spirit Award Reception and to march with Sober St. Patrick's Day in the parade, and to purchase tickets to the Grand Celebration, go to www.soberstpatricksdays.org.

About Sober St. Patrick's Day® Movement

Sober St. Patrick's Day's mission is to reclaim the true spirit of St. Patrick's Day by changing the perception and experience from an occasion for binge drinking and other misuse of alcohol to a celebration of the richness of Irish culture and the legacy of St. Patrick. It is a 501(c)(3) organization. Please visit www.soberstpatricksdays.org for more information.

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