



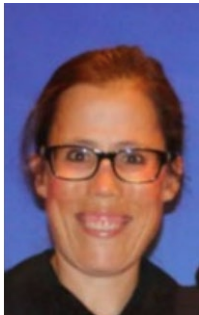
BOLLETTINO



The COVID and Blood Connection

Laurice Levine, Live to Give Committee

COVID-19 has certainly made an impact on our lives and made an obvious impact on research and science. As a person with thalassemia I am especially interested in how COVID affects the blood. Here are some things I have learned:



3. **The American Red Cross (ARC) found that "more than 20% of blood donations from unvaccinated people had Covid-19 antibodies" on blood tested from mid-June 2020 to early March 2021.**

The ARC tested more than 3.3 million blood donations. These results indicate that donors had likely been infected with the coronavirus at some point.

"A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity, but it may indicate whether a person has been exposed to the coronavirus, regardless of whether an individual developed symptoms."

As cases across the country increased so did the antibody prevalence in blood. It is still unclear how this affects recipients of blood, however for those who are frequently transfused as is the case for people with thalassemia, it could result in a passive immunity to COVID. Sadly, however, thalassemics all over the world have died of COVID, so more research needs to be done in this area.

The effects of blood type and COVID, while interesting science, do not contain practical implications on living through the pandemic.

People who have Blood Type A should not panic, and people with Type O should not be complacent.

Continued on Page 6

A MOTHER'S LOVE

*There are times when only
a mother's love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all our fears.*

*There are times when only
a mother's love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we've
dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.*

*There are times when only
a mother's faith
Can help us on life's way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day.*

*For a mother's heart and a
mother's faith
And a mother's steadfast
love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above.*

--Author Unknown

Grand President's Monthly Message

Vince Piro

With spring in the air, our lives become filled with the hope of the Resurrection and the joy of the new life we see in nature. And while we are not out of the pandemic yet, as more and more people



become vaccinated, it appears that life will return to normal sooner than later. For our organization, which thrives on a shared faith expressed in fellowship with our friends and family, this is good news.

We will be able to hold branch meetings in which we can once again meet with our fellow ICF members, we will be able to host district events, and we will be able to slowly return to the ICF-life that we love.

Of course, this will not happen overnight. It will take time to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus enough to allow for social gatherings and a fully open society. However, if people follow local health guidelines and medical advice, we should be on our way.

Continued on Page 2

Hike the Appalachian Trail

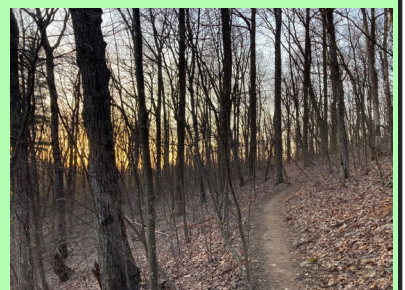
ICF Hiker Progress Report



Ryan is near Springer Mountain, Georgia at the official Southern Terminus of the AT.

There's a well known saying on the Appalachian Trail - No Rain, No Pain, No Maine. Fortunately for Ryan he was able to avoid those first two hardships in the early part of his hike. He began heading north on a sunny April 6 morning, but the weather soon turned and 4 days later a major system blew through with heavy rain. Luckily he was able to stay dry spending a "zero" (no hiking) day in a trail town. So far he has been averaging 16-20 miles a day, mostly pain free. Oh to be 25 again!

Ryan's second week had him hiking in much nicer weather, and leaving Georgia for North Carolina and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Some of his observations so far include bird songs he is unfamiliar with as a West coast native.



Day 2 sunrise around mile 10 near Suches, Georgia.

Continued on Page 6

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage Since 1924

BOLLETTINO

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Important Notice

The email address for ALL Bol-
lettino submissions is:

editor@icf.org

All image and article submissions
need to be sent in an electronic for-
mat. 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** require-
ment 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.

June issue
deadline is May 10, 2021.

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

Thank you!

MOM



Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director

One day, a little boy named Eddie walked his usual route home from school. He was in the fourth grade. He climbed the steps to the front door of the family home, entered the house, and went directly to the kitchen. The front door was never locked. "Mom!" he called. There was no answer. "Mom!" he called again, and still there was no answer. Mom was always there when he came home from school. Nobody was in the house. It was scary: a quiet, empty house.

He began to feel frightened, lost and insecure. It was a feeling he had never experienced before in his childhood. Where was she? Where could she be? She was always here. Suddenly, the door flew open and Mom came rushing into the house. Wow! What a relief! The house became a home again.

Mom was there and the home began to pulsate with love. She was just visiting the neighbors and lost track of the school time. Yes, what a relief, indeed. Eddie felt all warm and cozy, secure and loved. Mom put her arms around him and gave him her traditional quick squeeze and then continued on with her usual day. She was back! Whew!

Saturday was "clean-the-house-day." Eddie and his siblings worked under Mom's supervision to clean the house from top to bottom. She gave Eddie the task of cleaning the tiny windows in the dining room French doors. This was a task that he disliked intensely; it took a lot of patience and restraint. One week, he finally finished cleaning the windows and proudly reported to his mom. "Mom, I finished the windows." Mom simply said, "Go back and do the corners." Without a word, the Eddie went back and did the corners with courage and determination.

Eddie always felt a special connection with his mom. He liked to be with her and help her in any way he could. She taught Eddie how to cook, clean, iron, sew, wash clothes and, yes, even knit. He liked to help her. She made him feel needed and strong.

Mom taught Eddie and his siblings many other lessons in life. Best of all, she shared her love of Jesus with them and helped them learn that the most important value in life was their personal relationship with Jesus and all people. During Lent she would gather her children, and they would pray together various litanies and the rosary.



On Good Friday, there was to be *silence between noon and three o'clock*. For Eddie and his siblings, it was really hard to stay quiet for such "a long time." But they learned from Mom that it was to honor the suffering and death of Jesus. Mom instilled in Eddie a deep love of God and the meaning of His sacrifice for all of us.

Eddie is a grown man now. His mom has passed on. He cannot see her, but she is still with him. Of course, he still remembers the tiny windows and all the other life lessons; but a mom like Eddie's is more than a memory. She is a living presence.

*On Mother's Day
we honor all mothers.
Happy Mother's Day to
all mothers and to all
who serve in
the role of mothers.*

ICF is
Going
Green!



If you prefer to read
the *Bollettino* at the
magnification of your
choice in full color on
your computer or
portable electronic
device, and like the
idea of saving a tree
while helping us save
printing costs, visit
this link to sign up:
[http://eepurl.com/
bLaMFb](http://eepurl.com/bLaMFb)

Blessings
COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE

Grand President Piro

Continued from Page 1

With this in mind, as of the writ-
ing, the ICF plans to hold its an-
nual convention this year. It will be a
chance for us to conduct the business
of the Federation as well as socialize
with one another. Of course, such a
convention will be held in a socially
responsible manner following all
health department guidelines, includ-
ing social distancing.

The convention will be limited in
comparison to other years. The
Convention Committee and Central
Council are working on the details,
and more information can be found in
this and future editions of the *Bollet-
tino*.

My purpose here is to encourage your
branch to send a representative to the
convention. I do not wish to pres-
sure anyone to attend who feels that
it would be unsafe to do so of course.

If one is vaccinated and willing to
follow the guidelines established at
the hotel, I believe that the convention
will prove to be a rewarding event. It
will be a chance for us to share ideas
about the future of the Federation,
conduct its business, and socialize
with one another.

For me the convention is always a
revitalizing event. I am sure this year
will be no different.

After a year of not being able to see
each other, I am certain that this
year's Convention will be a rewarding
event.

Robyn and I hope that everyone had a
wonderful Mother's Day, and we hope
to see you in September.

May God Bless Each of You.
Vince

National Data on Thalassemia (Cooley's Anemia)

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS

Ever wonder how many people in the US have thalassemia? If you answered "Yes" then you are not the only one. Patients and experts alike are asking the same question. Unfortunately, there is no accurate thalassemia patient registry in the U.S. unlike most other countries, especially where thalassemia is prevalent.

Cooley's Anemia Foundation (CAF) has the only known registry in the U.S. with approximately 1,379 registered patients. According to CAF, approximately 200 patients are in California. However, the database at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (where the ICF donates to the thalassemia program) has over 450 thalassemia patients and UCSF Children's Hospital Oakland has upwards of 250 patients (probably more). With close to 800 patients in the state of California alone, it is likely that there are easily more than 2,000 people with thalassemia in the U.S., according to the Bristol Myers Squibb Center for Nurses (BMSCFN).

Thalassemia affects people from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds including:

- Italian
- Greek

- Chinese/Taiwanese
- South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, and Afghan)
- Southeast Asian (Thai, Laotian, Vietnamese, Burmese, Filipino, Cambodian and Hmong)
- Middle Eastern (Iranian, Iraqi, Egyptian, Lebanese, Palestinian)

Thalassemia in the trait form, which is non-transfusion dependent, is very common. According to BMSCFN, there are an estimated 1.25 million people who are thalassemia trait carriers in the U.S., making up 0.4% of the population. If two people are trait carriers and they have a child, the child has a 25% chance of having thalassemia in the severe form which requires extensive treatment.

There is power in numbers! With an accurate patient registry the federal government would likely give more funds toward research for thalassemia; medical schools would put more energy into teaching about thalassemia which would improve treatment and quality of care; and more resources would be made available to patients and families.

Gifts of Love Program Next Review of Applications Occurs in June

The application form is available on the ICF website (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. If you would like more information about the Gifts of Love program, please contact Committee Chairperson Teresa Helfand at davia902005@live.com.

Mother Cabrini Shrine

Carmelo Sabatella, LA Archdiocese District

On April 10th Kristine Bremer and her mother visited the Chapel and Library in Burbank. Kristine stated "Mother Cabrini has been following me around the last few years - I know she's heavily interceding for me. So to find out that there was a shrine for her near me, I got excited and knew I had to go."

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 2021/2022 please include the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank to 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 LAADC Mother Cabrini Chapel
Committee: cas1810@aol.com
C 626-372-7812



Membership Reflections

Perry Shurko
Membership Chairperson

Greetings to all!

I hope everyone had a blessed Easter Day with your families and friends. What a difference from a year ago when we were in complete lockdown. The future is looking brighter and brighter with each new day. Things are opening up!

The membership committee has been working very hard and I would like to thank Ann and Richard Interrante for their hard work on our YouTube and Facebook ad pages. I would also like to thank Mike Rossi. He's sending a letter and a USB stick to all of our US bishops reminding them about the ICF, that we are still here, we're still active and we want to grow. The USB sticks have our ICF promo ad for the bishops to watch.

Hopefully we will gain new branches. We need to start at the grassroots of our organization and that means the branch level. Don't hesitate to start getting active again, as long as you're within



the guidelines of your parish. Start with an article or blurb or just an ad in your parish bulletin or see if you can advertise on your parish website. Talk about the ICF and share with your parish about who we are. If you are fundraising, great! Keep it up. Let's do what we can to, as they say, "drive up new business."

I would also like to hear from our branches. I'd like to know how our branches are doing. What state is your branch in? Where do you see your branch in the next few years?

I'll be sending out a survey to all of our branch presidents so we can stay ahead of the game. We are also going to reach out to those members who dropped out of the ICF to see if we can somehow bring them back. Let's continue to be proactive and stay positive and do what we can to turn our membership numbers upwards.

I wish you a continued Happy Easter season, Happy Mother's Day to all of the moms, and enjoy this beautiful month.

Perry Shurko, Membership Chairman

Membership Ideas for Building Your Branch

Dear ICF Members,

I would like to offer some membership ideas. The ICF is my favorite church group. That is why I promote it. Anyone who knows me knows about the ICF. I brag about what we do and how lucky I feel to be a member. My hope is that my thoughts will rub off on others and make them want to join.

I am asking each of you to promote this fine organization. Invite family, friends and members of other church groups to a meeting as a guest. Remind your children and grandchildren that you remain a member and how much joy it brings. Let them know where the closest branch to them is. We also have a national branch that meets via zoom. Therefore, any Catholic can join.

Remember ICF is not on vacation. It's important to keep communication open. One way is Zoom meetings or socials. Remind members if they do not Zoom, they can call in. Some parishes are allowing outdoor social distancing meetings. If yours isn't, how about going to a park? Have members bring a folding chair, wear a mask and bring lunch. Or have catered box lunches.

Does your branch have a phone committee? Members love a phone call or email.

A yearly membership drive is important. In between, submit a blurb in the parish bulletin. Fundraising is nice but not mandatory. When you cannot fundraise, just give less. I am in two branches: one fundraises and the other cannot. We do not close. We stay open for sentimental reasons. We enjoy the company of fellow members and by paying dues, ICF gets our per capita. We ought to set a personal goal to bring in one new member per year.

Last idea is to pray for membership. We all know the power of prayer. Whether you are an active or a silent member you matter.

Keep your feet on the ground while reaching for the stars.

Sempre Avanti,

Patty Jarrett, Membership Committee member-at-large.



Family Recipes

Deborah Rodondi
Grand 1st Vice President

Hope you are continuing to stay safe and healthy. With warmer weather heading our way we start thinking of BBQing. Of course some, like me, BBQ year round. Recently my grill relocated to the junk yard. What a dilemma trying to figure out what to buy to replace it. Many people I talked to told me they loved their Traeger smoker. All I could think of was the hours my nephew has to tend his smoker to be sure it is cooking at the right temperature when smoking. I thought---not for me. Well the Traeger smoker is for the novice in smoking. All the guesswork is taken out and the food is amazing. The down side it is electric, so if you lose power, it is not an option. I have come up with amazing recipes but sharing them with you would only interest a very few of you. But what I am going to share with you is the RUB recipe I came up with. One thing about grilling/cooking today is the use of “rubs” on your meats and vegetables. Gone are the days of basic salt and pepper. When you go to the grocery store the spice section has quite a variety of “rubs.”



DEBORAH’S RUB

- 1 Tbsp. sea salt, or pink salt or plain salt-whatever you have
- 1 Tbsp. paprika
- 1 Tbsp. onion powder
- 1 Tbsp. garlic powder
- 1 Tbsp. black pepper
- 1 Tbsp. mesquite seasoning
- 1 Tbsp. Kinders Butter Rub (optional)
- ½ tsp. cayenne pepper, *increase or decrease according to your taste buds, I find this gives just enough heat to be flavorful-not tastebud destroying*
- ¼ cup packed brown sugar

I will mix the seasonings together without the sugar, so I have it ready to go. Use whatever combination of spice you have in the pantry, but I found this combination perfect. For beef do not add the sugar, for poultry and pork the brown sugar takes it to another level.

Another trick on the pork is to slather it with prepared yellow mustard and then generously put the rub on. Gives a nutty taste not a mustard taste.

A MUST WATCH---a member of my branch Marianne Petroni and a co-worker Jose Luis enthusiastically told me about a show on CNN Sunday evening called “Stanley Tucci searching for Italy.” Jose Luis and his wife make Sunday dinner/evenings Italian night. This is a must see. Stanley is covering one province/region per show. The disappointing part is no recipes, but I have been looking up the dishes he talks about and look forward to trying them out and eventually sharing with you. What is great is he gives some history of the region and tidbits of interesting information. You will hear about the best regions for particular products (lemons, grapes, vinegar, olives, cheese, tomatoes etc.). If you have on-demand with your cable company you might be able to see the shows that have already aired.

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!



Scholarship Donations

Received as of April 10, 2021:

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

1ST YEAR

- Bert Canepa, Jr.
In memory of Theresa Dianda
- Aldine Grisenti
In memory of Tom Howden
- Shirley Catania
In memory of Tom Howden

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

2nd - 4th Year

- Ed and Jo Bertaccini
In memory of Tom Howden
- Ed and Jo Bertaccini
In memory of Cecile Weisner

Book Review--Books to Learn Italian

Vince Piro, Grand President

Recently, a foreign language professor at my college asked me if I speak Italian--embarrassed, I looked down and meekly told her no. She said that was too bad because Italian was such a beautiful language, full of color and unique expressions. She ended up sending me some beginner book recommendations that you might find useful if you want to begin to learn Italian or brush up on it. Some of the titles are for travelers, others for families, others for children, and one is a classic on Italian gestures.

Most of these titles can be found at your local independent bookstore, Amazon, Barnes & Noble or one of my favorite online bookstores I AM Books at <http://www.iambooksboston.com/>.

15-minute Italian (Eyewitness Travel 15-Minute Language Packs)

The perfect language pack for learning Italian fast – talk with confidence in just 12 weeks. “Parla italiano?”

In just 15 minutes a day you can speak and understand Italian with confidence with “15-Minute Italian,” an easy-to-follow, practical course teaching you all the essentials. The unique visual approach makes learning quick, easy and fun. No writing or homework – just use the specially designed “cover and test” flaps to hide the answers and test yourself as you learn.



Continued on Page 3

April Calendar Winners

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
4/1	Danny Gualco	390	Tracy, CA	\$40
4/2	Kristy Rossi	391	Independence, OR	\$50
4/3	Dominic & Laura Grisafe		Yucaipa, CA	\$50
4/4	Carmen Gabriel		McKinleyville, CA	\$100
4/5	Franceska Velez		Modesto, CA	\$40
4/6	Maria Terndrup 281		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
4/7	Agnes Marcheschi	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
4/8	Judi & Matt Dallara	442	Hercules, CA	\$30
4/9	Debbie Lencioni Rocha		Fresno, CA	\$30
4/10	Lynn Hoffman	395	Stockton, CA	\$30
4/11	Edelweiss Geary		Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
4/12	Jennifer Piazza	285	Belvedere, CA	\$30
4/13	Glorinda Dobleman	213	Daly City, CA	\$30
4/14	Holly Bernal		Pacifica, CA	\$30
4/15	Maria Miller		Oakdale, CA	\$30
4/16	George Meert		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
4/17	Denise Huerta		Castro Valley, CA	\$30
4/18	Tom & Mary Cook	13	Martinez, CA	\$30
4/19	Annette Arnold		Sacramento, CA	\$30
4/20	Mike & Nick Migliore		San Anselmo, CA	\$30
4/21	Bert Bertolotti		Modesto, CA	\$30
4/22	Teresa Helfand	392	Chicago, IL	\$30
4/23	Charlyne Pacini	135	Reno, NV	\$30
4/24	Kimberlie Laruta		Manteca, CA	\$30
4/25	Christine Ragusa	362	Downey, CA	\$30
4/26	Maria Marshall	214	Concord, CA	\$30
4/27	Ray Lesti		El Sobrante, CA	\$30
4/28	Marlene Farber	161	Greenbrae, CA	\$30
4/29	Jeanette Muratore	39	Merced, CA	\$30
4/30	Cindy Arambel	31	Los Banos, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEBSITE: ICF.ORG

Importance of the Parish

Apostolate-Charity Committee

Carmen Kilcullen, Committee Member

Most of us belong to a particular parish. We may ask, what is a parish? A parish is a portion of a Catholic diocese with certain geographical boundaries under the administration of a priest who is appointed by the bishop of said diocese. A parish priest administers to the faithful in his area with a mandate to provide for his parishioners. He is also charged with maintaining his parish with the necessary support to carry on the work of the parish. He may also have assistant priests and deacons to help him in his ministry as well as a large number in lay ministry (a role most seen undertaken by women).



Belonging to a parish gives a sense of identity in that parish and signifies that one wishes to be part of this Catholic community. It is also a commitment to practice one's faith, stay connected with parish life and attend to our spiritual needs.

The essential elements of parish life are as follows:

- Worship
- Word
- Service
- Community
- Leadership
- Stewardship
- Sunday Eucharist

Any of these essentials can certainly correspond to the spiritual and corporal works of mercy discussed in previous issues of the Bollettino. It is for all these reasons that we are asked to support our parishes as best we can, not only financially, but in all the ways in which we are asked to participate. A parish is only as good as when all of these elements come together.

From my own experience, belonging to a vibrant parish is most satisfying and welcoming. I hope that this is the same for all of you.

Carmen Kilcullen-committee member

In the early days of the Church, there were no such entities as parishes. People would gather informally for prayers and services. In the 4th century, there were large enough groups to be served by a resident clergy. It is only in the 11th century that separate urban parishes began and developed as to what we know today.

Apostolate – Charity Reporting Form

A reminder that the 2021 Apostolate – Charity Reporting Form is available for all branches online at the Members Area at icf.org.

The Committee urges all branches to complete the form and return it to the Central Council Office by the July 7 deadline. We understand that most fundraising activities have been put on hold, however, we do want to record any activities branches have been able to do this past year.

More than completing the forms to see if your branch will win a prize, the forms are our way of compiling accurate data regarding all the good works our branches do. All branches have some apostolate – charity work, so there should be no reason not to complete the form. In opening new branches and recruiting new members, it has been found that many people join the ICF because of our charitable giving. Having the information from the forms, will give us accurate information to use in our recruitment process.



*Thank you,
Lauren Kilcullen
Apostolate-Charity Committee Chairperson*

The Wonder of it all. LIFE LINE

By Msgr. Cardelli

Happiness reflecting off a mother's face smiling at her child.

Cooley's Anemia Donations

Received as of April 10, 2021:

Branch 374
Terry and John Giannetto
Officers/Members of Br. 308
In memory of Pat Mastro

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

Gifts of Love Donations

Received as of April 10, 2021:

John and Camille Orlando
In memory of Tom Howden
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fuentes
In memory of Jim Loman
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fuentes
In memory of Lena Venturelli
Shirley Catania
In memory of William Sterner
John and Camille Orlando
In memory of John Antuzzi
JoAnn and Joseph Sangiacomo
In memory of Deacon Lery Prudenciado

In Loving Memory (Report as of April 4, 2021)

Rose Bava	Branch 007	Daniel Nieri	Branch 139
Martha S Meuldijk	Branch 021	Lorraine I Urban	Branch 161
Gloria Massetti	Branch 027	Deacon Joseph A Pepe	Branch 169
Emily Mayorga	Branch 027	Marilyn J Beck	Branch 227
Pauline Compagno	Branch 036	Shirley L Stoyack	Branch 229
Doris Gonella	Branch 039	Rose Renna	Branch 291
Carolina Braga	Branch 050	June M Steves	Branch 291
Carlo Cortopassi	Branch 051	Frank A Rinaldi	Branch 332
Virginia Frassetto	Branch 051	William B Gretz	Branch 351
Ricardo Romo	Branch 073	Armando Maestrini	Branch 351
Vadon L Ross	Branch 073	Charles C Stevens	Branch 351
Richard Graham	Branch 091	Marilyn V Pierson	Branch 352
Joyce Adragna	Branch 111	Luisa Bevilaqua	Branch 392
Nunziata Onorato	Branch 115	Delfina Pensa	Branch 392
Iliana Carrara	Branch 130	Luigi M Delucchi	Branch 442
Romano V Zan	Branch 130		

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

Clifford Boyett	Branch 014	John Dainko	Branch 217
Mary Boyett	Branch 014	Aelia V Emerick	Branch 217
Karin Doty	Branch 014	Leonardo V Emerick	Branch 217
Mark Arellano	Branch 036	Lorenzo V Emerick	Branch 217
Keira Jones	Branch 036	Gilberto Uriarte	Branch 218
Michael Jones	Branch 036	Mary Lani Uriarte	Branch 218
Olivia Jones	Branch 036	Alexis Bustamante	Branch 229
Stephanie Jones	Branch 036	Charlie Bustamante	Branch 229
Bill L Perocchi	Branch 036	Jennifer Bustamante	Branch 229
Nanci S Perocchi	Branch 036	Stevan Gonzales	Branch 229
Mary Kate Lathrop	Branch 052	Kaiyah Lee	Branch 250
Danny Perez	Branch 052	Kimberly Lee	Branch 250
Jennie M Perez	Branch 052	Rev Charles Puthota	Branch 258
Angie Rowland	Branch 052	Jeri Kruse	Branch 332
Robert M Rowland	Branch 052	Daniel Randall	Branch 332
Francesca Taylor	Branch 067	Keely Randall	Branch 332
John Kaehler	Branch 082	Krista Randall	Branch 332
Stephanie Kaehler	Branch 082	Stacey Randall	Branch 332
Amanda R Moberly	Branch 082	Dina Calabro	Branch 392
Luke Dever	Branch 108	Frank Di Piero	Branch 392
Patsy Knight	Branch 108	Ivana Di Piero	Branch 392
Vincent Di Meglio	Branch 115	Francesca Dreher	Branch 392
Katherine Winkelman	Branch 184	Lucy Dreher	Branch 392
Heidi Timko	Branch 198	Mitchell Dreher	Branch 392
Joseph A Hug	Branch 209	Angela Simonetta	Branch 392
Kathryn R Lofftus	Branch 209	Lucia Wasson	Branch 392
Kyle C Lofftus	Branch 209	Rev Mark Wagner	Branch 395
Christopher J Polley	Branch 209	Rochelle L Henson	Branch 432
Tammy C Polley	Branch 209	Marilyn Mc Claskey	Branch 442
Timothy J Polley	Branch 209	Scott Olson	Branch 443

Life Tribute

Geraldine “Gerry” Saitta

2014 Recipient of the Pope Saint John XXIII Award

Geraldine (Zanusoe) Saitta exemplified unselfishness, determination, kindness and patience. She believed that giving of yourself is a privilege, not an obligation. In 2014, with these attributes and almost 5 decades of service to her community, she was recognized by the Italian Catholic Federation with the Pope Saint John XXIII Award—the highest award given by the ICF to an individual for humanitarian service to society.

Gerry was born on July 30, 1939, and passed away on April 8, 2021, after a 9-month battle with pancreatic cancer. Gerry was born in Passaic, NJ, and attended school in East Paterson later moving to Clifton where she graduated from high school. She attended Carnegie Institute of Technology in New York City, where she graduated summa cum laude and received the Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award, along

with a 4-year scholarship to Rochester Medical School. Due to family financial responsibilities, she declined the scholarship and began her career as a medical technologist.

She married George Saitta in 1961. While he completed his electrical engineering degree, they also welcomed a daughter. They relocated to Huntington Beach, CA in 1966. In 1968, their son was born and then they relocated to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Gerry was active in the local church and school.

In 1973, the family moved to Barstow, CA where the children attended Mount St. Joseph Catholic School. From her volunteering, Gerry realized the need for immunizations and lunch programs for the students. Her diligence and documentation were instrumental in bringing these programs to the school.

The family moved back to Huntington Beach a year later. While the children attended school at St. Bonaventure Church, Gerry also became highly involved. She ran the health room and coordinated many fundraising activities for the school. For the parish, she was the festival’s food chairperson as well as working with the HOPE (Helping Other People Every Day) office. In 1978, Gerry became Director of HOPE at the request of Monsignor Duffy.

Gerry guided HOPE to a significant role in the Huntington Beach Community. From helping seniors to providing holiday programs for over 800 families, HOPE grew. Gerry was instrumental in developing partnerships with Orange County Food Bank, Second Harvest Food Bank, the Oakview Task Force, Catholic Charities, United Way and Toys for Tots.



Gerry is survived by her husband George, daughter SueAnn Kulper and husband David, son George, granddaughter Jessica Kulper, and brother Richard Zanusoe.

Everything she did, Gerry did with grace and patience. She is at peace to watch over and gently guide her family from heaven.

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



DONATE BLOOD.

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

Blood Connection

Continued from Page 1

Everyone, should continue to wear masks, social distance, wash hands, and get vaccinated as soon as possible.

Additionally, donating blood has always been and is still very safe.

Blood banks have adopted safety protocols to protect their donors from COVID. Countless lives still depend on blood to survive, however there have been critical shortages since the pandemic began.

Please consider donating blood and giving the gift of life.

References:


CNN: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/15/health/red-cross-blood-donations-covid-antibodies/index.html>

MIT: <https://medical.mit.edu/covid-19-updates/2020/07/blood-type-and-covid-19>

WebMd: <https://www.webmd.com/lung/news/20210303/why-blood-type-may-matter-for-covid-infection>

Hiker Progress

Continued from Page 1



This photo shows the white blaze marking of the trail near mile 8. There are literally thousands of these painted blazes marking the entire trail, usually only a few yards apart..

Ryan is also trying to adapt to the humidity of the South. Overall, he said, the scenery and trail conditions on the AT are better than he expected, and everything is going well.

Keep Ryan in your prayers as he continues his journey along the Appalachian Trail.

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of April 10, 2021:

IN MEMORY OF:

Shirley Stoyack
Tom Howden
Tom Howden
Richard Graham
Tom Howden
David Watson
Pat Mastro
Cecile Weisner
Tom Howden
Richard Graham
Deacon Lery Prudenciado
Cecile Weisner

DONATED BY:

Officers/Members of Br. 229
Officers/Members of Br. 191
Jim and Janice Jones
John and Delma Bulotti
Mary Rossetto
Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
Bob Basuino
Bob Basuino
Officers/Members of Br. 91
Jean and Don Tomatis
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

GET WELL WISHES:

Elaine Davis
Aldine Grisenti

Bob Basuino
Bob Basuino

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY:

Ann Fitzgerald

Bob Basuino

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Ronald Sani, a member of Br. 70, Sanger.

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by JoAnn Maggiora-Donivan of Maggiora Jewelry from the proceeds of a sale of the ICF ring 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.

Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco

Maria S.S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members:

Still no activity due to COVID-19.

Hope all had a Happy Easter.

Stay healthy!

Ciao!

Toni Morsello

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Happy Mother's Day to all of our Great Mothers. We hope you have a nice day.

Fr. Charles, thank you very much for accepting being our Chaplain for our Br. 258 for the Italian Catholic Federation. Please stop in to see us at one of our meetings. It will be an honor to have you join us.

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

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

We have received the Convention Raffle Tickets and they are being sent to you. Please return the ticket stubs and your check as soon as possible. Thank you!!

Our sincere sympathy to the family of our member, Zelinda Stefani. Our prayers are with all of you. Zelinda will be missed.

Great News!! Our Br. 258 was lucky and won \$40.00 on the January Calendar Drawing. Good Luck to those who bought a calendar. You, too, can be a winner.

Please stay well. We miss seeing you and love all of you.

Ciao,

Eva Perata, President

SAN MATEO

Colma

San Vincenzo de Paoli, Br. 19

Branch 19 San Vincenzo de Paoli

It is with great sadness that I write this article on the day of the passing of our long time member, Bianca Caserza. She will also be missed in the Holy Angels Parish/Daly City community. Please keep her family and those close to her in your prayers.

Today was also the day we said our final farewell to a great friend of the ICF and Holy Angels Parish Deacon Lernito (Lerny) Prudenciado. Many of you may remember him from our conventions and his assisting at the convention masses. Our prayers and Love go out to his wife, our branch member, Christine and his family.

Remember almost every Sunday at Holy Angels Church after masses, they are selling meals. The food is always delicious and is helping raise money to keep the Parish going through these difficult times.

Take care and be safe!

Ciao!

deborah



Deacon Lerny at Branch 19's Christmas Party. The members are singing the Italian version of the 12 days of Christmas.

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

It was wonderful to be able to enjoy Easter with loved ones and feeling more relaxed as all had their second vaccine shots.

We need to pay special recognition to our mothers on May 9th and for many of us we wish they were still with us.

Our Branch has been holding a zoom meeting on the second Thursday of each month and we were reminded to sell our convention raffle tickets in a timely manner before the middle of June 2021. Once books are sold and returned the Branch will make a profit of \$500.00.

We will be holding our convention this year in Santa Clara and if members want their loved ones' names to be listed on the Memorial page, please advise our President with a \$5 check attached.

Special prayers are needed for the following members and their families: Anthony Bruno's daughter, Patricia, who was diagnosed with Cancer, Mary Bodisco, Anita Cecena who is recovering from back surgery, Joe & Elena Malta and Lorraine Rollandi. We are keeping on our prayer list all members of other branches who are in need of positive thoughts at this time.

Our special thoughts are with Steve Martinelli, Lisa, Michael, Jack and the Tomasello family in their time of need for the recovery of Steve.

God Bless, Roz Emery

South San Francisco St. Augustine, Br. 213

Check out the iPhone screenshot from Branch 213's first Zoom meet! We had a great time! It was a chance to get together with as many members who wanted to, to say hello to everyone and see how they were doing. The members who joined the zoom chat were as follows: Joyce James, Jackie Smith, Joe and Judy Crosetti, Dorene Campanile, Barbara Gabriel, Linda Benedetti, Renee Mintun, Victor Spano and Donna DeVoe. Joyce also had a small raffle, the prize being a \$5 gift card to Trader Joes. Dorene won. We hope to have more or all of our members in on the next Zoom meeting.

Our branch continues to pray for the end of the pandemic and resumption of in person meetings, but in the meantime we continue to make plans and complete projects.

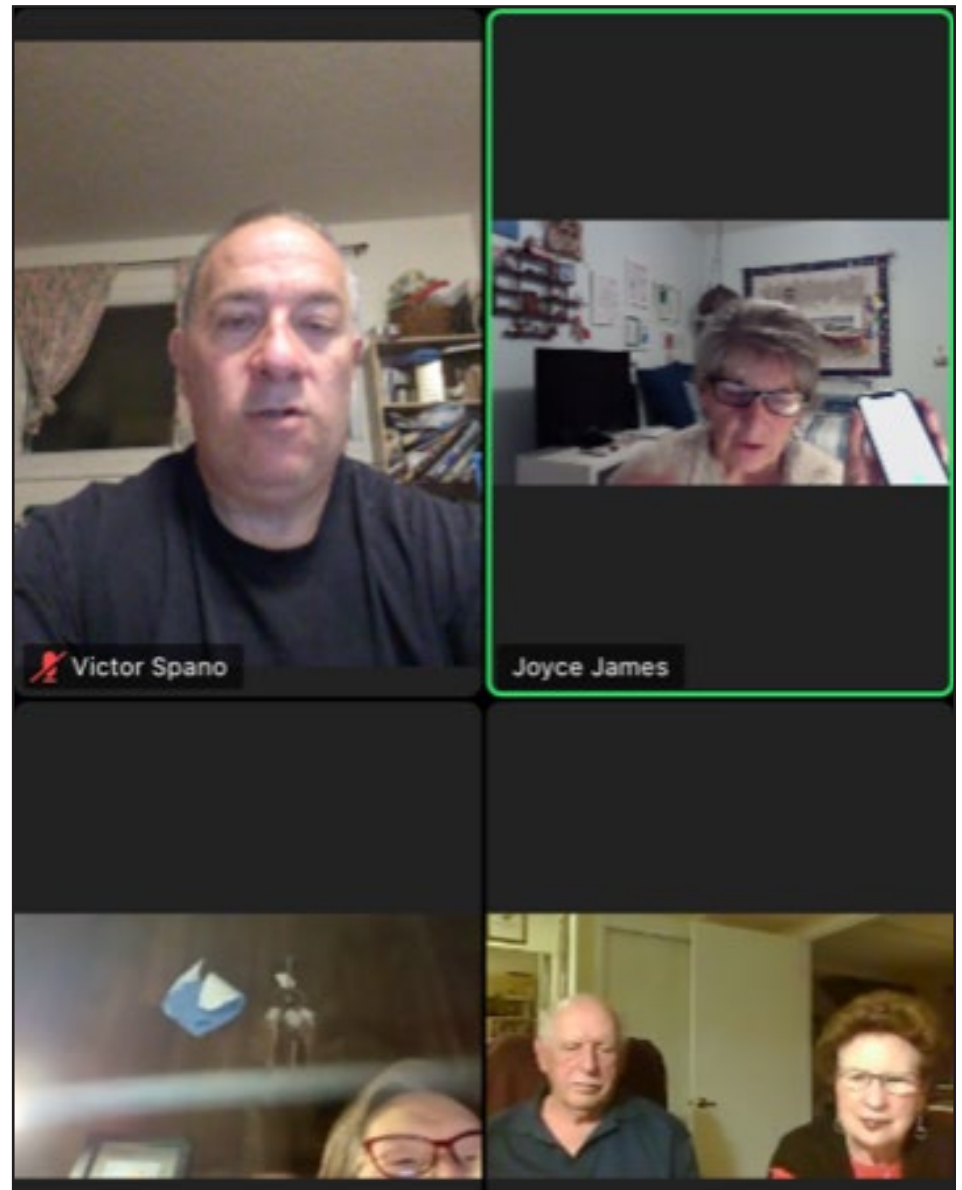


One of which is the annual ST. JOSEPH TABLE at our host parish, St. Augustine's held on the Feast of St. Joseph. In substitution of the physical table, a virtual table via food bags. Branch members would prepare something small to be placed in a food bag. Branch members decorated with flowers and placed the baskets filled with the snack bags around the St Joseph's statue at the altar. 150 Snack bags were put together, given out after the Novena mass on the March 19th, including Fava beans, St. Joseph's prayer and story about the Fava bean as well as an ICF brochure.

*Ciao,
Victor Spano*



Br. 213, St. Joseph's Table Event at St. Augustine.



Branch 213's first Zoom meet!

Millbrae St. Dunstan, Br. 403

Ciao Amici!

Most of our members have received at least one dose of a vaccine. Our plan is to meet once we have all been fully vaccinated and we can use the Parish Hall once again. Unfortunately, a fourth surge and those variants could delay our plans. A new mutation from India is now circulating in the Bay Area so do not let your guard down! The weather is beautiful outside so gather in safe numbers there.

Grazie tanto to those members who renewed their membership, and be sure to enter the ICF Raffle.

I would also like to pay tribute to our past corresponding secretary, Rose Marie Morando: Thank you for your many years of service! This job can be difficult at times, given that even small errors can result in major misunderstandings as evidenced by the following true church newsletter entry: "The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would loan him their girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday." Again, many thanks!!

*Stay well and stay safe.
Adonna Amoroso
Corresponding Secretary*

MARIN

Larkspur St. James, Br. 161

Marlene Farber contributed "A Mother's Love" poem featured on page 1 of the *Bollettino*.

Please pray for the family of Lorraine Urban 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.

Wishing all the mothers a very Happy Mother's Day. May it bring you smiles, happiness and memories, you can treasure.

*Anna Biggio
Recording Secretary*

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Greetings members.

We are now in the month of May and things are looking brighter and more beautiful every day. I hope you all had a wonderful Easter, I know I did. The end of the fiscal calendar is getting closer and I hope every branch is finishing up their finances for the year and thinking

about their Apostolic reports which will be due soon. Not sure about it, go to the ICF website and you will find it there. It's easy to fill out. We need 100% participation.

Let's also keep in mind nominations for the convention awards. If you know of a deserving family or a youth / young adult that you'd like to nominate than go ahead and do so, and let us all know. Don't forget about the St John XXIII award and the St Theresa of Calcutta award. When we have our next meeting, whether it is an in - person, virtual or a combo of both, please be sure to invite other officers or members of your branch to join in because we really should have more representation from every branch join us. This allows for more input and socializing within our district.

Before closing I would like to wish all of our moms, and mother figures a very Happy Mother's Day. God bless you.

*Have a wonderful month and let's get together soon.
Perry Shurko, LA District President.*

Los Angeles St. Peter, Br. 67

ICF National Branch 67 is a virtual branch and reach out to members and non members who do not have an ICF in their area and would like be a part of the ICF Family. We also would like to have your input as we continue to develop this branch online. Visit ICF.org ICF National Branch 67 for more information. I

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



Br. 67 St. Peter's Altar

Please keep our sick members in your prayers that they may reach a speedy recovery.

And to our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward; May they rest in peace.

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

South Pasadena Holy Family, Br. 108

On Sunday, April 11th members joined our General Meeting via Zoom. After ICF business the following members celebrated their April Birthdays: Dale Ann T., Dave T., Gina S., Karla R., Mary Ann M.D., and Tad S.

Following the meeting, members enjoyed several games of virtual Bingo.

Congratulations to the following winners of Sunday's Zoom Bingo Games: Diana P., Cristina Y., and Tad Shaw.

ICF will continue providing virtual events until the present crisis changes, and 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 out to all Members, families and friends, with a big Thank You to all first responders who continue to help those suffering under the present "Pandemic".

Please continue to pray for the speedy Resolution of this crisis and to keep our sick members in your prayers for a speedy recovery; and 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*



Br. 108 Zoom April General Meeting

Montebello St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. We hope you are all doing well and staying healthy. It was great to see all of you that attended our March general Meeting and Luncheon at the Taylor Ranch Park to celebrate and remember our St. Joseph's Table.

Our May General Meeting will be a Zoom meeting scheduled on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Look for our May 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 May: Phyllis Pace, Fr. Dionisio Cachera, Filomena Divincenzo, Nocolina Vieni, Mario Orofino, Vince Veneziano, Jess Noriega, Alfred Viera, Salvatore Canzonieri, Carmelita Aguilera, Tony Wadzinski, and Salvatore Sorce. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Wishing you all a very Happy Mother's Day with you families. 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

With the distribution of the vaccine I think we all feel optimistic that soon we will be able to host in person meetings!

Mass for Madonna Del Arco will be held on Saturday May 8th at 5:15pm. Please bring flowers and place in front of her beautiful mosaic. Friendly reminder masks are necessary to attend mass. It will be so good to see many of you!

Let's wish Angelina Gioiello a very happy 90th birthday. Angelina has been an active member since she joined in 1967. Tanti Auguri!

Congratulations to Bob Hohman on his calendar winnings for the month of April!

Our sincere condolences go out to the family of John Sogliuzzo. John passed away on March 15th. May he rest in peace.

Happy Mother's day to all of the wonderful mother's in our branch. God bless you all!

*Looking forward to when we can meet again.
Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer*



Br. 111 March Meeting and Luncheon at the park



Br. 115, Angelina Gioiello celebrating her 90th birthday



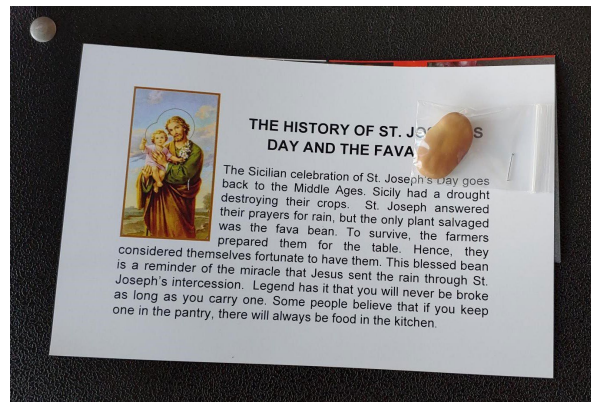
Br. 179, Dina Sale for making the traditional cross breads

Glendora St. Dorothy, Br. 179

St. Dorothy Glendora Branch 179 celebrated St. Joseph's Day as best we could during this new and different time. As a food table is not allowed due to Covid, our pastor scheduled two outdoor masses on St. Joseph's Day, March 19, 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Branch 179 took this opportunity to hand-out our new ICF flyer, with the traditional fava bean and history of the fava bean attached. One was placed on every chair. Also it was published in our church bulletin and announced from the pulpit that we would be collecting discarded clothing for our ongoing clothing drive at each mass. We got quite a few bags/boxes. We're hoping to gain a few new members from our efforts.

A special thank you to member Dina Sale for making the traditional cross breads to adorn the altar, and our Board members who assembled the hand-out and decorated the altar.



Br. 179, Picture left to right Board Members: Jan Daigneault, Nicci Emery, Josie Scarpino Bresee, Bruce Brancato, Patricia Auriemmo, Cathy Napoli, and Vito Napoli

Arcadia Holy Angels, Br. 218

Upcoming events: Clothing drive – May 2nd, sandwich sale-as of this date potential date is May 23rd. This will be an RSVP event on May 16 for either the sausage or the meatball sandwiches. They will be handed out in your cars after the first Mass only. There was much discussion at our last board meeting about resuming our meetings in an outdoor setting, possibly at Arcadia Park or at Scott Carrano's home. Watch for your newsletter regarding all the finalized plans for the above.

The branch will be donating a scholarship fund to the Central Council again this year. At a later date we will also consider a donation to Holy Angels School.

Everyone have a nice Mother's Day and hope to see everyone soon. Stay safe and healthy.

Lolly M.

Claremont Our Lady of the Assumption, Br. 319

Dear Members,

As you have heard Los Angeles numbers for Corona virusis down. Yeah we are on our way to opening restaurants, in person church services, and soon meetings on campus

The church will soon be getting some leeway for activities on the grounds, so if you have any ideas for fund raising activities, please email me. I have a feeling there will be facilities request form out soon.

*Stay safe and well
God bless
Andrea Linn, Pres.*

Downey St. Raymond, Br. 362

Happy May! Spring is in full bloom now and we are half way through the Easter season, and Pentecost is just a few weeks away.

I want to thank all of our members who generously donated to the St Joseph altar and to Irene Vallini who helped me set it up and break it down. We were able to collect \$700 from our members and parishioners which will help pay for two 8th grade scholarships and help towards the Seminary Burse.

As far as getting together again to meet in person, we are not able to meet in the church hall as of yet, but I'm hoping that with restrictions being lifted and more people getting vaccinated, that we could at least meet at a park or restaurant sometime soon.

Before closing, I would like to wish every mom, grandmother, and mother

figure a very Happy and Blessed Mothers Day.

*Till we meet again, have a great month.
Perry Shurko, Branch 362 President.*

Thousand Oaks St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Greetings from Branch 380. We hope everyone had a wonderful Easter and that the beautiful Spring weather is bringing you happiness.

We would like to wish all of the mothers a very happy Mother's Day! Enjoy your special day!

We look forward to getting together when it is safe for everyone. You are all in our prayers.

Stay safe and healthy and God bless you.

EAST BAY DISTRICT

We did not meet during March, but plan to resume meeting again in April.

So we will use this time to salute all Mothers with this short prayer;

For all Mothers: that through the intercession of the Mother of God, the Lord will bless them and reward them for their sacrifices and love.

May this be a most Happy and Blessed Mother's Day for all of you.

*Pat Grasso,
Dist. Sec.
Oakland*

Alameda Nostra Signora Delle Gracie, Br. 10

We held our monthly Zoom membership meeting on April 8.

Karen Harrington, our treasurer, reported that our membership is keeping steady at 114. All but eight have submitted their 2021 dues.

We are planning an information and recruiting pulpit talk at Mass on the weekend of May 22-23 at Saint Philip Neri church. The Mass will celebrate our 95th anniversary as a branch. And we will announce the date and location of our summer barbecue. The barbecue will function as a further celebration.. (We were founded, amid great fanfare, on May 23, 1926.)

Our annual Ravioli Dinner remains schedule for October 16 in Monsignor O'Brien Hall in Alameda. Member Ben Ratto, our always reliable chef, is ready to cook.

Publicist John Zugnoni, who is of Italian and Irish descent, recounted the history of the Italian side of his family under "Heritage" at our April 8 meeting. His grandfather, Emil Zugnoni, was

born in 1880 in the Italian municipality of Rasura (present population 297), province of Sondrio, region of Lombardy. He worked in a glove factory in Chicago before settling in Berkeley, California, where he raised two sons, Art and Emil, Jr., John's father. Art and his wife Stella were married for 77 years and died a month apart in 2018.

Fremont St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

Happy May!

I hope your Spring is off to a good start and everyone is staying healthy and happy!

We will be moving forward with our spring fundraiser to benefit our scholarships and other charities! PLEASE buy lunch or dinner at the delicious Strizzi's Italian restaurant in Fremont on Tuesday, May 18th (between 12:00 and 8:00 p.m.) When you pick up your food, tell them it's for ICF Branch 215 at Corpus Christi Church. THANK YOU!

Call James at 510-676-7337 if you have any questions...

Strizzi's is located in the Walgreens shopping center at the corner of Mowry and Paseo Padre in Fremont. (1609 Mowry Avenue)

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 may be on Zoom. (If not, it will be in the Corpus Christi parish hall.) 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*

Livermore St. Filomena, Br. 285

Having our monthly meetings through Zoom enable us to continue to support each other during these challenging times.

Our branch has been fortunate to have retained most of our members during lockdown.

For our St. Joseph's meeting, Carolyn and John Cardinalli set up a St. Joseph's Table at their home and Father Fili was able to join us and spoke to us on Lent.

Through the very generous donations of our members, our branch collected non perishable foods that were donated to the St. Vincent dePaul pantry at St. Michael's.

A very successful letter writing campaign allowed us to donate High School Senior Scholarships.

We are also able to support Goodness Village, a 28 tiny house community on Crosswinds Church property in Livermore. Families will have vocational, mental and health help. St. Michael's is raising money to furnish one of the homes.

At our future Zoom meetings we will play Italian Heritage games and Tombola.

As the lockdown loosens up we are so grateful that we are able to worship and give thanks inside our churches this Easter season.

*Carlotta Schauer
Recording Secretary*

Castro Valley Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Even without a dinner and a St. Joseph's table we are pleased that we were able to make a donation to Transfiguration's St. Vincent de Paul's society again this year. In order to continue our generosity, we will be joining some local restaurants as partners, to raise funds. Since we have moved to the "yellow" zone we are hoping for a good turnout.

Let us bless our Mothers and be thankful for all they have done to make our lives better for us.

*A Happy and Blessed Mother's Day to all our Mothers.
Pat Grasso,
Branch Sec.*



Br. 285's St. Joseph's Table. Zoom Meeting was held March 19, 2021

Book Review--Books to Learn Italian

Continued from Page 4

This updated edition includes the best-selling guide full of real-life examples designed to cover every holiday and business situation and two accompanying 60-minute CDs to help you perfect your pronunciation. Whether starting from scratch or just in need of a refresher, there's no easier way to learn Italian than with "15-Minute Italian".

52 Weeks of Family Italian: Bite Sized Weekly Lessons Designed to Get You and Your Family Speaking Italian Today!

Start speaking Italian today! *52 Weeks of Family Italian* contains small, weekly lessons that will get you and your family speaking and understanding Italian right away. No flashcards or grammar practice required!



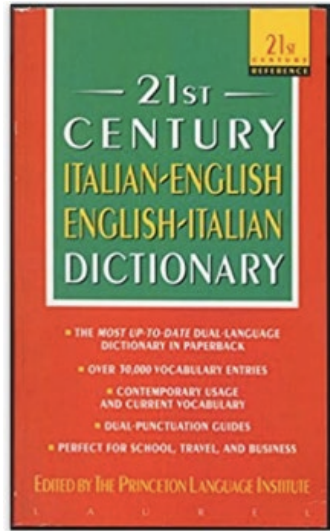
Here is the perfect book to help you finally learn to speak Italian and teach your children as you learn. All weekly activities are integrated into modern family life. Games and fun activities are included to help you on your language learning journey. Also inside *52 Weeks of Family Italian: Ideas!* Pressed for time?

The Ideas! section presents ways to integrate language learning into a busy day.

Pronunciation Guide: An easy to follow pronunciation guide will help you as you learn to navigate foreign sounds.

Cultural Notes: Each unit highlights a Italian cultural topic. Give your child one little fact a week to ignite their interest in worldwide cultures.

Learning Resources: An entire section of the book is devoted to free or easily accessible resources to help make learning Italian more exciting for your child. Learn to speak Italian the fun, natural way...and bring your



kids along for the ride!

21st Century Italian-English English-Italian Dictionary

The *21st Century Italian-English/English-Italian Dictionary* is an invaluable reference source for today's students, business people and travelers, providing essential information in an easy-to-use format. The dual format of these dictionaries eliminates the need to use two dictionaries.

Students can use The *21st Century Italian-English/English-Italian Dictionary* to find the English translation of an unfamiliar Italian word--and to discover the correct way to express a certain English phrase in Italian. Because each entry is listed in both Italian and English, this dictionary is useful for every situation, for business people checking the terms of a contract on an international deal, to foreign exchange students getting settled into a Italian dormitory, and to tourists trying to understand the items on a menu.

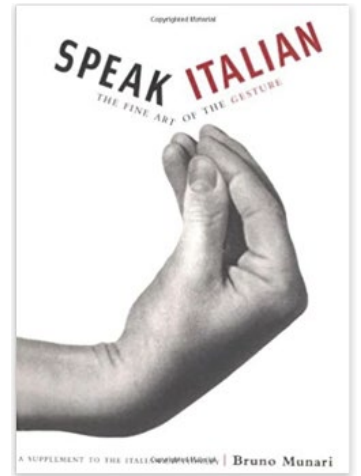
Color & Learn Easy Italian Phrases for Kids (Dover Little Activity Books)

These playful illustrations and their accompanying Italian words and phrases offer plenty of memorable fun for kids. More than 60 pages feature English translations of everyday Italian terms and pronunciations including the words for family members, favorite foods, numbers, and colors. Practical phrases include "Excuse me," "How much does it cost?" and many others.



Speak Italian: The Fine Art of Gesture

They say that a gesture is worth a thousand words, and when it comes to speaking with your hands, the Italians speak volumes. This quirky handbook of Italian gestures, first published in 1958 by renowned Milanese artist and graphic designer Bruno Munari, will help the phalange-phobic decipher the unspoken language of gestures, a language not found in any dictionary.



Charming black-and-white photos and wry captions evoke an Italy of days gone by. *Speak Italian* gives a little hand to anyone who has ever been at a loss for words.



Italian Catholic Federation Twenty First Annual

DATE:

GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, JULY 30, 2021

SAVE THE DATE

(TENTATIVE)

• JOIN US IN THE •

WINE

• COUNTRY •

FOR OUR

21ST

YEAR

EVENT!



MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW. START MAKING YOUR PLANS TO SHARE IN THIS NEW GOLF VENTURE AND MAKE THIS A MEMORABLE 21ST ANNIVERSARY EVENT!!!



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The Ways and Means Committee presents the 2022 "Daily Raffle" theme:

"Coming To America"

We need your participation. So how can you help?

Share the story of your FAMILY'S JOURNEY to AMERICA!

- Share RECIPES that your family brought to America with them.
- Share PICTURES that hold fond memories of your Family's Heritage.
- Sell! Sell! Sell! The "Daily Raffle" is a great fundraiser for the entire Italian Catholic Federation, since a portion of every sale goes directly to your Branch!

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP

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

PRICE SCHEDULE

\$10 – one name/event; \$15 – 2 names/events;
\$20 – 4 names/events

(Additional numbers will be a combination of prices listed above.)

Example: \$30 – 5 names/events @ \$20 + \$10 or
\$40 – 8 names/events @ \$20 + \$20
Deadline for names and payment is: June 1, 2021

Mail information and checks payable to:
Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621



The Committee thanks you for your continued support. *Chairperson: Bob Bassano*

Members: Lisa Crudo and Franklyn Lopez, Jr.

Advisor: Leonard Rossi, C.C.F.

For further questions, call the I.C.F. office at (916) 632-1000

Zona Divertimento

Mothers of the Bible

P	Q	W	E	R	T	J	O	C	H	E	B	E	D	R	F
E	H	F	G	F	E	C	D	C	F	V	G	B	N	H	J
J	O	A	C	G	D	E	A	A	F	R	C	V	R	G	B
F	P	T	R	E	B	E	K	A	H	Y	I	I	S	N	M
E	O	G	Y	A	U	U	Q	U	O	U	P	K	A	J	K
F	L	F	H	Y	O	Y	W	H	L	T	I	J	R	U	I
G	K	V	R	A	C	H	E	L	P	R	U	M	A	I	J
E	I	B	J	U	H	I	S	U	U	D	J	N	H	M	N
V	U	N	E	A	C	K	T	D	R	E	K	H	O	H	H
E	J	J	N	M	V	J	Y	M	A	F	L	G	K	G	M
D	G	N	D	A	I	K	U	J	E	U	O	B	J	F	A
E	A	R	F	R	M	L	I	U	R	H	G	N	U	N	R
H	A	E	B	I	O	O	O	J	F	Y	T	H	K	M	Y
E	E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	G	H	Y	T	R	M
S	F	G	B	Y	N	L	M	P	O	I	J	H	G	E	K
F	H	J	L	O	M	N	B	V	C	S	D	E	R	F	R

EVE

SARAH

REBEKAH

RACHEL

JOCHEBED

PHARAOHS DAUGHTER

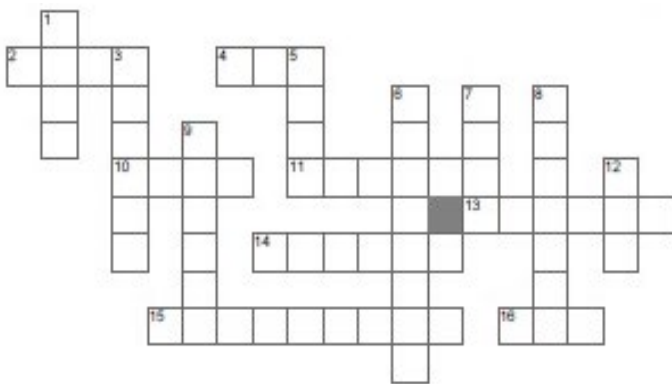
NAOMI

HANNAH

ELIZABETH

MARY

A Mother's Day Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- A piece of writing that expresses emotions using words that rhyme.
- Squeeze someone tightly in one's arms, to express affection.
- Make it easier for Mom to do something.
- An expression of gratitude.
- Day of the week we celebrate Mother's Day.
- Looking after those unable to care for themselves.
- Give Mom a surprise and do this for her this morning.
- Happy Mother's _____.

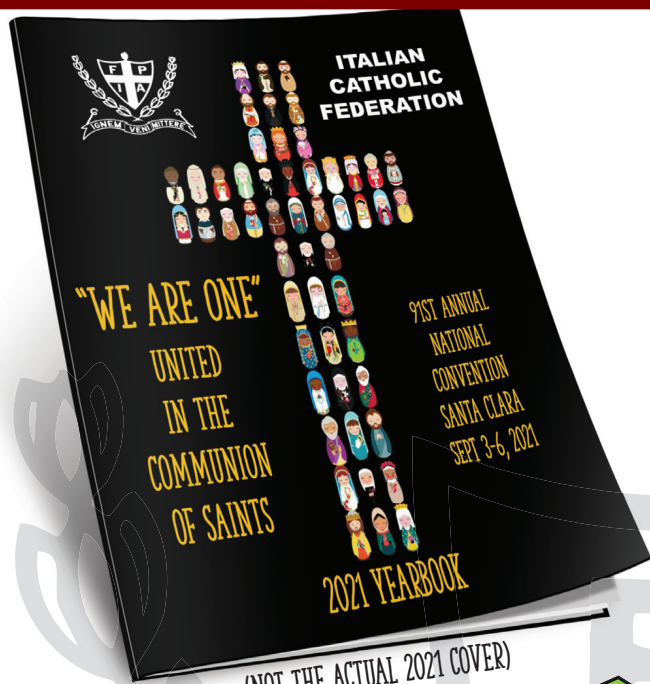
DOWN

- An intense feeling of deep affection.
- Woman who gives birth or who has the responsibility of care for children.
- Another word for a present.
- The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate.
- Touch with the lips as a sign of love.
- Mom's Mother
- The seed-bearing part of a plant.
- The fifth month of the year.

Italian Terms of Endearment

- AMORE! (AH-MOH-REH)
Direct, meaningful, and probably the most popular term of endearment in Italy, amore translates to "love" in Italian.
- TESORO! (TEH-SOH-ROH)
Call those you really cherish, tesoro; you'll be referring to them as "treasure."
- CUORE MIO! (COOWOH-REH MEE-OH)
"My heart!" is an emphatic way to address loved ones that have stolen yours.
- VITA MIA! (VEE-TA MEE-AH)
Vita mia is one of the most powerful Italian terms of endearment. It literally means, "My life!"
- LUCE DEI MIEI OCCHI! (LOO-CHEE DEYEE MEE-EHYEE OHK-KEE)
"Light of my eyes!" One of my favorite, incredibly poetic nicknames for anyone that illuminates your world.
- CUCCILO/A! (COO-CHOH-LOH/LAH)*
This one is especially sweet because it touches on the bond between parents and children. Cucciolo means "puppy," "cub," or any type of baby animal in general.
- PASSEROTTO/A! (PAHS-SEH-ROT-TOH/TAH)*
An affectionate metaphor for anyone who's "learning to fly," passerotto translates to "little sparrow."
- TOPOLINO/A! (TOH-POH-LEE-NOH/NAH)*
Continuing with the animal theme, Topolino means "little mouse" and is also what Mickey Mouse is called in Italy.
- PATATINO/A! (PAH-TAH-TEE-NOH/NAH)*
Translating to "little potato," this is one of the most common terms of endearment for children in Italy.
- PICCOLO/A! (PEEK-KOHL-LOH/LAH)*
If you've noticed, "little" is part of most Italian nicknames. Piccolo is "small" in its purest form; it simply means, "little one."





ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION 2021 Yearbook

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

**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



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

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.



CONTRA COSTA District Council

Greetings to all in this blessed Easter Season! Here's the latest news from the Contra Costa district:

We have a new apostolic chairperson, Anne Mc Entorffer from Branch 442 Pleasant Hill. She will be the person to whom our branches will send their apostolic charity reports by June 30. Her contact information will be sent to all Apostolic Chairpersons soon. A big thank you to Anne for volunteering!

We also wish to thank Matt Dallara also for Pleasant Hill for accepting the position of mentor for the Crockett branch. Other mentors are still needed. Contact Rose Jarrett if you are interested in helping with this ministry to our ICF branches: Her email address is: angels8199@aol.com

Our treasurer, Walter Costa is working with our President Patty Jarrett on a revised budget. It will be reviewed at our next district meeting (date to be announced).

We hope to be able to meet together again for district gatherings by the end of summer at such events as our traditional Italian night with the Oakland A's. We will let everyone know if and when we have a date.

Let's pray that we all remain safe and healthy as we approach these summer months!

*Diana Mackinson, First Vice President
Contra Costa District*

Martinez San Martino Br. 13

Alleluia! Alleluia! We are Easter people! We journey closer to Pentecost on May 23 when the Holy Spirit descends on the apostles following the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus, causing them to speak in tongues; and it marks the beginning of the Catholic church's mission to the world: the Happy Birthday to the church! While there are still no events to promote, no gatherings to attend, the people of God still gather albeit mostly virtually to pray: for each other, for our priests; and for the world. Let us rise with Christ with hope and joy for new beginnings. Alleluia!

This month, we also celebrate and honor the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. The idea of Mother's Day started in America when a woman, Anna Jarvis, held a memorial service for her own mother on May 12, 1907 and from then became an official US holiday in 1914.

We notably honor Jesus' mother and our Mother Mary, as "the Queen of May" in our lives and devotions. The Marian feast of the Visitation was made by the Virgin Mary, pregnant with the infant Jesus, to her cousin Elizabeth who was

pregnant with John the Baptist; and, in her womb, he leapt being aware of the divine presence of Jesus in his mother's womb. The Feast of the Visitation is celebrated in the Catholic Church on May 31.

*Blessed May to all and to all a happy Spring!
Ciao for now,
Mary Cook*

Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

Dear Branch 72 Members,

We say goodbye to April showers which will hopefully bring us May flowers. Mother's day is almost here. Who remembers our Branch ICF queen picked yearly in honor of Mother's day? I always enjoyed seeing the picture of our queen in the Bollettino. I think we should discuss bringing that tradition back.

Since most of us have been fully vaccinated we will take a vote on having outdoor socially distanced meetings. We may be able to meet at a park and or enjoy outdoor dining. I will mail a newsletter in May. It will include a survey and a self-stamped envelope. Please return it to me before June. That way we will know how to move forward.

Our district will inquire about the annual Italian night out at the Oakland A's baseball game. Stay tuned for an update.

Happy Birthday to all of our members born in the month of June.

Happy Mother's day to all the Mothers, Step Mothers, Godmother's, Grandmothers and Great Grandmothers.

That is all for this time. As we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti.

Your President and friend, Patty

Brentwood Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Finally the churches are starting to open and there is a light at the end of the tunnel and the end of the pandemic! It has been a struggle this year for all of us financially and physically. We all have persevered through the Grace of God!

Last year, 2020, was a difficult for fundraising as everyone knows. Normally, the ICF and the Knights of Columbus have a free Pancake Breakfast once a month, for the Parishioners, we do ask for donations. The donations for the breakfast is always over and above the cost of the meal. The Pancake Breakfast helps ICF and the Knights of Columbus pays for our scholarship program every year. However, due to the pandemic we were not able to have the breakfast each month.

In order to continue our scholarship program we needed some ideas for the

members of the ICF to come up with a fund raiser. Thanks to Pat and Robert Rebollar's suggestion that we sell See's Candy. With that idea, we were able to fund our scholarships this year for our student participants. The See's Candy fundraiser was great success, with the help from The Knights of Columbus fundraising, Catholic Daughters' and The Phil Am Club donations, we are able to award eight scholarships to our Parish students who will be graduating this year from high school to College.

I would also like to thank our Parish community at Immaculate Heart of Mary for their support of the ICF Br. 432.

Pleasant Hill Christ the King, Br. 442

Easter is with us, and in this season, we also wish to acknowledge all the mothers in our branch as well as the mothers in all the other branches of the Italian Catholic Federation. We are grateful for all the time, energy and devotion you provide and have provided to your children and families over the years.

The members of Branch 442 have been holding their meetings outdoors since November, socially distant and enjoying box lunches of various cuisines, depending on the theme of the meeting. April's meeting was the last one held "under the tent" because it was time for the tent to be returned. The May meeting will have a Cinco de Mayo theme. Please stay tuned for details on that event. We hope since we are going into summer that we will continue to meet outdoors "in maschera" and order more delicious box lunches.

If you have not yet purchased your convention raffle tickets, please contact our President, Diana Mackinson. She will be very happy to have you sell some. Remember that the branch keeps 50% of the proceeds of the ticket sales. Also, if you are interested in assisting with the raffle that the branch is holding later this spring, please reach out to Juliette Cote. She'd love to have the help with raffle items and/or basket donations.

So that is all the news I have for you!

*Be well.
Ci vediamo quando siamo piu' vecchi,
Teri Martinucci Hurlbut*

BLESSED SACRAMENT

Auburn, St. Joseph, Br. 342

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to get your tickets for our June fundraising dinner which will take place on June 26th. Just like the Christmas dinner, it will be a drive through event. For \$15, you will get a delicious dinner of lasagna, salad, a vegetable, bread and dessert. You will

also get a raffle ticket which will give you a chance to win one of several raffle baskets. Please call MaryAnn Mikles at (916) 759-8466 to purchase tickets.

Thank you to everyone who purchased convention raffle tickets. We were able to sell all the books that were sent to us and our branch was able to keep over \$600 from the sales.

Welcome to new member Carol Barnett! I look forward to meeting you at future events.

*Ciao!
Pam Andersen*

Santa Rosa District Council

Greetings...

Current news from the desk of Lorraine Vanetti. In memory of Louise Vicino the Central Council has received a \$400.00 scholarship from the purse of St. Rose. So generous of St. Rose to disperse their funds for scholarships as we need them.

Hopefully we can soon see each other to keep current with ICF's northern region. I am anxious to become again submerged in meetings and dinners.

In the meantime let us all keep safe and vigilant. Waiting anxiously for more news from District Council...

*Regards,
Marilyn Sylvestri
Recording Secretary*

Healdsburg San Francisco Di Sales, Br. 52

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, May 11: Monthly Meeting. 7:00 PM via Zoom

Sunday, May 2: ICF Monthly Mass, 10:00 AM

I'll have a complete report of our Tri-Tip-A-Go-Go Dinner in the May Eblast. We thank everyone who participated in the dinner and thank Richard Passalacqua and his crew for cooking the delicious dinner!

Continue to pray for an end to the virus. Mass is inside at St. John's. Please wear a mask and social distance.

*Happy Mother's Day!
Lauren Kilcullen*

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

Cloverdale L'Anunciata, Br. 75

The pain is over and He is risen! Alleluia! We, the disciples of Christ cannot fathom how anything so cruel could be done to the one we love and are trying to understand the enormity of what has happened. The gates of Heaven are open to us and because of Him all our sins are forgiven.

I don't even pretend to understand why it took this particular scenario to make it happen, but, it is written, and so it is done! Happy Easter everyone!

I had my first sub day at Windsor Middle School on Friday. There were twelve students with their chrome books, socially distanced and beautifully masked. Their teacher was teaching a part of US History called Manifest Destiny, a period in the 1800's when many believed it was our duty to incorporate our democracy and way of life from "sea to shining sea" and beyond. Our northern and southern borders were established; the US tripled in size. We did this through war, financial negotiation and treaties, not always fair and not always just, but, the story of our nation is an interesting one as is The Story of God's people which is in the Old Testament, the New Testament and carried on to this day in Sacred Tradition.

He is with us daily in The Holy Eucharist, a living, breathing, "real presence!" I apologize for every time I placed Him dead and gone in the history books instead of here and with us now!

Like the United States in the 17 and 18 hundreds, I'd like to see The ICF triple in size and manifest great works! Easter love!!!

Patsy Buchignani

Arcata St. Mary, Br. 144

We are still wearing masks and social distancing, but we are getting our Covid vaccinations. There is light at the end of the tunnel! Praise the Lord!

Our very active member Judy Cardoza needs your prayers. She was recently released from the hospital to a convalescent hospital in order to recuperate while she is receiving radiation. She and her family need to be remembered in your prayers as she recently lost a granddaughter. This has been a most difficult time for the family. Prayers are needed!

Our March meeting was held virtually. Pres. Linda encouraged members to read all of the branch reports in the Bollettino to spark ideas that might benefit our branch. We need ideas for new membership, money raising and spreading the word of what ICF is all about!

Membership dues for 2021 are past due. Call Elena if you have not paid yours.

Br. 144 sold 43 calendars – third in district sales. We earned \$250 selling the calendars and received a free calendar.

We are off to a good start with calendar drawing winners: January - Dina MacDonald and March - Nelida Mills. Good luck in future drawings.

Convention tickets are next on the list for selling to family, neighbors and friends. Each member is responsible for selling one book of tickets. More is better! Return stubs and money to Elena.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to Members celebrating this month.

Happy Mother's Day and remember our Mother Mary this month--pray the Rosary.

Rosemary

Santa Rosa St. Eugene, Br. 198

President Linda Sherman thanks all those who bought a raffle book. Our Branch was given 20 books and in the first month we sold 17 of them. Financially, this helps our treasury as we keep \$10 for each book sold. Great Job!!!

Our Branch is awarding 8 scholarships this year to high school graduates. Our donors this year are:

The Norman and Roseanne Sikes Fund, Lorraine Castelli, Becca Carrera, Charlene Moratto, The Peter and Juliette Barbieri Family, Bill Scinto, The Aldo and Mary Desideri Family. The Frank Costaglio Scholarship is from the member of Branch #198. Thank you.

As more of our members receive their second vaccinations for the Covid-19 virus, we can look forward to meeting together as a Branch. Your officers met in March and have developed a tentative calendar for 2021 with scheduled events beginning in August – God willing. Once the calendar has been finalized, it will be sent to all member families.

*Ciao,
Gail Bongie-Azevedo*

Sonoma St. Sebastian, Br. 103

VER reducit gaudia!!

For those latin students you will know the translation. So glad to hear and read that the Petaluma Br. #127 have already held their first meeting this year!

There is hope and promise...

Now we are in the midst of selling our raffle tickets, let us be generous and waiting anxiously for news of a Convention.

My article will be short this month even though I am in touch with Bill Scinto who is Sonoma's 103 Treasurer. We are anticipating a member's dinner but where and when? I did stress a Board Member's Meeting because I think at this point it is necessary and it is good for morale. Hopefully some of our members can suggest a venue that is acceptable to our Sonoma Board.

How about responding? My e-mail is: marilynsylvestri@comcast.net. Any responses will be forwarded to Ken Marshall who resides in Paradise BUT has his mother who lives in Vallejo. How about coming down, Ken?

In the meantime, we are all enjoying some lack of restrictions, right? Enjoy the sunshine and stay safe.

Marilyn Sylvestri

Sonoma#103, Recording Secretary

Petaluma St. Vincent, Br. 127

Dear Branch members,

A Huge Thank You to Margaret and Jim Cordrey for chairing the bakeless bake sale again this year. This might be our only fundraiser this year so please be generous. We would like to be able to maintain our scholarship donations and this will be a big help.

Please keep in touch. Let us know how you are doing and be sure to notify me

of any information that should be in this newsletter.

Hopefully we will be able to meet sometime in the Fall.

With good wishes and prayers for all of us.

Dennice DiGirolamo

FRESNO

Merced St. Cecilia, Br. 39

Buona festa della mamma. Happy Mother's Day to all mothers, grandmothers, aunts, godmothers, and mentors. You play an important role in the lives of many. We thank and bless you!

Janet Pugliese and Maryellen Mazzei, co-chairs of our April biscotti fundraiser, reported it was its usual success. The team baked and sold about 300 dozen. We plan to use the money to fund our college scholarships. Thank you to all the helpers, bakers, generous donators of ingredients, and buyers. You make our branch fun, engaging, and worthwhile. We also thank the Italo-American Lodge for the use of their kitchen.

As more people receive the COVID vaccination and our county is designated into a less restrictive tier, we hope to hold our annual July Wiener Roast on Wednesday, July 14. Please continue to follow CDC and public health guidelines of wearing a mask, social distancing, and frequent hand washing.

We pray you all stay well, healthy and with a positive outlook. We all have much for which to be grateful in our lives.

Goditi questo bel tempo primaverile abbondano di fiori colorati. Enjoy this beautiful spring weather abound with colorful flowers.

*Ciao,
Stephanie Lucich*



Br. 39 had a very successful Pasta Sauce sale thanks to the help of these members: (left to right) Anne-Marie Bandoni, Ruth Redondo, Chris Martin, Mabel Willmon, Tony Martin, Estella Reta, Loretta Symes, Sr. Rachel Monteil, Michael Belluomini, Sally Latorraca and Nancy Silva. Photo was taken by Chair Maryellen Mazzei.

Sanger Sant' Antonio, Br. 70

Greetings from Branch 70! We haven't had a meeting in over a year due to the pandemic. Our members are doing fine with most of us having received our vaccines and we are anxiously awaiting being able to attend meetings again.

President Kate has informed me that most of our members have donated money for our scholarship fund. We have enough money to donate three \$500 scholarships to deserving students. Our committee is now accepting applications from Sanger High School students and selections will occur soon.

We hope you all had a wonderful Easter day and wish you all good health.

*God bless and ciao,
Orsolina Casella*

Br. 250, Clovis Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Many Happy Birthday greetings for May celebrants, Jeanette Couch and Linda Stockwell! And a big congratulations to Chris Spatafore on becoming the proud Grandfather to Maddie Lee, little "Miss Happiness." Also a big congrats to Great Grandma, Glory Spatafore!

Did you know the average life expectancy of an Italian is 79.54 years, slightly higher than the U.S.'s 78.2 average? Must be the olive oil, garlic and red wine.

We're still waiting for the "all clear" for using parish facilities again so our meetings and fund raisers can continue. Persevere!

And, still no rain so keep praying folks! Get ready for water rationing.

Did you know the world's first operas were composed in Italy and the country is still considered the opera capital of the world.

In recognition of our members of Philippine heritage, we offer this brief overview: Ferdinand Magellan "discovered" the Philippines in 1521, claiming the land for Spain, named after King Philip II of Spain.; consists of over 7,000 islands; Spanish rule ended in 1898 in the Spanish-American War; became an independent republic in 1946; Catholics comprise about 83% of the population.

Thanks to all members who renewed their membership for 2021. Good job!

Haven't heard of any recent ill members; be sure to let our editorial staff know if any member is ill. Speaking of which, have you received your Covid vaccine yet?



Our thought for the month:

"Look at a single rose. Contemplate its beauty and Complexity as part of God's creation. When you Can appreciate the wonder of this rose, how Much more you will appreciate the next Person you meet as a wonder of God's creation."

--Kelly

*Ciao and God Bless,
Henreietta Hemmeldinger*

Fresno St. Anthony, Br. 308

As our annual observation Lent culminated in another glorious Easter celebration, we began preliminarily planning for a Saturday afternoon backyard members gathering to be held later this month or early May.

And as we continue to pray for members recuperating from recent illnesses and hospitalization, we also reflect with grace on missed loved ones who recently left us to join Our Lord and Savior. Shared faith assures us of comfort, knowing that through all that we face, our I.C.F. brothers and sisters are close in spirit, praying with us – including our much missed Father Ferdinand who was reassigned to Visalia but fondly remains in our hearts.

And being able to again worship within the sanctuary of our church is especially welcoming. Faith shared is most comforting of all as we gratefully rejoice together for His unfailing Love.

In particular, we celebrate the recent achievement of our youngest member Stephen Cantelmi, being commissioned this month as a United States Marine. Along with his proud grandmother, our Branch President Antoinette Pecora, we give thanks for his faith-based dedication to our country, seeking to help ensure our personal freedoms, including our right to publicly worship together.

And as we each gradually return to involvement in our community and church, and what this means for everyone involved, we reflect on our blessings while emerging from the challenges imposed by isolation during the past year. It is accordingly with enthusiasm and grateful hearts that we look forward to blessings that await us as 2021 unfolds.



Pauline Compagno 1930- 2021 Branch 36

CENTRAL COAST

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

Hello, Everyone. We hope you had a wonderful Easter; next we will celebrate Mother's Day. Here's a trivia question: do you know who started the Mother's Day tradition? In 1907, Ann Jarvis created the first Mother's Day in West Virginia to honor her mother who had organized many women's groups to promote friendship and health. In 1924 President Woodrow Wilson made it a national holiday. Happy Mother's Day to you all.

At last month's General Meeting, several 'opening up' options were discussed. One possibility is offering takeout meals from Holy Cross Hall. Stay tuned for more information. Though many things are opening up, we still need to be patient for a bit longer. Also, Branch 21 will be awarding two first year scholarships this year and, once again, we thank Virginia Orlando for her scholarship donation in memory of her husband.

We thank all who contributed to the No Bake Sale. It was a great success and there will be more information on the distribution of the funds soon. We also thank those who bought the beautiful Easter Lilies. Thank you, Franklyn Lopes for heading up that fund raiser. Also thank you to those who donated their lilies to Holy Cross.

Here are our Branch's May birthdays: Gene Ghio, Gloria Giovannoni, Maria Loiacono, Heidi Morgan, Robert Pesce, Christian Puccinelli, and Mike Shanks. What a beautiful month to celebrate. Happy Birthday to you all! In closing, may the Lord's blessings continue to shine upon us.

*Patty Morelli
Secretary Branch 21*



Branch 36 Antonio & Sue Cricelli



Branch 36 Joann Riso and June Serranot

Monterey Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

"May the LORD bless and protect you. May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you. May the LORD show you His favor and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

Thank you to all in the ICF and in the Monterey Peninsula community for supporting our annual Branch 36 Lenten takeout dinners this year. Seven weeks of hard but enthusiastic work by our members and volunteers made these Friday dinners a huge success – over 3,731 takeout dinners served (averaged 530+ each week). Thanks also to the student volunteers and parents, home delivery drivers, kitchen and desserts crews, outside sales, bar, and delivery teams, Elks Lodge, volunteers from Moose Lodge; so many made it all possible. Congratulations to Nancy Quackenbush, winner of the 50/50 scholarship raffle prize of \$1,685.68 (the other half went to our Scholarship fund). The generosity of participants was heartwarming; we are filled with gratitude!

We are saddened to report that 55-year+ member Pauline Compagno recently passed away. She spent many years volunteering in the parish office and at ICF events, and we will miss her. Our condolences to her family, and may she Rest In Peace. We continue to pray for all our members, especially those that are ill or home-bound, and for all of their special intentions.

Upcoming masses for Living and Deceased Members of ICF #36 at San Carlos Cathedral: May 16 at 9 a.m., and June 6 at noon.

We wish all mothers and (great) grandmothers a very Happy Mother's Day.

*Grazie di Cuore,
Elaine Valentine
1st Vice President
Branch #36 - Santa Rosalia*



Branch 36 Crystel Bianchi



Branch 36 Sharon LoManotot

Castroville Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Happy May and Mother's Day!

I would like to begin by giving a huge thank you to the Ausonio family for their generous and thoughtful donation to our branch! Thank you Ausonio family for helping our branch's operations during this time.

Congratulations to Nathan Cortopassi for winning the Easter basket drawing! Please keep a lookout for another basket drawing coming in the summer!

And congratulations to member Carrie Holbrook and husband Max Holbrook for celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary last month!

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

I would like to end this entry with a prayer dedicated to the Hibbs family:

Dear Lord,

Please help me keep my strength, wisdom, love, faith, and happiness. Please help those who are in need of the same and guide them towards the joy of better days.

Amen.

Please, continue prayers for the Hibbs family and friends.

*Until next time,
Natalie Carbonel*



Capitola St. Joseph, Br. 227

It is with sadness that we report that our President Bob Montonye and Trustee Mary Montonye are moving to Visalia and will no longer be a part of our branch. Bob shared President duties with Ellen Pauly in 2015 and 2016, and he and Mary have been very active members of our branch for 16 years. We will feel their absence greatly.

First Vice-President Franklyn Lopes will assume the duties of President insofar as his other commitments allow.

With Mary's departure, there is an opening for Trustee. Any member interested is asked to contact Franklyn.

Many thanks to our members who purchased Easter lilies. All 50 plants were sold. Eleven of them were donated to St. Joseph's Church, six to the Shrine of St. Joseph, and four to Holy Cross Church. Thanks also to Bob Montonye and Dot-tie and Jim Smith for delivering them.

The Board agreed to postpone monthly branch meetings until the church hall renovation is completed this fall.

Our very own member of Branch 227, Bryan Stow, threw out the first pitch at the Giants first home game. The San Francisco Chronicle, in writing about the game, said "Stow is truly a picture of resilience." Way to go, Bryan!

Convention raffle tickets will be arriving in your mail soon. Buy a book for \$20.00 and \$10.00 stays with our branch. Return payment and stubs to Stewart's Floral before August 9, 2021.

From author Susan Gale: *Mothers are like glue. Even when you can't see them, they're still holding the family together.*

*Happy Mother's Day.
Deanna Musler, Secretary*

Arroyo Grande St. Patrick, Br. 291

Br. 291's Officers met in late March for our first Board Meeting since last summer! We held the meeting outdoors on a beautiful spring day, and since most of the Board has been fully vaccinated, we could relax and visit with each other after so many months apart.

At the Board Meeting, Abby Gallagher announced that we have received five applications from members for Br. 291 Scholarships. We have one application from a high school graduate who will be attending college, and 4 applications from 8th grade graduates who will be attending local, Catholic high schools. Once our scholarship committee has reviewed the applications and verified the students have met all the criteria, we will officially announce our scholarship recipients! Stay tuned!

Our Board was also asked by President Pete Gallagher to start thinking "outside the box" for new fundraising ideas we could hold this fall that will not require the use of our church hall and still follow social distancing guidelines. Pres. Pete also suggested we create a new "member at large" position on our Board to oversee the Registration Assistance Program (RAP). One requirement for this position is the member needs to be a parent with a child or children in our RAP.

Please continue to keep Gayle Quain and Rob Reginato in your prayers, and all other members who may be experiencing pain, illness or loss at this time.

*Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful moms out there!
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary*

Paso Robles Saint Rose, Br. 354

Tomorrow, The Feast of the Divine Mercy, Masses all over the world will start with "Heavenly Father and God of Mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for He is alive and He has become the Lord of Life." We hope that your Easter was a true celebration of the Lord of Life.

Due to COVID-19, Branch 354 has yet to have regular meetings, but things are looking up for gathering together with our members who we have missed a great deal. Going forward we will appreciate even more David's meetings, our fundraisers, getting caught up on parish gossip, and just being together again.

In April's Bollettino our Branch reported on our plans to celebrate the feast of St. Joseph—not with a St. Joseph's table—but by answering the request of our local homeless shelter to have an under ware drive for those in ECHO's homeless community. The goal of the shelter is to enable and encourage job seeking.

And, thank you God, the manager reported that one man come to her and asked her to thank the nice people who donated; and that he felt so clean he was going job hunting. Hopefully we can continue this community outreach. I'm sure that God blesses these small acts of kindness. THANK YOU to our members who donated!

*We wish you a healthy and happy spring.
Yvonne Maddalena
Recording Secretary*

SAN JOSE SANTA CLARA VALLEY District

Many of us have received our vaccinations and we are "inching" toward the Orange zone. Maybe then ICF can start face-to-face meetings as we move toward social gatherings?

But something ominous about the ICF Membership. A recent report shows a trend which needs to be reversed. We are all responsible for membership. If you know of members that have dropped out. Encourage them to rejoin.

Br. 368 members, Joyce & Phil Robba along with co-chairs Kim & Mike Cadfill put together a successful Crab Dinner for Santa Teresa Church. People registered online, received a time slot for dinner pickup, the dinner was placed in their cars and off they went. Over 400 hundred dinners were served.

On St. Patrick's Day I skipped my usual Corned Beef dinner for the first time. But via YouTube I was able to watch Frank Patterson (Great Irish Tenor), Joe Feeney (Lawrence Welk show), Bing Crosby and the Three Irish Tenors sing an old Irish Lullaby – "Too-Rah-Loo-Rah-Lai."

Fr. George related that on St. Joseph's Day, The Diocese of San Jose celebrated its 40th Anniversary via Zoom.

Fr. Chris Bennett gave an excellent Zoom "Day of Recollection presentation." He tasked us to view the "Crucifixion" from the perspective of the dominant colors Euchre, Red and Flesh tones and see what to deduce. The message I learned was that Christ came to absolve us from "Original Sin" and that his love was never-ending.

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

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



Gilroy Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

The winning membership drawing for a \$75.00 gift certificate to Victoria's Restaurant in Gilroy was drawn by Cathy Silacci with the drawn winner being Jeanne Gage.

Cathy has been an ICF Branch 28 member since 1991 and in those 30 years of dedication has spent time serving as Treasurer. Her commitment to volunteering is demonstrated in her 20 years of volunteer service to Gilroy Gardens and her time of night coffee shop duty at Wheeler Hospital in Gilroy and then helping at Saint Louise Hospital when Wheeler Hospital closed. Cathy was a bookkeeper for 34 years with the I.O.O.F. Children's Home in Gilroy. Cathy has three children, six grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Thank you Cathy, Branch 28 is blessed to have members like you.

As of the submission deadline for the May Bollettino the Branch 28 Board will be putting together the final plans for our pasta sauce fundraiser, and at publication of the May Bollettino we will have had our pasta sauce fundraiser. Our initial step in a difficult year to work toward funding our charitable giving.

Even though the status of the National Convention is still up in the air one given is that the convention raffle tickets will be processed and sent to members in the near future. More information regarding specifics will be coming. Remember that half of the \$20.00 raffle book ticket price stays with Branch 28 and the other half goes to the Oakland office. Another step to normalcy in our fundraising for charitable giving.

*Peace and God Bless,
Kim M. Filice*

St. Mary Los Gatos, Br. 184

Denise Antonowicz, President - St. Mary's - Los Gatos Branch 184

Here we are in May. The month of Mothers and Our Lady. Spring is in the air and hopefully we've all gotten our "Vaccines". We are all feeling hope that our lives will again return to whatever our normal is and we once again can visit, hug, and enjoy the company of our loved ones. Our meetings will again start up and although we've been apart for over a year, our ICF Family will be together again. We will share our "Pandemic" stories and enjoy each other. Our lives will go on, but this is a time we will never forget. I think it's made us remember not to "sweat the small stuff" and to appreciate the fact that we can again visit, and party, and live.

Happy Mother's Day to our Moms, Grandma's, God Mothers, and Aunts!



Br. 28 - At left, 1st Vice President Vince Saso showing Br. 28's fondness for member Cathy Silacci.

Remember *"When you look into your mother's eyes, you know that is the purest love you can find on this earth."*

Solo un Giorno in cui ricordare Chi mi ha donato la vita.

364 giorni per renderti orgogliosa di quell dono.

Auguri Mamma!

"There's just one day in which to remember who gave me life. And there are 364 days for me to make you proud of that gift. Happy Mother's Day!"

San Jose St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Greetings and Happy Spring. We look forward to our sunshine weather. May we continue with our Lenten Spring celebrations.

Br. 191 was very pleased about the success of our Easter Lily Fundraiser. Jo Bertaccini, who directed our sales, reached her goal of selling 50 plants. We thank Jo and want to express our gratitude and thank-you to all other branches and members who helped us reach our goal.

What is coming out of the oven? The smell, aroma, what whiff that NO one can resist? A great assortment of cookies will be featured as our next fundraiser. Traci DiMiceli, and her baking team (Meghan, Gina and Amy) will work hard to make this happen for our branch. The cookies will be made fresh at "Not Just Cheesecakes," a downtown Campbell Bakery owned by Debbie Smith.

The assortment will be packaged in a fashionable decorative heart box, provided by Custom Pad/Jim Jones. What a delight to present to our mothers, as a Mother's Day Remembrance. What about all of those treats she placed in our lunch boxes? Time to reward our mothers!

The boxes are \$15, and deadline for



Br. 28 - At right, Aunt Cathy Silacci with nephew Larry Scettrini and wife Elia.

ordering is Friday April 30th, with delivery between May 2 to May 8th. Our contact person, Debbie Piro, at (408) 306-9244 can answer any questions. Make this a happy occasion for both you and your Mom.

Br. 191 was recognized for our kindness and generosity for our participation in the Easter food drive. Father Joe Galang along with Father Mike Hendrickson stated it was a much need help for the community.

May we wish each and every Mother love and appreciation every Day of the year.

*Shirley Catania
Sentinel*



Br. 191, Easter Lillies In Bloom



Br. 28 - Cathy Silacci pulling the winning ticket for the membership drawing won by Jeanne Gage.



Br. 191, Jo Bertaccini with her Easter Lillies



Br. 191. Not Just Cheesecakes in Campbell, CA

San Jose Santa Teresa, Br. 368

Our branch members have been active this Lenten season, preparing Mary's garden for sacramental celebrations and distributing Easter dinner to 100 families. We participated in the Lenten Women's Retreat and donated to the Watsonville Center for Farm Worker Families. We filled roles as liturgical ministers for Holy Week services. Our ICF members have been very generous.

Our branch has contributed substantially to help the parish purchase a much-needed replacement lift to enable parishioners to safely reach high places in and around the church.

Thank you to the Wendlers for the Holy Week meditation, encouraging us to place ourselves at the Passover dinner as Jesus and His friends enjoy their meal. We imagine the disciples, the servant boy, and Jesus, who takes us by the hand. Thank you, Ed and Jane.

Our dear friend Bill Radzinski passed away the morning of April 7. He has been a long-member of our branch, active in our projects and in our parish, where his special ministry was helping coordinate reception meals for our funerals. He had suffered a long time, and we mourn his passing with Paula and the family.

Please remember to send your ICF raffle ticket stubs and check to Barbara Ruffner.

Jacque Butler reports that, as of this writing, her husband Paul is still in the nursing facility, but he improves a little each day. His email works now, Jacque says. We remember him especially in our prayers.

Blessings for May, Mary's special month!
Judy Zahn

San Jose St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Hope you had a lovely Easter and were able to celebrate with your loved ones. Our members surely missed getting together during this holy time of the year.

Our Branch 391's spring fundraiser at Tony and Alba's was held at the end of April and was a great success. Through our several take-out fundraisers, we were able to contribute to our many charities—college scholarships, Seminarian support, Gifts of Love, Children's Hospital in Los Angeles, St. Martin of Tours, and St. Vincent de Paul. Our branch will once again fund two first-year scholarships.

We thank Al and Diana Vallorz and Mike and Marcie Rossi for organizing this, and to our many members for their hard work in making this drive-thru a wonderful experience. Members enjoyed the delicious Pasta and Meatball Dinner, which included Tony and Alba's famous Salad and Garlic Bread.



Br. 445 - "Colors of the Cross"

We look forward to getting together soon!

Wishing all of our Mothers a Happy and Healthy Mother's Day.

Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale Resurrection, Br. 408

Happy Mother's Day!

Back by popular demand--we are planning our Spring Bake/Craft sale for Sunday 2 May 2021. We are still signing up Bakers and Volunteers for this Event. Please contact Pat and Sandra if you can help or make a Donation. Patricia is taking orders thru the end of April.

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

We look forward to continued distribution of the COVID vaccines in our Community -- a number of our members have received their 2nd Dose of Vaccine already with some obtaining the one and done J&J vaccine.

Fr. Phong indicates that the Diocese will likely continue with COVID Safety protocols and 6 foot Social Distancing thru the weekend of 19 June.

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

Morgan Hill St. Catherine of Alexandria, Br. 435

The weather is wonderful but we could use some rain. Nothing is perfect and this past year has been a testament to that. There has been some good news that we may be opening up some more. I finally went out to eat and the sky didn't fall so that's a good sign. Here's hoping that things continue on a positive note.

We are planning to begin our regular meetings this summer so I hope that everyone who can, will be vaccinated.

It was really a pleasure to attend Easter mass and see some of our friends. We are getting back into the swing of things and this is the first step. As most of our branch members know,

St. Catherine's is going through a renovation and this may affect our ability to have our regular meetings. We have submitted our calendar for the 2021/2022 year so stay tuned. We'll let you know as soon as we know.

We are almost back to our full membership so if you have not renewed your membership, please do so now. Please keep our members in your prayers. Fr. Russ Riode is recovering from Covid, and Virginia Sellers is recovering from a broken hip. Our current situation makes this so much more difficult. Give someone a call or send a card to wish them a speedy recovery.

We hope you all stay well and safe, and Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers, grandmothers, step-mothers and anyone else who fills that role.

Please take care and stay safe.
Maryclaire Sampognaro

San Jose Transfiguration, Br. 445

On the second Sunday in May, both here and in Italy, families will gather to celebrate Festa della Mamma. We extend our wishes to all our members and their families for a Happy Mother's Day. To our mothers and grandmothers who are having Heavenly celebrations, we are forever grateful for your love and guidance to us through the years. You are our angels continuing to watch over us.

Br. 445 hosted an online Lenten evening of reflection entitled "Colors of the Cross." It was led by our Branch Chaplain Rev. Christopher Bennett for our members as well as other Santa Clara Valley District ICF members. Our thanks to Fr. Chris for always supporting our spiritual journeys.

Two \$400.00 first year college scholarships were approved by our branch. The recipients have not yet been named.

Congratulations to these hard working students in advance!!

Many thanks to all those who supported our annual See's Easter Candy Fund-raiser! We sold over \$2,380 worth of candies with a profit of \$692.75 !!

Congratulations to our fearless leader Jim who has joined the ranks of the COVID immunized!

Last but not least, May birthday wishes are extended to members Barbara Howell and Gretchen Pearce ...

*Buon Compleanno e Tanti Aguri !
Until next month - stay safe and well ;-)
Submitted by,
Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer*



Br. 445. Pres. Jim Falcone



Br. 445 Celebrating Mothers

STOCKTON District

Modesto St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

We won't be able to have our Bake Sale that we usually have in May nor our Mother's Day Potluck but we will be able to attend mass in the church to honor our mothers on Mother's Day.

It is great to be able to attend a mass outside and receive communion rather than watch mass on the internet. It is even more wonderful now that we can be in the church for mass. I hope we will be able to gather for our meetings before long following all the rules. We have been keeping contact by text to keep our members up to date on our activities. There are some members I have to call and a couple I have to send letters to but we are managing.

Some of our members are working on the reports that have to be turned in to Central Council before the convention and our next big push will be to sell our convention raffle tickets. If all our members buy a book and sell a book it really helps.

We wish all our Mothers, that includes Grandmothers, Great grandmothers, Godmothers and all the others with the title of mother in some way or another a Very Happy Mother's Day. God Bless You!

Stay healthy and safe.
Cecelia McGhee



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SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

Lodi St. Anne's, Br. 82

Ciao a tutti!

May, the month we honor our Blessed Virgin Mary. Childhood memories of the May Procession and Crowning Mary fill my heart. The week I was chosen to create a floral headpiece and crown the Mary statue was life-changing. That special closeness to our Blessed Mother solidified my commitment to the Catholic Faith.

I felt a similar closeness when we held our April meeting in the church grotto with Mary gazing upon us. It was wonderful to finally chat with members in person.

Spring Secret Pals also had the opportunity to see their assigned member face to face on their Easter reveal. During Lent, participating members enjoyed surprising their Secret Pal with anonymous emails, notes, and small gifts. What fun!

Our Blood Drive date is confirmed for June 19th at the Eagles Hall. Thank you, Tony, for coordinating with the Red Cross. As we did in February 2019, we'll promote, community-wide, donations of the Gift of Life in the name of ICF, give donors an appreciation goodie bag, and share information about Cooley's Anemia, our ICF National Charity.

Tony has also been busy talking with the Waterloo Gun & Bocce Club to plan our July Bocce fundraiser. More information forthcoming!

Our next member meeting is Tues., May 25th. We're hoping Laurice Levine, will be able to attend to share her personal story living with Cooley's Anemia.

Take the opportunity this May to renew your devotion to Mary, asking for her protection and guidance, and the grace to imitate her love of Christ.

Patty Litts, President

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

Stockton Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

This year's Easter celebrations seemed to be more hopeful than any other. By Easter, many of us had our vaccines, counties are changing to red, and orange and children are returning to school. There finally seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel and branches can look forward to resuming their regular activities.

And now, Mother's Day is around the corner. On Mother's Day, let us pray for all our mothers. And let us remember that we have a Mother in heaven, the Blessed Virgin Mary. We continue to rejoice with her during this Easter season. May the Mother given to us by Christ on the cross be ever at our side!

Have you ever thought about how many Mary's are ICF members? Did you know that records indicate that 4,107,757 girls just in the United States have been named Mary since 1880? Imagine if you added Italy!

Our branch has two Mary's. How many do you have?

*Alla prossima,
Mary Ann*

Manteca Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

For the first time in more than a year, Branch 139 met at Cucina Queirolo as the meeting was called to order by President Jim Alfieri. The members were all in a good mood after having consumed a delicious meal prepared by Chef Tony and his wife, Ida.

Plans for returning to our usual annual fund-raisers were discussed. It was decided that things will be finalized after San Joaquin County moves to the Covid-19 "red tier". Note: Late news showed that our County has just been moved there.

The Branch's enthusiasm and readiness to get back to work for the betterment of our parish activities and our Italian culture will now carry over to our April meeting.

The evening concluded with prayer led by Orator Colleen Alfieri and the reading of the Federation Anthem in an English translation provided by President Jim Alfieri.

*Ciao,
Mariano*



Advancing our Legacy: Italian Community Services

Italian Community Services continues to assist Bay Area Italian-American seniors and their families navigate and manage the resources needed to live healthy, independent and productive lives.

Since Shelter-in-Place began in San Francisco, Italian Community Services has delivered over 240 meals, over 900 care packages and made over 2000 phone wellness checks for our seniors.

If you know of any senior of Italian descent in San Francisco needing assistance, please contact:
ItalianCS.org | (415) 362-6423 | info@italiancs.com



ITALIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Preserving Our Culture • Serving Our Community

CENTRAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE MEMORANDUM

TO: 2021 ICF Central Council Candidates
 FROM: Roselynn Jarrett, Convention Director
 RE: Notification of Intention to Run for Central Council at the 2021 Convention

Application Process

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

Other Pre-convention Deadlines

1. If you wish to place a full-page ad in the yearbook; the ad contract, your photo and a message must be sent to the I.C.F. Office by **July 1st**.
2. Candidate entries to be included in the Bollettino, must be emailed to both the I.C.F. Office and the Bollettino Editor by **August 1st**. Email admin@icf.org and editor@icf.org. Submissions should include a photo and an entry that does not exceed **300 words**.

Campaign Rules

1. Only one poster (maximum size 24 X 36) may be displayed in the area designated by the Convention Director. An easel will be provided.
2. Campaign flyers may be placed on a table provided on Friday evening during "Meet the Candidates." To support a socially safe environment, delegates may pickup flyers on their own. Additionally, to reduce contact, **favours will be omitted** this year.
3. **There will be no candidate hospitality rooms.** This decision was made in order to follow the quiet time and no-party policy enforced at hotels. If a district hosts a socially safe hospitality room or district meeting at any time during the convention weekend, there shall be no candidate posters, flyers or other campaign paraphernalia made available.
4. No campaigning may take place during convention sessions, activities or in the delegate registration area.
5. No campaign literature should be posted in the public areas or on the I.C.F. Facebook page.
6. Registration workers should not wear campaign items during registration hours.
7. Candidates should notify campaign helpers of these rules.
8. Campaign speeches will be held during the Saturday session and **shall not exceed 2 minutes**.

Other Information

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

Thank you for your interest in being a Central Council Member!

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

All Central Council members are expected to participate in the following:

1. Honor the I.C.F. By-laws, Rituals and Central Council Statutes.
2. Attend all Central Council Meetings.
3. Serve and participate on all Committees of the Central Council to which you are appointed.
4. Support and promote all I.C.F. programs.
5. Inform the I.C.F. office of any serious problem pertaining to the District and/or Branch.
6. Serve as a Special Representative at events at the request of the Grand President of the Central Council.
7. Attend your Branch and District meetings, providing leadership as needed.
8. Keep "lines of communication" open between the District and Central Council.
9. Advise and assist District Officers regarding matters of I.C.F. protocol at all District functions.
10. Visit other Branches and Districts when appropriate.
11. No candidate shall receive address labels of I.C.F. members for solicitation purposes.
12. To review the Central Council Statutes, please visit www.icf.org.
Select members area > organization and by-laws > Central Council Statutes.

CENTRAL COUNCIL NOMINEE PROFILE

Describe in 300 words or less your qualifications for candidacy and the goals you hope to accomplish as a member of the Central Council.

Candidate entries to be included in the Bollettino, must be emailed to both the I.C.F. Office and the Bollettino Editor by August 1st. Email admin@icf.org and editor@icf.org. Submissions should include a photo and an entry that does not exceed **300 words**.

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION 2021 CENTRAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE NOMINATION APPLICATION

I, _____, wish to be a Candidate for Membership to the Central Council of the Italian Catholic Federation.

I have been nominated by _____ / _____
Branch No. City

I have reviewed the application process, campaign rules and deadlines.

I have read and understand the responsibilities of Central Council Members.

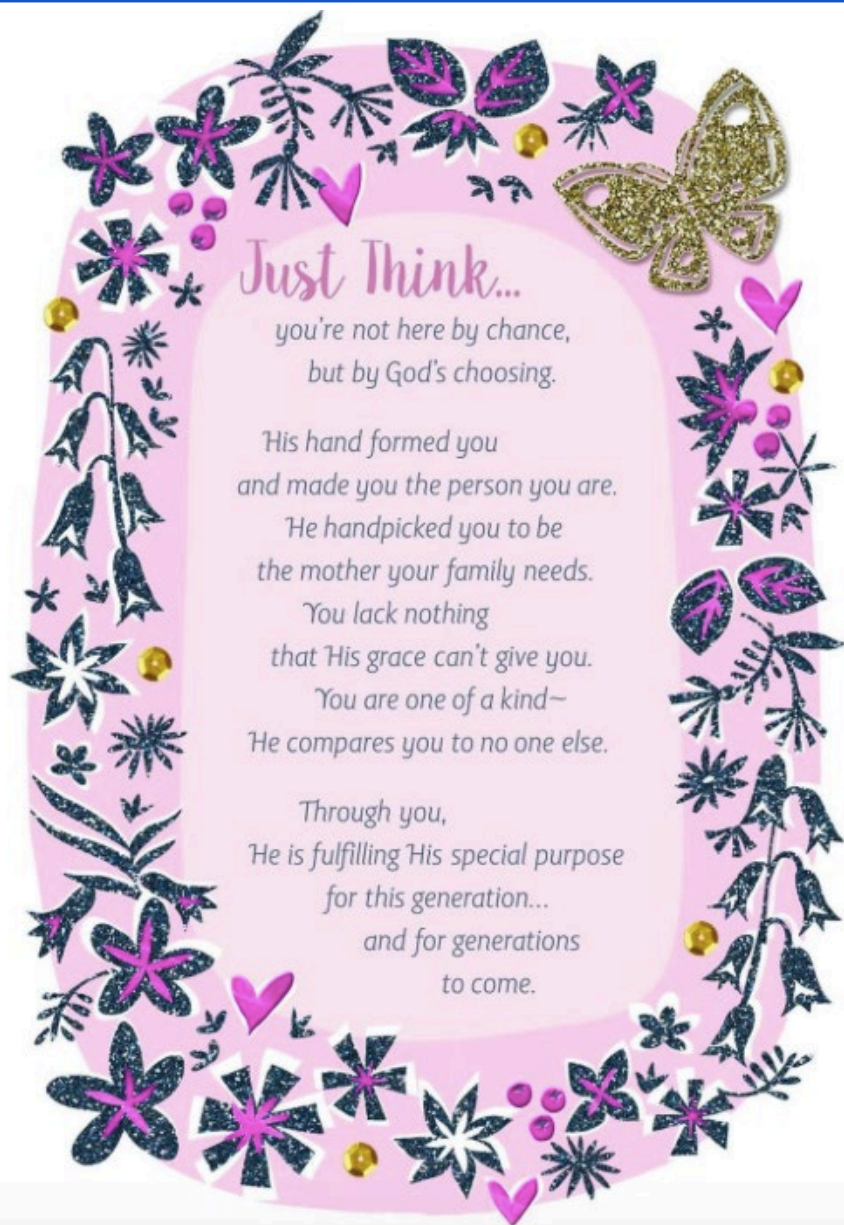
Signature of Candidate

Date

Name of Branch President (or alternate)
submitting the name of the above candidate
for nomination.

Signature

Return this form to the I.C.F. Office by mail, email or fax with a date stamp of August 1st or prior to be eligible to run for Central Council.



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

2021 CONVENTION - SANTA CLARA - BRANCH DELEGATE REGISTRATION

BRANCH NO. _____ CITY: _____ DISTRICT: _____

Active Members as of March 31st: _____ No. of Delegates: _____

The Central Council looks forward to welcoming you to the 2021 convention. The Santa Clara Marriott is open and holding events following all local guidelines to promote a safer environment. Measures in place include reduced seating at each table during meals and sessions and enhanced hotel room cleaning between guests. Additionally, the state may require attendees to provide verification of vaccine or negative Covid test. For up to date details, please visit covid19.ca.gov.

Delegate registration deadline is July 1.

For 2021, each branch is encouraged to send at least one delegate to attend the convention, even if it is for a portion of the weekend. You may send your maximum number of delegates. Elections for delegates may be held in the method best for your branch to follow. Branches unable to send a delegate may submit a letter by July 1 to the I.C.F. office stating the reason for their absence. Registration has been reduced to assist budgeting. Please review the travel highlights flyer for more information on hotel reservations. It is suggested to book flights mid July as the hotel and I.C.F. will be reviewing government regulations on July 10. This still allows for advanced airfare bookings without the worry of cancelling and receiving a credit. Please do make your hotel reservations to allow us to view attendance in advance. In the event of a convention cancellation, rooms booked under the I.C.F. rate can be cancelled with no charge and delegate registration will be refunded to the branches.

DELEGATE NAME: (Print clearly) Use additional sheets if necessary.	Check for 1 st time Delegate	Date Arriving	Email Address
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____

ALTERNATE DELEGATES:

1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____

Instructions: Mail this form with registration payment of \$250.00 per delegate by July 1 to: Italian Catholic Federation, 8393 Capwell Drive, #110, Oakland, CA 94621.

Delegate registration fee has been reduced this year and includes: Friday reception, Saturday banquet, copy of the yearbook, convention materials, and convention related expenses such as microphones.

Branch Check No. _____ No. of Delegates: _____ X \$250.00 = \$ _____

President's Signature or Recording Secretary's Signature Date

FOR I.C.F. Office Use: Delegates: _____ Guests: _____ Total: _____



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION 90TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS SEPTEMBER 3 - 5, 2021

Hotel: Santa Clara Marriott 2700 Mission College Drive Santa Clara, CA 95054 (408) 988-1500
(located next to Great America Theme Park)

Reservations: Marriott.com/SJCGA or use the Bonvoy App

Under special rates, select group code, then enter ICFICFA.

Rate: \$129 plus tax single/double occupancy

Note: Rate available until August 12 or sold out. After August 12, reservations will be accepted at the best available rate. You may cancel reservation at no charge up to 48 hours prior to your arrival date.

Parking rate: Discounted for attendees at \$5 per car, per day

Mineta San Jose International Airport: 5 miles

Amtrak Diridon Station: 7 miles

Hertz Rental Car: ICF year-round 'business' discount. Receive up to 30%. Discount Code 2173699

Please notify your branch of your convention attendance.

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

For assistance: Contact the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924.

Convention updates are visible first on Facebook - Keyword: Italian Catholic Federation

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

Supporting a safe environment: The hotel is open and safely holding business and social events.

The ICF and the hotel will follow local guidelines in place, which may include proof of vaccination or negative COVID test within 72 hours of the convention. For current regulations visit covid19.ca.gov.

BRANCH FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

The Annual Convention Raffle is an excellent fundraiser to boost revenue for your Branch and extend a chance to win cash prizes. The golden ticket books are \$20 each. Your Branch keeps \$10 for each book sold. Tickets can be individually purchased for \$2 each. Address labels were included with each package of tickets. Mail a book to each household to give members a chance to win. Additional books can be requested from the office. Stubs and a Branch check are due to the office by August 15th, so the tickets can reach us in time for the drawing.

