

LA NOSTRA STORIA

For many years, in the small town of Cindente, Italy, there was a *caffè* of such renown that people would come from miles around to enjoy its custom. The *caffè* served some of the finest pastries, coffee and drinks in the region. Their panini sandwiches would satisfy even the healthiest appetites, and their cappuccino would come with a heart shape in its foam if the proprietor, Signora De Luca, was in a jovial mood (she always was!).

With its tables and chairs outside during the summer, the children would enjoy the supreme treat of all, gelato (the smooth and creamy Italian ice cream that was made in so many flavors so as to always delight). The men would drink Chianti and play boules outside on the forecourt whilst the women would chat about the latest fashions to come from the city. The *caffè* was truly the center of the town, providing both the flavor and the entertainment. When the Second World War swept through Europe, the *caffè* became the source of news for the town and relief from all that was heard. Inevitably, the town was abandoned as people fled, and the *caffè* closed its doors. During this time the town and the *caffè* were ruined and left in such a state that after the end of the hostilities people simply did not come back. Cindente had become a town of memories.

This story does not end in such a melancholy way thanks to one of our intrepid founders. He discovered the town and the *caffè* half a century later and was interested in its history. Upon asking the elder townsfolk nearby, he was entranced with a story of life that he wished he could emulate back in Chicago. There was, however, one mystery as no one could remember: the name of the *caffè*. They could, and did describe with great detail the magnificent fare of the *caffè* but not its name, which faded from the walls by the years and their memories. Our founder, undaunted by the lack of a name, moved every brick and tile from Italy to Chicago. He did not restore the *caffè* but decided simply to honor the spirit; hence *caffè* De Luca.

caffè De Luca **DOLCETTO**

The pastry case usually has cake, pie, coffeecake, cheesecake and cookies, with a frequent rotation of flavors and addition of new creations. Please ask your server about our current selection. The price of items in the case varies.

Tiramisu - 6

Known as "Tuscan Trifle," the dessert was initially created in Siena, in the northwestern Italian province of Tuscany.

Brownie De Luca - 6

Our chocolate brownie smothered with vanilla gelato and topped with chocolate sauce.

Tart of the Day - 8

Served with a scoop of vanilla gelato.

Cheese Cake of the Day - 6

Ask your server for today's selections.

Flourless Chocolate Cake - 5

Chocolate cake made, well, without flour.

Gelato Trio - 7

Ask your server for the varieties available today, served with our biscotti

Profiteroles - 7

Cream puffs, filled with chocolate and vanilla cream, and chocolate sauce.
