**Conventional ByLaw Submission Procedure**

David Botta
Parliamentarian

Now comes the time of year that we must solicit proposals and/or amendments to the Branch Bylaws. The following is a brief review of the procedure followed in the ICF to accomplish this process and bring the proposals and/or amendments to the floor of the Annual Convention of the Italian Catholic Federation.

All branches are urged to consider, discuss and formulate a proposal to change, modify or abolish a bylaw as it pertains to all the Branches of the ICF. According to the Branch bylaw Chapter XVII Art. 3 G proposals and/or amendments to the bylaws shall be submitted in writing (signed by the Branch President and Recording Secretary) to the Central Council Office not later than April 30, 2014. Branch bylaw change proposals may also come from the Central Council through the Bylaws Committee.

Such submitted proposals and/or amendments are forwarded to the Central Council Bylaws Committee for review, as to form and content. If a question exists relating to the submitted proposal, the Chairman of the Bylaws Committee will contact the submitting Branch for clarification and if necessary revisions to make the proposal acceptable.

It is helpful to present the original bylaw followed by a copy of the modified or changed bylaw with the changes in bold type. The insertions should be in italics and the deletions either in strike out text or underlined. The proposal must be accompanied by a brief explanation of the purpose of the proposed change and the reason why it should be adopted.

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**Strategic Plan:**

“Moving the ICF into the Future”

**Two Day Planning Session to be Held May 17-18**

Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
Task Force Committee Chair
Grand 1st Vice President

The first meeting to start the planning process for our strategic plan was held on Saturday, February 15. One of the key components to a successful plan will be the input from you, the members. By the time you read this article, information will have been sent to the district and Branch presidents with the details for obtaining the information necessary to plan for our future. There will also be information on the ICF website for a survey pertaining to the Strategic Plan. Please become involved in this process by completing the survey provided. Our success of the plan depends on the input from the branch level. We will be having a two-day meeting on May 17th and 18th to discuss the future of our organization. This meeting will include a representative from every district and region where the Federation has been established.

These representatives will come together with members of the Central Council in this two-day planning session to discuss and map out our path to the future, growth and success of the ICF. Everyone has a voice in the process so please participate and we will all benefit from your input. Please keep the members working on this plan in your prayers, for with God all things are possible.

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**Calendar Sales Results Are In: The Winner Is...**

Here are the results for prizes as of February 12, 2014:

- **Top Selling Branches in each of 3 categories receive Five (5) 2014 Calendars**
- **Categories placing 2nd and 3rd in each of 3 categories receive One (1) 2014 Calendar**

**Category 1: 1 – 99 Members**

1st Place: Branch 33, Bakersfield
Sold 50 calendars

2nd Place: Branch 408, Sunnyvale
Sold 40 calendars

3rd Place: Branch 91, Oakland
Sold 39 calendars

**Category 2: 100 – 199 Members**

1st Place: Branch 10, Alameda
Sold 48 calendars

2nd Place: Branch 191, San Jose
Sold 46 calendars

3rd Place: Branch 28, Gilroy
Sold 45 calendars

**Category 3: 200+ Members**

1st Place: Branch 39, Merced
Sold 99 calendars

2nd Place: Branch 14, Crockett
Sold 65 calendars

3rd Place: Branch 391, San Jose
Sold 30 calendars

**Individuals**

1st Place: Carol Salmeri – Br. 39 – Merced
Sold 90 calendars

2nd Place: Louise DeTomaso – Br. 14 – Crockett
Sold 61 calendars

3rd Place: B.G. Zasoski – Br. 281 – Bakersfield
Sold 44 calendars

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**90th Anniversary Gala**

Don’t forget to make your reservations for the ICF Anniversary Gala celebration near you. Here are the dates and locations:

- The first gala will be in Chicago on June 8, 2014.
- The second celebration will be on June 22, 2014 in San Francisco.
- The third celebration will be in Los Angeles on June 29, 2014.

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Grand President’s Monthly Message

by Bob Basuno

It’s raining, it’s pouring, Grandpa is snoring! He went to bed and bumped his head and couldn’t get up in the morning!” My clever grandsons were giggling and singing to me as I was dropping them off from our monthly pizza dinner. Yes, the rain has finally hit us in California, and it could not be more welcome. Hopefully, we will have a late wet winter and this drought we are in will be a thing of the past. This is happening as we prepare for the Festa di San Giuseppe. In the middle ages, God through St. Joseph’s intercessions saved Sicilians from a very serious drought. Tradition tells us that he had the great honor to have died in the presence of Our Lady and His Son. This makes him the patron of holy death. Because he was given the great responsibility of caring for and protecting The Virgin--who is the Mother of all and her Son, St. Joseph is the patron and protector of the entire Church. As we celebrate his feast day, let us remember to thank him and ask him to continue to protect us as he protected Mary and Jesus. St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

As the rain comes down as I sit down to write this column, I cannot believe March is already here. These past six months have flown by. I knew when I accepted this position a lot of travel and time away from home was expected. Little did I realize that I would be leaving work on Friday for an Executive Committee meeting or for a mad dash to the airport. On Saturday I would be at an installation and another on Sunday. When I got home on Sunday night I would rummage through an empty refrigerator, upset I did not stop by the grocery store on the way home. As I got ready for bed, it hit me Monday morning was only 8 hours away and the weekend was over and another work week was ahead with another weekend of installations and meetings on my calendar. Hopefully I would have a few hours on the next Saturday or Sunday to catch up on something important, like a nap.

Then I begin to think about the wonderful weekend I had and the events I attended. I met so many great people and caught up with many old friends. It was through these visits that I realized what an honor it is to serve you and ICF as your Grand President. It is funny how you think you know so much about something until you share your thoughts and ideas with others. It is not until you step into someone else’s shoes do you truly understand that you
Lent Is Just Around the Corner

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director
ICFSpiritDir@aol.com

The New Year thrill has faded away. Now we start thinking about taxes. Not a happy thought. Then soon we begin Lent. This year Ash Wednesday is on March 5. Some people look at Lent as a sort of punishment, a curtainfall of their lives. Yet it is a great time to step aside from the whirlwind of everyday living and start thinking about what Jesus has done for us. It is also time for us to reflect on the meaning of Easter and to unite ourselves with Christ.

There are several ways to observe Lent. We can give up something we like and do penance. We can say extra prayers; we can meditate and put ourselves in the presence of Jesus. We can talk to Jesus and let him talk to us. Some people worship at Mass every day or several times a week. Whatever way you choose to honor Jesus in Lent, make it something personal.

One day, Father Kevin was talking with little Louie, a seven-year-old-boy. “What are you doing for Lent?” little Louie said, “I am eating a salami sandwich for lunch every day!” Father Kevin said, “A salami sandwich! That’s not penance.” Little Louie exclaimed, “Yes it is, I really hate salami!”

Little Louie must not be Italian, but he really does have the true spirit of Lent. During Lent we prepare ourselves for Easter. We walk along with Jesus during His time of extreme suffering. We offer our penance, our prayers, and our good works in thanksgiving for His great sacrifice. Then we rejoice with Him on the day of His resurrection. Rejoice in the Lord. Alleluia!

Organizing a Membership Drive

Nina Malone
CC Life Member
Membership Committee
Chairperson

High Five!
Top five districts and areas with increased membership: (excluding deceased members)
- Contra Costa: +105
- Santa Rosa: +49
- Tucson: +10
- Santa Clara Valley: +6
- Orange: +6

what is the ICF, etc. This is an effective tool for all of your branch events; put out these flyers at your dinners and parish events too!

5. Coordinate with Parish Staff. If the parish allows for a bulletin insertion, ask the office secretary how many flyers should be printed and when your branch members should be available to stuff the church bulletins. If you need extra help with this, consider asking the parish school or youth group if any of the children could use some extra community service hours. This is a great way to interconnect with other ministries within the parish. Make sure to print several extra copies for your membership table.

6. Prepare an announcement. If the pastor will allow your branch to make a short announcement, use the two-minute script as a guideline. Appoint someone that is comfortable with talking in front of large crowds and has a clear speaking voice. If the pastor would prefer to do the announcement himself, supply information about the branch’s accomplishments and where your team will be located for the membership drive after Mass.

7. Create an ICF Membership Board. Using the Membership Kit that is available from the ICF website, appoint a member to gather branch photos and the necessary supplies to create your ICF Membership Board. Make sure to highlight Bishops’ Days, Joint Installations, Corporate Communion Masses, religious events, fundraisers, youth activities, picnics, etc.

8. Set-up for success. Coordinate with the parish to set up a table in a well-trafficked area; a place that most everyone will pass by after each Mass. If the area allows, make a banner or large sign that is colorful and easy to read; drawing attention to your table. The table itself should include your Membership Board, ICF brochures, handouts, Bollettinos, posters, memorabilia, balloons; even some hard candies or small giveaway items. Everyone loves to get something for free!

9. Sign them up. Create an information worksheet for perspective members that includes their name, phone number, email address and mailing address. In turn, have something to give them: a business card, brochure or flyer. Invite them to be your guest at the next branch meeting; be sure to let them know the date, time and location. Let them know you will be in touch soon and thank them for their interest in a great organization.

Thoughtful planning is needed when organizing a successful Membership Drive, but the rewards that come back to your branch could be priceless! For more information and help from your Membership Committee, contact Membership Chairperson Nina Malone at 916-759-3607 or musicalnina61@gmail.com.
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: Script for Mass Announcement

Good Morning/Afternoon/Evening,

My name is ___________ and I am the ________ of Branch #________ of the Italian Catholic Federation here at ____________________________.

The Italian Catholic Federation, or ICF for short, is an 11,000 member organization founded in San Francisco in 1924. The Federation has grown and presently has branches in California, Nevada, Arizona, and in the Chicago area. Our branch here was established _______ years ago and we are very proud of the role we play within the church and the parish community.

I’m sure you are wondering…do I need to be Italian to join. We are in Italian origin, but gladly accept Roman Catholics of all backgrounds and ethnicities, as we feel that our organization has thrived because of our diversity.

As a Catholic organization, our members enjoy faith and fellowship by supporting our pastor and our parish with time and monies raised through fundraising efforts. We sponsor spiritual, social and heritage events, because we believe that community interaction is important.

The main focus and mission of our organization is the support of various parish and religious education programs. Each year a seminary bursary is presented to Bishop offering financial support for vocations to the priesthood and our seminarians.

Within the community, we assist those in need; providing grants to persons with developmental disabilities, and college scholarships to students graduating from our local high schools.

We are a family organization; where members of all ages are welcome. We have a family membership plan expressly for this purpose; encouraging the entire family, including your children and grandchildren, to join.

ICF members will be located ________.

We invite you to stop by our table to learn more about the Italian Catholic Federation. Please be sure to check out the flyer in your bulletin and drop by to see us directly after Mass.

From our family to yours, we thank you for your time and look forward to meeting you!

For questions, please call the ICF office at (510) 633-9058 or Lisa Crudo (510) 861-9835

March 2014

The Ways and Means Committee Announces the Theme for the 2015 Calendar as:

“Italian Recipes Through the Year. Celebrating Holidays and Traditions.”

The Ways and Means Committee will be planning and designing the 2015 Calendar. Included in the calendar will be pictures, recipes and Italian traditions for holidays and other special occasions through the year.

We invite you to participate in several ways: First, share special traditions and recipes you or your family keep throughout the year. Pick a special time of year including, but not limited to, Christmas and Easter traditions. Include New Year’s, Valentine’s Day, St. Joseph’s Day, Carnevale, picnics, weddings, First Communions and other special religious celebrations or feast days.

We also invite you to participate in the listing of not only birthdays (yourself, your children, grandchildren, parish priests and chaplains, or even friends) but also Anniversaries (weddings, branch, priests’ ordinations, etc.)

You may include your Branch or District events as well.

The price schedule will be as follows:

$10.00 for 1 name/event; $15.00 for 2 names/events; and $20.00 for 4 names/events. Other numbers will be a combination of prices - for example 5 names/events will be $30.00 ($20.00 + $10.00)

The deadline for the names and payments will be May 1, 2014.

Please mail your information with a check payable to the ICF to:

Italian Catholic Federation

8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110

Oakland, CA 94621

The calendars are a wonderful fundraiser for the Federation, and we encourage all members and friends to participate and purchase one.

For questions, please call the ICF office at (510) 633-9058 or Lisa Crudo (510) 861-9835

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**JANUARY CALENDAR WINNERS**

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**FEBRUARY CALENDAR WINNERS**

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SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEBSITE: ICF.ORG
Thoughts On Listening to God

Jim Actielli
Apostolate Chairman

We are often so busy with the demands of our daily life that we fail to listen to and follow the plan that God has for us. Out of all that we do each day, how much of this is God’s plan for us? Do you ever think about the plan that God has for you, or are you simply following what others are saying and doing? Are we so distracted by our own desires that we fail to listen to His voice?

Be careful how you listen; Jesus stated in Mark 8:18 “to him who has spiritual knowledge much will be given, from him who lacks spiritual knowledge what he thinks he has will be taken away.”

Today we are bombarded by all kinds of things that drown out the voice of God and push Him into the background of all that we do. Don’t ever think that you can run your life without God’s help and direction. That is foolish and a waste of your time, for you will accomplish nothing in the long run.

In order to walk in the will of God, take time to talk to Him, to hear from Him, and to follow His instructions. Remember, we pray “Thy will be done……”

Listen and allow God to be your guide, your teacher, your friend, your helper. Let go, let God. Let God be your constant companion in all that you do for yourself and for others. Remember, God tells us the way to go but we must do the walking.

The word of God is always for our benefit. Follow it and you will enjoy an exciting journey with Him every day of your life. Say yes to His ways and His plan will give you hope and a future.

Listen to the voice of God and you will see blessings pour into your life and you will have the delight of knowing that what you are doing is pleasing to God.

I want to thank my committee: Lisa Crudo, Michael Cannady and Vincent Picciola for their assistance.

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**Gifts of Love Donations**

**Donations received by Feb. 10, 2014.**

- The Greco Family Christmas Open House Fundraiser (January 4, 2014)
- In memory of Virginia Zorio
- In memory of Antoinette (Toni) Sunseri
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
- In memory of Carolina Fasano
- Officers/Members of Br. 154
- Officers/Members of Br. 50
- Officers/Members of Br. 5
- In memory of Leo Sapienza
- In memory of Mrs. Philomena Torquato

**In Loving Memory**

- Nettie Descalso-Del Nero and Tom Pollicita
- Harold, Virginia and Steve Fuentes
- Officers/Members of Br. 5
- Officers/Members of Br. 291
- In memory of Shirley Torres
- In memory of Robert Harris
- In memory of Louis Soria
- In memory of Carolina Fasano
- In memory of Virginia Zorio
- In memory of Antoinette B. Sapienza
- Nina Malone
- In memory of Louis Soria
- In memory of Virginia Zorio

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**In Loving Memory**

- LEO ROY SAPIENZA
- ANTONEETTE SUNSERI
- TOM GALLI
- RAY A ANDROTTI
- FRANCIS A ALONGE
- ANITA M TYLER
- VIRGINIA ZORIO
- JOHN SUSAN
- MARJORIE E AGOSTINI
- ARTHUR L CHAVEZ
- GLORIA BIANCHI
- CARMELA SPADARO
- FRANCO FRANCHINI
- DENNIS MARTINELLI

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**In Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination:**

- Most Rev. Patrick J. McGrath
- Lorrainne and Mike Nunziata

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**In Support of the Providence Fund:**

- A donation was made to the Providence Fund by JoAnn Maggiora-Donivan of Ma...
Cooley’s Corner

Thalassemia (Cooley’s Anemia)
Research Update

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Senior Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator
Children’s Hospital & Research Center at Oakland

The thalassemia (Cooley’s Anemia) program at Children’s Hospital Research Center at Oakland (CHRCO) is one in seven Thalassemia centers of specialty in the U.S. To qualify to be a specialty center a program must provide high quality comprehensive care and support to patients and families; strive to be on the cutting edge of research and technology; achieve the means of improving treatment and the quality of life for patients; and work towards finding a cure. The following are two of the several medical studies currently being conducted at the Thalassemia Center at CHRCO:

Iron Absorption Research Study

The purpose of this study is to determine if the body absorbs iron with the same or varied efficiencies when iron is in different chemical forms. Individuals with thalassemia who do not receive regular red blood cell transfusions absorb iron from food at very high rates, even to the point of iron overload and organ damage. This occurs because premature death of red blood cells results in oxygen-deficient tissues that signal the intestine to absorb more dietary iron, which is then delivered to the bone marrow to make more red blood cells with iron-rich hemoglobin. This study will compare how ferritin iron (in natural foods like legumes) versus ferrous iron sulfate (in iron-enriched foods such as cereal) affects the body and increases understanding on how the body absorbs iron specifically in individuals with thalassemia. Doctors will be able to then recommend dietary modifications that would decrease the risk for iron overload and improve care for all individuals with thalassemia.

A Study Evaluating the Safety and Efficacy of Gene Therapy:

There is no universal cure for thalassemia. For a small part of the thalassemia population, who are healthy enough to undergo this intensive treatment, and also have a sibling match, bone marrow transplant has proven to be a cure. However, the most exciting new treatment on the horizon is gene therapy. The gene therapy study objective is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of treatment with LentiGlobin® BB305 Drug Product in subjects with Thalassemia major who receive more than eight blood transfusions a year. This represents a population with severe disease at high risk of morbidity and mortality from iron overload. Patients in this study will be given an autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation using LentiGlobin® BB305 Drug Product. In simpler terms, patients will undergo a type of chemotherapy to eliminate their own bone marrow then they will be administered a special drug that penetrates their gene and eliminates the thalassemia disease. While gene therapy is complex and in still in its infancy stages with regards to thalassemia, it does provide a promise for a cure.

For a complete research update please refer to:
http://www.thalassemia.com/research-open-studies.aspx#Bluebird

Along with federal government grants, the ICF has been instrumental in funding research for thalassemia, consequently improving the lives of thousands of patients around the world.

If you would like more information on research studies or have any additional questions, please feel free to contact Laurice Levine at 510-428-3885, ext. 5427 or LLevine@mail.cho.org.

Live to Give

Why Seniors Make the Best Donors

Jim Acitelli
Live to Give Committee member

For the past eight years, Bette and I have served as volunteers for the Knights of Columbus Blood Drive at Our Lady of the Valley in Green Valley, AZ. We began serving as a way of repaying donors for the life-giving blood that Bette received during seven surgeries in five days; the result of a head-on car accident in Ohio in January, 2001.

I began as a blood donor and donated over 2-1/2 gallons of blood. Unfortunately, I had to stop giving because of my diabetes, so I now co-ordinate and run the canteen. Bette is not able to donate either so she helps by making appointments for others and checking in donors. Just a few of the ways that seniors have become involved! We see so many senior donors who are there every time that we run a blood drive, and they have continued to give until they can no longer do so. What a blessing they are to us!

In recent years, donors from older age groups of 50 years or more increasingly contribute to a larger portion of the donor pool. People of this age group will gradually move to the recipient side of the supply/demand equation and who will replace them? The aging patterns of blood donors suggest the need for improved recruitment and retention in the young adult and middle-age groups as it is these groups who will become the returning donors and move into the senior grouping and still continue to donate blood.

If we do not do our part in becoming donors and repeat donors, where will the blood come from when we ourselves need it? A severe shortage of blood and blood components may be in the foreseeable future unless offset by a significant increased supply in blood and blood components.

Not only do we “Live to Give” but we feel the gift of life within us when we donate. I want to personally thank each one of you who donate blood, especially those who continue to do so. It is indeed the gift of life.

ICF Hospitalization Plan

Annual Cost – Only $25

Eligibility – ICF members who join before their 65th birthday

Benefits

• $75 per use of operating room in hospital or surgical center
• $50-1st day, $25-2nd day, $10 each day thereafter per hospital stay
• $500 per calendar year/$500 per illness

Features

• Membership continues beyond the age of 65 yrs. old
• Payments are made directly to you
• No medical examination is required to join
• Claims are accepted up to 1 year after hospital stay and/or surgical procedure

To apply now, visit our website www.icf.org
or call 1-888-ICF-1924
Killing Jesus: A History
by Bill O’Reilly and Martin Dugard
Henry Holt and Company, LLC, 293 pages

How many of you, as Christians, know the life of Jesus in a historical context? We all have some knowledge of the life of Jesus as we learn about His teachings. Every Sunday, we listen to the Gospel and hear Jesus’ words. However, many of us do not know a great deal about the world that He lived in. Knowing something about that world adds richness to the Gospels. It is true that His words are sufficient for us to be practicing Christians. Killing Jesus: A History is a book that fills in the historic perspective of Jesus’ time.

Jerusalem, at the time that Jesus was alive, was occupied by Rome. O’Reilly and Dugard set the stage for this time by beginning the narrative with the assassination of Caesar. We come to understand the Roman way of life as the authors describe how the Romans expanded their empire. This is important to understand, since Jesus was born in a country that was occupied by foreigners. Jesus was also born in a Jewish religious tradition. As such, the authors describe the different players who controlled the Jewish world. There was Herod, who was not exactly a Jew by blood, but nevertheless, a Jewish king. There were also the Sanhedrin, Pharisees, temple priests and the populace. Understanding the role of each is important to understanding the time that Jesus was on earth. Once the stage is set, the story begins.

The authors’ narrative is vivid. It is easy to picture the land that Jesus walked. One can imagine the pilgrimage that all Jews made to Jerusalem for the Passover. We have an example of that in today’s world. Look to the annual pilgrimage of Muslims to Mecca. Once in Jerusalem, the people were required to purchase their unblemished sacrificial lambs. Who sold the lambs? Who made the money? It was the temple priests. This was a huge moneymaking business. Not only did the temple priests make money off the poor Jews, Herod and the Romans had their cut through their taxes. When Jesus went to the temple and overturned the tables from the moneychangers, He was attacking a corrupt system that directly affected the temple priests’ pocket book. The poor populace cheered for Jesus because they found a champion from at least one oppressor, the Jewish hierarchy. Of course, this made the Jewish hierarchy plot against Jesus.

Many interesting questions are explored in the book. For example, we all know that the Roman centurions cast lots for Jesus’ robe. This act was in fulfillment of the Scriptures; in this case, Psalm 21. Has anyone wondered why the Romans were so interested in Jesus’ garment? I never thought about the significance of the garment. My thoughts were always on the Romans irreverently playing a game for the robe while Jesus was dying on the cross. As stated in the Gospel of John, this garment was seamless. This made the tunic very unique, as most undergarments were made by stitching three pieces of cloth together. The seams would chafe and bind. Jesus’ tunic was woven as one piece and was very valuable. This is why the Romans wanted it. The authors also describe the Roman team who was responsible for carrying out executions. These were hardened soldiers. The team consisted of four men called quaternio who were responsible for the cruel work, with the fifth member called exactor mortis, who ensured that the rest of the team members were doing their utmost to mete out savage punishment. These examples are only two of many details that the authors provide to recreate the life of Jesus.

Since this is a history about killing Jesus, the Crucifixion cannot be omitted. But for those who may think that the book is a print version of Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ,” they will be disappointed. The goal of the authors is to put the Crucifixion into a historical context. As such, more time is devoted to describing how Jesus went to His death. His interrogation was illegal by the legal standards of the Jewish court of the time. He was interrogated at night and was asked to incriminate Himself without a lawyer. The Jewish authorities that wanted Him out of the way were fearful that Jesus’ followers would save Him. This is why interrogations were held at night, and the process was done quickly. When Pontius Pilate was asked if he should release Jesus, or Barabbas, the courtyard was full of temple priests and their followers. Of course, they asked for Barabbas to be released. Since Pilate did not want a revolt on his hands, he granted the crowd’s wish. Pilate also did not want to do anything to displease Rome. The Roman establishment would not have been kind to Pilate if he caused a revolt. Ultimately, the authorities were successful in eliminating Jesus.

Killing Jesus: A History is written in a manner that captivates the reader. We all know the story from the Gospels. Yet, the authors’ focus on the world around Jesus brings a new perspective on the history. Since I like history, I enjoyed this book and learning more about Jesus’ time.

Submitted by Roselyne Jarrett
Grand Treasurer

Jelly Bean Prayer

Using jelly beans, designate the various colors as follows:
- red for the blood of Christ (making a sacrifice)
- green for the shade of the palm (doing a good deed)
- yellow for God’s light (showing kindness to others)
- orange for prayers at twilight (good behavior during bed time prayer)
- black for sweet rest at night (behaving well when time to go to bed)
- purple for days of sorrow (apologizing to someone)
- pink for each new tomorrow (forgiving others).

Starting on Ash Wednesday, place a jelly bean of the appropriate color in a jar each time you do something that corresponds with one of these acts. On Easter, you will receive all the jelly beans you have earned during the 40 days of Lent.

To help focus on the prayer aspect of Lent, make a family mosaic cross. Two types of crosses can be made:

Fun Foam Cross

Using art foam, cut out a basic cross shape for the background. Then, using other colors of art foam (available at any craft or discount store), cut smaller pieces of “mosaic” and apply them to the cross background to create an overall mosaic effect. A fun variation of this project might be to make the cross background, and then apply small “mosaic” tiles when being helpful, loving, or of service around the home. Can you fill the cross with love “tiles” by the end of Lent?

Crayon “Stained Glass” Cross

Cut two identical cross shapes from waxed paper. Using old or broken crayons and a pencil sharpener, create shavings of various colors. Spread the crayons on one of the pieces of waxed paper in a desired pattern. Then place the second waxed paper cross over the top of the first cross and the shavings. An adult should complete the following step: Using a warm iron, press the two pieces of waxed paper together. Find a sunny spot to hang your creation and remember to offer a prayer of love and thanksgiving each time you lay eyes on your beautiful cross.

Scholarship Donations
Donations received by Feb. 10, 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship Donations - 1st Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Officers/Members of Br. 191</td>
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<tr>
<td>In memory of Randy Peterson</td>
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<td>Officers/Members of Br. 191</td>
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<tr>
<td>In memory of Theresa Spinler</td>
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Happy St. Patrick’s Day!
2014 Convention in Oakland, California  
Friday, August 29, 2014 to Monday, September 1, 2014  
Honing The Past As We Envision Our Future  

OFFICIAL CONVENTION HOTEL***  
Marriott Oakland City Center  
Phone: (510) 451-4000 /  
Reservations: (800) 228-9290  
1001 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94607  
Visit www.marriott.com  

ROOM RATES are subject to change.  
**Airline rates are subject to change.**  
**Please note: This code is valid for reservations made by**  
**Amtrak Station is approx. 1 mile from the hotel.  
**Jack  
**Airport is approximately 10 miles southwest**  
**Please visit www.oaklandairport.com**  
**►Use Group Name “Italian Catholic Federation” or**  
**►Complimentary Self Parking**  
**Transportation to/from Oakland Airport:**  
**Oakland Int'l Airport is approximately 10 miles southwest**  
**HOTEL AND TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS**  
**-*AIRLINES - NO CONTRACTS - JUST GO ONLINE OR CALL*  
**Here are a few:**  
**Alaska Airlines:**  
**Southwest Airlines:**  
**Delta Airlines:**  
**US Airways:**  
**JetBlue Airlines:**  
**American Airlines:**  
**United Airlines:**  
**Railroad Service  
***AMTRAK***  
**May Irish angels rest their wings right beside your door.”**  
**May you never want for more.**  
**Irish Blessings for St. Patrick’s Day:**  
**May you always walk in sunshine.**  
**May you have warm radiants on a cold evening, a full moon on a**  
**dark night, and the road downhill all the way to your door.**  
**May Irish angels rest their wings right beside your door.**

**Please Share the Above Information with Your Delegates!**  
If you have any questions, please call the I.C.F. Office toll-free at 1-888-423-1924
Grand President
continued from page 1

really don’t see the whole picture or grasp the entire concept or idea.

After each event I usually will sit down and compile my thoughts, ideas, concerns and suggestions. It is at this time I realize without a doubt that we are on the right road to pursuing our strategic plan. Everyone I have had the pleasure of talking with wants to see their Branch, District and ICF grow and prosper in the coming years. There is so much good we can do for our Parishes, Communities and Charities that a little hard work and week-ends away from home are not that bad after all, so thank you for all your input. Your comments are being brought up at our Task Force Meetings to ensure this group we count on as family will grow in strength and numbers.

With Installations done, Bishops’ Days are in full swing. Our 90th Anniversary Galas are right around the corner. I will be attending each one. My father has been hinting hard that he has nothing planned for the weekend of June 9. Funny, that is when Chicago has planned their Gala. I wonder if he is looking for an invitation. I am looking forward to spending time with all of you at these momentous occasions. The other night my kids started asking about upcoming events at a family dinner. This reminded me of the many good times and dinners I have attended over the past six months. It is the quality of time that is spent with friends and family that truly count. It has been said many times that going to an ICF function is like going to a family dinner. This reminded me of the momentous occasions. The other night my kids started asking about upcoming events at a family dinner. This reminded me of the quality of time that is spent with friends and family that truly count. It has been said many times that going to an ICF function is like going to a family dinner. This reminded me of the momentous occasions.

***THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED***

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2014. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that bank statements are reconciled through December 31, 2013. Remember that the Gross Receipts are total amounts received without subtracting any costs or expenses. These amounts include, but are not limited to, Membership and Hospitalization dues, dinners, fundraisers, raffle tickets, income from Convention raffle tickets and calendar sales, interest from all bank accounts, monetary donations, etc.

If you have any questions, or need help filing, please call the I.C.F. Office at 1-888-423-1924.

Thank You.

Bylaw Proposals
continued from page 1

panied by a well-reasoned rationale for the proposed change.

The Central Council through the Bylaws Committee is authorized to eliminate proposals: (1) that are unconstitutional, discriminatory (except as to the age for benefits) or infringing on the fundamental principles of the Federation, (2) proposals defeated at the immediate previous Annual Convention, (3) proposals that cannot be presented at the immediate next Convention, except if the Central Council approves the proposal for representation.

Once the proposal is found to be constitutional and acceptable in wording and content, the Bylaws Committee will present the proposals to the Central Council at the June meeting for their information. At this point the Bylaws Committee will “certify” the proposals, and announce they will be presented to the delegates at the next Annual Convention. The order of discussions of proposals at the Annual Convention are prepared in advance by the Parliamentarian and approved by the Central Council.

The proposals to be presented at the Annual Convention will be sent to the Branches in advance of the Convention for their discussion and consideration. At the Convention the proposals will be presented to the delegates for their vote. Matters presented by the Central Council will have precedence in the order of discussion.

Once passed by a majority vote of the delegates at the Annual Convention the adopted bylaw change is immediately effective.

ICF Mourns Tragic Passing of Rev. Eric Freed

Legacy.com

It is with profound sorrow that I inform you of the tragic death of Father Eric Freed that occurred in the early hours of Wednesday, January 1, 2014 in the rectory of St. Bernard’s parish, Eureka. The media and other means of social communications have kept people informed as to the nature of his tragic death. Father Freed was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Eugene and Laura Freed. He was raised in Covina, California and graduated from Northview High School in the summer of 1975. He attended Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles where he graduated with a B.A. in Philosophy. In the summer of 1979 he entered the Salesian Religious Congregation in Japan where he pursued his studies to the priesthood in the Salesian House of Formation, Jocti, Japan. He completed his studies in Theology at the Pontifical Salesian University, Turin, Italy from 1988-1990. On September 23, 1990 he was ordained to the Priesthood in Tokyo, Japan, by Archbishop Peiro Shi-rayanagi Seiichi for ministry as a Salesian priest. He ministered in Salesian High Schools as a teacher and chaplain in Ikuei Kosen, Tokyo 1990-1995 and Seikosaki- un, Osaka, 1995-1999. Father Freed came to the Diocese of Santa Rosa on April 1, 1999 and served as Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph, Cotati until August, 2001, with a two month assignment at St. Francis Solano, Sonoma in the summer of 1999. On August 28, 2001, he was appointed Administrator of St. Mary’s, Arcata where he ministered for one year. From August 15, 2002 until the summer of 2005 he was the Chaplain at St. Francis High School, Mountain View, California. Upon his return to the Diocese of Santa Rosa he was assigned as Chaplain at St. Vincent de Paul High School, Petaluma, and was in residence at St. James, Petaluma. In March of 2006 he was assigned as the Chaplain to the Newman Center for Humboldt State University, Arcata, and at the same time ministered as the Parochial Vicar at St. Bernard’s parish, Eureka. Father Freed also taught Religious Studies at Humboldt State University, a course which was well received by the students. Father Freed ministered to the Japanese Catholic Community in San Francisco and Santa Clara County. He wrote the story of a Hiroshima bombing survivor who related her experience in the book titled "The Experience of the Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima in Poem." On January 10, 2001, he was appointed Pastor of St. Bernard’s parish, Eureka and served in that office until his untimely death on New Year’s Day, January 1, 2014. Father Eric is survived by his father Eugene Freed and his stepmother, Donna and by his brother Will, sisters, Kari, Lisa, Anita and Melissa who live in various parts of the United States. He was preceded in death by his mother, Laura and two brothers, Gene and Michael. He is mourned not only by his own family but his spiritual family as well, especially by those he served in Japan as a Salesian High School teacher, by the Japanese Community of the Bay Area and by the parishioners of St. Bernard’s parish, Eureka. Father Freed was a compassionate, giving priest with a ready smile, a good sense of humor and he was a sports fanatic. Echoing the words of Jesus to the blind man Bartimeus “What do you want me to do for you” was how Father Eric lived his priestly life and ministry. He will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.

Letters of condolence may be sent to the Chancery and will be forwarded to the family.

Will Houston/The Times-Standard

Hundreds of mourners gathered at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Eureka on Monday to attend their last Mass in the presence of the late Rev. Eric Freed of St. Bernard Catholic Church in Eureka.

Before the ceremony began, attendees comforted each other with embraces while others knelt in prayer. After the opening prayer and readings, Bishop Robert Vasa spoke to the congregation as he had done the night before during a vigil at St. Bernard Catholic Church.

"Each time we gather, it seems that the grief becomes a little more manageable," Vasa said.

During his homily, Vasa said that the community would share the grief of Freed’s "untimely death," but said that his teachings would still remain.

"The torch is passed to all of you," Vasa said. "Do not lose faith, do not lose hope. The examples and teachings Father Eric gave you, these too remain."

As a way to begin after such a loss, Vasa told the congregation to utilize a characteristic that Freed exuded on a daily basis.

"The commission here in Eureka is to love with the same joy that he possessed contiguously," Vasa said.
Chicago
Calumet City
St. Victor, Br. 105

It’s snowing again in Chicago. So far this year we had approximately sixty inches of measured snow fall! Time for our branch to do long range strategic planning for our future. We have made some plans for the year. One is that we will not host the largest fundraiser undertaking, the St. Joseph FAVOLA. Instead we will honor St. Joseph spiritually but in another fashion. The reason for this decision (our aging process) the tremendous energy and physical labor it involves along with a lack of the working facilities required to continue to produce this huge event successfully. We will host some smaller events (not so labor intensive) such as a bazaar and possibly other sale type events to provide funds for our current spiritual activities and some we wish to add. We’ll have more information on this next month after our Activity Planners have a “Think Outside the Box” Session. Judy Longawa will have prayer cards with Father Tolton information at our next meeting. Other changes include Weekend Mass Schedule changes at St. Victor beginning March 8; Parish Ministry Fair March 1 and 2; launching the Archdiocese of Chicago’s Catholic Appeal; and Parish Leadership Day February 22.

We express our condolences to Judy and Leonard Longawa on the death of their sister in law, Joan. We send our get well wishes to Leonard Longawa on the death of their sister, Joan. Fr. Steve Kosinski, pastor of All Saints parish is organizing a trip to the Vatican to celebrate Pope Francis installation. Phone him if you are interested in joining his group. In the meantime, pray for us as we will for you.

God Bless,
Jo Merlo

Fresno
Madera
Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

Ninety members and guests enjoyed the branch Christmas cheer and raffle. We sang Christmas Carols to the delightful live accordion music played by Rick Logoluso. Chaplin Sister Thomas Marie Hannam de- cided to shake things up a bit with a conga line to the strains of the “Beer Barrel Polka.” Monty Pistoresi was our Master of Ceremonies, and an extra special touch as charming as he was entertaining. Thanks Monty for all you do for so many in the community. A great big thank you to the December Committee for a wonderful afternoon: Chairmen: Ray & Louise Chiarelli; members Mike Chiarelli, Carol Chiarelli, Jack, Jennifer & Juliana Chiarelli, Bill & Elsie Bottorff, Monty & Leona Pistoresi, and Ila & Tom Schoettler.

January found us all well with a great turn-out for the first dinner meeting of the year. Many thanks to the January committee: Marilyn Rowe chairman, and her committee Rosemary Dockery, and Mary Contresas. The beef stroganoff, rice, salad and bread was just what we needed for a cold January night. Thanks so much. On February 1st two young members who are also Boy Scouts, Mark Cavallero and Thomas Keitz, were awarded the International Catholic Awareness Medal by Bishop Armando Ochoa, of the Fresno Diocese. The boys completed a list of requirements related to their Catholic Faith. Members are busy making preparations for the Diocese Installation of officers Mass and luncheon on Sunday, February 23rd. It is with great sadness that I report the passing of our long time member Violet Weaver.

Ciao,
Kevin Cavallero

Sanger
Sant’Antonio, Br. 70

On Feb. 11, 2014, our regular meeting was held at St. Mary’s Hall. We celebrated Valentine’s Day with a delicious polenta dinner. God Bless the cooks.

We thank President Kay and her mother Josie for decorating the tables so beautifully with hearts and flowers.

President Kay welcomed our guests, Virginia Larabee and her son Nick. The meeting was closed with a prayer by our chaplain, Father John Bruno.

We are saddened by the loss of our dear friend, Rosie Lencioni. Our prayers and sympathy go out to her family. We send our prayers also to our deputy, Fred De Renzo, who is recovering from surgery.

God Bless,
Orolina Casella

Fresno
Sacred Heart, Br. 185

Related happy new year to all our I C F members.

We opened our January meeting with enthusiasm, with special guest, Jim and Maryann Frielf, membership coordinator, (correct name and title please) from Hollister, to help with ways to increase membership, we explained our concerns, to keep Sacred Heart Branch 185, going.

Many thanks to Madera, Santissimo Crocifisso, Fresno, Branch 27, for hosting the installation of officers.

At this writing we are looking forward to the District-wide Bocce Tournament, May 10, at San Joaquin High School, as well as the Italian Catholic Federation, 90th Anniversary Gala, June 22 in San Francisco.

Pray for the health of our members, Dolores Biehle, and Mary Kendrick were hospitalized, Ann Giorgini, fell after our last meeting, Vincent Giorgini had major dental work, most continued prayers for Jaye Boen, and very saddened to report, long time member, Albert Daniels passed away.

Member, Michael Caglia, is very proud of his cousin, Richard Caglia, who received the Leon’s Peters award, from the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, 2014. An award to “honor a Central Valley leader who, over a period of time, who has clearly demonstrated in his or her personal or business life the values, ethics and character exemplified by Mr. Peters.” Frank S Caglia, Richards father, received
Branch 250, Clovis - Bill Conatser enjoying a laugh at the Branch picnic. Bill passed away on January 16.

Branch 250, Clovis - Jeanette Shriver retiring after 10 years of service as president of the branch.

The ladies of Las Vegas Branch 367 gathered for a photo during a breakfast. Seen here are Philomena Consiglio and Jackie Donato standing; Clara Centrone, Norma Spagnolia, and Vee Speziale sitting.

Las Vegas

Los Angeles

District Council

On February 5, the first ICF LA Archdiocese District Council (LAADD) Board meeting was held at St Bede the Venerable Catholic Church in Las Vegas. District President Carmela Sabatella opened the meeting. District Regional VP and Branch 374 President Al Restivo welcomed members to St Bede the Venerable Catholic Church in Las Vegas as the host Branch and followed with a prayer of encouragement. Members from many of the 18 Branches in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles attended and successfully worked through the Agenda.

On March 29, the LAADD General Meeting will be hosted by Branch 326 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Parish Hall of Holy Angels Catholic Church, 370 Campus Drive, Arcadia. Lunch will be served prior to the meeting from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm.

On February 9, the ICF Mother Cabrini Cha...
pel and Library Board held its first meeting of 2014 following the Open House earlier in the day. Several visitors from the region came to visit the Chapel for the first time with several having lived in the Burbank area most of their lives and never had the opportunity to see the inside of the facility. The next Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Open House is scheduled for April 13th from 9:00 am to 1:00 PM and will be hosted by the ICF LAADC (San Fernando Valley Region). For more information call 626 372-7812.

The District Board encourages all Branches to support each others’ events wherever and whenever possible. Board members also wish to express how proud they are of all branches for their efforts in keeping the ideals and aims of the ICF alive.

Grazie to our members for your support of the ICF and its related events and your prayers for our sick and deceased members, friends and Parishioners who recently passed on to their eternal reward; they will be missed.

Please keep our troops in your prayers that they may be kept safe and from harm’s way. Carmelo A. Sabatella, AIA, President

South Pasadena
Holy Family, Br. 108

On February 2, ICF Branch 108 held its Social and General Meeting in the Holy Family Church Galilee Room. President Michele Silveri thanked staff for organizing the Branch Meeting, reviewed upcoming Branch events and celebrated the Birthday of member Jackie Fiske and 40th Wedding Anniversary of Tad and Theresa Shaw.

On February 22, the ICF Branch 108 11th annual Wine Tasting Event was held in the HF Parish Hall. This was the first time local amateur & professional wine growers, wine makers, wine club members, importers and suppliers from the San Gabriel Valley were invited to join this event where they presented their areas of expertise to members and parishioners.

Thank you members and parishioners for supporting this event with a special thank you and congratulations to Co-Chairs Chris Shaw and Gina Sabatella for organizing and managing this culturally significant, organic and successful fundraiser.

Thank you Members, families and friends for your support of the ICF and its related events. Prayers go out to those Members and parishioners who have gone to their eternal reward and to the sick members, family, friends and Parishioners for a speedy recovery.

Save The Dates:
April 6, 2014 - Bocce (1:00pm to 2:30pm) followed by Lunch Social and General Meeting (3:00pm to 5:00pm). Mass at 5:30pm.


May God bless and keep you healthy “per cento anni!”

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President - ICF Branch 108
Email: cas1810@aol.com

Montebello
St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti,

Our February 13 Valentine’s Potluck dinner meeting had a great turnout. The branch provided the chicken, drinks, and desert. There were lots of food, fun, and friendships to go around for everyone.

Congratulations to our January birthdays: Anthony Delorenzo, Joe Volpe, Rose Mercuri, Cettina Mauro, Joey Wadzinski, Frank Salomone, Rita Estrada, Wendy Navares, and Carmelo Divincenzo.

Of course, we also celebrated our February birthdays: Congratulations to Lynn Enrico, Sandro Mercuri, Florence Terramani, Eileen Viera, and Christina Winans who celebrate birthdays this month. Delicious cake was eaten by all. Buon Compleanno a tutti!

On Sunday, January 19 Branch 111 attended the annual Los Angeles District Officers Installation will be held at Casa Italiana at St. Peter’s Italian Catholic Church.

Congratulations to the newly joined Las Angeles Archdiocese! Grand President Bob Basuino was on hand to help celebrate and install the new officers for 2014.

Congratulations to Branch 108 members Tad and Theresa Shaw on their recent Wedding Anniversary.

Happy Birthday wishes to the members of Branch 108 celebrating in February.

5:30pm.


May God bless and keep you healthy “per cento anni!”

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President - ICF Branch 108
Email: cas1810@aol.com
Thank you and God Bless,

they will be moved to act.”

I believe that if you show people

This month’s I leave you with a quote from

food items at a nominal price. Come by! All

On March 1

was had by all. Thanks to Carmela Gioiello

We had a great turnout for our potluck dinner

volunteers. Together we are a successful branch.

A Mass was celebrated on March 4 in honor

On March 7 our branch will be hosting the

Branch 111 January birthdays President

Lots of free pasta will be served by Branch

members. Table and food blessing will be at

12pm on Saturday the 15th. We will also be

selling Italian sausage, canoli, and lots of

food items at a nominal price. Come by! All

are welcome to attend.

This month’s I leave you with a quote from Bill Gates – “I believe that if you show people the problems and you show them the solutions they will be moved to act.”
Thank you and God Bless,
Giuseppe Veneziano

San Pedro
St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115
We had a great turnout for our potluck dinner held on Feb. 20. There was lots of food and fun was had by all. Thanks to Carmela Gioiello for coordinating the dinner.

On March 1 we celebrated the feast of San Giovan Giuseppe Della Croce with our annual Crab Dinner Dance. Many members had a hand in making this event a tremendous success. Details to follow in the April Bollettino issue. The delicious dinner was prepared by the talented kitchen crew led by Anthony Amalfitano. Appreciation also goes out to Pauline Iacono, Anna and Neal DiLeva. We want to thank all of our hard working members. Table and food blessing will be at 2014 Installation Dinner.

San Pedro Branch 115 officers attended the Los Angeles District Installation at Casa Italiana on January 19. This year Branch 115 will celebrate its 60th Anniversary on August 16.

Cañada Flintridge, California were installed at the annual ICF Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council Installation Luncheon on January 19, 2014. The installation took place at Casa Italiana at St. Peter Church on Broadway in Los Angeles. Officers from eighteen branches of the newly consolidated district were sworn in by Bob Bausino, Grand President of ICF and installed by members of the Central Council who traveled from Oakland to install the new officers.

San Gabriel Valley
Arcadia
Holy Angels, Br. 218
Hello All,
Our charitable donations totaled $6,800 and this year has gotten off to a great start.
We were very excited to have our Annual Pancake Breakfast on January 26, 2014. Once again we were able to donate $1000 to Holy Angels School.
A Sausage sandwich was held on February 8th and 9th.
It was the best one ever, we made $708.
Thank you to Karen Berardi and Jo Anne Howell for all their hard work cooking and everyone to helped come out and sell.
Our St. Joseph table is on March 15-16. A pasta dinner will be served on Saturday night after the table is blessed and all day Sunday.
I would also like to welcome two new members to Branch 218, Mary Martinez and Linda Sherman.
Thank you again.
God Bless,
Kerri DiMichina
Heritage Chair

Diamond Bar
St. Denis, Br. 317
03/14 – General Meeting: Lenten Soup Meal
03/16 – Quarterly Mass for Deceased Members at the 10:30am Mass
03/22 – 12th annual Pastor’s Leadership Awards Banquet

We shall hold our first quarterly Mass at 10:30am at St. Denis on March 16 for the deceased members of St. Denis Italian Catholic Federation...
On March 16 we will start our presale for our biggest fundraiser - Holy Cannoli’s and thereafter on March 23 and March 30th. Distribution will be on April 6. We appreciate all the hard work and dedication of ICF branch members in the success of this endeavor.

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Please purchase your dinner and raffle tickets for the Pastoral Leadership Awards Banquet.

God Bless,
Roxanne Perry
President

Temple City
St. Luke, Br. 326
Happy Saint Patrick’s Day to all of our members!
Our next General Meeting will be held on March 26, 2014 at 7:30pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. The menu will be corned beef and cabbage, vegetables, rye bread, salad and dessert.

Our quarterly mass will be held on April 6th at the 8:00am mass. Breakfast to follow at Coco’s on Baldwin in Arcadia.
There will be no April meeting due to St. Luke’s Fiesta.
Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially; Rose Costa, Anne Dandrea, Roberta Nangelo, Andy Bonura, and Ann Primising. And, let’s not forget to pray for our deceased members. Please pray for George Zavala.
Happy March Birthday to: Salma Bishara, Angelo Capriotti, and John Perfetto.
Happy Anniversary to: Frances and Frank Scorsone (42 years)

True wealth comes from treasured friends that we hold dear to our hearts.

God Bless,
Jo Anne Disney

San Fernando Valley
Burbank
St. Maria Gorette, Br. 102
March brings it’s holidays too.
Blessed St. Patrick’s Day on the 17th’
Blessed St. Joseph’s Day on the 19th enjoy them both!!!

March 6-Board meeting
March 8-regular meeting in Cabrini Hall.
We will have a very special meeting because we will celebrate Ann Centoni’s one hundred birthday too. Come and help us celebrate this remarkable lady.
Ciao,
Joy

Santa Barbara/
Ventura
Thousand Oaks
St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380
Our branch celebrated a successful February meeting with a Mardi Gras celebration. A good time was had by everyone. Our members are busy planning for our upcoming 28 annual St. Joseph Day festival which will take place at St. Paschal Baylon parish hall on March 16. We will have live music, an Italian Bake sale, excellent raffle prizes and a wonderful Italian dinner prepared by member Lindo Palliano and his wonderful team of helpers. St. Joseph Day is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we look forward to all of our members getting together and enjoying the fun, while raising money for the ICF! It will be a lot of fun! Buy your tickets soon!
Ciao,
Jean Fontana Bridges
Corresponding Secretary

Members of Branch 218 both working and enjoying the annual Pancake breakfast.

Members of Branch 317 at the District installation included Roxanne Perry, Judy Politte, Patty Lasko, Ann Fusano, Bea Yary, and Mary Schmidt.

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Monterey Branch 36 enjoyed a bus trip to the horse races at Golden Gate Fields.

Salinas
Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25
Our branch voted to once again sponsor a $400 scholarship for a deserving high school senior. If you would like to nominate someone who qualifies and is of the Catholic Faith in either public or Catholic high schools, please contact a branch officer or go to the ICF web site, icf.org. Students must have a 3.2 GPA. Additional information as well as an application form can be obtained on the web site. Applications must be received by March 15, 2014.

The District Picnic is scheduled for August 3, 2014. Mark your calendar as the event seems to get better each year.

Tickets to the convention raffle have been received and will be sold by branch members. Tickets are $20 for 12 tickets.

The District Meeting will be held in Paso Robles on March 30, 2014. We would like to have a good representation from our branch, so contact a branch officer if you are interested in going. Some seating is available with other members; cost is $5 for lunch.

The Lenten Season is upon us once more. Hard to believe it has been a year. A thought to take away the darkness of selfishness and help remember the greatest sacrifice. Author Unknown.

Ciao,
Ray Frontini

Monterey
Santa Rosalia
St. Joseph, Br. 36
By the time you receive this month’s Bollettino our Lenten dinners will be going strong. I am looking forward to all the wonderful dessert and seeing everyone, volunteers and those who support our dinners.

St. Joseph’s Celebration - this is always a memorable event, Mary Manuguerra and Beatrice Bonanno work very hard to make St. Joseph’s really special. The tickets to attend have to be pre-paid, so call Mary, 375-2009, or Beatrice, 649-3216, to reserve your table. If you are a baker and make bread please bring some to share, we would love to have a lot of home made baked bread to honor St. Joseph. There will be a beautiful Mass with a visit from St. Joseph, delicious dinner, great band for dancing and/or listening, and you are with family and friends. What more could you ask for?

Our deepest sympathy to Joann Parent on the loss of her brother, Michael Maiorana. We have many members who have had surgery, are ill, confined to their home, please remember them in your prayers, we all need prayers so please pray for all of our members.

Calendar
Lenten dinners March 7-14-21-28, April 4-11. Please bring or send a dessert each week.

April 20 - Easter. May the beauty and peace of this Easter comfort you and remind you of Christ’s promise of eternal life.

May 1 - 83rd Anniversary and Initiation of New Members Dinner - this is a free dinner to all of our paid up members and new members, come and enjoy!

Have a blessed Lenten Season,
Bette Sollecito

Castroville
Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51
The January meeting was attended by Council Member, Jim Jones. He and our Deuty Geri Hrepich shared some ideas of how to attract members to our meetings and how to recruit new members. Jim explained some of the inner workings of the Central Council and what they hope to accomplish this coming year. Many thanks to Jim and we hope to see you again soon. Thank you to Geri for sharing stories regarding her early days with the I.C.F.

Our March 23 Polenta & Stew Scholarship Fundraiser is coming together. Our chefs Paul Cortopassi and Dave Pecci have added member D.L. Griet and friend Jeff Vezzolo to their kitchen crew. They are putting on their chef’s hats (wait a minute) is D.L.’s hat a mmm cowboy hat?? Great food will be coming out of our I.C.F. kitchen. The dinner will include Polenta & Stew, salad, bread, dessert and coffee. The date again is Sunday, March 24th the time is 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The price is $15.00 for adults and $8.00 for children under the age of 12. There will be a mass in Italian at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel next to the Parish Hall. Our very own Father Pedro (who is fluent in Italian) will be presiding.

Dear Jesus, as we begin our Lenten Journey, take away the darkness of selfishness and help us to make this day brighter for others. Thank you for the precious gift of water.

Ciao,
Leonora Barlow

Pacific Grove
St. Angela Merici, Br. 206
Our Branch successfully hosted the Central Coast District Installation Mass and Luncheon on January 18, 2014. Fr. Seamus O’Brien said the Mass and Andy Pappani, Grand 2nd Vice President, was the installing officer. Nello Rossi led the members in a rousing rendition of Noi Vogliamo Dio before we all headed down to the St. Angela Merici Church Hall. The Hall was beautifully decorated and everyone enjoyed our delicious enchilada lunch. It was a lot of hard work for the Members, but all in attendance seemed to be having fun, especially with the raffle prizes.

Greetings to all during Lent.
Marjorie McClure, Recording Secretary

Capitola
St. Joseph, Br. 227
Our Fish Fry dinners started on March 7 and will be served every Friday until April 11. Cost is the same this year: $12 for adults, $5.00 for children ages 5 through 12, children under five eat free. The rate for a family of two adults and two or more children under 12 is $30. Thanks to all who have signed up to help.

Thanks to Vicki Howell for putting together the day trip to Graton Casino in Rohnert Park.

Our condolences go out to the Airoldi family on the loss of their wife and mother, Barbara. Barbara joined our branch in 1999.

We also mourn the passing of Barbara Negro Walker, who was a charter member of our branch. Sincere sympathy to the Walker and Negro families.

At both funerals, our branch conducted its traditional ceremony with red roses and assisted at the reception. Our gratitude goes to Jane Kottla who coordinated the Walker funeral and to Barbara Scharschmidt, who has volunteered to serve as Funeral Coordinator in the future, thereby relieving our busy President of that duty.

Your prayers are requested for Bob Candau, who has faced many health challenges recently.

We’d like to recognize the following folks, who are the longest members still living: Alice Ponzia, Frank Locatelli, Kay and Ken Waldvogel, Heidi and Otto Ambisel, Sylvia Beccaria, Ida Lomazzi, Helen and Don Bonnel, Don Robinson, and Dolores McCartney. Thanks for your dedication all these years.

Blessings to all,
Deanna Musler, Secretary

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Micellaneous Stories
Monterey
Lone Oak Lodge
Nostra Signora del Soccorso, Br. 21
The Easter Season is upon us with all the remembrance and celebration of our Lord’s sacrifice. May the blooming daffodils, tulips, and iris also help us remember that hope springs eternal.

To catch you up: In January, Branch 21 officers attended the District Installation of Officers held at lovely St. Angela Merici Church in Pacific Grove. We want to thank the ICF host Branch 206 for their welcoming reception, beautiful mass, and tasty Mexican style luncheon. Those Branch 21 officers installed were: Roseann Costabile as President; Richard Puccinelli as 1st Vice President; Donald Giudici as Second Vice President; Rosa Radicici as Treasurer; Norma Wilson as Financial Secretary; Patty Morelli as Recording/Correspondence Secretary; Geri Zabalo as Orator; George Kievan, Cynthia Schuester, and Mary Jo Belli as Trustees; and Madeline Crews as Sentinel. Father Joseph Occhiuto will continue as Chaplain. Congratulations to you all Branch Officers and thank you for all you do.

Also in January, we had a calamari dinner with over 200 members and guests attending. The calamari, cooked by Dr. Don Sleib and his team, was excellent. Lena Silva and her group of “garlic peelers” put together a wonderfully pungent Bagna Calda; and Rosalie Campesi brought two delicious appetizers. We want to thank everyone who worked so hard on this dinner. It made for a wonderful evening.

Still to come: As always, the Lenten Season starts our No Bake Sale. Remember, this is one of our biggest fundraisers and no one has to do anything but donate! Then on March 23rd there will be our annual St. Joseph’s Day Dinner at Holy Cross Hall. And, looking further ahead to May 9, we will be holding a Mother’s Day luncheon. Those Branch 21 officers installed were: Roseann Costabile as President; Richard Puccinelli as 1st Vice President; Donald Giudici as Second Vice President; Rosa Radicici as Treasurer; Norma Wilson as Financial Secretary; Patty Morelli as Recording/Correspondence Secretary; Geri Zabalo as Orator; George Kievan, Cynthia Schuester, and Mary Jo Belli as Trustees; and Madeline Crews as Sentinel. Father Joseph Occhiuto will continue as Chaplain. Congratulations to you all Branch Officers and thank you for all you do.

In closing, something to think about: “The Resurrection tells us that the spiritual is higher than the material; that in this universe, spirit counts for more than matter.” H. P. Liddon, English Theologian

“Then on March 23 of our biggest fundraisers and no one has to do anything but donate! Then on March 23rd there will be our annual St. Joseph’s Day Dinner at Holy Cross Hall. And, looking further ahead to May 9, we will be holding a Mother’s Day luncheon. Those Branch 21 officers installed were: Roseann Costabile as President; Richard Puccinelli as 1st Vice President; Donald Giudici as Second Vice President; Rosa Radicici as Treasurer; Norma Wilson as Financial Secretary; Patty Morelli as Recording/Correspondence Secretary; Geri Zabalo as Orator; George Kievan, Cynthia Schuester, and Mary Jo Belli as Trustees; and Madeline Crews as Sentinel. Father Joseph Occhiuto will continue as Chaplain. Congratulations to you all Branch Officers and thank you for all you do.

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Paso Robles
St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354
The January meeting with our newly elected president Irma Zanni at the helm was well attended. Opening prayers were offered by Assistant Pastor Fr. Marc. Discussions were held regarding the upcoming biannual pasta dinner on Saturday, March 1st. Proceedings will be used for high school and college students’ scholarships.

On March 30 our branch together with Arroyo Grande Branch 291, will be hosting the Central Council District Meeting. Further information will be provided when final plans are made. We look forward to having many district members attend.

A donation of $550 was sent to Central Council for the Cooley’s Anemia Fund in memory of Norma Brenton, who was a member very dedicated to promoting awareness for this disease.

Thanks to Sarah Jane Amoroso and her Branch 206 members for hosting the Central Coast District Officers’ installation. Mass was celebrated by Fr. Seanus O’Brien after which we enjoyed visiting with friends over coffee and doughnuts. Grand Vice President Andy Pappini recognized our new officers: President Irma Zanni; First Vice President David Zanni; Second Vice President Alice Mastagosti; Recording Secretary Mary Mazzeni; Correspondence Secretary Theresa Sollazzo; Treasurer David Zanni; Orator Karen Kadjia; Trustees Muffy Flaherty, Missy Ellisworth & Tony Savilia; Sentinel Mary Ferry; Deputy Pete Gallagher.

With our new panel of officers, our goals will be to increase our membership, to provide assistance to various charities and to work together for success.

We thank God for the rain.

Theresa Sollazzo
Corespondence Secretary

Oakland
East Bay District Council
Well it looked like a full house at the district Crab Feed last Friday Feb. 7. The food was plentiful and delicious, and the raffle baskets were overflowing with tickets. As a well fed participant I would say it was a success. Thanks to all who helped and those who just enjoyed themselves.

Next on the agenda is Bishop’s Day which we will co-host with Contra Costa district on March 16. Mass will be at 3pm at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley, followed by dinner in Stack Center at 5pm. Reservations are necessary, the cost is $45.00, deadline is March 7.

Before the convention we will be having mini-metings, please feel free to contribute any ideas you have to make this an interesting and fun time for all. We will also be asking each branch to participate in different ways, so it’s time to put on your volunteer hat.

As Lent is fast approaching, it can be used as a time to reflect on the good our district can do with the help of many. Pray that we can all help one another to the best of our ability.

Good Works and Prayers,
Pat Grasso

Alameda
Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10
Branch 10 looks forward to a busy month of March. We will host our annual Irish Social on Saturday evening, March 15, in St. Philip Neri Hall, Alameda. Four days later, on Wednesday, March 19, Saint Joseph’s Day will be observed with a dinner, also in St. Philip Neri Hall. Both events are always well-attended. For information, including time, menu and cost, please contact Branch President Dave Rose, (510) 522-6004, bunele@earlink.net or publicity chairperson John Zugnoni, (510) 523-8005, zumut@earthlink.net.

Our activities in the past two months included attending the installation of district and branch officers of the Oakland District at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland on Sunday afternoon and evening, January 19, and hosting the District Crab Feed on Friday night, February 7. The installation itself followed Mass, which was concelebrated by Father Stan Zak of Saint Margaret Mary Parish of Oakland, the district chaplain, and Father (see below), and then a polenta dinner. Also present were the two priests of Saint Philip Neri—Saint Albert the Great Parish of Alameda, Father Joy Kumartusseril, m.f and Father Robert Chinnapam, m.f, who also belong to Branch 10. The installation coincided with but took precedence over the National Football Conference championship game. The San Francisco Forty-Niners boast Italian, and to some extent, African connections, having been founded in 1946 by the Morabito family of San Francisco and now being owned by the DeBartolo-York family of Youngstown, Ohio.

We were saddened by the death on January 27 of longtime branch member Salvatore Anthony “Sal” Spignola. Sal had reached the age of 90 last September. He is survived by his beloved wife of 65 years Betty and no children but four generations of other relatives.

Branch 10’s own polenta dinner has been rescheduled from January 18 to Saturday evening, April 26, beginning at 6:00 o’clock. Ben Ratto will serve as chef. Cost is $21.00 for adults and $10.00 for children 12 and younger. For further information contact Dave Rose or John Zugnoni.

All Branch 10 social functions are held in Saint Philip Neri Hall in Alameda. It is a very good direct tip to the hall, which located at High and Van Buren Streets, approximately 1-1/2 miles west of the Interstate 880 (Nimitz Freeway)-High Street interchange in Oakland. We hope to see lots of out-of-towners at our upcoming festivities.

Oakland
Santa Rita, Br. 40
Happy St. Patricks Day and St. Joseph’s Day. If your ICF dues have not yet been paid please do so now. Have your check made out to ICF Branch 40, and mail it to Catherine Kapper, 20700 Tuxedo Ct., Castro Valley, Ca, 94552. Thank you to those that have already remitted.

Upcoming:
March 6: Monthly meeting 7:00pm
March 5: Ash Wednesday
April 3: Monthly meeting 7:00pm
We wish a Happy Birthday to: Gloria Andrade, Rosalie De Santi and Aldo Innocenti. God Bless. Please remember in your prayers the sick and the concelebrating members of our branch. Especially Elena and Leroy Casale, Bruna Gasparro, Aldo Innocenti and Clemence Zanata. God Bless You.

Prayer: Jesus, Remember me when you come into your Kingdom.
Ciao,
M.A. Francis, L. Francis

Oakland
St. Theresa, Br. 223
Saturday, April 5 is the date of our Spring Dinner. Our meal will be at the recently acquired Soft Polenta, all the fixings, plus dessert from Dianda Bakery. There will be a raffle as well as a Silent Auction for Good Goods. This event will take place at the St. Theresa Events Center, which is easily accessible to all, at 30 Mandaly Rd, Oakland. Everyone is welcome. Doors open at 6 PM. Adults $18.00. Children 7-17yrs, $10.00. Reservations by check to I.C.F. Br. #223 and mailed to Holly Raineri, 1074 Amnerle Rd. Piedmont, CA 94610. Phone (510) 451-0608. Deadline is March 29. Many thanks to members Cecile Cutitta, Marlene McShane, Carla Gaul, and Mary Anne Giuntoli, who volunteered to be chairpersons and to our chef Peter Nuti.

May 3rd and 4th will be our 1st Bake Sale of the year at St. Theresa Church, 30 Mandaly Rd., Oakland, after the 5pm Saturday and after the 9am and 11am masses on Sunday. Our wonderful bakers once again will be baking breads, cakes piesz, biscuits, etc. Don’t miss this occasion for home baked goodies!

We welcome our newest member—Ann Hemmgen. She is the Chairperson of the East Bay District, and Branch 291, was our member for many years.

May God answer our prayers for Good Health wishes for our members who are not well. 
Happy St. Patrick’s Day and Happy Spring. 
Spring: An experience in immortality
Yoli Moglia

Livermore
St. Filomena, Br. 285
Our Bingo Bash to benefit Children’s Hospital Oakland, February 22, was a fun evening, with dancing between games, food, prizes and entertainment. We wish to thank all those who came, supported and helped make the evening a success. A special thanks to our chairpersons, Philomena and Joe Buonsante, and to the representation of the Children’s Hospital who explained about living with Cooley’s Anemia and how research is finding new treatments for this condition.

Twelve of our members and their guests enjoyed dining at the District Crab Feed on February 7. The next District function will be Bishop’s Day, on March 16, at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley. Bishop Barber will celebrate Mass, and dinner will follow at a cost of $45 per person. The East Bay District always does such a great job and we encourage as many members to

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March 2014
Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Well the teams playing on Super Bowl Sunday may not have been local teams, but the team effort for our Bake Sale certainly was there. A big thank you to all of our bakers, sellers and buyers, without you we would not have had such a successful sale.

Our Sweetheart dinner on Feb. 13 was also a success, nothing like romantic Italians! Also Mike Miraglia did all the cooking, so we could all enjoy ourselves. Thanks, Mike.

Coming in March is Lent, that will call on all of us to get more involved; in addition to our regular meeting, we will also provide one of the soup meals for the parish. And we will have a St. Joseph’s table at our regular meeting on March 15. A big thank you to Betty Paxton for joining the coffee and donuts crew!

Looking forward to a good turn out for Bishop’s day on Sunday, March 16, since it will be held here at OLG.

Contra Costa

Contra Costa District Council

The Contra Costa District Branches wish to thank the Richmond Branch for hosting our Installation of Officers. It was so impressive! The effort that was put into the event was evident. Thank You

We are now looking forward to Bishops Day Celebration Sunday, March 16. Mass at 3:00pm at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley. Banquet to follow. $45.00 per person. Please RSVP to your branch president by March 5.

March 5 will begin our Lenten Season, and it reminds us that we do not need to give up everything we like, but add on that special act of kindness A quote “I can’t do everything. But everything I do, I can do with love.”

Would you believe that March 9th is the time to set your clock forward? Longer daylight for Bishops Day!

Pax

Joan

Martinez

San Martinio, Br. 13

Bishop’s Day this year being held on Sunday, March 16 honors Bishop Michael Barber, Bishop of Oakland. Thank you to those members who submitted Spiritual Bouquet offerings. Also, thank you to members who contributed to the Italian basket donated to St. Catherine of Siena auction. It was sure to bring a hefty contribution!

Tickets are now available for the Annual “Family Night Out” Spaghetti & Meatball dinner on Saturday, April 5. This is a family friendly fun event. (Say that three times fast!) Tickets are only $10 each for those 12 years and older; $5 for children 5 to 11 years old, children under 5 are free with a paying adult. Family Deal is $25 for 2 adults & 2 or 3 children 5-11 years. Won’t you join us? Call 925-229-2665.

We are collecting applications for this year’s Ellis Eighth Grade $200 Scholarship from the students at St. Catherine of Siena Parochial School who plan to attend a Catholic High School. Submissions are due no later than March 31. Obtain the form from the school office for directions and qualifications.

Who will consider serving the branch as Recording Secretary? or Membership or Heritage Chairperson? Would you consider coordinating a branch event? or the branch participation in any of St. Catherine parish events if we choose to be involved in that capacity? Pentecost Celebration on July 8? Oktoberfest on Oct 4? and/or Holiday Lane on Nov 29/30? Consider the opportunities and share your thoughts with the members at our upcoming meeting.

Ciao for now!

Mary Cook

Pittsburg

San Domenico, Br. 72

Everyone had a great time at our Valentines party and branch meeting in February. Stories were shared by members about how they met their Valentines. A big thank you to our new Deputy Peggy Asello Hagerthy. She gave each member a box of candy. The members are thankful she is our deputy.

We had fun on the bus trip to the Graton casino. Joann did a great job!

We welcome new member Dixie Grossi. She moved to Bay Point so she transferred to our branch from the Concord Branch.

Condolences to Connie Boschke for the death of another family member.

Upcoming

Sunday, March 9 - Soup Meal and meeting at 2pm followed by a Novena to St. Joseph and St. Patrick’s Day party. Please bring a non-perishable item for the St. Vincent de Paul.

Sunday March 16 - Oakland Diocese Bishops Day in Castro Valley. Mass will be celebrated at 3pm followed by social and dinner. Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling 925-228-0810.

Sunday, March 30 - Mass at Good Shepherd at 12 Noon.

Sunday, April 13 - Branch meeting at 2pm.

Richmond

St. Raymond, Br. 154

St. Raymond’s branch started the New Year with sandwiches, Egg Nog and Spirits to welcome 2014 at the January 13 meeting.

Get well cards were sent to Joyce Peterson, Margery Augustini and Michael Cannady. Deputy Peggy Aiello Hagerthy. She gave each member a box of candy.

Remember dues are payable and should be turned in by March 16.

We are now looking forward to Bishops Day Celebration Sunday, March 16. Mass at 3.00pm at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley. Banquet to follow.

We once again enjoyed a very successful Polenta Dinner and now look forward to our March 8 fundraiser Corned Beef Dinner. Just a few short days later, on March 11th, we have our St. Joseph’s Table and meeting. Remember, there is no mass, and the Blessing of Tables is at 6:00 (not 6:30) followed by a meatless pasta dinner. Please bring a meatless dish to share… dessert, torte, vegetables, fruit, etc.

Bishop’s Day is in Castro Valley this year, on March 16.

Circle March 28 for the famous, fabulous St. Rose Fish Fry! Sure seems like our ICF will be having one more Fish Fry this year… isn’t it a safety concern?

March 4 will bring a hefty contribution!

Time to think about what to do for Lent, not just to “give up”, but positive things we can do for each other.

Here’s to a ‘Lenten Lent’ as we prepare for Easter.

Pax

Joan

Senior Special

Has the process of getting in & out of the bathroom become difficult or painful? Hydrotherapy is used to relieve many symptoms of back pain to poor circulation and high blood pressure.

John is an active member of Branch 313, Richmond serves the entire Bay Area.

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Hydrotherapy is used to relieve many symptoms from back pain to poor circulation and high blood pressure.

We are dedicated to providing walk-in tubs manufactured for comfort and safety at an affordable price.

$9,950
Pleasant Hill
Christ the King, Br. 442

Branch 442 held with a Valentines-themed branch meeting on Feb. 16, complete with a sweet treats potluck. We also voted at our January meeting to join the Contra Costa District, with Carole Delucchi Prado and Judi Van Maren chosen as branch delegates and Maureen Bartlett, Paul Peterson and Ann Consal as alternates.

Fundraising chair Linda Del Vigna organizes the branch’s donation of three Italian-themed baskets to the Parish Silent Auction. The baskets will also be hosting a $700 salami toss booth at the annual Parish Festival in May.

Branch volunteers also will be assisting in preparing and serving meals for local homeless families as part of the annual Winter Nights outreach program.

Please join us for our St. Patrick’s-themed meeting in March. Details to follow via email, evite and phone tree.

Sacramento
St. Mary, Br. 45

March greetings from St. Mary’s Branch 45. We apologize for the change in date for our first dinner, as Giovanni Hall was not available; the GOOD NEWS is that the first dinner of the year has been rescheduled for MARCH 9. On the dinner menu is the ever popular chicken and polenta; cost is $12.00 for members and $16.00 for non-members and guests. Make your reservation by calling Bruna, 916-515-9380 or Janine, 916-714-6967; please call by March 4. Meeting time is 6:00 pm and dinner at 6:30 pm. All members are invited to attend the meeting; we welcome your input and suggestions.

Also on the March calendar is the annual district fundraiser, the Mangiagio Italiano Dinner (March 1), hosted by Holy Spirit, Branch 419; funds raised support the Bishop’s Seminary fund.

Mark your calendar for May 1 – Ice Cream Social at Burr’s Fountain on Folsom Blvd.

May 18 – Chicken and Polenta dinner; more news on these events next month.

Yearly dues for 2014 are now due; payment envelopes have been sent to all members. Please return them as soon as possible, if you haven’t already done so.

Buon Compleanno to member Mindy Jung, who turns 95 March 29th.

Happy St. Patrick’s day & St. Joseph’s Day!

Ciao,
Mary Jo

Reno
St. Albert, Br. 135

On a chilly, rainy Sunday pre-Valentine’s evening of February 9, 28 members and guests enjoyed a terrific chicken cacciatore and polenta dinner with fixings put together by Joe Bear, Bonnie Ramos, and Frank Brunelli. Much thanks to the folks who prepared and served the food for their dedication, service and terrific food.

All our member deeply feel the recent passing on January 21, 2014 of Virginia Zorno, past President and First Lady. The branch presented him with a basket of wine as a thank you gift.

We went over the year’s agenda and committees. In addition, we reviewed our budget and charity donations for the upcoming year.

Installation of officers took place on February 15 at St. Bonaventure parish in Huntington Beach.

St. Joseph’s Day table will be held the weekend of March 15 and 16. The Bishop of Orange County Bishop Kevin Vann will officiate the 11:00 am mass on March 16. We will bless our tables.

Cris Gianantonio read a heritage report on the origins of I.C.F. In the photo, I.C.F. members Richard and Iana Zorno. The group recognized the branch’s donation of three Italian-themed baskets to the Parish Silent Auction.

Thank you to all members who donated desserts and appetizers, as well as those who assisted in the planning, set-up/take-down, decorating, serving, clean-up, etc., of this well executed event, what amazing display of team work!

Happy Birthday to Patricia Korf (March 9), Ann D’Antonio (March 15), and Virginia Becker (March 16).

Please continue to pray for all of our sick members, families and friends.

Our next general meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 5.

God Bless
Margie Burke

Danville
St. Isidore, Br. 352

Hello my fellow Branch 352 members, this is my first time as author of the branch Bolletino article, although I wrote the San Mateo District Bolletino article approximately eight year ago when I was President of that District.

This article was written in late January in order to meet the deadline for the March issue, so it may seem dated to some of you.

The Installation of Officers on January 25 was a great event, we celebrated a beautiful Mass with Fr. Larry Young, District Chaplain. Grand President Robert Bausano did an excellent job. Many thanks to Walter Costa, David Botta and Roseynelle Jarret for their management, also to all the members of the Central Council that attended the installation.

Our master Chef Angelo Travaglini and his crew will prepare a delicious corned beef and cabbage dinner at 7:00 pm at the branch meeting on February 27th. We will bless our tables. The price of the dinner very low, we received an amazing price of the dinner very low, we received a very positive response. Several inactive members, and parishioners of Italian descent attended the dinner. The group enjoyed “Trenette al Pesto,” “Pollo con Cipolle e Carciofi,” and “Ravioli Dolci.”

Central Council Representative Helen Piero greeted the dieters and spoke about the origins of I.C.F. In the photo, I.C.F. memb
At the Branch 438 January meeting, new Branch President David Brill honored Past President Paula Scarpelli.

Happy St. Joseph’s Day!

The installation mass and reception of the San Bernardino District occurred at The Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral (formerly Sacred Heart) in Redlands, California on Saturday, January 18, 2014. San Bernardino District Members at Installation Dinner, with Grand President Robert Basuino, Grand Treasurer Roselyyne Jarrett, and Council Member Patricia Mages.

San Bernardino District Council

I would like to thank the members of Redlands Branch 217 who did a great job in hosting the San Bernardino District Officer Installation. The Mass, celebrated by our District Chaplain Father Jerry Orcetti, was well organized. We were honored to not only have Grand President, Robert Basuino from Central Council, but Roselyyne Jarret Grand Treasurer, also assisted in the installation ceremony. I would also like to thank Central Council Member, Patricia Mages and her husband Lou for attending our event. The food catered by Corbett’s Catering of Redlands was a good choice. The chicken and lasagna meal with salad and Tiramisu for desert truly satisfied the palette. Thanks to Sister Mary for coordinating and directing the youths that served us. All in all it was a great installation. I’m just disappointed that Branch 303 from Cathedral City disbanded leaving only 2 Branches in our District. Bob Fox from 303 attended anyway.

Jack Grisafe
District President

San Diego District Council

On Sunday, January 26, 2004, the San Diego I.C.F. district held its annual Joint Installation of Branch and district officers. The event was hosted by branch 414, Santa Sophia and was co-chaired by Christine (Chris) Murphy and Irene Zenn. This event was held at St. Therese Parish due to a recent fire at Santa Sophia. Father Bill Stevenson, Diocesan Director, presided at the 11:00 A.M. mass. Following mass a luncheon, short program and the installation were held at St. Therese’s Social Center. Grand President, Robert Basuino conducted the installation and presented his state of the federation speech. Master of Ceremonies was Immediate Past President, retired Marine Lt. Cl. Clarence (Tony) Anthony who received the Deputy of the Year award from the Grand President. Tony was nominated by District Deputy, Forrest Price. District President, Richard Barker presented a state of the district speech. The luncheon was catered by Cupid’s Catering. Sam Caeti and Don Chmiel handled the drinks and Maria Tollefson conducted the raffle and CC Life Member Emeritus, Jody Baltiereiri concluded the event by leading the singing of the Federation hymn, Nos Vogliam Deo. Central Council Members present were: Grand Trustee, Franklyn Lopes Jr.; Grand Trustee, Lisa Crudo and her mother; Sargent at Arms, Marco Galeazzi and his wife Diane; Life Member, Dante Galeazzi; CC member Pat Mages and her husband Lou Mages; Life Member Emeritus, Jody Baltiereiri; CC Emeritus Forrest Price and his wife Prudence; and CC Emeritus Mary Alesi and her husband, Jim; plus all branch presidents and all branch deputies. Our special thanks go to Grand President, Bob and all the Central Council Members who traveled long distances to celebrate this special event with us in San Diego.

Forrest Price

Fontana

St. Joseph, Br. 210

We had a delicious main dish at this Month’s meeting. Joe Battisti requested and donated the money, for someone would make Braciola. Ron Rovere and Tony Selvaggi volunteered and did a great job of creating it. I haven’t had any since before my mom died in 1995. Of course all the side dishes and desserts provided by the other members added to a great meal.

We lost our main fundraiser, when Bingo closed in our parish. We would earn money for running the snack bar. To help raise funds, we raffled a basket at our meetings and at the local Council of The Knights of Columbus. One of the Bingo Players, Pauline Purcell was delighted when she won it. We also helped in the kitchen when they were short of help, so were offered two nights a month to staff the snack bar there at the Knight’s Bingo. We again will have money to fund our good works. Any member that wants to work, talk to our President Mauro and he will assign you a night. Dan Venditti, Pete Dante, Nan Judge, Judy and Mauro Romagnoli, and my wife Pat and I have already worked a couple of nights.

Our next meeting March 9 we will celebrate St. Joseph’s Day with a nice Italian meal.

Member be sure to attend.

Happy Birthday to all the March celebrants.

Happy Anniversary to my Lovely wife, Patricia, that I married on April 4, 50 years ago.

Ciao!

Jack Grisafe

Chula Vista

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229

Welcome to the new and improved Branch 229! We have an exciting year ahead with new leadership and an enthusiasm to serve the Lord through our fundraisers. Congratulations to the Officers of 2014! We thank them for their dedication and willingness to serve on the Board.

President: Robert Maruca
First Vice President: Louis Pierotti
Second Vice President: Vince Direkx
Recording Secretary & Corresponding Secretary: Karen Judson
Financial Secretary & Treasurer: Theresa Wilson
Orator: Maria Tollefson
Trustees: Michele Snyder, Esther Pierotti, Jody Baltiereiri
Sentinels: Frank Anastasi, John Stassi, Carmelina Manaca
Branch Deputy: Sherry Thurston
Our first event of the year was the Super Bowl Pizza Sale, which was a great success! Thank you to all who worked so hard.

Branch 229 is planning for the St. Joseph’s Day Table on March 16, 2014, with traditional dishes and a lovely table.

Planned upcoming events for 2014: Italian cooking classes, June Pasta Dinner, Christmas Party at the Parish Hall, and the Branch is bringing back the famous Chicken Barbeque. The Board is asking the general membership to bring in new members. The Branch needs members!

Please pray for deceased members, those who
San Diego District Installation

The San Diego Joint Installation of Branch and District Officers was held at St. Therese Parish on Sunday, January 26, 2014. Diocesan Chaplain Father William Stevenson conducted the mass. Co-chairs for the event were Christine Murphy (San Diego District 1st V.P. and Irene Zens. Immediate Past President, Ret. Marine Lt. Col. Clarence (Tony) Anthony was Master of Ceremonies and Grand President, Robert Basuino conducted the installation. Speeches were presented by Grand President, Robert Basuino and San Diego District President, Richard Barker.

Photo above depicts Central Council members and members emeritus. (back row left to right: Life Member, Dante Galeazzi; C.C. members Pat Mages; Grand Trustees, Lisa Crudo and Franklin Lopes Jr.; S.D. District Pres., Richard Barker, Sgt. At Arms, Marco Galeazzi. First row C.C. members emeritus, Forrest Price and Mary Alesi; Grand President Robert Basuino and Life Member Emeritus Jody Balestrieri.

San Diego

Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

Cari Amici,

Branch 230 had a General Meeting on Friday, January 17, it was preceded by a tasty pasta dinner. Thanks to our chefs, Theresa Cutri, Mary Lou Terramagra, and Pietro Vella. Thanks to our bartenders, Joe and Marcia Battaglia and our Dessert Hostess, Annie de Maria. It was good to see Donna and Jim Bregante back at our dinner-meeting. During the official proceedings we welcomed Rachael Bentley’s guest, Carl and we voted to donate two first year Scholarships to two worthy High School seniors who are college bound.

We shall be having our Annual Pancake Breakfast Scholarship Fundraiser on Sunday, April 6 from 8am to Noon in the Parish Hall, and we need everyone’s support to help us raise the monies needed to pay for the scholarships.

Father Louie encouraged our ICF Branch to be more engaged in showing our Catholic Faith and Italian Heritage by making a float for our local Columbus Day Parade, he also urged us to join in celebration as one of our parish’s own, Alex DePaulis will be ordained as a Diocesan Priest this May, 2014.

We need everyone’s help in making our Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser a success this Friday, March 7 2014 from 4pm to 9pm. All proceeds will go to Our Lady of the Rosary Church. Branch 230 will be attending the 7:30pm Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 14.

San Diego

St. Vincent de Paul, Br. 246

We ended the San Diego Chargers home schedule with an meatball sandwich sale. We have a terrific crew: Don Chmiel, Tony Anthony, Forrest Price, Vince Marcantonio, Bob Fischer, VJ Oliver, Bob Tallarida and the lady servers under the coordination of Kay Marcantonio and Robin Fielding.

Our branch hosted the San Diego Officers District meeting. Thanks the Forrest Price & Don Chmiel for assisting.

Our 2014 installation of the San Diego area ICF Officers was conducted Sunday, January 26. We had a morning Mass. Our District Chaplain Father Bill Stevenson celebrated the Mass. There was a delicious luncheon followed by the formal installation. Tony Anthony, our Master of Ceremonies, introduced all the dignitaries. Our Grand President Robert Basuino conducted the installation followed by “The State of the Federation” comments.

Lou and Pat Mages sat at our table. Their son graduated from Notre Dame and then went on the UCSD on a full scholarship for his Phd. Also at our table Vera Covitt, Pamela Carrico, Bob & Vic Tallarida and two Our Lady of the Rosary members. Our District President Richard Barker, from Our Lady of the Rosary Parish provided the final remarks.

San Diego

St. Therese, Br. 261

Our Kitchen Crew: Thanks to them our Meatball Sandwich Sales are so successful… The recent SuperBowl Sunday sale was made possible by: Don Chmiel, Tony Anthony, Forrest Price & Bob Tallarida. They prepared the sauce and meatballs for the Sunday sale… Also we thank our ladies for selling the sandwiches in Murray Hall on Sunday… The coordinators of the Sunday sale: Kay Marcantonio ad Robin Fielding… Handling the Sunday “cash box” -- Vince Marcantonio… The Branch conducts two major events every year - the April Spring Dinner Party and the December Christmas Party. Our goal is to have all members participate… to assist this cause Prudence Price generates and distributes an assignment sheet… Each member is listed in the assignment document… After 40 years the system seems to work well… Thank you pru…...

Congratulations to Don Chmiel and Bob Tallarida for completing the San Diego County Food Handling Course… This is a must course for restaurant food preparers… The certification is good for three years… Our dinner guests are truly appreciative…

Are sick, and those in need. When you see a man or woman in uniform, please thank them for their service to our country! God bless our military!

Ciao!
Karen Judson
Recording & Corresponding Secretary

San Diego District Installation

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Please remember to pray for our lawmakers and our servicemen and women.

Pace di Cristo.
Richard Barker

San Diego

St. Vincent de Paul, Br. 246

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icfeditor@gmail.com

The only email address to send things for the Bollettino is icfeditor@gmail.com. All other email addresses have been closed. Please make a note of it.
San Francisco

Maria SS Immocalata, Br. 1

Dear Members: Please note these upcoming events:
March 23 -- Branch Mass, ICC, 10:30am
April 2 -- Monthly Meeting, 7:00pm. Host Paul Biagi
April 27 -- Archbishop Day Details TBA

Sadly reporting the loss of Member Leo Sapienza member since 2002. Condolences to his wife Margaret and family. He will be missed.

Keep well!
Toni Morello

San Francisco

Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

Our January meeting was very nice. We didn’t get to the Asti Spumonte because the day just flew by. Hopefully, we’ll be able to share Valentine’s Day with a little sip or two! We were happy to be able to meet our new members in your prayers.

Ciao!
Eva Perata, President

Branch 290, and its installation 40 years ago

Branch 290 celebrated its 40th anniversary in December 2013.

San Francisco

Santo Stefano, Br. 50

Thank you to the officers who are continuing their service to our branch, and another thank you to the members who faithfully support our branch and its works.

Our monthly meeting in March was on Thursday, March 6, as the previous day was Ash Wednesday and parking was needed for church services. The remainder of our monthly meetings will be on the first Wednesday of the month.

Branch members contributed dozens of gifts for the patients at Laguna Honda Hospital at Christmas, an act very appreciated by the patients. Thank you for bringing Christmas joy and spirit to those who are often forgotten.

Ci Vediamo il 8 di marzo!
Mara Amato
March 2014

San Mateo
District Council

Greetings! Many thanks again to Branch 130 St. Pius, Redwood City for hosting the wonderful 2014 Installation and Mass followed by the delicious luncheon at the Elks Club. If you did not attend, you missed a very uplifting day. Thanks also to Branch 130 for hosting the fun filled Holiday Party at Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame.

San Mateo District will charter a bus to take members to the event. More info later.

Mark your Calendars:
Sunday, February 23, District Communion. Mass hosted by Branch 403, St. Dunstan’s, 1133 Broadway, Millbrae. 10:00a.m. followed by a reception in the hall.

Thursday, March 27, 2014 next District meeting at 7:30p.m. at Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame.

Sunday, April 27, Bishop’s Day hosted by the San Francisco District at St. Francis of Assisi Chapel in San Francisco. Luncheon to follow at San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. San Mateo District will be arranging a bus to take members to the event. More info later.

If you are interested in being a Deputy, call Anne Guerin at 3040 Del Ray Ave., San Bruno, CA 94066, 650-583-3643.

Our March meeting will be on the 5th, which is also Ash Wednesday. Just to give you a “heads up”, we will have a Pedro Tournament in the month of March. The date is currently TBD (To be determined). Please contact Norma for more information, 650-583-3643. The business/dinner meeting for April will be on the 2nd.

May 7 will be our last business/dinner meeting as we take a break for the months of June and July. Our first meeting after the break will be August 7.

So until next time…a little thought to ponder. “Ability is what you’re capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do, and Attitude determines how well you do it”!

Happy Easter!

Sempre Avanti,
Laurie Masetti

Colma
San Vincenzo de Paoli, Br. 19

Many Thanks to Joe and Joann Sanguinconio and all their crew for the successful Pedro Tournament held recently. This fund raiser helps support our charitable endeavors.

Another Garage Sale is planned for late Spring. Deborah (650) 583-0805 or Kathy (650) 993-8336 will be happy to receive items from you or arrange pick-up. Please call Kathy if you are able to help with pricing, setting up and/or helping to sell at the event.

Upcoming dates:
March 10 -- St. Joseph’s Table -- Potluck Chair: Cheryl Simon (650) 755-0878 or e-mail cas94015@yahoo.com

Please contact her for reservations and what you’ll be bringing for the potluck.

March 24 -- Easter favors TBA

April 14 -- Soup Night
Chair Kathy Trevizo Reservations to Cheryl by April 10.

April 26 -- Champagne Bingo -- Chairperson: Kathy and Deborah.

April 27 -- Bishops Day hosted by S.F. District -- more info to follow.

See you soon at one of our upcoming events.

Ruth Lapuchet

San Mateo
St. Matthew, Br. 163

Salutations! Can you believe that the Lenten Season is about ready to begin? Ash Wednesday is March 5 and the first day of spring will be March 20.

Thanks to the members for the delicious Pot Luck Dinner we had at our February meeting. The food was great and we all enjoyed the fun evening. As a reminder: All our dinners start at 6:00pm and meetings start at 7:00pm.

Mark your calendars:
Thursday, March 13, 2014 – Soup dinner 6:00pm, meeting at 7:00pm. Come and enjoy our delicious homemade soup. Remember to bring your own bowl and spoon. Send check to Anne Guerrin at 3040 Del Ray Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403. Phone number is 650-3417872. Members $9.00 and non-members $11.00.

Sunday, April 27, 2014 – Bishops’ Day hosted by the S.F. District at St. Francis of Assisi Chapel in San Francisco. Luncheon to follow at San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. San Mateo District will be arranging a bus to take members to the event. More info later.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day! God Bless!

Anne O’Brien

South San Francisco
Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Our February business/dinner meeting was held on the 5th and we would like to thank Frank Riso and all of the helpers who prepared the outstanding Ravioli dinner.

The Crab Feed Fundraiser was held on Feb. 24, 2014. The festivities will begin at 4:00pm, with dinner at 5:00pm. Dinner includes salad, antipasto, roast pork loin and vegetables, bread, dessert and wine for $25 per person. For reservations send check payable to ICF #403 to 706 Clearfield Dr., Millbrae, CA 94030.

Our annual St. Joseph’s Table will be held on March 25, with a pot luck dinner provided by our members. This Sicilian tradition of offering thanks to St. Joseph for his intercession during a drought, is one of our most popular events, as members take pride in decorating the Table with beautiful flowers from their garden.

Rose Marie Morando
Secretary

IHF	2014	San Francisco	March 2014

Marin
Larkspur
St. James, Br. 161

Last month we had the pleasure of having Central Council members attend our meeting. They were Grand President Robert Basuino, Grand Secretary Deborah Rodondi, Parliamentarian David Botta, Grand Trustees Lisa Crudo, Franklin Lopes Jr. and Herb Basuino. Grand President Robert Basuino with other Central Council members initiated the new officers of our branch. Thank you for coming.

Our Branch received a Certificate of merit for 100% Apostolic report participation for the Marin area.

Our get-well wishes for a speedy recovery to all of you who aren’t feeling well.

Wishing everyone a Happy St. Patrick’s and a Happy St. Joseph’s Day.

Our next meeting will be March 18.

Ciao,
Anna Biggio

Novato
Our Lady of Loreto, Br. 332

Co-President Greg Erigero welcomed over 130 members to our February Dinner Meeting. We were saddened to hear Mary Marinello had fallen and was in the hospital. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Don Perazzo announced the winners of our Super Bowl Fund Raiser. Lucky winners were Barb Garbarino, Lisa Holmes, Rosa Fazio and Jim Raccanello.

Our Lady of Loreto Catholic Daughters served High Tea on February 23, 2014. Proceeds will benefit scholarships for graduating 8th graders who will be attending Catholic High Schools.

Financial Secretary George DeMartini told us that only 30 members have not paid their dues for 2014.

First Year Scholarship Applications are available and due by March 15, 2014. These Scholarships are awarded to high school graduates who will enter college in the fall.

A special raffle was organized by Karen
San Jose
Santa Clara Valley
District Council

The March district meeting will be held at Br. 186, St. Nicholas Church in Los Altos (not the school) – Monday, March 10.

The following are district and branch dates to mark your calendars and make plans to attend, a great way to support our charities and have fun too! Check with each branch’s article or your branch president for details.


6/22/14 ICF 90th anniversary mass/luncheon/dance - details to follow 6/29/14 Our Lady of Peace mass and luncheon - details to follow 10/25/14 Br. 184, St. Mary’s in Los Gatos, dinner/dance/auction to celebrate their 50th anniversary - details to follow Happy St. Patrick’s Day! Marcie Rossi

Santa Clara
N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Thanks to all members who have paid ICF dues for 2014. We have about 90 members paid -- good job. New members are always welcome. Our branch was saddened to learn of the passing/death of Antonette B. Sunseri. Our deep sympathies to Pat and Robert McLean. Toni Sunseri will be dearly missed by all the friends she inspired in the ICF and Branch 5. May Toni rest in peace in heaven forever. We sincerely thank God for her years of service.

The Dinner/Meeting for March is scheduled for March 27, 2014. Time: 6:00pm dinner and 7:00pm meeting. Menu is corned beef and cabbage with all the trimmings. Price: $10.00. Call Bea Cunha for reservations.

Day of Recollection by Father George Aranha is here at St. Clare Parish Hall on March 22, 2014 with lunch included. There will be hospitality in the morning. Time: 9:00am to 3:00pm with mass at 2:00pm. Call John Gillio for reservations at (408) 225-6372, or call St. Clare Rectory to be put on the list.

Dates to put on your calendar: June 22, 2014 the 90th anniversary of founding of the ICF in San Francisco. Buses will be provided, and more information will follow in the Bollettino and Branch Newsletter. June 29, 2014 will be the District Mass at Our Lady of Peace with lunch to follow at Michael’s Shoreline. More information at the meeting. Happy St. Joseph’s Day to all members. Happy St. Patrick’s Day. Ciao, Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy
Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Well we got a little rain, but keep praying we need more.

If you get this issue after our Polenta dinner, thank you to Andy and the kitchen crew, the servers, and all who helped with our annual fundraiser. Thank you to Chris Andrade for handling the raffle.

Upcoming:
March 4 -- Ash Wednesday
March 7 -- Monthly mass for members 7:15 Chapel
March 16 -- Friendship Sunday, after morning masses in Cullen Hall
March 17 regular dinner meeting 6pm Cullen Hall
March 30 -- Scholarship Breakfast 7am to 11:30am Cullen Hall
April 14 -- Host district meeting 7:30 Cullen Hall
Please help with the Scholarship breakfast. We give out 5 total scholarships during the year, and these fundraisers are used to fund them. Just a reminder, scholarship applications are due on March 15. If you know of any high school graduate, urge them to apply. The application can be downloaded from ICF.org. Pray for our sick and homebound members. Ciao,
Anna Barberi

Los Gatos
St. Mary, Br. 184

The Mad Hatter’s Ball is turning out to be something quite extraordinary! In addition to our regular Polenta, Chicken Cacciatore and all the trimmings, there is going to be a Hat Contest. The committee wants you to decorate a hat, which will then be judged by the Mad Hatter and the Queen of Hearts! A prize awaits the winner. There will be music for your dancing pleasure by the Reno DiBono Band, as well as those wonderful raffle prizes. Be sure to call Don Arnaudo at 354-4017 for ticket information.

Telling you way in advance, “Save the Date of October 25, 2014,” for our 50th Anniversary. More details to follow, but it will be special, catered, and more.

Quarterly Mass set for March 23 at 7:30am. Breakfast to follow at Ellie’s on Winchester. Member Marcia Green is working on a slide show presentation of her recent trip to Viet Nam. While there, she brought vitamins and clothing to the children at St. Ai’s Orphanage. We will post the date soon.

We ask your fervent prayers for Dina Floro, a long time member, and for Nicholas Norcia, grandson of members Lydia and Dom Norcia. It would be great if each member could bring in one new member. This is the time to start thinking of growing our Branch. Many good things to follow this year. Ciao for now, Lucy Amico

Los Altos
St. Nicholas, Br. 186

Thanks to all who worked on the Polenta Dinner Dance. It takes many hands to make events become successful. From the buying of supplies, setting up, selling tickets and most of all the kitchen crew. Kudos to all.

The social hour before our meetings, where members bring hors d’oeuvres to share, has been a nice addition to our meetings. Come and enjoy.

Applause to the members for being so prompt in paying their dues. You have put a smile on Andy’ face.

Please keep Joan Freitas, Rita Fraggaglia, Chuck Tapella in your prayers. They continue to be in need of them.

The following are district and branch dates to mark your calendars and make plans to attend, a great way to support our charities and have fun too! Check with each branch’s article or your branch president for details.

(Right) Happy St. Patrick’s Day. Elaine

San Jose
St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Our quarterly Mass and breakfast was held on January 19. Members met for the 8am Mass and then went to Cup N Saucer restaurant for breakfast. About 27 members attended the breakfast. Everyone had a good time. We are planning to return to the restaurant again for our summer quarterly breakfast.

At the January dinner meeting our menu was beef stew. The food was great and plenty of compliments were given to the cooks. Marie Antonowicz gave a presentation for the heritage portion of the meeting. Dressed in her chicken costume Marie told the group the history of the Chicken Dance. At the end of her presentation she had everyone stand and perform the Chicken Dance. Thanks Marie, that was a great presentation!

A new member was welcomed into our branch at the January meeting. Rose Wesley was initiated into the branch by Branch Deputy Mike Nunziata and Grand President Bob Basuin. The final preparations for our March 8 Polenta dinner/dance “All Aboard A Disney Cruise” were being completed by Debbie Piro. Jim Jones is making posters to decorate the hall. Since Jim is into Disney, I can’t wait to see what he creates.

On March 27 our branch will be making soup for the weekly Lenten soup night. Everyone is welcome. We start serving at 6pm. Hope to see you there!

Happy St. Patrick’s Day.
Rosemary Janis

Make Your Reservations for the 90th Anniversary Celebration Near You!
As we begin a new year we have much to be thankful for.

Thank you for our newly installed leaders:
Noreen Gillio -- President
Phil Robba -- Past President
Mike Nunziata -- First Vice President
Mike Curulla -- Second Vice President
Paula Radzinski -- Recording Secretary
Barbara Ruffner -- Treasurer
Nancy Jolliff -- Financial Secretary
Ed Wendler -- Orator
Mike Nunziata -- Membership/Scholarship
Paul Butler -- Trustee

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As we prepare for our Lenten Journey, please consider taking part in some of our Branch and District Lenten Activities.

Our Branch will host the first Devotional Stations of the Cross followed by a simple soup supper on Friday, March 7. Stations begin at 6pm in the church and we will need a minimum of 10 soups to serve the Parishioners. Soups need to be in the Farana Center by 6pm.

Our PASTA Fundraising Dinner for the 5th Grade Science Camp will be held on Sat 15th March serving from 6-7:30pm. Come help serve or help us sell tickets at this important fundraiser.

Fr. George will lead the SCVD District and others in a Day of Recollection from 9am to (Mass at 2pm) on Saturday 22 March at St. Clare’s Church. The theme of his presentation will be the Life with Grace in this Year of Grace.

Remember to include our sick members in your prayers and please pray especially for Virginia Mirrione (dialysis) Anne Lopez (pinched nerve) and Betty Deville (slowly recovering from surgery) and please say a special prayer for Mary-Clare Affonso as she deals with the death of her brother Fr. Alex.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!
Santa Rosa District Installation

Branch 52, Healdsburg hosted the Santa Rosa District Installation on January 19. Over 100 members and guests attended this fun event. Fr. Thomas Devereaux said the 10 AM Mass, which was followed by the Installation and a delicious ravioli lunch. Grand 2nd Vice President Andy Pappani conducted the Installation. Other Central Council members attending were Life Member Jim Freibel and his wife, Mary Ann, Central Council Member Vince Piro, Past Grand President Robert Acquistapace and his wife, Kathy, Santa Rosa District Deputy, and Past Grand President Carmen Kilcullen and her husband Larry, and wife of the 2nd Grand Vice President Sylvia Pappani. Also in attendance was Fr. Fergal McGuinness, pastor of St. Peter’s in Cloverdale, who agreed to be the Santa Rosa District Chaplain!

District President Dante Corsetti presented the 2013 District President’s Award to Randy Apel of Br. 198, Santa Rosa. Randy helps many branches in the District and is very deserving of this honor. Dante also presented outgoing District Financial Secretary /Treasurer Lydia Camozi with a small gift in recognition of her 15 years of service to the District. Dante also presented Andy Pappani with a gift in thanks for his coming and officiating at the Installation.

everyone who came to make the dinner a success. It’s our largest fundraiser of the year. We slow down a bit in March only to gear back up in April.

Upcoming Events:
March 4: Branch meeting in the Rectory.
March 9: Branch meeting in the Rectory.
April 1: Branch meeting in the Rectory.
April 5: Polenta Dinner. This is our last Polenta Dinner of the season until November.
April 13: ICF Breakfast after the 8am and 10am Masses. More details, next month.
If you haven’t paid your 2014 dues, please send them to Susan Matheny, as soon as possible. Our branch has close to 300 members and is in the top 3 branches for the entire ICF!
Happy St. Patrick’s Day to all. Our kitchen crew will be going all out with a full dinner of corned beef and cabbage, including great wine and desserts made by our new volunteer committee. For reservations, contact Lila at (707) 996-3448.
On March 9 the Branch will have its quarterly Mass at St. Francis Solano Church at 9 a.m. with breakfast following at The Palms Restaurant.
Scholarship applications have been sent to Sonoma High School, and our members are urged to also submit an application if they have eligible children and/ or grandchildren.
Salute,
Marie-Therese Denning

Petalmu St. Vincent, Br. 127
Greetings from Petaluma!
RAIN! What a welcome sight arriving in Petaluma and all over California. Also, the beauty of the leaves and tree branches with the glistening of the drops of rain, that look like diamonds giving their beautiful sparkle as the light hits them. A beautiful sight for which we must thank God for and for all he gives us...
It looks like Branch 127 will be having a busy year. We’ve already had our soup/dessert night in January, a crab feed in February...
Appreciation to John Susan. Thank you for your inspirational talks. We sent a Certificate of Recognition to John De Pee. Happy Anniversary Joan and Mike Dal Porto.

Our incumbent President Bruno inducted two new members: Tina Arcata and Orlando families will once again chair the St. Joseph’s Table on Saturday, March 22, Quarterly Communion/Mass will be at 5:00pm. Dinner will follow in St. James Church Hall. There will be o’er-serves, salad, pasta and fish, dessert, wine and coffee served. Cost is $16 for adults $5 for children under 12 yrs. of age. Make your reservations with Spence - 763-9082 or Louise - 769-7389.

Report on the Crab feed will be in next months Bollottino.

March 10 - Regular Meeting Mar./Apr./May - Bakeless Bake Sale Fund Raiser
April 14 - Regular Meeting

It is so nice to hear that so many of the members support our President Bruno in attending the services for our deceased members. We lost two of our most respected members Estelle Moretti and Anita Morris Tyler in the past few months. We will miss them.

Glad to have Louis Vicino feeling much better after his hospital stay. Get well wishes to Maria and Orlando families.

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Dear Brothers & Sisters

2014 is off to a great start. Following our successful 40th Anniversary dinner we had a very successful cookie exchange for Valentine’s day. When everyone got their fill of our corned beef and cabbage dinner prepared by Ernie Giampaoli and his helpers we are now moving on to our annual Prime Rib and Pasta Fundraiser Dinner.

Please remember to mark your calendar for all of these:
March 16 -- 9:00am. Mass for living & deceased ICF
April 5 -- 4:30pm. Mass for living & deceased ICF
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April 5 -- 4:30pm. Mass for living & deceased ICF

Dear Brothers & Sisters

The installation dinner was on January 25 at St. Mary’s after 5:30 mass. Everyone had an enjoyable time.

We were also reminded that Betty Chin is in need of peanut butter and jelly for sand-wiches she serves to the homeless. If you are interested in donating any of these items let Marian know or just bring items to our meeting.

Our March meeting will be on the 11th. Please plan to attend.

Please continue to pray for all members especially those who are ill.

Peace and Good Health to all,

Nancy Paoli

A message from our wonderful Past President Jerry Colivas presented his heritage talk for this month. His presentation was about the life of Leonardo DaVinci. He was a great artist, sculptor, engineer, and mathematician.

His inventions were an enormous contribution through out the world. Thank you Jerry for another informative talk!

Marian reminded us that the 2014 calendar will be sent by e-mail.

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Please continue to pray for all members especially those who are ill.

Peace and Good Health to all,
**Branch 198 secretary Kathy Acquistapace presents deputy Lorraine Vanetti with a Christmas gift from the branch in appreciation of all her time and dedication.**

**Ryan McCallmont, grandson of Robert Acquistapace, Br. 198, recently received the rank of Eagle Scout. Celebrating with him are his parents, Loretta and Mike McCallmont. All are members of Branch 198 in Santa Rosa.**

**April 5 – 5:45pm. Prime Rib & Pasta Fundraiser April 7 – 7:00pm. Meeting, dessert & bingo May everyone have a happy St. Patrick’s Day Ciao, Lorraine Castelli**

**Stockton**

**District Council**

ANNUAL BISHOP’S DAY SATURDAY MARCH 29 – Did you know that it costs about $30,000/year to educate a seminarian? With your help, we are currently educating eleven Stockton Diocesan seminarians. It’s that time of year and St. Anthony’s Manette will be hosting the Bishop’s Burse celebration on Saturday, March 29. The event begins with mass at 11 a.m. at St. Anthony’s Church, 505 East North Street, Manette, CA, followed by Tony Queirolo’s fabulous Italian dinner. Honored guest Bishop Blaire will be presented a generous burse as well as a spiritual bouquet. Robert Pachinger had a moment with Bishop Blaire and expressed how grateful he was for Bishop Blaire’s support and encouragement. Bishop Blaire made the trip from the valley, to be with us. It is rare when members from other ICF Branches, other than our District Deputy, grace us with their presence at our events. The boys that served dinner were all very well mannered and well liked by all. Since they could not accept the donation that was collected for them, they asked that we donate the funds to the Bishop’s Burse. We are very grateful for their help and look forward to having them come again. I hope that this interaction helps them learn that they are valued in our society.

I must thank Tony and Ida Queirolo, who made the trip from the valley, to be with us. It is rare when members from other ICF Branches, other than our District Deputy, grace us with their presence at our events. The boys that served dinner were all very well mannered and well liked by all. Since they could not accept the donation that was collected for them, they asked that we donate the funds to the Bishop’s Burse. We are very grateful for their help and look forward to having them come again. I hope that this interaction helps them learn that they are valued in our society.

**Our next meeting is March 25. in the school cafeteria. Dinner is served at 6:30pm at a cost of $6. Hope to see you there.**

**Pray for all of our deceased members and ill members. Ida Queirolo**

**Manteca**

**N.S. Buon Viaggio, Br. 139**

Our branch will be hosting the Stockton District Bishop’s Burse on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at St. Anthony’s Church, at the corner of Fremont and North. Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. with a luncheon to follow in the school Gym. The tickets are $25, each and can be purchased by calling Ida Queirolo at 209 982 5710 or Anna Mello at 209 982 5458. We would love to have lots of members and their families in the District attend. Our next fundraiser will be an “All you can eat” Shrimp Dinner. It will be held on Saturday, April 26, in the St. Anthony’s School Gym. Tickets are available now for $35. Each. Make your reservations by calling Marilyn Amoral, 209 823 5859 or Ida, 209 982 5710.

We will be providing the Lotusen Soup on Monday, March 10, in the cafeteria. Our next meeting is March 25. in the school cafeteria. Dinner is served at 6:30pm at a cost of $6. Hope to see you there. **Pray for all of our deceased members and ill members. Ida Queirolo**

**Tracy**

**St. Bernard, Br. 390**

Our monthly dinner meeting was very well attended - chicken cacciata and polenta was amazing and everyone said we should have it more often.

The new 2014 elected officers were sworn in and took their oaths. Our new officers are busy planning events for us and right now all members are in full swing preparing for our February 15 “sit-down Lasagna Dinner” which is always a sell out for us. We also have some fun things on the horizon.

We are getting ready for our St. Joseph’s Table in March. This is always a real “taste” experience for the Parish as we do so many different types of foods and desserts. It is donation for admittance to the Hall and all proceeds go to our local Food Bank.

**Robert Pachinger**

**Correspondence Secretary**

**Green Valley**

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

It is with a heavy heart that we report the passing of Branch Charter Member Nick Del Corso on February 2. For many years he served as our Branch Orator and with his wife, Yolanda, was very active in the Branch. He and Yolanda had been married for 66 years.

Recently we celebrated Bishop’s Day and Installation of officers with Branches 433 and 434 at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Tucson. We began by celebrating Mass with the other Branches and at the end of the Mass, we presented Bishop Kicanas with a monetary gift from our Branch.

Our new officers are busy planning events for us and right now all members are in full swing preparing for our February 15 “sit-down Lasagna Dinner” which is always a sell out for us. We also have some fun things on the horizon.

**Tucson**

Green Valley Branch 425 and Tucson Branches 433 and 434 Bishops’ Day and Installation of Officers On Saturday, February 1, 2014, Branches 425, 433 and 434 celebrated Bishop’s Day and Installation at Tucson’s Ss. Peter and Paul Parish with Branch 433 as the host. At the 5 pm Mass, each Branch entered the church, behind their ICF banner, carrying candles for Candlemas. The procession was led by Grand 1st Vice President Leonard Zososki and wife Betty, and on behalf of the Central Council of the ICF Leonard presented Bishop Gerald Kicanas with a monetary gift for the Seminarians Fund followed by the president of each Branch (Joan Silva for 425, Melissa Rodriguez for 433 and Kathy Gatto for 434)

also presenting the Bishop monetary gifts for the Seminarians Fund.

Following the Mass, the Installation of Officers took place in Gramer Hall. The theme of the evening “An Italian Picnic”, had Branch 433 providing sausage and pepper sandwiches, soft drinks and wine, Maria Fleischmann’s crème puffs, 425 provided a pasta salad; and Branch 434, the Italian buns for the sandwiches and assorted bundt cakes for dessert.

This is the first time 433 has been host for this event and we were especially honored to have Bishop Kicanas join us for the festivities as well as addressing us prior to the dinner and then giving the blessing. Branch 433 Chaplin, Fr. Patrick Crino, was also present and gave the closing prayer.

Following the dinner, Grand 1st Vice President Leonard conducted the installation of officers assisted by CC members Jim Acistelli, Pat Mages and Vince Piro.

**Bette Actelli, Reporting**

**Modesto**

**St. Stanislaus, Br. 48**

March is going to be a busy month starting with our meeting. St. Joseph’s Table Celebration and the Bishop’s Burse.

The St. Joseph’s Table will be March 16, 2014 at 2:00pm. It will be at St. St. Stanislaus Hall at 7th and K Streets, in Modesto. Mark the date on your calendar and join us for some great food and fun raffle. It is potluck so bring your favorite dish, family and friends. Our members are encouraged to attend the Bishop’s Burse. Ask your family and friends to join you. It will be in Manteca so if you don’t want to drive alone get some members and car pool together

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday March 2, 2014 and April 6, 2014 8:00am at the Maze Blvd. Church

Coming up:

Mar 12 7:00pm Meeting – St. Stanislaus Hall 7th & K Streets
Mar 16 2:00pm St. Joseph’s Table Celebration St. Stanislaus Hall 7th & K Streets
Mar 29 11:00am Bishop’s Burse – Br. 139 St. Anthony’s Manteca
Apr 9 7:00pm Meeting - St. Stanislaus Hall 7th and K Streets

Cecelia McGhee

**Angels Camp**

**St. Patrick, Br. 413**

We had a great time at our Valentine’s Dinner Dance on February 8. We had prime rib and roasted potatoes with asparagus. For dessert, we had Mary Kingshill’s famous, delicious lemon cake. We danced to romantic music provided by Rich Rinaldi. For this event, our servers were high school kids from the Rite of Passage School. This school is a special school for kids that got into some trouble. The boys that served dinner were all very well mannered and well liked by all. Since they could not accept the donation that was collected for them, they asked that we donate the funds to the Bishop’s Burse. We are very grateful for their help and look forward to having them come again. I hope that this interaction helps them learn that they are valued in our society.

I must thank Tony and Ida Queirolo, who made the trip from the valley, to be with us. It is rare when members from other ICF Branches, other than our District Deputy, grace us with their presence at our events. The night was rainy (thank God for rain!), but we had amore at our event. Ciao, Robert Pachinger

**Correspondence Secretary**

**Grand President Bob Bausino standing with the Stockton District’s CC Sergeant of Arms Marco Galeazzi and Life Member Dante Galeazzi at the all day Federation meeting in February held in Los Gatos, California.**

**Green Valley**

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**Bette Actelli, Reporting**
Pope Francis’ 2014 Lenten Season Message

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis’ ‘Message for the Lenten season 2014 was released at a Vatican Press. The theme of the Message is drawn from a Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, “He became poor; so that by his poverty you might become rich” (cf. 2 Cor 8:9).

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As Lent draws near, I would like to offer some helpful thoughts on our path of conversion as individuals and as a community. These insights are inspired by the words of St. Paul: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (2 Cor 8:9). The Apostle was writing to the Christians of Corinth to encourage them to be generous in helping the faithful in Jerusalem who were in need. What do these words of Saint Paul mean for us Christians today? What does this invitation to poverty, a life of evangelical poverty, mean to us today?

Christ’s grace

First of all, it shows us how God works. He does not reveal himself cloaked in worldly power and wealth but rather in weakness and poverty: “though He was rich, yet for your sake he became poor…” Christ, the eternal Son of God, one with the Father in power and glory, chose to be poor; he came amongst us and drew near to each of us; he set aside his glory and emptied himself so that he could be like us in all things (cf. Phil 2:7; Heb 4:15). God’s becoming man is a great mystery! But the reason for all this is his love, a love which is grace, generosity, a desire to draw near, a love which does not hesitate to offer itself in sacrifice for the beloved. Charity, love, is sharing with the one we love in all things. Love makes us similar, it creates equality, it breaks down walls and eliminates distances. God did this with us. Indeed, Jesus “worked with human hands, thought with a human mind, acted by human choice and loved with a human heart. Born of the Virgin Mary, he truly became one of us, like us in all things except sin.” (Gaudium et Spes, 22).

By making himself poor, Jesus did not seek poverty for its own sake but, as Saint Paul says “that by his poverty you might become rich”. This is no mere play on words or a catch phrase. Rather, it sums up God’s logic, the logic of love, the logic of the incarnation and the cross. God did not let our salvation drop down from heaven, like someone who gives alms from their abundance out of a sense of altruism and piety. Christ’s love is different! When Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan and was baptized by John the Baptist, he did not so because he was in need of repentance, or conversion; he did it to be among people who need forgiveness, among us sinners, and to take upon himself the yoke of our sins. In this way he chose to comfort us, to save us, to free us from our misery. It is striking that the Apostle states that we were set free, not by Christ’s riches but by his poverty. Yet Saint Paul was well aware of the “the unsearchable riches of Christ” (Eph 3:8), that he is “heir of all things” (Heb 1:2).

So what is this poverty by which Christ frees us? Is it the way of loving us, his way of being our neighbour, just as the Good Samaritan was neighbour to the man wounded by the road? (cf. Lk 10:25-29). What gives us true freedom, true salvation and true happiness is the compassion, tenderness and solidarity of love. Christ’s poverty which enriches us is his taking flesh and bearing our weaknesses and sins as an expression of God’s infinite mercy to us. Christ’s poverty is the great treasure of the “one who has boundless confidence in God the Father, his constant trust, his desire always and only to do the Father’s will and give glory to him” (Rom 8:28). Jesus is rich in the same way as a child who feels loved and who loves its parents, without doubting their love and tenderness for him. He takes flesh of the Virgin Mary, lies on the bosom of his blessed Son; his unique relationship with the Father is the sovereign prerogative of this Messiah who is poor. When Jesus asks us to take up his “yoke which is hard”, he asks us to be enriched by his “poverty which is rich” and his “richness which is poor”, to share his filial and fraternal Spirit, to become sons and daughters in the Son, brothers and sisters in the firstborn brother (cf. Rom 8:29).

It has been said that the only real regret lies in not being a saint (L. Bloy); we could also say that there is only one real kind of poverty: not living as children of God and brothers and sisters of Christ.

Our witness

We might think that this “way” of poverty was Jesus’ way, whereas we who come after him can save the world with a different kind of love which does not hesitate to offer itself in sacrifice for the beloved. Charity, love, is sharing with the one we love in all things. Love makes us similar, it creates equality, it breaks down walls and eliminates distances. It means following and imitating Jesus, who sought out the poor and sinners as his brothers and sisters, to touch it, to make it our own and to take practical steps to alleviate it. Destitution is not the same as poverty: destitution is poverty, and affects those living in conditions opposed to human dignity: those who lack basic rights and needs such as food, water, hygiene, work and the opportunity to develop and grow culturally. In response to this destitution, the Church offers her help, her diaconia, in meeting the needs and binding these wounds which disfigure the face of humanity. In the poor and outcast we see Christ’s face; by loving and helping the poor we too clothe the Christ. Our efforts are also directed to ending violations of human dignity, discrimination and abuse in the workplace, fostering the way of the Cross of De- scription. When power, luxury and money become idols, they take priority over the need for a fair distribution of wealth. Our con- science thus needs to be corrected to justice, equality, simplicity and sharing.

No less a concern is moral destitution, which consists in slavery to vice and sin. How much pain is caused in families because one of their members—often a young member—is in thrall to alcohol, drugs, gambling or pornography? How many people no longer see meaning in life or prospects for the future, how many have lost hope! And how many are plunged into this destitution by unjust social conditions, by unemployment, which takes their bread away and their dignity, and by lack of equal access to education and health care. In such cases, moral destitution can be considered impending suicide. This type of destitution, which alludes to an economic, social or financial ruin, is invariably linked to the spiritual destitution which we experience when we turn away from God and reject his love. If we think we don’t need God who reaches out to us through Christ, because we believe we can make it on our own, we are headed for a fall. For we are not free; we are loved, we are free in Christ.

The Gospel is the real antidote to spiritual destitution: wherever we go, we are called as Christians to proclaim the liberating news that forgiveness for sins committed is possible, that God is greater than our sinfulness, that he freely loves us at all times and that we were made for communion and eternal life. The Lord asks us to be joyous heralds of this message of mercy and hope! It is thrilling to experience the joy of spreading this good news, sharing the treasure entrusted to us, consoling broken hearts and offering hope to our brothers and sisters experiencing darkness. It means following and imitating Jesus, who sought out the poor and sinners as a shepherd loving his lost sheep. In union with Jesus, we can courageously open up new paths of evangelization and human promotion.

Dear brothers and sisters, may this Lenten season find the whole Church ready to bear witness to all those who live in material, moral and spiritual destitution the Gospel message of the merciful love of our Father God, who is ready to embrace everyone in Christ. We can so this to the extent that we imitate Christ who became poor and enriched us by his poverty. Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich those who need it in our own way. We must look for the real poverty hurts: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance. I distrust a charity that costs nothing and does not hurt.

May the Holy Spirit, through whom we are “as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything” (2 Cor 6:10), sustain us in our resolutions and increase our concern and responsibility for human destitution, so that we can become merciful and act with mercy. In expressing this hope, I likewise pray that each individual member of the faithful and every Church community will undertake a fruitful Lenten journey. I ask all of you to pray for me. May the Lord bless you and Our Lady keep you safe.

Branch 413 members at the Valentine Dinner Dance: Karalee Canham, Dee Sheldon, and Mary Vera.

Tucson

Fr. Eusebio Kino, Br. 433

The Branch hosted a very successful Bishop’s Day and Installation at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish on Saturday, February 1, 2014. It is the first time we have been able to be the host and, thanks to Fr. Patrick Crino and Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, we were able to show off our new home and to show how well we work together and with the other Branches.

We were honored not to have Bishop Gerald Kicanas present and speak to us but also to have Fr. Crino with us as well. IFC Central Council was represented by Grand 1st Vice President Leonard Zanoski as well as Council Members Jim Acetelli, Patricia Mages and Vince Piro who assisted 1st Grand Vice President Leonard with the Installation of Officers.

Our Branch banner was carried by President Melissa Rodriguez and 1st Vice President Deby Gomez-Rasadore. Our gift to the Bishop was presented by President Melissa.

The dining hall was decorated in an Italian picnic theme. Member Mark O’Hare had a most helpful role in preparing the meal. President Melissa held a Branch Board meeting immediately following the evening’s “clean-up”. Plans are underway for several fund raising activities as well as increasing membership. We wish all of our new officers the very best and our wholehearted cooperation.

Bette Acetelli, Reporting

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• 2 Nights Santorini, SANTORINI PALACE
• 3 Nights Crete, HERSONISSOS MARIS
• 15 MEALS:
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Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, San Francisco
Gala Anniversary Celebration to follow at the Basque Cultural Center
June 29, 2014 - Los Angeles
11 A.M. Mass at St. Peter’s Italian Catholic Church in Los Angeles
Gala Anniversary Celebration to follow at Casa Italiano
Watch for more details and information in future Bollettinos.

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