



BOLLETTINO



An Aloha Christmas Party for the Ages at Children's Los Angeles



Laurice Levine
ICF Thalassemia Outreach Program
Consultant

On behalf of the Thalassemia (Cooley's Anemia) program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, the Thalassemia Staff, and most especially the patients and families we want to extend our sincere gratitude for the ICF's incredible generosity during the Christmas Season.

This year we held an Aloha-themed Christmas Party – the first one at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. The LA Archdiocese

District, under the fine leadership of Archdiocese District President, Pat Mages, went above and beyond in preparing for the party. An abundance of toys, gift cards, and funds were collected and two gift-wrapping parties were held at the Mages' home. ICF volunteers had a ball setting up and running the actual party by decorating, serving food, running arts/crafts activities, and being Santa's Helpers. Branches from Northern California also helped by sending gift cards and funds for the party. We also

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Grand President's Monthly Message

by Andrew Pappani

Happy New Year to all of my Italian Catholic Federation family and friends. Here it is 2018. I am very excited heading into the New Year, so many things to do but never enough time to get all of them done. We all have our New Year's resolutions set, and mine is to help our branches to grow. One branch at a time, hand-in-hand, we will be there to help you.



In this last year we have had devastation amongst our members. Please make it your promise to keep in your prayers our members affected by the fires in both Northern and Southern California.

We are approaching branch and district installations. I want to take this time to congratulate the past officers for their commitment to our Federation, and thank the newly elected officers for taking on their roles for this next year. Your hard work is greatly appreciated by all. We must always be looking for new members to recruit. This is how we can keep our branches alive and develop new leadership to take us into the future.

"Don't Make Assumptions. Find the courage to ask questions and to express what you really want. Communicate with others as clearly as you can to avoid misunderstandings, sadness and drama. With just this one agreement, you can completely transform your life."

-Don Miguel Ruiz

God Bless the Italian Catholic Federation!

Andrew J. Pappani
Grand President



TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO

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Let's Make 2018 a Happy New Year all Year!

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director
ICFspiritDir@aol.com



The year 2017, we have to admit, was not such a good year. All kinds of scary events took place. Floods, fires, drought, senseless massacres of innocent people, killings of police, killings by police, murders among gangs, opioid epidemics, more and more abuse of illegal drugs, sex trafficking, suicide bombings in various places throughout the world, the killing of innocent people in the middle-east. The list goes on and on. The television schedule shows one crime show after another. Our government seems to be full of intrigue, scandal and political unrest. Misogyny is rampant. Xenophobia is rampant. Racism is rampant. Degradation of women continues to plague the world.

Our society is in one big mess! We have made such big advances in the fields of science, medicine and technology, and yet we seem to be stuck in a social muck. How can this be? Simply put, God has been expunged from our every day lives. When

God is left out, bold, self-serving disregard for humanity becomes the norm.

How do we change that? We start with ourselves. Make Jesus a personal friend. Make Him the best of all our best friends. Bring Jesus into our families. Let every member of our families know that Jesus is a real part of our everyday life. Talk about Jesus as if He is present and involved with us.

In our ICF family, too, make Jesus a part of our meetings and events. He is a member of the ICF and everyone should know it: by prayer and by symbols. If we live with Jesus in our lives, EVERY DAY, we can create an avalanche of hope and love in the



world. It would be life-changing! It would be world-changing! ‘

A recent ICF campaign theme was “food, family, fun and Faith.” Emphasis on Faith! That’s a recipe for a happy, healthy, holy New Year. If this is a contagious disease, I wish that the whole world would catch it. If this is wishful thinking, then I am wishing with all my heart.

May all of you in the ICF and all the people in our country and, yes, all the people in the world have this kind of a Happy New Year all the year long!

The Value of a Branch Calendar

Roselynn Jarrett
Membership Committee Advisor

Not only does your branch calendar serve as a reminder of when events will take place, but it has been known to make or break a person’s decision on renewing their membership.

Here are a few tips for enhancing your 2018 calendar:

-Make your calendar look appealing and easy to read. This can be done by changing fonts, printing in color or on colored paper, adding clipart and using photos of members at last year’s events.

-List meetings, masses, dinners, fundraisers, trips, picnics, member appreciation events, guest speakers, membership drives, youth

activities, the annual convention, elections and the district calendar all on your branch calendar. If the calendar gets a little long, that is okay. This shows that your branch has a lot to offer.

-Share specific details about events. For example, if your branch will have a dinner meeting, share the menu and price for adults & children. Also, consider recognizing the chairperson for a specific event to allow members and guests to follow up with that person for more details.

-The calendar is also a good place to remind members of deadlines (convention raffle tickets, calendars, award and scholarship applications, etc.).

-When the calendar is complete, provide each member with a copy. Many branches

include a calendar in the dues envelope. This allows their members to see what they have to look forward to in the coming year and will hopefully encourage them to reinstate their membership.

-The calendar can also be used as tool to promote your branch to prospective members. People who see an appealing calendar are more likely to express interest in joining.

-Remember to provide a calendar to your Chaplain, parish office and the staff at your church and school. It is also helpful to provide one to each of the branches in your district as they may be willing to announce your events at their meetings.

-Finally, a digital copy of your calendar, sent via email and posted on your branch’s website or Facebook page, is a preferred resource for many.

Scholarship Corner

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Scholarship Committee Chairperson

A reminder to branches/districts. Please remind your members, to have their children, grandchildren, contact their high school counselors about the Italian Catholic Federation 1st year \$400.00 Scholarship, or have them download the applications off the ICF website. ICF.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS.

December:

1st year scholarship applications and bulletin board flyer sent to high schools in the states of California, Nevada, Illinois and Arizona where Branches of the Federation are established.

January:

Letters sent to I.C.F. Branches/Districts

requesting a 1st year scholarship donation, plus:

- * Letter to High School Counselor
- * Scholarship Applications
- * Scholarship Flyer
- * Individual Donation Forms
- * Branch/District Donation Forms
- * Italian Studies Scholarship Application
- * Italian Studies Flyer

The Deadline for Donations and Applications is March 15, 2018. Please discuss participating in the program at your meetings by making a donation of a full scholarship of \$400.00, if possible, or a partial donation of any amount. Partial Donations do help to make other scholarships possible when that money is

grouped together. Individual Donations are welcomed as well. Please encourage your children, grandchildren or anyone you know who is eligible to apply.

These are the eligibility requirements for students:

A High School Senior, a total cumulative GPA (3 ½ years) of at least 3.2 and meets all of the requirements in either #1 or #2: 1) Are Roman Catholic and of Italian Descent and live within the Roman Catholic Dioceses of Arizona, California, Illinois and Nevada, only where Branches of the Federation are established. or 2) Are Roman Catholic but need not be of Italian Descent or live where Branches of the Federation are established if either Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is a member of the “Italian Catholic Federation” - membership of a Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is mandatory for #2.

UPCOMING:

2018 District Installations:

- Jan. 6 Blessed Sacrament
- Jan. 6 Santa Clara Valley
- Jan. 7 Stockton
- Jan. 13 Central Coast
- Jan. 13 San Bernardino
- Jan. 13 San Francisco
- Jan. 14 East Bay
- Jan. 14 Los Angeles Archdiocese
- Jan. 16 Marin
- Jan. 20 Contra Costa
- Jan. 20 San Mateo
- Jan. 21 Santa Rosa
- Jan. 27 Joint Installation of Br. 144, Arcata and Br. 145, Eureka
- Jan. 28 San Diego
- Feb. 3 Orange
- Feb. 3 Tucson
- Feb. 25 Fresno
- Mar. 22 Chicago

2018 Bishops' Days:

- Feb. 3 Orange
- Feb. 17 Tucson
- Apr. 8 San Francisco Diocese
- Apr. 22 Chicago
- Jun. 3 Stockton

Who Are We?

Denise Antonowicz
Heritage Chairperson

How is the Epiphany celebrated around the world?

Pope Francis will hold the Vatican's annual Holy Mass for the Epiphany in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome at 10am.

But mass is not the only way Epiphany is marked, with a variety of festivities taking place across the world.

In the Spanish speaking world Epiphany is known as Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings' Day). In Mexico, for instance, crowds gather to taste the Rosca de Reyes – Kings' bread.

In some countries, a Jesus figurine is hidden in the bread, and whoever finds him throws a party on Candlemas on February 2.

In some European countries, children leave their shoes out the night before to be filled with gifts, while others leave straw for the three Kings' horses.

There are also celebrations representing Jesus' baptism.

Eastern European and Greek Orthodox priests throw a cross into water and divers

compete to find it first.

In Prague, Czech Republic, there is a traditional Three Kings swim to commemorate Epiphany Day at the Vltava River.

In Venice, a traditional regatta which started as a joke in the 1970s has now become a bonafide annual celebration.

And in New York, Latino museum El Museo del Barrio holds an annual parade with thousands of colorful floats and puppets.

Is Epiphany a public holiday?

The ancient feast day is a day of celebration in many countries around the world, with Catholic and Orthodox countries generally marking it as a public holiday.

This includes Austria, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Poland, Ethiopia (but on different date that varies annually), parts of Germany, Greece, Italy, Slovakia, Spain, and Uruguay.

No matter how you celebrate the feast, just start a tradition that will be passed down for generations to come. These memories that we share are what makes us special and truly make the histories of our families live on.

Apostolate – Charity Committee

Lauren Kilcullen
Apostolate Committee Chairperson

Apostolate – Charity Committee

The Italian Catholic Federation is known for its many charitable and apostolic works and should be at the forefront of our calendars in 2018. Doing good works is one of the reasons the Federation was started in 1924. Joining an apostolate and charitable organization is one of the main reasons many members join the ICF, as they are looking for a group that gives back to its parishes, local communities and national charities.

On a Federation-wide level, districts, branches and members are encouraged to support our charities: Cooley's Anemia, Gifts of Love, Scholarships and the Providenza Fund. Supporting these four charities help the Federation make meaningful donations to groups and individuals who otherwise would not receive much needed support. In other Bollettino columns, throughout the year, you can read about the successes our donations have made to these programs.

Besides these Federation-wide charities, members can do much good assisting their local parishes and community organizations. In our parishes, the Apostolate – Charity committee encourages branches to find

out the needs of the parish and assist in fulfilling these needs. Most likely, our parishes need money, but the needs could be other items as well: cleaning around the church, gardening, being Eucharistic Ministers or Lectors, participating in the Choir, assisting other parish organizations. If your parish has a school, ask them what their needs are. In Healdsburg, we have worked closely with the school to help fund scholarships, the 8th grade trip to Washington D.C. and give service hours to students who serve at our dinners. The more we can show our pastors that the ICF is a valuable organization in the parish and one that he can rely on to perform needed apostolate and charitable works, the more likely branches will have his support.

In our local communities, there are many worthwhile organizations that would welcome support from the ICF. Catholic Charities and your local food pantries are two suggestions. Look around your community to see who has a need that the Federation can fulfill.

In 2018, please make a renewed commitment to continue the Federation's legacy of Apostolic and Charitable giving.

DECEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
12/1	David Taddei	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
12/2	Rebeca Iavarone		San Francisco, CA	\$30
12/3	Kay Guenther	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
12/4	Tonia Amalfitano	444	San Pedro, CA	\$30
12/5	Jim Schulte		Esparto, CA	\$30
12/6	Vittorina Howell	227	Capitola, CA	\$30
12/7	Paul Lipari	391	San Jose, CA	\$40
12/8	Fiore Marcheschi	10	Alameda, CA	\$50
12/9	Fr. Guglielmo Lauriola	1	San Francisco, CA	\$30
12/10	Marisa & Lance Parsons		San Mateo, CA	\$30
12/11	Martin Watkins	343	Albuquerque, NM	\$30
12/12	Fr. Vincent Pineda	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
12/13	Janet Rossi	343	Washington, DC	\$30
12/14	Branch 435		Morgan Hill, CA	\$30
12/15	Mauro Romagnoli	210	Riverside, CA	\$30
12/16	Tony Pignati	161	San Rafael, CA	\$30
12/17	Fr. John Bruno	70	Sanger, CA	\$30
12/18	Nina Malone	342	Roseville, CA	\$30
12/19	Ann Henning	10	Oakland, CA	\$30
12/20	Kathryn Etchebarne		Modesto, CA	\$30
12/21	Helen LeDonne	443	Simi Valley, CA	\$30
12/22	Mary Menicucci		San Francisco, CA	\$30
12/23	Andrea Scorsone	326	Rosemead, CA	\$30
12/24	James O'Brien		San Mateo, CA	\$50
12/25	Mary Enayati		Redwood City, CA	\$100
12/26	Paul Steele		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
12/27	Esmeralda Mendoza		Modesto, CA	\$40
12/28	Tina Souza-Dutra	5	San Jose, CA	\$30
12/29	Marilyn Derdevanis		Walnut Creek, CA	\$30
12/30	Judie Van Maren	442	Martinez, CA	\$30
12/31	Vince Stalteri		Colorado Springs, CO	\$50

Christmas Party

continued from page 1

want to extend our thanks to Santa who made a special appearance at the party and gave gifts to all of the children (and adult patients).

The act of giving often only occurs during the Christmas season. However, the ICF is unique in that your incredible generosity extends all year round. We are continually amazed by the genuine care, love, and support displayed by the ICF. The ICF has given so much to our patients and their families. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for your boundless generosity, support, and friendship. You brighten



hundreds of lives!

We wish you all a Joyous, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year!

Warmly,
Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
ICF Thalassemia Outreach Program
Consultant
&
Thomas D. Coates, MD
Section Head for Hematology
Director, Sickle/Hemoglobinopathy



BOOK REVIEW**Vince Piro**Grand 1st Vice President
Branch 39, Merced**Three Novels on the Italian-American Experience**

By Christopher Castellani

Algonquin Books

In three novels, Christopher Castellani has documented and described the Italian-American immigrant experience. The trilogy starts in Italy at the end of World War II and ends in the United States some 50 years later. This contemporary saga revolves around the character Maddalena, an intriguing and appealing character, who represents the prototypical Italian-American immigrant experience. Filled with passion and drama, Castellani's novels revolve around the theme of love, both romantic and familial, and it is both the challenges and rewards of love that turn the plots of each book. The author's style is certain evoke the emotions of his readers as they follow Maddalena through her journeys. Below are the publisher's description of each book.

A Kiss from Maddalena

It is 1943, and Santa Cecilia has become a village of women. All the young men are away at war, except for Vito Leone, his best friend, and the shopkeeper's son. When Vito falls in love with Maddalena Picinelli, the shy and beautiful daughter of the town's most powerful family, a few obstacles appear in his path. Maddalena's sassy, iron-willed sister Carolina thinks he's a penniless fool. Her parents think his crazy mother has turned him into a mammoni, a mama's boy. But Maddalena sees another side of Vito. He's romantic. He builds a bicycle for the girls to ride. He takes care of his feeble mama, who hasn't been the same since her husband and daughters ran off to America. And Vito is determined to win Maddalena's hand even though she has three older sisters who must be married off first.

When the Italians surrender to the Allies and German soldiers invade Santa Cecilia, everyone flees but Vito and his mother. With ingenuity and boundless devotion, Vito comes up with a plan to prove that he's a suitable suitor. The Picinelli family returns home after the war to find that some miraculous changes have taken place. Now, only one man stands in Vito's way, and Maddalena is forced to choose between her family's wishes and her own heart.

The Saint of Lost Things: A Novel

It is 1953 in the tight-knit Italian neighborhood in Wilmington, Delaware. Maddalena Grasso has lost her country, her family, and the man she loved by coming to America; her mercurial husband, Antonio, has lost his opportunity to realize the American Dream; their new friend, Guilio Fabbri, a shy accordion player, has lost his beloved parents.

In the shadow of St. Anthony's Church, named for the patron saint of lost things, the prayers of these troubled but determined people are heard, and fate and circumstances conspire to answer them in unforeseeable ways.

With great authenticity and immediacy, *The Saint of Lost Things* evokes a bittersweet time in which the world seemed more intimate and knowable, and the American Dream simpler, nobler, and within reach.

All This Talk of Love: A Novel

It's been fifty years since Antonio Grasso married Maddalena and brought her to America. That was the last time she would see her parents, her sisters and brothers--everything she knew and loved in the village of Santa Cecilia, Italy. She locked those memories away, as if Santa Cecilia

stopped existing the day she left. Now, with children and grandchildren, a successful family-run restaurant, and enough daily drama at home, Maddalena sees no need to open the door to the past and let the emotional baggage and unmended rifts of another life spill out.

But Prima, Antonio and Maddalena's American-born daughter, was raised on the lore of the old country. And as she sees her parents aging, she hatches the idea to take the entire family back to Italy--hoping to reunite Maddalena with her estranged sister and let her parents see their homeland one last time. It is an idea that threatens to tear the Grasso family apart, until fate deals them some unwelcome surprises, and their journey home becomes a necessary voyage.

Christopher Castellani is the son of Italian immigrants and a native of Wilmington, Delaware. He lives in Boston, where he is the artistic director of Grub Street, one of the country's leading independent creative writing centers. He is the author of three novels: *All This Talk of Love* (2013) -- a New York Times Editors' Choice -- *A Kiss from Maddalena* (2003)--winner of the Massachusetts Book Award -- and *The Saint of Lost Things* (2005), a BookSense (IndieBound) Notable Book. His book of essays on the craft of fiction, *The Art of Perspective: Who Tells the Story*, was published by Graywolf in 2016.

Family Recipes

By Deborah Rodondi

Grand 2nd Vice President

Mary Lou Weidlich, from Branch 227 in Capitola shares this story and recipe with us.

"My aunt lived in North Beach, San Francisco. She always brought the classic antipasto Venetiano for Christmas. She and a bunch of her friends used to make it in the fall, using all fresh vegetables. They made cases of it and shared it. It took them the whole day. It is one of the things from my childhood that said Italian, like nothing else. As a working mother, I did not have the time or energy to make it the old fashioned way, so I came up with this; which tastes almost the same, but is way faster."

ANTIPASTO DEL VENETO2 JARS GIARDINIERA, DRAINED,
SAVE ½ CUP LIQUID

2 CANS TUNA, UNDRAINED

2 CANS PITTED OLIVES, GREEN AND
BLACK

1 CAN TOMATO SAUCE

1 CAN BUTTON MUSHROOMS

1 JAR PICKLED ONIONS

1 JAR RED PEPPERS, CUT IN 2" STRIPS

1 CUP PICKLED ARTICHOKE HEARTS,
CUT IN QUARTERS

1 SM. JAR PEPPERONCINI

¼ C. OLIVE OIL

½ TEASPOON PEPPER

½ TEASSPOON SALT

IN A LARGE SAUCEPAN SIMMER TOMATO SAUCE, OLIVE OIL, ½ CUP GIARDINIERA LIQUID, SALT, PEPPER AND TUNA WITH LIQUID IN CAN.

WHILE SIMMERING THE ABOVE INGREDIENTS FOR ABOUT 10-15 MINUTES ON LOW HEAT, DRAIN REMAINING VEGETABLES. CHOP ANY LARGE PIECES OF CAULIFLOWER IN THE GIARDINIERA AND CHOP ARTICHOKE AND RED PEPPER. ADD TO THE TOMATO SAUCE AND CONTINUE HEATING TILL VEGETABLES ARE VERY HOT. LADLE INTO CLEAN HOT JARS AND SEAL. COOL ON COUNTER TOP...THEN REFRIGERATE. KEEPS FOR SEVERAL WEEKS OR MORE IN REFRIGERATOR.

CAN BE SERVED AS SOON AS IT COOLS. BETTER IF IT AGES A DAY OR TWO. SERVE OVER SALAD GREENS OR AS AN APPETIZER ON THIN BAGUETTE SLICES.

Thank you Mary Lou for sharing your story and recipe. I love this dish and so do all the members of my family. I learned to make

this in the kitchen of my great grandmother (Bis Nonnie), so I still make it by pickling my vegetables. My two favorite parts of this are the green olives and cauliflower, so I always add more. Of course, adding more starts a chain reaction and before I know it I have made 40 pints. If sealed properly and kept in a cool dark place it will keep. This will last for the year, as I give it as gifts and keep the family supplied. Right now I am down to my last two jars so in the New Year it will be time to start making another batch. Sometime in the future I will share my version of this recipe.

I am hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down with the members of the ICF. Send them to me at drodondi@comcast.net or mail to the ICF office including a story if any. If you have questions send them also, I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

Cooley's Anemia Donations***Donations Received by December 10, 2017***

John and Kris Kaiser

In memory of Josie Galante

Richard and Valerie Vote

In memory of Rico Della Santina

Charles P. Gullo, Jr.

In memory of Br. 4

Leonard Zencold, Jr.
Vice President Construction Operations
Divisional Safety
Cell: 951-478-8822



LEONARD ZENCOLD, JR.
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Fax (805) 318-0101
leonard@leonardzencoldconstruction.com
www.leonardzencoldconstruction.com

General Contractors
Construction Management
Design/Build Services

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:

Don Crosby
 Vivianlee Tony
 Brian Crudo
 Maria Tollefson
 Maria Tollefson
 Brian Crudo
 Frederick "Rico" Della Santina
 Maria Tollefson
 Patricia Mueller
 Brian J. Crudo
 Brian J. Crudo
 Mattie Vesey
 Pat Mueller
 Brian Crudo
 Brian Crudo
 Elsie Joy

DONATED BY:

Jo-Ann and John Donivan
 Esther Ramonda
 The Antonowicz Family
 Officers/Members of Br. 229
 Mike and Marcie Rossi
 Mike and Marcie Rossi
 Diana Petrolino
 Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
 Officers/Members of Br. 343
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dianda
 Jane Dianda
 Officers/Members of Br. 342
 Officers/Members of East Bay District
 Nettie Descalso-Del Nero
 Officers/Members of East Bay District
 Bob Basuino

GET WELL WISHES:

Elaine Osorio	Denise Antonowicz
Forrest Price	Denise Antonowicz
Forrest Price	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Forrest Price	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Forrest Price	Officers/Members of Central Council
Dr. Tony Calciano	Bob Basuino

CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING A SUCCESSFUL GRAND PRESIDENT:

Leonard Zasoski, Jr. Mike and Marcie Rossi

MERRY CHRISTMAS WISHES:

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Milani Officers/Members of Santa Clara Valley District

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Branch 191 - San Jose.

*Named after the co-founder of the I.C.F., the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides I.C.F. members a lasting way to memorialize and/or extend greetings to friends, relatives, and loved ones. Members' donations provide scholarships to seminarians studying for the priesthood in dioceses where the Italian Catholic Federation is located. A monthly Mass is offered for the intention of those listed.

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 12/10/2017

JASON R DUTRA	Branch 014	MARTHA ALUZZI	Branch 218
MAX A DUTRA	Branch 014	PATRICIA SMITH	Branch 218
SHANNON L DUTRA	Branch 014	MARIE RINETTI	Branch 285
CATHERINE ZERIO	Branch 045	CAROL DUCOMMUN	Branch 380
CELIA VALLOTTON	Branch 052	MARY DURKEE	Branch 380
QUINN VALLOTTON	Branch 052	DESIREE R TEDESCO	Branch 380
REBECCA VALLOTTON	Branch 052	PAMELA WEICK	Branch 391
		DANIELLE M CREGGER	Branch 408

Live to Give



Happy New Year

From the

Live to Give Committee

Make a New Year's Resolution:

Donate Blood, or

Plan a blood drive with your branch.

You can donate blood every 56 days.

For More Information;

Laurice Levine: 360-860-2023

or LLevine430@aol.com

American Red Cross:

<http://www.redcross.org/give-blood>

Blood Centers of the Pacific

<http://www.bloodcenters.org/>

or search on Google for a local blood bank.

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 12/10/2017

ROCCO GULLI	Branch 050
JOSEPHINE GALANTE	Branch 102
NORA BORGHELLO	Branch 258
JOSEPHINE DI MODICA	Branch 258
MATTIE VESEY	Branch 342

INEZ ERTASSI	Branch 001
ELOISE ROTA	Branch 012
VINCENZA I PATALANO	Branch 036

Gifts of Love Donations

Donations received by December 10, 2017

Branch 191	Officers/Members of Br. 5 Get well wishes for Elaine Osorio
The Peninsula Italian American Social Club	Joan and Jerry Delfino In memory of Brian Crudo
Officers/Members of Br. 26 In memory of Richard Manfre	Jean Perata and Dennis Davison In memory of Peter Trincherro
Officers/Members of Br. 291 In memory of Margaret "Peg" Hensley	Joan and Jerry Delfino Get well wishes for Forrest Price
Officers/Members of Br. 213 Merry Christmas wishes for Father Rene Ramoso	Joan and Jerry Delfino Get well wishes for Bob Osorio
Officers/Members of Br. 91 Congratulations on a successful presidency for Leonard Zasoski, Jr.	Charlyne Pacini In memory of Thomas Poggi
	Officers/Members of Br. 213 Merry Christmas wishes for Br. 213 Deputy Dorene Campanile

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by December 10, 2017

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

Larry and Denise Picetti In memory of Thomas Poggi	Ed and Jo Bertaccini In honor of the 100 th birthday of John Valente Officers/Members of Br. 173 In honor of Rina Cassanego
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IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

As you are aware, the IRS and Franchise Tax Board for the State of California require annual tax returns to be filed by our Districts and Branches.

It is important to remember that all Districts and Branches now have two numbers - a Federal Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the IRS and a State Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the State

The IRS limit for the tax year ending 2017 is the following:

Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file IRS Form 990 EZ or 990.

Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file IRS Form 990-N which is an e-Postcard.

The State limit for the tax year ending 2017 is the following:

Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file State Form 199.

Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file State Form 199-N which is an e-Postcard.

THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2018. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.

Any District or Branch who does not file for 3 consecutive years will lose its tax exempt status with the IRS and the State. If you lose your tax exempt status you will have to file paperwork and pay a fine in order to regain your tax exempt status.

Included in the Financial Secretaries' packet are materials that the District and Branch Financial Secretaries will need to help them with this process. District and Branch Presidents - please work with your Financial Secretary to go over the information when it is received and see that the appropriate forms are filed by the due date.

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that Bank Statements are reconciled through December 31, 2017. 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,

Denise Antonowicz, Grand Treasurer

Chicago

Chicago

St. Francis Borgia, Br. 392

Warm Greeting from the Windy City of Chicago, ICF Branch 392

Our month begin with our annual Mother Cabrini Award at Porretta Banquet Hall, this year this honorable award went to Mr. and Mrs. Frank and Clara Cascella, a couple with true values in their community, their families and most of all in our faith. We congratulate them as well as the 2016 recipient Mr. and Mrs. Antonio and Giovanna Gerardi.

On December 16th the birth of Jesus will be celebrated with a Mass at St. Francis Borgia Church followed by our Christmas festivities with members and friends.

January will begin with "La Befana" dinner party at Pescatore Palace Banquet Hall, January 7th, la Befana is a long time Italian Christmas tradition, she is an old woman who delivers gift to a child that has been good and coal to the ones that have not been so good, in Italy children love this time of the year (the night of January 5th). During our celebration children will be very happy to receive gifts from our own "Befana", therefore we invite everyone to join us with their children and grandchildren.

We would like to thank all our faithful members for their dedication in making 2017 a successful year.

Last, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas with all the blessing that our faith brings and an Happy New Year full of joy health and most of all peace.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

Giovanna Cacciapaglia Gerardi

Heritage Correspondent

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

The November 14th meeting was meatball sandwiches, salad, green beans, and dessert. A treat that most of us don't make on our own and serious comfort food for the chilly November night. Thanks to the November committee, chairmen: Jim and Carol Espinola and the committee: Rose Meister, Kathy Parrish, Theresa DeFrank, Marcia Valorosi and Jennifer Valorosi. You guys did a great job! December 2th 10 members attend the 8:00 a.m. mass at St. Joachim Church in Madera. The mass was for the deceased and living members of ICF. After the mass everyone enjoyed a delicious breakfast and fellowship at Black Bear Diner. Member Mark Cavallero was a finalist for the FFA American Star Farmer and went on to compete in Indianapolis in October. While he didn't win he impressed the panel and was visited by the Secretary of the United States Department



Branch 27, From Left: Rep. Jim Panetta, ICF member Mark Cavallero, Sonny Perdue, Secretary USDA, Rep. Jim Costa, and Branch 27 president, Jim Cavallero.



Branch 392's annual Mother Cabrini Award was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Frank and Clara Cascella, seen here in the front with other members from Branch 392.

of Agriculture. On Sunday, November 19th Secretary Sonny Perdue, visited Mark at his family farm. Also in attendance were Representatives Jim Costa, Fresno and Jim Panetta, Monterey. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party on December 10th Roger Rockas on the 7th, and the January meeting on the 9th. Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,
Kerin Cavallero

Fresno
Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

Happy New Year!

Among our slate of officers we have three new officers joining our staff this year. Betty Farmer has chosen the office of Corresponding Secretary. Nancy Rodriguez and CleEstra Lett will be Trustees, joining Martha Acuna. The remaining officers are continuing. They are: Elaine Lencioni, President; Monica Ficher 1st/2nd V.President; Beverly Magana, Recording Secretary; Paulette Volpa, Financial Secretary; Patricia Vivenzi, Treasurer, Evelyn Lopez, Orator; and Richard Romagnoli as Sentinel. We are hopeful to have a Branch Mentor assigned to us this year.

Our new Heritage Chairperson is Beverly Magana. She actually sought this position. We are looking forward to hearing from her each month. Our previous V.Pres., Maria

Guglielmino, did a wonderful job. While she is no longer an officer, Maria is always ready to participate on committees. Thank you Maria. Evelyn Nieto, a 90+ dynamo, has accompanied the President on an Outreach Project visiting our members that don't come to the meetings anymore. Evelyn has a connection to everyone in the Italian Community. It's been a delightful experience for the President to meet and reacquaint herself with our many Italian friends from our days associated with St. Alphonsus.

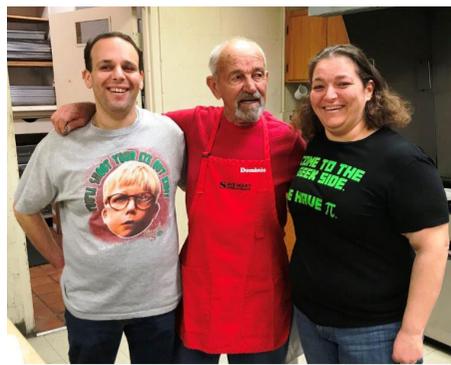
The Christmas party was enjoyable. About twenty people gathered to share a meal and the company of friends and family. Santa made an appearance which delighted the children.

Pray for peace in the world and Vocations to the priesthood.

Merced
St. Cecelia, Br. 39

The crowd at the Christmas party had a rollicking great time. The hors d'oeuvres were plentiful, desserts galore, lots of visiting, bingo games and prizes, crafts to make, and of course, a visit from Santa made it a special afternoon for all. Great job goes to chair Lori Sutton and branch officers.

Our biscotti sale was its usual success with nary a cookie left to sell. Thanks to chairs Janet Pugliese and Maryellen Mazzei, and their host of bakers, helpers, sellers and donations of ingredients. All your help and effort were much appreciated.



Nick Pugliese, Dominic Giampietro, and Gina Pugliese from Branch 39.



Aubree Richardson, Susie Chanterie, Derek Thomas, Rosa Cardoso from Branch 39.

Next up is our dinner meeting on Wednesday, January 10. It's the usual 5 PM Social Hour, 6 PM dinner of Dominic's homemade Italian sausage with grilled peppers over pasta, 7 PM meeting. But, unusually, it will be a "We Love Our Volunteers" awards evening. So be there to applaud those members of our branch who give so much of their time and energy. Plus, you will want to pick up your copy of our 2018 calendar to plan out your year.

Please pray for the families of Edie Nahas and Mimi Pira who both recently passed away.

Rimanere in salute durante questa stagione invernale. Keep well this season!

Stephanie Lucich

Sanger
St. Mary, Br. 70

Happy New Year from Branch 70! Thanks to all the donated time and hard work from our members and President Kay Lopez, we were able to have a very successful fundraising year. This allowed us in turn to bless our parish, our priests and 3 students with monetary gifts in the form of donations and scholarships.

On November 29, the Rogationist order celebrated their 50th anniversary in the United States. The celebration was held in Sanger at St. Mary's church with the mass being officiated by Bishop Armando X. Ochoa. It was a very beautiful affair with our hall being filled to capacity and enough food for over 500 people served.

Our Christmas party was hosted by Ralph and Rosemary Wymenga and we had a wonderful time. Our heartfelt thanks to them.

We wish you a Happy New Year filled with good health to all from the members of Branch 70.

God Bless,
Orsolina Casella



Santa (aka Casey Steed), visited Branch 39, and spoke with some very special little girls.



Fresno
St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 308

Wrapping up the year of 2017 at ICF Branch 308, Saint Anthony of Padua, in Fresno,

A chance to reflect on where we are and what we've done, as we look forward to 2018.

Where we are:

Alive and well, with our board in place for 2018.

Cultivating members, through both retention and growth.

Enjoying fellowship and good food, at monthly membership meetings, and other ICF activities.

Continuing to hold an annual initiation ceremony – this year during our November membership meeting, when we welcomed five members to our ICF family.

Observing tradition, in November by enjoying a spectacular potluck dinner during our monthly meeting, for which two turkeys were prepared by Bernie Squeo and John Mulligan – who added a little zest by leaving the gizzard and neck bags inside while cooking the birds.

What we've done:

Supported our ministries by raising funds though:

Sausage sandwich sales – with members volunteering to handle preparation and sales

Our Annual Tahoe Joe's Dinner – thanks to ticket sales by members, in particular Leonard Garber



Branch 27 members celebrating the living and deceased members mass: from left: Kenny Rosales, Elsie Bottorff, Carol and Jim Espinola, Celeste Voyles, Cari Beveridge, Jim Cavallero In front: Mary Contreras, Theresa DeFrank, and Kerin Cavallero.



Branch 308 Past President Antionette Pecora with Bishop Armando Ochoa, at the ICF Seminarian's Burse, in Bakersfeild, California, on Sunday, October 22, 2017.

Remembered deceased members at an annual Mass in June.

Connected with, and attended functions alongside, other ICF branches.

At our annual Christmas Celebration, collect toy donations, for Valley Children's Hospital patients.

What we look forward to:

Planning is underway to continue perpetual activities in 2018 that support our ministries, as we also consider developing new programs and activities.

Our goal is to increase participation in branch activities, by seeking to more fully involve as many members as possible.



Branch 308 member Leonard Garber is awarded for his outstanding fund raising efforts, by President John Mulligan, with Parliamentarian Flora looking on.

and HAPPY! Special thanks to the CHLA Thalassemia staff and Dr. Coates for their enthusiasm and hospitality. Of course, Laurice Levine's experience and dedication made it run like clockwork. Thank you Laurice. Santa Steve and Elf John made the patients and their families feel welcome. Elf John has set new standards for future elves. And, Chicken Marie made a special appearance! LAADistrict you 'Rock'! ALL the donations were amazing. Appreciation to all donors and attendees, especially those from afar, for a Successful Party!!

Beloved ICF member of Br. 319, Claremont, Tony Federico passed away in early December. Please keep Tony and his family in your



Elf John preparing for the party.



Santa with Dr. Coates and members of Los Angeles Archdiocese District.

prayers. Tony was the uncle of Andrea Linn. *****LAADistrict Installation: January 14, 2018; 11am Mass at St. Raymond, Downey*****

Blessings,
Pat Mages

**Los Angeles
St. Peter, Br. 67**

On December 4th, ICF Members from the Los Angeles Archdiocese District joined parishioners at the Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage, Mass and Luncheon at the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank.

On December 1st Branch members attended the ICF LAA District Christmas Party at Children's Hospital in Hollywood. Members

joined Santa Claus along with the children and their families celebrating the holidays together.

Branch 67 will continue to work with Saint Peter's Church and reaching out to all ICF Members, the Italian Community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church. Interested members are asked to call 626 372-7812 for membership in or a position on the Branch 67 Board.

Please spread the word to friends, families and members that the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 67 and Padre Pio Society will attend the 11:00 am (Italian) mass and join St Peter Parishioners on the fourth Sunday of each Month this year. Please call Carmelo at 626 372-7812 or visit website at www.icf.org for more information.



**Los Angeles
Archdiocese District
District Council**

Happy New Year Everyone!

Thank you all for making the 1st annual CHLA Thalassemia Christmas Party FUN

Thank You Members and Friends of Mother Cabrini

by Carmelo Sabatella, Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee

On December 4th, ICF Members of outlying Districts, Central Council Life Member Dante Galeazzi, Grand Trustee Ann Interrante and Council Member and LAADC District President Pat Mages and friends of Mother Cabrini joined the Los Angeles Archdiocese District at the Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage, Mass celebrated by Archdiocesan Director Monsignor Cacciapuotti and Luncheon at the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank in celebration of Mother Cabrini's 100th anniversary of her death.

First of all I would like to thank ICF Cabrini Chapel Committee members Andrea Linn, Theresa Shaw, Lou Mages, Kris Kaiser and Dottie La Macchia for making this year's 100th Anniversary a very special event. A special thank you to Sister Regina of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus who brought Mother Cabrini to visit this year and to share a few words of her Mission in this world.

Thank you ICF Branches who were able to donate additional funds in support of the Cabrini Chapel this year. We hope other Branches will also be able to contribute through a special collection or fundraiser.

Thank you also to 103 year young Anna Centoni for attending this event; she said that she is still an ICF Branch 102 member and remembers when she used to clean out the Chapel and Library before her retirement. She was very thankful that she was able to make it to the Pilgrimage this year and says she misses her friends in ICF.

Members that have memorabilia from Mother Cabrini or her former Cabrini facilities and would like to include them in the Cabrini Chapel Library/Museum; or would like to help the Mother Cabrini Chapel by volunteering their time or by making a financial contribution, please call 626 372-7812 or mail your donation(s) to:

ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library
3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504
Attn: Carmelo Sabatella



Members of Branch 108 attending the Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage Mass and luncheon in Burbank.



Please let me know how you can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. We are asking for your ideas, prayers and support.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Carmelo Sabatella AIA

President Branch 67

Italian Catholic Federation

T. 626 372-7812

E. cas1810@aol.com

**South Pasadena
Holy Family, Br. 108**

On December 4th, ICF Members from the Los Angeles Archdiocese District joined parishioners at the Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage, Mass and Luncheon at the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank.

On December 1st Branch members attended the ICF LAA District Christmas Party at Children's Hospital in Hollywood. Members joined Santa Claus along with the children and their families in celebrating the holidays.

SAVE THE DATE

- February 10, 2018 - Annual Wine Tasting Event "Carnavale" in Holy Family Hall from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. RSVP [626 372-7812](tel:626-372-7812) and for more information.

Please keep our sick members in your prayers that they may reach a speedy recovery. And to our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward. May they rest in peace.

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

LAADC and ICF Branch 108

Email: cas1810@aol.com

**Montebello
St. Benedict, Br. 111**

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Tanti Auguri per un Felice e Prospero Anno Nuovo a tutti! A heartfelt Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous 2018 to everyone!

Our January General Meeting will be on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, (corner of Cleveland Ave.) in Montebello. Come join us! We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of January: Anthony DeLorenzo, Rose Mercuri, Cettina Mauro, Joey Wadzinsk, Frank Gomez, Frank Salomone, Rita Estrada, and Carmelo Divincenzo. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

The 2018 ICF Officer's Installation will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at St. Raymond Catholic Church, 12348 Paramount Blvd., in Downey, with mass at 11:00 a.m., followed with Installation and Lunch in the Parish Hall. More details will follow.

Mark your calendars - our St. Joseph Table this year will be held on Saturday & Sunday, March 17 & 18, 2018 at St. Benedict Parish Hall. The monies we will raise at this event will allow us to support our parish, offer scholarships to St. Benedict Parish School graduating students, support our clergy and Seminarians, scholarships to graduating high school students, to Cooley's Anemia, and other worthwhile charities. We need everyone's support to make this a successful event! Thank you for all you do for the ICF and may St. Joseph and God Bless you abundantly.

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Finally, I leave you with a quote from



Branch 111 members at the November meeting and Thanksgiving Dinner.



Members of Branch 111 attending the CHLA 2017 Christmas Party.



Branch 111's celebration of birthdays.



Maya Angelou - "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

A Presto!

Frank Salomone

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Happy New Year and Blessed New Year to all!

Our branch Christmas Celebration on Dec. 9th was quite a success. Everyone had a good time sharing each other's company. Neal announced that \$7500.00 was collected from donors to send to Ischia to help with the earthquake relief. \$1200.00 was donated from our branch. Our 2018 officers were introduced to the members. Thank you for your service.

Our first meeting of the year will be held on Jan 18th at 7:30pm. Please plan on attending.

At this meeting Pauline will review our upcoming fundraiser to Pechanga Casino on Jan 25th. Bus will leave at 9am from the Boys and Girls club. \$20.00 for members \$23.00 for nonmembers. The funds raised will help our branch support the many charities that are dear to our branch. Please call Pauline at 310 832 0563.

Another topic for discussion will be the upcoming St John Joseph of the Cross Crab

Dinner. This fund raiser will take place on March 3rd. And Yes Crab will be on the menu!! Volunteers are needed to help out with this major event for our branch. Please call Neal for tickets and or if you are able to lend a hand 310 433 1044.

Our February 15th meeting will be our potluck meeting. Please call Carmela Gioiello to let her know what tasty dish you will be sharing 310 8320953

Dues are now payable for 2018. This year's dues are \$37.00 per person and will be collected by Pauline Iacono. Dues can also be mailed to her at 1072 W 8th St. San Pedro CA 90731

Please help us keep this wonderful branch alive for the next generation. We are blessed with the support of our members but realize new and young blood is needed to keep this branch going. We are asking for your support, prayers and ideas. Attend a meeting. Come see what we are about!

President Neal DiLeva is updating his records. If you have an email address that hasn't been submitted please send it to Neal at ndileva211@aol.com

May your new year be safe, holy, and happy!

Anita Gioiello Trujillo, Treasurer

Ventura

Sacred Heart, Br. 169

Branch 169, Ventura, held a joint dinner potluck with the Sacred Heart senior group on November 16th. We ended our toy drive in support of the First Annual Los Angeles Children's Hospital Holiday Party for Thalassemia. During our toy drive, more than 200 toys and gift certificates worth over \$1,000.00 were donated. Branch 169 thanks its members, the Sacred Heart Ventura Thursday Morning Bible Study group and



Branch 169's December Toy Drive.



Knights of Columbus presented a check to Mary Poe of Branch 169.

other parishioners for their kind donations and support. To top things off, we are deeply grateful to the Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 10067. Knights of Columbus Grand Knight Mike Kipp presented to Branch 169 Treasurer, Mary Poe. The check was so generous from the Knights members for \$1,060.00 to buy more toys for their patients. These patients hold a special place in the hearts of Sacred Heart, Ventura's parishioners and we thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

**Glendora
St. Dorothy, Br. 179**

St. Dorothy Parish of ICF Br. 179 held our first Christmas Party Saturday December 9. As we were just inaugurated in November, there wasn't much time to plan. But with the help of all members it was a great success, we had over fifty guests. Pizza, salads, dessert, and wine made up the menu. What more could we ask for! We all had a great time visiting and getting to know each other. What was especially fun were the children making ornaments and decorating the tree! This year a tree was donated by a member and was given to the homeless shelter after the party.

The decorated lighted Christmas tree will remain in the parish hall through the end of the year for our local homeless shelter to enjoy. St Dorothy parish has hosted the shelter from December 16 to January 1 for over 15 years. The homeless guests will be asked to write colorful notes of inspiration, thoughts and prayers and hang them on the tree so they can have place to express themselves.

Branch 179 thanks the Central Council for allowing St Dorothy's to once again be a part of this great group. We look forward to a great year of involvement in the parish. Merry Christmas everyone!



Celebrating Christmas at Branch 179



President Connie with jr president of 237 Johnny Roa at Ministry Fair. Assisting is Jordan Roa and Don Bohannon.

Gardena

St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 237

Dear Members,

Hope this New Year brings good health and happiness to all. Speaking of happiness, congrats to Gennifer Bohannon on her recent marriage to Michael McClure. The new couple also welcomed their daughter and had a double celebration with Leila's Baptism on their big day, she joins big brother Reef and sister Jaydin.

Steve Mariorenzi, Don Bohannon, Johnny and Jordan Roa joined president Connie Bohannon at St. Catherine Laboure's annual ministry fair in November. It was our first and we learned about so many of the other ministries.

Last month we attended the first annual Holiday Party at LA Childrens Hospital, it was great fun and a great pleasure to meet some of the patients. We also celebrated the 50th year wedding anniversary of our president Connie and her and husband at our annual Christmas Party. Again congrats to the Bohannon family.

We are looking forward to a great 2018!!

"Hallelujah! Give thanks to the Lord, who is good, whose love endures forever"

Psalm 106.1

Cordially,

Micheal Bohannon Roa



Special events co-ordinator Rose Moore, with Santa And his elf Johnny Roa and Connie Bohannon, at Los Angeles Childrens Hospital holiday party.

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

Happy New Year to all of our members!

Our Annual Christmas Party was held on December 17th and it was a wonderful celebration! Everyone had a good time sharing each other's company.

Our next General Meeting will be held on January 27, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.

Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially: Mary Lou Lemoine, Roberta N'angelo and Pat Buccola. And, let's not forget to pray for our deceased members.

Happy January Birthday: Andrea Scorsone and Jo Anne Disney

May the New Year bring us all health and happiness.

"Friendship is a special jewel that you choose to wear each day; it gives out a shine and sparkle in the things you do and say. Friendship is the little pebble that you found along the shore, that was different from the others, but you treasure evermore. Just as both the moon and stars are the friends of God above, friendship here on earth is precious for He blesses it with love." (Edna Fontaine)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

Thousand Oaks

St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Branch 380 members, extended family, and guests all had a wonderful time at our annual Christmas party on December 9th. There were 10 craft tables for children ranging from building a gingerbread house to designing their own greeting cards and ornaments. A raffle was also held with 40 unique prizes donated by members. Live musical entertainment was provided by Branch 380 member Michael Falcone, with some ad-libbed accompaniment by his 3-year-old son. At the end of the night, Santa made a surprise appearance to hand out gifts to the children. Thank you to all volunteers who helped make this party a success for yet another year!



ICF Branch 380 member Michael Falcone entertains at the Christmas party.



(Above) Santa greets children at Branch 380 Christmas party.

(Below) Kids enjoying craft tables at Branch 380 Christmas party.



We also welcome our 2018 Branch 380 officers elect. They are already working hard to plan some great meetings and events for the new year.

2018 Officers Elect

President - Bill Metz

Co-Second Vice Presidents - Joyce Alessandrino, Will Metz

Financial Secretary - Lou Mages

Co-Treasurers - Claudia Pirozzi, Ken Pirozzi

Recording Secretary - Cathie Lawrence

Corresponding Secretary - Ryan Interrante

Orator - Deacon Dave Lawrence

Trustees - Annette Bondelli, Marie Chodkowski, Richard Interrante

Co-Sentinels - Madeline Bruno, Samantha Bruno

High School Officers - Natalie Alessandrino, Adrianna Bridges, Matthew Bridges, Joseph Pantess, Sophia Pantess, Stephen Pantess

Upcoming Dates

January 5 - General Meeting

January 14 - Officer Installation

We hope everyone has had an amazing Christmas and a wonderful New Year!



Wayne Shaffer and Maria Reames enjoying Br. 21 Christmas Party.



Mr and Mrs Claus (Wayne and Jo Shaffer) enjoying Br 21 Children.



Celebrating Christmas at Branch 36.

Monterey

Central Coast

Salinas

Sacred Heart, Br. 25

Branch 25's Annual Christmas Party was held at JM Ranch on Sunday, December 10, 2017. We were thrilled to have our ICF Grand President, Andy Pappani and his wife Sid, attend this year! Also in attendance was our Branch Chaplin, Father Manny Recera, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, along with Deacon Morton Zabala and his wife Carol, and Seminarian Louie Bellen, and friends of ICF Jim Freibel and his wife Mary Ann. See photo.

Two Branch 25 members, JoAnn Sullivan and Rita Dominy, participated in an Advent Day of Recollection at the St. Francis Retreat in San Juan Bautista on Wednesday, December 6th, along with several members of Monterey Branch 35. This was an outstanding and

worthwhile experience, and continues each Wednesday during Advent, and they are held during Lent as well. We encourage all Central Coast Branches to recommend St. Francis Retreat for Branch outings that strengthen our faith and in a beautiful setting.

Our next meeting will be held on Tues, January 9, 2018 at the KC Hall in Salinas. We will be discussing the budget and our planned membership recruitment activities for 2018. Several of our Board Members are planning to participate in the Central Coast District Installation Ceremonies in Santa Cruz on January 13, 2018. All members are welcome to attend this lovely and spiritual event.

Our prayers continue for long time member, Don Stoffey, during his recovery from a recent health event.

Best Wishes for a wonderful Christmas Holiday and Happy New Year. And safe travels to those hitting the roads or the skies!

JoAnn Sullivan, Recording Secretary



Monterey

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

Branch 36 would like to thank Bettye Sollecito for being our Bolletino editor for over 30 years.

She has been so dedicated, most efficient and she wrote her articles from her heart. Bettye is an inspiration to all of us.

December 4, 2017: Branch #36 danced the night away to US Express for our annual ICF Christmas Party. Thank you Antonia Ihot and June Serrano, for an outstanding job and making our hall look so Merry and Bright. Also, thank you to our Executive Chef Peter John Curatolo and his staff for a most delicious 4 course Rib-bye steak dinner and cannoli for dessert.

December 10, 2017: Our IFC Children's Christmas Party, always fun, especially when Santa arrives with gift for the children, A fun day, with fun activities for the children, lunch and a yummy dessert. Thank you Joe LoManto, Chairman

Our Sympathy to the family of their loss of Vincenza Patalono. Vinnie loved ICF and she was very active member for years. She was a Branch Deputy for other branches.

Calendar 2018

January 4: Monthly Dinner/Meeting 6:00 Cathedral Hall

February 16: 1st Lenten dinner Cathedral Hall

February 23: 2nd Lenten dinner Cathedral Hall

March 2: 3rd Lenten dinner Cathedral Hall

March 9: 4th Lenten dinner Cathedral Hall

March 16: 5th Lenten dinner Cathedral Hall

March 20: ST. Joseph Celebration Elk Lodge

March 23: 6th Lenten dinner Cathedral Hall

"May God's love light your way and lead you into a New Year that shines with His special joy"

Happy New Year 2018

Elaine Valentine

Branch #36



Castroville

Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Happy New Year!

We hope that everyone had a joyous holiday season and now the beginning of a New Year filled with hope and peace.

The Branch #51 elves were busy planning our annual Christmas Party which will be held on December 16th (after the Bulletin Deadline). Special surprises and fun are at the top of the list. Chef Paul and his crew will be preparing the wonderful tri-tip for the meal and all members have volunteered to bring all the rest of the trimmings. Should be a wonderful time.

Our Adopt-A-Family went very well (I knew it would). Members of Branch #51 are the most generous and giving people I have ever known. The children's stockings were overflowing and the family will be warm and be able to purchase food well into the New Year. Thank you members of Branch #51!!

Again it is with sadness that I report that one of our members has passed away. Thelma Sbarra was a member of our Branch for over forty-eight years. For the last few years she lived in Iowa to be near her daughter. Before that she lived in Castroville and was very active in the I.C.F. Her kindness and gentle ways will always be remembered. She was a good friend and my mentor in the I.C.F. Thank you for your guidance, you will be missed.

Thank you Lord for the wonderful people that were a special part of my life, (Hugo Tottino, Thelma Sbarra and my brother-in-law Mel Barlow), and now are at peace with you.

Ciao,

Leonora Barlow

Capitola

St. Joseph, Br. 227

Our Christmas party had a nice turnout and was enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Dolores McCartney and her helpers Monica and Bill Crowley, Magdalena and Manuel Martinez, and Franklyn Lopes for preparing and serving the meal. A special thank you to those members who brought appetizers. Tom



Branch 25's Christmas Party attendees: (Back Row, L-R) Seminarian Louie Bellen, Deacon Morton Zabala, Thelma and Roy Frontani, Grand President Andy Pappani, Ralph Cristofano, Foster Hoffman, Lila Vezzolo, JoAnn Sullivan, Mary Ann Freibel, Father Manny Recera; (Front Row, L-R) Sid Pappani, Joanne Cristofano, Linda Hoffman, Branch 25 President Julie Richards, Rita Dominy, and Marilynn Porstchy. (Not pictured: Gia Ussery, Jim Freibel,

Pierce Brothers Turner & Stevens Mortuary

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FD-995



SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

and Jerrys have become a tradition at our Christmas party, and they were served by Jim and Dottie Smith, Mike and Kathy Melville and Bruce Dunn. The Chicken Cordon Bleu dinner was followed by a visit from Santa Claus who distributed gifts and candy canes to the little ones. We are grateful to James Schaarschmidt who was Santa again this year. He does such a good job.

The first Fish Fry dinner is on February 16. There will be sign-up sheets at the January meeting for workers. It takes a lot of help to put on these dinners, so please be generous with your time. Because the cost of fish has increased, we are forced to raise the price of dinners this year. They will be: \$15 for adults, \$10 for workers, \$7 for children, and a special family price of \$35.

March 10 is the dinner celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our branch. It will be held at the Back Nine at the Inn at Pasatiempo. Franklyn Lopes and Ellen Pauly are heading the committee that is making the arrangements. At the dinner, we will be honoring our charter members and past presidents.

Felice Anno Nuovo,

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande St. Patrick, Br. 291

We held our annual Christmas luncheon on Sunday, Dec. 3rd, at the Madonna Inn. We enjoyed a delicious sit-down lunch, lots and lots of raffle prizes and a performance of Christmas carols and other holiday songs by the Pacific Horizon Chorus. Joanna Van Blaricom, Sylvia Nasholm, Kathleen Sullivan, Terry Garrity and Sandy Quintiliani did a wonderful job organizing the party and making sure all our members and guests in attendance had a fun and festive afternoon!

As our President, Pete Gallagher, reminded us at the Christmas luncheon, our first Lenten Fish Fry will be held on Friday, Feb. 16, 2018, so get rested up this January because the "fun" begins very soon! We will be serving up 5 fish fries during lent on the following dates: Feb. 16th & 23rd; March 2nd, 9th and 23rd. Please join us if you're in the area for a delicious fish dinner with fries and homemade coleslaw!

Please continue to pray for our members who may be experiencing illness, pain or heartache at this time, including Dianne and Homer Clees, Stevie Hall, Bruce Hensley and Jens Wagner. We also pray that 2018 is a very blessed and healthy year for all our members, and that Br. 291 continues to grow and prosper.

Happy New Year!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary



Br. 291 enjoyed a lovely Christmas luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Dec. 3rd. Pictured here is our Christmas party committee, who did a wonderful job organizing our luncheon! L-R: Sylvia Nasholm, Joanna Van Blaricom, Terry Garrity and Sandy Quintiliani.

*Happy
New Year!*

Oakland

East Bay District Council

Can you believe it! It is 2018 and as promised in last month's article there is lots of news to share. Let's begin with election of officers: President, Leonard Rossi; 1st Vice President, Lise Crudo; 2nd Vice President, Melody Klever; Secretary, Patricia Grasso; Treasurer, Dave Madej; Orator, Lei Genevieve Vanek; Trustees, Dave Rose, Maria Raphael and Ralph Marinelli. Installation will be held at the Fratelanza Club on Jan. 14, 2018 beginning with Mass at 3 P.M., followed by installation and then dinner.

Our Crab Feed will be on Sat. Feb. 17, 2018 at St. Philip Neri. We are asking each branch to provide 3 hors'doeuvres and 2 gift baskets worth about \$75.00 each. Reservations are due by 2/10/18. If you work this right maybe this could be your Valentine dinner! Just a thought.

Once again there will be a quarterly Mass hosted by Br. #215 on March 3, 2018 at Corpus Christi church. Details to follow. Please try to attend and make this Mass a success.

Thank you to Dave Madej for stepping up and becoming Mentor for Br. #215.

Here's to a busy and happy 2018.

Patricia Grasso,

District Secretary

Alameda

Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

We are hosting our annual Polenta Dinner on Saturday evening, January 13 in Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda. We start with social half-hour at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:00 and includes salad, polenta with chicken, dessert and coffee. Prices are \$22.00 for adults and \$12.00 for young people 12 and under. For late reservations, contact John Zugnoni, john@zugnoni.net or (510) 523-8005.

The next day, Sunday, January 14, we will co-host, with Branch 40 of Oakland, the East Bay District Installation at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland. The schedule: Mass at 3:00 p.m., installation ceremony at 4:00, social time at 5:00, and dinner at 5:30. We are hoping that all five branches in the East Bay District will be represented by all of their officers.

We will soon be preparing for our Lenten Fish Fry dinners, which follow Stations of the Cross in Saint Philip Neri Church in Alameda. The Stations begin at 5:30 p.m., and the doors of Monsignor O'Brien Hall will open at 6:00. The date of the first dinner is February 16, the first Friday of Lent.

We welcomed 100 celebrants to our annual Christmas Party on Friday evening, December 8. Maria Croft prepared her usual tasty and hearty dinner of salad, pasta and meatballs and dessert. Karen Harrington, our treasurer, and Jeff Branchaud, the son of member Kathleen Branchaud, greeted Santa Claus and assisted with the distribution of gifts to the 14 children in attendance.

Monsignor O'Brien Hall will once again be the location of the East Bay District Crab Feed, which this year is planned for a Saturday night, February 17. The regular Branch 10 set-up crew, which is led by sentinel Ernie Poggi, will help in decorating the hall. Information regarding price, reservations and the starting time can be found just above, i. e., in the District Council column.

We hope to see members of other branches at our 2018 events. If you miss the Polenta Dinner, you can join us for Fish Fry dinners and our March 15 Irish Social.

John Zugnoni, Branch 10 publicity



Karen Harrington (left) enjoyed the visit by Santa Claus at the Branch 10 Christmas Party on Friday evening, December 8.

Fremont

St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

Here's hoping that everyone had a festive Christmas and is eagerly waiting to see what 2018 brings forth. We all know that the holidays, along with joy and family gatherings, can also be a hectic time for many of us. Let's hope that each and every one of us was able to spend some quality time with our family and friends.

Unfortunately, many of our first responders and military weren't as fortunate as us. They spent the holidays on duty to keep us safe and secure. Let's take this opportunity to say a prayer for their safety and speedy and safe return to their families.

Branch 215 will be hosting the next East Bay District Quarterly Mass and Communion on March 3, 2018. Mass at Corpus Christi Church in the Niles District, Fremont will begin at 5:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided following the Mass.

The East Bay District's Crab Feed will be held on 2/17/2018 in Alameda at St. Philip Neri Church Hall, Corner of High and Van Buren Streets. Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Price is \$50.00 per person. Children 10 years and younger will cost \$10.00. Chicken is available in lieu of crab. Call Fran LaTorre no later than 2/10/2017 at (510) 887-1509.

ICF Branch 215 looks forward to joining other ministries at Corpus Christi Church as hosts for a Soup Supper Night during Lent. More information as to date and time to be provided in near future.

We want to take this opportunity to wish all members with birthdays in January a Happy Birthday and congratulations to those also celebrating January wedding anniversaries.

As always, our thoughts and prayers go out to those who are ill and to the safety of our first responders, military, and their families. Happy New Year to all...

Ken Chiatello

Livermore

St. Filomena, Br. 285

Our Mass of Remembrance was held in the chapel at St. Elizabeth Seton with Father Leonard Marrujo giving the Mass. Our own Carolyn Cardinalli and Karen Rossi provided spiritually inspiring songs accompanied by Martha Peterson on the piano. Father Leonard blessed those we have lost and reminded us there will be a "someday" for each of us. In his caring and humorous way, he reminded us to prepare now for that day by taking care of both the practical and the spiritual aspects of dying. The advice was both sage and inspiring on this occasion of remembering our loved ones. After the service, we had an exceptional Thanksgiving dinner with a turkey provided by Judy Wellbeloved and a ham provided by Carolyn Cardinalli. And desserts, desserts, desserts... Fortunately, no calorie counts were provided, so no guilt! Got to do that again. Our Christmas Party at Zephyr Grill was a

big success. Great turnout which included our dear member, Rose Stack, who we have all missed. We all enjoyed chatting with her again. And Bobby Farrington brought her daughter, Camille, her son, Paul, and his wife, Mary. Beautiful family. Good food, good conversation, just an enjoyable evening. Our thanks to Elaine Meier for organizing it and for the table decorations. Please come to our January 19th meeting at St. Elizabeth Seton. Our guest speaker is Jan Sherman, physical therapist, who will speak on senior health, a subject of interest to all.

Felice Anno Nuovo -

Chuck

Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Well we finally did it, we actually had our Christmas party/meeting in December, this is the first time in two years that we have been able to do this. The meal was quite tasty thanks to Lisa and her crew, also there were plenty of cookies to share. And a big thank you to the folks who attended for their most generous donations of baby clothes, diapers and blankets to Birthright. We had two guests from Birthright who gave us information on the founding of the group 25 years ago in Canada and the numbers cared for and helped locally. Those new babies will be well clothed and warm. That's what the ICF is all about, caring for others.

Just a reminder, installation is Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018, beginning with Mass @ 3 P.M. at the Fratelanza Club, followed by installation and then dinner. It's a good time to meet your peers from other branches or renew old friendships.

Time to think about that upcoming District Crab Feed in Feb. At St. Philip Neri in Alameda. They are look to us for hors'doeuvres and Raffle baskets. Any ideas for special baskets are welcome. Remember, good food and a fun time and it's on a Saturday night!

Our next meeting will be Jan. 11th, so if you have any questions about installation, that is a good time to bring them.

Keep healthy and safe in the New Year and take care of each other.

Patricia Grasso, Branch Secretary

Contra Costa District Council

Here we are in the year of 2018!. Many of us are surprised, because not too many years ago the year 2018 sounded like some year in science fiction. But here we are by the grace of God carrying on the best we can. And to those who have offered their service, whether officer or member we thank you. The district officers for this year are

President--Patty Jarrett

1st Vice President Joann Thilgen

2nd Vice President Roger Van Maren

Recording Secretary Roberta Healy



Members from Branch 54 and 14 having fun at the District Christmas Party.



Merry Christmas from some Happy gamblers at Thunder Valley from Branch 14, Crockett.

Treasurer Walter Costa
 Orator Peggy Aiello Hagerthy
 Trustee Deanne Carone
 Trustee Judie Van Maren
 Trustee Aiddie Bepler
 Sentential Carol Larson

The plans have been finalized for our 2018 District Installation of officers. By now you should have received your online invitation from your branch with all the details. This is not only for officers. All ICF members, family and friends are welcome. We look forward to seeing everyone at the festivities.

A reminder that our next district meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 25th at 7:30 at Legends private room at Diablo Creek Golf Course in Concord. Please send a member from each branch.

For those who have volunteered to be officers for the year 2018, and to those that have given many years of service, we ask God to thank you in the way that he knows best.

Joann

Crockett San Carlo, Br. 14

In President Donna Hoffmann's absence, First Vice President Nancy Botta competently chaired our November meeting. Nancy reported that she and Donna would share the president's duties while Donna is recovering. It was heartwarming to see how many were willing to help with Donna's numerous tasks, all of which she has done without the knowledge of most of our members. She and David Botta work countless hours behind the scenes.

Please remember Donna Hoffmann, John Sepulveda (Suppy), Elma Nursement, Wanda Abbondonza and Clare Alvarado in your prayers. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this, all will be much better.

As usual, our October Polenta Dinner was both a social and financial success, enabling us to substantially donate funds this Christmas season to the following: Meals on Wheels, Crockett Boy Scouts, St. Anthony's Dining Room, St. Vincent de Paul, Sisters of Mercy, Crockett Fire Dept., Crockett Museum, Bay Area Rescue Mission, Children's Hospital (Los Angeles Cooley's Anemia Unit), Father Leo, Crockett Christmas Baskets, and the Crockett Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration. We are also donating to the many recent tragic events and \$2,500 to St. Rose of Lima. Thanks to all for your support.

Dates to remember in 2018 include: January 9th, first meeting of the year; Polenta tickets will be sold. February 3, Polenta Dinner; March 10, Corned Beef Dinner and March 16, St.

Rose Fish Fry.

We hope January 2018 is free of worry and strife, and that the New Year is filled with good health, happiness and many blessings.

Ciao,
 Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

Short report this month as we work on our 2018 calendar. Watch in the mail for your calendar of events and dues slip. Then plan to join the branch at the upcoming events.

By the time you receive this we will be set for our annual Installation of officers. Thanks in advance to our officers for once again leading us. I will report on this event next month and post pictures as well.

A great time was had by all who attended our joint anniversary-Christmas party held at the Olive Garden restaurant in Pittsburg. The food was great but what was most enjoyed was our time together. How lucky we are that we have each others friendship. We treat each other like family. We continue to eat, drink, travel, and share lasting memories with one another.

I truly wish each and everyone of you a very happy new year. May God bless you and may God bless branch 72 San Domenico.

As we say in Pittsburg,

Sempre Avanti

Till next time.

Patty

Ricmond St. Raymond, Br. 154

The December meeting opened with a scrumptious polenta dinner. Thanks to Walter Costa and Toni Reeder for a delicious meal, Thanks to everyone who contributed their help to make this a festive holiday meal.

The branch installations of officers' details will be forthcoming in the next bulletin. District is still working out the particulars.

It is not too early to be thinking about the next fundraiser which will be on February 24th, 2018. Raffle prizes needed, such as cash, gift cards etc.

Please pick up a calendar for the coming year if you have not done so already. The next scheduled meeting is January 08th, 2018. Pizza and salad will be served. Eggnog and Spirits to follow the meeting.

Don't forget your dues are payable at the next meeting. Annual dues are \$35.00 and Hospitalization is \$25.00. Make your check payable to the ICF and give your check to Mike Cannady or Toni Reeder.

If you haven't attended a meeting in awhile consider joining us as part of your new year's resolutions. You'll be glad you did.

Felice Anno Nuovo!

Concord Todos Santos, Br. 214

Happy New Year!

Feeling the Blessings of last year and looking forward to 2018

Our branch had a Toys for Tots toy drive, this benefit was two-fold, helping give children a Christmas and the company of the Marine's who came to collect them. Terri Di Loretto chaired this special event.

We had a great attendance at our Christmas brunch at La Veranda in Clayton, we enjoyed a champagne toast, good company & meal, the day ended with most guests going home with a Panettone.



From right to left: Deacon John Kortuem, incoming 2018 Branch 432 President, Gene Simonetti, outgoing 2017 Branch 432 President, Marilyn Simonetti.

A recent membership drive had 10 new sign ups. We look forward to meeting these guests at our meeting this month.

President Roberta Healy will also present the New Year agenda for the year, we look forward to another year of great fun & good fellowship.

Prayers for our sick and elderly, also prayers for Earl Koski as he continues his chemo treatments.

Bless Your Year 2018,

Christina, correspondence secty.

Brentwood Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Through the years our outgoing President, Gene Simonetti, has led Branch 432 through its successes. In keeping with that continuing tradition of successful events, the Branch has elected Deacon John Kortuem as the new President for 2018. Deacon John (as he is known) is the Sir Thomas More of the IHM community, a man for all seasons.

Deacon John came upon the scene at IHM in 2004 where he was promptly assigned the responsibility of closing the old Church and dedication of the new Church. Shortly thereafter he became Chaplin of ICF's Branch 432.

Becoming Chaplin for Branch 432 was just the beginning, once the Branch officers discovered what Deacon John was capable of there was no end to his involvement in the Branch's activities. If an event needed help, Deacon John was there regardless of his other IHM commitments. He had the capacity to work conflicts out for the best of all concerned. From the Festa d' Italia to the Scholarship Awards and all the events in between, Deacon John could be found helping to bring each activity to its successful conclusion. If there was a road map for the Branch's successes, his finger prints would be all over it.



Mother and daughter duo, Diana and Joanna MacKinson, leading Branch 442 in Christmas Carols.

In addition to his Branch 432 efforts, Deacon John has the responsibility of many other facets of the IHM community, among them: Serving in all Liturgical Services, managing all Adult Confirmation classes at the Parish level and assisting at the Diocesan level, Chaplin for St. Vincent De Paul and the Knights of Columbus. And, if he has any slack time he uses that to help prepare and serve IHM's monthly breakfast.

Finally, this writer doesn't think Deacon John would have it any other way. God Bless you Deacon John for who you are and all that you do.

la vita è buona

Pleasant Hill Christ the King, Br. 442

We welcomed the holidays with a festive December 10th meeting. We had wonderful appetizers and desserts including cannoli, panettone and an assortment of cookies (still waiting for the recipes!) Diana and Joanna MacKinson played the piano and viola to lead us in Christmas carols to get us in the spirit of the season. We were honored to have several guests including our deputy David Bota. A great turn out and a good time was had by all.

We were also well represented at our district holiday dinner at DiVino's in Pleasant Hill earlier in the week. It was nice to cheer with our district council members. Good food and even better company.

Our January meeting is scheduled for January the 14th. Hope to see you all there and together start a great year.

Here are some things to look forward to in 2018:

in the spirit of sharing our faith and family ICF values we are planning a dinner for our parish youth group.

Our Ladies Tea fundraiser is scheduled for March 24th.

We will volunteer to serve and share a meal with our parish guest families during Winter Nights.

We will once again have our now legendary Salami Toss booth at our parish festival sometime in May.

More details to come but please start thinking



Branch 442, Christ the King, sharing Christmas cheer.



Irvine, Branch 423 celebrating a meal out together.



about how you can help chair or volunteer for these events. Never too early to start planning!

Auguri per un felice e prospero 2018

Eileen McGauran

Orange

Irvine

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

At the November meeting, we celebrated Thanksgiving. Tom and Joanne Jordan hosted the dinner with roast chicken with all the traditional Thanksgiving trimmings.

We finished off the year in a good financial standing. Our various fund raisers during the year allowed us to donate more to the charities our branch supports. Thank you to all the members for making 2017 a success!

Kathy Bauman from Wise Place was our guest speaker for the November meeting. She spoke about the history of Wise Place and how it evolved from the YWCA of Santa Ana to the organization it is today. Wise Place's mission is to provide housing, employment assistance, financial independence, and steps to independence for homeless women. Kathy spoke about the current statistics on homeless women in Orange County. She also shared the future of things to come for Wise Place. For more information, visit www.wiseplace.org.

President Donna Stahl presented a wine gift basket to outgoing Treasurer, Tom Farrell, thanking him for ten years of serving as our branch Treasurer. As Treasurer, Tom was always present at our sausage/meatball sales, St. Joseph Table, and monthly meetings. He is more than just "the money man." He participated in many ICF activities including the annual picnics, food drives, and hosted several Christmas parties and progressive dinners. Thank you, Tom for the contributions you have made to our branch!

For this coming year, please brainstorm and think of some new ideas to bring to our meetings regarding fund raisers, dinners, social events, guest speakers, etc.

Ciao,

Miranda Gibson

Sacramento

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

Happy New Year from Branch 342! We hope this coming year is filled with good health, wonderful time with family and friends, and lots of great ICF events.

A big thank you to all of our members who helped make our annual Christmas dinner a great success. We are very grateful to those who helped set up and clean, our wonderful chefs, those who donated raffle prizes and canned food items, and those who brought wonderful gifts to share. Besides having a great time together, we were also able to donate funds to the Religious Education programs, Youth Groups, and St. Vincent dePaul Societies at St. Joseph and St. Teresa Parishes. As you can see by our photos, fun was had by members of all ages.

Please make sure to get your tickets to our annual Polenta Dinner which will be held at St. Teresa's Hall on Saturday, January 13th. Our great team of chefs will be preparing



Members of Branch 342 had a great time visiting with Santa.



Grand President Andrew Pappani, Branch 135 President Charlyne Pacini, Bishop Randolph Calvo and Father Honesto Augustin.



President Charlyne Pacini presenting the seminary check to Reno Bishop Randolph Calvo.



Grand President Andrew Pappani presenting the Providenza Seminary Scholarship check to Reno Bishop Randolph Calvo.

Reno

Reno

St. Albert, Br. 135

We welcomed 41 members and guests to our annual Bishops Dinner, Sunday evening, December 3, 2017. This dinner gives us an occasion to honor our Bishop and to present him with monetary gifts to fund the education of the Seminarians of our diocese.

Special thanks goes to Bob and Suzanne Capurro who prepared a delicious dinner of barbecued pork tenderloin, ravioli with meat sauce, vegetables, salad and angel food cake with sauce. Lydia Brunelli and Mel Sullivan prepared and served the appetizers.

Special guests attending the dinner included Andrew Pappani, Grand President of the Italian Catholic Federation and his wife Sid Pappani, Father Honesto Augustin, Pastor of St. Albert the Great Church and Bishop Randolph R. Calvo, Bishop of Reno.

Andy Pappani presented a \$1,000 check to the Bishop from Central Council's Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund for the education of the Seminarians of our diocese. The gifts from Branch 135 presented by President Charlyne Pacini were a gift of \$1,000 to Bishop Calvo for his seminary fund and a gift of \$250 for his TV ministry. Branch 135 also presented a check of \$500 to Father Honesto for the use of the church's auditorium for our meetings.

The members attending this annual dinner event brought many "bags of food", which will be given to Saint Vincent's Pantry, whose ongoing mission is to feed the "homeless and hungry" in our Reno community

Our next meeting will be January 14, 2018.

We wish all our members and their families and friends a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Capo D'Anno a Tutti!

Charlyne Pacini

polenta, chicken, sausage, salad, and dessert. We will also have a fantastic raffle and dancing. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased from MaryAnn Mikles (916-878-8466) or Dolores Aleccia (530-823-9125). We hope to see you there.

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

members Maria Tollefson who was a very involved and caring person. Also at our branch we lost a longtime member Vince Marcantonio our prayers are with Kay and family.

Also, please keep in your prayers our members Irene Zens, Frank Navetta and Forrest Price.

Peace,

Robin Fielding

San Diego

San Diego

St. Therese, Br. 261

We are saddened by the loss of two ICF

San Francisco

San Francisco

Maria S. S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members

Our Christmas Party was enjoyed by all!

Upcoming events:

January – No meeting

January 13 -- Installation of Officers. Taraval Police Station, [2345 24th Ave.](#), San Francisco. Time 11:30am.

We are sadly reporting the loss of Inez Ertassi, a member of Branch 1 since 1965. Our condolences to her family

Stay well!

Ciao,

Toni Morsello

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Felice Anno Nuovo and the Officers and Members of Br. 258 hope the New Year will be good to all of us.

On Jan. 22nd we have a trip planned to go to the Thunder Valley Casino.

To all of our members who have birthdays in January, we wish you much Happiness and Good Health in the coming year.

Barbara, we wish you a speedy recovery. We missed you at our Christmas lunch.

To the Borghello Family - our sincere sympathy on the death of Nora. Nora was an active member of our Br. 258 for 46 years. Nora always took part in all of our affairs. She was always willing to help us when she could in any way. Nora will be greatly missed by all of us. We will keep Nora and all of you in our prayers.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Anita, we wish you a speedy recovery. Anita fell and had to have stitches on her leg. You are in our prayers. Anita, we missed you at our Christmas lunch.

I want to thank our officers for all of their help this past year. We are very fortunate to have a great group of officers.

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

Jan. 28th - Mass

Jan. 29th - Meeting

Ciao,

Eva Perata, President

San Mateo

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

We sure have had some unusual events this year and hope those devastated by the fires have had a chance to see some light at the end of the tunnel.

We will have a new president, Mary Ann Camacho, who is lining up some items for the new year to discuss with our membership and welcomes any new suggestions on how to benefit our branch.

We have been so fortunate to have Dorene Campanile as our leader for the past three years and glad she is still close by as she is one of the hardest workers I know and did a lot for our branch.

Thanks to John and Jean Watterson for chairing our Christmas party held on 12-7 and also to Luci and Jim Witherspoon and Bob Bacich who come early to the hall to set up for our events. We had a bake sale and were able to give a monetary donation along with some groceries to St. Vincent de Paul.

January 20th Installation at the San Mateo Elks . Hosted by our Branch 173 Mass at 9:15am, Installation 10:00 AM. \$40. Chicken Picante, Dore Petrale Sole, Pasta Primavera. Hosted wine served at bar/no host bar for cocktails. DEADLINE January 12 Reservations to Donna Cervelli, 1411 Paloma, Burlingame, CA 94010.

Please pray for Larry Cavagnaro, Linda Mustachia, Carol Norcia, Lorraine Rollandi and John Watterson.

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco

St. Augustine, Br. 213

Happy New Year to All!

A special thank you to Jackie and Barbara for the wonderful Xmas Lunch in December. We all enjoy this special yearly get together. This month we will enjoy a wonderful pot luck meal with our members and working on meeting plans for this years activities. Remember to mark your calendar for the instillation of new officers on Jan 20th at the Elks Club. Happy birthday to all January birthdays, many more.

San Carlos

St. Charles, Br. 327

Buon Anno to all the members and their families! A happy and healthy 2018 to all.

Our November dinner meeting and toy drive was a very fun event. The chicken casserole dinner was hosted by Rose Beall, Donna McKay, Carmel Dufault and Celeste Lennemann. It was a delicious dinner enjoyed by 40 members. Thank you to all who cooked and all who participated in the toy drive. Carmel said it took three cars to get all the toys and bears to St. Francis Center in Redwood City.

Another big thank you to our membership who voted to send \$300.00 to the Central



Branch 327 President Carmel Dufault and Chaplain, Deacon Ernie Von Emster with all the toys and bears for St. Francis Center.

Council for the Santa Rosa Wildfire Fund. We have ICF members living in the area who have been directly affected by this wildfire.

Saturday, January 20, 2018 is Installation of officers for the San Mateo District. The installation will be held at the San Mateo Elks Club, [223 West 20th Avenue, San Mateo](#). The event is being hosted by Our Lady of Angels, Branch #173. Mass is at 9:15am, Installation is 10:00am. If you plan to stay for the luncheon, the price is \$40.00 per person. The entrée choices are: Chicken Picante, Dore Petrale Sole or Pasta Primavera (vegetarian). Please contact Carmel Dufault to let her know you plan to attend and your choice of entrée.

Ciao,

Virginia Malaspina

Caption for attachment:

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, Br. 403

Our Christmas Party took place at our Monthly Meeting with our 1st V.P. Paul Larsen leading us in Christmas Carols. We collected gift cards and cash for needy families which will be assembled in baskets and delivered before Christmas. Hopefully this will help to bring Happy Holidays to some. We thank our members for being so generous. Our Installation of Officers will take place on January 18, 2018 at the San Mateo Elks Club with Mass at 9:15 AM and Installation at 10:00 AM. All are invited, with lunch to follow. Lunch entrees are: Chicken Picante, Petrale Sole and Pasta Primavera with salad and dessert for \$40 per person. Reservations to Eunice Danli, 4 Spring Valley Lane, Millbrae, CA 94030 by January 10, 2018. We have no ICF meeting in January. Next meeting will be February 6, 2018 following a soup dinner prepared by Past President Carla Del Carlo.

Rose Marie Morando

Corresponding Secretary

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas Holiday.

Salve amici e soci della Federazione

We celebrated a wonderful, festive Luncheon with Santa with roasted chicken, potatoes, winter salad, and cheese cake dessert, to begin the Advent season. Stay tuned! Next year, we will celebrate our ICF Christmas luncheon during Christmastime (at Epiphany). La Befana will join Santa and Mrs. Claus next year to delight the little ones.

On December 12th we had an Advent meditation with seminarian Ben Rosado at Jeanne's home, with sweet nibbles and warm beverages. What a wonderful way to clean the cobwebs from our hearts and ready our "house" for the arrival of the Honored Guest.

At our next meeting on Tuesday, January 16, we will begin with a brief board meeting at 6:30 pm prior to the general meeting and potluck dinner. The dinner and general meeting will begin at 7 pm.

Please continue your get-well prayers for everyone who isn't feeling well.

Con affetto,

Anna Biggio

Recording Secretary

Novato

Our Lady of Loretto, Br. 32

We ended the 2017 year with a wonderful

Christmas celebration attended by over 130 guests.

As always, everyone was treated to a delicious dinner, prepared by our amazing kitchen "elves": the McDuffee, Salvestrin and Raccanello families. We are spoiled each and every month with wonderful dinners presented by our kitchen crew. Grazie to all for their hard work. Santa made a surprise visit to the children, and in return, the children sang Christmas Carols for all of us, accompanied by Dave Garbarino. Our Holiday Gourmet Basket Raffle was a huge success, netting the largest profit in our history. Thank you to our generous members who contribute the "goodies" for the baskets, our amazing committee who assembles them, and to all our supporters for purchasing so many raffle tickets. And a very special thank you to all those wonderful people, who after every dinner, voluntarily clean up the hall. You are amazing and so very much appreciated.

Our new Branch Officers are a very dedicated and committed group and we wish them well in all their endeavors on behalf of our Branch. Congratulations to Branch 332 2018 Officers: Karen Raccanello, Bob Lemos, Roselle Piazza, Connie Baczynski, Diane Gizzi, Ginny Perazzo, Holli Lemos, Jo Bacon, Ron Lake, John Cutrufelli, and Jim Harais.

Buon Anno a Tutti! We wish you all a New Year filled with peace and blessings.

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley

District Council

Thanks to Giulia Gallegos for the wonderful Mass & Dinner hosted at Tony & Alba's. Following the excellent Mass & Pilgrimage for St. Frances Cabrini and the recent district Officer Installation hosted by Br. 445 demonstrates why this district knows how handle important events. Br. 445 has the responsibility for the completing the year's trifecta (Installation, Bishop's Day and district Christmas Party).

District President Bob Bausino thanked Giulia for hosting the Christmas Party and asked her to introduce his helpers from Br. 435. Bob also introduced the other dignitaries foremost was Grand President Andy Pappani & wife Syd. Andy just returned from Glendora, CA where he reopened St. Dorothy's Br. 179.

Br. 5 reported that member Jim Holder and family were given the Mission Community Fund Award. Br. 47 is planning a February 2 Crab Feed. Br. 191 held its traditional "Turkey Bingo". President Jo Bertaccini said they collected over \$800 for Hurricane and Fire Relief victims. Also, the new president of the branch is Jim Jones. Br. 391 reported that 27 calendars were sold. Br. 408 made \$300 at their recent Bake Sale.

Br. 445 will have Fr. Chris Bennett as the new Chaplain. Jo Bertaccini told members that on January 15, 2018 Fr. Chris will be conducting a "Day of Recollection" at St. Christopher's. Emily reminded members about the upcoming scholarship "season"

Mike Nunziata

Santa Clara

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Happy New Year 2018 to all members and their family.

May the newly installed officers have a successful and a prosperous 2018 for ICF Br. 5.

Thanks to all members who have paid their dues for 2018. If you have not paid, it is not too late to renew. Please see Marlene Rotolo to renew and pay your dues. Dues are \$40.80

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Branch 28 - Dave Peoples (right) taking a rare breather with Dick Bozzo before serving the Thanksgiving Dinner to our members and guests.



Branch 28 - Joe Fortino, 1st Vice President literally taking Jacob Cordich under his wing to explain the fine points of making polenta as Matt Dutra demonstrates.



Branch 28 - Scholarship recipients at the June 2017 dinner meeting: Clair McCarry, Daniel Vaca and Brian Healy (left to right).



Branch 28 - Dick Bozzo demonstrating the Thanksgiving platter that will be served to members and guests.



Visiting, eating, and waiting to open gifts at the Branch 184 Christmas Party.



Branch 28 - Christmas Bake Sale crew getting ready to start selling the many incredible bake goods prepared by our members.



for one, and \$81.60 for two. If you pay for a new member, please have them complete an ICF Application to join. This way they get the full benefits.

January Dinner/Meeting is schedule for January 25, 2018. Agenda and Menu will be mailed to all members in January. See you in January.

Any suggestions to make Dinner/Meeting fun and enjoyable, please inform any officers about your ideas. If you would like a guest speaker, please let us know.

God bless all members and keep them all in good health in 2018.

Ciao,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Our November 18, 2017 dinner meeting saw members enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings topped off with pumpkin pie. Dave Peoples and crew put together a beautiful meal that was reminiscent of family Thanksgiving celebrations over the years. Thank you Dave and crew.

On December 3rd, 2017 Branch 28 had a Christmas Bake and Craft Sale that again showed the generosity of members in time and effort in preparing a wonderful array of desserts for this bake sale fundraiser.

It has been a successful year of fundraising from Pancake Breakfasts, bake sales, dinners of polenta, and ravioli and shrimp, calendar

sales, raffle gifts, convention raffle tickets and members volunteering time to the Gilroy Garlic Festival.

As my inaugural year comes to an end in which I have written of so many events and successful fundraisers in which Branch 28 members have contributed so nobly it has been indelibly impressed on me the "greater" good that is derived from those successes. The donation to our Parish. Member Chris Andrade's coordination of a "Christmas" for a deserving family. Toy and food donations to St. Joseph's Family Center. Support for Cooley's anemia research. The presentment of scholarships to our youth. The support for the Bishop's burse. This is what makes Branch 28 of the Italian Catholic Federation and its members a beautiful thing. Happy New Year to all.

Next dinner meeting January 22, 2018 at Cullen Hall.

Peace and God Bless,

Kim M. Filice

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

Sure hope you survived the Christmas Rush: baking, cooking, visiting, shopping, decorating, oh my, so much to do and so little time. There are some members who have lost important people in their lives. It is never easy to lose someone you love but more so poignant at this time of year. We send our love and support to you.

We had a wonderful Branch Christmas

Party. President Denise Antonowicz sent everyone a special invitation and had a good response. The food at Harry's Hof Brau is always delicious, and the gift exchange was a lot of fun! Thank you Marie Yurosko for organizing that part. The youngest guest attending was beautiful Isabella Lucia Brusco, who was with her parents and grandparents. Her Mama is Julie Klem Brusco, our 1st Vice President.

The Installation of Officers will be held January 6, 2018. This year the newest branch, Transfiguration Branch #445, is hosting, with Mass starting at 10:30, with a catered lunch following. This will be the first time some of us will be at Transfiguration. Our own Donna Pfaff is their first President! I know they will have a great branch!

Member Eileen Fritsch coordinated a membership drive Sunday, December 3. She said it was a success and thanked Fran Filice, Joan and Bob Cowan, Victoria Nguyen, Barbara White, and John and Arlene Rocchio for their help after Masses. She has completed forms for EIGHT new members! Good job!

God Bless you and your families, now and throughout the new year,

Lucy Amico

San Jose

St. Francis Cabrini, Br. 191

We are starting the New Year with practically a new slate of officers. I want to thank last year's officers for doing a magnificent job of running the branch, especially our Past



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Members of Branch 408 celebrating a Christmas Potluck.

President, Jo Bertaccini.

Our branch has a lot on its calendar plate this year. Our Installation to be held in the first part of January, Lent in February with Lenten "Soup Night", Chicken Cacciatori/ Polenta Dinner in early March, Quarterly Mass and Breakfast the week before Palm Sunday, Palm Sunday and then Easter on April 1st.

Include the meetings, both Board and General Dinner Meetings and you have busy schedule.

At any rate, it is our hope that each of you has a wonderful New Year in 2018.

Jim Jones

San Jose

Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

We hope everyone had a peaceful, blessed Christmas. Our branch Christmas dinner, catered by Tony and Alba, was perfectly delicious chicken parmigiana and put everyone in a holiday mood.

Did you know.....that Father Emil Kapaun, from Pilsen, Kansas, was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Obama in 2013 and was a prisoner of war in a Korean camp? Ed Wendler told us about Father Kapaun, a chaplain who administered first aid and last rites to soldiers on the battlefield in 1950. In the prisoner of war camp he took care of the prisoners physically and spiritually and was tortured for it, dying in isolation in the camp in 1951. On the path to canonization, Father Kapaun was declared a Servant of God by Pope John Paul II in 1993.

On the money front, we sent \$100 to the Central Council for their fire relief fund. We also raised money, half for relief funds and half for the Santa Teresa Christmas giving tree, from our raffle of a beautiful Nativity set, a tiled garden cross made by John Gillio, and a stained glass window.

On January 6 there is a district officer installation for our new board. Jerry Delfino has served as our district mentor for many years and continues in the office in 2018. At every meeting he brings us up to date on district concerns. We want him to know we appreciate his enthusiastic service. Thank you, Jerry!

Happy New Year, everyone!

Judy Zahn

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

In lieu of our monthly December meeting, our branch celebrated a Christmas Festivity with a special Advent Recollection prayer by Fr. Abe Antony, who stressed that we take the time to feel the Christmas moment—"to pray that we become instruments of peace and mercy."

President Mike Rossi started the evening by introducing Patrick O'Meara, who spoke of the 2018 Village House for the Unhoused, and Larry Johnson and Mike Vick, who promoted St. Martin Men's Club popular crab feed, which will be held on January 20, 2018.

He thanked the Al and Diana Vallorz team for the wonderful Christmas Feast of pot roast with all the trimmings ending with delicious cannolis.

In celebration of giving, Mike presented Christmas gifts to our wonderful priests, Fr. Sergio Ovando and Fr. Abe Antony. For those members who were not present, Mike also presented Branch 391's annual donations to the following: St. Martin's Parish (\$3000), St. Martin's Food Box Program (\$750), St. Vincent de Paul (\$150), ICF Gifts of Love (\$400), Layette (\$150), Nativity School (\$150), and Victor Salas' retirement fund (\$100).

Our generous members collected \$1650 for the St. Martin's Village House project during the evening.

Upcoming events: Branch #391 Dinner Meeting--January 2, 2018 at 6:30pm; District Installation of 2018 Officers—January 6, 2018 at Transfiguration, Branch #445.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Buon Anno!

May God Bless our Branch, its Members and our upcoming Works in this New Year.

Our Branch hosted its Annual Christmas Potluck with Sandra and Patricia hosting a wonderful Lasagna, garlic bread and salads. John Parker and his son Steve drove up from Salinas Area for this Get-Together and to visit old Friends.

We had a good Turnout on our last Blood Drive of the Year with over 36 Donors. Even Fr. Phong stopped by to donate.

Santa Calra Valley District Installation of Officers for 2018 will take place at Church of



(Left) La Befana visited the Branch 52 Christmas Party.

(Above) Branch 52 Pres. Richard Passalacqua presented the Christmas donations to Pat Flanagan for St. Vincent DePaul Society, Fr. Sean Rogers and Principal James Brandt for St. John's School.

the Transfiguration on 6 January 2018 starting with a Mass at 10 AM. A Buffet Luncheon will be held in the Parish Hall after Mass.

Please also pray for our sick members and friends— especially for Olive DeFrancisci, Steve Richey, Dori and Paul Blefari, Edith Novak, and Betty Deville.

Santa Rosa District Council

Happy New Year to all! Hope your holidays were great.

Our next big event is the District Installation of Officers. It will be on January 21, 2018 beginning with Mass at St. Eugene's Cathedral at 10:30 AM. Installation will follow in the Brinker Hall. There will be a reception and lunch. Price is \$25. All branch officers should be in attendance. Please write one check for the branch members attending and send to Bob Acquistapace- 2229 Cheyenne Dr.- Santa Rosa, 95405. Remember to bring your scarves. Each branch is asked to donate a raffle prize worth at least \$25 and some delicious hors d'oevres.

The District Packet containing the year's calendar and officers' names will be distributed.

A lot of events coming up with all our branches. Try to attend some of them. You will really enjoy them.

2017 was trying year for many of us. Let us join together with love and prayers for all of our families and friends. Help each other wherever and whenever we can.

CK



Branch 103's Chef Diane in new kitchen.

Healdsburg

St. Frances de Sales, Br. 52

Our Christmas Party was well attended and lots of fun! We had two special guests – La Befana and Santa Claus. Thank you to President Richard Passalacqua for cooking the delicious tri-tip and pasta.

At the Christmas Party, we distributed our charitable donations. Due to the support of our members and friends during the year, at our dinners and fundraisers, we were able to donate a total of over \$16,000 to St. John's Church, St. John's School, the STEM Scholarship, St. John's Youth Group, St. Vincent De Paul Society, St. Vincent De Paul Dining Room, Shared Ministries Food Pantry, Catholic Charities Family Support Center, Oakmond Cemetery Restoration and California Wildfire Relief.

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 9: Branch meeting at the Rectory. 5:00 PM

January 20: Polenta Dinner. Happy Hour: 5:45 PM Dinner: 6:30 PM. Price: \$18.00 for members and \$20.00 for non-members. For reservations, call Mary Madden: 431-0438. This will be our last Polenta Dinner until November.

Jan. 21: Santa Rosa District Installation of Officers at St. Eugene's. Mass: 10:30 AM with Installation and lunch to follow. For tickets, call Carmen or Lauren: 433-1210.

March 23: Mark your calendars for our very popular Fish Fry. More details, next month.

Remember to pay your dues.

Happy belated birthday to Josephine Camour, who turned 103 on November 27! Congratulations, Josephine!

Happy New Year!

Lauren Kilcullen



Branch 103 members celebrating.



Breakfast with Santa Br. 144 Arcata - Santa's helpers - Icf member Elena, KC members Jim and Tim and Santa Tony.



Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

The spirit of Christmas abounded at our Branch's December meeting. Members brought in coats to be donated to FISH for distribution. Our VP Grant spearheaded the collection as she has for several years. This year is especially meaningful because of the recent fires. The members were also generous in the amount of raffle items in order to raise funds for the Branch.

January will see the instillation of the new Board who are anxious to begin their term with exciting new ideas to benefit the ICF.

I take this opportunity to thank the members for having helped me in providing news items for the Bollettino, and know they will continue to do so in 2018.

Felice 2018 a tutti,

Marie-Therese Denning

Secretary

Petaluma

St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

Went to our Branch Christmas Party last night which was a great success. The Mass at St. Vincent's Church was beautiful and following the Mass our Christmas party was held at Cattlemans Restaurant. Everyone who attended had a nice time and Christmas carols were sung to close our evening.

Our new Officers for 2018 are as follows:

Pres.: Dennice DiGirolamo; 1st Vice Pres.: Lucy Spingola; Recording Secty.: Linda Cordon; Financial Secty.: Sharon Hromek; Treasurer: Reno Iezza; Orator: Rita Boynton; Sentinel: Grace Herrold; Trustees: Rose Anna Cresci, Mary Ellen Higgins, Louise Vicino; Past Pres.: Bruno Fomasi and Branch Mentor is Dante Corsetti. Father Michael Culligan is our Branch Chaplain.

Our congratulations on a job well done by our Officers in 2017 and Congratulations to our new Officers. Our Branch is only successful if everybody supports our Officers and the Branch in their meetings and events. So please try to attend the meetings, you'll meet a lot of great members and new friendships are made.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 9th at 6:00 p.m. St. James Hall. This is our Soup/Dessert night and cost is \$5. Please be on time.

Jan. 21st - Installation of Officers, St. Eugene's Cathedral, 10:30 Mass, Installation to follow in Brinker's Hall- Cost \$25. Make reservation with Dennice.

Feb. 12th - Regular Meeting, Room 9

Feb. 24th - All you can eat Crabfeed Dinner. Menu: O'ederves, salad, pasta, crab, dessert, wine and coffee. Cost is \$45. Make your reservations with Louise - 769-7389.

Mar. 24th - Quarterly Communion Mass - St. James Church 5:00p.m. and St. Joseph's Table to follow in Church Hall. Cost: \$25 - Reservations: Louise 769-7389

I hope that everybody had a beautiful Christmas holiday with all your family and friends. May the New Year bring much

happiness and love to you and your families. Let us pray that in the New Year we will have peace and love in our country and in the world. Keep all the people left homeless and our service people in your prayers as well.

Best wishes for good health to all who are ill and Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all celebrating this month.

Remember to be nice to someone, you will always get it back in return.

Ciao,

Louise Vicino

Arcata

St. Mary, Br. 144

Our Dec. 6 meeting began with our Christmas Potluck. The scrumptious dishes were enjoyed by all!!!

Breakfast with Santa, a joint venture with the Knights of Columbus, was a great success. Santa, member Tony LaBanca, liven up the festive occasion!

Mark your calendar for the Installation of Officers dinner - Saturday, January 27, 6 pm at the Samoa Cookhouse. Call Judy 826-1858 for reservations. Let's support our upcoming officers.

We were saddened for Br. 145 in the loss of member Jerry Colivas, an advocate of student scholarships, history and sharing his accordion music. A donation was sent to the Providenza Fund in Jerry's memory.

Our November bake sale brought in \$586. Thanks to Linda and Joan for organizing the sale, to the bakers and to Pete for the persimmons.

Befana will be celebrated Saturday, Jan 6, with a potluck dinner from 1 - 3 pm in the Fr. Kelly Meeting Room. All members, their family - children, grandchildren, please join us!! Mrs. Befana will be there!!!!

Sunday Feb. 18th - Chicken Polenta Dinner. Save this date. Tell your family and friends.

January Birthdays - Elena David, Shar Evans, John Gai, Roger MacDonald, and Mitchell Mongee. Happy Birthday - Kick up those heels!!

A Happy, Healthy, Safe, and Blessed New Year to all!

Rosemary

Eureka

St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Our November meeting was called to order with correspondence reports and treasurer's reports following. We then discussed the nominations of officers for the 2018 year. We will vote on nominations at the next meeting.

We then discussed our cocoa with Santa parish party. The events will be coordinated with the Knights of Columbus. We will provided milk, treats and decorations for the Christmas tree.

Our lodge Christmas party will be Tuesday, December 12th. It will be a potluck buffet. Bring a small item for a bingo gift

We are deeply saddened by the passing of our brother Jerry Colivas. Thank you Jerry for all you have done, you will be greatly missed, but never forgotten. Pray for his soul and for all his family.

Next meeting will be January 9.

Happy New Year!

Santa Rosa

St. Eugene, Br. 198

Our member Christmas party included a great ham dinner prepared by the Ernie Giampaolis, Dick Carreras and Marc Bisio. Bill Pisenti served our traditional egggnog. Juanita Russell

kept us laughing with churches' bulletin bloopers. Our next celebration is our 52d anniversary on Jan. 8 to be prepared by a special chef. Then comes our hosting the Officers' Installation mass and dinner on Jan. 21. We are busy!

Felice Anno Nuovo

Gene Zingarelli

Stockton

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

We hope the weather will be better this year as we host the Stockton District Installation of Officers. It will be January 7, 2018 beginning with Mass at 1:00 pm in the 7 & J Street Church in Modesto. The installation will be in the church after mass followed by the luncheon in the hall behind the church at about 2:30 pm. The luncheon will be pork roast with mushroom sauce and all the trimmings.

Our members will be busy making appetizers and we have asked the other branches in the district to help us out by providing the dessert.

We look forward to our new officers and some new ideas to take our branch forward. Many thanks to our past officers that have always kept our branch going and continue to do so.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays January 7, 2018 and February 4, 2018 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church.

We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas!

Coming up:

Jan 7, 2018 1:00 pm Stockton District Installation of Officers J Street Church Modesto

Jan 10 -- 7:00 pm Meeting in the Hall 7 & K Streets

Feb 11-- 1:30 pm District Meeting - Tracy

Feb 14 -- 7:00 pm Meeting in the Hall 7 & K Streets

Mar 14 -- 7:00 pm Meeting in the Hall 7 & K Streets

Mar 18 -- 2:00 pm St. Joseph's Table Hall 7&K Streets

Cecelia McGhee

Stockton

St. Luke, Br. 138

The officers of the Italian Catholic Federation #138, of St. Luke's Church in Stockton, California met last month to plan fundraisers and activities for the new year.

Monthly dinners are scheduled for each general meeting in 2018, with both catered meals and potluck dinners planned. The ICF will help the Knights of Columbus with their annual Crab Feed and is looking forward to helping St. Luke's School with their Food, Beer, and Wine Stroll in the spring. Branch #138 donated \$500 in November to fund scholarships for St. Luke's School students.

President Joe Curtis is working with area caterers to plan a polenta feed. Similar events in other ICF parishes have been wildly successful, and #138 is hoping to continue that tradition at St. Luke's Parish.

Increasing membership will be a top priority in 2018. Officers will meet early in 2018 to begin plans for a membership drive.

Branch #138 will man the donation station for the Food for Families program, collecting



Chuck and Marilyn Tusso and there guests, the Mizuno family

Branch 390
Thanksgiving Dinner/Meeting



A baby always takes the spotlight



Anna Mello taking the Turkey out of the Oven



The Paquel's and friends enjoyed the dinner.



Marvin and Lorraine Foster with friends



Celebrating Christmas and a Pancake Breakfast at Branch 413.

Tucson
Green Valley

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

A fun time was had by the members of our branch at our annual Christmas Party on December 3rd the buffet at our local casino. We also had great success with our Christmas Bake Sale.

We are looking forward to our second Hawaiian Luau Luncheon in late January.

Here's to a great 2018! Buon Anno!

non-perishable food items to help stock the shelves of the Catholic Charities Food Pantry. Food collected each month is used to help needy families with food assistance as well as provide extra help for special food distributions for all the major holidays.

Italian Catholic Federation #138 wishes all members in all branches a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Manteca

Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Branch 139's Christmas biscotti sales were another success this year. Over 700 bags of the cookies were baked and sold, according to chair Anna Mello, who thanked all the ladies who worked hard to several Saturdays to prepare the goodies.

Our annual Polenta dinner in October was once again "fantastic", as described by Central Council member Dante Galeazzi, and a very profitable fund-raiser. Chair Ida Queirolo thanked all who helped with this event. Our next fund-raiser will be the ever-popular "All You Can Eat" shrimp dinner in April.

President Dr. Elizabeth Demichelis announced that, at a recent Board meeting, it was decided to donate between \$1,500 and \$2,000 to the St. Anthony Parish project to update the electrical wiring in the rectory.

Patti Fichtner reported that she will shortly be sold out of calendars. She appreciated the support from our members.

While in a giving mood, our branch voted to donate \$200 to a neighboring convalescent home. The funds are used to purchase personal items for the elderly patients.

Sunshine chair Pat Pellegrino arranged for a prayer shawl and lap robe to be sent to the parents of St. Anthony's pastor Father Chad Wahl and later, flowers were sent on the passing of Mr. Wahl.

A large crowd is expected to attend the annual ICF Christmas Party on December 10 at Cucina Queirolo. Chef Tony will present a complete prime rib dinner, which will be free to Branch members.

All of our 2018 Branch officers are expected to be present to be installed with officers of other branches in the Stockton District on January 7 at St. Stanislaus Church in Modesto. The ceremony will be followed by Mass and dinner.

Mona Elliott won our monthly Charity drawing and chose to give the \$50 to the local Pregnancy Help Center.

Our November meeting ended with prayers and the singing of the Federation Anthem.

We hope that "tutti" had an enjoyable "Buon Natale".

*Ciao,
Mariano*

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

Monthly meetings are continuing to grow in numbers, we are serving over 150 members and their guests every month. Now that winter is upon us, we move into the most popular menu of our group, Polenta and Chicken Cacciatore. Based on popular demand, we are offering those favorites twice a year. We had 165 guests dine at our October meeting and have polenta scheduled again for the chilly month of January.

In December members enjoyed the annual Christmas menu of ravioli and tri-tip before the meeting. Many beautiful raffle prizes adorned the table again, as is the case each month. We are very proud of how popular those member-donated items are - last month raffle tickets brought in \$300 and the month before they brought in \$350. We want to send a special thank you to all who continue to bring in raffle prizes - the quality and quantity of these donations make all the difference.

Our Branch 390 website is up and running, thanks to our own Steve Ridolfi, Be sure to log on to icfbranch390.org to see photos, photo slide show, photo collages and announcements, recent events and information about our branch and its members. Speaking of Steve Ridolfi, he and Anita Ridolfi have been married for 50 years

on December 28 so we wish them a Happy Happy 50th! God bless you and your family. Happy New Year! Stay safe.

*Ciao for now,
Betty Hollars*

Stockton

Presentation, Br. 395

The 2018 officers for Branch 395 were installed on Sunday January 7. They are as follows: President: MaryAnn Piana Chapman; 1st V.P.: Marilyn Ramacher; 2nd V.P.'s: Bob/Linda Langone; Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Josephine Weber; Financial Secretary: Mary Fry; Treasurer: Geoff Lin-Cereghino; Orator: Sharon Roman; Trustee: Becky Vergano; Sentinel: Pat Bertilacchi. Congratulations!

The Annual Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore Dinner is right around the corner, Thursday Feb 8. Call Karen for your tickets. (209) 603-5708 \$25 adults/\$10 children under 12.

*Happy St. Valentine's Day,
Karen Rosson*

Angels Camp

St. Patrick, Br. 413

Our Pancake Breakfast (also known as Wendell's Give-away) was successful. We filled up the hall with parishioners. The Pancake Breakfast is a tradition that our branch has had for many years as we invite the Parish community to a free breakfast in appreciation for their support. This year we had a nativity set to raffle. We sold many tickets. Everyone had a great time. We are all looking forward to the coming year. Our next event will be the St. Valentine's dinner and dance in February. We hope to see you there.

*May God bless everyone,
Respectfully Submitted,
Robert J. Pachinger
Correspondence Secretary,
Branch 413*

Testimonial Dinner for Past Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.



Grand President Andrew Pappani presented a plaque of appreciation to Past Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.



Monsignor Daniel Cardelli, ICF Spiritual Director, presented a Papal Blessing to Past Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.



Thank You

- Congratulations to Branches who participated in the 2017 New Member Recruitment Campaign! Thank you for all your hard work in bringing in new members.



OFFICER TRAINING

- Attention 2017 Officers! ICF Officer Training Slides are available on our website in the Members Area for the following positions: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Sentinel and Orator. You can also follow this link: <http://www.icf.org/membership/members/>

- ICF is Going Green! If you prefer to read the Bollettino online and like the idea of saving a tree while helping the ICF save on printing costs, follow this link to sign up: <http://eepurl.com/bLaMFb>