WHEREAS; lupus is a serious and incurable autoimmune disease that can cause life-threatening damage to any organ in the body; and,

WHEREAS; lupus is a global health problem that affects millions of young women, men and children of all nationalities, races, ethnicities, genders and ages worldwide; and

WHEREAS; there remains low public awareness and understanding of lupus symptoms and health effects relative to its significant impact on the lives of people with lupus; and

WHEREAS; many primary care physicians are not fully aware of all the signs and symptoms of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for many years before they can obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and

WHEREAS; medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery and development of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients are under-funded in comparison with diseases of similar magnitude and severity; and

WHEREAS; people with lupus need access to medical specialists and high-quality multidisciplinary care, including emotional, psychological and social care; and

WHEREAS; there is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals, families and caregivers affected by lupus; and

WHEREAS; there is an urgent need to increase awareness in communities worldwide of the devastating impact of lupus,

NOW, THEREFORE:

I, Jacqueline M. Izzo by the power vested in me as the Mayor of the City of Rome, do hereby proclaim and declare Friday, May 10, 2019 as:

"WORLD LUPUS DAY"

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Rome to be affixed this tenth day of May, two thousand nineteen.

Jacqueline M. Izzo
Mayor, City of Rome