Grand President’s Monthly Message
Deborah Rodondi

At this moment, many Districts are struggling with the decision to cancel or reschedule their 2022 Installation events. I hope that rather than cancelling those Districts have decided to reschedule. Fingers crossed by spring things will not be so complicated regarding whether to meet in groups or not, a perfect time for Installations and the reawakening of the Italian Catholic Federation. I just attended the Santa Clara Valley District Installation. Yes, it was a smaller group than usual, but the JOY of celebrating mass: ACKNOWLEDGING the past and newly elected officers: and SHARING a meal was enjoyed by all in attendance. We even got creative with the Installation. As the names of the officers elect were called they stood in place and then scarfed themselves after they heard the duties of their office.

My dear friend Kathy update: she is still not allowed to bear weight on her feet, will have x-rays again this month to see if things might change. She says thank you for your prayers and cards and good wishes—they are encouraging for her and she truly appreciates all of you.

Continued on Page 3

The Saints of February Feast Days
Apostolate/Charity Committee Reflections
Carmen Kilcullen, Member

This month, I thought that I would feature some saints whose feast days are in February. I will leave out St. Valentine as he is familiar to us. The Church proclaims saints so that we can reflect on their goodness and holiness to help us achieve our holiness.

Feb. 1st is the feast day of St. Brigid of Ireland. According to tradition, she was born in County Louth, Ireland and died in Kildare in 525. Little is known about her life, but supposedly her father was a nobleman and she and her mother were slaves. She was later freed and converted to Christianity. From a local King, she received land on which she founded a nunnery, one of many. There are many legends about the work of St. Brigid and she is revered in many other parts of the world. The Catholic Church in the town of Kilcullen, in Kildare, is dedicated to her. On a personal note, past grand-president, George Bacigalupi, and I attended St. Brigid Grammar School in San Francisco.

2023 CONVENTION UPDATE
Roselynne (Jarrett) McNeal
Convention Director

I’m delighted to announce the location of our 2023 Convention:

Westin South Coast Plaza, in Costa Mesa (Orange County)

This contract is for a convention concluding on Sunday.

✴ Rate: $135/nt (typically $185/nt over Labor Day Weekend)
✴ Food minimum $25,000 (down from an average of $35k in recent years)

To help us meet our food minimum we are adding a Saturday Awards Luncheon to honor the Family of the Year, Young Adult Leadership and Grand President’s Award winners.

✴ $15 self parking (currently $39) Garage is across a small street from meeting rooms. Valet parking is available at their published rate.

Not only did this hotel offer the best room rate for our convention, but they provided amazing service during my visit and I must say their property is stylish and laid out beautifully. They rank #1 consistently in cleanliness out of all Westin hotels.

The property is 3 miles from John Wayne SNA airport, across the street from South Coast Plaza mall with 230 stores and 30 restaurants, and 13 miles to Disneyland (because I know that’ll be a popular question).

But first, The Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas awaits us this year!

Please plan to join us at the 2022 Convention.
Remembering Msgr. Cardelli

Dear Friends at ICF:

I was deeply saddened, as I am sure all of you were, by the recent death of Msgr. Cardelli, our beloved Chaplain. I offered to write an article for the Bollettino in the absence of Msgr. Cardelli, until a new Chaplain is appointed. I certainly can’t replace Msgr. Cardelli. I sort of feel like John the Baptist with Jesus. John said he was unworthy to tie the robe of Jesus’ sandal, and I feel like I am unworthy to tie the shoes of the good Monsignor. Msgr. Cardelli was an extremely holy man. He sort of radiated holiness because he treated everyone the same way that Jesus would have treated them. He was a very dedicated priest in the service of God’s Church for many, many years. And he served God’s people and touched the lives of thousands of people.

He was also very dedicated to the Italian Catholic Federation. He seemed to have a realization that what the ICF was doing was all being done for the greater praise and glory of God, and he knew that it was good work that supported and defended the Catholic faith. So, he knew God would be pleased with our efforts, and that we should keep doing what we were doing for a long time to come. For those reasons Msgr. was very supportive of our efforts and did anything he could do to help us bring about good works in our world.

I had the honor and the privilege to serve with him at many of our Conventions over the years, and I was always inspired by what he taught us when all the Chaplains got together for a meeting. He never wanted any recognition for himself. He simply wanted all of us to do the best we could in our spiritual roles of guiding various groups of the ICF. You always left the meeting feeling like a better man because you had been exposed to the presence of Msgr. Cardelli.

I think all of us should be grateful to God that we had Msgr. Cardelli with us for so many years, and that we knew he had his love, his support, his inspiration, and his guidance. And now we should all be grateful to God that God has called him to his eternal reward in heaven.

We would like to request applications for our Gifts of Love Awards. In this Love Awards, we work with providing assistance to agencies whose goal is to do the same for their clients.

Applications are evaluated on a regular basis by the ICF Gifts of Love Committee which decides who receives the awards and the amounts. We have a great Committee this year and we look forward to helping those in need! Please keep in mind that our next meeting will be in June.

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

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

If you would like more information about the Gifts of Love program, please contact Committee Chairwoman Teresa Helfand at davia902005@live.com.

God Bless You,
Teresa Helfand
Grand President’s Monthly Message
Deborah Rodundi
Continued from Page 1

Grand President’s 2022 Installation Speech
2021 ended on a sad note for the Federation, with the passing of our wonderful Spiritual Director Mr. Daniel Cardelli. He constantly challenged us to do better and to think outside the box, especially when coming up with solutions on how to effectively move forward. He enjoyed attending our Central Council and Executive committee meetings, as he found us hard working and often times entertaining. I would like to thank all those who served this past year as officers in your branches and districts. Congratulations to those of you who will continue to be officers in 2022 and congratulations and welcome to first time officers. Although the Federation is getting smaller, it is because of you, that we continue to move forward. How exciting that we are getting ready to celebrate our 100th anniversary in just a few years. The Ways and Means committee is already busy working on the planning of galas, special events, souvenir book and much more. If you have ideas regarding the 100th celebration, please contact the Ways and Means Committee chairperson Bob Bassino. If you have pictures from the distant or not so distant past that you think would be a great addition to our archives, we look forward to seeing and sharing them. We are planning to share these pictures in the Bollettino leading up to the 100th celebration. You are amazing! The past almost 2 years have been a struggle for us—not being able to meet, fundraise and socialize, but you have plowed through this with persistence and creating innovative ways of getting things done. Best of all you have found ways to continue to support our many programs—the Providence Fund, The Scholarship Program, Cooley’s Anemia and Gifts of Love. 2022 is the year we will get back into full operation. Meetings are possible, if not at the parish hall try a restaurant, (when the weather is good) a park, for a smaller branch someone’s house. Not everyone will be comfortable meeting in person for a while, that is okay, they can meet via Zoom, or communicate through emails and newsletters. We have great Central Council committees and they are dedicated to helping you in any way they can, please contact them for assistance.

I could go on and on about our committees and what they are doing and what they can do for you—instead, in Msgr. Cardelli’s memory, I am putting some challenges out there for you.

1. If you have not started meeting in person, I CHALLENGE YOU to do so now. Those that feel comfortable will attend, those that don’t attend will send them the minutes or a newsletter so they know what took place and feel a part of the process.

2. If you do not have a mentor assigned to you—contact your District Mentor or District President and get one assigned to you. If you are having difficulty, contact our Chief Mentor Denise Antonowicz. OR better yet, I CHALLENGE YOU to sign up as a mentor. It is a wonderful experience and allows you to meet and get to know members of another branch in your District/area.

3. I CHALLENGE EACH OF YOU to go out and promote the Italian Catholic Federation in your parish and community and sign up one new member this year.

4. Now is the time to start thinking about individuals that are worthy to receive one of our awards at convention. We have the Grand President’s, Saint Teresa of Calcutta, Pope Saint John, Family of the Year and Young Adult. The process to nominate someone has been simplified, so that more of you would consider nominating someone. I know there is someone in your branch or District or community that would be the perfect candidate for one of these awards. I CHALLENGE YOU to get those applications (they can be found on our website or call the office) and nominate someone. I look forward to seeing at least one award nomination from EVERY DISTRICT in the Federation this year. Yes, if you are wondering, I have nominated a past Grand President Award Recipient and even one that was not selected. If I can do it, I know you can too!

I wish all of you a Happy and Joyful 2022 and look forward to seeing all that you can do and accomplish; and to share those moments with you. We are THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION. We are STRONG and we WILL continue the vision of our founders Luigi Provenza and Father Bandini by FORGING OUR PATH INTO THE FUTURE!

God Bless ALL of us

God Bless the Italian Catholic Federation
And God Bless the United States of America!

Membership Matters
Perry Shurko
Membership Chairperson

Oh boy! Here we go again. Will this ever end? That’s what we’re all thinking. Greetings to one and all as we enter February. It seems like deja vu, or maybe it’s just Groundhog Day, over and over again. I hope you’re all in good health, but if you did get the latest bug, please do your best to stay home and not spread it. Once again, events are cancelled, or postponed, and we’re back to Zooming too, I was just getting relaxed meeting in person too. Well, we can’t give up hope, we must move forward and onward. We will get through this some way or another, and when we do, we will be stronger than ever.

As of the writing of this article, the Religious Education Congress is still going forward. It will be both virtual and an in-person event. The ICF is still planning on having a booth and we hope to see you there. Our goal with being an exhibitor is to spread the word to those who don’t know about our organization and to try and increase our membership numbers. Remember, we still have a national branch, and attendees who don’t have a branch near them, can sign up for our National branch. We also hope to gain the interest of pastors in attendance who would like to open a branch at their parish.

So, let’s pray that this latest battle with Covid will be over very soon, and that we go back to meeting in person and once again have fundraisers and gatherings.

Take care, Perry Shurko,
Membership Chairperson

Survey Seeking Input from Italian-Americans Learning about Their Heritage

Dear Editor,
It was heartening to see Denise Antonowicz’s article titled "Why we need Family History Now more than Ever" in the January issue of the Bollettino. Denise brought up so many specific and useful points. As all the generations pass, and, really, as the future pushes toward us all, our ability to pass on memories (both personal and collective) is so important.
I recently was introduced to an Italian professor who is putting together a network to help Calabrese people (from the Italian region of Calabria) spread their culture and affirm their heritage. He has a questionnaire that is gathering input from Italian-Americans who may be interested in making trips to Italy to explore their roots, called “Turismo delle radici.”

Here is the link:  https://turismo-delle-radici.typeform.com/to/XpnmLR

It is a very thoughtful survey, and he is very interested in assisting travelers to visit holy places and pilgrimage sites.
Thank you again,
Francesca Taylor

The project is carried out by ASSad Association, with the support of the General Direction for the Italians Abroad and Migration Policies of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

February 2022
Family Recipe
Deborah Rodondi
Grand President

Tonight was the deadline for the Bollettino articles and I thought I just can’t make it happen. What I wanted to share with you was a delightful Tiramisu recipe from my cousin—perfect for Valentines—but it will have to wait for another day.

Today was Msgr. Cardelli’s Funeral Mass. It was beautiful and it was live streamed. So, if you have a chance to view it, the sermon and eulogies were very good and in many ways shared another side of Msgr. He was an awe-some cook—wish I had his recipes to another side of Msgr. He was an awe-some and in many ways shared 

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Valentines—but it

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mine for myself and (of course) my

nephew Tony. It is simple and most

I fixed for dinner a favorite casserole of mine for myself and (of course) my nephew Tony. It is simple and most

so, in a very long roundabout way, what I am trying to say is tonight I

fixed for dinner a favorite casserole of mine for myself and (of course) my nephew Tony. It is simple and most

of the ingredients are in your home. It
dawned on me, that this is a recipe I have not shared with you. Here it is.

Chicken Divan

Simple and very tasty

2 (10 ounce) packages frozen broccoli (I use fresh and steam it just a little before putting in casserole)
2 cups sliced cooked chicken (3 breasts)
2 cans cream of chicken soup (I use cream of mushroom)
½ cup shredded cheddar cheese (probably more)
1 tsp. lemon juice (1/2 a lemon)
1 Tbsp. butter (I don’t use this)
1 cup mayonnaise
½ to 1 tsp. curry powder (1 tsp. definitely—if you like curry, maybe a little more)

Cook broccoli until tender. Lay chicken in greased pan/casserole dish, place broccoli on top.
Combine soup, lemon juice and curry powder, spread on top (I put a handful of cheese in the sauce also). Sprinkle with cheese. Bake in 350 degree oven for 25 to 30 minutes or until the cheese is golden brown. Serve over rice.

NOTE:
1) Works great with leftover turkey also. Can also just defrost broccoli instead of precooking.
2) I buy a Costco rotisserie chicken, have a meal, make sandwiches and then the rest I cube and use in this recipe.
3) I put this in a 9 x 13 inch baking dish. Use enough chicken to cover the bottom and enough broccoli to nicely cover the chicken. (I rather have more broccoli than chicken). With a spatula spread the sauce over the top.
4) I make 3 cups of rice (boil 6 cups of water and add 3 cups long grain rice-cook low until done.) This is great leftover—Tony and I are both taking it for our lunch tomorrow. I often fix servings of it to freeze for a lunch or dinner. Tonight at dinner, Tony asked me were I got this recipe. It actually came from a distant cousin of ours. I gave a bridal shower for Tony’s mom and the one thing we asked everyone to bring for the new bride was a favorite recipe to help start up her recipe collection. Hope you enjoy this recipe.

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!

Saints of February—continued
Carmen Kilcullen, Member

Continued from Page 1

Beginning in the 16th century, the practice of the blessing of St. Blaise for throats was started and continues to this day. Much of Blaise’s fame spread throughout Christendom and many churches are dedicated to him such as the church in Dubrovnik in Croatia. When the Roman emperor, Licinius, began to persecute Christians, Blaise was caught and later beheaded. He died in 316.

Feb. 5 is the feast of St. Agatha. She was born in Sicily around 231 to a noble family. From her early years, she dedicated her life to God. A diplomatic person-age, named Quin-tianus, desired her and had her tortured in many ways to acquiesce to him. However, Agatha never lost her faith in God and never gave in to Quintianus. She died in 251. Agatha is the patron saint of Sicily, breast cancer patients and rape victims.

Feb. 6 is the feast of St. Dorothy of Car-
sarea. She was born in 279 and died in 290. She is venerated by both the Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church. She has been revered since the 7th cen-
tury and her religious order was important in Europe during the Middle Ages. She is the patroness of flowers, florists, brides and newlyweds.

Feb. 10 is the feast of St. Benedict. He was born in Ireland in 524 and was a disciple of St. Columba. A miracle-worker, he was granted the gifts of prophecy and miracles. He is known as “Father of the Irish Monks”. His monastery observed very strict rules and he, himself, endured austere penances. He is known for his sanctity, compassion and piety. Fintan died in 603.

Feb. 21 is the feast of St. Peter Da-
mian. He was born in Ravenna, Italy, in 1007 and died in 1072. Peter was a Cardinal, Doctor of the Church, Latin essayist, reformer of monastic rules and arbiter for the Church disputes in various areas. He worked mainly out of the monastery of Fonte Avellana in the Pergola diocese of Italy. At this monastery, he established many of the practices that he would implement in his reforms in the Church. (I did visit this monastery a few years ago and I found it to be a place of peace and spirituality). Peter was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1828.

Final Note:
In the Saini part of my family, we do have a Blessed, Blessed Giovanni Saini, so declared in 1460. I have not been able to find if he ever made it to sainthood. Much information about the saints can be found on-line. Check it out and see for yourself.

Carmen Kilcullen

“The memory of the Saints leads us to raise our eyes to Heaven: not to forget the realities of the earth, but to face them with greater courage, with more hope.”
 Pope Francis, Angelus, 1st November 2019

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
Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of January 7, 2022:

**IN MEMORY OF:**
- Ted Fregosi
- Judith Cardoza
- Ted Fregosi
- Alice Wood
- Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
- Jerry Romero
- Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
- Deacon Luigi Del Gaudio
- Antoinette “Toni” Fraschieri
- Paul and John R. Domeniconi
- Lando and Pina Baldocchi

**DONATED BY:**
- Officers/Members of Br. 342
- Officers/Members of Br. 144
- Patricia Putkey
- Leroy and Stella Taddei
- Mike and Marcie Rossi
- Mike and Marcie Rossi
- Officers/Members of Central Council
- Officers/Members of Br. 45
- The Risso Family
- The Risso Family
- The Risso Family

**GET WELL WISHES:**
- Laurice Levine
- Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
- Officers/Members of Central Council
- Officers/Members of Central Council
- Officers/Members of Central Council
- Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
- Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

**IN CELEBRATION OF ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY:**
- Fr. Anthony Mancuso
- John and Camille Orlando

**WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS:**
- Rose and Aaron McNeal
- Carmen and Larry Kilcullen
- Rose and Aaron McNeal
- Lauren Kilcullen
- Rose and Aaron McNeal
- Mr. and Mrs. Ed Mackinson

*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.

2022 1st Year Scholarship Program

Information on the 1st Year Scholarship Program that was sent to high schools in November, has now been made available to the Districts and Branches and has been posted on our ICF website www.icf.org via a link on the homepage as well as in the documents in the Officers’ Portal.

The Deadline for Donations and Applications is March 15, 2022. Please discuss participating in the program by making a donation of a full scholarship of $400.00, if possible, or a partial donation of any amount. Partial Donations do help to make other scholarships possible when that money is grouped together. Individual Donations are welcome as well. Please encourage your children, grandchildren or anyone you know who is eligible to apply. They can contact their high school counselors about the Italian Catholic Federation’s 1st Year $400.00 Scholarship, or they can download the application using the link on the homepage of the ICF website.

These are the eligibility requirements for students:

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

Please contact your local high schools where you would like to see applications come from and make sure that they are promoting our scholarship program and have applications available. If you have any questions or applications are needed, please call the ICF office toll-free at 1-888-423-1924.

Cooley’s Anemia Donations (Received as of Jan. 7, 2022)

- Mark Neuburger
- Merry Christmas Wishes for Mary Perata and Eva Perata

Scholarship Donations- 1st Year (Received as of Jan. 7, 2022)

- Madeleine Martin Branch 014
- Edward J Mc Guirk Branch 343
- Dino D Boito Branch 052
- Cyril Bonanno Branch 352
- Peggy C Boito Branch 052
- Elizabeth M Mc Carthy Branch 391
- Norman M Dunlavy Branch 052
- Frieda Casey Branch 438
- Charlotte W Woolard Branch 103
- Michael P Casey Branch 438
- Leonard C Woolard Branch 103
- Giovanna A Rice Branch 438
- Teri Lucky Branch 108
- Harold W Rice Branch 438
- Marianne R Cameron Branch 213
- Carol Younger Branch 438
- Lois Lee Billings Branch 218
- Hannah M Letcher Branch 342
- Isaac Cuevas Branch 218
- Holly O Letcher Branch 342
- Mia A Cuevas Branch 218
- James O Letcher Branch 342
- Nancy Cuevas Branch 218
- John P Letcher Branch 342
- Reese A Cuevas Branch 218
- Kevin G Letcher Branch 342
- Rev Romeo Evangelista Branch 227
- Mary F Letcher Branch 342
- David R Grubbs Branch 285
- Samuel G Letcher Branch 342
- Mary C Grubbs Branch 285
- Luigi E Scalabroni Branch 444
- Allison K Mc Guirk Branch 343

Welcome to New Members (Report as of Jan. 7, 2022)

- Madeline Martin Branch 014
- Edward J Mc Guirk Branch 343
- Dino D Boito Branch 052
- Cyril Bonanno Branch 352
- Peggy C Boito Branch 052
- Elizabeth M Mc Carthy Branch 391
- Norman M Dunlavy Branch 052
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- Charlotte W Woolard Branch 103
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- Mary F Letcher Branch 342
- David R Grubbs Branch 285
- Samuel G Letcher Branch 342
- Mary C Grubbs Branch 285
- Luigi E Scalabroni Branch 444
- Allison K Mc Guirk Branch 343

Gifts of Love Donations (Received as of Jan. 7, 2022)

- Branch 39
- Officers/Members of Br. 108
- In Memory of Steve Drobeck
- The Risso Family
- In Memory of Romilda “Millic” Franzoni

In Loving Memory (Report as of Jan 7, 2022)

- Deacon Luigi A Del Gaudio Branch 045
- Carmelo J Amato Branch 052
- Anita Boragno Branch 050
- Joyce A Cafferata Branch 052
- Nancy Davis Branch 052
- Antoinette Mancini Branch 115
- Charlie W Wallin Branch 209
- Glorinda Dobleman Branch 213
- Violet M Savovich Branch 220
- Jeanette Shriver Branch 250
- Theodore L Fregosi Branch 342
- Jim Rosa Branch 342
- Rev Msgr Daniel E Cardelli Branch 352
- Marvin Foster Branch 390
- Barbara J Chabot Branch 438
- Roland Di Grazia Branch 438
- Michael Hynes Branch 438
- Darrell H Terry Branch 438

In Memory of John Rocchio

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To help us celebrate St. Valentine's Day, I have compiled a list of books about the facts and myths that surround this legendary saint. In reality, little is known about him or his special day and many of the stories that surround his life can be attributed to legend. The books recommended here give various perspectives full of fascinating stories.

**Saint Valentine Hardcover**
*by Ann Tompert*

Every February 14 we exchange cards and flowers as expressions of love. Valentine's Day is among our most popular holidays. But, what do the words, “Be my Valentine” mean? Who was Valentine?

We know he lived in third-century Rome, during the reign of Claudius II. We know that he was a Christian priest. He lived during a period of military anarchy, when many of Rome’s records were destroyed. The facts of Valentine’s life have been lost to history. What survives, however, are legends. And legends often contain the residue of truth. Ann Tompert beautifully weaves together the most enduring stories of Valentine to create a tapestry of the saint’s life. Kestutis Kasparytis’ illustrations take the reader back to ancient Rome. Together, author and illustrator pierce the historical fog that surrounds Saint Valentine to offer a glimpse of the man whose life remains a mystery.

**Saint Valentine**
*by Robert Sabuda*

How did Valentine's Day, one of our most popular holidays, begin? It started in ancient Rome when a kind physician named Valentine took an interest in a young blind girl. With his healing skill and his deep faith, he restored her sight. What we now call Valentine's Day began when he sent the little girl a secret message, which she received after the Christian martyr was executed.

For this tale, rich in sentiment, master illustrator Robert Sabuda has created exquisite paper mosaics to suggest early Christian art that resonates with both subtlety and power.

**The Story of Saint Valentine**
*by Laura Wagner*

In (circa) 269 AD, Emperor Claudius II of Rome declared that soldiers were not allowed to fall in love and get married. A priest by the name of Valentine believed that everyone should have the right to love whom they choose. When Valentine defies the law and becomes an advocate for love, miracles start to happen.

**Story Of Valentine’s Day**
*by Nancy J. Skaermas*

The story of Valentine's Day for young readers, now in a new size. Here is a little board book that explains in simple terms the story of the origin of Valentine's Day. From today’s celebrations to their link to the day’s beginnings, the holiday of valentines and candy hearts is explained so that even the youngest reader will understand.

A new, convenient size and vibrant art make this board book a wonderful Valentine's Day gift for little hands to grasp. Ages 2-5.

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**Cooley's Corner**

**Thalassemia (Cooley’s Anemia) Trait**
*By Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS*

There are two main types of thalassemia trait: beta-thalassemia trait (more common among Italians) and alpha thalassemia trait. Individuals who have beta-thalassemia trait have one normal beta globin gene and one that is altered such that it makes little or no beta globin. There is not much scientific evidence that a person who has beta-thalassemia trait has any symptoms, although women with the trait may be more likely to develop anemia during pregnancy and thousands of people with trait report having symptoms such as fatigue and dizziness.

Thalassemia trait causes red blood cells to be a slightly smaller size, a condition caused by microcytosis. Since iron deficiency is the most common cause of microcytosis, Doctors often mistakenly misdiagnose thalassemia trait as iron deficiency anemia and prescribe iron supplements. However, thalassemia trait and iron deficiency are different problems, therefore before prescribing iron supplements, doctors should rule out thalassemia trait and/or perform lab tests to evaluate iron levels. A person with thalassemia trait can also be iron deficient, but if he or she is not iron deficient, iron supplements may result in excess body iron, which can deposit in many areas of the body and over time cause organ damage.

Testing for Thalassemia trait is easy! It involves having a blood sample drawn which looks at the following:
- Hemoglobin electrophoresis with quantitative hemoglobin A2 and hemoglobin F
- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Iron studies (free erythrocyte protoporphyrin and ferritin)

Occasionally trait status cannot be determined by these screening tests alone. If iron deficiency is detected, then an individual must be restaged after completing a course of iron supplementation therapy. With iron supplements iron deficiency should improve. If it does not it may be that the individual has thalassemia trait. Occasionally, DNA testing that clearly examines the Alpha and/or Beta globin genes is necessary.

It is important for individuals and their partners to be aware of their thalassemia trait status, especially if you are of Italian descent (or other ancestry where Thalassemia is common). Again, since there are no symptoms, an individual may not know they have the trait until they have a child born with thalassemia major, a severe form of the disease. If both parents have the thalassemia trait there is a 25% chance that their child could be born with thalassemia major, a condition which requires lifelong treatment.

If you find out you have thalassemia trait and would like more information, please contact Laurice Levine at LLevine430@aol.com or 360-860-2023.
The Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee wishes Missionary Sister of the Sacred Heart Regina Palamara to start 2022 with a full and complete recovery from her recent eye operation.

The Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library will be open for Open House throughout the year and by special request. Save the date for the next Annual Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage, Mass and Luncheon on December 4, 2022. Invite members, friends and parishioners to visit the Chapel and Library and learn more about the life of the first female missionary and later the first American Saint.

The pastor at Saint Francis Xavier Church (SFXC) is also celebrating Mother Cabrini’s Feast Day through a Novena of daily masses from November 4 thru 12, 2022 ending with a procession and Mass in honor of Mother Cabrini on Sunday, November 13, 2022, and would like ICF to join SFXC in celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Mother Cabrini’s canonization to Sainthood.

For more information on the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library or to make a donation to help the Chapel maintain the Chapel facility and to continue with the annual Pilgrimage event in Burbank, please call 626 372-7812 or visit the Mother Cabrini Shrine at www.icf.org.

Additional DVDs on the Life of Mother Cabrini now available. Call 626-372-7812 or email me at cas1810@aol.com.

Your support is greatly appreciated. – Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, President ICF LAADC Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee E: cas1810@aol.com C 626-372-7812

Chinese New Year was born out of fear and myth. Legend spoke of the wild beast Nian (which also is the word for “year”) that appeared at the end of each year, attacking and killing villagers. Loud noises and bright lights were used to scare the beast away, and the Chinese New Year celebrations were born. Today, the 15-day New Year festivities are celebrated with a week of vacation in metropolitan areas of China. At the turn of the new year, fireworks displays are put on throughout the city. This year in San Francisco, the world’s largest Parade and celebration occurs on February 1st, 2022. The following are some interesting facts about the legends and traditions of the celebration.

Red envelopes
Called “hong bao” in Mandarin, the red envelopes filled with money are typically only given to children or unmarried adults with no job. If you’re single and working and making money, you still have to give the younger ones the hong bao money. The color red denotes good luck/fortune and happiness/abundance in the Chinese Culture and is often worn or used for decoration in other celebrations.

Dragon
The dragon is present in many Chinese cultural celebrations as the Chinese people often think of themselves as descendants of the mythical creature. On the fifth day of the New Year when many people have to start going back to work, they will also have dancing dragons perform in the front of the office building. On the 15th day of the New Year (Yuan Xiao Jie), they may also have a lot of dancing dragon performances. The dragon represents prosperity, good luck, and good fortune.

Traditional Foods
Chinese New Year’s Eve meal is the most important dinner of the year. Typically, families gather at a designated relative’s house for dinner, but these days, many families often celebrate New Year’s Eve dinner at a restaurant. Chinese New Year is a 15-day celebration and each day, many families rotate celebrations between homes of their relatives. The festivities are day-long and sometimes, a family ends up cooking two meals for their relatives, once at lunch and once at dinner. Some of the foods that are served include: “Eight Treasures Rice,” which contains rice, walnuts, different colored dry fruit, raisins, sweet red bean paste, jujube dates, almonds; “Tang Yuan” – black sesame rice ball soup; or a won ton soup; Chicken, duck, fish and pork dishes; “Song Gao,” literally translates to “loose cake,” which is made of rice which has been cooked on a ground and then formed into a small, sweet round cake; “Jiu Niang Tang” – sweet wine rice soup which contains small rice balls. Whatever you eat or do Chinese New Year is a special event that can be celebrated no matter what your nationality may be.

Donate Love ~ Donate Life ~ Donate Blood
On January 11th, 2022, the American Red Cross declared that the nation is facing “its worst blood shortage in over a decade.” There is no substitute for human blood and currently there is less than ½ day supply. Amid this crisis, doctors have been forced to make difficult decisions about who receives blood transfusions and who will need to wait until more products become available. Blood and platelet donations are critically needed to help prevent further delays in vital medical treatments.” Please donate if you can – and bring a friend with you!

Happy Valentine’s Day
From, The Live to Give Committee

For More Information:
Laurice Levine: 360-860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com
American Red Cross: http://www.redcross.org/give-blood
Vitalant Blood Donation: https://www.vitalant.org/

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For more info: crpolese@ Cabrillo.edu
Branch Reports

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

Dear Members:
Unfortunately, our 2022 Branch meeting including an Italian dinner will need to be postponed because of the spreading Omicron variant. Hope everyone is staying safe and healthy.

Happy Valentine's Day!
Kind Regards, Diana Cresci

San Francisco
Br. 258, St. Elizabeth

Happy Valentine’s Day to all of our members.
To those of our members celebrating a birthday in February - many more years of Much Happiness and Good Health.
Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.
Our sincere sympathy to The Caraffi Family. Maria was an active member for 52 years in our Br. 258. Maria will be greatly missed. Special thanks to Lori Cline, Carmela & Ed Gigliotti, Rina Cassanego, Donna Ruiz and Victor Camiciat for their tireless work setting up our room for our Christmas Party. Also, thanks to our clean-up/lock up group: Jim & Luci Witherspoon, Donna Cervelli and Brenda Wemiz.
With our January newsletter an ICF calendar was enclosed which listed the dinners/meetings we have planned for 2022. As mentioned previously there will be some changes to the calendar due to the virus regulations. Hopefully, our Pedro Tournament scheduled for April 23, 2022 and our Ravioli Dinner on June 26, 2022 will not be affected.
At this time, our members, and other branch members need our prayers. Fr. For our Branch: Mary Bodisco, Anthony Bruno's daughter, John Campa- nile, Anita Cecena, Lorraine Rollandi, Gary Wemiz (on the recent passing of his brother) and Melanie Yeager. Also, Kathy Treviso from Branch 19 and Roberta Franchini from branch 213.

Ciao, Eva Perata, President

SAN MATEO
South San Francisco
Br. 7, Sacro Cuore

Happy St Valentine Day South City! Our next dinner meeting will be taking place in February. Donna Smith will be reaching out regarding reservations and menu. It’s Scholarship time so if you know of a high school senior heading to college in the Fall, please remind them to apply for a scholarship from the ICF. All the information they need can be found at our website www.icf.org. The deadline to apply is March 15, 2022.
Annual dues are now $40 so if you have not paid please send your payments to Dean Balestieri, 776 Almond Ave, SSF, CA 94080.

MILLBRAE

Br. 403, St. Dunstan
Greetings! We hope that all ICF Members were able to safely gather with immediate family or close friends for the holidays. Although our branch has not had a formal meeting for many months, we have managed to conduct business informally. We sold all of our raffle tickets and calendars, donated to our parish, to St. Vincent de Paul, and to the Catholic Worker’s House in nearby San Bruno. We also were able to buy our usual "Holiday Greeting" in the Bollettino!
Thanks to ideas gleaned from other branches, we are planning a safe fund-raiser in the near future--which we will share once we have it fully developed. Hopefully, Omicron will pass soon.
Finally, some humor from church bulletins gone awry: "Ladies, don’t forget the rummage sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands."
Ciao tutti!
Adonna Amoroso, Corresponding Secretary

MARIN
Larkspur
Br. 161, St. James

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, June 9th which will mark the 60th Anniversary of our branch. At 11:00 am that day we will have a Mass at St. Vincent’s Most Holy Rosary Chapel in Marinwood, San Rafael. (Also known as St Vincent School for Boys.) The celebrant will be Rev. Msgr. (Fr) Harry Schilt. A luncheon is planned following the Mass, location to be determined. For reservations and information contact Marlene Farber.

Three generations of the Ken Valente family celebrating with Branch 332.

Novato
Br. 332, Our Lady of Loretto

After our successful October, November and December events, we regret that we had to postpone our dinner meetings for January and February but are hopeful that our caution enables our members to remain safe, and that our St. Joseph celebration in March will signal the return to uninterrupted monthly events. We miss our time together.
Fortunately, we were able to end 2021 with a fun-filled Christmas dinner and holiday raffle. Thanks to the continued support of our members, the evening renewed our spirits, as we mingled with friends, and the success of the raffle funded the 2022 Fr. Brian Costello Scholarship awarded by our Branch to a student in our parish school. A special thank you to Angela McDuffee and her kitchen crew, Dave Garbarino, Sandy Vasquez, Dinah Matos, Frank and Rosella Piazza, Ken Valente, Greg Erigero, Bob Lemos, Mark Trello and Vince Sheehan, whose efforts made the hall look beautiful, satisfied our thirst and hungry tummies, and filled the room with lovely music.
Happy Birthday to long-time member Rosalie Moresi, who is celebrating her 100th birthday on February 16th; her zest for life is an inspiration to us all. Buon Compleanno!
Happy Valentine’s Day to everyone in the ICF community.
Hello and welcome to February! As you are aware, we postponed our district installation, as did all the other districts. This Covid craziness just won’t go away. All we can do is try to stay healthy and safe the best we can. Once we get the ok, we will reschedule our installation.

With that said, there’s still plenty of goings on this month - with Groundhogs Day upon us, the Super Bowl, Valentine’s Day and Presidents Day. We still have plans to attend the RE Congress next month, it will be both a virtual and in person event, but if you plan to go, be sure you are vaccinated or you won’t be able to get in.

Let’s all stay safe and healthy and hopefully we’ll get together very soon.

Sincerely, Perry Shurko
LA District President

Los Angeles National Branch 67, St. Peter

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

BUON SAN VALENTINO A TE E ALLE TUE FAMILIE!

NBR 67 begins 2022 with members working on the Vision, Mission and Goals for this National Branch along with identifying and creating value as a member of ICF NBR 67 (online).

Members continue to meet in person and on line via zoom through Heritage and Public Relation Committees to work with members interested in developing presentations and videos along with ways to fundraise for scholarships and other Charitable projects. Additional committees will be formed, and assignments made over the next few months.

ICF National Branch 67 is a virtual branch that reaches out to members and nonmembers who do not have an ICF in their area and would like to 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 and select ICF National Branch 67 for more information.

You are welcome to join us at ICF-NationalBranch67.org and complete the application process. ICF may be just the place for you as we are multi-culture-based focusing on Faith, Family, Fellowship and Food.

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

So. Pasadena
Br. 108, Holy Family

Happy Valentine’s Day to you and your families! Buon San Valentino a te e alle tue famiglie!

Grazie mille to ICF members and Holy Family Parishioners who supported Br. 108 fundraising programs in 2021. We donated to these charities and ministries: ICF Scholarship Fund, Two Holy Family School Frank Bratta Scholarships, Our Lady of Guadalupe School Scholarship, ICF Cooley’s Anemia Fund, Ronald McDonald House, ICF Seminary Bursary, Holy Family’s Embracing Life Ministry, Fire House Foundation, St Peter’s Italian Church, St. Francis Center, Villa Esperanza, International Life Services, Wounded Warriors, ICF Gifts of Love, Children’s Hospital LA Cooley’s Anemia Christmas Fund, and three families in the Adopt-a-Family Program. ICF is alive and kicking during this pandemic because of the generosity of others!

Thank you, members and coordinator Theresa Shaw, for making the ICF Thanksgiving and Christmas Meetings and Potluck Dinners on November 7th and December 19th a success! We celebrated the Wedding Anniversaries of Ernie and Norma Anderson (70 yrs) and Tad and Theresa Shaw (48 yrs) and playing Christmas Bingo and sang songs!

At the January General Meeting (via Zoom), members reviewed the upcoming Branch events and discussed the planning of each event to be in-person and/or virtual to provide flexibility to meet the requirements of health officials and maintain our fundraising commitments.

A special thank you to member Joanie Brescia for her heart felt get well, birthday and anniversary wishes to members each month!

SAVE THE DATES
- 1/23/22 ICF Officer Installation at St. Raymond Catholic Church in Downey; (postponed)
- 2/26/22 ICF Wine Tasting and Dinner at HF Connolly Hall (TBA);
- 3/18,19 and 20/22, St. Joseph Table in HF Connolly Hall (TBA)
- 5/21/22 ICF Under the Tent Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner at HF Connolly Hall (TBA)
- 6/18,19, 20/22 Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner at HF Connolly Hall (TBA)

We continue to pray for the speedy Resolution of the present crisis and to keep our sick members in your prayers for a speedy recovery; and to our former branch members and friends of ICF 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

St Peters National Italian Church in downtown Los Angeles celebrates Mass in Italian each Sunday at 11:00 am!

Branch 108 is back to Zoom Meetings for January, February and March.

Christmas Potluck under the tent!
Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our February General Meeting and San Valentino Potluck Dinner will be on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, in Montebello. Join us for a pre-meeting Valentine's potluck dinner. The branch will provide vegetable lasagna, salad, garlic bread, and water, coffee, & wine, and cake. Bring your favorite main dish or side dish to share. All are welcome!

Congratulations to Irena Scorcia, Carmelina Palmeri, Lynn Enrico and Francesca Orofino who celebrate birthdays this month. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Our St. Joseph’s Table this year will be held on Saturday & Sunday, March 19 & 20, 2022 at St. Benedict Parish Hall. The monies we will raise at this event will allow us to support our parish, offer our Phillip Pace Jr. scholarships to St. Benedict Parish School graduating students, support our clergy and Seminarians, scholarships to graduating high school students, Cooley's Anemia, and other worthwhile charities. We need everyone’s support to make this a successful event!

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Thank you for all you do for the ICF and may St. Joseph and God Bless you abundantly.

A Presto!
Frank Salomone
Branch 111 President

"God is love". His is not a sentimental, emotional kind of love but the love of the Father who is the origin of all life, the love of the Son who dies on the Cross and is raised, the love of the Spirit who renews human beings and the world. Thinking that God is love does us so much good, because it teaches us to love, to give ourselves to others as Jesus gave himself to us and walks with us. Jesus walks beside us on the road through life."
- Pope Francis
San Pedro  
Br 115, St John Joseph of the Cross

Due to the current covid surge your board has decided to postpone our March crab dinner dance. We hope to host the dinner later this year.

Mass in honor of St John Joseph of the Cross will be held on March 5th at 8am. Lite refreshment will be served after mass.

The board is looking into scheduling a Laughlin trip and a casino day trip as soon as it is safe.

Please check parish bulletin for all events and dates.

Membership renewal is now under way. I hope all of our ICF family will continue to support our branch by renewing your membership.

The continued support of our branch through payment of your 2022 dues will be greatly appreciated. Check for $39.00 can be made out to ICF and mailed to Pauline Iacono 1072 w 9th St San Pedro, CA 90731

Scholarship applications for graduating High School seniors are now available online at www.icf.org Deadline is March 15, 2022

Please share the good works of our branch. Our branch is a family oriented, non profit organization dedicated to promoting activities that build faith and family. Encourage friends and family to join our branch. The future of our branch depends on new members. Applications can be found online at icf.org or ask any board member for application.

Happy birthday to President Neal Dileva!  
Happy Valentine’s Day to all!

Anita Trujillo

Arcadia  
Br. 218, Holy Angels

A huge thanks to Scott and Teri Carrano, President Jerry and all that helped put together our New Year’s Eve party. The food was great, the band got almost everyone out dancing, the Hawaiian decorations were beautiful. It was a great way to bring in the new year.

Our February meeting has been changed to the 20th and at this meeting there will be a reception for Phil Gargano who passed away in December. This will be hosted by his cousin, Fabrizio Renna. There will be a short meeting.

Our St. Joseph’s Table is still scheduled for March 19 and 20. We will have different ideas about how to have it this year due to the ongoing pandemic.

Please try to attend the February meeting where there will be sign up sheets and a lot more information. We welcomed new members Nancy and Isaac at our last meeting (sorry, I didn’t catch their last names). But last not least, we would like to thank Dave Scaraminach for the generous donation of $1000 from the Arcadia Board of Realtors.

A very happy Valentine’s Day to everyone. Hope to see you at our next meeting. Lolly M.

Claremont  
Br. 319, Our Lady of the Assumption

Happy Valentine's Day to all of you.

We had to cancel the Installation of Officers in January due to the raise of Covid and plans are being made for it to be in late February. We still need to get together and get all of our officers and members caught up to what's going on with the ICF. This year is the 75th anniversary of the church and Father Charles will be celebrating 35 years as a priest (also his 75th birthday.) Plans will be made for big event during the year to celebrate all of these happy occasions.

Our next meeting will be plan for February and we need to talk about things that we like to do around the church and the community to get out group going again. Do you have any idea, please give me a call, you all have my number or text me I would be happy to hear any idea that you may have for either the church celebration or fundraisers for our group

Stay safe and God bless
Andrea Linn, Pres

Downey  
Br. 362, St. Raymond

It feels like 2022 is a repeat of the last 2 years. COVID/ the flu is running amuck, and we had to cancel our district installation and our February bingo lunch. New dates will be announced for both events once we get the ok from the rectory staff.

Well, let’s see what the groundhog has to say about the rest of this winter, we’re at the halfway point and so far, it’s been pretty nice. Hopefully we’ll get some more rain soon

The Super Bowl is right around the corner, did you get into a pool? Also, this month is Presidents Day and St Valentine’s Day. I want to wish a very Happy Birthday to all our members who have a birthday this month

I don’t have any news for the St Joseph Table, but we will most likely do what we did last year and just have a simple altar set up either right in front of the church or just inside, depending on the weather.

I wish you all good health, stay safe and hopefully we will get through this craziness soon.

Take care, Perry Shurko, branch president.

La Canada Flintridge  
Br. 374, St. Bede the Venerable

The new year started off with members attending the District Installation of Officer’s Mass and Dinner at St. Raymond Church in Downey. It’s always an inspiring event with plenty of food and it was very nice to be able to gather for this annual ritual. Hopefully, the new officers will find their role rewarding and will provide the leadership especially needed during these trying times. Thank you, Officers for your commitment and loyalty.

Time is quickly creeping up for our annual St. Joseph Table and Auction on Sunday, March 20th. It is heartening to know that this Sicilian tradition will be celebrated in person this year. Although the event may be scaled down a bit, we are relying on lucrative results from the auction, BUT only with your help! If everyone secures several auction items, that will ensure success. There are official Solicitation Forms available for your use. Call Phyllis at 818-790-7325 to secure a form. Bidders especially like restaurant dinner/ lunch certificates. Why not drop off a form at your next dining venue? Other popular donations are gift cards, sporting events, wine, and vacation time shares.

Empty baskets are also needed so our branch can make up gift baskets with small items.

We are very grateful for the $500 donation that was made by Phyllis Harb to our Distinguished Student Service Award Fund in honor of the 80th birthday of member Benardo Volpe. Her generosity will enable our branch to continue to recognize the worthy students at St. Bede School who completed superior service to their school, church, and community.

Best Wishes for a Healthy 2022, Diane Restivo

Thousand Oaks  
Br. 380, St. Paschal Baylon

Greetings from Branch 380! Board members are holding meetings through Zoom again and planning our next general meeting for February with a Mardi Gras theme.

We are also hoping to hold our annual St. Joseph’s Day Dinner in March with an option for guests to pick up food to take home or gather outside.

We wish all our members a happy new year and continued safety and good health and we look forward to seeing everyone again.

Take care, Perry Shurko, branch president.
Ranchos Palos Verdes
Br. 444, St. John Fisher

After only starting in person meetings a few months ago, Branch 444 celebrated Christmas with its members and their friends in a joyous, festive atmosphere that included appetizers, dinner, and homemade desserts. Prior to everyone’s arrival, Marianne Carnevali, Cristina Baldemor, Patty Hansen, Hany Francis, and Bruno Vieri did an amazing job setting the stage for the party by decorating the hall with festive ornaments and adding special touches to the dinner tables. At the start of our celebration, Fr. Bernard Kalu, St. John Fisher’s Associate Pastor, led us in prayer. We were very happy he could join us. After a dinner of salad, eggplant parmesan and chicken, we were entertained by Kathleen Buchanan, board member and a long-time singer. Kathleen sang Christmas songs, handed out candy, and led everyone in Christmas Carols. We ended the evening with raffle prizes and the culmination of a silent auction with donations from a few of our members, so thank you all for the generous donations that we received. We had the good fortune to honor our first-year scholarship recipient, Elisa Liberati, who joined the celebration. As a USC student, she studied in Italy this past year and just returned in early December for semester break. Her parents, brother, and grandmother, who is from the Umbria region, also attended the party.

We hope you all had a very happy New Year. May 2022 bring you continued health. Let’s remember to be thankful for our families, friends and our faith. Our board continues to meet and we are hoping that 2022 can be filled with more memorable meetings and events.

February 13th at 7:00 p.m., we will celebrate Valentine’s Day in the auditorium. The cost is $10 per person and includes tri-tip. Members will be asked to bring a side dish or dessert. There will be a raffle and a sing along. I hope you will be able to join us!

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Piccirillo

Br. 444 Kathleen Buchanan entertaining the group

Fr. Rizzo presided at the Mass on Jan.8th at St. John's Basilica where Jan Karp, former Pres. of Br. #91 was remembered in Prayers for the People. It was decided tonight that rather than postpone Installation we would do it via Zoom at 3 PM on Sunday as scheduled. Who knows when it will be safe again?
Due to the price of crab and dining restrictions our Crab Feed will be replaced by a Polenta Dinner in mid-March. We are all praying that it will be a safe and successful dinner.

A Happy St. Valentine’s Day to all! Pat Grasso, Dist. Sec

James McGee presided over his final meeting as our president on December 2. One of James’ multiple contributions has been to build the Branch 10 website, sites.google.com/view/Italian-catholic-fed-branch-10/home. James also belongs to Branch 215 (Fremont) and will serve as master of ceremonies for the Zoom East Bay District Installation on January 12. We have sold 35 ICF 2022 calendars. Thanks to all for your purchases, and best of luck in the monthly drawings. Our financial secretary, Karen Harrington, has sent out dues notices for 2022. Karen reports that our membership remains strong at 132.
We are deciding whether to proceed with our Lenten Friday Fish-Fry dinners, which would begin on March 4. We have cancelled our annual Saint Joseph’s Day Table because we are not allowed to serve the delicious and plentiful desserts which members prepare in their homes. Still, we have managed to hold four dinners during the past seven months of the pandemic.

John Zugnoni, Branch 10 publicity

OAKLAND

EAST BAY
District Council

It was a busy meeting that we just completed prior to this writing.
We are saddened by the death of our Spiritual Director, Rev. Msgr. Cardelli. We are pleased by the addition of our Chaplain, Fr. Mario Rizzo, hopefully he will join us for many more meetings. Fr. Mario reminded us that the “Christmas season” may be over, but the season should remain with us.

Fr. 444 Elisa Liberati Scholarship Recipient

Alameda
Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

Greetings!
We are hosting our annual and very popular Polenta Dinner in a drive-through format, on Saturday, February 12. The cost is $30.00 per meal, which will consist of salad, bread, polenta with chicken and dessert. Pick-up times are being assigned at the time of your reservation.
For reservations, please contact Jeanette Zugnoni, (510) 523-8005 or jeannez@zugnoni.net, by 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8.

John Zugnoni, Branch 10 publicity
Buon Anno and we have started the year off on a mixed note.
Branch #91 is staying on another year and we sold all of our calendars, numbering over 40+
Thanks to member Donna Santich for her valued help in our sale.
For now, it does look like we will be meeting either on Zoom or in the mail.
And we shall hope for a better February!!

On a more somber note, we lost one of our past Presidents, Jan Karp, late in 2021.
On Jan. 8th, we gathered at St. Joseph Basilica in Alameda for a special mass that was dedicated to her and another parishioner.
There were at least 10 members of our branch & The East Bay in attendance.
Fran La Torre helped to set this up and it is deeply appreciated.
Father Mario Rizzo said the high Mass. And we were able to include our ICF Chaplain, Monsgr. Cardelli in our prayers during this Mass.
Also, it has been 3 years since Sir Robert Dianda has passed on and he, along with Theresa, are truly missed.
We keep them in our prayers, also.
Please keep our sick and deceased members in your hearts and prayers.
We hope that 2022 brings us all better health- for our members & their families!
Baci e Abbracchi,
Jo-Ann Maggiora Donivan, President

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

Fremont

St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

I hope the start to 2022 has been happy and healthy for you and your family.
BINGO!!! Our Spring Bingo Luncheon will be on May 24, 2022, in the Corpus Christi parish hall. We are still working out the details and hope that we can hold this function as planned.
We miss all of you who have support ed our branch bingo functions through the years and look forward to seeing you this spring!
Please check out our Branch 215 webpage at: https://sites.google.com/view/italian-catholic-fed-branch215/home
Happy Valentine’s and Presidents’ Day! God bless America!! 
Dio ti benedica,
James Francis McGee
Vice President

Pleasanton-Livermore

Br. 285, Saint Filomena

Even though we were not able to personally attend our Branch’s Installation of Officers, we all enjoyed the togetherness and spirit of participating by Zoom.
We thank our members for buying calendars this year. It is our best year ever and what a fitting dedication to the Hope of our Future-our Children.
Our first indoor social meeting at St. Michael’s featured Dale Schauer showing slides of a visit to a small village, Cornino, and nearby Venice and Aquileia, a Roman seaport.
Our Branch is looking into volunteering as a group at a charitable organization. One option is the Community Care project at St. Michael’s. Volunteers distribute groceries to people in need.
In the spring we are looking forward to having a tea to welcome new members into our branch.
It is with great sadness that Michael Yocham passed away. Michael was a dear man-big in statue and big in heart. Our prayers are with Anna and the family.
Our branch donated to the Gifts of Love in Michael’s memory.
We continue to pray for our sick and convalescing members and friends.
Continued Best Wishes for a Healthy and Safe New Year.
Carlotta Schauer
Co-Recording Secretary

Castro Valley

Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace

The Branch has not had a meeting since our November meeting, but the officers will be meeting via Zoom this week. There were 14 of us at the District Christmas party. It was so nice to be able to interact with real people, not just on film. Maybe because there were so many of us, we were able to claim the prizes that evening.
Hopefully after the officers’ meeting, we will be able to share some fund raising news/events.
A Happy St. Valentine’s all you Sweethearts out there.
Patre Grasso, Branch Sec.
Thank God for Monsignor Cardelli, this is how his funeral service began. That sentiment echoed throughout the eulogies as it has been a common thread through Monsignor Cardelli’s connection with the Italian Catholic Federation and the community.

Monsignor Cardelli was born in Fall River, Massachusetts on October 23, 1930, in a house his father built after immigrating from Orentano, Italy. After World War II, his parents Angelo B. and Faustina (Fanny) Cardelli moved their large family of 5 boys to South San Francisco. He graduated from San Mateo’s Serra High School class of 1948, where he became president of his class, captain of the football team, and inducted into the Serra High School Football Hall of Fame.

Monsignor Cardelli’s love and devotion extended to many areas of his life. While a loved and respected priest, that did not define him. Idleness did not suit him. Instead, Monsignor Cardelli played an active role in the Knights of Columbus as well as the Oakland Diocese especially St Isidore in Danville. He was the Vicar for the Retired Priests, National Spiritual Director for the Italian Catholic Federation, Chaplain of ICF Branch 352, a Knight of the Holy Sepulcher, a member of the YMI, and a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus.

Monsignor Cardelli was a prime example of how love grows the more you spread it around. That was evidenced by the varied crowd that attended his memorial service. While priests and parishioners were expected, they shared the pews with aviators, football players, beekeepers and culinary aficionados. Monsignor Cardelli embraced life. While being a priest was his calling, he was also a private pilot, sailor, and great Italian cook. In addition to nurturing souls and young minds, he enjoyed raising rabbits, honeybees, and canaries over the years.

Many individuals spoke about Monsignor Cardelli, his sense of humor and his dedication to being a man of God. The day that he passed I felt a heavy loss, but after hearing all that was said about him, all that he has done in his life, I truly know that he is there with Jesus his best friend. For all his service, Monsignor Cardelli wanted only to be remembered as a simple but good priest.

As we pass on in the future, may we also be looking forward to that final approach into heaven guided by Jesus and in the arms of Jesus. Deborah Rodondi, the Grand President of the Italian Catholic Federation, said “Monsignor, your presence may be gone but your spirit and memory and all the love that you shared will live in our hearts and in our prayers.”

Those of us in the Italian Catholic Federation loved our Spiritual Director Monsignor Cardelli. As was said by our Grand President, Monsignor Cardelli challenged us to think outside the box for ways to expand the Italian Catholic Federation for all Catholics to enjoy. Even though we felt he was a big part of our organization, as you have read above, he was so much more.

Thank God for Reverend Monsignor Daniel E. Cardelli
Msgr. Cardelli's Words of Faith

In the February 2021 Bollettino, Msgr. Cardelli shared his journey to the priesthood and our collective heart in the ICF. Msgr. Cardelli once said, *A vocation to the priesthood comes to each priest in a different way. Nobody gets a telegram directly from God. Each priest has a unique story to tell.*

**Here is his story:**

I trace my call to the priesthood all the way back to before I made my First Communion. I was in St. Patrick’s Church in Fall River, Massachusetts, at Mass. I was very little. I guess I was about five or six. I know I was so little because I couldn’t see the altar except between the shoulders of two adults who were in the pew in front of me. I remember I could just see the priest at the middle of the altar. It was at the consecration of the Mass. I heard the bell ring. The celebrant raised the host and I, in awe, said to myself, “That is God.”

From that time on, at various times throughout my childhood, I had the thought that I might want to be a priest. I didn’t tell anyone, but eventually my family found out that I had leanings in that direction.

One day, my mother said to me, “Go down to visit your grandmother.” She lived down the street from us, and all her children were grown up and married. So, she was living alone in her “empty nest.” What great memories her home had for me! Throughout the years her family, children and grandchildren, would come together for the major holidays. I remember my siblings and cousins and I all sat at the “children’s table.” What great feasts they were. **So much delicious Italian food!**

So, at my mother’s suggestion that day, I trotted down the street and arrived at Nonna’s house. I sat with her for a visit in her living room. She was born in Italy and did not ever learn how to speak English. Eventually, she asked me in Italian what all grandmothers usually ask their grandchildren, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” And I answered her with conviction, “Prete.” (Priest) Then she smiled and leaned over and gave me such a big hug that I can still feel it to this day! Her love and her pride were evident to me even at my young age. When our visit was over, I walked back home with such warmth in my little heart and then went on with daily life. It’s a cherished memory that I relive often.

My four brothers and I all went to public school in Fall River, Massachusetts. When I graduated from the eighth grade, I asked my mother to send me to a Catholic high school so I might be able to discern whether I had a vocation to be a priest. Money was tight for a family with five boys, but my mother agreed that they would find a way. At that time, 1944, there was only one Catholic high school in the city, and you had to know how to speak French to go there. So, I enrolled at Monsignor James E. Coyle High School in Taunton, Massachusetts, a long bus ride away from our home. Then after my sophomore year, my family moved to South San Francisco, California. I enrolled in Serra High School in San Mateo, California, another long bus ride from home. It was a new school, and my class was the first class to go all four years and the second graduating class. It was a perfect move for me to help me on my journey to be a priest. Every class at Serra was taught by a diocesan priest. It was just what I needed. I could almost feel God’s grace guiding me.

For some unknown reason, I knew even before we moved to California that I wanted to be a parish priest. I can’t explain it. I just knew in my heart that, if I had a vocation, it was to be a parish priest. I had the example and guidance of the diocesan priests at Serra to help me make my decision.

So, in my junior year I decided to go to the seminary. I didn’t tell anyone. After graduation, my classmates were surprised at my answer when they asked me what college I was going to go to. I had been president of my class and captain of the football team, plus MVP in my senior year, so every-one was curious about my plans “for greatness.”

“What are you going to do?” they asked. I answered, “I am not going to college. I am going to the seminary to be a priest.” They were more than amazed! So as the saying goes, “The rest is history.” However, it is not history. The rest is another story.

I thank God for my vocation. Being a priest was not always easy, but never did I want to be anything else. In my youth, I felt that the Blessed Mother guided me through the process; and when I was ordained on June 15, 1957, I imagined that Mary said to her Son: *Here he is, so you take over. I will pray for him and protect him as a mother should. But he is yours now!*
Thank you Ladies for making Crockett Branch 14 Holiday Open House a success with your appetizers. Mmmm good !!!

CONTRA COSTA District Council

Happy Valentine’s Day to all!
The District Mass, Installation and luncheon was postponed due to the surge in COVID cases. All branches will be notified with revised details when a new date has been selected.
The committee chairpersons have been appointed for this year. They are as follows:

Apostolic--Anne McEntorffer
Bollettino--Diana Mackinson
Convention--Roselynne Mc Neal
Heritage-- Mary Cook
Membership--Roberta Healy

Martinez
Br. 13, San Martino

We offer deepest condolences to the families of Msgr. Cardelli and Ed Mackinson. May they enjoy the paradise God has promised them.
Think about the unity we share as we celebrate our love of God in this month dedicated to love. If St. Valentine’s Day encourages partners to say “I love you” and friends to commemorate their friendships, that’s great. Our world would be a better place if people expressed their love more often. Let it also encourage us to love as Jesus loves, not just those who love us back, but also those who do not reciprocate.

As we approach Ash Wednesday on March 2 and prepare ourselves for Easter, ICF members Federation-wide are asked yearly to offer prayers for the intention of our Bishops. Our Districts tabulate members’ offerings and present them on Bishop’s Days. Intentions are in the form of an imaginary bundle called a Spiritual Bouquet together with a monetary burse for the support of Seminarians donated from combined branch funds. A Spiritual Bouquet is a personal offering and, therefore, anonymous. A Mass with the Bishop is concelebrated with Chaplains and for all interested in attending. If you want to include your prayers for your Bishop for 2022 January through December, please provide your list to your branch President indicating the number of Masses, Communions, Stations of the Cross, Triduums, Rosaries and/or Novenas that you will complete for his intention throughout the year. Consider participating in this wonderful gift.

Enjoy the love you receive on February 14.
Ciao for now,
Mary Cook

Branch 14, Crockett members enjoying Holiday appetizers

Ciao, President Donna Hoffmann
Pittsburg
Br. 72, San Domenico

Dear Members,
Hope this year is the last for Covid. The 1918 Spanish flu lasted three years. Many pandemics lasted three years. Maybe Covid will end this year.

The District is selecting a new date for the Installation. Our branch always takes part. We enjoy Mass with District Chaplain Father Larry. Enjoy Installation, social and luncheon.

Most of all, enjoy seeing members from all eight branches. Stay tuned for details.

Monsignor Cardelli died late December. He was our diocesan chaplain and spiritual director. He attended Central Council and executive board meetings. He was Chaplain for Danville. A speaker at his Mass spoke of his friendship. It started at St. Peter Martyr church. Brought back memories. Many of you took part when we met there. Our late Eleanor O’Laughlin said he was good to the ICF. May he rest in peace.

Our branch was represented at the Christmas party. Jim, Patty, Joann, Elaine, Denny and Faye attended. We enjoyed dinner and won raffle prizes.

We will have our St. Joseph day celebration outdoors at Good Shepherd church garden in March. Watch for your flyer.

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

Richmond
Br. 154, St. Raymond

The January meeting was cancelled due to the ever present Covid threat. Not a good way to start off the New Year. We hope to come back in February with a Chinese New Year celebration.

If you haven’t paid your dues by now, you will soon be considered delinquent. We don’t want to lose you so please mail to Toni Reeder, ASAP! At our next meeting we would like to plan a couple of fundraisers since we had to cancel most fundraisers in 2021. Your thoughts and ideas would be welcome.

The calendar for 2022 is available for pick up at the next meeting.

Please remember Eugenia Traverso in your prayers, she passed away Dec. 19, 2021. Eugenia had been a member since 1988.

Next meeting, March 14, 2022. Let’s celebrate St. Patrick’s Day!

Concord
Br. 214. Todos Santos

I hope this message finds you and your family healthy and free from the omicron virus.

It looks like we are taking a step back again and not getting together in large groups due to the outbreak and fast spreading of this new virus.

Our meeting in Cauche Hall on January 20th has been canceled. The installation of our branch #214 officers has been canceled and postponed until further notice.

Our pasta/bingo on February 12th has also been canceled.

Our branch Sentinel Karen Cabal-leros father, Thomas Macaluso passed away. He was a San Francisco firefighter and died at the age of 94. He was honored by many relatives, friends and firefighters. Prayers for you and your family, Karen.

We continue to pray for the sick and recovering members.

We wish you all a happy, blessed, healthy 2022!!
Ciao,
Norene Deluca

Danville
Br. 352, San Isidore

Everyone has their memories of Monsignor Cardelli. While you’ve heard of the many hats he wore in his lifetime, to us he was first and foremost our Friend and Chaplain. We often take for granted the time we have with those closest to us – as if they will always be there. Monsignor began each of our monthly dinner meetings with an opening prayer, prior to blessing our food, that incorporated a prayer for Peace – in our world, our country and our families.

As the founder of our Branch 352, in May of 1980, Monsignor had no idea of the legacy he would create and leave behind. Almost 42 years later, we continue to grow and are grateful for the fellowship – and great food (usually including spaghetti sauce) – that we’ve shared. We owe him a huge debt of gratitude for the path he cleared and the example he set. It is only fitting to blessing our food, that incorporated a prayer for Peace, “mangiare tutti!” God bless you.

Until we meet again,
Branch 352

Pleasant Hill
Br. 442, Christ the King

Auguri, paesani! Hope the New Year has brought a positive change in your lives from what has happened in the past. As you know the Installation of Officers that was slated for late January had to be postponed. We will let you know when that has been rescheduled.

The February meeting will be announced soon, if you haven’t already been notified via email.

There are not any events or projects slated right now, except for the Tea, which is tentatively calendared for March 26. More details will be forth going forward with our dinner meetings & events and replicate his blessing of our food and prayers for Peace, we, too, will repeat his infamous closing, “mangiare tutti!” God bless you.

Until we meet again,
Branch 352

Ciao,
Norene Deluca

Happy Valentine’s Day and Presidents’ Day!

Ci vediamo quando siamo piu’ vecchi,
Teri Martinucci Hurlbut

Monsignor Cardelli with Mariann Bordogna,
President of Br. 352

February 2022
Blessed Sacrament

Auburn
Br. 342, St. Joseph

Congratulations to our newly elected 2022 Board of Directors. They were installed at the January 29th District Installation and are working on planning a great year for our branch (Pandemic permitting).

President: MaryAnn Mikles
Vice President: Geri Wuelfing
Secretary: Pam Andersen
Financial Secretary: Bridget Piziali
Treasurer: Adriana Jensen
Trustee: Linda Wuelfing
Orator: Marisa Borba
Sentinal: Sue Tidball
Deacon: Deacon Mark Ruiz

We hope you are all staying healthy and safe during these challenging times.

Ciao!
Pam Andersen

--

Roseville
Br. 438, St. Clare of Assisi

2022 is well underway and Branch 438 is looking forward to a busy and productive year! In addition to our monthly dinner meetings, lots of projects and events are in the works, including our St. Joseph Table in March, the May Spaghetti Dinner, and our ICF Bingo fundraiser later in the year. We remain hopeful that the pandemic will be controlled, and we will be able to follow through with our many plans.

The Blessed Sacrament District installation of officers was hosted here at St. Clare Parish on January 29th. What a great day visiting with our fellow ICF members from different parishes in the area. We so appreciate all those who have volunteered their time and talents to serve in these important roles.

It's that time of the year again when we're collecting yearly dues! Thanks to all of you who have gotten your payments in on time. We also welcome our new members who have joined Branch 438 this year. Together, let's make this a wonderful year of fellowship and service!

As Covid cases continue to rise once again, we pray for everyone affected by this current wave and for the health professionals who continue to care for them. We ask the Lord to hear our special prayer intentions and remember those who have recently passed away, especially our dear friend, Darlene Terry.

Wishing you all a happy Valentine's Day, filled with love and joy!

Ciao! 
Anne Finn

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Santa Rosa District Council

Happy New Year to all! Right now, I am in the middle of receiving our Santa Rosa District Branches Lists of Officers (have received from 4 Branches) and their New Year Activities. What an honor!! Congratulations to Branches #198 and #209 for both. The other branches I am sure are at the mercy of their Parish restrictions. You will hear from me soon.

I am looking forward to our impending Installation in February and will try my best to follow in the footsteps of my glamorous predecessor, Carmen? Yep, that's the one!!

If I have repeated this information before I will repeat that our Installation ceremony will be held in Healdsburg, 2-26-2022. If this changes then you will hear from me.

This is a New Year, and we need to make resolutions: Attend as many dinners within our web of Branches. Since many of us are retired we will have the time and bea volta! Remember this: You only go around once!!

Buon'Anno 2022
Marilyn Sylvestri
Recording-Secreterary

Healdsburg
Br. 52, San Francesco di Sales

We hope everyone is staying safe this New Year’s.

Upcoming events:
ICF Meeting: Tuesday, February 1 at 6:00 p.m. in the rectory.
ICF Monthly Mass: February 13 at the 10:00 a.m. Mass.
February 5: Polenta Dinner. This is now a drive-through event. Hopefully everyone bought their dinner tickets and their 50/50 raffle tickets.
April 8: Fish Fry. More details coming soon. Mark your calendars!
More information about these events will be in upcoming eblasts. We look forward to seeing everyone in person, in April.

Thank you to Ken Spadoni for agreeing to become a trustee in the branch. We’re still looking for a few more members to become officers. Please consider!

Everyone should have received their 2022 dues notices and branch calendar. Please send in your 2022 dues, soon! The success of Br. 52 is based upon your continued membership. Updates to the calendar will be sent via eblast.

Happy New Year!
Lauren

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Cloverdale,
Br. 75, L’Annunciata

We welcome Patrick Houston to our branch! Although Patrick has been with us socially for well over a year, he came to his first meeting and agreed to join The ICF! You only have to hear him laugh to know he will bring good things to us ... Inteligence, wit, and humor!

One of his buddies, Ken Cuneo, has agreed to chair our annual Chicken/Spaghetti dinner on the Cloverdale Citrus Fair weekend of February 19th. Sadly, our traditional sit down dinner, bar, raffle which draws in so many from our community will be changed to a drive through, but, we’ll do our best to make it memorable and fun for those who buy tickets!

Branch officers met at Trustee, Cookie Allen’s, home to plan a year of delightful events. As the year unfolds so will our plans!

Our sunshine gal, Diane Heckenberg, has been very busy sending cards and healing prayers to members who are down but not out and so loved! Get and stay well everyone and thank you, Diane, for this special service!

Our next meeting is the third Thursday of the month, January 20th. The theme is “New Beginnings” at which we will raise a glass and smile at one another before we get down to business!

Happy New Year!
Patsy Buchignani

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Petaluma
Br. 127, St. Vincent

Dear Members,

It was with regret that the January spaghetti was cancelled. The response was not as enthusiastic as we had hoped due to the resurgence of the COVID. Hopefully we will be able to hold a special event or meeting a little later in the year. We will hold our regular meeting in February on the 2nd Monday in room 9 as usual. Following is a list of officers for this year. Please if you have any questions, information or just to let us know how you are. please contact one of us.

President. Lucy Spingola
1st Vice. Dennise DiGirolamo
Recording Secretary. Marilyn Lombardi
Financial Secretary. Sharon Hromek
Treasurer. Reno Iezza
Orator. Margaret Cordrey
Sentinel
Trustees. Mary Ellen Higgins
Angelo Leone
Heather Windsor-Matzen

Please remember Judy Spencer and Marilyn Lombardi. They are dealing with some health issues. Please pray for them and all our members. May the blessings of good health and peace of mind be given to all of us throughout this coming year!

Dennise DiGirolamo
Arcata 
Br. 144, St. Mary

For the past two months we have sold ticket on a quilt that was donated to our branch.

On December 19th after the 11am Mass, the lucky ticket was drawn by Fr. France. Nancy Jackson, a parishioner, was the lucky winner. Congratulations Nancy!! Stay warm!!! We thank all who purchased tickets, or made a donation. It was a successful endeavor!

Our second money making project was our Christmas bake sale. Biscotti, cookies and cakes were appreciated by all. Thank you all bakers and those who made a donation. It too, was successful.

Unless we are stopped in our tracks due to Covid, the Feb. 27th Takeout Chicken Polenta Dinner is a go. We will sell 150 prepaid tickets. Pick up time will be 3 to 5 pm at St. Mary’s Leavy Hall. Tickets will be sold after Masses and our list of previous diners will be called. Buy your tickets early. Call Toni 633-5679 for more information. The possibility of producing a Chicken Polenta dinner after two years is exciting!!

Our Pres. Linda has returned home after spending five days in the hospital with Covid. Keep her in your prayers as she recovers. Also keep Elen in your prayers for continued improvement.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to our members who celebrate in February.

Happy Valentine’s Day to all the members! Hugs to all!!

Rosemary

Eureka
Br. 145, St. Ambrose

Thank you to everyone who baked and contributed to our biscotti sale in December. Our sales totaled $300.

The Betty Chinn Super Bowl of peanut butter and jelly collection competition is underway. This donation drive helps Betty build up the supply of sandwich making materials for the winter months. This year we have widened the competition to parishes in Arcata, Fortuna, and Ferndale.

Please contact Gene Senestraro or Jerry Colivas or jerry.colivas@yahoo.com for applications for the Jerry J. Colivas Memorial Scholarship applications.

This month is blood donation awareness month. If you are able, please consider stopping at the Blood Bank on Harrison Ave to donate blood.

Santa Rosa
Br. 198, St. Eugene

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our meeting on January 3rd was the celebration of our 56th year in the Italian Catholic Federation. Over the 56 years we have supported the Life Pregnancy program, supported a room at the Catholic Charities Family Support Center, helped build the Parish Life Center, donated to St. Eugene’s elementary school, supported the Handicapables program, and consistently give more scholarships through the ICF than any other branch. We should be proud of our faith, our heritage, and our contributions to others. A sincere thanks to Linda Sherman for her time as President of our branch during the past year and a sincere welcome to Doreen O’Rourke as our new President.

If anyone wants to donate a $400.00 ICF Scholarship, get a check to our Treasurer, Bob Accapistape, before March 7th. Make the check payable to ICF #198.

If you have not already paid your dues, be sure to get a check to our Financial Secretary, Nancy Azevedo, by March 7th.

The next Mass for our living and deceased members is at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 15th. Please try to attend.

Bring your favorite cookies to our next meeting, February 7th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Life Center. Following our meeting, the cookies will be served when we play Bingo. Plan to attend.

Continue to be safe and stay healthy during these challenging times.

Ciao,
Gail Azevedo

Sebastopol
Br. 209, St. Michael

Hello and Happy New Year from branch 209. We hope everyone is healthy and enjoyed their holidays.

Thank you to outgoing board of 2021, it was a successful year! We were able to continue to fulfill our obligations and give to our charities.

Our 2022 board has changed, and here are the lucky winners!

President-Pam McAlvain, 1st Vice-Yvonne Dorr, 2nd Vice-Roy Spadoni, Financial Secretary-Leona Spadoni, Treasurer-Lorraine Vannetti, Orator-David Armstrong, Trustees-Bud Polley, Nancy Stedman, and William Segale. We have openings for Recording Secretary and Sentinel, if you’re interested, we would love the have you on the board.

At this time our branch is still not gathering. The board has made a 2022 calendar of events. We will let you know when we will be meeting again. If you any have questions, or concerns, please call Pam McAlvain (707)328-4869.

Please take the time to pay your dues for 2022 of $38.40 and Hospitalization plan of $25.00 to keep our branch going. Send checks to Leona Spadoni 3956 Gravenstein Hwy So. Sebastopol, CA. 95472.

Thank you for all of your support.
Sincerely, Pam McAlvain

Merced
Br. 39, St. Cecilia

Our branch held a festive Christmas party, jointly hosed with the Italian-American Lodge of Merced. Janette Del Porto was the chair and arranged for a enjoyable time to be had by all. She and her crew decorated the hall so that it had a cheerful atmosphere, even including a singing Santa. Besides pizza for all, there were crafts, games and bingo. There was also a visit from Santa and his elf. Children were able to share their wish lists with Santa and received a toy.

We also held a meeting in January. As always, we were treated with a wonderful meal and shared much fellowship.

Vince Piro

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

Mary Keitz

Ciao,

Madera
Br. 27, Santissimo Crocifisso

Happy New Year to All,

Branch members met on December 17th at Edgar’s Italian Restaurant for a pre-Christmas dinner party. It was fun to enjoy delicious food and the company of friends gathered together again. We hope to see more of this in 2022!

Plans are being made for the annual orange sale following Sunday masses on February 20th. Please mark your calendars! Volunteers are usually needed to clean, pack and sell the oranges.

FRESNO

Br. 27 December Dinner & Christmas party: Gifts were presented to Rosemary Janis & Father James Catalano, President & Chaplain respectively, & to Betty Scalise, the Holy Family Kitchen.

On left, Nancy Jackson winner of Br. 144 quilt raffle
**Fresno**

**Br. 308, St. Anthony of Padua**

A message from Jay Newsome, President, Branch 308.

Hello members. I am the new president of Branch 308. Many of you know me from the Lenten dinners and other ICF activities that we used to have back in the pre-COVID days. I will do my best to conduct our meetings as efficiently as possible to maximize our social time.

Let’s be clear: I don’t have grand ideas about fund raising or membership. The president is not the club, members are the club. If you have ideas, please share. If you have a problem, I will put you in charge of a committee to find a solution. The club relies on everyone to participate in their own way to keep us going. Antoine will be the club liaison to the St. Anthony offices. Debra Jorgensen is our new communications secretary her job is tough keeping everyone informed with our members varied communication methods. Cyndi Oliphant continues her duties as recording secretary. Bernie, Russ, Tim, Larry, the kitchen crew, will continue to provide delicious meals for our meetings. John will continue to do what he does. Members are encouraged to participate.

As COVID drags into the third year, St. Anthony School facilities are still off limits. As of December 2021, our general meetings will continue to be at St. Agnes Mission Church. Lent Dinners and Sausage sandwich sales are on hold. There will be no general meeting in January. Our first official general meeting will be on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at St. Agnes Church in Pinedale. See you then.

Jay Newsome

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**MONTEREY**

**CENTRAL COAST**

**Santa Cruz**

**Br. 21, Nostra Signora del Soccorso**

Buon pomeriggio, Tutti. We hope that everyone is doing well. At our January meeting, the Board gave a wrap-up accounting of the past year. In 2021, Branch 21 contributed $5,500 in total to Holy Cross Church, St. Francis Kitchen, Sienna House, Holy Cross Food Pantry and Seminarin education. We also awarded a $400 student scholarship to two recipients. Our Branch also paid ICF dues for 20 of our 90+ years-old senior members. Though Covid has prevented us from holding our big Branch dinners, we are still in the game and we thank you all for your continued support.

Our new Board has been announced.

Several members have retired after years of faithful service and we are most grateful for their hard work. We are still looking to fill the President’s position. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Patty Morelli or Norma Wilson. The new Board is: Leon Gregory, 1st Vice President; Heidi Morgan, Correspondence Secretary, Roseann Costabile, Treasurer, Vicky Howell, Financial Secretary; Norma Wilson, Orator; Trustees, Sue Della Santina, Mary Jo Belli, and Patty Morelli; Sentinel, Cindy Schuette.

In closing, it is with sadness that we remember our dear friend and fellow Branch 21 member, Paul Quilici, has passed away. We send our thoughts and prayers to his family. He will be sorely missed.

**May the Good Lord continue to bless us, one and all.**

**Patty Morelli**

**Trustee- Branch 21**

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**Monterey**

**Br. 36, Santa Rosalia**

A Valentine Day Blessing

“Love one another as I love you”

John 13:34

February 4, 2022, 6:00 p.m., we are having a Valentine Dinner Meeting. Stuffed Pork Loin Braciole with Tomato Basil Sauce served over creamy polenta. Roasted winter vegetables. Insalata Caprese, garlic bread, heart shape brownie with whipped cream. Reservations only – no tickets sold at the door. $20 members - $25 non-members.

ICF #36 Scholarship applications for graduating High School students from the Monterey Peninsula area due 3/15/2022. Please see website for application and guidelines at MontereyICF.org or contact Sandie Russo 831-521-4866.

Central Council 1st Year Scholarship ($400) applications are available due 3/15/2022. Guideline information is in the Bollettino or ICF.org

We are planning to have our Lenten Dinners starting March 4, for six weeks. We are planning Dine-In and Take Out dinners. Please check our website MontereyICF.org for reservations, weekly menus, and additional information. If you are interested in volunteering to help during Lenten dinners, please contact Elaine Valentine 831-521-8026.

“Do small things with great love”

Mother Teresa

Con Amore, Elaine Valentine

President, Branch 36 Santa Rosalia

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**Castroville**

**Br. 51, Santa Caterina de Siena**

Hello, everyone. My name is Stefani Cortopassi and I will be taking over as editor of the Bollettino for Branch 51. I would like to thank Natalie Carbonal for her years as our editor. She did a wonderful job and I only hope I can do it as well as she did.

We are planning a polenta fundraiser in late February since nothing is better than polenta and stew on a cold February day. As soon as the details are finalized, we will be sending flyers out to all of the branches.

From all of us in Branch 51, we would like to wish our February members a very happy birthday: Gregory Stefani, Amber Souza, Franca Rossi, and DL Grier.

On a more somber note, Egidio Tonos, a beloved member of our ICF family, passed away recently. Please keep his wife Marie and their family in your prayers. We will miss you, Egidio.

“but we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Saviour. He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.”

-Philippians 3:20-21

Stay healthy and safe,

Stefani Cortopassi

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**Aptos**

**Br. 227, St. Joseph**

The first meeting at our new location at the Aptos Resurrection Church hall was held on January 9 with 34 people in attendance. Members were delighted to see each other and enjoyed a potluck dinner with lots of good food. Fortune smiled on Jan Foy, who had two winning tickets in the raffle.

At the meeting members voted to postpone the Fish Fry until next year when we have worked out many details regarding the kitchen in our new location.

It’s not too early to mark your calendars for Saturday, September 17. That is the date for the annual picnic this year.

The majority of our members have paid their dues, but for those of you who haven’t, it’s not too late. We are happy to report that several former members have returned. Welcome back.

We are sad to report that after two months in the ICU, Maureen O’Neil lost her battle with Covid on January 1. Maureen was a beloved member of our branch. Her funeral will be held on Saturday, March 5 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph’s Church in Capitola. Our sincere condolences to Dan Casagrande.

A memorial mass for Carl and Barbara Schraarschmidt is set for February 26 at St. Joseph’s Church. The family has asked us to conduct the ICF funeral ritual and rose ceremony at that time.

Your prayers are requested for our member and former officer Lou Boczek who is currently under Hospice care.

Happy St. Valentine’s Day

Deanna Messier, Secretary

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Emily Higuera - Treasurer Br/36

ICF Branch 36 - Christmas
Santa Clara Valley Installation of Officers

According to local, national, and worldwide reports we are experiencing another COVID spike. Currently, two of our long-time members, Lucy Olsen, and Jocina Cashmore (and Jocina’s husband, Kent) are battling the COVID virus. Please hold their recovery in your prayers. Member Robert Ellsworth is quarantined at home for 10 days following exposure to COVID. So far, he has tested “negative” to two follow-up tests.

Due to COVID concerns the ICF Central Coast District Board voted last night to cancel/postpone the District Installation of Officers at Castroville, Branch 51, scheduled for January 29, 2022. Also, our regularly scheduled second Friday Branch meeting has been cancelled.

“Ich und all over again.” (Yogi Berra) Everyone had a great time at the Christmas Luncheon at the Madonna Inn. We collected toys for children in need and had a raffle drawing where all members received a Christmas gift and enjoyed getting together again as all members received a Christmas gift and enjoyed getting together again as a group. Fr. Jason Taganahan, Parochial Vicar, a great asset to St. Rose of Lima. The Installation of Officers for Santa Clara Valley District occurred at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Br. 184 - Los Gatos held on Saturday January 8, 2022. Ninety members from 9 branches were in attendance. Concelebrating the Mass were Fr. George Aranha - Diocesan Chaplain and Chaplain of Santa Teresa Br. 368 and Pastor of Santa Teresa San Jose, Fr. Greg Kimm, newly installed Chaplain of St. Mary, Br. 184 and Pastor of St. Mary’s Los Gatos and Fr. Chris Bennett, Chaplain of Transfiguration Br. 445 and Pastor of St. Christopher’s San Jose. 70 members attended the luncheon that followed.

CC Members in attendance:
- Grand President Deborah Rodondi
- Grand 1st Vice President Denise Antonowicz
- Grand 2nd Vice President Franklyn Lpes, Jr.
- Grand Trustee Michael Rossi
- Past Grand President Bob Basuino
- Past Grand President Andrew Pappani

Denise Antonowicz, Grand 1st VP

At the age of 100 long-time member Mary Ferry recently passed away. She was a hostess at many of our pasta dinners. We will miss your beautiful smile, Mary. No services are planned at this time.

Yvonne Maddalena
Recording Secretary

Paso Robles
Br. 354, Saint Rose of Lima

Branch 28 installed officers at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Los Gatos on Saturday, January 8, 2022. Installed as officers were: Diana Berry, President; Kim Filice, 1st Vice President and Financial Secretary; Pat Cordich, 2nd Vice President and Treasurer; Roy Shackel, Orator; Chris Shackel, Sentinel; Marianne Peoples, Recording Secretary and Correspondence Secretary, and Trustees: Gennaro Filice, Sondra Serenka, Louie Cordich, Christine Andrade, and Frank Angelino.

Branch 28 had our Christmas Dinner event at the Old City Hall Restaurant in Gilroy on December 18, 2021. In a somewhat condensed manner, our members enjoyed each others company, a pasta buffet, and the children received gifts from Santa and his two elves. A special feature was vocalist Ted Sanchez sharing Christmas songs and old-time favorites.

Our St. Joseph’s Family Center Holiday Fundraiser, for families in need, raised $4,940 in that worthy endeavor. Branch 28 would like to thank St. Joseph’s for facilitating the charitable giving and on behalf of those who received the benefits we say “thank you” to those very generous Branch 28 members.

Members can look forward to receiving a President’s message on an ongoing basis communicating the President’s sentiments, and items of interest related to Branch 28. Also, in the Bollettino and the President’s Message we will continue to commemorate Branch 28’s ninetieth anniversary with photos and articles looking back at Branch 28’s ninety years. In the attendant photos we look back at Branch 28’s 50-year Golden Anniversary dinner dance and banquet held on May 23, 1981. Take note, $12.50 for a steak dinner and dancing to 1:00.

Peace and God Bless,
Kim M. Filice

Members Marshall and Rosemarie Evans enjoying the Branch 28 Christmas event.

Santa with his helpful Elves visiting Branch 28’s Christmas event.

Santa Clara Valley Installation of Officers

SAN JOSE SANTA CLARA VALLEY District Council

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Santa Clara Valley Installation of Officers

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- Past Grand President Andrew Pappani

Denise Antonowicz, Grand 1st VP


Members Marshall and Rosemarie Evans enjoying the Branch 28 Christmas event.
Los Gatos
Br. 184, St. Mary

I am in awe of Denise Antonowicz, our President and Grand 1st Vice President of the ICF. In addition to all of her travels and duties, she has been writing the letter for the Bollettino for our Branch. Her enthusiasm and optimism are so uplifting, I just have to give her my appreciation. (Plus, she is a great daughter and sister!). Thank you, Denise, for planning our Branch Christmas Party. It was raining so hard that day, the original location cancelled the night before, and Denise found a new location! We had a good turnout, and Marie Vurosko’s game of swapping gifts was fun! Denise invited our new Pastor, Fr. Greg Kimm, who informed us that his parents were Charter Members of the Bakersfield ICF! Welcome Fr. Greg Kimm to our Branch.

The Antonowicz Open House for their scholarship was another event to lift our spirits! The decorations were so Merry and Bright, and who could resist their cuccidati?

By the time you read this, the Installation Mass will have taken place at St. Mary’s Los Gatos. We so look forward to a New Year with hope and faith. An oft mentioned phrase, “We will get through this!” is appropriate right now. Valentine’s Day is just around the corner. May there be love and faith. An oft mentioned phrase, “We will get through this!” is appropriate right now. Valentine’s Day is just around the corner. May there be love and faith.

Stay safe, stay strong, Lucy Amico

San Jose
Br. 191, St. Frances Cabrini

The months of January/February will begin with the change of our monthly general meetings to the 4th Saturday of the month. This is an exciting new change for our branch. We hope that this plan will happen in light of the Covid Omicron surge. Breakfast or lunch have been in the planning stages along with some social activities for our members. In the future, also as tentative plans, is a chicken cacciatore/polenta dinner. These plans will also be evaluated due to Covid protocols and omicron outbreaks. Let us hope these plans become actual social times for our members.

February 14th brings Valentine’s Day, and the word LOVE. What does love mean to you? We love our families, friends, and our country, but how do we act in the definition of the word love? Are we kind, are we patient, do we put ourselves in others’ “Shoes”? Do we show mercy?

How do we show love, kindness, and mercy? Are we fulfilled and satisfied in no one knowing our good deeds? As humans we like to be noticed or praised. But the nature of the act of love, (and compassion), should just be simply out of love. Doing something out of love, that is not noticed, helps each one of us individually grow in love and compassion. It purifies our own intentions, and allows us to love. Just for the sake of Love.

"It is not how much we do, but how much love we put in the doing. It is not how much we give, but how much love we put in the giving”

-Blessed Mother Teresa

Buon San Valentino
Shirley Catania
Sentinels

San Jose
Br. 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

2022 election results: Pres.- Mary Ridi, First VP - Joyce Robba, 2nd VP - Ron Sanchez, Recording Secretary - Robyn Schlice, Financial Secretary - Bill Greco, Treasurer - Tina Souza-Dutra, Orator - ED Wendler, Trustees - Jerry Opp, Avis Erkel, Cathy Orlowski and Ann Schlice, Heritage person. Installation of officers was on January 9th at St. Mary’s in Los Gatos, at 11 a.m., Lunch followed at Three Flames at 1 p.m. Our Christmas Catered Holiday Dinner and dessert party was Dec. 15th. Members donated socks to be given to the shelter.

Note picture of the Christmas tree, donated socks and Maria and Bill Greco who suggested and organized the socks idea. Also pictured are president Mary Ridi, Maria Greco and our ICF priest representative, Father George Aranha. Our Santa Teresa Parish Food Pantry, is managed by ICF member Joyce Robba, and provided food and gifts for 120 families at Christmas. The boxes included turkey dinners and enough food for another good meal and more. The pantry provides meals three times a year to those that qualify, and if someone asks for food it is provided.

The board has recommended that we do not hold in-person meetings for January or February. We hope that the Covid numbers will come down and we can resume our in person meetings safely soon. Our March meeting is scheduled for March 8th.

Please pray for Paul Butler & Barbara Ruffner. Please Save the Date for our Goodwill event on April 29, 2022.

Peace be with you,
Have a blessed and Happy New Year!
Tom Myers

Br. 368, Mary Ridi, Maria Greco, Fr George with donated socks

Continue to next page for more photos from Br. 368
San Jose
Br. 445, Transfiguration

Br. 445 ended 2021 with a donation to the needy in our community of 96 sets of thermal tube socks, gloves, beanie hats and winter fleece scarves (60” x 12”). We also supplemented the Parish Christmas Giveaway Program for needy families with donations of canned hams.

On December 10th, our group met to celebrate the Christmas season with an outdoor luncheon and gift exchange. It was great to see one another in person again and an opportunity to take some current photos!

Valentine’s Day in Italy, known as “La Festa Degli Innamorati”, is solely a romantic holiday for couples and sweethearts. Children do not exchange Valentine cards as they do in the United States.

Since Valentine’s Day is fast approaching, this month is a perfect time for sharing some of those recent photos of our branch couples!

Also, Happy Valentine’s Day Birthday wishes to members Dodie Morin and Chris Blank as well as Birthday wishes to Jean Avram 2/28!! Buon Compleanno!

Many thanks to our 2022 officers who were able to attend this year’s installation ceremony despite the rise in COVID cases.

Until next month - stay safe and well! ;-) Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer

San Jose
Br. 391, St. Martin of Tours

In early January, our great ICF Officers were installed at St. Mary’s in Los Gatos followed by a luncheon at the Three Flames Restaurant. Thank you for your hard work.

In his monthly newsletter, President Mike Rossi thanked our officers and members for supporting Branch 391 and St Martin of Tours. He announced that in 2021 Branch 391 donated approximately $9,000 to our charities. He also thanked the Vallorz’s in preparing several take-out fundraisers during the year.

Since St. Martin’s Gym is still unavailable for meetings, Mike reported that sometime in the future, we will meet in the Community Building as we have done in the past.

Remember to purchase ICF’s 2022 Calendars by contacting Tina Rossi. Remember $5 of the $25 dollar purchase remains with our branch!

In January, Tina and Steve Lencioni sent out 2022 membership notices. Please return your dues to Tina as soon as possible, since we depend on these funds to support our charities and expenses.

Scholarship application deadline is coming up. Contact Mary Lipari for additional information.

Happy Valentine’s Day.
Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale
Br. 408, Resurrection

The 2022 Santa Clara Valley District Installation of Officers took place at Saint Mary’s Los Gatos Saturday 8 January @ 11 a.m. with Fr. George Presiding and Fr. Chris and Fr Kimm Concelebrating. The Mass was followed by the Installation of District and Branch Officers by Grand President Deborah Rodondi

An Excellent Lunch followed at Three Flames Restaurant.

Our next Blood Drive will be held Sunday 6th March from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. using the Stanford Mobile unit outside the Farana Center. We look forward to seeing you there.

Due to the ongoing surge of Omicron Virus - We continue to hold our monthly meetings via Zoom on the fourth Monday of the Month –with Sandra Hosting and Coordinating for us – Thank you Sandra!

Please Pray for our Members who need our prayers: Al Chantelope, Steve Richey, and Dori Blefari.

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

Br. 368 Christmas Dinner

Br. 368 Bill & Maria Greco with donated socks(1)

Br. 368 Christmas Dinner

Br. 368 Bill & Maria Greco with donated socks(1)

Br. 445 Kathy & Andy La Scola

Br. 408 Kathy & Andy La Scola

Br. 445 Gina & Larry Farro

Br. 445 Gina & Larry Farro

Br. 445 Pam Rohlkermer & Art Maggio

Br. 445 Joe & Marie Adragna

Br. 445 Joe & Marie Adragna

Br. 445 Jim & Janie Falcone

Br. 445 Jim & Janie Falcone

2938--Br. 445 Jim & Janie Falcone
**STOCKTON**

**Modesto**
**Br. 48, St. Stanislaus**

We have been looking forward to our St. Joseph’s Table Celebration March 20, 2022 and the potluck. It seems as we take one step forward and two steps back. If all goes well the potluck will be at 2:00 pm at the 709 J Street Hall. Bring your favorite dish, family and friends. There is always plenty of great food and time to visit with friends we haven’t seen in a while. We will have the fun raffle after the potluck. You never know what you have won until you unwrap your prize. The main benefit of the raffle proceeds will go to St. Vincent De Paul.

The next big event will be the Bishop’s Burse July 31, 2022 at 12:00 noon at the Community Center 1416 Maze Blvd. There is a 10:00 am mass at the Maze Blvd. Church if you wish to attend. After mass you can go across the parking lot to the community center for appetizers at 11:30 am and lunch at 12:00 noon.

We continue to have our meetings at our members homes since some of our members do not have the computer access for zoom.

_Happy Valentine’s Day to all our members and their families. Stay healthy and safe._

Cecelia McGhee

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**Lodi**
**Br. 82, St. Anne’s**

Branch 82 started its new year off with a fun, family celebration! During our first meeting on Jan. 25, we swore in new officers. Previous officers were honored with a memento from President Patty Litts as she shared her appreciation for all of their hard work, dedication, and support. We were so happy to be able to meet together safely in person. A focus for our meeting was to also share more information about our group and what we hope to accomplish this year.

Officers elected for 2022 for Br. 82:
- **President:** Patty Litts
- **Treasurer and Financial Secretary:** Elisa Moberly
- **Recording Secretary:** Pat Martinelli
- **Orator:** Julia Baumbach
- **Chaplains:** Lisa Fugazi, LuAnn Casey, Grace Puccinelli
- **Trustees:** Nancy Jo Jensen

This Lenten season, all interested members can join us in a “Lenten Secret Pal” gift giving, prayer blessing activity. This activity is “secret” passing of special treats and thoughtful prayer to other members.

Please talk to an officer if you would like to join this event and for more details. We hoped to start this during Advent, but we will be doing it during Lent instead.

ICF Calendars are available at $25 each.

Red Cross Blood Drive will take place in March, details of place and times coming soon. If you would like to donate your time to set up for this event, we would greatly appreciate the help. Donations can also be made in our name towards Cooley’s Anemia while donating blood at any Red Cross event.

_Corresponding Secretary_  
Amanda Moberly

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**Tracy**
**Br. 390, St. Bernard**

The scholarship application deadline is approaching so a reminder to begin the process if you haven’t already. The application acceptance period began January 15, 2022 with a deadline of March 15th. Contact Annette Elisagaray for forms and instructions and you may get a head start requesting recommendation letters from sources who can enhance your qualifications for these scholarships.

January’s polenta and chicken caciatore dinner is always a big hit and is the all-time favorite in terms of the numbers - last January we fed 261 hungry souls! Seems that every time we serve this delicious home-made meal we see all our friends attending. We continue to express our appreciation for this support from our members and their friends. Health worries are still a concern and the decision to continue with take-out dinners is only in the best interest of our families. Hopefully, we are still providing what our members enjoy in our efforts to prepare these home dinners the best we can under the current circumstances.

Steve Ridolfi continues to post the life of our branch though pictures on our Website: www.icfbranch390.org. Be sure to check out the added attraction of our HERITAGE section - If you haven’t sent Steve yours yet, send them please! The newsletter on our website would love to hear from you!

_Stay healthy, happy and safe._  
Ciao,  
_Betty Hollars_
Stockton
Br. 395, Presentation of the BVM

One thing we have learned during the last two years is the importance to be flexible. With the current surge of COVID our Branch decided it would be best to postpone our Drive-thru dinner to a later date. As soon as we have the details, we will let you know.

We are excited to welcome several new members to our Branch. Benvenuti, Mary Patla, Linda Bradshaw and Allen and Gena Sturtevant. Welcome to our ICF family.

I think it is fitting this month to conclude with the following poem.

When this is over, may we never again take for granted
A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at the store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theatre
Friday night out
The taste of communion
A routine checkup
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself.
When this ends, may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be we were called to be and may we stay that way--better for each other because of the worst.

- Laura Kelley Fanucci

Angels Camp
Br. 413, St. Patrick

Happy New Year to all our ICF Family!! May God bless us all with His peace and joy!
We have put together our calendar of events and meetings for this new year, and with God’s grace, we plan to keep moving forward.
The past year continued to be difficult for many of us in the ICF. Branch 413 has had its share of these difficulties. Father John Paul, our Pastor encouraged us to end the year on a high note. As such, we had our free breakfast for the parish. It was well attended. Our parishioners used the occasion to catch up with old friends. Everyone had a wonderful time, and the food was great. Many parishioners enjoyed the afternoon with us. No one was in a rush to leave.
Prayers for all of our ICF members and families. Thank you.

Ciao,
Annette Pachinger
Correspondence Secretary

ORANGE
Huntington Beach
Br. 379, St. Bonaventure

Fifteen of us celebrated the end of the Christmas season with a luncheon / pranzo at Buon Gusto Restaurant on January 10th. There was fun had by all.

We hope all had a blessed Christmas season. Auguri e Buon Anno a tutti.
We look forward to our St. Joseph’s table on March 13th 2022. See you there.
cussed alternative sites for our future hall is currently unavailable, we dis-
find more members.
of paying our dues and also trying to Antoinette discussed the importance 
members and Treasurer Danny Centurioni. Financial Secretary Antoinette Sum-
conducted by our Trustee, Mark Vincenzo 
lunch at Buca di Beppo Restaurant. 
held our January meeting during 
St. Anthony Branch 446 in Upland 
Stratman. Reports were given by 
branches and districts.

The meeting was organized by Trust-

We are praying for our ill members 
and an end to Covid so we can all be 
together again and renew our branch 
activities!

The highlight of our meeting were the 
Italian candies and yummy biscotti 
baked by our Mentor, Nan Judge.
We are praying for our ill members 

The Public Relations Committee 
is looking to add an area within our 
website on a regular basis and to pro-
mote a sense of family throughout the 

Your ICF Website Photos Are Needed
The Public Relations Committee 

These photos can be from a recent event, special occasion or from one of your 
member's birthday, anniversary, gradu-
tion or new addition to the family. 
The photos need to be clear and bright 
with a high resolution. The photo will need to be sent electronically to editor@icf.org with the following included in the email:

• ICF Website Photo
• Branch or District name
• Title of the photo, such as John Doe’s 
95 Birthday, Branch 999 Dinner Commit-
tee etc.
The photos will be reviewed by the Pub-
ic Relations Committee and if approved 
added to the ICF website in the new area. 
The photos will be updated periodically 
throughout the year. Our hope with this 
added area is that it will get more of 
our members and others to visit the 
website on a regular basis and to pro-
mote a sense of family throughout the 

SAN BERNARDINO
Upland 
Br. 446, St. Anthony

St. Anthony Branch 446 in Upland 
held our January meeting during
lunch at Buca di Beppo Restaurant. 
The meeting was organized by Trust-
e Tony Santorufo and Sentinel Anna 
Reyna along with Secretary Betty 
Cavanaugh. The meeting was con-
ducted by our Trustee, Mark Vincenzo 
Stratman. Reports were given by 
Financial Secretary Antoinette Sum-
mers and Treasurer Danny Centurioni.
Antoinette discussed the importance 
of paying our dues and also trying to 
find more members.

Two new members joined: Miriam 
and Tom Brucato. Because our church 
hall is currently unavailable, we dis-
cussed alternative sites for our future
ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

CONVENTION AWARD CATEGORIES

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

POPE SAINT JOHN XXIII

Award

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

SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Award

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

GRAND PRESIDENT’S

Award

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

FAMILY OF THE YEAR

Award

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

YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP

Award

This award recognizes a member (39 years or younger) who has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities and possesses the enthusiasm, talent, energy and vision to become a leader who will guide the Federation in the decades ahead. The recipient will receive this award during the Saturday General Session. A $500 donation will be made to the award recipient’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.
**20th Annual Central Council Charity Golf Tournament**

Friday, June 24, 2022

- **Registration Fee:** $170 includes: Continental Breakfast, 18 holes of Golf with Cart and Banquet
- **Deadline:** Friday, June 17
- **After Price per Golfer:** $180
- **Banquet Only:** $50

**Make Checks ($170 per Golfer - Banquet only $50 per person) payable to Italian Catholic Federation (write Golf in memo line). Send check & form to ICF - 8393 Capwell Dr., Ste. 110, Oakland, CA 94621 no later than June 17, 2022.**

**Italian Catholic Federation**

Bennett Valley Golf Course - 3330 Yulupa Ave - Santa Rosa, CA 95405

**FOR MORE INFO:** WWW.ICF.ORG - 1-888-ICF-1924

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**Reservations Form**

**Boxed Lunch & Wine Tasting or Antiquing**

Send completed form & Check made out to Italian Catholic Federation to the ICF Office - 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621 no later than June 17, 2022.

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**Itinerary**

- **9:30 a.m.** All meet at St. John’s Church, corner of Matheson and East Streets in Healdsburg.
- **10:00 - 11:30** Visit 2 award winning Dry Creek Valley Wineries
- **12:30 p.m.** Antiquers & Wine Tasters will meet at the Warm Springs Dam Recreation Area for a Boxed Lunch. Stays after lunch and enjoy the Visitors Center or drive to Lake Sonoma Overlook

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**Boxed Lunch Menu**

- **SALAMI:** Ciabatta roll, dry salami, house made pesto, tomato, lettuce, jarlsburg cheese
- **TURKEY:** Croissant, roasted turkey, avocado, lettuce, tomato
- **VEGETABLE:** Multigrain roll, grilled vegetables, roasted red bell pepper, goat cheese, house made pesto, lettuce, tomato

**Cost:**

- **$170 per person**
- **$25 per person**

**Page 2 of your reservation form and box lunch choices. Return completed form and check made out to Italian Catholic Federation no later than June 17, 2022 to ICF Office 8393 Capwell Dr., Ste. 110, Oakland, CA 94621**