International Thalassaemia Day is celebrated annually on May 8th. Since 1994, The Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) has devoted this day to raise awareness globally; educate the community and decision-makers about this severe blood disease; and highlight the lifelong and challenging journey of patients who are living with thalassaemia. It is also a time to remember all of the patients who have suffered and passed away too soon. On this day we renew our promise to keep working until the final cure for thalassaemia is found.

Each year The Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) chooses a theme for International Thalassaemia Day and organizes events in order to raise awareness to patient groups, the general public, officials, healthcare professionals, and industry (Pharma and Bio-Tech). The theme for 2021 is: “Addressing Health Inequalities Across the Global Thalassaemia Community.”

The ICF should be celebrated on this day (and every day) for the countless contributions they have made to the thalassaemia community. By adopting Cooley’s Anemia as the National Charity in 1982 and donating over $2,000,000, the ICF has been instrumental in funding research that has led to lifesaving therapies; technology that has eased the burden of painful liver biopsies; sponsored over 20 Christmas parties for patients and families; assisted patients and families who do not have the means to pay for their necessary medications; flown countless patients to specialty care centers for treatment; educated the community; donated lifesaving blood through the Live to Give Committee's Annual Blood Drive; and the list goes on.

If you would like to do something special during the month of May and/or on May 8th consider the following ideas:

• Reading more about the Thalassaemia International Federation serving the global community: https://thalassaemia.org.cy/

2021 Convention Update

The Central Council is monitoring local county and diocesan guidelines to assess if a destination convention is possible this year. Whether in person or virtual, we are still accepting by-law proposals until April 30 and award nominations until May 1. Branches will be notified as information becomes available.

Grand President’s Monthly Message

Vince Piro

Over the last month or so, the country has gotten some good news on the pandemic front as new COVID-19 cases are on the decline (at least at the time of this writing), people are getting vaccinated, and businesses and churches are beginning to open up more. Let us continue to pray for the end of the pandemic and a return to normal life.

As we prepare to return to normal life, there is much to do on the ICF front. The Central Council is preparing for an unprecedented advertising campaign to promote the Federation. It is seeking to expand into new parishes and the profile of the ICF in dioceses and communities so that more clergy and Catholics are aware of our organization.

On the branch level, there is much you can do, too.

1. You can work with your local pastor to begin the transition to in-person meetings. You should work in cooperation with your pastor and follow all local health department guidelines.

2. Give an announcement about the ICF at mass. Stress that the ICF is a family organization that welcomes Catholics of all backgrounds and cultures.

3. Place short blurbs and advertisements in your parish bulletin about the ICF. The Central Council Membership Committee will be sending you promotional material that you can use.

4. As guidelines allow, start to hold fundraisers that raise the visibility of your branch and that help you raise money for charity and ICF events.

Hike the Appalachian Trail

ICF Hiker Progress Report

Ryan McCalmont, a member of Branch 198 St. Eugene's in Santa Rosa, has left his job with REI and returned to his parents' home at Lake Almanor to train for his hike on the Appalachian Trail. Ryan will attend his sister's wedding in Southern California on April 3rd and fly from Orange County to Atlanta, Georgia on April 5th. He will begin his hike on April 6th from Amicalola Falls State Park. The hike will take him through 14 states until he ends his journey in Maine. More on his progress next month!
MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS: In Sorrow and In Joy!

We can't imagine how Mary, the mother of Jesus, felt when the body of Jesus was taken down from the cross and placed in her lap. He was dead. His body was limp, bruised, punctured and pierced bloody. Mary was about fifteen when she gave birth to Him and she was about forty-six when He was crucified. Her Son was dead. She was devastated. She loved Him so much. He was the perfect son and she was the perfect mother for Him. Because of her grief at that time, one of the titles we often use for Mary is “Mother of Sorrows.”

She knew her Son was special from the beginning of His life, but she may or may not have known during His life that He was God. “Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.” (Lk 1:35) The words “Son of God” could have meant many things to Mary. Simply put, they could have meant that all people are children of God in the broad sense. However, Mary knew her Son did have special powers. Because of her request, He changed water into wine. Jesus performed many more miracles throughout His life. He gave sight to the blind; multiplied loaves and fishes to feed thousands; healed many, many sick people; and exorcised many demons. He taught people about what true love means for God and for human beings. People were attracted to Him. They pursued Him constantly. He had a magnetic personality. People just loved Him! Mary witnessed many of these miracles and she treasured the memories in her heart.

The Pharisees, out of jealousy, plotted against Jesus. Then, Pontius Pilot arrested Him and had Him tortured, and the soldiers nailed Him to a cross. Eventually, after prolonged agony, “He gave out a loud cry” and died. His mother, Mary, witnessed this as she stood at the foot of the cross accompanied by the apostle, John. “Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and John...” (Jn. 19:25) What anguish Mary must have felt to see her son die such a horrifying and ignominious death!

Simeon had declared to Mary, “And you yourself a sword will pierce.” We can only imagine the grief Mary felt to witness what happened to her son. What about Simeon’s prediction? “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted.” (Lk. 2:35) What could this mean? We can only guess what went on in the heart and mind of Our Blessed Mother at this time in her life.

After Jesus died and was buried, Mary, the apostles, and disciples were in so much grief that they didn’t know what to do. They did not know that Jesus was going to be tortured and killed like a common criminal. Without their “Mater,” they now felt lost. They were scared. They huddled together in the upper room in fear that they too would be arrested and possibly be executed. These were difficult times. They were like sheep without a shepherd.

Little did they know what was about to happen. “On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalen came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.” (Jn. 1:1) The tomb was empty. Jesus was gone. Mary Magdalen first thought was that someone took Jesus’ body away. A man was there, and Mary questioned him, “Where did you put him?” The man an-

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director

Important Notice

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

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. Not all photos are able to be used due to possible limitations in space. Prioritize photos if possible. To insure photos are always linked to branch, include branch number when naming photos such as:
Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg

Include photo captions with your article submission.

Please keep your submission positive and informative.

May issue deadline is April 10, 2021.

Deadlines fall on the tenth of the month except for the combined August/September issue

Thank you!

Laurice Levine
Continued from Page 1

- Donate blood at your local blood bank in honor of thalassaemia (direct donation to a thalassaemia patient is NOT possible – but we always need blood in the supply chain).
- Call a thalassaemia patient and encourage them to keep on truckin’. Chronic illness is tedious and isolating. Knowing others care is lifesaving and with a chronic condition the need for encouragement is ongoing.
- Donate to the ICF Cooley’s Anemia Fund.
- Invite a speaker to ZOOM with your branch to educate your members on your National Charity.
- Be grateful you are part of an organization, the ICF, that is so dedicated to philanthropy and is changing and saving lives for those with thalassaemia and beyond. YOU do great work every day. We are so grateful!

For more information on thalassaemia or questions please contact:

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Thalassaemia Patient 360-860-2023
L.Levine436@aol.com
Heritage All Around Us
Nancy Corsi
Heritage Chairperson

Buona Pasqua,

Hoping everyone is staying healthy, well and engaged with family and friends. Though we cannot be together we can still be connecting.

When I think of our Heritage and what it means, it provides me such comfort. Thoughts and wonderful memories make us who we are and who we have become over the years. One of the beautiful components of the ICF is really getting to know our “other” family. I have been a member of the ICF for 47 years. I guess you could say I grew up in the ICF, met my husband (member of ICF), we had our family and now our grandchildren. All because of my Heritage.

Keeping in touch with our family members is so important even in these challenging times. Just a quick check in over a cup of coffee is so appreciated and truly a part of who we are.

Heritage translates as something transmitted or acquired from a predecessor, tradition, customs or the traditions, achievements, and beliefs that are part of the history of a group or nation. Many of our members have varied heritages. This makes it exciting to learn about each other and what makes our heritages. This makes it exciting to learn about each other and what makes our heritages. This makes it exciting to learn about each other and what makes our heritages. This makes it exciting to learn about each other and what makes our heritages. This makes it exciting to learn about each other and what makes our heritages.

As I think about connections, I urge each and every branch to reach out to your members, check in and see how they are. We are all more isolated now and the connections are of vital importance. Be creative when you can. I hate Zoom meetings…used to think they were fun but no more and especially because not everyone is technologically connected.

But the phone, now we all get that concept, and now more than ever it has become more important. Celebrate what you can. We have a branch in Central Coast District that had an outdoor rosary at its parish to honor ICF members. The rosary included the priest and some taped music. It was such a wonderful, appropriately distanced event, and really meant so much for those that attended.

The branch heritage chairperson shared this event update with me.

Please feel free to reach out to me or other members of the Heritage Committee: Andy Pappani or Russ and Louise Vento to share ideas to help keep all of us engaged with our family connections.

Nancy Corsi
Heritage Chairperson

Mother Cabrini Shrine
Carmelo Sabatella, LA Archdiocese District

ICF will be working with Saint Francis Xavier Church in 2021 for a Novena to Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini from November 1, 2021 and ending on Her Feast Day November 13, 2021 with a Mass and Pilgrimage.

In 2021 please include the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank in your pilgrimage of Mother Cabrini Shrines in New York, Chicago, Colorado and New Orleans. Pray to Mother Cabrini for strength and guidance and pray for special intentions.

In 2021, the Cabrini Chapel and Library Open Houses will be scheduled by appointment only and allow limited visits as allowed by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Learn more about one of the ICF’s Patroness Saints and the Catholic Church’s first American Saint.

For more information regarding the above or to make a donation to help the Chapel, please call 626 372-7812 or visit the Mother Cabrini Shrine at www.icf.org. Online Gift shop open and includes Mother Cabrini book markers, Mugs, Candles and Mass Cards available for purchase via donation(s).

Thank you for your continued support! Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, President ICF LAADCC Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee: cas1810@aol.com C 626-372-7812

Welcome to New Members (Report as of March 9, 2021)

Kenneth Dorrance Branch 010 Mia Ebert Branch 045
Peggie Dorrance Branch 010 Beth Pascalli Hirsh Branch 135
Rev Joel Jores Branch 010 Hailey E Hirsh Branch 135
Rev Joseph Athiyil Branch 010 Hannah E Hirsh Branch 135
Danilo R Arboly Branch 019 Kevin J Hirsh Branch 135
Josie Pappas Branch 021 Antonia M Ruggeri Branch 246
Robby Pappas Branch 021 Francesco N Ruggeri Branch 246
Jerilyn Brucato Albert Branch 036 Blair A Akey Branch 352
Joe A Amelio Branch 036 Lynn Hoffman Branch 395
Jeanette Favaloro Branch 036

Membership Reflections
Perry Shurko
Membership Chairperson

Hello and Happy Springtime.

I’d like to begin by offering, on behalf of the Membership Committee, a very Happy and Blessed Easter to everyone.

With spring now here, I hope the time is now to look forward and not backward.

Things are looking more positive each day with more vaccines out there and the easing of restrictions. We too must be positive and focus on the future of the ICF.

It’s up to each and every one of us to do our part to let our parishes know that the ICF is still around and we’re ready to get back to work.

The Membership Committee has been meeting by Zoom regularly trying to come up with new ideas and ways that we, as an organization, can spread the word about the ICF. We are also looking into the possibility of podcasts to advertise who we are. From the branch and district levels, we need to continue to put articles in our parish bulletins and talk to our pastors, and parish leadership about the fact that the ICF is there for their benefit and we haven’t drifted away. It’s also time to get hold of those members who have dropped due to the fact that Covid-19 prevented us from gathering, and let them know that they are still welcomed back into the flock. I would like to welcome our newest member of Branch 67 -- our National Branch -- Eugene Salandra who is from New Jersey and was a Benedictine monk for 2 years. He discovered us from attending the Religious Education Congress in 2019. He currently lives in West Hollywood and works for Disney as an artist. He told Carmelo Sabatella, “I am happy to be involved in the good work of the wider ICF community.”

Welcome, Eugene, and I look forward to meeting you soon at an LA district event or meeting. Let’s all follow Eugene’s advice and work for the wider ICF community.

Have a great month. Stay safe.

Perry Shurko
Membership Chairperson

Grand President Piro

Continued from Page 1

5. Hold informational meetings about the ICF and your branch in your parish for those who might be interested in joining.

6. If you know of a parish that seems like a good fit for the ICF, contact Mike Rossi or the ICF office. The Expansion Committee is beginning to contact parishes to start new branches.

As we come out of pandemic life and the isolation it has caused, many people are looking for groups like the ICF to re-establish human contact.

Your welcoming branch has much to offer.

I know some members have begun to ask about this year’s convention. At this time, the Central Council is working with the hotel to explore various options, No decision has been made yet. There are just too many unknowns still.

We will have an update for everyone by late spring. I thank you for your patience.

Vince
**Family Recipes**

Deborah Rodondi  
Grand 1st Vice President

Hope you are continuing to stay safe and healthy. I know that with everyone staying at home for longer periods of time, so many of you have embraced baking. This was obvious at the beginning of the pandemic, when it was not always easy to find the basics for baking in the grocery stores. Here is a great shortbread cookie recipe. Simple to make and delicious to eat! This recipe also came from the cookie exchange I was part of during the holidays with co-workers.

---

**Alice’s Shortbread Cookies**

1 cup butter  
½ cup brown sugar  
2 Tbs. white sugar  
1 egg, separated  
2 cups sifted flour  
2 tsp. vanilla

Cream butter. Add white sugar then brown sugar, mix well. Beat in egg yolk, add one cup of flour at a time and then flavoring.

Roll into small balls and place on cookie sheet.  
Press down with a fork that has been dipped in slightly beaten egg white.  
Put a walnut or pecan quarter or half on each cookie.  
Bake in 375 degree oven for 10 – 12 minutes.

Be safe and call friends—it can be lonely sheltering in place. Hard to believe we have been sheltering in place for 1 year. The good news is that things are starting to open up—hopefully soon we will be able to resume in person meetings and gatherings. 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!*  

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**Gifts of Love Program Next Review of Applications Occurs in June**

Teresa Helfand, Committee Chairperson

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
We are wishing everyone the Peace and Joy of Easter and we would like to select recipients for our Gifts of Love Awards.

Our next meeting to review applications will be held in June.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Gifts of Love program, we have a fund from which we make awards to individuals with disabilities or agencies that assist individuals with disabilities. We do this throughout the year, in order to provide funds to individuals with disabilities to help lead fuller, more independent lives, and to find greater inclusion within their communities. We also work with providing assistance to agencies whose goal is to do the same for their clients. We know these are difficult financial times, but we encourage our Branches, Districts and Individual Members to continue to contribute to the fund in any amount. With your help, we can continue the important work of this very vital program.

At this time, we would like to request applications from disabled individuals that may require special or specific aids or “tools” in order to complete their education, training or assist them in their daily lives.

In order to generate applications, the Gifts of Love Committee is asking all Branch Presidents to mention the program at their next meeting and also to publish a request for applications in their respective Church and/or School Bulletins if possible. The application form is available on the ICF Web site (www.icf.org). Applications should either be mailed to the ICF Office at 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621 or e-mailed to the ICF Office at info@icf.org.

Applications are evaluated on a regular basis by the ICF Gifts of Love Committee which decides who receives the awards and the amounts. We have a great committee this year and we look forward to helping those in need! If you would like more information about the Gifts of Love program, please contact Committee Chairwoman Teresa Helfand at davia902005@live.com.

*God Bless You,  
Teresa Helfand*

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**Scholarship Donations**

**Received as of March 9, 2021:**

**SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS**

**1ST YEAR**

- Laurice, Matthew and Ben Levine  
  In memory of Theresa Dianda  
  Judy and Sam Bozzo  
  In memory of Anita Zanardi  
  Irene Sarubbi

- In memory of Theresa Dianda  
  Irene Sarubbi

- In memory of Rich Graham  
  The Guintoli Family  
  Mr. and Mrs. John Cardinalli

- In memory of Eleanor Simi  
  Mr. and Mrs. John Cardinalli  
  In memory of Liz Carrano  
  Mr. and Mrs. John Cardinelli  
  In memory of Phyllis Boccoleri

- ***A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by JoAnn Maggiora-Donivan of Maggiora Jewelry from the proceeds of a sale of the ICF tie tack offered by the store.***

- *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.*
In many dioceses, when a month has five Sundays, the fifth Sunday’s collection is designated for the St. Vincent De Paul Society. Most of us make a donation and know that it goes for a good cause. But, who was St. Vincent and what did he do to make him so prominent? Why is he so special a part of our Apostolate/Charity work? St. Vincent was born into a poor peasant family in Puoy, France, in 1581. Being educated by the Franciscans in his early years, he continued formal studies at the University of Toulouse where he studied Theology. He was ordained in 1600 and, later, went to Rome to continue his studies. After, he became pastor of a small parish in France. Observing the condition of the poor and down trodden, he started to provide relief to the poor, establish hospitals, and minister to convicts. He founded the Daughters of Charity to help him in his work as well as a religious institute of priests, known as the Vincentians. St. Vincent helped reform the clergy in France who needed special training and preparation for their vocation. He spent his life helping the poor and trying to better their lives. He died in 1660 in Paris and was canonized in 1737 by Pope Clement XIII. His feast day is Sept. 27.

The St. Vincent De Paul Society was founded in 1833 as a worldwide organization dedicated to serving people in need. Vincentians respond to their community needs offering help during disasters, maintaining food pantries, medical services and many other programs which help people journey out of poverty and improve their lives.

Remember the Society on that fifth Sunday.

Carmen Kilcullen
Committee member

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### March Calendar Winners

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<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>BR</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>WINS</th>
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<td>Diana Berry</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Gilroy, CA</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cookie Maricich</td>
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<td>Crockett, CA</td>
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<td>Merced, CA</td>
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<td>Toni Reeder</td>
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<td>San Jose, CA</td>
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<td>Carmelo Sabatella</td>
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<td>Chula Vista, CA</td>
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<td>Kathryn Acquistapace</td>
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<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/31</td>
<td>Robert Hohman</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>San Pedro, CA</td>
<td>$30</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### In Loving Memory (Report as of March 9, 2021)

- Marie Mahaffey - Branch 010
- Norene J Thurman - Branch 019
- Idia Mungai - Branch 021
- Pamela J De Rose - Branch 025
- Millie Puma - Branch 032
- Peter F Dentice - Branch 036
- Edna Clemenin - Branch 039
- Audrey Ferrari - Branch 135
- Anna Ghirarduzzi - Branch 161
- Peter B Shores - Branch 379
- Anthony J La Pres - Branch 391
- Carmelo Martorana - Branch 392
- Vincenza Martorana - Branch 392
- Velma Lindholm - Branch 408

### Gifts of Love Donations

Referred as of March 10, 2021:

- Officers/Members of Br. 1
  - In memory of Maria Chetcuti
  - Mary and Cynthia Zamboukos
  - In memory of Truant Varellas
  - Bob and Elaine Osoiri
  - In honor of the 65th wedding anniversary of Mike and Lorraine Nunziata
- Laurice, Matthew and Ben Levine
- In memory of Eleanora Bertolli
- John and Kris Kaiski
- In memory of Eva Masciotta
- JoAnn Schiro
- In memory of Anthony J. La Pres
- Roy and Barbara Riccetti
- In memory of Anita Vanni Zanardi
- Donna Rossi
- In memory of Tony La Pres
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
- In memory of Clara Cala
- Officers/Members of Br. 403
- In memory of Inez Oldini
- John and Dorene Campanile
- In memory of Robert Fanucchi
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
- Get well wishes for Paul Butler
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
- Get well wishes for Janet Glauke

---

### The Wonder of it all. LIFE LINE

By Msgr. Cardelli

*Miracle is birth. Birth is miracle.*

---

*When was the last time you had a chance to save a life? The simple act of donating blood gives you this opportunity.*

---

*For all the blood donors out there – thank you for giving the gift of life.*
**Branch Reports**

**SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT**

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

Dear Members:

Still no activity due to COVID-19. Hope things get back to normal soon. Happy Easter to all Branch 1 Members and their Families! Stay healthy!

Ciao!
Toni Morsello

San Francisco
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Buona Pasqua to all of our members and their families. We hope the Easter Bunny is good to all of you.

For those members celebrating a birthday in April - many more years of Much Happiness and Good Health.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

We are still praying and hoping that soon we can start our meetings.

We miss all of you and love you.

Please stay well!

Ciao,
Eva Perata, President

**SAN MATEO**

Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

It has been a year this month when we held our last dinner for our annual St. Joseph’s table. We won’t be celebrating the same way this year but will keep this month as special to honor St. Patrick on March 17th and St. Joseph on March 19th. With more people getting vaccinated, hopefully, we can regain some normalcy within the next few months.

Our next meeting will be via Zoom on our regular Thursday monthly meeting date of March 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

We continue to receive monthly donations from members and can be hard to do for some but any contribution is greatly appreciated. Also, along with this month's Branch newsletter we received a book of Convention raffle tickets. Each book is $20 and the Branch keeps $10 for every book we sell. Checks should be made out to ICF Branch 173, Attn: Dorene Campanile

1629 Howard Avenue, Burlingame, CA, 94010 and needed by July 1, 2021

At our last Zoom meeting it was voted to give $200.00 to the 1st Year Scholarship Fund.

We are all looking forward to having regular person to person meetings sometime this year but until then, please remember our members that need our prayers: Mary Bodisco, Anita Cecena, Elena Malta and Lorraine Rollandi along with any members with special intentions.

God Bless,
Roz Emery

**LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE**

Millbrae
St. Dunstan, Br. 403

Easter greetings! I am sure looking forward to sharing meals with members again in the near future. Please enjoy this special time with safety in mind. Our branch president, Paul Larson, passes along his hopes that the virus will fade into the background, given the advent of the effective vaccines being distributed throughout our nation and the world. He adds that we have now grown accustomed to the safety precautions, including masks and ZOOM meetings and that we should continue our vigilance for a while longer. He also wishes all members, your family and loved ones “two-thousand-and-twenty-one Easter Blessings”.

We are starting to distribute the raffle tickets to our members. This is an excellent fundraiser and I hope we get a high level of participation.

Adonna Amoroso
Acting Correspondence Secretary

**MARIN**

Larkspur
St. James, Br. 161

Hope you are all getting your COVID vaccine. We hope this virus will be settling down soon so that we can meet again.

Our officers for the coming year are:

President – Marlene Farber
1st Vice President – Phyllis Rybensky
2nd Vice President – Diane Hollister
Recording & Corresponding Secretary – Anna Biggio
Financial Secretary – Marlene Farber
Treasurer – Anthony Pignati
Orator – Margaret DeRango
Trustees – JoAnne Callaghan, Darcy Fitzsimmons
Sentinel – Diane Hollister

Please pray for the family of Anna Ghiroarduzzi who recently passed away.

Since we will not be meeting until further notice, please continue to pray for our sick members and hope that everyone will be back to good health real soon.

Please don’t forget to wear your mask, please sanitize your hands frequently and please maintain proper distancing.

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

Anna Biggio
Recording Secretary

**Los Angeles**

St. Peter, Br. 67

On February 27, National Branch 67 had its 1st virtual Zoom Meeting with Officers and members for 2021. During the meeting, President Sabatella introduced our newest member Eugene Salandra. He is a second/third generation Italian/American from New Jersey who joined NBr67 after visiting the ICF Booth at the 2019 Religious Education Conference in Anaheim. Eugene worked at Disney nine years then became a Benedictine Monk for two years at Valyermo before returning to “Disney during the novitiate— mostly and I concern for my mother back East, being an only child.” Eugene lives in West Hollywood and works for Disney. He is “interested in cultivating a greater connection with the wider Italian community here in Los Angeles.” He has graciously offered his artistic support as we develop our ICF Social Media Platform for NBr67 and is “Happy to be involved in the good work of the wider ICF community.”

If you know someone interested in joining the ICF National Branch 67, please have them go to ICFNationalBranch67.org to sign up. As a virtual branch, we reach out to those lacking an ICF in their area. Your input is welcome as we continue to develop this branch.

Covid-19 is a challenge and an opportunity to understand what is important in each of our lives. ICF may be just the place as we are multi-cultural-focused on Faith, Family, Fellowship and Food.

Our prayers go to all members, families and friends, with a big Thank You to first responders who continue to help those suffering.

Please pray for the speedy resolution of this crisis and keep our sick members in your prayers. To our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward, may they rest in peace.

Keep safe and Stay healthy,
Carmelo Sabatella, AJA, President
ICF National Branch 67
C 626 372-7812
E Cas1810@aol.com

**St. Peter, Br. 67**

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Keep safe and Stay healthy,
Carmelo Sabatella, AJA, President
ICF National Branch 67
C 626 372-7812
E Cas1810@aol.com
South Pasadena
Holy Family, Br. 108

Branch 108 hopes members enjoy Easter with their families this year in person or via Zoom. We pray to be out of this pandemic in the near future. In the meantime, we move forward with our families, parishioners, and community members in the spirit of working together for the greater good. An ICF Member recently reminded me that Padre Pio must have believed in keeping a positive attitude when he said we should “Pray, Hope and Don’t Worry.”

On Sunday, March 7th, 22 members joined our general meeting for our March General (Zoom) Meeting. After ICF business, members celebrated their birthdays for January, February and March: Joe Mantel, Agnes Centurioni Daws, Jackie Ficht, Michele Silveri, Margie Dil saver, Arianna Sabatella, Patrick Grimaud, Paola Fratino, Mark Kern, Julia Marchese, Tom Haubrick, John Lombardy, and Michael McCully; and the wedding anniversaries for February and March that included: Pat and Richard Avila (53 yrs) and Gina and Gerard Edgar (1 yr).

Following the meeting, members enjoyed several games of virtual Bingo. Congratulations to Carmelo and Linda Sabatella, Joan Brascia, and Karla Haynes winners of Sunday’s Zoom Bingo Games with Prizes that celebrated Saint Patrick’s Day.

We will continue meeting virtually to discuss and encourage participation and donations to help our various charities as we have done over the years. Want to join? Call or email us at the number(s) below.

Our prayers go to all members, families and friends, with a big Thank You to first responders who continue to help those suffering.

Please pray for the speedy resolution of this crisis and keep our sick members in your prayers. To our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward, may they rest in peace.

Keep safe and stay healthy,
Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, Past President
ICF Branch 108
C 626 372-7812
E cas1810@aol.com

Montebello
St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our April General Meeting will be a Zoom meeting scheduled on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Look for our April Branch 111 Newsletter with all the details about joining us at our Zoom Meeting.

We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of April: Peter Revilla, Henry Herrera, Frances Canzonieri, Rosemarie Melendez, Nancy Dolci, and Emma Aquino. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Please continue to stay safe and healthy. We wish all our ICF members and their families continued good health and happiness and we look forward to seeing all of you once we have the green light to gather again in person and socializing, having out great meetings and potlucks.

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Ciao! A presto.
Frank Salomone

Montebello
St. Benedict, Br. 111

Since we were not able to have our St. Joseph Table last month, this month we will share a few pictures from our last St. Joseph’s Table so that we can remember the good times and look forward to our next St. Joseph’s Table.

Please continue to stay safe and healthy. We wish all our ICF members and their families continued good health and happiness and we look forward to seeing all of you once we have the green light to gather again in person and socializing, having out great meetings and potlucks.

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Ciao! A presto.
Frank Salomone
San Pedro
St John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Due to the ongoing pandemic no branch events are currently scheduled. Hopefully soon as we await the safety of a vaccinated population we can return to a new normal.

Thank you to all who have renewed their membership for 2021. Soon we will be back doing the good works of our branch. We are still accepting dues payment. Please mail dues to Nancy Donato 1718 Miracosta St San Pedro 90732.

While many of our members have kept busy gardening, baking or cooking Frank Colonna 2nd VP has been painting. His daughter states he has been painting for a while, since his shoe repair days. Check out his beautiful Last Supper picture! So appropriate for this Easter season.

Also check out member Carmela Funicello’s YouTube Italian Culture with Carmela. She has posted videos from canning tomatoes to improving our Italian vocabulary. Thank you Carmela!

Congratulations to President Neil DiLeva on his recent calendar winnings! Our sincere condolences go out to the family of Nunzia DiOnato. Nancy became a member in 1996. May she rest in peace.

Blessed Easter Season to all
Anita Trujillo Treasurer

Arcadia
Holy Angels, Br. 218

Hello to all members – Hope everyone had a nice Easter.

The board had a meeting last month and discussed our upcoming clothing drive. This will occur on May 8th and is a very appropriate for this Easter season. We will keep you updated in the May Bollettino.

John Zagononi, Branch 10 publicity

Claremont
Our Lady of the Assumption, Br. 319

Happy Easter to you all.

This is the 2nd year that we are under pandemic restrictions. I did attend church service this year outside. It was refreshing to see some old face again.

To review. We had our St Joseph table outside this year. It was a drive by, drop off food and/or cash donation. Since all the masses were outside, parishioners could just drive thru an give their donation or leave them at the church office. It went well. I think this is the year of St Joseph we could possibly do it again later this year.

The food was given to charity and some was donated to a neighboring church’s food bank.

The money was donated to St Vincent de Paul and other charities.

We will start to have some virtual meetings this year until we are able together again.

Stay well and safe
Andrea Linn
President

Downey
St. Raymond, Br. 362

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Jesus Christ is Risen today. Happy Easter to all.

What a difference a year makes. Last year we were shut down for Easter. We had to stay home and watch mass on TV. At least we are able to attend mass in person this year and celebrate with our families.

With all of the vaccines out there, there’s light at the end of the tunnel.

Last month we had a small St. Joseph table and we received many compliments on it and the money that was donated went to support our St. Raymond 8th grade scholarships.

We don’t have any news yet on future gatherings but we’re crossing our fingers that it will be soon. Just stay safe and healthy and pray that we will meet in person again soon.

God Bless.

Perry Shurko, Branch President.

Thousand Oaks
St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

The board of Branch 380 continues to meet monthly through Zoom and to support our members during this pandemic. We hope everyone had a wonderful St. Patrick’s Day and St. Joseph’s Day.

Since we were not able to have our annual St. Joseph’s Day celebration in person, we are working on alternative ideas, including a possible pasta dinner with drive up service later in the year.

All of our members who are ill remain in our prayers, and we pray for God’s continued protection of all our members and their families. May you all be richly blessed this Easter season as we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Oakland East Bay District

We are almost half way through Lent, but it seems like Lent has been here for a year since we have just passed the one year anniversary of our first lock down. With an answer to our prayers, the vaccine, now available, we can look forward to celebrating Easter in church.

Alleluia!

Meanwhile the branches have been hard at work finding ways to raise money to carry on their projects and supporting ICF activities. The teaming with a restaurant on take-out meals has been productive and Bingo, online, seems to be very popular.

The District has been able to donate a first year scholarship and with some solid financing we hope to be able to sponsor more this year.

May we all have a Blessed and Happy Easter.

Pat Grasso,
District Sec.

Alameda
N.S. Delle Grazie, Br. 10

We are saddened to announce the death on February 20 of Julie Kennedy, who served as our president in 2001 and 2002. Julie held other positions in Branch 10 and also worked in the ICF office in Oakland. Julie was 77 and had belonged to Branch 10 almost 40 years.

At our meeting of March 4 we voted to award Dave Rose Memorial Scholarships to four graduates of the two grammar schools located in Alameda, Saint Joseph Elementary and Saint Philip Neri. The scholarships are in the amount $500.00 apiece and are presented to eighth-graders who will enter a Catholic high school In August. We also voted to contribute $400.00 to the East Bay District’s college scholarship, which is presented to a high school graduate whose family is active in the ICF.

Our annual Ravioli Dinner remains on our calendar for October 16. Member Ben Ratto has again agreed to serve as chef. We are also hoping to schedule an event commemorating our 95th anniversary as a branch, which occurs on May 23. We also hope to hold our annual summer barbecue.

Deadline for May Issue is April 10th.
Send articles and photos: editor@icf.org

Blessed Easter Season to all
Anita Trujillo Treasurer

Fremont
St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

Happy April!

I hope your Lenten journey has been blessed and fruitful. Have a wonderful and blessed Easter!

Thank you to our wonderful branch chaplain, Father Luis Lopez, for joining us and praying with us at our March zoom meeting. Father Luis has been doing an incredible job keeping things working at Corpus Christi Parish despite Covid-19.

Our super ICF mentor, Dave Madej, joined us at our March meeting as well. He had some good information and encouragement for all of us as we move forward with brighter days ahead.

Our branch is working to hold another restaurant fundraiser, this time at the delicious Strizzi’s Italian restaurant in Fremont! The event will be in May and as we get closer, more information will be available.

Please join us for our Branch 215 Bingo Party on Saturday, October 9th. We will be sending out more information in the coming months. This event will most likely be on Zoom. As many of you have discovered, Zoom is very easy to use and this event will be a lot of fun!

Dio ti benedica,
James Francis McGee
Vice President
CONTRA COSTA District Council

Happy Spring to all! We hope all our members are doing well and are looking forward to a hopeful spring and summer. Now that the Covid vaccine has become available, we hope we will be able to meet safely with each other in person again soon!

Our next district meeting is planned for late April and all branches will be given details by email. We are still in need of a Second Vice President and an Apostolic Chairperson for the district who would be responsible for seeing that the apostolic reports from our eight branches are sent to the ICF office by the annual deadline. If you can help by volunteering for either of these positions please contact our district president, Patty Jarrett at jandp1976@aol.com.

Blessings to all for a most joyful celebration of Easter!

Diana Mackinson,
CC District First Vice President

Martinez
San Martin, Br. 13

Ready yourself to experience His resurrection with an open heart. Easter is upon us! Let us be banded together as one; let us extend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints; let us pray with fervor; let us live in holiness; let us evangelize steadily by our examples and with fire in our souls; and, let us live so that we may leave His grace in the hearts of others.

Members of Branch #13 wish all those in the Federation a blessed and renewed Easter season. Alleluia.

Ciao for now,
Mary Cook

Crockett
San Carlo, Br. 14

Ciao Amici,
Springtime is here! In our little community, we are treated to vibrant green hills, sprinkles of wildflowers, and fragrant trees filled with blossoms. We look forward to celebrating Easter with our family and friends, and watching the kids revel in the annual Easter egg hunts. It’s a time of rebirth and renewal for us all.

It’s a time for renewal of our branch as well. Our good work has not stopped during these difficult times, and we are continuing to make plans as we move forward. In addition to our traditional functions and fundraisers, we’re exploring ideas on how we can improve our branch for our members and the community.

If you haven’t already done so, please be sure to pay your 2021 dues. We have a few stragglers, but there’s still time to catch up! Dues are $40 per adult member, and you can send a check to Roni Jimenez at 1990 Vista Del Rio St, Crockett, CA 94525, or give her a ring at (510) 787-2589 for any dues-related questions.

We have several ICF friends who are not feeling so well lately; Louise Choquette, Cloe Haisley, Dennis Hoffmann, Rhonda McIntyre, and Laurie Taylor. Please know that we’re sending positive thoughts and prayers your way (and let us know how we can help while you heal).

We miss you all, and hope that you are enjoying the beginning of Spring.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter and Buona Pasqua!

Blessings,
Helen

Pittsburg
San Domenico, Br. 72

Dear Branch 72 Members, Hope this finds all of you well. Spring is here. A time when we have had many grand events. Our Saint Joseph day celebration was our first one. Who remembers when Eleanor would tell Denny to dress as Saint Joseph? We still have the costumes of the holy family. Who remembers the annual Queen and King at our June meetings when we would celebrate. both Mother and Father’s day? The list goes on and on of our spring events. We have a lot to look forward to and much catching up to do. Since vaccines are out we will be protected. We will be able to get back to normalcy. It is just a matter of time. We should pray that a new vaccine will be available that protects against the new variants Their is already one out that has protection for those.

We are well represented at District meetings. We might be able to have a celebration for Bishops day this year. Stay tuned for updates about that and about other events.

Our Conference call phone meeting scheduled for March 24 is postponed. The new meeting date will be sent in our newsletter. In the meantime; keep in touch by phone and or email.

That is all for this time. Happy Easter to all of you and your families.

As we say in Pittsburg, Sempere Avanti.

Your President and friend, Patty

Concord
Todos Santos, Br. 214

Ciao Members,
I hope this month’s Bollettino finds you all healthy and vaccinated.

It looks like things are changing for the better. Pretty soon we will be able to eat indoors !! yay. I hope you all had success with scheduling your appointments in getting the vaccine and didn’t experience any side effects.

This will enable us to possibly resume our meetings in the near future. Roberta will maybe set up Zoom meetings soon.

Congratulations to our two members who won in the daily calendar drawings. Sue Giorgetti won $30 and Allison McGuirk won twice, $60.

The national convention will be held this year on Labor Day weekend. We will all help with expenses by buying a book of 12 raffle tickets which are $20 a book. Please send a check made out to the Italian Catholic Federation with your address labels and Roberta will fill them out and send the bottom portion back to you.

First prize is $2500 and many more money prizes.

By the time you receive this newsletter, you will have already celebrated St. Patrick’s Day. I hope you enjoyed your corned beef and cabbage and green beer.

Please take time to count your blessings this Easter when celebrating with family and friends. This virus is on its way out.

Bless you all
Stay healthy
Norene Deluca

Danville
St. Isidore, Br. 352

We missed our annual March St. Patrick’s Day celebration, with the special corned beef & cabbage dinner normally whipped up by Chef Angelo, but are definitely looking forward to the day when we can all dine together again!

Who knew that 15 days to ‘slow the spread’ would last over a year? Hopefully, our next in-person meeting is on the horizon. As soon as the county guidelines permit, and the parish opens their facilities, we will be back in action! Be ready to invite your family & friends to join us!

If you have changed your email address, please let us know; we’re been trying to keep everyone informed, via email. Sadly, we reported that two of our members have recently passed to their eternal rest. Marilyn Pierson, who always had a ‘smile for all’ at our dinners, and Cleve Beck, our long-time bartender & volunteer extraordinary, had both been in failing health. Please remember them & their families in your prayers. They will be missed by all.

As Lent draws to an end, we look forward to the celebration of Easter and the new beginning that it represents. Wishing all of you the peace of the Easter season and continued good health. Stay well!

Ciao,
Branch 352

Livermore
St. Filomena, Br. 285

Buona Pasqua a tutti! We hope that everyone had a Holy Triduum and a Joyous Easter Day, and will have a wonderful Easter Season.

At our March meeting on St. Joseph’s Day, we had a Zoom meeting. Our special guest, Father Filiberto, our Chaplain, gave an interesting talk on St. Joseph and Lent. We also collected nonperishable goods for our St. Joseph’s Table and donated them to the St. Vincent de Paul pantry at St. Michael’s Church.

Since we have not been able to fundraise, due to the pandemic, our wonderful membership came through with donations to contribute funds for two First Year Scholarships from our Branch! We are so fortunate to have such thoughtful and generous members! We thank them so much and are so appreciative!

Our meeting via Zoom this month, or in May, will feature a guest speaker, Mr. Phil LaScola, who will give a program on the life and music of Frank Sinatra.

We are also planning to participate in the Livermore Crosswinds Church and St. Michael Parish Tiny Home Project. This project furnishes small homes for the homeless on Crosswinds property. These homes also will include facilities for vocational help, mental care, and health care. We will hopefully participate at lease financially and then maybe in other areas.

In the coming months we are working on a fundraiser at a local restaurant. Even with Covid restrictions, we are still keeping quite busy. Hope all are getting vaccinated.

God Bless you all! Ciao.

Carolina (2nd VP)

Castro Valley
Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

As we move from Lent to Easter, let us all say a prayer of thanksgiving, that with the use of the vaccine, we will be able to return to the church for Holy Week activities and Mass.

We are still waiting to return to our monthly dinners and meetings.

Thanks to some generous members we have been able to keep some money in our coffers and we are able to sponsor a 1st year scholarship. We are still looking for ways to raise money to continue these efforts.

May this be a Blessed and Happy Easter for all.

Pat Grasso,
Branch Sec.
Blood and Cooley’s Anemia

Live to Give Committee

People with Cooley’s Anemia require blood transfusions every 2-4 weeks to survive. In one year, a person with Thalassemia needs approximately 36-48 units of blood.

One of those lifesaving units could be yours...

May 8th is International Thalassemia Day and throughout the month of May the thalassemia community increases their efforts to raise awareness, get tested for trait, and give blood. It is also a time to reflect on lives lost to thalassemia and also celebrate the advances that have been made over the years to increase life expectancy.

Please donate blood in honor of International Thalassemia Day! For more information contact your local blood bank, or:

Laurice Levine, Medical Consultant/Live to Give Committee Member
LLevine430@aol.com

EASTER SAYINGS IN EVERYDAY ITALIAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Italian</th>
<th>How It’s pronounced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Happy Easter!</td>
<td>Buona Pasqua!</td>
<td>Boo-ona Pas-Kwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>Domenica delle palme</td>
<td>Dom-en-eeca deh-lay pa-may</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday (Holy Friday)</td>
<td>Venerdì Santo</td>
<td>Ven-er-dee San-toe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>La Pasqua</td>
<td>La Pas-qua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Monday (Little Easter or lamb’s Monday)</td>
<td>Pasqueta or Lunedi dell’Agnello</td>
<td>Pak-kway-ta or Loon-ay-dee dell anyellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lent</td>
<td>La Quaresima</td>
<td>La Kwar-ay-see-ma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter cake</td>
<td>La Colomba</td>
<td>La Col-om-ba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter bunny</td>
<td>Il coniglietto pasquale</td>
<td>Eel coneel-yeto pas-kwal-ay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best wishes for Easter</td>
<td>Auguri di Buona Pasqua</td>
<td>Ow-goo-ree dee boo-ona Pas-kwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wish you and your family a very happy time at Easter (informal)</td>
<td>Mi auguro che tu e la tua famiglia abbia trascorso una Buona Pasqua</td>
<td>Mee ow-goo-row kay too ay la too-a fam-ee-ly ah-ee-atay tras-cor-sow oona boo-ona Pas-kwa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://www.explore-italian-culture.com/easter-sayings.html
Bolletino

June.

More details to come in the next.

Our branch will be having another

Thank you for your support.

MaryAnn Mikles at 916-759-8466 and

some tickets, please call president

branch sold. If you would like to buy

ones that will win you lots of money).

Happy Easter. May you have a day filled

342 would like to wish their fellow

branch and we hope you will be able to

finals arrived at some semblance of

normalcy. I wish you all a happy and

holy Easter and pray that we can see

our branch members soon.

Santa Pasqua a tutti!!

Marilyn Sylvestri, Recording Secretary

BLESSED

SACRAMENT

DISTRICT

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

First of all, the members of Branch 342 would like to wish their fellow ICF members and their families a very Happy Easter. May you have a day filled with love and many treats.

We have convention raffle tickets for sale. This is an easy fundraiser for our branch and we hope you will be able to support us. For $20, you will receive 12 raffle tickets (hopefully the lucky ones that will win you lots of money). Our branch gets to keep $10 from each branch sold. If you would like to buy some tickets, please call president MaryAnn Mikles at 916-759-8466 and she will arrange to get tickets to you. Thank you for your support.

Our branch will be having another drive - through dinner fundraiser in June. More details to come in the next Bolletino.

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Greetings!! We will now March 4th on the 5th!! As promised in last month’s article I have added more information on St. Patrick.

St. Patrick, whose feast day is on March 17th, was also responsible for the conversion of the Picts and Anglo-Saxons. It is not possible to say with assurance when Patrick was born. He was not Irish being born in Romanized Briton. Notable days this month: Daylight Savings, St. Patrick’s Day, Spring Equinox on the 20th. Only 1 week into April and we can celebrate Easter! Hopefully this year we can gather because I certainly miss my extended family.

We are already into Lent so by the time you all read this we will have enjoyed one of the happiest days of our Liturgical calendar. I am hoping I will hear from Sonoma’s other members and possibly see them in person. Spring brings HOPE!!

Buona Pasqua a tutti!!

Marilyn Sylvestri, Recording Secretary

Petaluma

St. Vincent’s, Br. 127

Dear Branch members, it is with great sadness that I take on the responsibility of writing our newsletter for the Bolletino. Louise did our newsletter for many years. Her letters were so good and like herself fill of affection for the ICF. She gave so much to the ICF, to the Branch, District and Convention. She will be sorely missed.

After a year on hold we were able to have our first board meeting in February. The financial records were audited by the trustees and we discussed and voted to donate three 1st years scholarships as always.

Margaret Cordrey will be sending out bakeless bake sale notices this month so please be generous.

Hopefully it will not be long before we can gather together once more.

Until then

Love and many blessings of the Easter Season to all our members and their families

Dennice DiGirolamo, 1st Vice
**Arcata**

St. Mary, Br. 144

APRIL!! Where did the time go? Time flies when we're having fun, or not!! I recently read an article with the following questions that prompted my attention.

Food for thought! Have you told your family, i.e., children, and/or grandchildren, where your ancestors came from when they came to the United States? Or where they came from originally? Or what mode of transport they arrived here on? Do you know why they came to the United States? What is your favorite “dish” and what are the ingredients and how is it prepared? Or what is your favorite thing about being the nationality you are! Did I give you food for thought? I hope so! Come on folks, Let’s get with it because all too soon we miss out on the opportunity to ask or answer these questions.

Did you have a ZOOM meeting this month? We did! and we’re scheduled to have another one next month that is unless we can have a real meeting. Oh my gosh, that would be a dream come true! Our Branch, wishes all Birthday and Anniversary Celebrants good health and happiness and to those who lost loved ones recently, our sincere condolences.

Do take care, Judith

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**Eureka**

St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Eureka Branch #145 awarded two Jerry J. Colivas Memorial Scholarships in 2020 and will award two more in May 2021.

The 2020 recipients were Miguel Ama and UC Davis, respectively.

Both are pursuing scientific studies.

And may they have a swift and complete recovery. Amen.

Buona Pasqua a Tutti,
Gail Bongi-Azevedo

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**Sebastopol**

St. Michael, Br. 209

Happy Easter to all! As the first year of the pandemic comes full circle, I am reminded of how far we have come. From the uncertainty we felt last year, to the hope we have now that everyone is receiving the vaccine.

A reminder to please send in your membership dues, $38.40 per person, plus $25 for hospitalization. Please send to: Leona Spadoni, 3956 Gravenstein Hwy. So., Sebastopol, CA 95472.

Although we are not back to gathering yet and there is not yet access to the church hall; we are still following through with our commitments. We recently sent our regular donations to “Get on the Bus”, Life Pregnancy, and Easter flowers for St. Sebastian’s Church.

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**Santa Rosa**

St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

President Linda Sherman held an officers’ meeting at her house on March 14th and the results of the planning session will be out soon.

Many thanks to those who paid their dues and stayed with our ICF Branch even when we were not able to meet. Will we have a lot to share at our first meeting back together?!?

Easter is a very special day for all Catholics. At whatever event you are able to celebrate this Holy Day, please say these prayers for our deceased and those who are ill:

- Good and Merciful God,
  Welcome all the deceased members of Branch #198 into your Holy Kingdom.
  May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace. Amen. AND
  Lord, bring comfort to the ICF Branch #198 members who are ill, And may they have a swift and complete recovery. Amen.

Buona Pasqua a Tutti,
Gail Bongi-Azevedo

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**FRESNO DISTRICT**

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

Hello Dear Members,

Springtime is always a wonderful time of new life and beginnings, and especially so in this year as we continue to make strides forward in defeating the COVID 19 pandemic. With God’s grace and mercy, we are prevailing.

Thanks to all who participated in preparing oranges and to those who sold and/or purchased them during our annual fundraiser on February 20th. We raised about $350 all together!

Our board members continue to discuss possibilities for future events and activities to come, as circumstances allow. One very important item is the celebration of our Branch’s 90th anniversary in October! We hope to commemorate this occasion with a special event.

With blessings to all members and wishes for a Happy Easter,
Mary Keitz

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**Merced**

St. Cecilia, Br. 39

It is with much sadness we note the passing of Edna Clendenin on February 20. She was a faithful member for 71 years! Plus she donated almonds for our biannual biscotti fundraisers for many years. Our sympathy and prayers extend to her family. May she rest in peace.

Maryellen Mazzei, the chairlady of our March 10th pasta sauce sale, reported the fundraiser was a resounding success! She and her kitchen helpers made 180 quarts of sauce which grossed about $2700. Helping in the kitchen were: Anne-Marie Bandoni, Michael Belluomini, Sally Latorraca, Tony and Chris Martin, Sr. Rachel Monteil, Nick Pugliese, Ruth Redondo, Estella Reta, Nancy Silva, Loretta Symes, and Michael Willmon. Ottimo lavoro, membri! Great work, members! We also thank the Italo-American Lodge for the use of their kitchen.

Our biscotti fundraiser will be held in time to purchase for your special gal or woman to gift her on Mother’s Day. Flavors offered are plain with almonds, plain without almonds, almonds with anise, almonds with chocolate chips, almonds with cranberries, and almonds with brandy. $8 each. Pre-order by April 22 for drive-through pick-up on Friday, April 30, 5:00-6:00 p.m. at the Lodge. Contact co-chair Janet Pugliese at 209-704-0194 (cell) or 723-6400 (home), or janpug700@gmail.com.

As more people receive the COVID vaccination, it appears the tight restrictions under which we have been living will loosen and we can return to a more “normal” life. We pray you all stay well, healthy and continue to follow CDC safety guidelines.

Buona Pasqua,
Sharon Vannetti

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**Br. 209, Baby Liliana with her Big Sister Nora Leone**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

At last! Finally rain came to San Joaquin Valley! Hopefully, more is on the way.

Happy April birthday to Jennifer Campano, Mary Beth Mueller, Jeanette Shriver, and Mary Zanarini.

Quiz: there are two independent states within Italy’s borders. Can you name them? See end of article for the answers.

Haven’t heard of any recent member illnesses. Let me know if you know of any members on the sick list.

We’re glad Pope Francis had a safe trip to Iraq. Hopefully, the journey will result in improved conditions for Christians in that country.

Thanks to all of you who renewed your membership for 2021. Only four members have yet to renew as of press time.

Did you know? The wolf is Italy’s national animal.

Once this pandemic is over, we will celebrate our Branch’s 50th anniversary. How would you like us to observe this historic milestone. Several charter members remain; it would be nice to recognize them at any anniversary observance. Our patron Saint, Frances Xavier Cabrini, was recently had an official onsite declaration will be held.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family.

In closing, may the Lord’s blessings continue to shine upon us.

Patty Morelli
Secretary Branch 21

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April 2021

Marcello Mozzarella

Ciao and God Bless!

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CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT

Santa Cruz
N.S. Del Soccorso, Br. 21

Buona Pasqua, Tutti! We are celebrating another Easter in the age of Covid, but this year, things are looking up. It’s a perfect time to recall a quote from Pope John Paul II: “Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and Hallelujah is our song.” This Easter will be a time for rejoicing, in more ways than one.

Branch 21 held our general meeting again this month via Zoom and one happy bit of news is that Holy Cross is now holding mass in the Church. Hallelujah! Also reported is that the No Bake Sale is going very well. If you haven’t had a chance to participate, it’s never too late to send in your donation. Our next meeting will be at 5:30 on April 6th and if you would like to ‘attend’, follow the Zoom instructions on the e-mail that will be sent out to all prior members on the sick list.

Besides Easter, we celebrate our Branch’s April birthdays and this month those birthday folks are: Paul Cato, Sylvia Deck, Luigi Dell’Acqua, Dorothy Escobar, Zelma Fambrini, Kathleen Frost, Michael Gabbert, Lina Gemignani, Joyce Lieggi, Emilia Locatelli, Sandra Locatelli, Paula Panelli, Paul Quilici, Bill Schuette, Virginia Stagnaro, Michael Taay, and Al Wilson. Happy birthday, A quote from another Pope, John XXIII: “Men/women are like wine. Some turn to vinegar, but the best improve with age.”

It is with sadness we share the news of Martha Meuldijk’s passing. We will miss her big smile, her big heart, and watching Martha and husband Tom dance at our fundraisers. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family.

In closing, may the Lord’s blessings continue to shine upon us.

Patty Morelli
Secretary Branch 21

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Marcello Mozzarella

Ciao and God Bless!

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Monterey
Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

Wishing you all a Blessed Easter -- “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives, and believes in Me, shall never die.” (John 11, 25-26)

The Board wants to thank all the members and friends who supported us during the 7 weeks of Lenten Takeout dinners. We served more than 2,000 takeout and home delivery dinners this season, an amazing accomplishment during the pandemic!

We also would like to thank all of our volunteers who worked so hard and dedicated their time or treasure during the Lenten season. Funds raised will be used for our parish church, seminars, scholarships and our community. Thanks to our sweet members for donating delicious homemade desserts each week. Many could not wait to see what kind of dessert they got each week.

Many thanks and much appreciation to the Elks Lodge of Monterey for their support and renting us the use of their facility, Peter John Curatolo and JoAnn Riso and their kitchen crew for the dinners each week, Mark and Alma from the Moose Lodge, Manny Pinheiro for delivering dinners, Catherine Compagno and team in the dessert room, Andy Clarke, Marco Galeazzi, Dawn Trego, Joy Rawson, Gordon & Susan Fehlman, and San Carlos, Palma, and Bryion, Joy Rawson, Gordon & Susan Fehlman, and Notre Dame students for all their help and support. Too many volunteers to name all of you, but we’re grateful for all you did!

We continue to pray for all members who are ill and homebound. We are happy to hear that many of our members have received their vaccines. Hopefully we will be able to meet together in person very soon.

Buona Pasqua!
Elaine Valentine
First Vice President
Branch 36

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Branch 250 Easter in Italy

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Branch 36 Lenten Crew
Branch 36 Lenten Takeout
Branch 36 President Joe LoManto
Branch 36 Kitchen Crew
Branch 36 Manny Pinheiro
Branch 36 Lenten Takeout
Branch 36 Lenten Crew
Branch 36 President Joe LoManto
Happy April and Happy Easter!

Congratulations to last month's calendar winners Nancy Ausonio, Carrie Holbrook, Eva Mae Sigala, & Sally Reynolds!

Last month, the board held its first meeting via Zoom since the pandemic. One of our conversations was to have an Easter basket raffle prize this month! We will also be further discussing plans to have a fundraiser. More info to come!

Lastly, I’d like to wish a happy birthday to our April babies: beloved members Vera Doris and Gino Grier!

With much love,

Natalie Carbonel

Castroville
Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Happy Birthday to our very special member, Karen Waldvogel, whose birthday is April 9.

With best wishes for a blessed and joyful Easter.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande
St. Patrick, Br. 291

It’s so nice to see the hills finally turning green, and to have received several inches of rain from a few rain storms that blew through the Central Coast last month. It’s also wonderful to have some state and county COVID restrictions lifted so we can once again enjoy indoor dining and indoor masses! (Our parish is still holding outdoor masses on Sundays, weather permitting.) And it’s such a blessing to have our seniors and essential workers receiving vaccinations! There’s a light at the end of this long, dark tunnel!

As we start the process of slowly getting back to “normal,” we reminisce about what normal used to be like, including Br. 291’s popular Lenten Fish Frys. We had so much fun each week during Lent, serving hundreds of dinners to our church friends and local community. We look forward to the day when we can all get together once again for a General Meeting or hold a large dinner fundraiser. Our Branch Officers are holding an outdoor Board Meeting soon to start planning some of these future events, so stay tuned for more information once that meeting has taken place.

Our Branch recently lost ICF Member June Steves. June passed away peacefully at the age of 94. Please keep June’s family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of this lovely lady. Also, please keep Gayle Quain, Rob Reginato and Pattie Rorrer in your prayers, and all others who may be experiencing pain, illness or loss at this time.

May you all have a very Blessed Easter celebration! He is Risen!

Happy Easter!

Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary

Blast from the Past!
Br. 291’s 2020 Fish Fry Fun!

Paso Robles
Saint Rose Of Lima, Br. 354

March 19, 2021 is the feast of St. Joseph, a day celebrated since the tenth century by Italians around the world with parades, processions, and parties. In the United States Saint Joseph’s Day has strong Sicilian roots. Saint Joseph is honored as the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus.

Due to the Covid-19 Virus, it has been a long time since our branch has “celebrated” together for the good of others. We recently became aware of a need in our community that our branch can work on in honor of Lent and Saint Joseph. The North County homeless community, ECHO, is in dire need of new adult under ware—boxers, briefs, panties, and bras or sports bras. Aminia Irvant, Shelter Coordinator, said that these items are “gold” to the ECHO Community who are struggling to find a way out of homelessness and become self-sufficient once again. A job loss, unexpected death, sickness, depression, addiction—just one of these factors can start a chain of events that can lead to homelessness.

There are profound lessons in offering small acts of kindness to those less fortunate than ourselves. Whoever thought that Branch 354 would be spreading the love of God by collecting under ware? Jesus tells us that it is the simple appreciation of daily things that is the ultimate treasure.

Yvonne Maddalena
Recording Secretary

San Jose
SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT

Spring is in the air with family gatherings, indoor dining, schools reopening to face-to-face teaching, The Sharks are playing at the “Tank”, the A’s & Giants are at Spring Training. And most important: indoor masses at Santa Teresa Church. Fr. George announced along with the streaming masses. Two indoor masses will be held on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. These events will give us a feeling of normalcy for now.

Who knows when we can resume our ICF functions and reacquaint ourselves at normal meetings and other events? Judy Zahn, Br. 368 Bollettino reporter, cites our branch orator Ed Wendler who always offers inspiring stories for the branch. He sent out a story (suggested by Bill Greco) of the “Berlin Candy Bomber”. Available on You Tube. Wonderful heartwarming story. I also recommend “Columbus – the crisis in the west” by Robert Royal. This book sheds light on the senseless rioting and rewriting of history.

During these times, I rely on 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”.

SCV District Meeting – Cancelled until further notice.

Mike Nunziata

Capitola
St. Joseph’s, Br. 227

We held our first branch meeting on Zoom in March. While the attendance was light, we are hoping that more members will be comfortable with Zoom in time for our next meeting on April 11. Prior to that meeting President Bob Montanye will send an e-mail with instructions on how to participate.

Many thanks to Franklyn Lopes for spearheading our Easter Lily fundraiser. Because we were not able to raise funds from the Fish Frys, the Board voted to sell Easter Lilies. Franklyn purchased the plants and facilitated the sale to members and friends. Some members donated their lilies to the church for their Easter Sunday decorations.

In March renovations began on the church hall. The projects include new flooring, lighting, ceiling, and painting of the entire parish center. The work is expected to take two months, so hope the entire parish center. The work is expected to take two months, so hope.

In response to a request from the Vocation Director of the Monterey Diocese, the Board voted to donate $100 to help the Seminarians with the expenses of their Spiritual Exercise Eight-day Retreat.

Mike Nunziata

“Have a blessed and Happy Easter!”

Recording Secretary

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SCV District Meeting – Cancelled until further notice.

Mike Nunziata

“Have a blessed and Happy Easter!”

Recording Secretary
April 2021

**Gilroy**

**Santa Maria Ausiliatrice,**
**Br. 28**

The winning membership drawing for a $75 gift certificate to the Claddagh Irish Pub restaurant in Gilroy was drawn by Deanna Vigna Goodrich and was won by John Gillio.

Deanna is one of three children of Frank and Ida Vigna. Frank and Ida were members of the ICF in Gilroy since the 1950’s and were instrumental in the initiation of spaghetti dinners with the help of the Lawrence Rocchi and John Togliatti families. Frank Vigna was born on July 26, 1915 in Agosto, Apriligiano, Italy. At 15 his grandparents put him on a ship sailing from Naples to the United States speaking no English and eventually coming to Gilroy by train from New Jersey where he was met by his father. Frank attended school up to the 4th grade. He married Ida Filice in 1934. He worked in the shipyards during WWII, was drafted into the army, owned a gas station, and finally settled on a prune ranch outside Gilroy, where he established a plumbing business and Vigna Walnut Shelling and packing plant. Frank and Ida had a family of three children, seven grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

Those challenges of limited English-speaking ability and limited education instilled in Frank a deep respect for education which manifest itself in his progeny. Anthony “Tony” Vigna graduated from Stanford University with a Masters Degree in history. Deanna Vigna Goodrich graduated from San Jose State University with a teaching credential. All seven of Frank and Ida’s grandchildren received college degrees.

*Peace and God Bless,*

Kim M. Filice

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**Los Gatos**

**St. Mary, Br. 184**

I hope you all had a Blessed Easter, and that some of you were able to celebrate in Church for the first time in over a year! We have been fortunate to actually attend Mass, with masks and distancing, at St. Mary’s. Of course there was a limit of people who could attend and reservations were made online.

There were some very cold weather Masses, but the Church opened up before the rain! Thank you Lord!

I have two priest stories which have come to my attention. First, I was struck to learn that Fr. Rick Rodoni is moving to a new assignment in June. He will be missed by many, and we pray for his new assignment. Second, we thank the singing Priest, Fr. George Aranha of Santa Teresa Parish, for his Wednesday songlets.

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**San Jose**

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

Branch 191 had a VERY successful fundraiser thanks to Blue Rock BBQ. Many of our branch members enjoyed a pulled pork sandwich, BBQ ribs, or a tri-tip combo plate. A BIG THANK YOU goes out to Owen Jobson, owner, for such friendly, warm service. PLEASE give Blue Rock a thought for future meals, or a quick take-out. It was also very enjoyable to see some of our members, as well as other branches, picking up their orders. We all miss you! It was a great fundraiser, and an event needed for our members. A thank you to ALL who supported this event.

Also remember our Easter Lilly sale fundraiser as well. Jo Bertaccini states that the sales are brisk! More details and results in our next Bollettino.

Hey all you Cookie Monsters....

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**San Jose**

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

Hello, everyone! Maybe by the time you read this, we will have emerged from our cocoons, sometimes with a different hairstyle, different hair color, or a different weight.

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**Br. 28-President Joe Fortino and first lady Peggy taking some time out after setup was complete at a previous St. Patrick’s Day member dinner.**

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**Br. 28-John Gillio standing watch over the cooking of the polenta. John is one of those multiple branch members that is always there to help Br. 28 in our major fundraisers.**

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**Anyone can go to his YouTube to enjoy and/or sing along! What a great voice!**

There is one thing I must say about this pandemic. I eagerly read every word in the Bollettino! I appreciate reading from the branch letters, it makes one eager to return to our normal activities. I can’t wait to work on a committee and see our members again.

*Until that time, stay safe, stay strong, stay faithful!*

Lucy Amico nee’Salciccia

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**Br. 191, Frank Rando waiting for his order at Blue Rock BBQ**

Our Branch is in planning stages of another fundraiser, selling cookies. I hear the refrigerator door opening, for a glass of cold milk. Please watch for a flyer from our branch in the future for more details. Can’t go wrong with a cookie in hand!

As this issue goes to print, we will be celebrating our season of Lent. Lent gives us hope from the risen Christ, hope for ourselves during this pandemic. We see vaccinations, the opening of mass in church, and receiving our Sacraments. May we look back to our Lenten Season ( and this past year) as a sign of hope for our future.

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**Br. 28- Past Grand President Andy Pappani and 1st Vice President Vince Saso demonstrating their pasta making abilities that will be put to use at the Br. 28 pasta sauce fundraiser. Please check this edition of the Bollettino for the ad with the particulars of this pasta sauce fundraiser.**

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**We are hoping to have an ICF Rib Dinner Fundraiser on the 4th of July this year. The format is uncertain at this time, but Mary will provide more information to us as it becomes available.**

We are delighted and thankful that those of our members who have been so ill have recovered, and we pray for those still suffering and for our dear ones who have passed away.

*Have a beautiful Easter Season! We are all rising to new life.*

Love to you all,

Judy Zahn
San Jose
St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Branch 391 wants to send a big thank you to our dedicated phone callers led by Linda Pfahl throughout the year. We surely appreciate the following members for their dedication: Linda Pfahl, Marisa Banister, Sister Jane Garrison, Carmie Jimenez, Mary Lipari, Janet Mannina, Alba Salciccia, Elaine Steffens, and Rosalie Sunday.

We want to remind members to visit St. Martin of Tour’s website for current schedule of Indoor, Outdoor and Live Streaming Masses and for the online church bulletin. Sign-ups are required for in-person Masses through the website or by calling the Parish Office.

Please remember to send your dues to Tina Rossi as soon as possible.

Wishing you a Happy and Holy Easter!
Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale
Resurrection, Br. 408

Happy Easter!

ICF Branch 408 hosted its first blood drive of 2021 on Saturday 6 March from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. It was held in the Parking Lot of the Church of the Resurrection in front of the Farana Center, once again outside, in under COVID rules using the Stanford Blood Center Mobile Vans.

It was a successful Event and we hosted over 40 Donors. Al Chantelope and Kate Shimshock worked all morning in the Canteen. Our next ICF Blood Drive is scheduled for 5 June 2021 - once again outside following COVID Rules.

We are planning our Spring Bake/Craft sale for early May. We will need Bakers and Volunteers for this Event. Please contact Pat and Sandra or if you can help.

We continue to hold our monthly meetings via Zoom - which Sandra Hosting and Coordinating for us – Thank you Sandra!

We look forward to continued distribution of the COVID vaccine in our Community – a number of our members have received their 2nd Dose of Vaccine already.

Please Pray for our sick Members: Barbara Benes, Steve Richey, Paul and Dori Bletiar.

Morgan Hill
St. Catherine of Alexandria, Br. 435

It’s been a year since everything changed and we all had to stay-at-home, but I am feeling more optimistic about things getting back to normal. I’ve been vaccinated and most of my fellow ICF members have been vaccinated. Once all of us old folks and essential workers are done, everyone should be in line and we can get back to the way things were (I hope).

We have missed having our big family gatherings and the first one we missed last year was Easter. I think we will be having our Easter celebration with all the family once again. At this time indoor mass is allowed but with only 100 people inside the church so not everyone will be able to participate but maybe that will change in the next few weeks. Viewing mass on line helps but I really miss celebrating with everyone else. We are also anticipating when we can get back together for our regular monthly meetings, plan our dinners, and enjoy just being with each other.

I know I’ve been saying this for the last couple of months, but we still need everyone to renew their membership in the ICF and send in their dues. We still have expenses and many of the charities we support are in greater need because the need is so much greater right now. Thanks to those who have already renewed.

Take care and stay safe. We’re almost there.
Ciao,
MaryClaire Sampognaro

San Jose
Transfiguration, Br. 445

Congratulations to many more of our members receiving their first and second COVID vaccinations!

Our heartfelt thanks to all workers manning vaccination sites throughout our county.

Happy April Birthday wishes to our members: Larry and Gina Farro, John Sellarole and Rosalyn Castillo!

Br. 445 Pres and 1st VP Jim and Janie Falcone continue to spearhead our Homeless Ministry. Every Saturday they deliver ‘sandwich kits’ to the homes of our members and also spend a little time for a masked and socially distanced visit. Jim returns to pick up the assembled sack lunches for delivery to the needy. Thank you Jim and Janie for your dedication to this project.

Much appreciation is extended to Fr. Chris Bennett, pastor of St. Christopher’s Church and Chaplain of our ICF Br. 445, for assisting us with our Lenten journeys through online presentations and discussions. Fr. Chris and his staff have also provided online access to Sunday masses and other religious services throughout COVID for those unable to attend outdoor services.

We are joyful that Easter is approaching and hopeful for ‘in church’ services this year.

Perhaps many families will continue traditional Easter celebrations with lamb (a symbol of Christ’s Life and sacrifice) served at their dinner tables. The Italian Easter Bread was made by many of our grandmothers each Easter. Certainly some are still being made.

Buona Pasqua a tutti voi!!
Stay safe and well.
Submitted by,
Jan Marianelli Stumhoffe

STOCKTON
Modesto
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

What can I write about? We should be making plans for our St. Joseph’s Table Celebration in March, but that won’t happen. So what is next for April?

Easter is coming and we are allowed to have mass in the church with a limited number or people. We will be using the new church which has a much larger capacity and we will be able to attend the masses for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

It is okay watching mass on live stream but it is a whole different feeling to be able to be in the church participating in the mass.

We are looking for ways to have our bake sale in May. One suggestion is to take orders for biscuits, pies and etc. and deliver them after mass at the church. We will try to get permission to do this. We are still looking for other suggestions.

I hope you and all your families have a very Blessed Easter and are able to enjoy some time with your family.

Stay healthy and safe.
Cecelia McGhee

Deadline for May Issue is April 10th.
Send articles and photos: editor@cf.org
We cannot thank Mike Bacchetti and his crew enough for all the hard work they did - two days in the kitchen preparing the chicken cacciatorre and polenta dinner including Caesar salad, bread and dessert. Imagine cooking that menu for 270 people, who sent us rave reviews afterwards that these were the best ever and, as a bonus, still piping hot when they got home with their take-out. We have Chuck Tuso to thank for the special packaging idea to wrap the take-out containers in foil and then placing them in carry-out bags! Thanks to the packing crew who worked like a Detroit auto assembly line, and to all that did the shopping and chopping! We were asked by some if we could provide this fabulous meal EVERY month. - that’s how good it was! Members have paid their dues and our numbers are a solid 172. Many thanks to our members for your continued support.

Scholarship applications from our branch have been received and we will announce the recipients in future issues, and we have made a contribution to the central council scholarship fund.

Our Board of Directors met to make April plans for a take-out event on Thursday April 29th. We will be serving country-style ribs, hot potato salad, tossed green salad, bread and dessert. Don’t forget Steve Ridolfi continues to post the life of our branch though pictures on our Website: www.icfbranch390.org. The newsletter on our website would love to hear from our members, so please contribute any social moments, ideas and events.

As my Dad always prayed, stay healthy, happy and safe.

Ciao,
Betty Hollars

Stockton
Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

There has been so much negativity during the past twelve months that we wanted to take a moment to focus on something positive, our past Branch scholarship winners. Let’s see what some have been doing.

A 2015-2017 recipient, Ted earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Arts and Entertainment Management and Human Resources from the University of the Pacific in May 2019, receiving the Outstanding Graduating Senior Award for his department. He received a Master of Science in Entrepreneurship and Music Industry from the University of Southern California in December 2020.

Eric, a 2016-2020 scholarship recipient, received his Bachelor of Science in Business Management with honors from Saint Mary’s College. He is currently working on his Masters in Education from Johns Hopkins University and was accepted into the Urban Teachers program in Dallas Texas.

Grace, a 2017-2019 winner, is a senior at Santa Clara University, pursuing a double major in Public Health Science and Italian Studies and a minor in Urban Education. After graduation in June, she plans to enter a Masters in Education program. She is also currently a semi-finalist for a Fulbright Scholarship to Italy.

And that is what the ICF scholarships do to help our recipients. The future looks bright!

Buona Pasqua a tutti,
Alla prossima,
Mary Ann

Buono Pasqua!
It’s a blessed time of year, a time of Resurrection! Our world is beginning to emerge from the depth of Covid-19. Our church is coming to life with more parishioners attending services. Our branch is blooming again, like the Spring perennials!

We may not be meeting in person, but we continue to support one another. Our Secret Pal Connection formed in March, and will end with an Easter reveal. A Prayer Chain is being created so we can spiritually lift up our members. And our Zoom meeting attendance is growing.

In celebration of the warmer weather and longer daylight, we’re hoping to hold our Tues., April 27th meeting at 6:45 pm, masked-face to masked-face, in St. Anne’s Plaza. We will gather to enjoy each other’s long awaited company in the fresh air! Bring a chair, snack, beverage, and your smiling eyes!

The DeVinci’s Meal To Go Fundraiser was a success! We sold over 100 tickets! Thanks to all those who supported this event. If you missed this, you’re in luck. This month, St. Anne’s School is having a DeVinci’s Dinner To Go raising funds for their 5th grade 2022 science camp. Please support our youth!

Our next venture? In June, a Blood Drive coordinated with the American Red Cross to help promote giving the Gift of Life, as well as sharing information about Cooley’s Anemia, the ICF National Charity.

This month may you be able to experience the joy of blossoming trees, green grass, and blooming flowers!

Patty Litts, President

Angels Camp
St. Patrick’s, Br. 413

Christ is risen! Alleluia!! We hope that everyone is enjoying the Easter season with family and health. By God’s grace, may we all get back to fundraising to help out our parishes.

I don’t have anything new to report, except that the grass is green and everything is in bloom. For some of us, that all equals severe allergies. Branch 413 is still hanging in there. We don’t have any plans for this month due to restrictions, but we are keeping in contact with each other and praying.

We ask God to protect our ICF families and friends with health and a strong faith. Please continue to pray for us as we continue to pray for all of you.

Ciao,
Annette Pachinger
Correspondence Secretary
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.

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 at the Saturday night banquet. A $1,000 donation will be made to the award recipient’s charity of choice.

The Pope Saint John XXIII 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 at the Saturday night banquet. A $1,000 donation will be made to the award recipient’s charity of choice.

The I.C.F. Family of the Year is recognized during the Saturday General Session. This award honors an I.C.F. Family which has made a significant contribution to their branch, district, parish and/or community. A $500 donation will be made to the family’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.

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.

The 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.

SAVE THE DATE

21st anniversary event!!

your plans to share in this new golf venture

FRIDAY, JULY 30, 2021

8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, California 94621 • (888) 423-1924 • FAX: (510) 633-9758 • Web Site: icf.org • E-mail: info@icf.org

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

AWARD NOMINATION

Nomination Year: 20____

Award:

_____ Pope Saint John XXIII

_____ Saint Teresa of Calcutta

_____ Grand President’s

_____ Family of the Year

_____ Young Adult Leadership

Qualifications Summary:

Please summarize the major accomplishments of the nominee. If known, include offices and chairmanships held (within the I.C.F., parish and community) along with information on any significant contributions. You may attach additional sheets of text.

Statement of Endorsement:

Nominated By Individual, Branch or District:

Contact Person:

Phone: (___) __________

E-mail: _____________________________

APPLICATION

Nominee:

Name: _____________________________

Address: __________________________

City: _____________________________ State: _______

Zip: ___________ Phone: (____) __________

E-mail: _____________________________

More information to follow. Start making your plans to share in this new golf venture, and make this a memorable 21st anniversary event!!
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 2020 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 2020 is the following:

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

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

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

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2021. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.

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

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

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that Bank Statements are reconciled through December 31, 2020. 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
ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
2021 Yearbook

YOU Are Needed!
Show us your celebrations. Let us celebrate your joys and successes with you.

Successful Entry Tips
• Create a NEW entry this year
• Tell us what you’ve been up to
• Use COLOR in your entry
• Submit Celebration entries for your members and their achievements

Artwork Deadline
JUNE 1ST!

Celebration Pages
Births • Weddings • Graduations

Full color 1/16th page celebration entry for only $25. Includes a photo and details. Let us all celebrate the joys from your year!

Congratulations Lauren Leary, Br 281, on your 8th Grade Graduation! We love you, The Leary Family

You Need COLOR!
The full-page entry for Branch 442 looks great in the 2020 book! (See page 45.) So much more impactful than black and white would have been. Please consider color for impact.

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

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

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