Mission Statement of the Italian Catholic Federation:

“Through families and fellowship, the Italian Catholic Federation promotes and supports the Catholic faith and its values, encourages apostolic and charitable works, and celebrates our Italian-American heritage and all the heritages of our communities.”  Rev. 8/30/14

CHAPTER I - INTRODUCTION

Article 1 - The Central Council of the Italian Catholic Federation (hereafter referred to in these Statutes as the Federation) shall be the governing body of the organization. It is the duty of the Central Council Members to keep the Catholic spirit intact and to assure the integrity and continuance of the Federation.

Article 2 - The Central Council is the source of all the powers of the Federation reserving said powers to them unless otherwise noted in these Statutes.

Article 3 - The Central Council shall act through committees named in these Statutes.

Article 4 - The Central Council shall approve the annual budget and other major expenditures unless otherwise provided herein.

Article 5 - A. - Elected Central Council Members must maintain full membership in an active Branch of the Federation in order to maintain status on the Central Council. If dues are not paid by March 31st of the current year, the Central Council Members will be notified to pay their dues within
fifteen (15) days. If not, the Central Council Member will be considered resigned. (He/She would need to run for an elected Central Council position to return to the Central Council.) Added 10/15/16 / Rev. 6/9/18 / Rev. 2/19/22

Article 5 - B. - Central Council Life Members must maintain full membership in an active Branch of the Federation in order to maintain status on the Central Council and as a Life Member. If dues are not paid by March 31st of the current year, the Central Council Life Member will be notified to pay their dues within 15 days. If not, the Central Council Life Member will be considered resigned. (He/She would need to run for an elected Central Council position to return to the Central Council.) Added 10/15/16 / Rev. 6/9/18 / Rev. 2/19/22

Article 6 - If not specifically addressed in these Statutes, the Central Council will be governed by the Branch By-Laws. Rev. 10/15/16
CHAPTER II - ORGANIZATION

Article 1 - There shall be twenty (20) Members on the Central Council - ten (10) Elected Members and ten (10) Life Members. All Members of the Central Council shall be known equally as Central Council Members. The Spiritual Director serves as an Advisor of the Central Council.  

2/14/15 / Rev. 10/15/16

Article 2 - Life Members will be elected at the end of business of the June meeting of the Central Council, and will be designated as “Life Member - Elect.” The designated period of service as a Life Member shall begin at the beginning of the Central Council meeting at the next Annual Convention and end at the completion of business of the June meeting of the Central Council following six (6) years of service on the Central Council as a Life Member. At that time, the current Life Member shall be considered Life Member Emeritus - Elect.  

Rev. 2/11/06 / Rev. 2/14/15 / Rev. Article Number from 2 to 3 2/14/15 / Rev. Article Number from 3 to 2  

10/15/16 / Rev. 10/16/21

Article 2 - A. (Added 10/15/22) - Current Life Members will transition to Life Member Emeritus as follows:

• June Central Council Meeting 2027 the three (3) Life Members who have been Life Members the longest (at this time Steven Fuentes, Leonard Rossi and Michael Rossi) will become Life Member Emeritus - Elect.

• June Central Council Meeting 2028 the four (4) Life Members who have been Life Members the longest (at this time Robert Basuino, Dante Galeazzi, Roselynne Jarret McNeal and Leonard Zasoski, Jr.) will become Life Member Emeritus - Elect.
• June Central Council Meeting 2029 the three (3) Life Members who have
been Life Members the longest (at this time Teresa Helfand, Andy Pappani
and Deborah Rodondi) will become Life Member Emeritus-Elect.
If at any time a current Life Member decides to step down during this
transition, they will become Life Member Emeritus and it will adjust the
names accordingly.
Once this transition is complete this article will be deleted from the statutes.

Article 3 - When a vacancy occurs on the Central Council, from among
those serving as Life Members, it shall be the duty of the Central Council to
elect a replacement from current Central Council Members. Notification of an
election for Life Member must be sent to all Central Council Members ten
(10) days before balloting.  

Article 4 - When a vacancy occurs on the Central Council from among
those serving as Elected Members prior to the conclusion of the regularly
scheduled February meeting, the Central Council shall fill that seat by
election. Notification of an election for a Central Council Member for the
remaining part of the one (1) year term must be sent to all Central Council
Members ten (10) days before the balloting. If a vacancy occurs on the
Central Council from among those serving as Elected Members after the
February meeting, that vacancy will be filled in accordance with these Statutes
at the Annual Convention.
Article 5 - An employee of the Italian Catholic Federation may be a Central Council Member, however he/she may not hold an office of the Central Council or serve on the Executive Committee except as an ex-officio member without a vote. In addition, in an emergency, the Grand President may appoint any Central Council Member to fill any employee position on a temporary basis.  

Added 6/14/08 / Rev. Article Number from 6 to 7 2/14/15 / Rev. Article Number from 7 to 6 10/15/16 / 

Rev. Article Number from 6 to 5 10/16/21
CHAPTER III - OFFICERS

Article 1 - The following Officers of the Central Council are elected and installed at the Annual Convention:

- Grand President
- Grand First Vice-President
- Grand Second Vice-President
- Grand Secretary
- Grand Treasurer
- Grand Parliamentarian
- Grand Trustees (3)
- Grand Sentinel

Note: The Immediate Past Grand President serves as an Ex-Officio Member of the Central Council.*  

Article 2 - The Central Council shall elect its Officers at the Annual Convention. Officers shall be elected from among the Central Council Members. Central Council Members shall not serve as Grand Second Vice-President, Grand First Vice-President or Grand President without two (2) years prior membership in the Central Council. The positions of Grand President, Grand First Vice-President and Grand Second Vice-President shall be elected for a two (2) year term.  

Article 3 - The Officers of the Central Council, except Grand Trustees, shall be elected by a majority of those present and voting. The Grand Trustees shall be elected by receiving the highest number of votes of those present and voting. Announcement of the results of these elections must be made at the Annual Convention, followed by a formal installation ceremony.
Article 4 - Spiritual Director

A. - The Spiritual Director, as an advisor, shall promote the religious spirit, spiritual guidance and counseling throughout the Federation and shall see that all matters of the Federation are done in accordance with the spiritual and moral welfare of the organization. Rev. 6/10/06

B. - The Spiritual Director

1. shall serve as an advisor of the Apostolate/Charity Committee (Chapter V, Art. 3 ¶A).

2. shall serve as an advisor of the Convention Directors’ Committee (Chapter V, Art. 5 ¶A).

3. shall serve as an advisor of the Executive Committee (Chapter V, Article 7 ¶A).

4. shall serve as a chairman of the Judiciary Committee (Chapter V, Art. 11 ¶A). Rev. 6/10/06

5. shall say Masses for the intentions of donors to the Providenza Fund. A stipend shall be paid to the Spiritual Director for saying the Masses. Added 6/12/10

6. shall attend Central Council meetings. Added 6/12/10
7. shall assist in the planning of Liturgies for the Annual Convention, in cooperation with the local Chaplains and Bishop.  

Added 6/12/10

8. shall assist with the appointments of Diocesan Chaplains and District Chaplains.  Added 6/12/10

Article 5 - Grand President

A. - The Grand President shall be the agent of the Central Council and shall supervise the administrative, financial and general welfare of the Federation. He/she shall serve as an ex-officio voting member of all committees.

B. - The Grand President shall preside at all meetings of the Central Council, the Executive Committee and the Annual Convention.

C. - The Grand President may call special meetings of the Central Council, Executive Committee or any other Central Council Committee.

D. - The Grand President shall make a report as to the condition of the Federation, with his/her recommendations, at the meetings of the Central Council and at the Annual Convention.

E. - The Grand President only votes in case of a tie vote or when the vote is being taken by secret ballot.
F. - The Grand President’s term shall be for two (2) years.  Rev. 2/19/22

G. - If the office of the Grand President is permanently vacated, the Grand First Vice-President shall assume that position.  Added 6/9/18

**Article 6 - Grand First Vice-President**

A. - In the absence of the Grand President, the Grand First Vice-President shall assume all of the Grand President’s duties and rights.

B. - The Grand First Vice-President shall serve as an ex-officio voting member of all committees.

C. - The Grand First Vice-President’s term shall be for two (2) years.  Rev. 2/19/22

D. - If the office of the Grand First Vice-President is permanently vacated, the Grand Second Vice-President shall assume that position.  Added 6/9/18

**Article 7 - Grand Second Vice-President**

A. - The Grand Second Vice-President shall in the absence of the Grand President and Grand First Vice-President assume all their duties and rights. However, if the chair of the Grand First Vice-President is permanently vacated, the Grand Second Vice-President shall assume that position.  Rev. 6/9/18
B. - The Grand Second Vice-President’s term shall be for two (2) years.

C. - The Grand Second Vice-President shall serve as an ex-officio voting member of all committees.  Added 6/9/07 / Rev. 6/11/16

Article 8 - Grand Secretary

A. - The Grand Secretary shall direct the keeping of the minutes of the meetings of the Central Council, Executive Committee and the Annual Convention. The use of an assistant must have the approval of the Executive Committee.

The Grand Secretary shall notify the office staff within three (3) days of a Central Council meeting or an Executive Committee meeting of any tasks requiring the action of the office staff.  Added 6/12/10

B. - The Grand Secretary receives correspondence from Districts, Branches and members of the Federation and assists the Grand President in the preparation of correspondence.

C. - The Grand Secretary shall serve no more than four (4) consecutive one (1) year terms.
Article 9 - Grand Treasurer

A. - The Grand Treasurer shall supervise, through the Central Council office, the keeping of all financial records, showing receipts, expenditures and balances of all Central Council funds.

B. - The Grand Treasurer shall present to the Executive Committee the monthly financial report.  Rev. 10/19/13

C. - The Grand Treasurer shall serve as Chairperson on the Finance Committee and review the financial records of the Federation before the Annual Convention. Additionally, it shall be the responsibility of the Grand Treasurer and Finance Committee to prepare an annual budget for presentation to and approval by the Central Council at its October meeting. The Grand Treasurer also serves as an ex-officio voting member of the Hospitalization Committee. Rev. 6/11/16

D. - The Grand Treasurer shall submit to the Annual Convention the financial statement of the Central Council for the year ending with the calendar year preceding the convention.

E. - The Grand Treasurer shall serve no more than four (4) consecutive one (1) year terms.
**Article 10 - Grand Parliamentarian**  Rev. 10/15/16

A. - The Grand Parliamentarian shall interpret the meanings of the Central Council Statutes and Branch By-Laws.  Rev. 10/15/16

B. - The Grand Parliamentarian shall see that the Central Council Statutes and Branch By-Laws are enforced and that all business is conducted in accordance with said laws.  10/15/16

C. - The Grand Parliamentarian shall present every charge and appeal before the Judiciary Committee, the Central Council or any other of its special committees.  Rev. 10/15/16

D. - The Grand Parliamentarian shall serve as Chairperson of the By-Laws and Rituals Committee.  Rev. 10/15/16

E. - The Grand Parliamentarian shall serve no more than four (4) consecutive one (1) year terms.  Rev. 10/15/16

F. - The Grand Parliamentarian shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee.  Added 6/8/19

**Article 11 - Grand Trustees**

A. - The Grand Trustees shall have access to all the financial records of the Federation and must report any irregularity to the Executive Committee immediately.
B. - They shall review the finances of the Central Council prior to every meeting of the Central Council and prior to the Annual Convention shall meet with the Grand Treasurer to review the Financial Report of the Federation.

C. - The Grand Trustees shall review the annual budget prepared by the Grand Treasurer before the October meeting of the Central Council.

D. - The Grand Trustees shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive one (1) year terms.

Article 12 - Grand Sentinel  Rev. 10/17/15

A. - The Grand Sentinel shall see to it that no one takes part in a meeting who has no right to do so.  Rev. 10/17/15

B. - The Grand Sentinel shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive one (1) year terms.  Rev. 10/17/15
CHAPTER IV - MEETINGS

Article 1 - The Central Council shall hold three (3) regular meetings per year (February, June and October). Additionally, the Central Council shall hold a meeting at the Annual Convention. All Central Council Members must be notified of the time and place of all meetings. A simple majority will constitute a quorum.

Article 2 - Special meetings of the Central Council may be called by the Grand President or by a signed request from at least five (5) Central Council Members. Rev. 6/9/18

Article 3 - A Central Council Member who fails to attend and is not excused from two (2) successive meetings will be considered resigned. Exceptions may be considered in cases of emergencies or family special events. A Central Council Member unable to attend a meeting of the Central Council shall notify the I.C.F. office and the Grand President in writing, by a letter and/or e-mail, of his/her reason for requesting an excuse. The Grand President will inform the Grand Secretary if the member is excused or absent for recording in the minutes. Rev. 10/15/16

Article 4 - No amendment to the Central Council Statutes may be acted upon at a Central Council meeting unless the author of the amendment has sent a written copy of the proposed amendment to the Federation Office (Office) at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. The Office shall mail such proposed amendments to Central Council Members at least ten (10) days before the meeting. Rev. 6/9/18
Article 5 - Proposals to change Branch By-Laws made by Central Council Members shall be presented to the Office at least fifteen (15) days before the regular meeting of the Central Council. Proposals from Central Council Members and those of the Executive Committee shall be forwarded to the Central Council Members at least ten (10) days before the June Central Council meeting.
CHAPTER V - COMMITTEES

Article 1 - The standing committees of the Central Council are:
Apostolate/Charity, By-Laws and Rituals, Convention Directors, Executive,
Expansion, Finance, Gifts of Love, Heritage, Hospitalization, Judiciary, Live
to Give, Membership, Public Relations, Scholarship, Task Force, Ways and
Means and Workshop.  Rev. 9/1/13 / Rev. 10/19/13 / Rev. 6/11/16

Article 2 - A. - The Grand President appoints all committee
chairpersons.  Added 6/11/16 *The Grand President shall have the option to use a
Life Member Emeritus or Member Emeritus as a committee chairperson.
*Added 6/10/17 The Grand President has the right to appoint other committees as
needed.

B. - The Central Council shall act through committees named in these
Statutes. Except as otherwise noted, the Grand President shall appoint all
committee chairpersons - See Page 2 - Chapter II - Organization - Article 2 -
from within the Elected and Life Members of the Central Council.
Committee members shall be appointed by the Grand President from the
Elected Members, Life Members, Life Members Emeritus and Members
Emeritus. *Every Elected Member and Life Member of the Central Council
shall be appointed as a full voting member to at least one (1) committee.  *Added
Committee members are entitled to a vote at committee meetings to
which they are appointed. The Grand President may appoint assistant(s), who
provide help to the committee, and advisor(s), who share experience and
knowledge with the committee, from members-at-large or non-members of the
Federation, as non-voting members to a Central Council Committee. Rev. 10/21/06 / Rev. 6/9/12 / Rev. 2/14/15 / Rev. 2/9/19

C. - The Grand President shall have the power to remove and/or substitute chairpersons and members of committees for cause with the approval of the Executive Committee. Rev. 6/11/16

Article 3 - Apostolate/Charity Committee

A. - The Apostolate/Charity Committee shall be composed of a chairperson, three (3) members from the Central Council and the Spiritual Director as an advisor. The Grand President may appoint an additional six (6) members from the general membership as a screening subcommittee. Rev. 6/10/06

B. - All matters touching on the Apostolate/Charity Program of the Federation and all matters of a religious nature shall be the primary concern of this committee. It shall present its programs and requests for funding through the Central Council.

C. - The current National Charity shall remain in force until the Apostolate/Charity Committee proposes a change. When a change is proposed, the committee will consult with the Spiritual Director to recommend three (3) choices to the Grand President, *including the current National Charity as one (1) of the three (3) choices. The Grand President will then present these choices to the Central Council who will select one (1), from that list, at the next Central Council meeting. Rev. 9/1/13 / Rev. 6/10/06 / Rev. 6/9/18 / *Added 2/19/22
Article 4 - By-Laws and Rituals Committee  Rev. Article Number from 5 to 4 6/11/15

A. - The By-Laws and Rituals Committee shall be composed of the Grand Parliamentarian, serving as chairperson, and two (2) members from the Central Council. 10/15/16

B. - The committee will review the Statutes of the Central Council, the Rituals and By-Laws of the Branches. It shall recommend any changes to the Central Council through the Executive Committee.

Article 5 - Convention Directors’ Committee  Rev. Article Number from 6 to 5 6/11/16

A. - The Convention Directors’ Committee shall be composed of a chairperson, five (5) members from the Central Council, one (1) member from the membership-at-large and the Spiritual Director as an advisor.  Rev. 6/10/06

B. - The committee shall prepare and recommend the Convention program to the Executive Committee and Central Council and supervise all phases of that program, reporting directly to the Executive Committee.

C. - The committee shall investigate possible sites for future Federation Conventions and make its recommendation to the Executive Committee for approval. No more than two (2) committee members, not including the chairperson or ex-officio members, shall visit a prospective site if expenses are incurred.  Rev. 6/8/19
D. - The Convention Directors’ Committee will promote the Convention Awards program. The committee will screen the applications for the Pope Saint John XXIII Award, Grand President’s Award, Saint Teresa of Calcutta Award, Young Adult Leadership Award and the Family of the Year Award. The committee will select the three (3) finalists in each category. Summaries of the three (3) applicants selected are to be e-mailed or mailed to each voting Central Council Member ten (10) days before the June Central Council meeting. Actual material submitted in support of candidates for these awards must be available for review at the June meeting. The Central Council Members will review the applications/summaries and vote at the June Central Council meeting. Selection in each category will be by a simple majority of those voting. Added 6/11/16

Article 6 - Gifts of Love Committee  Rev. Article Number from 7 to 6 6/11/16

A. - The Gifts of Love Committee shall be composed of a chairperson and two (2) members from the Central Council. Two (2) additional members, either from the membership-at-large or non-members who are knowledgeable in the programs and needs of developmentally disabled persons, may be appointed to this committee. The Grand President may, at the request of the chairperson of the committee, appoint additional members on an as needed basis.

B. - The committee will be responsible for all aspects of this program including fund raising and the selection of recipients for financial assistance. The committee shall report directly to the Central Council
Article 7 - Executive Committee  Rev. Article Number from 8 to 7 6/11/16

A. - The Executive Committee shall consist of the Grand President, Grand First Vice-President, Grand Second Vice-President, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and Grand Parliamentarian.* (Grand Parliamentarian Added 6/8/19) The Immediate Past Grand President serves as an ex-officio voting member. *The Spiritual Director serves as an advisor. Officers of the Central Council will hold that same office on the Executive Committee. Additionally, three (3) members of the Executive Committee will be elected from among the Central Council Members at the meeting held at the Annual Convention.  Rev. 6/10/06 / Rev. 6/11/16

B. - If a seat of an elected Executive Committee member should become vacant, the Central Council will fill that seat by election at its next meeting. Notice of such election shall be sent to all Central Council Members at least ten (10) days before the meeting.

C. - The Executive Committee shall meet at least nine (9) times per year. The Grand President may call special meetings. Notification of the time and place of all Executive Committee meetings shall be sent to all committee members. A simple majority will constitute a quorum at regular and special meetings of the Executive Committee.  Rev. 6/9/07

D. - The Executive Committee shall review the application for the establishment of new Branches.
E. - The Executive Committee must pre-authorize the purchase/payment of all items not considered to be part of the routine day-to-day operation of the Federation, authorize those individuals entitled to sign checks drawn on Federation accounts and determine the salary of all Federation employees.

F. - The Executive Committee will act as a conciliatory body when disputes arise within the Federation and advise the Grand President on appointments to Committees of Investigation when such committees become necessary. If the Executive Committee is unable to reach a peaceful settlement of any dispute, they shall refer the matter to the Judiciary Committee.

G. - The Executive Committee shall review and approve changes recommended by the Finance Committee regarding the investment of Central Council funds.

H. - The Executive Committee shall be kept informed when problems occur within a Branch and shall of its own initiative, or at the request of a Central Council Member, render such assistance deemed necessary. Deleted Article H (Moved to Article 8 - D.) - Re-Labeled I to H Rev. 6/9/18

I. - The Executive Committee shall approve the hiring of all employees. Deleted Article H (Moved to Article 8 - D.) - Re-Labeled J to I Rev. 6/9/18

J. - The duties of the Executive Committee as listed herein shall in no way deprive or limit the Central Council of its right to direct the Federation. Deleted Article H (Moved to Article 8 - D.) - Re-Labeled K to J Rev. 6/9/18
Article 8 - Expansion Committee  Added 9/1/13 / Rev. Article Number from 9 to 8 6/11/16

A. - The committee shall be composed of a chairperson and two (2) members from the Central Council. Additional members from either the Central Council or the membership-at-large can be asked to assist with carrying out expansion efforts.  Added 9/1/13

B. - The committee shall be responsible for opening, reopening, relocating and reorganizing Branches.  Added 9/1/13

C. - An appointed member of the Central Council shall meet quarterly, if possible, with new and reopened Branches for the first two (2) years the Branch is open.  Added 9/1/13 / Rev. 6/9/18 / Rev. 10/24/20

D. - The Expansion Committee shall oversee the opening of each new Branch so that it will be celebrated in a fitting manner and according to the approved rituals of the Federation. Additionally, they will ensure that guidance and instruction is provided to the officers of the new Branch. Added 6/9/18

Article 9 - Finance Committee  Rev. Article Number from 10 to 9 6/11/16

A. - The Finance Committee shall be composed of the Grand Treasurer, serving as Chairperson, the Grand Trustees and up to three (3) Central Council Members.  Rev. 6/9/07 / Rev. 6/11/16 / Rev. 2/19/22
The Chairperson of the Hospitalization Committee shall serve as an ex-officio voting member of the Finance Committee.  Added 6/13/09 / Rev. 6/11/16

B. - The Finance Committee shall analyze the investment of the funds of the Federation and is empowered to make reasonable and prudent changes, with the approval of the Executive Committee, to the investment of the funds of the Federation. All changes must concur with the Investment Policy Statement approved by the Central Council. All changes shall be reported to the Central Council at their next meeting after the change is made. The committee shall meet a minimum of twice (2) a year and shall review the annual budget before it is presented to the Central Council for approval.

C. - The committee shall determine the amount of the Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund to be allocated to each Diocese based on a proportionate share according to the number of Federation members in each of the Dioceses. The amount shall be evaluated by the committee annually and presented to the Central Council for their approval.

D. - With the approval of the Executive Committee and the Central Council, the Finance Committee shall develop policies for reimbursement for Central Council Members on official business.

E. - The Finance Committee shall recommend to the Executive Committee who in turn shall recommend to the Central Council (at the June meeting) the per diem and travel allowances for Central Council Members attending the Annual Convention.
F. - The Finance Committee shall prepare an annual budget for presentation to and approval by the Central Council at its October meeting.

G. - The Finance Committee shall submit to the Executive Committee the amount of funds available for salary and benefits for all Federation employees by October 10th of each year. The Executive Committee then shall make recommendations on compensation packages for individual employees. The recommendations of the Executive Committee shall be presented to and voted upon by the entire Central Council at its October meeting. (Note: This provision will require a meeting of the Executive Committee in October.) The presentation and discussion of compensation packages for individual employees shall be done in Closed Session at the Central Council meeting.

Rev. 6/9/07 / Rev. 6/9/18

Article 10 - Heritage Committee  Rev. Article Number from 11 to 10 6/11/16

A. - The Heritage Committee shall be composed of a chairperson and two (2) members from the Central Council and one (1) member who may be selected from the membership-at-large.  Rev. 2/12/05

B. - The committee will supervise all heritage activities and it shall present its programs and requests for funding through the Central Council.

Article 11 - Hospitalization Committee  Rev. Article Number from 12 to 11 6/11/16

A. - The Hospitalization Committee shall be composed of two (2) members nominated from and elected by the Central Council Members and
two (2) members nominated from and elected by the delegates at the Annual Convention. The Grand President shall appoint one of the elected Central Council Members of the Hospitalization Committee as its chairperson. The terms of the two (2) members elected by the Central Council and the two (2) members elected by the delegates shall be respectively two (2) and one (1) years. A member elected for a term of two (2) years shall thereafter replace the annual outgoing member. The Central Council shall fill vacancies occurring during a member’s term so that there will be two (2) Central Council members and two (2) members from the membership-at-large. Serving as an ex-officio voting member is the Grand Treasurer.  

B. - All matters concerning payment to subscribers from the Hospitalization Program shall be within the province of this committee. Any member may appeal the decision of the Hospitalization Committee to the Executive Committee of the Central Council.

C. - The Hospitalization Committee shall make recommendations to the Executive Committee and the Central Council pertaining to prudent changes in the plan.

D. - The Chairperson shall report the financial condition of the Hospitalization Fund to the Central Council at its meetings and to the delegates at the Annual Convention. A fee of fifteen percent (15%) shall be charged by the Central Council to administer the fund.

E. - The Chairperson of the Hospitalization Committee shall serve as an ex-officio voting member of the Finance Committee.
F. - The Hospitalization Committee shall meet prior to the October Finance Committee meeting. The purpose of this meeting will be to determine the allocation and propose the dollar amount of Hospitalization monies to be transferred for the upcoming year. The Committee’s recommendation shall be presented at the October Finance Committee meeting, in order for the recommended amount to be included in the proposed budget. The Chairperson of the Hospitalization Committee shall present the proposal to the Central Council at its October meeting.  

Article 12 - Judiciary Committee Rev. Article Number from 13 to 12 6/11/16

A. - The Judiciary Committee, composed of five (5) members, shall only be formed when the existence of an appeal or any other judicial matter is pending. The Spiritual Director of the Central Council shall serve as Chairperson. The Grand President shall appoint four (4) committee members, composed of two (2) members from the Central Council and two (2) members from the membership-at-large, in matters pertaining to Districts, Branches and/or individual members. The Central Council shall elect four (4) members from the Central Council in matters pertaining to a Central Council Member, a Member Emeritus or a Life Member Emeritus. The committee will be dissolved upon settlement of the appeal or judicial matter for which it was formed.

B. - All matters referred to the Judiciary Committee must be submitted in writing, clearly stating the details of the matter in question. Upon receipt of the written statement the committee has the power to inspect books, call
witnesses and make local visits when necessary to gather information essential to making a fair judgement on the matter.

C. - Appeals on decisions of the Judiciary Committee may only be made to the entire Central Council. Notice of such appeal must be sent in writing to each Central Council member ten (10) days in advance of the meeting. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the members voting are necessary to overturn a decision of the Judiciary Committee.

**Article 13 - Live to Give Committee**  Added 9/1/13 / Revised Article Number from 14 to 13

6/11/16

A. - The committee shall be composed of a chairperson and two (2) members from the Central Council. A consultant with blood or organ donor background may be appointed.  Added 9/1/13

B. - The committee shall be responsible for promoting the blood and organ donor awareness programs.  Added 9/1/13

**Article 14 - Membership Committee**  Rev. Article Number from 15 to 14 6/11/16

A. - The Membership Committee shall be composed of a chairperson and four (4) members from the Central Council.

B. - The committee shall prepare, propose and promote an annual membership campaign to the Central Council.

Rev. 9/1/13
**Article 15 - Public Relations Committee**  Rev. Article Number from 16 to 15 6/1/16

A. - The Public Relations Committee shall consist of a chairperson, two (2) members from the Central Council and one (1) member selected from the membership-at-large. Serving as an ex-officio non-voting member is the Editor of the Bollettino. Rev. 6/11/16

B. - The committee shall review matters concerning public relations, publicity, income and expenditures of the Bollettino and make recommendations to the Executive Committee and/or the Central Council.

C. - The committee shall review the policies to be maintained by the official publication, the Bollettino. The committee shall assist in the selection of the editor for recommendation to the Executive Committee.

D. - The committee shall be responsible for maintaining and updating the Federation’s official Web site. It may work with a webmaster to fulfill these responsibilities. The committee shall assist in the selection of the webmaster for recommendation to the Executive Committee. Rev 10/19/13

**Article 16 - Scholarship Committee**  Rev. Article Number from 17 to 16 6/11/16

A. - The Scholarship Committee shall be composed of a chairperson, three (3) members from the Central Council and one (1) member who may be selected from the membership-at-large. The Grand President may also appoint six (6) additional members from either the Central Council Members or the
membership-at-large to assist with the screening and judging of the first year awards.  Rev. 2/12/05

B. - The committee shall promote and conduct the scholarship program of the Federation and shall seek funding from and report directly to the Central Council. Additionally, the committee will seek further funding from the Districts, Branches and individuals.

**Article 17 - Task Force Committee** Rev. Article Number from 18 to 17 6/11/16

A. - The Task Force Committee shall be composed of a chairperson, five (5) members from the Central Council and one (1) member from the membership-at-large.

B. - The committee will study and evaluate topics referred to it by the Grand President and report to the Executive Committee and Central Council.

C. - The chairperson is empowered to invite qualified members-at-large and non-members to attend meetings for the purpose of gaining their insight on subjects being considered.

**Article 18 - Ways and Means Committee** Rev. Article Number from 19 to 18 6/11/16

A. - The Ways and Means Committee shall be composed of a chairperson and two (2) members from the Central Council. Additional members can be asked to assist.
B. - The committee shall be responsible for fund raising activities of the Central Council.

C. - The committee shall be responsible for establishing group travel trips and program.

**Article 19 - Workshop Committee**  
Rev. Article Number from 20 to 19 6/11/16

A. - The committee shall be composed of a chairperson and three (3) members from the Central Council. Additional members from either the Central Council or the membership-at-large can be asked to assist with carrying out workshops.

B. - The Workshop Committee shall be responsible for planning and carrying out Workshops in the various areas where the Federation is established. Subject matter may vary according to the needs of the area being visited, and may include but not be limited to duties of Branch officers and the history, policies and programs of the Federation.
CHAPTER VI - FUNDS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

Article 1 - Apostolate Fund

A. - The Apostolate Fund shall be used by the Central Council for the expenses of the Spiritual Director and for payment of expenses directly or indirectly related to the religious purposes of the Federation. Two dollars and 40 cents ($2.40) of the yearly Membership Dues is assessed for the yearly Apostolate Dues. Rev. 6/8/13

B. - The Central Council shall allocate 80 cents ($.80) of the yearly Apostolate Dues to maintain the fund. Added 6/8/13

Article 2 - Charity/Relief Fund Rev. 2/9/08

A. - The Charity/Relief Fund of the Federation shall be at the disposal of the Central Council to be used only in special cases for charity or in case of a public calamity. Each case shall be examined and decided by the Central Council, or by the Executive Committee, when time is of the essence. Rev. 2/9/08

B. - The Central Council shall allocate 10 cents ($.10) of the yearly Apostolate Dues to maintain the fund. Rev. 6/8/13

Article 3 - Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund

A. - The Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund shall be maintained by the Federation for the purpose of making annual donations to the Ordinaries of
the Dioceses in which the Federation is located. This donation is to be earmarked for the benefit of individual seminarians in each Diocese.

B. - The Central Council shall allocate one dollar and 50 cents ($1.50) of the yearly Apostolate Dues to maintain the fund. Additionally, voluntary donations to the fund will be accepted.  Rev. 6/8/13 / Rev. 10/17/15

Article 4 - General Fund

The General Fund shall be used by the Central Council for all general revenue and expenses of the Federation including per capita tax, running the office, payroll, expenses of the Central Council, Annual Convention, Bollettino, insurance, and other miscellaneous revenue and expenses not covered by the other funds listed herein.

Article 5 - Hospitalization Fund

The Hospitalization Fund shall be used to account for dues collected from the subscribers of the Plan, and payments made to the subscribers, in accordance with the Statutes pertaining to the Hospitalization Committee. A fee of fifteen percent (15%) shall be charged by the Central Council to administer the fund.
Article 6 - Futures Fund

The Futures Fund shall be used by the Central Council to account for funds received for specific purposes, and payments made to the specific purposes for which the funds are collected, such as Scholarship, Gifts of Love, the National Charity, and other miscellaneous donations not covered under other funds described herein.

Article 7 - Signatories  Added 10/19/13

A. - The Grand President and Grand Treasurer shall be signatories on the accounts of all Central Council funds. A total of four (4) additional signatories shall be selected from among the Central Council Life Members, Elected Members, Life Members Emeritus or Members Emeritus at the September Executive Meeting.

B. - Two signatures are required for each check disbursed from the Central Council funds that exceed one thousand ($1,000.00) dollars. Signatories shall not sign checks made out to them.  Rev. 10/18/14 / Rev. 10/15/16

C. - Signatories must ensure that proper documentation, such as a receipt, contract or invoice verifying the total to be reimbursed, is provided.  Added 10/18/14
CHAPTER VII - ESTABLISHMENT & DISSOLUTION OF BRANCHES

Article 1 - A. - At least thirty-five (35) prospective members shall be required in order to establish a new Branch. When the required number of members is obtained, official permission for opening of the Branch shall be obtained from the Executive Committee by submitting written application together with the “New Branch Approval Agreement.” The application must include, but is not limited to, the name of the Branch (which must be a Saint’s name or religious title), a list of officers and members with addresses (a duplicate of the members application form will suffice), the date, time and meeting place of the Branch and the date, time and place requested for the official inauguration. The Pastor of the Parish, the President and the Secretary must sign the letter of application.  Rev. 9/6/15

B. - The Expansion Committee shall see that new Branches are officially inaugurated with proper ceremony.  Rev. 6/9/18

Article 2 - A. - If a Branch is ordered dissolved by the Executive Committee or the Central Council, all property or assets of the General Fund of the said Branch shall revert to the Central Council. The Executive Committee shall settle all just claims and obligations within the means of the dissolved Branch. Funds remaining in the Social Account of the Branch are to be distributed according to the wishes of the membership. All members must be notified in writing ten (10) days before any meeting where the Social Fund of a closed Branch is to be distributed.
B. - When a Branch has (a) fewer than twelve (12) members, (b) been delinquent for six (6) months in payment of per capita or assessments to the Central Council, (c) shown disrespect toward the authority of the Central Council, (d) shown the absence of Catholic spirit in the conduct of its members or (e) failed to hold regular meetings or acts of officers indicating practical dissolution, a representative of the Executive Committee shall investigate. When necessary, he/she shall take control of all ledgers and properties of the Branch, declare all offices vacant and proceed to endeavor to reorganize the Branch. He/she shall report progress or lack thereof at the earliest meeting of the Executive Committee who shall then decide on further necessary steps.

C. - The Central Council has the right, by a majority vote at any of its meetings, to suspend or dissolve any Branch.

D. - Members in good standing shall be encouraged to transfer to other established Branches.
CHAPTER VIII - THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

Article 1 - The Annual Convention shall be held each year on the Labor Day Weekend. The Central Council reserves the right to change the selected site if special circumstances should occur such as fire, flood, acts of God, labor disputes or the selected hotel’s inability to perform in accordance with the signed contract. Rev. 6/8/19

Article 2 - The Grand President shall preside at all meetings of the Annual Convention.

Article 3 - The Finance Committee shall recommend to the Executive Committee who in turn shall recommend to the Central Council (at the June meeting) the per diem and travel allowances for Central Council Members attending the Annual Convention. Per Diem shall only be paid for Convention days when the Central Council Member actually attends Convention activities, and shall not be paid for days when the Central Council Member leaves early.

Article 4 - A. - Central Council Members shall attend the Annual Convention as a delegate-at-large with the right to vote, to be re-nominated for a position on the Central Council and to nominate prospective members for the Central Council. In the event of an emergency that causes an elected Central Council Member to ask to be excused, said Central Council Member will submit a letter and/or e-mail stating his/her desire to run for the Central Council. This Central Council Member can also be nominated for a Central Council Office in absentia by submitting a letter and/or e-mail. The Grand President, with the
assistance of the Grand Parliamentarian, will make the final decision. Rev. 10/17/15 /
10/15/16 / 6/9/18

Article 4 - B. - A Central Council Member who has not paid dues by March 31st of the current year will not be considered in good standing and shall not be seated at the Annual Convention as a Member-at-Large of the current year. The Central Council Member not in good standing will have no voting privileges at said Convention. Added 10/15/16

Article 5 - A. - The order of discussions of proposals at the Annual Convention shall be prepared in advance by the Grand Parliamentarian and approved by the Central Council. Matters presented by the Central Council shall have precedence. All other proposals to be presented at the Annual Convention must be accepted by the Central Council before presentation.

Rev. 10/15/16

B. - The Central Council is authorized to eliminate proposals: (1) clearly unconstitutional, discriminatory (except as to the age for benefits) or infringing on the fundamental principles of the Federation, (2) defeated at the immediate previous Annual Convention, except if the Central Council approves them for re-presentation.
CHAPTER IX - MENTOR PROGRAM  Rev. 6/10/17

Article 1 - The Grand President shall appoint the Chairperson of the Branch Mentor Program from among the Central Council Members. The Branch Mentor Program Chairperson shall appoint all District Mentors with the recommendation of the District President and District Council and appoint all Branch Mentors in consultation with the District Mentor.  Rev. 6/10/17

Article 2 - The representatives of the Central Council in each Branch shall be known as the Branch Mentors. The District Mentors shall coordinate the activities of the Branch Mentors in his/her District. The District Mentors shall report directly to the Chairperson of the Branch Mentor Program.  Rev. 6/10/17

Article 3 - Branch Mentors *shall submit a report after each Branch meeting they attend on the activities and condition of the Branch to the District Mentor who, in turn, will submit quarterly reports to the Chairperson of the Mentor Program. Urgent matters shall be reported immediately.  Rev. 6/10/17 / *Rev. 6/13/20

Article 4 - The Chairperson of the Branch Mentor Program will meet with the District Mentors on a quarterly basis by mail, phone or at the annual Convention.  Rev. 6/10/17

Article 5 - The District Mentor shall be an ex-officio voting member of his/her District Council, shall be given recognition with a distinctive insignia and be given honors due Central Council Members.  Rev. 6/10/17
Article 6 - District Mentors shall remain in office for a maximum of a seven (7) year term and Branch Mentors for a four (4) year term with an assigned Branch or until his/her successor has been appointed. All District Mentors and Branch Mentors are subject to removal at any time by the Chairperson of the Branch Mentor Program or the Grand President.  Rev. 6/10/17

Article 7 - Branch Mentors shall (1) attend a meeting of the Branch they are assigned at least once a quarter or as needed (Rev. 6/13/20), (2) do all in their power, with a positive attitude, to see that the Branch under their mentorship maintains the Catholic spirit of the Italian Catholic Federation and its By-laws (Rev. 6/13/20), (3) assist the Branch President as needed on procedures, items to discuss and future events (New Statement Added 6/13/20), (4) shall not make motions or engage in the discussion of motions or Branch business unless requested by the Branch (New Statement Added 6/13/20), (5) settle difficulties within their assigned Branch (Rev. Number from 3 to 5/6/13/20), (6) be responsible for instructing and training Branch officers of their duties and explaining the charities and benefits that the Italian Catholic Federation has to offer (Rev. Number from 4 to 6/6/13/20), (7) install new Branch officers, as needed, and initiate new members but may yield this responsibility to the District Mentor or a Central Council Member (Rev. Number from 5 to 7/6/13/20), (8) shall execute the directives of the Central Council or Executive Committee whether conveyed directly or through the Chairperson of the Branch Mentor Program (Rev. Number from 6 to 8/6/13/20), (9) shall have the right to a distinctive insignia and receive the honor due to a Central Council Member (Rev. Number from 7 to 9/6/13/20), (10) shall be a voting member of the District Council (Rev. Number from 8 to 10/6/13/20).  Rev. 6/10/17

Article 8 - District and Branch Mentors are required to participate in any Mentor Program training.  Rev. 6/10/17 / Rev. 6/13/20
Article 9 - A. - The interpretation, decisions and settlements of the Branch Mentor are binding to the Branch, subject to appeal.  Rev. Article Number from 8 - A. to 9 - A. 6/13/20

Article 9 - B. - Appeals by the Branch, on the ruling of the Branch Mentor, must be made in writing to the Executive Committee. Until the Executive Committee rules on the appeal the decision of the Branch Mentor will remain in effect.  Rev. Article Number from 8 - B to 9 - B. 6/13/20

Article 10 - Central Council Members shall be appointed to communicate with and assist District and Branch Mentors. They shall contact Mentors once per quarter to receive updates on Branch and District health, garner feedback and offer recommendations or advice as necessary. This Central Council Member shall be available to assist District and Branch Mentors on an as needed basis.  Added 6/13/20
CHAPTER X - SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

1   **Article 1** - Members who have failed and continue to fail to abide by the
2   Articles of Incorporation, Central Council Statutes, Branch By-Laws, or who
3   have committed or are in the course of committing some act prejudicial to the
4   purpose of the Federation are subject to suspension for a period not to exceed six
5   (6) months, or may be expelled from the Federation. Such matters shall be
6   referred to and decided by the Judiciary Committee.
CHAPTER XI - SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES

1

2 Article 1 - Special Representatives may be appointed by the Grand
3 President at his/her discretion and are under his/her direction. The purpose of the
4 Special Representative is to aid Branches and/or Districts in need of assistance.
CHAPTER XII - MEMBERS EMERITUS

Article 1 - A. - After five (5) years of service, an Elected Member who ceases to serve in that capacity, shall be named Member Emeritus unless they have been elected as a Life Member.

B. - Members Emeritus of the Central Council shall (1) have the right to attend Central Council meetings at their own expense and have the right to speak but shall have no vote on any matter, (2) when attending Central Council meetings have his/her meal expense covered to the same extent as Central Council Members, (3) attend the Annual Convention as a delegate-at-large without compensation for travel or per diem, (4) if attending the Annual Convention have his/her registration and banquet fee covered to the same extent as Central Council Members, (5) be eligible to accept a nomination as a candidate for the Central Council, if otherwise eligible according to the Statutes, but upon election shall forfeit the rank of Member Emeritus, (6) be presented a plaque at a suitable ceremony when joining the rank of Member Emeritus, (7) shall not serve as an Officer of the Central Council, and *(8) may Chair and serve on a standing Central Council committee.  Rev. 10/21/06 / *Rev. 6/10/17

Article 2 - A. - A Life Member who ceases to serve in that capacity shall be named Life Member Emeritus.

B. - Life Members Emeritus - Elect shall be an interim title for a Life Member whose six (6) term is ending before the date of election of new Life Members at the completion of business at the June Meeting of the Central Council.  Life Members Emeritus - Elect shall (1) have all rights as an elected
Central Council Member or Life Member at the next immediate Annual
Convention, (2) become Life Members Emeritus of the Central Council at the
beginning of the Central Council Meeting at the Annual Convention, and (3)
thereafter be titled as Life Member Emeritus of the Central Council.

C. - Life Members Emeritus of the Central Council shall (1) have the right
to attend Central Council meetings at their own expense and have the right to
speak but shall have no vote on any matter, (2) when attending Central Council
meetings have his/her meal expense covered to the same extent as Central
Council Members, (3) attend the Annual Convention as a delegate-at-large,
without compensation for travel or per diem, (4) if attending the Annual
Convention have his/her registration and banquet fee covered to the same extent
as Central Council Members, (5) be eligible to accept a nomination as a
candidate for the Central Council, if otherwise eligible according to the Statutes,
but upon election shall forfeit the rank of Life Member Emeritus of the Central
Council, (6) be presented a plaque at a suitable ceremony when joining the rank
of Life Member Emeritus, (7) shall not serve as an Officer of the Central Council,
and *(8) may Chair and serve on a standing Central Council committee.

Article 3 - A Life Member Emeritus or Member Emeritus must maintain
full membership in an active Branch of the Federation in order to maintain
Emeritus status.
CHAPTER XIII - DISTRICT COUNCILS

Article 1 - Three (3) or more Branches may form a District Council. Once established, they may continue to function as long as two (2) Branches remain.

Article 2 - The purpose of the District Council shall be to coordinate activities in the District, to promote District and Branch activities and to cooperate with other Districts in Diocesan programs.

Article 3 - The District Council shall have administrative, but not legislative power. It shall confine its activities within the scope of the Articles of Incorporation and Statutes of the Federation.

Article 4 - The original By-Laws of the District and any amendments thereto must be approved by the Executive Committee before they are effective.

Article 5 - It shall be up to the majority of the members of an individual Branch as to their Branch’s participation in the District Council. When a Branch wishes to either join or withdraw from a District Council, notification of said vote is to be sent to all Branch members ten (10) days in advance of the meeting when the voting will take place. Voting must be by secret ballot. A simple majority will rule.