ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION (I.C.F.) AT A GLANCE

WHAT IS THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION?
The Italian Catholic Federation is a religious-social-heritage organization formed in 1924 to bring Italian Catholics back to the Church who were no longer practicing their religion. Today, the ICF promotes faith, charity, fellowship, heritage, and is a family organization where the entire family is encouraged to join and participate.

WHAT IS THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION?
“Through families and fellowship, the Italian Catholic Federation promotes and supports the Catholic faith and its values, encourages apostolic and charitable works, and celebrates our Italian-American heritage and all the heritages of our communities.”

WHERE WAS IT FOUNDED AND BY WHOM?
The organization was founded in San Francisco, in 1924, by Luigi Providenza, an Italian immigrant, and Father Albert Bandini, a pastoral priest and Italian literary scholar.

HOW IS THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION ORGANIZED?
The organization is composed of branches which are located in parishes. Each branch is an entity that operates according to the By-Laws of the I.C.F. The organization has a Board of Directors, known as the Central Council, which guides the direction of the I.C.F.

WHO ARE THE OFFICERS OF THE ORGANIZATION?
The I.C.F. officers are as follows: president, 1st and 2nd vice-presidents, secretary, financial secretary, treasurer, trustees, and sentinel. Officers are elected every year.

WHO CAN JOIN THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION?
Anyone can join provided that they are practicing Catholics. Italians and non-Italians, to be part of our membership.

WHAT DOES IT COST TO BE A MEMBER
The yearly dues are under $40.00. The I.C.F. also has a Family Membership Program where all the children in the family can join for just $10.00, regardless of how many children there are.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAMS OF THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION?
The organization, first and foremost, works with the parish, helping it in any way it can. The I.C.F. also has a Scholarship program, a national charity known as Cooley’s Anemia, a Seminary Burse Program where donations are presented to the Bishop of the diocese every year for the education of seminarians, and The Gifts of Love Program where donations are made to developmentally disabled persons.
WHAT DOES THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION OFFER ITS MEMBERS?
The organization has a hospitalization plan where members can join for $25 a year and receive up to $500 in medical expenses per year. We are also working on other benefits for our members.

WHO ARE OUR PATRON SAINTS?
The patron saints of the organization are St. Frances Xavier Cabrini and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

DOES THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION HAVE A MEANS OF COMMUNICATION?
The organization has a newspaper “The Bollettino” which is published 11 times a year. It gives information on I.C.F. areas of interest plus reports of branches throughout the Federation.

The I.C.F. also has a web site, www.icf.org, which details all about the organization and provides up-to-date information for the use of the members.

HOW MANY PERSONS ARE NEEDED TO FORM A BRANCH?
It is usually required that there be 35 persons to start a branch. When this number is achieved the Expansion Team will instruct the members and provide in-depth information for this new branch.

WHERE CAN ONE OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION?
One can access the web site at www.icf.org or call our office located in Oakland, CA at 888-423-1924.