2020 Convention Update
Vince Piro, Grand President

In the last few weeks, members have had many questions and concerns regarding our 2020 ICF Annual Convention. First off, let me say that the health and well-being of our members is of foremost importance to the leadership of the Federation. Second, Rose Jarrett, the Convention Director, the Convention Committee, and the Central Council Executive Committee have had several conversations about what is the best plan moving forward. Finally, this will be the first topic of conversation at the next Central Council Meeting. Here is what we know to date.

1. Is the convention still be held this year? The short answer is yes. The convention does not take place until September, so any decision to cancel it now would be considered premature by the hotel. Rose has been in conversation with the hotel and given several updates to the Executive Committee. In California, Stay-at-Home orders only extend until late spring, and we do not know what will be the status of COVID-19 or health directives in future months. We have a contract with the hotel, which includes substantial fees for cancellation of the event at this point. Now, that being said, the situation as we get closer to September could warrant a cancellation. It is just too early to make that decision right now.

2. When will we have to decide on convention delegates? Your list of delegates and any letters from your branch requesting to be excused will now be due August 1. This is an extension. However, we do ask that you send in your delegate list with alternates as soon as possible for planning purposes. You can elect delegates in several ways, using absentee ballots, email, newsletters, or phone. The late fee for submitting your delegate list has been eliminated.

3. Is the annual raffle still on? The annual raffle is still on. There will still be a drawing. The contactless fundraiser provides vitally important finances to the federation and local branches. Please, encourage this fundraiser and sell as many tickets as possible. The financial health of the Federation depends on this major fundraiser. Remember $10 now stays with the branch and could be a useful branch fundraiser.

4. Will we have a yearbook this year? Of course! Our annual year/souvenir book is a great way to record and celebrate the history of the Federation. We encourage you to still send pages in for the yearbook. We want to see all those happy faces and local branches. Please, encourage this important finances to the federation.

5. Will there still be a drawing? The annual raffle is still on. There will still be a drawing. The contactless fundraiser provides vitally important finances to the federation and local branches. Please, encourage this fundraiser and sell as many tickets as possible. The financial health of the Federation depends on this major fundraiser. Remember $10 now stays with the branch and could be a useful branch fundraiser.

ICF Members Come Together as We Self-Isolate
Nanette Scarpellini Metz

Throughout the Italian Catholic Federation and the world, we are working through a new norm. By staying home and limiting physical contact we are all trying to make our communities safe. Throughout the branches we have many members that are essential workers doing their part every day to take care of the community. ICF members are finding their own way to help too.

Members deliver food and supplies to the needy. In the Santa Clara Valley, Al & Diane Vallorz, in conjunction with Tony & Alba’s Pizza, are donating and delivering food.

In Thousand Oaks, Branch 380 members are sewing face masks to help protect us.

In Marin, Branch 332 collected toiletries and paper towels to deliver with Meals on Wheels. Who knew a roll of toilet paper could be so precious?

Members are reaching out to other members isolated during this time. In San Jose at Branch 368, members Avis Erkel, Noreen Gillio, Cathie Orlowski, and Joyce Robba, phoned all its members to keep everyone informed. Other branches are also participating in a phone tree to share updates and some-
STORM-PANDEMIC-JESUS

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director

Jesus was asleep in the back of the boat. Other boats were with Him. A violent storm came up.

They were in storms before, but not like this. This one was different! Waves were breaking over the whole boat and it was already filling up. The Apostles were first uneasy, then scared; and finally they got to the point of panic. They didn’t know what to do! Like scared children, they turned to Jesus and woke Him up. ‘Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?’ He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, ‘Quiet! Be still!’ The wind ceased and there was great calm. (Mk. 4:35-49)

We too, and the world over, are all in the same boat. A dangerous pandemic has emerged. We’ve experienced epidemics before but not like this. This one is different! People are getting sick from an unseen, pernicious, and silent storm. People are dying by the thousands. We don’t know where the virus is at any given moment. We are really scared and don’t know what to do. So we stay home and stay away from people. There is no known vaccine and no known medication to eradicate and end the violent spread of this pandemic.

We don’t know what to do, except...

...we turn to Jesus. Like scared children, we ask, ‘Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?’

Please Lord, rebuke this pandemic as you did the destructive waters of the sea that day. Please say what you said to the storm. Quiet! Be still! We are terrified and need your strength.

Yes, we have faith, we have faith in you. We know you love us because you died on the cross to save us. Strengthen our faith and comfort us during this time of need. Help us, dear Jesus! We believe in you. Help our unbelief. -Amen.

Friendly Reminder
Ways and Means Committee

Just a friendly reminder that a great way to make a little money for your branch is selling our yearly raffle tickets during these hard times of not being able to have fundraisers. This is a simple way to bring some extra money in. Remember you can always call the office and ask for more books to be sent to you!!

A book sells for $20.00 and the Branch keeps $10.00. You do not have to buy the whole book. The tickets can be sold separately.

Also, PLEASE don’t forget to send it your FAMILY VACATION MEMORIES for the 2021 calendar. We have extended the deadline date to June 1.

Your Birthday and Anniversary dates for the 2021 Calendar are also needed by the June 1st.

Please stay safe during these difficult times.

God Bless!
Your Ways and Means Committee

Important Notice

The new email address for ALL Bollettino submissions is: editor@icf.org

All other email addresses being used for Bollettino submissions were terminated on December 31, 2018. This change was made to link the Bollettino directly to the Italian Catholic Federation for a more professional look and better managing of incoming email.

All image and article submissions need to be sent in an electronic format. Those submissions not sent in an electronic format or those articles sent in the mail will not be used.

Finally, a reminder that ALL branch and district reports need to adhere to the 250 max word count requirement or they will be shortened or possibly excluded entirely based on editor judgement.

Limit photos to 3 or 4 and include captions. To insure photos are always linked to branch, include branch number when naming photos such as Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg

Please keep your submission positive and informative.

June issue deadline is May 10, 2020.

Thank you!

Pray Together Online

Check out the online Rosary website: http://www.comепrayertherosary.org

Richard Interrante from Branch 380 developed the site about 10 years ago and recently updated it so that it also works with mobile phones and tablets.

The site allows people from around the world to pray the Rosary together (and shows how many people are praying with you), or individually. It’s had millions of visitors over the last decade.

Try this online option for those who want to pray together.

Membership Managing Change
Pat Mages, Membership Chairperson

For most of us it has now been over 45 days of staying in place, staying at home and healthy.

We talk about how change is necessary. Change can be positive, with some regrets. But most of us never thought we would experience extreme changes made in a matter of days and forced upon us for our own safety, outside of our control. This kind of change causes feelings of fear of the unknown, feelings of loss and helplessness. Along with these initial feelings come the realization of the importance of friends, family and our faith in God and His blessings. Once we have completed this journey, we will never look at change in the same way.

How will this crisis affect us in response to our home lives, our work, faith and yes, ICF?

We talk of how ICF is an extension of our faith, friendships, family and helping those in need. Has being a member of the ICF family helped you to navigate these months of uncertainty and confinement? I know if I need support or a simple phone call or email, I can reach out to my ICF family. It is the simple everyday things that help us survive this complicated event. This is what the Italian Catholic Federation is about.

May the Blessings of Easter and Our Blessed Mother continue to protect and guide us. Hope to see you, in person, very soon. Stay safe and well.

Pat Mages
pmages@icf.org
Grand President's Monthly Message

Vince Piro

For most of my days during the Stay-at-Home orders in California, I spend my time with my 8-year old grandson and 4 dogs, one of which is a 16 1/2 year old Dalmatian. While I certainly feel loved, there are times I wish I had a little more adult conversation. This isolation certainly has its challenges, and I definitely have missed my branch’s monthly meetings as I am sure many ICF members have. That is why I encourage us to do the best we can to stay in touch during these challenging times. This may be especially important for our senior members who depend on ICF meetings for socialization and fellowship.

What can we do? There are many options.

1. Phone tree: A branch can create a phone tree in which members are responsible for calling each other to share ICF information, discuss articles in the Bollettino or just chat. It’s often nice to hear from a kindred spirit.

2. Create a branch Facebook page: A branch can create a Facebook page. Group Facebook pages allow for restricted membership. With a branch Facebook page, members can share photos and messages with each other. These Facebook groups often have a real sense of community as people chat with one another.

3. Use the ICF Facebook page. The Federation has its own Facebook page that any member can join. Again, one can share messages and photos with other members.

4. Start a newsletter. If your branch doesn’t have a newsletter, this might be the time to start one to communicate with members. It doesn’t have to be anything fancy. It can be used to share branch information, conduct business, and share personal stories. This newsletter can be shared through email or the traditional postal service.

5. Use the ICF phone conference line for meetings: The ICF has a phone conference service that branches can use for meetings. It doesn’t have to be anything fancy. It can be used to share branch information, conduct business, and share personal stories. This newsletter can be shared through email or the traditional postal service.

6. Use a service such as Zoom or Go-to-Meeting. These online services allow for groups of people to meet over the Internet. Using our computer or phone cameras, these services allow members to see each other as they hold discussion.

6. Form a Sunshine committee: This committee can send cards and greetings to individual members. Just receiving a small note can brighten our day.

Stay-at-Home can be rather isolating for some, especially those who are more social. By finding different ways to stay in contact, we can help alleviate some of this isolation. For others of us, having a bit of contact with fellow ICF members during Stay-at-Home might prevent us from talking to the dogs.

My prayers go out to each of you. Stay home, stay healthy and stay safe.

Vince

Family Recipes from Diana Letizia Mackinson

Deborah Rodondi
Grand 1st Vice President

Diana Letizia Mackinson, from Branch 442 in Pleasant Hill, emailed me recently that she has been meaning to share some recipes and decided to share this one with us. It is a recipe her mom, Joan Letizia, originated and Diana herself makes often. Mom Joan and Dad Tom (Branch President for several years) were members of the Branch in Alhambra (St. Therese), which has since closed. Diana says, It is pretty easy and great for a weeknight dinner. You can roast some small potatoes with other veggies in another pan for a complete weeknight meal. I hope our readers will enjoy it.

**Italian Style Baked Chicken Parmesan**

4-6 skinless chicken pieces, rinsed and patted dry
Olive oil
1 cup Italian Style seasoned bread crumbs
½ cup grated Romano or Parmesan cheese
1 Tbsp. dry parsley flakes
1 tsp. garlic powder
½ tsp. freshly ground black pepper

Spray baking pan with cooking spray. Put some olive oil in pan and coat chicken lightly with the oil. Mix other ingredients in a plastic bag. Add chicken pieces one by one to the bag and coat. Add chicken to the pan. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for about 45-60 minutes (depending upon size of chicken pieces) until lightly browned.

*Be careful not to overcook.*
*Remove from oven and serve!*

NOTE: When I made this, I lined the pan with foil for easier clean up. I did not have the Italian Style seasoned bread crumbs, so I took my regular bread crumbs and added 1 ½ tsp. of Italian Seasoning. I used chicken breast with bone in and skin on and cooked for 50 minutes as directed. Simple and Delicious.

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 include 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.

*Buon Appetito!*
How is Your Branch Caring?
Lauren Kilcullen, Apostolate—Charity Chairperson

A reminder that the 2020 Apostolate—Charity Reporting Form is available for all branches online at the Members Area at icf.org.

The Committee urges all branches to complete the form and return it to the Central Council Office by the July 7 deadline. We understand that most fundraising activities have been put on hold, however, the Reporting Form covers charitable donations and activities from July 2019 – June 2020. Please complete the report and send in to the ICF Office.

The forms are more than a prize competition for the individual branches. Completed forms allow Central Council to compile accurate data regarding all the good works our branches do. Every branch provides some apostolate – charity work, so there should be no reason not to complete the form. In opening new branches and recruiting new members, it has been found that many people join the ICF because of our charitable giving. Having the details from the forms, will give us accurate information to use in our recruitment process.

Thank you,
Lauren Kilcullen
Apostolate—Charity Committee Chairperson

Blood is Desperately Needed
Laurice Levine—The Live to Give Committee

These are unprecedented times – a time in America that is being compared to World War II. We are fighting a different war now; an invisible one – one against COVID-19, a global pandemic. According to the American Red Cross, by mid-March the nation was approximately 400,000 units of blood short due to quarantine measures resulting in thousands of blood drives being cancelled at churches, school and businesses. While these social distancing measures are proving to be lifesaving, there are countless challenges – one major one being the fragile blood supply. Blood has a shelf life – 42 days – and then it expires. This means the blood supply ALWAYS needs to be replenished and you cannot stockpile blood and save it for times of crisis. This presents a real obstacle and could be a life and death issue for anyone who needs blood – be it through an emergency or routinely.

People with Cooley’s Anemia are especially at risk because they receive blood transfusions every 2-3 weeks throughout life. Their need for blood continues even during pandemics. I spoke with the American Red Cross several times and early in March was considering having the Surgeon General and other prominent medical professionals have spoken out about the continued need for blood and the importance of donating blood during this time. While blood mobile drives are not possible, blood drives are restarting in big facilities with new health and safety measures, included social distancing, to protect the donor. The public has once again risen to the occasion and have also made appointments at their local blood bank to donate where again there are increased protections for the blood donor. COVID-19 has NOT been found to be transmissible through the blood so it is both safe for the blood donor and the blood recipient. The blood supply is slowly being replenished, but remember, this is a continuous process because the need for blood never ends.

If you would like to donate blood, find a blood bank near you:
American Red Cross Blood Services:
https://www.redcrossblood.org/
Vitalant:
https://www.vitalant.org

For More Information or Questions:
Laurice Levine
360-860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com

Interested in learning more about the ICF’s National Charity, Cooley’s Anemia (Thalassemia)? Have burning questions to ask? You can still do this even during a pandemic!
Set up a phone call, WHATSAPP, FACETIME or ZOOM Conference and have a personal conversation with Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Program Consultant for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.
Contact Information:
360-860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com
Learn more about Cooley’s Anemia and the great work the ICF does for this cause.

Mother Cabrini Shrine
Due to the current “Pandemic” the Chapel and Library will be closed to the Public and will reopen as soon as the current situation has passed.
Please include the Chapel to your Branch’s list of places to visit in 2020 and bring your family and friends to learn more about one of the ICF’s Patroness Saints and the Catholic Church’s first American Saint.
DVD Copies of the movie “Frances Xavier Cabrini: the People’s Saint” produced by Lucia Mauro are available for sale in English and Italian. The Gift Shop also received copies of the latest book on Mother Cabrini, “God’s Messenger: The Astounding Achievements Of Mother Cabrini…” by Nicole Gregory. Purchase a copy for your Branch and help support the Mother Cabrini Chapel. To order please call 626 372-7812 or email: cas1810@aol.com.

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
We Treat Kids Better

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May 2020

Who Are We?
Denise Antonowicz, 2nd Grand Vice President & Heritage Chair

As I sit and write this article for May and think about Mother’s Day, I can’t fathom what is ahead of us? What is our new normal?

I wondered what it must have been like for our ancestors, coming to a strange country, with very little knowledge of what their future looked like. They faced the same problems with flu epidemics that we are, only they were at a greater disadvantage. They didn’t have nightly news to update them on how to stay safe.

According to the CDC, the influenza pandemic of 1918-1919 coincided with a major wave of immigration to the United States. More than 23.5 million newcomers arrived between 1880 and the 1920s, mostly from Southern and Eastern Europe, Asia, Canada, and Mexico.

Among the two largest immigrant groups, Southern Italians and Eastern European Jews, immigrant physicians, community spokespeople, newspapers, and religious and fraternal groups shouldered the burden. They disseminated public health information to their respective communities in culturally sensitive manners and in the languages the newcomers understood, offering crucial services to immigrants and American public health officials.

We are fortunate to have the information on how to slow the virus. We don’t hug, we stay 6 feet apart, wear a facemask and gloves. Wash our hands (singing Happy Birthday).

When this is over, may we never again take for granted
A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at the store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theater
A routine checkup
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself.

When this ends may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be we were called to be we hoped to be and may we stay that way — better for each other because of the worst.

By Laura Kelly Fanucci

Cruise Adventure

Continued from Page 1

Two passengers and 21 crew members on the previous Mexico cruise had tested positive for the coronavirus. The 2 passengers debarked in San Francisco and were taken to hospitals. The 21 crew members continued in quarantine on the cruise with us.

Fearing an outbreak of the virus aboard ship, on Wednesday, March 4, we were told to go to our state rooms and shelter there for the remainder of the trip until the ship would arrive in Oakland to dock. We were in the stateroom on Wednesday until we debarked on March 10. We ordered our food every day from a menu and it was delivered by a crew member at our door. We had to do general cleanup since no one was allowed into the stateroom.

It was nice to have a mini-suite which gave us a parlor in addition to the balcony so we could stretch a bit. What did we do? We watched TV, read, did crossword puzzles (me) and slept a lot. We did practically the same things when we were quarantined at Travis Air Force Base. We spent 6 days in this constricted environment which did not count toward our subsequent quarantine.

The ship was not allowed into San Francisco Bay and it circled around the Pacific coast waiting for clearance. All sorts of government agencies boarded. Don’t ask me who they were. We never knew, but they kept giving orders and making all kinds of disparate decisions. You could often tell that the Captain sounded frustrated when he gave his usual updates.

Finally, on Tuesday, March 10, we were allowed to disembark. We were given colored-coded tags for our luggage and told that 800 of us passengers would be driven to Travis Air Force Base.

Well, you know about the best laid plans...? Ticket colors and departure times did not coincide. We finally left in late afternoon and arrived at Travis at about 10:30 p.m. We were given sandwiches and water on the bus (we hadn’t eaten since breakfast). Travis was not exactly prepared for this large group of people. There was quite a bit of confusion over room assignments, luggage, etc. We finally arrived at our room at Midnight! The room had been sanitized but there was no toilet paper, soap, cups or glasses etc.. Naturally, we had to call for these items and, since everyone was in the same situation, it took time to receive them. By Tuesday the 17th, things started to run more smoothly. The medics took our temperature twice a day and food was delivered 3 times a day. It took 3 days before we had coffee.
Cruise Adventure

We did not stay in the main hotel but had a one-bedroom apartment in a complex of about 20 apartments. The place was somewhat depressing, but, at least, we could go out and walk around. The grounds were enclosed with a 4-foot fence and guards were posted at specific places.

Larry made friends with one of the food persons and she brought him the paper every morning. The personnel with whom we came in contact were wonderful and efficient. The food was fairly good and there was plenty of it. We couldn’t eat all of it sometimes.

While at Travis, both Monsignor Cardelli and our pastor, Father Sean Rogers, called and offered prayers and counsel. We thank both of them for their concern.

Finally, on March 24, we were allowed to leave. We chose to go to a staging area outside of Travis where our daughter, Lauren, could pick us up. We left about 7:30 a.m. and arrived home shortly after. Home never looked so good!

How do we feel about all this? It’s hard to define it. The stay at Travis was somewhat boring and not the most pleasant of experiences. It seems that we lost a part of our lives. We did endure it. And, I guess that’s about all one can say.

Carmen Kilcullen

Branch 173 Members Franca and Frank Benvenuto have their own cruise line experience after spending 29 days onboard in the midst of pandemic. They are home safe and sound.

Italy, and the spring and first love all together should suffice to make the gloomiest person happy.

— Bertrand Russell

Leonard Zasowski, Jr.
Vice President Construction Operations
Director of Safety
Cell: 661-978-5622

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www.colomboconstruction.com
May 2020

Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco
Maria S. S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members:
Hope all had an enjoyable Easter!

Upcoming: June no meeting
Get well wishes to Joe Allen.
Condolences to the family of Marina Balestrieri - a member since 1967 - who passed away recently.
Happy Mother's Day to all Branch 1 Mothers.
Ciao! Toni Morsello

San Francisco
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

A Big Happy Mother’s Day to all of our Mothers!
For those who celebrate a birthday in May - many more years of Much Happiness and Good Health.
Joelwyn, the Office Manager at St. Elizabeth Parish - Congratulations on your retirement.

Thank you so very much for all of your help during the years. You always took care of our problems. You will be greatly missed.
Sorry, our Champagne Bingo had to be cancelled.

Our prayers are with all of our members and their families, and those who have relatives in Italy, during these difficult times.

All of the dates listed on our ICF Calendar will be postponed until further notice.
Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.
Remember the following dates, if they take place:
May 24th - Mass
May 25th - Meeting
Ciao,
Eva Perata, President

SAN MATEO

Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

This Easter will not be like any other many of us have ever experienced. We know our members are staying healthy and following the restrictions.

All dates previously mentioned in last month’s article will be changed and will be advised once we know it is safe to make those changes.

Luckily we can still go to virtual Mass in our area. We were able to have a potluck celebration for St. Joseph’s Feast day along with enjoying the the latest information re Cooley’s Anemia. We are always lucky to be able to listen to Laurice Levine keeping us up to date.

To any of our members that are going through sickness or difficult times, we are praying for you!
We are very glad that Franca and Frank Benvenuto are home safely after being aboard a cruise line and finally getting home in good condition after 29 days.

HAPPY EASTER!
God Bless,
Roz Emery

Millbrae
St. Dunstan, Br. 403

Hopefully with this report we find everyone healthy. Due to the virus pandemic we are canceling our May meeting and event and are following the recommendations of medical experts that we practice social distancing. Hopefully, we can resume our get-togethers in June.

We are happy to announce 3 new members—Marie D’Asaro, Carmen Deguara and Lewis Grasberger.
Rose Marie Morando
Corresponding Secretary

MARIN

Larkspur
St. James, Br. 161

Since May is devoted to Mother’s Day, I have included a couple poems describing a mother.

Please continue to pray for our sick members and hope that everyone will be back to good health soon. Special prayers to Father Brian Costello.

Please everyone stay safe and healthy, keep your distance and stay inside during these trying times, and hope to see everyone soon.

Author Unknown

LOS ANGELES

ARCHDIOCESE

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Well, what can I say? It’s a crazy world we’re living in.

I hope and that everyone is well and healthy. Even though we couldn’t be with some of our loved ones - family and friends, I hope you all had a Blessed Easter. Christ has truly Risen. Let’s hope that things get back to normal real soon.

The LA District was scheduled to have an Officers Meeting on Saturday, May 2, but probably got cancelled. We are planning a General Meeting on Saturday, May 30 with time and place to be determined.

I would like to wish all of the Mothers, God Mothers, Mother’s in Law, Grand Mother’s Step Mother’s and our Mothers in Heaven a very Happy and Blessed Mother’s Day.

Let us also say a Hail Mary together to our Beloved Mother Mary.
Amen. Till next time we meet.

A MOTHER’S LOVE

There are times when only a mother’s love
Can understand our tears
Can soothe our disappointments
And calm all our fears
There are times when only a mother’s love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we’ve dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real
There are times when only a mother’s faith
Can help us on life’s way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day
For a mother’s tears and mother’s faith
And a mother’s steadfast love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above

TO MY OTHER MOTHER

You are the other Mother I received
The day I wed your Son,
And I want to thank you Mom,
For the loving things you’ve done.
You’ve given me a gracious Man
With whom I share my life
You are his lovely Mother,
And I his lucky wife
You used to pat his little head,
And now I hold his hand,
You raised in love a little boy
And then gave me the Man
With whom I share my life
For the loving things you’ve done.
You are the other Mother I received
The day I wed your Son,
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You are his lovely Mother,
And I his lucky wife
You used to pat his little head,
And now I hold his hand,
You raised in love a little boy
And then gave me the Man
Amen. Till next time we meet.

Happy Mother’s Day.

Author Unknown

THE SYMPHONY OF MOTHERS

A very special “GRAZIE” to everyone who participated in the “The Symphony of Mothers” program, which was a successful venture.

The following items were collected and will be sold at our next meeting:

- The Symphonic Flower Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, May 24th.
- The Symphonic Booklet Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, May 31st.
- The Symphonic Music Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, June 7th.

The proceeds from these fundraisers will be used to support the local community.

Thank you for your support.

Roz Emery
Corresponding Secretary
As you know, due to the corona virus crisis, we cancelled our St. Joseph’s Table and we had no meetings in April. At this time we don’t know if it’s possible to reschedule our St. Joseph’s Table later this year or whether we will be able to operate our Fireworks Stand this year. We will keep you posted.

We have some sad news to report - we recently heard from our member, Lynn Enrico that her beloved husband, Thomas, passed away. Thomas and Lynn had moved to Missouri a few years ago, but remained ICF members, and when they could, they attended our St. Joseph’s Table. Also, they kindly supported our St. Joseph’s Table by being table sponsors every year. We will have a table sign in Loving Memory of Thomas Enrico at our next St. Joseph’s Table.

Also, we are sad to report that Eileen Viera, who was an ICF Trustee for several years passed away on April 9th. She had been sick for a few years. Sincere condolences to Lynn Enrico for the loss of her beloved husband Thomas; and sincere condolences to Alfred Viera (who has been our Sentinel for several years) and his family for the loss of his beloved wife, Eileen.

May Thomas and Eileen Rest in Peace. We pray for them and their families, and for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

God Bless!

Frank Salomone

San Pedro
St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Branch 115 hopes all members of the ICF are staying healthy by observing the guidelines established by the CDC and your local governments.

While we aren’t having customary parish or ICF gatherings it doesn’t mean we aren’t staying in touch. Our parish is offering daily mass and rosary shown through Facebook. I have seen many of our members’ names pop up and it feels good to connect on this level.

Although this time can be emotionally challenging this hard time will pass and we can return to the good works of our branch.

Hopefully our May events will go on as planned

May 9th 5:15 p.m. mass in honor of Madonna del A’reo. Please bring flowers.

May 21st 6 p.m. potluck meeting to meet and greet our scholarship winners

God’s blessing to all

Anita Trujillo
Treasurer

San Pedro Branch 115 first Vice President Anna Di Leva is working from home like many others during this corona virus pandemic. Wish all of our members to stay healthy and safe.

Arcadia
Holy Angels, Br. 218

Hope everyone had a nice Easter, under the circumstances. As there was no meeting and will be no meeting for May, from the branch and myself, stay safe and healthy.

This, too, shall pass.

Lolly M.

Claremont
Our Lady of the Assumption, Br. 319

At the time we are writing this article, we are all in a stay-at-home order. We are all probably getting a little antsy. I know there is only so much cleaning, reorganizing and crafty things to do before you tire of it all.

Pray for the patience God will give it to you.

I have had family in NY that have been infected and it scares me to think that any of you would get that sick. They came through it but are scared that it may be another 6 weeks until they really know the side effects

So stay home

Pray. Call each other. Text friends. Watch TV. We will get thru this together

God Bless,

Andrea Linn

Downey
St. Raymond, Br. 362

Christ is Risen Alleluia, or as we say in Ukrainian- Xrestos Vaskeis.

It didn’t quite seem like Easter this year, but, in another sense maybe it did. The Apostles were locked and hiding when The Resurrection occurred.

Hopefully the St Joseph Table that we had planned will be rescheduled for later on this year and I don’t know if our May Bingo will be on or off as of the writing of this article.

I would like to wish all of the Mothers and Mother figures in Branch 362 a very Happy Mother’s Day.

We did have some sad news to report, we lost a member- Helen Gonzales who battled cancer for some time and also Terry Drobeck who almost made it to 100. God Bless then and may they Rest In Peace Amen.

Let’s hope and pray the world will renew itself.

Continued on Page 10
CENTRAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE MEMORANDUM

TO: 2020 ICF Central Council Candidates
FROM: Roselynne Jarrett, Convention Director
RE: Notification of Intention to Run for Central Council at the 2020 Convention

Application Process
1. Applications are available from the ICF Office.
2. Candidates’ completed applications must be received by the ICF Office by August 1st in order to be eligible to run for Central Council. This deadline is firm.
3. A candidate is no longer required to be a convention delegate.

Other Pre-convention Deadlines
1. If you wish to place a full-page ad in the convention souvenir book; the ad contract, your photo and a message must be sent to the ICF Office by June 1st.
2. Candidate entries to be included in the Bollettino, must be emailed to both the ICF Office and the Bollettino Editor by August 1st. Email admin@icf.org and editor@icf.org. Submissions should include a photo and an entry that does not exceed 300 words.

Campaign Rules
1. Only one poster (maximum size 24 X 36) may be displayed in the area designated by the Convention Director. An easel will be provided.
2. Campaign flyers and campaign favors may only be given out on Friday evening during “Meet the Candidates.” Food related favors are permitted so long as the item does not compete with the hotel’s food & beverage guidelines. For example, candy would be acceptable by the hotel, but not wine or other beverages as these items would take away revenue from the hotel bar.
3. There will be no candidate hospitality rooms. This decision was made in order to follow the quiet time and no-party policy enforced at hotels. If a district hosts a hospitality room at any time during the convention weekend, there shall be no candidate posters, flyers or other campaign paraphernalia available in the hospitality room.
4. No campaigning may take place during convention sessions, activities or in the delegate registration area.
5. No campaign literature should be posted in the public areas or on the ICF Facebook page.
6. Registration workers should not wear campaign items during registration hours.
7. Candidates should notify campaign helpers of these rules.
8. Campaign speeches will be held during the Saturday session and shall not exceed 2 minutes.

Other Information
1. Candidates for Central Council will be announced in descending order in even years and ascending order in odd years.
2. 10 candidates will be elected to the Central Council.
3. Candidates should wear proper business attire at all business functions; no campaign T-shirts, pins, etc.
4. For additional information, or for clarification, please contact the ICF Convention Director.

Thank you for your interest in being a Central Council Member!
**CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT**

Our meeting scheduled for April 23 was canceled due to the shelter in place order. If we are able to meet in May, our district president, Patty Jarrett will contact us with information about the time and place. The next meeting after that will be held on Thursday, June 25 at the Round Table Pizza party room in Martinez at 7:00 p.m. The annual District Communion Breakfast scheduled for May 31 has been canceled. At our next meeting we will discuss holding this in the fall.

We still hope to have our Oakland A’s Italian night on Saturday August 1.

Further information on this event and other future events for our district will be announced as we find out when the current limitations on gatherings will be lifted.

Also, branches should be discussing if possibly, how many delegates they will be sending to the convention.

This information will be needed soon. For now, keep praying with your parishes “virtually” for all those who are ill and for an end to this pandemic.

**Blessings to all for a joyous Easter season with your families!**

Diana Letizia Mackinson

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**POPE FRANCIS’ PRAYER FOR COVID-19**

O Mary, you shine always on our way as sign of our safety and hope. We entrust ourselves to you. Health of the Sick, who at the foot of thee Cross bound yourself to the suffering of Jesus, keeping strong in your faith. O Salvation of God’s people, you know what we need and we are sure you will provide it for us just as at Cana of Galilee the joy and feasting could return after that moment of trial. Mother of Divine Love, help us, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us, He who took upon Himself our sufferings and is marked by our sorrows and so lead us toward the Cross to the joy of the Resurrection. **Amen.**

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**Prayer for the Pandemic Corona Virus situation**

Almighty and merciful God, who show your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the corona Virus in various parts of the world. We come before you asking for quick control of the outbreak, for the healing of those affected, for the victims and their families. We pray for the doctors, nurses and healthcare workers that they may courageously and cautiously take care of those affected. We pray for those doing the research that an effective vaccine to combat the sickness is speedily found. We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the People. Lord, we ask all these through the loving intercession of St. Catherine of Siena, St. Joseph, and Our Blessed Mother. **Amen.**

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**EAST BAY DISTRICT**

It has been a REALLY long time since our last meeting and we do not know when we will be able to meet again. Hopefully all are well and able to have your needs met. Please read the prayer from Pope Francis for COVID-19 in the write up from our Lady of Grace, even as we shelter at home we can do this much to help each other.

Stay well, pray and care for each other.

Happy Mother’s Day to all.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Pat Grasso

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**Livermore**

**St. Philomena, Br. 285**

HAPPY HOLY WEEK! Although this is not our usual Holy Week and Easter, we are grateful, with modern technology, to access services on-line from our various churches. For this we are blessed.

As all of us are experiencing, our lives have been turned upside down for a time, resulting in the cancellation of our meetings and fund raising events. This is naturally, very disappointing to our different branches, as many plans were underway and had to be canceled. The most important element is to stay healthy during this crisis and come back with renewed energy and enthusiasm. Collectively we will get through this and hopefully be stronger for it.

We pray for all the many healthcare providers and people serving our elderly and most vulnerable. It is hard to put into words our gratitude to these providers and people serving our elderly and most vulnerable. It is hard to put into words our gratitude to these providers and people serving our elderly and most vulnerable. It is hard to put into words our gratitude to these providers and people serving our elderly and most vulnerable. It is hard to put into words our gratitude to these providers and people serving our elderly and most vulnerable. It is hard to put into words our gratitude to these providers and people serving our elderly and most vulnerable.

We pray for all people affected by the virus and members of our Branch who are dealing with other health issues. We pray for all those affected by the virus and members of our Branch who are dealing with other health issues. We pray for all those affected by the virus and members of our Branch who are dealing with other health issues. We pray for all those affected by the virus and members of our Branch who are dealing with other health issues. We pray for all those affected by the virus and members of our Branch who are dealing with other health issues.

As our branch meetings are still on hold, we do not know our last meeting and we do not know when we will be able to meet again. Hopefully all are well and able to have your needs met. Please read the prayer from Pope Francis for COVID-19 in the write up from our Lady of Grace, even as we shelter at home we can do this much to help each other.

Stay well, pray and care for each other.

Happy Mother’s Day to all.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Pat Grasso
Dear Members,

Hope all of you are staying healthy.

Things have been different for all of us during these hectic times we are living. We had to cancel our March and April meetings. Once the shelter in place order is lifted I will set up our next meeting. You will get your invitation in the mail with the details.

Once things are back to normal we will enjoy many ICF events. Such as: The various district events like the A’s Baseball game for Italian night. The District night of Recollection and the Communion Breakfast. There will be the ICF Golf Tournament on July 31 in Santa Rosa. Which will include a delicious banquet. Watch for details in the Bollettino. The Convention will be held in Garden Grove over Labor Day weekend. We have no place plans to attend. Those are just a few things to look forward to.

At our meeting convention raffle tickets will be distributed. Each book is $20.00 dollars. Our branch gets to keep half the proceeds. This is a easy fundraiser. A great way to make money. Lets sale a lot of tickets.

We want to wish a happy 90th birthday to our second vice and hostess, Josie Leontini.

We also want to wish all of our Mom’s a Happy Mothers day!

Looking forward to when we can meet again. Until then, Stay happy and healthy.

As we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti!!

Your President,

Patti

Richmond
St. Raymond, Br. 154

We celebrated St. Patrick’s Day with Walter Costa and Toni Reeder’s not to be forgotten Corned Beef and Cabbage at our March 09,2020, meeting. We swear that is the best corned beef ever! Thank you, Toni and Walter for a splendid meal. Preceding the meeting was mass conducted by Father Al.

Due to the shelter in place order we have cancel our Ravioli fundraiser. We hope to reschedule by May or perhaps June.

Because of the shelter in place we have cancelled the April meeting and possibly the May meeting. Your safety is our primary concern.

If you have not paid your dues by now, you may have been dropped from membership. Please call Toni Reeder, if you wish to continue your membership or if you are not sure you have paid your dues.

Stay Safe!!

Pittsburg
San Domenico, Br. 72

Danville
St. Isidore, Br. 352

Like all groups, we very disappointed to cancel our annual March corned beef & cabbage dinner and April Spring fundraiser. While our lives have been disrupted, as this global virus spreads, there has been a silver lining. We are thankful for the life pause, as we observe daily acts of kindness taking place in our community. We are stopping to ‘smell the roses’ and finding joy in simple things. We call, Face-Time or Zoom to keep in “touch,” instead of texting or emailing. A reprioritization has occurred, with a focus on reaching out to meet the needs of others. Our members are here to help; let us know where we can assist.

The Danville Branch would also like to take this time to acknowledge and thank our dear member, Steve Gouig, for his many years of service and dedication as our Branch Treasurer. Steve set a high standard in both diligence and attention to detail that will be difficult to follow. In addition to his way with numbers, Steve’s passion for his family, fellow board members and our entire membership, has been a blessing. Steve has been a good friend and mentor to many of us, and we will sorely miss his participation. We are sending our prayers and best wishes during his current health challenges. We’re thinking of you, Steve!

We are definitely looking forward to our next meeting, whenever that may be. You can be sure that food will be involved! In the meantime, take good care of yourselves, your family and friends.

Ciao,

Branch 352

Brentwood
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Fellow members of the ICF, it’s been almost a month since we have started Shelter-In-Place. These are difficult time for us. Our generation has never seen a world-wide crisis like this. Let’s not forget our parents who lived through the Great Depression of the thirties and the Second World War. Their hardship lasted roughly 15 years.

Now, is the time we must all continue to have faith in God. Look around us and see how people are starting to support one another; strangers helping strangers, countries helping one another. I noticed that some TV commercials are now adding, “God Bless” at the end of the their commercial. This says it all!

This is the time we must pull together and pray, pray the Rosary, and the Divine Mercy - especially now during this Lenten Season. We must continue to have faith and trust in Our Lord, that HE will help us thru this challenging time.

May God Bless us all!!! Members of the ICF #432

SACRAMENTO BLESSED SACRAMENT

Pleasant Hill
Christ the King, Br. 442

As I sit here writing this month’s Bollettino article, it’s somewhere around day 28 + of our local Shelter-In-Place. I can’t seem to remember what day of the week it is but, it is sunny outside, my teens are home, no one is sick, I have TP, hand sanitizer, and food for dinner. And I can still buy tomato and pepper plants for my garden without even getting out of my car. We must appreciate the little things.

Who’s been watching Sunday mass on their computer, in their PJ’s, with a cup of coffee? Or seeing images of major cities, as empty as can be? Are you connecting with family and grandkids using Zoom? Who could have imagined this? So many sick and dying. I hope when this appears in May, things will have turned for the better.

Speaking of Zoom, our officers held the April Officer’s meeting using Zoom this week. It worked as well as it could for a group of ICF members not used to waiting for their turn to talk!! We decided to try to have our April General Meeting on Zoom. When you read this in May, it will either have been a great idea, or a really bad one.

If April goes well, our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, time TBD. Please watch your email for the details.

Please take care everyone. Keep the sick and our healthcare workers in your prayers.

As Easter Season lasts 50 days past Easter Sunday, we still wish everyone a Buona Pasqua!

Juliette Cote-Recording Secretary

Auburn
St. Joseph, Br. 342

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic and current stay at home orders, our branch has postponed our events for May. We will hopefully be able to have our Corporate Mass and Member Appreciation Dinner at a later date. We will keep you posted. We hope you are all safe and healthy.

Ciao!

Pam Andersen
Italian Catholic Federation

90th Annual National Convention

Travel Highlights
September 3 – 7, 2020

Hotel: Delta by Marriott 12021 Harbor Blvd, Garden Grove/Anaheim
(714) 867-5555 (800) MARRIOTT

Reservations: Marriott.com/SNADE Under rates, select group, then enter ICFCFA for one king or ICFCFC for two queens

Link: https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1580409122946&key=GRP&app=resvlink

Rate: $119 plus tax single/double occupancy

Note: Convention attendees must book using this code for the ICF to receive credit towards our contracted room nights. Rate available until August 9 or sold out. After August 9, reservations will be accepted at the best available rate. Delegates are required to stay Friday-Monday. Check-in time is 3pm, checkout is 12pm.

Parking rate: $10 plus tax per car, per night

John Wayne Airport: 13 miles
Los Angeles Airport: 36 miles
Long Beach Airport: 17 miles
Hertz Rental Car: ICF year-round ‘business’ discount. Receive up to 30%. Discount Code 2173699

Please notify your branch of your convention attendance.

To ensure non-delegates have a name badge prepared, please inform your branch that you are attending the convention. They will include you on the guest list.

For assistance, contact the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924.

Convention updates are visible first on Facebook.

Keyword: Italian Catholic Federation.

Also look for convention news in the Bollettino and at www.icf.org.

Start making plans now to gather for the convention. COVID-19 may impact plans.
May 2020

**SAINTLY SATURDAY BANQUET**

"CONSULT NOT YOUR FEARS, BUT YOUR HOPES & YOUR DREAMS.
-SAINT POPE JOHN XXIII"

The Italian Catholic Federation invites you to the annual convention banquet, honoring the recipients of our Saint Pope John XXIII and Saint Teresa of Calcutta awards.

**Conv**

Banquet Menu:
Baby Greens Salad, Flat Iron Steak, Potato Au Gratin, Seasonal Vegetables, Rolls & Butter, Mango Coconut Cake, Iced Tea, Coffee and Hot Tea
(Non-alcoholic beverages available at the no-host bar)
Suggested attire: Semi-formal

The Italian Catholic Federation invites you to the annual convention banquet, honoring the recipients of our Saint Pope John XXIII and Saint Teresa of Calcutta awards.

**BINGO**

Delta by Marriott, Garden Grove/Anaheim
Friday, September 4
2pm – 4pm

- Entry Fee Per Bingo Pack: $25 Advance Reservations
- $30 After August 15, or at the door

Each Bingo Pack includes 8 Bingo games. For each game, participants will receive 6 Bingo cards per sheet.

Jackpots based on the number of participants.
Please make your reservations on the branch headcount form.

**Concelebrated Sunday Mass**

September 6, 2020
5:15pm
Diocese of Orange
Christ Cathedral
13280 Chapman Avenue
Garden Grove, CA

Located one mile from Delta by Marriott

Bus transportation available. Please make your reservation on the branch headcount form by August 15. Departure preferences will be honored by date headcount is received.

Round trip bus fare is $5 per person.
Complimentary for Clergy.

**Saints and Districts are encouraged to plan to tour Cathedral campus prior to 5:15 mass.**

Departure 7:30pm.

**That’s Amore!**

Orange District invites you to an Italian Wedding Reception!

featuring The Sicilian Band

**Convention Thursday Night Dinner/Dance**

September 5, 2020
3:00 pm Host Cocktails
6:30 pm Host Dinner

- Three-Course Dinner
- No Host Bar
- Silent Auction & Raffle
- Live Music
- Dancing

Delta Hotels by Marriott Anaheim Garden Grove

**Let’s celebrate together as one big ICF family!**

RSVP and payment due by August 15, 2020

- Guest Name
- Guest Name
- Guest Name
- Contact Person Phone Number

Mail RSVP and payment to: Italian Catholic Federation Branch 379
Attn: Karen Kaucar
17272 Almelo Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92649
Check Memo Line: Italian Wedding
HOLE SPONSORSHIP

A PROFESSIONALLY MADE SIGN WILL BE MADE AND PLACED AT THE HOLE OF YOUR CHOICE. SPONSORSHIP FEE $100.00

| Sponsor Name: | ____________________________________________ |
| Contact Person: | ____________________________________________ |
| Telephone No.: | ____________________________________________ |

Wording on Sign:

Please make your check payable to:

Italian Catholic Federation Golf Tournament
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621
**2020 CONVENTION REGISTRATION**

**ANAHEIM / GARDEN GROVE BRANCH DELEGATE LIST**

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<th>CITY:</th>
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**Active Members as of March 31st:**

**No. of Delegates:**

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**IN THE EVENT GOVERNMENT STAY AT HOME ORDERS ARE IN AFFECT OVER LABOR DAY WEEKEND, CAUSING THE CONVENTION TO BE CANCELLED, DELEGATE REGISTRATION WILL BE REFUNDED.**

Delegate registration deadline extended to **August 1**.

Early registration is appreciated, if possible. Elections for additional delegates may be held in the method best for your branch to follow. Examples include: web based meetings, teleconference, or ballot by mail.

Members may self-nominate to the Branch Secretary and the ballot created if an election is needed.

**DELEGATE NAME:** (Print clearly)

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**ALTERNATE DELEGATES:**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Mail this form with registration payment of **$325.00 per delegate** to:

Italian Catholic Federation, 8393 Capwell Drive, #110, Oakland, CA 94621.

Delegate registration fee includes:**

- New Friday Dinner prior to the Opening Ceremonies,
- Saturday Banquet, copy of the yearbook, convention materials, and convention related expenses such as microphones.
- Branch Check No. No. of Delegates: $325.00 = $__________
- Delegate registration deadline extended to August 1.

**FOR I.C.F. Office Use:**

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**CONVENTION BLOOD DRIVE**

**Friday, September 4th, 2020, Time TBA**

at the Convention Hotel

**Sponsored by:**

The ICF Live to Give Committee

**WE NEED 40 ADVANCE SIGN-UPS**

---

**Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) Thalassemia Program**

Learn more about ICF’s National Charity Thalassemia (Cooley’s Anemia)

- CHLA Guided Tour may include a visit to the hematology unit, hospital lab, and blood bank in addition to main hospital
- Welcome by Laurie Levine, MA, CCLS, ICF Thalassemia Outreach Program Consultant
- Lunch and discussion with Dr. Thomas Coates, MD, Director, Sickle/Hemoglobinopathy Program, Children’s Center fo Cancer and Blood Diseases
- Learn how ICF’s donations make a difference to research and treatment!

**$35 per person**

Includes transportation and lunch

R.S.V.P and payment due by **August 1, 2020**

Tour subject to change due to COVID-19; if cancelled, payment will be refunded.

9:30 a.m. Departure from Delta Hotels by Marriott Anaheim Garden Grove

Return to hotel around 2 p.m.

**Check Memo Line:** CHLA Tour

**Mail information and checks payable to:**

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110

Oakland, CA 94621

**Branch Check No. __________  No. of Delegates: __________X $325.00 = $_____________**

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**Please Save-The-Date to Save-A-Life 9th Annual**

**Convention Blood Drive**

**Friday, September 4th, 2020, Time TBA**

at the Convention Hotel

**Snacks~~Prizes~~Raffle**

**Sponsored by:**

The ICF Live to Give Committee

**WE NEED 40 ADVANCE SIGN-UPS**

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**The Ways and Means Committee presents the 2021 “Daily Raffle” theme:**

**“Family Travel Memories”**

We need your participation. So how can you help?

- Share a FAMILY RECIPE from a Camping Trip or Cabin Stay and ANECDOTE about your Family Vacation.
- Share PICTURES that hold a fond memory of your Family Vacation.
- **Sell! Sell! Sell!**

**ANOTHER WAY TO HELP**

List special family occasions such as Family Birthdays, Anniversaries or Graduations…Branch and District events.

**PRICE SCHEDULE**

| $10 – one name/event; $15 – 2 names/events; $20 – 4 names/events (Additional numbers will be a combination of names listed above). |
| Example: $10 – 5 names/events @ $20 = $110 or $40 – 8 names/events @ $20 = $20 |
| Deadline for names and payment is: June 1, 2020 |

**Mail information and checks payable to:**

Italian Catholic Federation

8300 Capwell Drive, Suite 110

Oakland, CA 94621

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**The Committee thanks you for your continued support. Chairperson: Bill Rouse**

**Members:** Lisa Crudo and Franklin Lopes, Jr.

**Member, As Large, Joseph Packinger**

**Advisor:** Leonard Ryan, C.I.F.

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**For further questions, call the I.C.F. office at (510) 633-9058**

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**Convention Friday Tour**

**September 4, 2020**

**Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) Thalassemia Program**

Learn more about ICF’s National Charity Thalassemia (Cooley’s Anemia)

- CHLA Guided Tour may include a visit to the hematology unit, hospital lab, and blood bank in addition to main hospital
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9:30 a.m. Departure from Delta Hotels by Marriott Anaheim Garden Grove

Return to hotel around 2 p.m.

**Check Memo Line:** CHLA Tour
**Italian Catholic Federation Convention Award Categories**

Review the five award opportunities and complete the application. There is one shared application available for all categories. The deadline to submit applications and supporting documents is May 1. Previous year’s nominations are eligible for resubmission.

**Pope Saint John XXIII Award**

The highest award bestowed by the I.C.F. is presented at the Saturday Night Convention Banquet. The recipient may be of any religious denomination and shall exemplify the spirit and tradition of the late Pope Saint John XXIII. The nominee must demonstrate achievements in one of the following areas: 1. Community Betterment of Civic Endeavors 2. Ecumenical Spirit in Furthering the Brotherhood of Man 3. Charitable and/or Religious Activities. A $1,000 donation will be made to the award recipient’s charity of choice.

**Grand President’s Award**

This award will be presented during the Sunday General Session to an outstanding lay member of the Federation. Nominations must have demonstrated exceptional commitment and dedication to furthering the goals of the Federation. A $500 donation will be made to the award recipient’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.

**Saint Teresa of Calcutta Award**

The Saint Teresa of Calcutta Award was created to acknowledge and honor a Catholic Priest, Brother, Deacon or Nun who exemplifies the spirit of Mother Teresa in the performance of works to better the human condition. The recipient will receive this award during the Sunday General Session. A $1,000 donation will be made to the award recipient’s charity of choice.

**Family of the Year Award**

This award recognizes a member (39 years or younger) who has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities and possesses the enthusiasm, talent, energy and vision to become a leader who will guide the Federation in the decades ahead. The recipient will receive this award during the Saturday General Session. A $500 donation will be made to the award recipient’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.

**Young Adult Leadership Award**

This award recognizes a member (19 years or younger) who has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities and possesses the enthusiasm, talent, energy and vision to become a leader who will guide the Federation in the decades ahead. The recipient will receive this award during the Saturday General Session. A $500 donation will be made to the award recipient’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.

**Convention Bylaw Submission Procedure**

Robert Basuino, Grand Parliamentarian

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

All branches are urged to consider, discuss and formulate a proposal to change, modify or abolish a bylaw as it pertains to all the Branches of the ICF. According to the Branch Bylaw Chapter XVII Art. 3 G proposals and/or amendments to the bylaws shall be submitted in writing (signed by the Branch President and Recording Secretary) to the Central Council Office not later than April 30, 2020. Branch bylaw change proposals may also come from Central Council through the Bylaws Committee.

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

It is helpful to present the original bylaw followed by a copy of the modified changed bylaw with the changes in bold type. The insertions should be italics and the deletions either in strikethrough text or underlined. The proposal must be accompanied by a well-reasoned rationale for the proposed change.

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

Once the proposal is found to be constitutional and acceptable in wording and content, the Bylaws Committee will present proposals to the Central Council at the June meeting for their consideration. At the Convention, the proposals will be presented to the delegates for their vote. Matters presented by the Central Council will have precedence in the order of discussion. Once passed by a majority vote at the Annual Convention, the adopted bylaw change is immediately effective.

**Italian Catholic Federation Convention Award Nomination**

**Nomination Year:** 2020

- **Pope Saint John XXIII**
- **Grand President**
- **Family of the Year**
- **Young Adult Leadership**

Nominations must be postmarked on or before May 1. Please include with this application:
- A maximum of three letters of endorsement.
- Copies of awards or publications, if available, to support the nomination.

The Central Council will vote on one finalist for each award at the June meeting. The Grand President will notify the winners of their achievement and invite them to attend the I.C.F. Convention to receive their award. Transportation, one night lodging, and admission to the Saturday night banquet will be provided. Central Council Members, Members Emeritus, Life Members Emeritus or Members of their immediately families are not eligible for nomination.

Nominees:

- **Name:**
- **Address:**
- **City:**
- **State:**
- **Zip:**
- **Phone:**
- **E-mail:**

**Statement of Endorsement:**

Start discussing possible candidates for convention awards now. Nominations must be submitted by May 1st!
Gifts of Love Donations

Report date: April 10, 2020

Vince and Rita Saso
In memory of Philip Shackel
Roy Cavallieri
In honor of the 90th birthday of Frank Aguilar
Eva Stern
In honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Bill and Maria Greco
Officers/Members of Br. 5
In memory of Hank Martin

Live to Give Blood Donations

Report date: April 10, 2020

Br. 82 Blood Drive Donations
Pat Bortolotto
Elizabeth Brusa
Karen Eichler
Lisa Fugazi
Anthony D. Vaccarezza
Clare Nickerson
In honor of the birthday of Stacy Fekkers Parry
Paulette Frink
In memory of Kim Frink
Patricia Martinelli
In memory of Marie O’Brien
Teresa Mustin
In memory of Tim Mustin
Mark Niemantsverdriet
In memory of Karen Rosson
In memory of David Botta

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:
Marina Balestreri
Ida Lomazzi
John Rossi

DONATED BY:
Officers/Members of Br. 1
Officers/Members of Central Coast District
Rosa Radicchi
Officers/Members of Central Council
Neltte Descalso-Del Nero

*Named after the co-founder of the ICF, the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides ICF 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.

Scholarship Donations

Scholarship Donations: 1st Year
ICF Spouses’ Association
Pat and Louis Mages
In memory of Rosalind Crudo
In memory of Carl Rossi

Scholarship Donations: 2nd to 4th Year
Dario and Theresa Della Maggiore
In memory of Carl Rossi
Russell and Louise Vento
In memory of Carl Rossi
Mary Lou Lawrence
In memory of Carl J. Rossi
Mary Lou Lawrence
In memory of Robert A. Lawrence
Saratina Riskie
In memory of Carl Rossi
Dee Danna
In memory of Carl Rossi
Anne Banister
In memory of Carl Rossi
Raymond and Lorraine Caruso
In memory of Carl Rossi
Mary Lipari
In memory of Carl Rossi

Cooley’s Anemia Donations

Branch 13
In memory of David Botta
Mr. and Mrs. M. Santos
In memory of Victor Pasquini
Mr. and Mrs. C. Pascale

Branch 14
In memory of David Botta
Officers/Members of Central Coast District
In memory of David Botta
Rosa Radicchi
In memory of David Botta
Officers/Members of Br. 5
In memory of Norma Bonmarito

When making checks out for the Scholarship Fund, Providenza Fund, Gifts of Love or Cooley’s Anemia,
Please make checks out to the Italian Catholic Federation, and in the memo line, please put where you would like the money to go to, ie: Scholarship, Providenza, etc.
### Bishops’ Days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Archdiocese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun. 14th</td>
<td>Stockton</td>
<td>(Central Coast)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 17th</td>
<td>Monterey</td>
<td>(Santa Clara Valley)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 18th</td>
<td>San Jose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 8th</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Archdiocese</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### In Loving Memory

Report date: April 10, 2020

**Deceased Members**
- Robert F Murray Branch 010
- Virginia Bertoli Branch 021
- Shirley A Scott Branch 021
- Dorothy J Bushnell Branch 039
- Joseph Simile Branch 048
- Frank Scsea Branch 054
- Thomas B Enrico Branch 111
- Annette Shannon Batinovich Branch 115
- Jeanette L. Alessio Way Branch 230
- Joan B Freitas Branch 246
- Homer Cles Branch 291
- Roger J Bender Branch 368
- Joseph Gresh Branch 368
- Richard D Hanley Branch 368
- Carl J Rossi Branch 391
- Jackie A Baker Branch 408
- Fred Petralia Branch 408
- Rocco Lo Surdo Branch 418
- Rosalie M Stagnitto Branch 432
- Mary Walter Branch 432
- Paul P Leo Branch 444

### ICF General Fund Donation

Jane and Phil Argento
In memory of Rosalie Stagnitto

### April Calendar Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>BR</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>Dina Rio</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>Des Plaines, IL</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Mary Jo Belli</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Santa Cruz, CA</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/3</td>
<td>Kathleen Kozack</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Los Altos Hills, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>Paul Emerick</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>Redlands, CA</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/5</td>
<td>Branch 52</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Healdsburg, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>Mary Wynston</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>Paso Alegre, CA</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/7</td>
<td>Fr. Lodovico J. Landi</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8</td>
<td>Jacques Wright</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Sunnyvale, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/9</td>
<td>Tim &amp; Julie Ryan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Fresno, CA</td>
<td>$40</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/10</td>
<td>Mary Vella Treseler</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>Millbrae, CA</td>
<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/11</td>
<td>Heidi Ambiel</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>Aptos, CA</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Leonard Smith</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>Concord, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/13</td>
<td>Lucia Delgado</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Bakersfield, CA</td>
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<td>Jean Casteel</td>
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<td>Madonna Castro</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td>1/16</td>
<td>Laura Meert</td>
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<td>Ellen Pasley</td>
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<td>Soquel, CA</td>
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<td>1/18</td>
<td>Michael Marcheschi</td>
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<td>Alameda, CA</td>
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<td>David Piccola</td>
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<td>1/21</td>
<td>Valerie Vanni</td>
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<td>1/22</td>
<td>Branch 48</td>
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<td>Modesto, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/23</td>
<td>Lillian Dal Porto</td>
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<td>Merced, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/24</td>
<td>Judy Wellbeloved</td>
<td>205</td>
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<td>1/25</td>
<td>Adele Valdez</td>
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<td>Auburn, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/26</td>
<td>Barbara Vanni</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>Arroyo, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/27</td>
<td>Peter Parrelli</td>
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<td>Grants Pass, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/28</td>
<td>Dave Madej</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>San Leandro, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/29</td>
<td>Dana Pratt</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Arroyo Grande, CA</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/30</td>
<td>Dorothy Sallbone</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEBSITE: ICF.ORG

### Calling all little artists!

The Ways and Means committee will be sponsoring another little fundraiser featuring your children’s artwork.

We will be making packets of All Occasion and/or Christmas cards to sell. Please have your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews submit any kind of drawing that they wish. It can be themed (i.e. get well, Happy Birthday, Christmas etc..) or just any kind they wish to create. They can be as colorful and creative as they want and can submit more than one design.

Please have designs created on clean/unlined/unfolded paper. Mail to the ICF office at 8383 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland CA 94621, Attn: Ways and Means Committee.

Our team will then transform their artwork into lovely note cards in packs of 8 for $10.00.

The deadline for submissions will be June 1, 2020. The cards will be available for purchase at ICF Convention and by request to the office by September 4, 2020.

See form below to include with submissions:

-------------------
Child’s First Name: ___________________ Age: ______
Parent/Grandparent: ___________________ Branch#: ______

(Please note: Child will be acknowledged by First Name and Age only) if you wish to state other information, please note above (ex: Grandchild of __________________ Branch _______)

### 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 2019 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 2019 is the following:
- Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of more than $50,000.00 will be required to electronically file State Form 199 which is an e-Postcard.

---

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2020. 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.

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

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2020. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that Bank Statements are reconciled through December 31, 2019. 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,
Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Grand Treasurer
Warm greetings to our extended ICF friends and family.

Our lives have been very different over the last few weeks. All of our scheduled meetings and events have been put on hold while we observe physical distancing during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Our St. Joseph Table, scheduled for late March, was one of those gatherings that was canceled. Like always, many volunteers had already signed up to bake goodies for this popular fundraiser. The spirit of the event was honored when several people posted photos of their homemade breads, cakes, and cookies that they, in turn, shared with their families.

Although we miss gathering with our Church community, we are grateful to Fr. George and Fr. Ramos for offering live stream Masses and liturgies on our St. Clare Facebook site.

We continue to reach out to each other via phone calls and e-mails and several volunteers have been preparing and delivering dinners to a couple of our home bound members.

During these difficult times, please know that we are thinking of all of you and pray that you remain healthy in both body and in spirit.

As we continue to pray for our many special intentions and for everyone directly affected by the COVID-19 virus. We especially remember our health care workers and first responders who are on the front lines. May all of them be protected by our Lord’s loving embrace.

Anne Finn
Recording Secretary

Santa Rosa
District Council

Our March 15th meeting in Petaluma was hosted by Br. 127. It was a successful gathering of 25 members. Perhaps our next meeting in June will produce more members. Think about it. Better days will be ahead. We will overcome this crisis.

I have just been informed by Linda Sherman, our ICF Corresponding Secretary that our Spiritual Heritage Day on May 3rd has been cancelled and there is not a future date decided.

By the way, we have our own Heritage Chair on our District Council. None other than Louise Vicino and what a tale she spun!! A tale of love and deceit and contentment. Great entertainment. Come and listen to this woman, please!!

Don’t forget, our next Council meeting will be on June 28th. Now that you are warned I want to see you there.

As long as we have our health intact, with the help of Our Risen Lord, we will recover and grow! Have a Blessed Easter.

Love,
Pat N. Buchignani

Santosima Crocifisso, Br. 27

As our “shelter in place” continues in Sonoma County. We look forward to the day we will be able to attend our monthly meetings and enjoy our branch fund raisers and events. The reality is that our events are most probably cancelled or postponed until later in the summer or even fall.

This has been a time unlike any we’ve experienced before. Although we have been isolated from one another and practicing social distancing; I hope you were able to attend virtual masses and Easter dinner via skype or zoom with family and friends.

Are you aware that the “Italian Catholic Federation” has a Facebook page? This is a private group, so you will need to click on the JOIN box. Rose Jarrett is the moderator. It’s a great place to see what other ICF members and branches are up to.

Please stay safe and pray for all our ICF members and sisters and those affected by the COVID-19 virus.

Ciao,
Sharon Vannetti

FRESNO

Madera

Our March meeting was a celebration of the feast day of Saint Patrick. The meeting room was beautifully decorated in green. Attendees were treated to live accordion music performed by our member Chuck DeFina, followed by a delicious meal of corned beef, cabbage and vegetables, coleslaw, pistachio jello salad, Irish soda bread and homemade desserts, all expertly prepared by committee chairs Marcia and Jennifer Valorosi, and assisted by members Fred, Diane, Jim, Joan, and Ceci Massett, Mark and Car Beveridge, and Mike and Mary Keitz. Thank you all for your efforts in making this such an enjoyable evening.

Our meeting included a presentation by visitors from the Catholic Daughters of the Americas chapter of our St. Joachim’s parish, who talked about the planned March for Life in Madera. Our members voted to provide financial support to this very important community event. Please pray for all individuals and their families affected by the COVID-19 virus, together with our health care workers, worldwide. Our elected leaders also need your prayers.

Ciao,
Mary Keitz
Recording Secretary

May 2020

Rosieville
St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

Warm greetings to our extended ICF friends and family.

Our lives have been very different over the last few weeks. All of our scheduled meetings and events have been put on hold while we observe physical distancing during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

As long as we have our health intact, with the help of Our Risen Lord, we will recover and grow! Have a Blessed Easter.

Love,
Pat N. Buchignani

Healdsburg
St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

Upcoming Events:
As I write this, in early April, our upcoming events are on hold. We hope to resume with our May 20 Mother’s and Father’s Day Dinner. Please watch your email for updates on this.

We hope everyone is staying safe at home during this crisis.

Remember, Fr. Sean posts Sunday Mass on the parish website each weekend.

To all the Mother’s – Happy Mother’s Day?

Lauren Kileulen

Cloverdale
L’Annunciata, Br. 75

As we shelter in place and cancel all meetings, celebrations and scheduled ICF events, we have time...lots and lots of time to do other things. I for one, being laid off due to school closures have dumped drawers and closets, reorganized files and filled more yard barrels with weeds and bush trimmings than I thought possible. I weed and cut; next morning, there’s more!!

Speaking of growth, however, I have never before been able to experience Holy Week quite like this. Even though we’re denied The Holy Eucharist during our COVID-19 Pandemic, I have never had the freedom to watch daily Mass, not once, but twice each day. Long distance chats with my neighbors by hollering across the street or across the fence show our concern and caring for one another. I wrote 2 snail mail letters to my brothers who don’t text or use computers. I’m listening and The Holy Spirit is enabling me to conquer economic concerns; and a life altering, very personal, relationship is developing.

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Ciao,
Mary Keitz
Recording Secretary

Santa Rosa
St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
President Robert Acquistapace has replaced the Branch May Bollettino article with the President’s Newsletter which was sent to each member previously.

Please pray for all the health care professionals, first responders, hospital custodial staffs and all those caring for patients infected with COVID-19.

Also, pray for all those who have died from this unprecedented pandemic worldwide.

Please pray for all our mothers, living and deceased, as we celebrate Mother’s Day this month.

Stay safe and God bless us all.
Ciao,
Gail Bongi-Azevedo

Sebastopol
St. Sebastian, Br. 209

As our “shelter in place” continues in Sonoma County. We look forward to the day we will be able to attend our monthly meetings and enjoy our branch fund raisers and events. The reality is that our events are most probably cancelled or postponed until later in the summer or even fall.

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Ciao,
Sharon Vannetti

FRESNO

Madera
Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

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Ciao,
Mary Keitz
Recording Secretary

FRESNO
Continued from Page 19

Los Banos
Santa Lucia, Br. 31

Hello again from Branch 31. Due to COVID-19 and the shelter in place order there is nothing to report on this at time. Following is a short letter from our president Ciao, Giana Boffa!

A message from our president: ICF Branch 31 would like to express our well wishes to all. May everyone stay home as much as possible and remain healthy. Many prayers for Italy and all the victims, and families of the victims, who have suffered from COVID-19. In these uncertain and difficult times let us not forget to trust in the Lord. God’s Blessing on us all!

-Gary Caropreso
President, ICF Branch 31

Merced
St. Cecilia, Br. 39

Interesting times for all the world right now as we collectively deal with this international health crisis. We hope you are sheltering in place, keeping safe for yourself and loved ones. Our church and ICF events have been cancelled until further notice.

This is the time to focus on all the wonderful blessings we have in our lives. Be thankful for loving and caring family, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances. Be grateful for all the service personnel from medical staff to our sanitation workers who are potentially sacrificing their health daily to keep us healthy. Appreciate the little things we now have time to notice as for most of us our rushing through life has been replaced with time to “stop and smell the roses”. Recognize we are much more secure in a place to live, food to eat and access to medical help than in many parts of the world.

Whether you are self-isolating indoors or able to get outside in your yards or for a refreshing walk, enjoy this beautiful spring weather. Think of phoning a friend, neighbor, or acquaintance.

Merced
St. Cecilia, Br. 39

Monterey
Central Coast

Santa Cruz
Nostra Signora del Soccors, Br. 21

Well, dear friends, it’s been a rough couple of months. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the Corona threat will have subsided and we have returned to some normalcy. We also hope that you and your families have stayed well. The inconvenience and loneliness has been difficult and many have suffered debilitating illness and loss of life. Strong prayers are needed for those who have been afflicted, and for all those working ‘the front lines’. God’s love in scripture reads: “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.” Isaiah 41:10

Dedicated to the cancellation of upcoming Branch 21 events, there is little to announce. We do want to thank you all for your support of the St. Patrick’s Day Corned Beef Dinner. Thanks to Gary and Pitta Castiglioni and Roseann Costable, the Irish fare (cooked by Italians), was delicious. Before long, we can all get together at another dinner. It’s time to buy the ICF Convention Raffle tickets and possibly win the Grand Prize of $2,500! A few years ago, a member of our very own branch won it! You will also have a chance to win several other prizes. Please call Roseann to get your ICF21 tickets and come to reserve your raffle ticket purchase.

In closing, remember to check on one another, make a call, send a text. It really helps when one is shut in. A word of advice from Vivian Greene: “Life isn’t about waiting for the storm to pass; it’s about learning how to dance in the rain.”

God Bless us one and all.

Patty Morelli
Secretary Branch 21

Salinas
Nostra Senora Del Sasso, Br. 25

Happy May!

To our dear members, we think of you often and we hope everyone is safe at home and in good health and spirits in this difficult time of the pandemic. Many of us have watched the Masses and Easter Week services on line which are a great comfort. And the interior and exterior videos of the churches and cathedrals have been incredible and beautiful to see, the artworks and sculptures have been stunning.

If you have not already viewed it, please check out (on YouTube) the beautiful hymns sung by Andrea Bocelli on Easter Sunday at the Duomo in Milan.

It is likely the healthcare professionals will recommend that we do not congregate in large groups for some time, particularly those of us who are over 65 and have underlying medical conditions, so we will not be planning any meetings until June at the earliest. We wish all of the wonderful ICF Mothers a Happy Mother’s Day. God bless all of the ICF members and their families.

Julie Richards, President
JoAnn Sullivan, Recording Secretary

Monterey
Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

Mother’s Day blessing for Moms who holds the family together with love and nourish them with prayer.

Her children arise and called her Blessed - Proverb 31:28.

As I sit here in Shelter in Place, thinking of all our ICF members and their families. Hoping everyone is staying safe and well. Praying for our Nation and the World during this Coronavirus pandemic. We are all thankful we all have our faith during this difficult time. All of us miss being all together and enjoy our friendship socializing with one another. We are thankful for our doctors, nurses, first responders, all essential workers in our community and country. Please, continue to pray during this difficult time, and hopefully soon we will be back enjoying on ICF activities with our members, family and friends. During this time, we sure value the true meaning of our Italian Catholic Federation Family.

Rejoice always, continually to pray, gives thanks to all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Jesus Christ. Thessalonians 5:16-18.

Stay safe -stay well,
Elaine Valentine
Financial Secretary

Castroville
Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Happy May!

I would like to begin this entry with a prayer:

Lord,

Today the day appears gigantic and my heart is suffocating with the weight of the world.

Help me to hear you saying, “I am your hope” over all other thoughts and troubles.

Fill me up with hope to give me a tan
gle reminder today that hope is an unbreakable spiritual life line.

Amen.

Happy Birthday to our May babies: beloved members Allison Barlow; my mom, and Trustee Susan Carbonel; Kathie Hedrick, Mazie Rodriguez, Rosella Salari, Eva Mae Sigala, Victor Sigala; Secretary, Ashley Stefani; and Marie Tonus!

I’d like to thank those who have worked so hard in protecting the health and safety of their community and loved ones. And thank you to our members and community for staying and working from home! Please continue to wash your hands, and stay safe and healthy.

Until next time,
Natalie Carbonel

Capitola
St. Joseph’s, Br. 227

Hopefully by the time you read this, the Coronavirus will be on its way out and life can get back to normal. Because of the virus, it was necessary to cancel our meetings until further notice. It was heartbreaking to hear how the pandemic affected the land of our ancestors, especially the province of Lombardy.

A special note of thanks goes to the parishes in our diocese who offered masses and supportive information online during this time.

Sincere condolences to Fran and Lou Bocekz on the passing of their daughter, Shelley, in March. Shelley had been courageously battling cancer for several years.

One tradition at our monthly meetings is to read the names of members having birthdays and to sing to them. But in the absence of meetings, we take this opportunity to wish Happy Birthday to our members born in April and May, especially our sweet Karen Waldvogel who turned 60 on April 9.

Because of timing issues related to the Coronavirus, Scholarship Committee Chairman Andy Armanino encourages those sending in applications to get going with a letter of recommendation from a school official and other scholarship information requested in the application. The due date is still June 15.

Please keep Ken Waldvogel in your prayers. He remains at Pacific Coast Manor and is unable to have visitors due to the lockdown there.

Remember to get your Convention raffle tickets from Treasurer June Kotila. The cost is $20, and $10 of that stays with our branch.

Deanna Musler, Secretary
April ended up being a very quiet and uneventful month for our Branch, as everyone “sheltered at home” in an effort to stay healthy. We pray all ICF members remained healthy and safe during the quarantine orders.

Our last 3 Lenten Fish Frys were canceled; however, we hope to have one more Fish Fry once the COVID-19 guidelines are lifted. We pray this is very soon! We also had to postpone our St. Joseph’s Table celebration in March, but we plan to hold it at our May General Membership Meeting.

Please continue to pray for these members of Br. 291 who may be experiencing illness, pain or heartache at this time: Theresa Aston, Anita Caracci, Dianne Clees, Wally Cox, Terry Garrity, Stevie Hall, Bruce Hensley, Paul Karp, Laura Vopatek, Jens & Sonia Wagner, and Doris Waik. Also pray for the repose of the soul of Gloria Dean, who passed away recently. Gloria was a member of our Branch until a few years ago when she moved away to be closer to family. Gloria was 97 years old.

Happy Mother’s Day!
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary

**Arroyo Grande**
St. Patrick, Br. 291

**Santa Clara Valley**
**District Council**

SANTA CLARA VALLEY

What a wonderful thing Al & Diane Valos are doing by donating and delivering food for the needy during these difficult times. And they are not charging anything for the service. You can help by sending a donation: Tony’s & Albas Pizza, 3137 Stevens Creek Blvd., San Jose, CA 95117.

If you didn’t see Fr. George’s (District Chaplain) singing the “Our Father” on the Special Prayer day – it is still available on “Santa Teresa Church YouTube.” A weekly mass is also said every Saturday, at 5:30 p.m. Father also asks us to pray Santa Teresa’s Prayer – “Let nothing disturb you, - Let nothing frighten you - All things are passing away - God never changes – Patience obtains all things – Whoever has God lacks nothing – God alone suffices.”

I also know that John Gillio has been busy in his workshop crafting his special tile crosses. If you would like to purchase one contact him – 1 (408) 225-6372 or gilliojr@sbcglobal.net.

In January and February, we were lamenting about the lack of rain, then in March we have had an abundance of rain. So too with this virus – It will pass if we keep calm, follow the rules, keep the faith. Lastly, let me know where I can get Toilet Paper.

SCV District Meeting – Cancelled until further notice.
Buona Pasqua
Mike Nuzziata

**Gilroy**
Santa Maria Auxiliatrice, Br. 28

GILROY

As the hiatus continues in regards to ICF Branch 28 activities I would like to extend our wishes for your health, safety and well-being. Remember the social distancing requirements and protocols to remain safe. But as the physical distancing continues it is comforting to know that we can bring God and our fellow man into our hearts. In Archibald MacLeish’s Pulitzer Prize winning play J.B. chronicling the biblical Job’s terrible things afflicted on him, Job is guided by these words:

**Blow on the coal of the heart.**
**The candles in churches are out.**
**The lights have gone out in the sky.**
**Blow on the coal of the heart**

And we’ll see by and by…
Peace and God Bless,
Kim M. Filice

**Los Gatos**
St. Mary, Br. 184

This month has gone by so slowly. The news is on, giving statistics across the world that are very sobering. “Tutto il mondo e’ paese, “or “the world is a village.” Now those words ring true with an invisible enemy creating a disaster around the globe.

In my corner of the world, I say THANK YOU to the doctors, nurses, technicians and first responders; to the people who work in grocery stores and drugstores; to people who prepare food for others; to the words of encouragement from Denise Antonowicz, our branch president; in other words, people who keep this world moving forward even though we have stopped!!

And how strange not to be able to attend Mass or receive the Eucharist. Thank you, Father Rick, Father Daniel and Brother Joseph, for the online devotions. While watching the Mass online, I realized how I had taken freely attending Mass for granted. It has made me understand how other people in another place and time must have felt when they were prevented from practicing their Faith…

I pray for my brothers and sisters in the ICF, and their families, especially for our first Vice President Julie Klem who lost her beloved father Stephen Klem.

**Stay Safe, Stay Strong, We Will Survive!**
Lucy Amico

**San Jose**
St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

SAN JOSE

During this COVID-19 outbreak, we find ourselves washing our hands, social distancing, and sheltering in place. Let us continue with these activities to help prevent further spread of this virus.

Since we remain at home, let us look at some fun future events. A fall festival in November is the Dominican Sisters Holiday Boutique. This takes place in Mission San Jose (Fremont) at the convent of the Dominican Sisters. The festival is a two day event, taking place the weekend before Thanksgiving.

The boutique’s main attraction you ask? The special olive oil, that the sisters sell, is from olives grown from their own trees on convent land. When the Dominican Sisters arrived they were greeted by these trees, which dated before 1837.

When the sisters settled in, they began their production of olive oil in 1894, lasting until about 1965. After a 35-year lapse, the sisters once again began their olive oil production, beginning in 2000. The Scabica Olive Oil Company ofMODESTO does the processing of this pure virgin oil.

The oil is used country wide, with the new boom of gourmet cooking, it has brought brisk sales to the sisters during their holiday festival.

In addition to olive oil, cookies, fruit cakes, German apple Strudel, and beautiful home crafts can all be purchased. A boutique café to have lunch and entertainment with the sisters is also available.

It is an enjoyable time, as the grounds are beautiful in the fall. Do plan to attend, as you will not be disappointed.

Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, 43326 Mission Circle (Off Mission Tierra), Fremont, California 94539

Shirley Catania

**Sentinel**

**San Jose**
Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

We thank Avis Erkel, Noreen Gillio, Cathie Orlowski, and Joyce Robba for phoning each of our members to help us stay connected during this difficult time of social distancing. Thank you, ladies, for showing your concern for the welfare of each person in our club, especially of those living alone. Hearing a loving, friendly voice really lifted my spirit. Sometimes we all need a little help from our friends.

Our pasta dinner planned for May is currently on hold, but we are hoping to have our bocce picnic at Almaden Lake in June, as we have for the past few years.

Father George Aranha, our pastor, is celebrating Mass every Saturday night at 5:30 p.m., and we can watch the Mass through YouTube. Though we cannot be in the church with him, we can enjoy the liturgy and the readings. Many a tear is being shed. Thank you, Father George, Jen Vasquez, Lynda DeManti, and Raul Carag for providing the video, audio, and music for us. Many viewers are also singing along with Father as we watch the video of him singing in the church. Some sustenance for the soul in a time of trial.

We miss each other so very much. As Pope Francis has requested, we pray for God’s help us overcoming this devastating pandemic. Not being able to attend Holy Week’s inspiring, touching liturgies is an additional burden for us. Please be safe.

Praying for all of us, Judy Zahn

**Continued on Page 22**
San Jose
St. Martin of Tours,
Br. 391

We were all disappointed that we didn’t get together in April during the Lenten Season and Holy Week. Due to the coronavirus concerns, our branch continues to adhere to preventative measures set forth by our government, ICF’s Central Council, and St. Martin of Tours. We hope to meet in June, since all branches of ICF decided to cancel general meetings in May.

Congratulations to Al and Diana Vallorz for all of their hard work with seniors during these difficult times and for being featured in People Magazine and other national and international media. Al quotes Mother Theresa, “Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love;” he further states that “We are all in this together and it takes all of us to get through this.” We are blessed to have Al and Diana in our branch.

Our members donated over $1000 to help Al and Diana in their ministry. We continue to keep people affected by this virus in our thoughts and prayers.

Thank you, Marcie Rossi, for keeping us informed of St. Martin’s streaming masses and liturgical schedule.

At this time, our popular “Wine Down with ICF” has been postponed in May and will be rescheduled at a later date.

Upcoming events: Branch 391 General Meeting — June 2, 2020 at 6:30 (tentative); Quarterly Communion — June 13, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. at St Martin of Tours (tentative).

Wishing you a Happy Mother’s Day to our dear Moms! -Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale Resurrection, Br. 408

Well the world is certainly a different place now.

We trust all our members are safe and healthy.

We can report that we were happy to host one of the last Parish Events on Saturday March 7th. This was our Annual ICF/Resurrection School Pasta Dinner held to raise funds for the School’s 5th graders field trip. They spend one week away from home at Walden Woods Science Camp during their 6th Grade School year. There was plenty of food and warm fellowship. We successfully raised funds similar to last year. A Big Thank You to — Patricia, Sandra, Tina, Donna, Steve, Wilma and Kate and all of our Volunteers, Donors and Sponsors.

Our ICF Blood Drive collected Blood from 23 Donors which was gratefully accepted during these special times by the Stanford Blood bank.

We look forward to gathering once again for our Meetings and Events. May God Bless us all in these special times.

Morgan Hill
Santa Caterina D’Alessandria, Br. 435

There are no festivities to report on. We did not have our corned beef and cabbage, or our St. Joseph’s Table and Lenten supper in March. We will not be having a dinner in April. We will not be attending Holy Week remembrances, no Holy Thursday or Good Friday services, and no Easter celebration. But we keep these things in our hearts and souls and work and pray together to keep everyone safe. This pandemic will pass and we will get back to normal eventually.

Trying to keep things normal, I was able to get out and pick up some plants to get things going in my garden. I wore my face mask and gloves and washed up well when I got home. They were counting the people going into Home Depot with only one way in, and we were all keeping our distance of at least six feet. Everyone was behaving.

I’ve been in touch with a few of our members by phone or email and no one reports any serious health issues. One of our long time members, Donna Basi lin, is recovering from knee surgery. My husband, Mike Sampognaro, put off surgery just before everything started to shut down in mid-March and he is still hurting. Please keep them in your prayers.

We also want to extend our condolences to Mike Rossi and his family on the passing of his father, John Rossi (not related to COVID-19).

Take care and stay safe.
God bless!
Maryclaire Sampognaro

San Jose
Transfiguration, Br. 445

Our last Branch 445 General Meeting was held in February. Now in the midst of COVID-19 we are staying at home, as are many other ICF members, living the new normal of shelter-in-place. Our ICF group events have been cancelled or postponed. We reminisce via past photos of our gathered times and look forward to joining together in fellowship again.

As Easter approaches, we shared via email to our members our 2019 Heritage report on “Easter Traditions in Italy.” Last year this presentation led to a lively discussion as members recalled their Italian family Easter traditions through the years. Many remembered the sweet Easter breads baked by grandmothers and mothers. Rich in symbolism and made with three braided lengths of dough representing the Holy Trinity then formed together into a wreath symbolic of Jesus’ Crown of Thorns. Colorful Easter Eggs within the wreath symbolized rebirth. Most all had an Easter dinner that included lamb - the symbol of life and sacrifice - the sacrifice of Christ the Lamb of God for humanity.

Holy Week and Easter will still be celebrated in homes and in churches as we watch videotaped or live streamed religious celebrations this year. We are grateful to our pastors and priests who have been sending spiritual care packages of prayer and celebrating Mass through Lent via the internet during our quarantine.

A few ICF members participated separately from their homes in a “sandwich ministry” for the Transfiguration Parish Community Outreach Program. A total of 60 Sack lunches were assembled, collected and then dispersed by the CMO program to the homeless.

For now, our 3rd Annual Price Is Right summer fundraiser is on hold due to COVID-19.

These are truly trying times. We pray for those who have died and those who are hospitalized due to this coronavirus. May God bless you, your families as well as our dedicated healthcare workers and all the essential workers that provide for us and our community everyday.

May you all stay safe and in good health...che possiate stare tutti al sicuro e in buona salute.

Submitted by Jan Marianelli Stumhofer
May 2020

Stockton

Modesto
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

At the beginning of Lent, Deacon Jose’ challenged us to find ways to experience Lent in a way we had never experienced it before. He never imagined that we would experience Lent like no other time in our lives. Having to attend mass over the internet is a whole new experience for me.

Our events in May will most likely be cancelled. Hopefully we will be able to reschedule our Bake Sale for a later time since this is our biggest fundraiser. I hope that things soon get back to normal.

Please keep Joseph Similie Sr. and his family in your prayers. He passed away March 15, 2020. He was a long time member of Branch 48.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays May 17, 2020 and June 14, 2020 at the 8:00 a.m. mass at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Happy Mother’s Day to all our Mothers!

Coming up:
May 2-3, 2020 Bake Sale after the masses - Cancelled
May 13 6:00 p.m. Mother’s Day Pot luck - Cancelled
June 14 Bishop’s Burse—Br 413 Angeles Camp???

Cecelia McGhee

Lodi
St. Anne’s, Br. 82

Buon Auguri, ICF Family!

“March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers.” This proverb refers to nature, and it can also relate to our world situation with COVID -19. The virus blew into the US in March. In April it rained down on our states, and everyone stayed in to keep safe and healthy. Now May is here with the hope to venture out in the fresh air so missed by all.

After this experience, I’m sure we’ll be so much more appreciative of everything and everyone around us. Hopefully on Sunday, May 10th we’ll be able to actually hug our mothers to show our love and gratitude.

We continue to pray for all those who have been affected by COVID-19, especially our brothers and sisters in Italy.

Looking forward to the time we can meet again with our ICF members.

Stare bene e stare al sicuro.

Patty Litts
Corresponding Secretary

Tracy
St. Bernard, Br. 390

Good luck to all those who applied for scholarship awards last month. We are looking forward to awarding these to you, as this is one of the donations we are happiest to give out to you all.

Our prayers go out to Italy and the Italians who are suffering through the overwhelming cases of this virus. I read that because Italy has such a warm family culture, the virus spread more quickly than other countries that do not customarily hug and kiss upon greeting friends and family. We also hug and kiss upon leaving after a visit with friends and family. Social distancing is especially hard on our families who cannot have the Sunday dinners we share as a family. Our children have taught some of us older folks how to do those ‘virtual’ dinners online - we cooked the same recipe all together and just watched each other eat the same dinner...and we topped it off with a birthday cake complete with candles that the birthday girl blew out from afar! Try it, you’ll like it.

We send our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Dave Millinar. May he rest in peace.

Steve Ridolfi continues to treat you to seeing yourselves on our Website: www.icfbranch390.org

Keeping your families in our prayers for this trying time of flu and virus season to come to an end soon.

Rimanere in buona salute.

Betty Hollars

Stockton
Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

I was hoping to write an article with good news that the virus was under control, but unfortunately we had to cancel our monthly meeting once again, as well as our district meeting that we were scheduled to host.

We are also sad to announce the passing of long time member Alva Garibaldi. She even attended our recent polenta dinner where her husband played the accordion. She will truly be missed.

Many of us are experiencing anxiety and fear, but together, and with our faith we can persevere.

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.
Alla prossima,
Mary Ann

Orange

Irvine
St. Thomas More, Br. 423

Our St. Joseph Day Table was cancelled because of safer-at-home restrictions to protect against spread of the coronavirus. The event is our chapter’s biggest fundraiser and supports our charitable giving. The board will decide whether the St. Joseph Table will be rescheduled after the coronavirus crisis has passed.

We wish everyone to stay safe and healthy during this difficult time.

We hope everyone had a blessed Easter.

Ciao,
Marcia Dodson

Because of the Covid-19 virus our Tracy Branch #390 did not have our Annual Heritage Night, dinner/meeting, but here are a couple of photographs from last years event.

Robert Bacchetti and the boys getting the pasta ready for the nights dinner. It was great!

Here is accordionist, Steve Tucco, playing to the crowd as pictures taken during the year are shown.

Remember, start sending in Bollettino submissions for the June issue. Deadline is May 10th.
Get your articles and photos in to editor@icf.org.
Include your branch number.
What Does Thalassemia (Cooley’s Anemia) Mean to Me?

Quotes from Patients Around the World:

Thalassemia is a part of me. I’m not a sufferer of this disorder; I feel I’m a warrior who fights a daily battle to manage my children’s therapy, medications, regular checkups and day-to-day living. It’s tough, but we’ve come a long way. I’ve gone through, in 17 years, every single thing. Thalassemia has given to me. I would like to thank everyone around me who has helped me in fighting these daily battles of mine.

David Allen Joseph
March 27, 2020
born to Alicia & Alex Joseph

I take regular blood transfusions every 15-18 days.
There is nothing that a thalassemic can’t do. Sometimes it’s very tough to manage all, but still, I manage. I try to maintain my Hb level & also low ferritin. As well as stay healthy.

I’m blessed with supportive Doctors. Lovely family & friends.

Cooley’s Corner

ITSC Children’s Hospital
Los Angeles
We Treat Kids Better

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
Convention Yearbook

You need to participate!
What’s YOUR part of the story?

The ICF Convention Yearbook is:
• Collected & kept for years
• Referenced by members
• A visual history of your year

INTRODUCING Celebration Pages
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Full color 1/16th page celebration entry for only $25.
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Let us all celebrate the joys from your year!

David Allen Joseph
March 27, 2020
born to Alicia & Alex Joseph

I was born with high expectations in a very supportive family. I was being Thalassemic Major in a very loving home. There is in my phlegm that inspires positive things in me and encourages me to perform well. Apart from my professional life I love to do painting and sketch and I ammovies.com I love to do painting and sketch and I ammovies.com. Other hobbies include Photography and Writing. If you get this entry only once in 30 days, do changing any transmission date.

Long live all to never see this disease take over your dreams. Your will power determines your destiny. Regular dose of chemotherapy apart from regular blood transfusions what we require is a normal life.

At times, it becomes difficult to fight with the outside world when you are already battling inside your heart.

But, what a baring life it would have been without any adventurous story to share...

I take my health problems as hurdles in my race to excel in life... And every time I overcome a hurdle it makes me stronger and helps me in creating a new spirit of confidence that can’t be expressed in words...

So, Thalassemia is an ever lasting source of adventure in my life.

What has always worked for me is believe in yourself and make a move...

Everyone spends money locally!
Sell commercial ads to the folks you spend your money with and get a 20% commission check.

COLOR!
The Branch 36 page looks great in the 2019 book! (See page 52.)
So much more impactful than black and white.
Please consider color for your story.

Information (Flyers, Forms, Contracts, etc.) on the Convention Yearbook has been sent to the Branch and District Presidents.