

michéal CASTALDO

For Immediate Release

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MICHÉAL CASTALDO TO PRESENT BELIEVE, HEAL & HOPE, AN EVENING OF "CLASSIC ITALIAN SONGS"
AT ST BERNARD'S CHURCH, TORONTO - JUNE 12, 2011, TO BENEFIT CARITAS AND SHARELIFE.

Singer-Songwriter and olive oil connoisseur to offer unique multi-media experience of Italy

Toronto Canada, March 24, 2011, St Bernard's Church 1789 Lawrence Ave West.

On June 12, 2011, Vital Records' performing artist michéal CASTALDO will conduct an evening of song and stories, set against the backdrop of the beautiful modern church of Saint Bernard De Clairvaux, that will feature Gordon Braun Woodbury on Piano and Anne Lederman on Violin. Don Gianni Carparelli, author of the new book 'Ocean Drop - Storia Di Una Goccia' will have a poem reading by poet Gianna Patriarca. A reception of light refreshments, an Olive Oil tasting and book signing will follow after the concert.

The evening, dubbed "Believe, Heal & Hope" will be produced by Mr. Castaldo's Majestic Castle Music Productions of New York City.

The unique multimedia musical concert is designed to appeal to classical-crossover lovers and fans (those who like Andrea Bocelli, Sarah Brightman, Josh Groban, or Il Divo), olive oil connoisseurs, and all who enjoy *la dolce vita*, the sweet life.

Mr. Castaldo will sing classic and timeless Italian songs from his current CD, "Aceto," from his previous CDs, "Villa" and "La Dolce Vita 'NAmerica," as well as selections from his repertoire, which will include the intermezzo of *Cavalleria Rusticana* by Pietro Mascagni, the crowd-pleasing aria "Nessun Dorma" from Puccini's *Turnadot*, Ennio Morricone's "Nella Fantasia," Verdi's "Va Pensiero." The twist in this show will be the many American Hit songs such as "Stand My Me," "Unchained Melody," "Sound of Silence," "Hallelujah," "I Started a Joke" all sung in Italian.

"I'm very excited to perform in Toronto once again and to present this special and unique program in the beautiful church of St. Bernard." Mr. Castaldo says "Toronto has a special place in my heart. This is the city my family decided to emigrate to, from Calabria, Italy. I grew up in Toronto. I sang in church until I left for music school in Boston, USA. My mom lives here as well as my siblings. Although New York City has been my home for over 25 years, Toronto will always have a special place in my heart."

Between songs, Mr. Castaldo will share his family's story as olive oil producers, which began when his great-grandfather bought a parcel of land with savings he earned as a miner helping to build the New York City subway system from 1897 to 1905. CDs and olive oil will be available for sale after the event for those who want to take the "Believe, Heal & Hope" experience home with them.

Michéal CASTALDO is an award-winning Italian classical-crossover tenor whose work has been called a "plush world of ballads and utter sweetness" by *celebritycafe.com* and "the perfect complement to an Italian music collection" by *La Gazzetta Italiana*. His family's orchards in the foothills of Calabria, Italy,

where Michéal lived until age 3, have long been committed to producing and distributing fresh and vibrant olive oil at affordable prices. "The result, 'Private Reserve' olive oil... is a textbook olive oil: just the right color, flavor and texture to appeal to everyone," as described by thenibble.com, the online magazine about specialty foods for the connoisseur. www.michealCASTALDO.com

St Bernard's Church was built in 1956. At that time the population was predominantly Irish and Italian. Over the years, many additional ethnic groups moved into the homes and apartments in the area. There are more than 25 different ethnic groups represented at the church. At the school, Spanish and Italian are taught as international languages. The school has been used for summer programs by North York Parks and Recreation Department. The gymnasium is used as a community centre five nights of the week.

Don Gianni Carparelli has known Mr. Castaldo for over 30 years, while working together with the youth choir at St. Clare Church. Don Gianni will reintroduce michéal's music to the community to raise funds for Caritas and ShareLife - agencies that serve as the first line of community support for anyone with drug addictions, in need of emergency shelter, food and necessities. They are critical to those who rely on them - they are lifesaving and life-restoring and help all those in need. To learn more about Caritas visit <http://www.caritas.ca/> To learn more about ShareLife visit <http://www.sharelife.org/>

Don Gianni Carparelli is a recognized figure in Toronto as a community activist for the Italian-Catholic community. He was a visiting Professor of Social Ethics and Introduction to Christianity at the Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He also worked in Germany and England. He's the founder of Mens Sana, Mater Dei and Caritas, which is a registered drug and alcohol recovery charity with centers in Toronto, Orangeville, and King City. He has authored several books which are the basis of his internationally recognized work with Caritas Toronto. His books include Back Home, High on Life and Un Viaggio Dentro L'anima. His latest book 'Ocean Drop - Storia Di Una Goccia' will be presented at the June 12th concert with a reading by Poet Gianna Patriarca.

Tickets are affordable at \$25 (\$30 at the door) and will be available exclusively through Pauline Books & Media, located at 3022 Dufferin Street (South of Lawrence). Tel: (416) 781-9131 Ext. 0

The goal is to raise \$10,000+ for Caritas and ShareLife. A portion of the CD, books and Olive Oil sales after the concert will also support Caritas and ShareLife as well.

Concert begins at 7:00PM - opening act is smooth jazz musician Enrico Galante.

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Church is located at 1789 Lawrence Avenue West (@ Jane St.)

michéal CASTALDO's CD's "Aceto," "Villa" and "La Dolce Vita 'NAmerica," can be heard on CHIN, CHHA, Pandora Internet Radio. The CD's are available on HMV, iTunes.com, Pauline Books & Media, Teatro Verde and Ital Records in Toronto, Canada.

To learn more about michéal CASTALDO's projects visit:

www.michealCASTALDO.com (Classic & Timeless Italian Songs)

www.NewYorkCityOliveOilCoop.com (Estate EVOO for New Yorkers and Beyond)

www.LaDolceVitaFoundation.org (Blues Cruise ... Driving you Sane)

www.VillettaMimmaVittoria.com (Villa Rental in Southern Italy)

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