



BOLLETTINO

ICF Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage



New Camaldoli Hermitage--An Italian-American Catholic Gem, on the Central Coast of California

In our Catholic tradition, we often hear the names Assisi, Padua, Siena, along with the names of saints of those regions, but less often, we hear of Camaldoli and Saint Romuald. For some not familiar with Italian, the word Camaldoli may be difficult to pronounce. (It is pronounced *Cam-ALL-doe-lee*). Even those familiar with many of our common Catholic traditions, may not know much about Saint Romuald. Romuald was born in Ravenna in 951. At a young age, he joined a monastery in Calasse, near Ravenna. Following the steps of the desert fathers--living as a hermit, praying the psalms and traveling to Venice, the Pyrenees, Croatia and then back to the region of Arezzo--Saint Romuald founded and reformed monasteries and founded hermitages, including the one at Camaldoli, Italy, near Arezzo. It is the seat of the Congregation of the Camaldolese Benedictine Monks. Saint Romuald is known for many miracles involving mental illnesses, falling trees and more. Most importantly, though, Saint Romuald was a reformer of monasteries living under the Rule of Saint Benedict. He urged an ideal balance in the contemplative life, living and praying in solitude (hermitage), as well as in community (monastery).

The Sacro Eremo of Camaldoli became the cradle of many more monasteries and hermitages that were home to monks who became pope, cartographers, poets, mathematicians, and musicians, and who impacted

western civilization and the world. The Eremo of Camaldoli was a critical place during the Italian renaissance and became a pillar in the Florentine consolidation of the Renaissance and post-Renaissance.

Moving forward to more recent times and in the U.S., in 1958 the congregation settled a new hermitage, a new Camaldoli, in the Santa Lucia Mountains in California facing the Pacific Ocean, in the region known as Big Sur. Since then, this new hermitage, New Camaldoli, has become not only a home to monks, but the center of spiritual retreat for many individuals who are transformed by the unique Camaldolese charism of silence, solitude, community, hospitality and prayer. New Camaldoli is part of a congregation of Benedictine monks who welcome people of all walks of life to join them in their daily prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours, Mass and meditation. New Camaldoli Hermitage (see www.contemplation.com) is situated in a remote area, overlooking the Pacific Ocean, seated atop the beautiful,



Painting from el Greco: "the Allegory of Camaldolese Order" where he portrays Saint Romuald on the right and Saint Benedict on the left. He painted two versions of the same painting and the originals are at two different museums in Spain.

rugged cliffs, nearly seated as a jewel in the crown of the dome of Cone Peak, among the majestic Santa Lucia mountains along the Big Sur Coast.

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Grand President's Monthly Message

Deborah Rodondi

Before you read my speech, I want to express my thanks to all the warm welcomes I, and those representing me, have experienced in visiting your districts and installing your officers. I regret that I was not able to attend all the events as some shared the same dates. I am also blessed that my dear friend Kathy is beginning to travel with me once again to events. Thank you for keeping Kathy in your prayers. I look forward to everything all of us will share in 2023!



XXXXXXXX

Grand President's

2023 Installation speech

2022 ended on a sad note for the Federation, with the passing of our Past First Lady Janice Jones. We keep Past Grand President Jim Jones and family in our thoughts and prayers. Along with Janice, let us remember all of our loved ones, friends and members we have lost this past year with a moment of silence.

I would like to thank all those who served this past year as officers in your branches and district. Congratulations to those of you who will continue to be officers in 2023 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 next year. The Ways and Means committee is 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 Basuino. 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. I have always enjoyed looking through my uncle Ario Gregori's (Past Grand Secretary) photo albums of past ICF conventions and parades — what fun they must have had. We are planning to share these pictures in the *Bollettino* leading up to the 100th celebration.

Continued on Page 5

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

Announcing So Cal Golf Tournament

I am pleased to announce the 1st annual SoCal Region ICF Golf Tournament to be held on Friday, July 28th at 8 a.m. Shotgun, played at Temecula Creek Inn. An Italian Buffet lunch will be served after the golf tournament.

You're not a golfer? Come on out and join us anyway! Temecula has beautiful wineries or try your luck at Pechanga Casino and then hop over to the golf course and enjoy some food and fellowship and maybe you'll win a fabulous raffle basket.

Or perhaps, you'll want to volunteer and help us out with setting up.

Maybe make a weekend out of it and stay over night. You can also help out by sponsoring a hole and have your branch or district name at the tee box.

There are many ways you can support the ICF So Cal Golf Tournament. It isn't very often that the four Southern California districts get together, so let's make the most of it.

Contact me for all of the info. You can email me at p_shurko@yahoo.com or reach me on my cell at 562-804-0230.

Thank you and I hope to see you there.

Perry Shurko

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The email address for ALL

Bollettino submissions is:editor@icf.orgAll image and article submissions
need to be sent in an electronic for-
mat. Those submissions not sent in
an electronic format or those articles
sent in the mail will not be used.Finally, a reminder that ALL branch
and district reports need to adhere to
the **250 max word count** require-
ment or they will be shortened or
possibly excluded entirely based on
editor judgement.**Limit photos to 3 or 4** and include
captions. Not all photos are able to
be used due to possible limitations in
space. Prioritize photos if possible.
To insure photos are always linked to
branch, include branch number when
naming photos such as:

Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg

Include photo captions with your
article submission.Please keep your submission positive
and informative.**Deadline for the
March issue is
February 10, 2023**Include district name, branch number
and branch name in all submissions.**Thank you!****Message from our
Spiritual Director**

Dear Friends of the Italian Catholic Federation: Valentine's Day is special for those in marriages where there is a mutually enriching relationship. It is a special day for couples who are dating or engaged. It is special for dear friends. It is a day is for gifting with candy, flowers, loving cards, enjoyable times together and dinners. There are all sorts of stories about St. Valentine. It is thought that he was a priest, perhaps even a bishop, who was martyred in Rome in about 269. But we're not entirely sure why the celebration of St. Valentine's Day came to relate to love. One legend suggests that Valentine was caught officiating at Christian weddings which had been forbidden by the emperor.

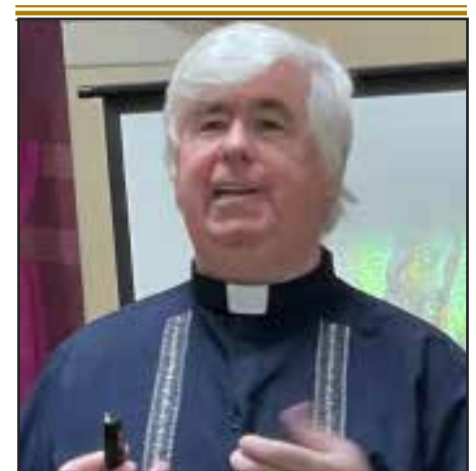
In particular, St. Valentine officiated at the weddings of young men who otherwise would have been conscripted into the army. He cut hearts out of parchment to remind the men not only of the vows they had taken, but also of the fact that God loved them. As the centuries passed, people began to pray to St. Valentine in search of romance. So, perhaps, this is how St. Valentine's Day became associated with hearts, romance and love. However, as we celebrate Valentine's Day, remember we are first loved by God at the moment of conception in our mother's womb. This love remains a constant in our lives. The

truth is: God's love is our first valentine.

As people around the United States are telling their special someone how much they love him or her on Valentine's Day, soon we will be entering the season of Lent. St. Valentine signifies love and so does Lent. The relationship between the two is that they are about love and giving. You cannot talk about Valentine without mentioning love; also, you cannot talk about Lent without mentioning love. Love is the reason for both seasons. Love is an affective tendency towards some good that leads to active communication with it.

As we celebrate St. Valentine's Day in a deeper, more spiritual tone, let us walk with St. Valentine to Jesus and hear Jesus' words: "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:29). The journey of true, lasting love is a humble outpouring of oneself in union with Jesus and with Him, for God and others. Such love makes us "true Valentine hearts" and "models of caring" for others all year round — and highlights that remarkable friendship and union with Christ, one that brings a rest and joy that no other love can match.

Rather than approach Lent from a place of fear or guilt, why not approach it from this kind of mindset? "I choose to do certain things in this season of Lent in order to strengthen my connection with God because I am grateful

Father Christopher Bennett
ICF Spiritual Director

and thankful for God's love and for all that God has given me." If you think about it, Lent has always been a story of love. It has always culminated with the two greatest acts of love in human history: the death and resurrection of the Son of God. What could possibly be more loving than the Son of God freely giving up His life on a cross for the salvation of all who believe in Him; and what could possibly be more loving than Jesus rising from the dead to open wide the gates of eternal life?

Have a holy and blessed Lent!**Fr. Chris****Live to Give****Pat Mages, Central Council Member**

I hope the new year has begun on a positive and hopeful note for you.

As a member of the Live to Give Committee, I would like to wish you a Happy Valentine's Day throughout the month of February.

February is not only a month of love, but also American Heart Month. One way to 'celebrate' this month is to consider donating blood. What better way to show love than to give the gift of life. And, if you are unable to donate, please spread the word.

I began donating blood when I was in college and continued to give sporadically. At age 25, I became a statistic of someone needing an emergency transfusion. After the transfusion, the hospital gave us a choice of paying for the units of blood or giving back by



donating double the amount I received. We chose the latter and donated 4 units. Guess that was our first and only, small but mighty, blood drive. Lou and three generous friends donated to the cause. Since then, we have tried to give regularly. I have not been able to give for the past year, so I hope I can donate this month.

Planning a blood drive with your branch is a great way to give back to your parish and community and to help replenish the blood supplies. As mentioned before, there is a greater-than-ever need for blood due to the pandemic and its effects. Contact the Live to Give Committee for assistance in planning a drive and other information regarding blood donation. Thank you for your continued support.

**Blessings & Happy Valentine's
XXXOOO
Pat Mages****2023 Calendar
Winners**

We delayed pulling the calendar winners to give all of you a chance to return your ticket stubs to the ICF office by the January 31st deadline.

The winners' names for January 2023 and February 2023 will be printed in the March 2023 issue.

The winners' names will also be available in the *Bollettino* Highlights on the ICF Web site at www.icf.org beginning with the March 2023 issue.

Cooley's Anemia

(Report as of January 7, 2023)

Branch 39
Branch 179
Branch 352
Judith Zimmerman
In Memory of Janice Jones

February is for Family

Rosemary Cook – Member, Apostolate/Charity Committee

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family. It is an appropriate extension of the emphasis on Mary, Joseph, and Jesus that we



have during the Advent and Christmas seasons. However, during those weeks we often focus on each one separately: Mary's acceptance, Joseph's faithfulness,

and Jesus' birth. Devoting time to appreciate them as a family unit allows us to also pray for our own families and the strengthening of family life. While many of us gather with loved ones during the holidays, by now we have likely settled into a routine for the new year and are perhaps far from parents, children, siblings, and other relatives. With evolving definitions of "family" the Holy Family lends important insight into how we can choose to invest our time, energy, and prayers into our families, wherever and wherever they are.

After the Nativity, in the early days as a family of three, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus spent much of their time together traveling. They navigated trials of poverty and exile and lived largely private lives. They made immense sacrifices for one another and, of course, remained incomparably devoted to God and His plan for them. Especially this month, we can ask the Holy Family to intercede in our own families in similar ways – to bring us together to celebrate and encourage one another, to allow us to lean on each other in hard times, to help us have the humility to make sacrifices for one another, to find joy in the daily interactions and mundane tasks that make up family life, and to support each other in our Catholic faith.

Using Mary and Joseph as models of virtuous leadership, and Jesus as an example of obedient participation, we can strive to honor and imitate the Holy Family whenever possible, this month and throughout the year.

Rosemary Cook

Membership Committee Greetings

Perry Shurko

Membership Chairperson

Hello to everyone and welcome to February. I'm hoping that 2023 is treating you well.

Last month I joined Pat Mages and Theresa



Shaw and their spouses, Lou Mages and Tad Shaw, and Maria Di Paolo as representatives of the Central Council at the San Bernardino District Installation. It was a wonderful day.

At the end of this month, the Italian Catholic Federation will once again have a booth at the Religious Education Congress, held at the Anaheim Convention Center, the weekend of the 24th to 26th. We have many Central Council members ready to work the booth talking to the visitors, priests, and other exhibitors and answering questions regarding our organization. Spreading the word about what exactly it is that the ICF is and does.

Our goal each year is to get the word out that we are here and we would

love to get more Catholics to join us. We have picked up a few new members, but ultimately it would be great to land a new branch or two as well. We are there to evangelize and to promote the ICF. This year, I plan to use our upcoming 100th anniversary as a platform for educating the attendees. That we support our seminarians, hand out info on Cooley's Anemia, Gifts of Love, Mother Cabrini and all of the traditions that go along with our group. That we are not just an Italian group, but a charitable group too, who welcomes all heritages.

I am so thankful to Father Chris Bazyouros — a good friend of mine — who was the Director of Religious Education for the LA Archdiocese, for recommending us for Congress. We've met so many people these last few years and I hope we can continue to go back year after year.

If you happen to be there this year, please stop by and say hello. We look forward to seeing you.

Continue to have those membership drives and stay strong.

*Till next month,
Perry Shurko, Membership Chair.*

Welcome New Members (Report as of January 7, 2023)

Branch 021	Vita M Hall	
Branch 032	Cle-Estria Lett	Eddie P Vivenzi
	Patricia A Vivenzi	
Branch 036	Anna Lisa Giorgini	Jennifer Fenton
	Valerie Moule	
Branch 073	Joseph F Aguilar	
Branch 115	Paul Tomsco	
Branch 135	Nineveh Weaver	
Branch 139	Jeanelle M Odell	
Branch 173	Linda T Catalano	
Branch 218	Maria R Ross	Michael J Ross
	Peter Serdarusich	
Branch 342	Eric Hafemann	Marielle Jensen
Branch 395	Kathleen L Janssen	
Branch 438	Patricia A Rice	Elizabeth C Snyder
	Mary Anne Snyder	
Branch 442	William Lee	
Branch 444	Patrick A Payne	Sheryle A Payne



2023 1st Year Scholarship Program

Carmen Kilcullen, Scholarship Chairperson

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 home page as well as in the documents in the Officers' Portal.



The New Deadline for Donations and Applications is April 1, 2023. This will allow additional time for students to apply and for Branches and Districts to follow up with the high schools in their areas. Please discuss participating in the program by making a donation of a full scholarship of \$400, 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 welcomed 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 1st Year \$400 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 California, Illinois and Reno, Nevada (which also includes the other cities within the Diocese of Reno), 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.

Again, please contact your local high schools where you would like to see applicants 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.

Scholarship Donations (Received as of January 7, 2023)

Scholarship Donations: 1st Year	Giulia Gallego
Diana Berry	In Memory of Edward Bertaccini
Thank You to Frank Angelino	Bob Basuino
Diana Berry	In Memory of Edward Bertaccini
Thank You to Marianne Peoples	
Officers/Members of Br. 362	Scholarship Donations: 2nd - 4th Year
In Honor of Perry Shurko	Joan and Jerry Delfino
	In Memory of Ed Bertaccini

ICF Hospitalization Plan

The Hospitalization Plan is one of the oldest programs of the ICF. In 1959, the Grand President at the time — Mario Cugia — first offered the program to the Federation Members. This Program provided an opportunity to assist members of the Federation with a financial benefit towards their medical expenses. The Program is self-funded for the members enrolled.

Italian Catholic Federation HOSPITALIZATION PLAN – FACT SHEET

Dear ICF Members:

One of the best kept secrets in the Italian Catholic Federation is the Hospitalization Plan; open to all members under 70 years of age. (Exception – if you are a New Member to the ICF who is over the age of 70 – you can enroll in the Hospital Plan as long as you enroll at the same time that you join and pay both membership and hospital plan dues.) The following information briefly outlines the benefits, conditions and costs:

BENEFITS

After ninety (90) days of membership in the plan, the fund will pay:
•\$75.00 for the first day, \$50.00 for the second day and \$25.00 for the third day and any additional days thereafter.

NOTE: A member must stay overnight in an acute care facility unless an outpatient surgery is performed. Stays in convalescent hospitals and rehabilitation facilities are not covered by this plan and do not qualify for reimbursement.

- \$100.00 for the use of the operating room** during a hospital stay or outpatient procedure at a state-licensed surgical center.
- \$500.00 per calendar year.**
- \$500.00 lifetime maximum per illness.**

FEATURES

- Payments are made directly to you.
- No medical examination is required to join.
- Membership continues beyond age 70.
- All claims are accepted for up to one year after a hospital stay or outpatient procedure.

COST

•**\$25.00 per year** — paid to the Branch Financial Secretary
We encourage all members of the Italian Catholic Federation under the age of 70 to take advantage of this very beneficial ICF program.

ICF Hospitalization Committee

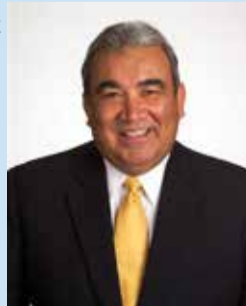
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Fax: (510) 633-9758 • E-mail: info@icf.org • Web site: www.icf.org

If you are interested in the plan, you can obtain an enrollment form through your Branch, by calling the ICF Office or by going to the ICF Website in the Members' Area.

The Hospitalization Committee members are CC Member Rosemary Cook, Charlyne Pacini and Robyn Piro. The Committee welcomes suggestions from the Membership as we collaborate on recommendations for the plan. We cooperate as a committee always keeping the best interests of the members enrolled in mind.

Dante Galeazzi
CC Life Member
Hospitalization Chair



New Camaldoli Hermitage--Continued

continued from Page 1

For its many spiritual seekers and visitors, because of its silence and solitude, communal prayer of the Hours and Mass, and wild, natural beauty, New Camaldoli offers an opportunity to draw closer to God through deep inspiration, similar to that lived by Saint Romuald and the inhabitants of his hermitage, living according to his own Brief Rule.

For its many spiritual seekers and visitors, its silence and solitude, communal prayer of the Hours and Mass, and wild, natural beauty, New Camaldoli offers an opportunity to draw closer to God through deep inspiration, similar to that lived by Saint Romuald and the inhabitants of his hermitage, living according to his brief rule.

In the area of Big Sur where the hermitage sits, there are no public utilities that provide service and the flow of urban parishioners is minuscule. For more than 60 years the infrastructure to facilitate guided and individual silent retreats, to welcome and care for guests and to provide spiritual formation has served us for good. Currently, driven by concerns for the environment and the accessibility of new technology, the monks are moving their energy source of diesel generating power to solar energy for the hermitage. 2023 marks the launch of our solar fundraising campaign.

With our cultural ties

to Italy, cradle of many saints, we the monks of New Camaldoli now turn to you and ask for the support of the Italian Catholic Federation members to support us in meeting our goal of \$1,500,000 to install a solar farm and provide future sustainability to the hermitage.

The unique charism of the Camaldolese at New Camaldoli is best understood by direct experience. We would love to share the sacred beauty of NCH with you. If you would like to learn more about Camaldoli, Saint Romuald, make a spiritual retreat, set up a visit to New Camaldoli, learn more about or make a donation to our solar project, please feel free to email our Donor Relations Manager at gabe@contemplation.com.

With gratitude and prayers for a blessed New Year,

**The Monks of
New Camaldoli Hermitage**



In Loving Memory (Report as of January 7, 2023)

Ralph Pellettieri	Branch 010	Gilberto Uriarte	Branch 218
Annabelle Conconi	Branch 028	Steven J Mariorenzi	Branch 237
Patricia H Clark	Branch 036	Joseph Buonsante	Branch 285
Joseph R Panetta	Branch 036	Marie V Assman	Branch 319
Grace K Scanapico	Branch 072	Toni M Proietti	Branch 343
Fred De Simoni	Branch 154	Jean Ornelaz	Branch 380
Dr Arnold Pieri	Branch 161	Ann P Dias	Branch 390
Lois Brancato	Branch 179	Antonia Lepore	Branch 392
Edward Bertaccini	Branch 191	Adolfo Del Carlo	Branch 403
Janice O Jones	Branch 191	Larry Agnello	Branch 442



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Grand President's Message--Continued

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Besides the annual golf tournament held in the San Francisco area, Ways and Means is also working on a 2nd golf tournament this year in the Los Angeles area with the assistance of Central Council member Perry Shurko.

WOW — those of you that attended our convention at the Orleans in Las Vegas know what I mean. Rose Jarrett McNeal and the convention committee pulled out all the stops and made this one of the best conventions ever! I cannot wait to see what is in store for us this year in Costa Mesa! You may have noticed that we have moved up the date for Convention Award Applications. This is to allow the recipients more time to plan their schedules so that they are able to attend the convention. The Central Council also sees this as an opportunity to strongly promote nominations at the convention, since upon returning home from convention, branches/individuals will immediately start thinking about potential candidates. Look around your branch, your district, your community — YOU will see someone worthy of being nominated. The convention committee over the years has made the process as easy as possible, so that more of you will consider nominating someone. I have challenged you in the past---if I can nominate someone — YOU can too!

The Workshop Committee has been setting up some great workshops via Zoom. This is allowing more people to participate and has been greatly beneficial as ideas are not just localized but are being shared from many areas in the Federation. Looking forward to what Andy Pappani and his workshop committee have in store for us this coming year.

YOU are amazing! The strength of the ICF is in the branches and their

members and your connection with the community. As stated by Past Grand President Vince Piro “to keep the Federation vital and thriving, we must be able to move forward while still maintaining the faith and traditions that give us strength.” The past almost 3 years have been a struggle for us — not being able to meet, fundraise and socialize, but we are resilient, and 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 your parish and communities and our many programs — The Providenza Fund, The Scholarship Program, Cooleys Anemia and Gifts of Love.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our office staff Charlene Kramer and Patty Smith — they are our rock! I thank the Central Council members for their support and hard work they do through out the year for you and for me! And Thank You for all you do for the Federation, your Districts and Branches and the support you have given me and the Central Council throughout the years.

I wish all of you a Happy and Joyful 2023 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 fore founders Sir Luigi Providenza 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!

Gifts of Love Donations

(Received as of January 7, 2023)

Branch 39	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Branch 115	In Memory of Janice Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Adolfo Del Carlo	Harold Fuentes
In Memory of Marie Amoroso	In Memory of Adolfo Del Carlo
Eva Stern	Harold Fuentes
In Memory of Ed Bertaccini	In Memory of Fr. Frank Murray
Bob and Elaine Osorio	Harold Fuentes
In Memory of Ed Bertaccini	Get Well Wishes for Bob Osorio
Bob and Elaine Osorio	John and Camille Orlando
In Memory of Robert Lencioni	In Memory of Edward Bertaccini
Joan and Jerry Delfino	Officers/Members of Br. 403
In Memory of Joe Basuino	In Memory of Adolfo Del Carlo
Eva Stern	Cory and Teresa Helfand
In Memory of Joseph Safano	In Memory of Janice Jones
Eva Stern	Virginia and Chris Bottino
In Memory of Janice Jones	In Memory of Kimberley Rose Bottino
Eva Stern	Diane and Bruce Arkley
In Memory of Robert Lencioni	In Memory of Janice Jones
Mara Millis	Lorraine and Mike Nunziata
In Memory of Marie Amoroso	In Memory of Barbara Ruffner
Officers/Members of Br. 218	
In Memory of Robert Flach	
Officers/Members of Br. 218	
In Memory of Gilberto Uriate	

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of January 7, 2023:

IN MEMORY OF:

Joe Basuino
 Ed Bertaccini
 Janice Jones
 Edward Bertaccini
 Janice Jones
 Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
 Nelida Mills
 Janice Jones
 Janice Jones
 Joseph Basuino
 Janice Jones
 Janice Jones
 Janice Jones
 Janice Jones
 Bob Lencioni
 Robert Lencioni
 Janice Jones
 Ed Bertaccini
 Janice Jones
 Janice Jones
 Bianca Lupo
 Janice Jones
 Joseph Basuino
 Janice Jones
 Joseph Basuino
 Robert Lencioni
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 Ed Bertaccini
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 Janice Jones

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 Knights of Columbus #4060
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 Shirley Catania and Frank Rando
 Bruce and Lonnie Swarringim
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 Donna Rossi
 Jo Bertaccini
 Jo Bertaccini
 Jo Bertaccini
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 Pat and Lou Mages
 Barbara Firpo
 CC Spouses' and Family Association
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 Leroy and Stella Taddei
 Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn Lopes, Sr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn Lopes, Sr.
 Donna and Richard Pfaff
 Lorraine and Mike Nunziata

GET WELL WISHES:

Rosa Radichi Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

THANK YOU:

Louis Cordich Diana Berry
 Roy Shackel Diana Berry

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Dr. Ronald Sani of Branch 70 - Sanger.

*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.



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION CONVENTION AWARD CATEGORIES

There is one shared application available for all five categories. The new deadline to submit applications and supporting documents is April 1. Previous year's nomination packets are eligible for resubmission with the updated current year's application attached.

POPE SAINT JOHN XXIII AWARD

The recipient of the ICF's highest award shall exemplify the spirit and tradition of the late Pope Saint John XXIII. The nominee may be of any religious denomination and 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.

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

SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA AWARD

GRAND PRESIDENT'S AWARD

This award will be presented to an outstanding lay member of the ICF. 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 ICF charitable program of choice.

The ICF Family of the Year Award honors an ICF 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 ICF charitable program of choice.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

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. A \$500 donation will be made to the award recipient's ICF charitable program of choice.

The new deadline for submissions is April 1.



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION AWARD NOMINATION



Nomination Year: 20_____

Award:

- _____ Pope Saint John XXIII
 _____ Saint Teresa of Calcutta
 _____ Grand President's
 _____ Family of the Year
 _____ Young Adult Leadership

Nominations must be postmarked on or before April 1.

Please include with this application:

- A maximum of three letters of endorsement.
- Copies of awards or publications, if available, to support the nomination.

The Central Council will vote on one finalist for each award. The Grand President will notify the winners of their achievement and invite them to attend the ICF Convention to receive their award. Transportation, one night lodging, and a ticket to the banquet for their award presentation is provided. Central Council Members, Members Emeritus, Life Members Emeritus or Members of their immediate families are not eligible for nomination.

Nominee:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Branch #/City: _____

Nominees for the Grand President's, Family of the Year and Young Adult Leadership Awards must all be members of the ICF. For the Family of the Year award, please indicate names of parents, children and other family members being nominated within the body of your biographical sketch.

Nominated By Individual, Branch or District:

Contact Person:

Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Statement of Endorsement:

Qualifications Summary:

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

Applications must be postmarked by: April 1 – Submit to: Italian Catholic Federation
 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, California 94621
 (888) ICF-1924 Website: www.icf.org Email: info@icf.org

Book Review: New Biographies in Italian History

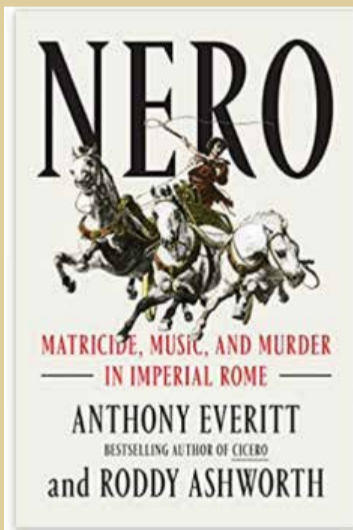
Vince Piro, Past Grand President

Whether ancient or contemporary, the history of Italy is often fascinating — filled with intrigue, power struggles, and cultural conflict. Below are a couple of recent biographies of famous Italian historical figures. They are on my reading list, so I thought I would share them with you along with the publisher's description. All books can be ordered from most online bookstores — including <https://iambooksboston.com> — or from your local independent bookstore.

Nero: Matricide, Music, and Murder in Imperial Rome

There are many infamous stories about the Roman emperor Nero: He set fire to Rome and thrummed his lyre as it burned. Cruel, vain, and incompetent, he then cleared the charred ruins and built a vast palace. He committed incest with his mother, who had schemed and killed to place him on the throne, and later murdered her. Nero has long been the very image of a bad ruler, a legacy left behind by the historians of his day, who despised him.

But there is a mystery. For a long time after his death, anonymous hands laid flowers on his grave. The monster was loved. In this nuanced biography, Anthony Everitt, the celebrated biographer of classical Greece and Rome, and investigative journalist Roddy Ashworth reveal the contradictions inherent in Nero and offer a reappraisal of his life. Contrary to popular memory, the empire was well managed during his reign. He presided over diplomatic triumphs and Rome's epic conquest of Britain and British queen Boudica's doomed revolt against Nero's legions. He was also a champion of arts and culture who loved music, and he won the loyalty of the lower classes with fantastic spectacles. He did not set fire to Rome.



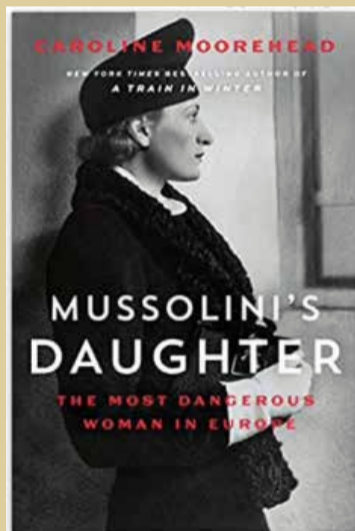
In Nero, ancient Rome comes to life: the crowded streets that made it prone to fires, deadly political intrigues, and building projects that continuously remade the city. In this teeming and politically unstable world, Nero was

vulnerable to fierce reproach from the nobility and relatives who would gladly usurp him, and he was often too ready to murder rivals. He had a vision for Rome, but, racked by insecurity, perhaps he never really had the stomach to govern it.

This is the bloodstained story of one of Rome's most notorious emperors. Nero has become a byword for cruelty, decadence, and despotism, but in Anthony Everitt's hands, Nero's life is a cautionary tale about the mettle it takes to rule.

Mussolini's Daughter: The Most Dangerous Woman in Europe

Edda Mussolini was the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini's oldest and favorite child. At 19, she was married to Count Galeazzo Ciano, Il Duce's Minister for Foreign Affairs during the 1930s, the most turbulent decade in Italy's fascist history. In the years preceding World War II, Edda ruled over Italy's aristocratic families and the cultured and middle classes while selling Fascism on the international stage. How a young woman wielded such control is the heart of Caroline Moore's fascinating history.



The issues that emerge reveal not only a great deal about the power of fascism, but also the ease with which dictatorship so easily took hold in a country weakened by war and a continent mired in chaos and desperate for peace.

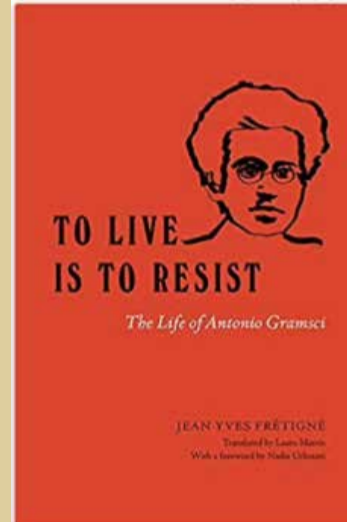
Drawing on a wealth of archival material, some newly released, along with memoirs and personal papers, Mussolini's Daughter paints a portrait of a woman in her twenties whose sheer force of character and ruthless narcissism helped impose a brutal and vulgar movement on a pliable and complicit society. Yet, as Moorehead shows, not even Edda's colossal willpower, her scheming, nor her father's avowed love could save her husband from Mussolini's brutal vengeance.

As she did in her Resistance Quartet, Moorehead delves deep into the past, exploring what fascism felt like to those living under it, how it blossomed and grew, and how fascists

and aristocrats joined forces to pursue ten years of extravagance, amorality, and excessive luxury—greed, excess, and ambition that set the world on fire. The result is a powerful portrait of a young woman who played a key role in one of the most terrifying and violent periods in human history.

To Live Is to Resist: The Life of Antonio Gramsci

This in-depth biography of Italian intellectual Antonio Gramsci casts new

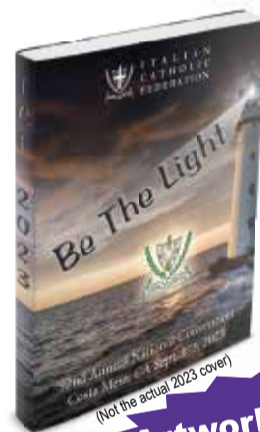


light on his life and writing, emphasizing his unflagging spirit, even in the many years he spent in prison.

One of the most influential political thinkers of the twentieth century, Antonio Gramsci (1891-1937) has left an indelible mark on philosophy and critical theory. His innovative work on history, society, power, and the state has influenced several generations of readers and political activists, and even shaped important developments in postcolonial thought. But Gramsci's thinking is scattered across the thousands of notebook pages he wrote while he was imprisoned by Italy's fascist government from 1926 until shortly before his death.

To guide readers through Gramsci's life and works, historian Jean-Yves Frégné offers *To Live Is to Resist*, an accessible, compelling, and deeply researched portrait of an extraordinary figure. Throughout the book, Frégné emphasizes Gramsci's quiet heroism and his unwavering commitment to political practice and resistance. Most powerfully, he shows how Gramsci never surrendered, even in conditions that stripped him of all power—except, of course, the power to think.

Vince Piro



Artwork Deadline
JULY 1ST!

Celebration Pages

Births • Weddings • Graduations

Full color 1/16th page celebration entry for only \$25. Includes a photo and details.

Let us all celebrate the joys from your year!

Newlyweds in New Mexico
Rose Jarrett & Caron McNeal
December 4, 2021



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION 2023 Yearbook

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

Successful Entry Tips

- Create a **NEW** entry this year
- Tell us what you've been up to
- Use **COLOR** in your entry
- Submit Celebration entries for your members and their achievements

You Need COLOR!

The full-page entry for Central Coast District looks great in the 2022 book! (See page 44.) So much more impactful than black and white would have been. Please consider color for impact.

The ICF Convention Yearbook is:

- Collected & kept for years •
- Referenced by members •
- A visual history of your year •

Everyone spends money locally!

Sell commercial ads to the folks you spend your money with and get a **20% commission check.**



Convention Souvenir Books are available on the website in the Officers' Portal under the All of the Documents Ending 12/31/22.

Branch Reports

SAN MATEO

Burlingame

Br. 173, Our Lady of Angels

Happy Valentine's Day to all here and watching from above.

We were lucky to enjoy our Christmas festivities along with the company of Fr. Brian, Fr. Gerald and Fr. Peter. Also, a donation of \$205 from our raffle was given to St. Vincent de Paul.

As we move ahead to February all dues need to be paid by the end of February as members will be dropped as of March 1st.

Our Installation of Officers is hosted by Branch 19 and will take place on January 21, 2023, 11:00 a.m. at Holy Angels in Colma. Prayer service will begin at 11:00 a.m. followed by installation and lunch at 1:00 p.m. All are invited to attend, and lunch is \$25.00. Please let President, Dorene Campanile, know before the 16th of January if you plan to attend.

Special thanks to all who purchased the ICF calendars as all 12 were sold.

Please keep in mind all the Federation and our members who need our prayers: Mary Bodisco, Anita Cecena, Melanie Yeager, and Kathy Trevizo and Jackie Barnes from Branch 19.

Looking forward to 2023 bringing good health and peace to all!

*God Bless,
Roz Emery*

Millbrae

Br. 403, St. Dunstan

Ciao a tutti! We hope all of you had the opportunity to interact with your loved ones over the holidays and stayed safe & healthy. All of our officers have agreed to remain in place for the next year. I know that all of our members appreciate your commitment of time, energy and resources. It takes a lot of people to keep an organization going and we thank you. Grazie tanto!!

By the time you read this, we will have had our pizza & salad dinner meeting on February 7th at our Parish Hall. We are now meeting earlier in the evening lately (social at 5pm, dinner 5:30, meeting to follow) to accommodate our more elderly membership. We have found that it helps keep them involved. We have begun planning a dinner meeting on March 7th, possibly of angel hair & meatballs with salad.

Although we were unable to do a fundraiser this year, we did collect enough from our members to give \$500 to a needy family of 5, living in a one-bedroom apartment. We also got them some lights for their sparse

Christmas Tree, which added to the joy of our gift. They were VERY grateful.

Our branch lost another long-time member, Adolfo Del Carlo. He and his wife, Carla (see photo), have been members for almost 32 years when he passed away on December 12th. To Carla and her family, we extend our sincere condolences.

*Ciao,
Adonna Amoroso, Corresponding Secretary*

MARIN District

Larkspur

Br. 161, St. James

This is our last article for the *Bollettino*. After 60 years Branch 161 has closed.

Many fond memories of our wonderful team of workers who enjoyed being the rotating hosts for the San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin District Bishop Day which was well attended by every branch in the district.

Our annual Crab Feed fundraiser was also well attended event. Over 300 people signed up every year. We were the first branch to start making large gift raffle baskets. That one fundraiser netted over ten thousand dollars each year.

Sadly, Marin is now down to one branch from five. Like the other Marin branches they all lasted fifty plus years before they closed.

Happily, many of our members will be transferring to Novato Branch 332.

To our members and officers who have supported us over the years a big THANK YOU!

*Sadly, it's time to say Good Bye!
Happy Valentine's Day!
Marlene Farber and Anna Biggio*



Br. 67, St. Peter' Church



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE District Council

Hello everyone. I hope you've all recovered nicely from the Christmas and New Year's holidays. As California sat dry for too many years now, it's nice that we've received some much-needed rain.

Last month the LA district officers and branch officers, as well as our general membership, gathered together to celebrate the installation of officers for the 2023 year. Thank you to Lauren Kilcullen and her mom Carmen for coming down and leading the ceremony on Grand President Deborah Rodondi's behalf.

At the end of this month the ICF will once again be out in full force at the Religious Education Congress held at the Anaheim Convention Center the weekend of February 24 - 26. A shout out to all of our Central Council members who will be there to help man our booth. If you're attending this year, be sure to stop by and say hello.

We will be planning a district meeting soon, so if your branch would like to host it, feel free to let me know.

If you haven't heard yet, the So Cal region of the ICF - LA, Orange, San Diego, and San Bernardino districts will be coming together for our 1st annual Southern Region Charity Golf Tournament. This is in conjunction with the golf tournament that's held up north. It will be on Friday July 28th and details will be out soon. We will need volunteers to work the course and many other areas. Raffle baskets will be needed and most importantly, golfers! Please sign up! We will also need hole sponsorship, so ask your branch to help support us by sponsoring a hole on the course. And if you don't golf, you can still join us afterwards for lunch.

As week look towards next month, I'm pretty sure we will all be very busy gearing up for St Joseph Tables. I'm very excited to bring it back to my own branch.

I leave you now to pray for an end to our drought and for the success of our federation.

God Bless, Perry Shurko, LA district president.

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco

Br. 1, Maria S.S. Immacolata

Dear Members:

Our next get-together is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 15th and will be hosted by Gino and Julie Giovannoni.

*Happy Valentine's Day!
Thank you
Cordiali Saluti
Diana Cresci*

San Francisco

Br. 258, St. Elizabeth

Happy Valentine's Day to all of our members.

Our Christmas Luncheon on December 16th was very nice. The food was delicious, and we had 29 members and friends who enjoyed visiting with each other. For those who brought a raffle prize, many thanks. It is greatly appreciated.

To 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.

To those who bought a calendar, thank you and good luck. Tante Grazie. I hope to see your name in the *Bollettino* as a winner.

To my nephew and Mary's Grandson, Mark Neuburger and his wife Arianna, our heartfelt thank you for your Christmas wishes. A donation was made in our honor to the I.C.F. Scholarship Fund. You are the best!!

Please stay safe and well. We love all of you and need you.

*Ciao,
Eva Perata, President*



Br. 403, Adolfo & Carla Del Carlo.

Los Angeles
Br. 67, National Branch,
St. Peter

ICF National Branch 67 is a virtual branch that reach's out to members and nonmembers who do not have an ICF in their area and would like be a part of the ICF Family. We also would like to have your input as we continue to develop this branch online.

Visit ICF.org and select ICF National Branch 67 for more information. You are welcome to join us at ICFNationalBranch67.org and complete the application process.

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

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, Presiden
ICF National Branch 67
C 626 372-7812 E Cas1810@aol.org

SAVE THE DATE

ICF Booth at the Annual Religious Education Congress on February 24, 25 and 26, 2023. Please spread the word to ICF, family members and parishioners about this important annual event at the Anaheim Convention Center, in Anaheim, California. NBr 67 members will attend this event with other ICF branch members of the Los Angeles Archdiocese District and members of other district branches throughout the ICF Federation.

South Pasadena
Br. 108, Holy Family

ICF Branch 108 held its first In-Person Branch General Meeting and lunch social on January 8, 2023. Following branch business members celebrated the Birthdays of ICF members Aggie, Ariana, Elizabeth, JD, Joe M., Michele and Patrick and condolences to Member Elizabeth for the recent passing of her Mother Linda deFilippo.



Br. 108 meeting

SAVE THE DATE

- June 17, 2023 - New date for the ICF Branch 108 Annual Wine Tasting. More information to follow.

- February 24, 25, 26, 2023 - ICF LAADC will have a Booth at the Annual Religious Education Congress. Please spread the word to ICF, family members and parishioners about this very important annual event at the Anaheim Convention Center, in Anaheim, California.

Please 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 members, family 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

Montebello
Br. 111, St. Benedict

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our February General Meeting and San Valentino Potluck Dinner will be on Thursday, February 16, 2023 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 Scorgia, 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 18 & 19, 2023 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



Br. 108, Christmas Party



Br. 111, Christmas Party

Deadline for
 March *Bollettino* is
 February 10th.
 Send articles &
 photos to
 editor@icf.org



Kids participated to hit the Piñata at Br. 115 Christmas Party



Br. 115, 1st VP Anna DiLeva serving. Foods included pasta, chicken, roast beef and sauerkraut plus salad and dessert. Free to all members.



Br. 115 Officers 2023 at the Christmas Party



Br. 115, Santa aka Chris Pisano with Fr. Charbel

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

Please join us at our next general meeting Feb 19th at 7:30 pm in parish center.

President Neal DiLeva will be discussing our upcoming crab dinner fundraiser in honor of St John Joseph of the Cross. Mass is scheduled for 8am on Saturday March 4th. Dinner dance to begin at 6pm in auditorium. Tickets are \$40.00 each Volunteers are always welcomed. For more tickets or info please call Neal Dileva at 310 433-1044

Thank you to all who attended our first casino fundraiser of the year. For those of you who missed our trip to Aqua Caliente our next casino fundraiser will be on March 23rd to Pala

casino. \$40.00 per person. A Laughlin trip is also planned for May 2nd thru the 4th We will be staying at the Aquarius Hotel. \$175.00 per double occupancy or \$245 single occupancy.

Both trips will be leaving from the Boys and Girls Club at 9 a.m. Please call Pauline Iacono to reserve 310 832-0563

It is time to renew your branch membership. Our dues for 2023 are \$40.00. Check can be brought to meeting or mailed to Pauline Iacono at 1072 w 8th St San Pedro CA 90731

Scholarship applications for graduation High School seniors are now available online at www.icf.org. Deadline is April 1, 2023

I am sad to report the passing of member Adele Sasso Adele became a member in 1983. She will be missed. May she rest in peace.

*Happy Valentine's Day to all
Anita Trujillo*

**Glendora
Br. 179, St. Dorothy**

Happy New Year! St. Dorothy Branch 179 in Glendora ended 2022 with a bang!

On Sunday, December 11, members loaded bags of clothing at two different locations (St. Dorothy's and St. Lucy's) totaling 12,750 pounds! After all the hard work, the Sisters at the Priory opened their home for us to sit, relax, and feast on pizza, salad, and goodies in the dining room. All the hard work resulted in a gross collection of \$4,462.50! Thank you to all who not only helped that day, but the ongoing weekly collection that allows our branch to continue support to our parish, school, and all organizations.

*Patricia Auriemmo
Trustee*



Br. 179, Cathy Napoli & Josie Bresee-Scarpino handing out 50/50 winnings!



Br. 179, The Wieland Family & big Ugly Sweater Contest winners!



Br. 179, Sister Elizabeth, center in red, and members

"True friends aren't the ones who make your problems disappear. They are the ones who won't disappear when you're facing problems."
— Unknown



Branch 237 kids and Santa

**Arcadia
Br. 218, Holy Angels**

At our last meeting President Jerry announced that the branch will nominate Katie LaCorte for the Youth Award handed out at this year's convention. Katie is a phenomenal asset to our branch and has volunteered for many other organizations. She well deserves this award.

As of this writing our pancake breakfast has not occurred, however, I will thank Scott Carrano and crew ahead of time and hope that our goal of serving between 350 and 400 breakfasts was met.

Our next general meeting is February 12. Watch for Mary's bulletin on the details. This is right before St. Valentine's Day and we encourage all the women to wear pink or red (okay, the guys can, too, if they want).

Our next huge event is our St. Joseph's Table which entails 3 days - March 17, 18, 19. This is a huge undertaking, and we ask that our members help out in any capacity that they can. There will be a lot more information on this at our next meeting and we will have a committee meeting sometime in February at my home.

*Hope to see everyone on February 12.
Lolly M*

**Gardena
Br. 237, St. Anthony of Padua**

Dear Members,

Happy New Year! We are praying for a healthy and happy 2023.

Our calendar is set for this year, we are hoping to again travel to Laughlin for our annual get a way. It will be three years since our last visit. We are also planning to return to our annual turn around to a casino. Pray for good health and good weather!!!!

In December we met for our quarterly Branch mass, followed by a very special Christmas Party. It is our opportunity to thank all our sponsors for their support all year.

Shown is the Russ family, the Roa boys and our special guests for the Christmas party.

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests."

Luke 2:14

**Downey
Br. 362, St. Raymond**

Can you believe that it's already February??

This new year is rolling right along. Last month we regrouped after the long holiday weekends and started planning all of 2023's events.

We also gathered together for the Installation of Officers Mass and lunch which was held at Holy Angels parish in Arcadia. It was great seeing all of the other district members again. Thank you to Jerry Ferrugia and his branch members for setting up for us.

We begin this month with another Bingo luncheon celebrating Valentine's Day. Make sure you give your sweetheart a great big kiss.

I hope you're planning to watch the Super Bowl. Glendale Arizona is the host city this year and I hope it's an exciting game.

We will close out the month in Anaheim working the ICF's booth at Religious Education Congress. I'm looking forward to it and I hope we can gain some new members and / or a new branch. Please stop by booth # 627 and say hello. Congratulations go out to two of our members who won \$30 each in the calendar drawing for December. Way to go Bob Buckley and Christine Ragusa.

*So, till next month, be safe, stay healthy and keep praying for the ICF.
Perry Shurko, branch president.*



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

We ended our '22 charity donations by giving Christmas Gift Cards in the amount of \$300 to Cooley's Anemia patients at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. In addition, several restaurant gift cards were given to our new pastor, Fr. Jim Bevacqua as a branch welcoming Christmas gift.

Back by popular demand, Italian classes are scheduled for six Saturday morning workshops: May 6-June 10th, at the St. Bede Parish Center. Cost is \$130.00, plus workbook. The native-born Italian instructor is Prof. Laura Godio, who teaches at Pasadena City College. If you would like more information, call Raul Acevedo at 818-504-4908. All members in the ICF District are welcome to participate, but the class is limited to 20 people, and is expected to fill up quickly.

Plans are underway for members to gather for Mass at The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, followed by lunch at San Antonio Winery, or lunch/brunch at the La Canada Country Club. More info. to follow.

A Membership Table outside of church is planned for Sunday, March 5th to promote the mission and work of ICF. Members will be asked to sign up to help man the event after each Mass they attend.

As our St. Joseph Table/Auction event nears, Chairpersons Maria deSalguero and Gloria McGaughley are busy with preparations. We are all helping by planning what we will make for the Table and helping Phyllis Harb by getting local businesses to donate gift cards for the Auction. If you frequent a business often, please ask them for a donation. We have forms with all the pertinent information for the vendor.

Dates to Calendar

Feb. 21st-General Meeting- Guest Speaker, Dr. Mary Kotob- a noted woman's issues physician.

Mar. 18th St. Joseph Table Set-Up- All hands on deck, please!

Mar. 19th St. Joseph Table and Auction

Mar. 21st General Meeting- Guest speaker, Perry Shurko- ICF L.A. District President

*Love and Friendship, Neither Can Replace the Other
Diane Restivo*



Branch 374 Members Enjoy Fun Christmas Party

**Thousand Oaks
Br. 380, St. Paschal Baylon**

Branch 380 welcomed the new year with a potluck soup dinner and bingo games. Members brought their favorite winter soups to share. We are happy to announce that we have two new co-presidents of our branch, Matt Bridges and Bill Metz.

We are looking forward to bringing back our St. Joseph's Day pasta dinner and bake sale in March and we are looking for help from Branch members. Together we can make 2023 a great year for our Branch.



Branch 380 Co-Presidents Matt Bridges and Bill Metz

**Simi Valley
Br. 443, St. Rose of Lima**

On Sunday, December 11, 2022 over 60 people gathered for the Branch 443 annual Christmas Party that was held at St Rose of Lima Hall. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food catered by Viva la Pasta. Christmas Carols were sung by all. The highlight was singing the Twelve Days of Christmas. Each table sang a part. Rather than the usual "five golden rings," table 5 insisted on singing "five onion rings" very loud!

A special celebration for Norm Ouellette, Facilities Manager at St Rose will be held on Saturday, January 14. His 80th birthday and retirement will be celebrated. Several of St Rose's ministries will assist ICF with food and set-up. President Ritamarie managed to obtain food donations from local restaurants.

On Friday, January 20, the general meeting will be held after the Pot luck dinner. Members will be asked to share past and present Christmas memories. They will be asked to talk about favorite presents received, the strangest Christmas present ever received, and a Christmas present they never received but wish they had. This will be a fun night for sharing memories.

*Peace and Blessings,
Josephine M. Perini*

**Rancho Palos Verdes
Br. 444, St. John Fisher**

Felice Capo D'Anno to our ICF family. Our branch participated in the 2022 Adopt-A-Family program during the Christmas season with our sister parish, Sagrado Corazon Y Guadalupe, Cudahy, CA. We were able to provide clothing, gift certificates for groceries/goods, plus blankets for the children. Our assigned family was a young couple with a toddler son.

Our monthly meeting on January 20th will begin our fund raiser for our future Scholarship recipient. We plan



Members of Br.443, Simi Valley enjoy the Christmas celebration.



Br 444 Rancho Palos Verdes St John Fisher Church President Hany Francis, Matteo Francis & Carol Piccirillo

to have a Bingo Competition with prizes. We hope to get as many members as possible to participate in order to give a generous Scholarship to our designated Scholarship recipient.

Bravos to our President Hany Francis who has been leading us through the past few years. Traveling from Palos Verdes to Fresno each week for his job and returning on the weekend to be with his family and to lead our Branch is amazing. He wears the "Armor of God" to get through life and serve his family and church. Carol his wife is right beside him supporting him with all his endeavors.

We pray for our brothers & sisters in Ischia (Casamicciola) who were affected by the heavy mud slides. Happy Birthday to our December & January members.

We continue to pray for our members who cannot attend due to illness. Happy Feast Day, January 4th to Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton our co-patron with Mother Cabrini.

Ciao, Patty Longo Hansen

**Manhattan Beach
Br. 447, American Martyrs**

My hope for 2023 is that each of us and our loved ones have a wonderful year, filled with love, peace, abundance, good health, and joy.

Our branch had the most wonderful Christmas celebration to wind up 2022 and get ready to launch ourselves into 2023! We held a wonderful Christmas celebration with a delicious Italian dinner of two types of lasagna, sausages, grilled peppers, salad, bread and a variety of desserts, including a chocolate fondue for the kids.

We had a wonderful decorating committee decorate our room with fresh flowers and ornaments on the tables, a beautiful nativity scene was set up with a beautiful backdrop used for taking pictures. Thank you to Joana Brown, Michelle Montgomery,

Mary Hornickel, Luanne Donahue, Emily Piemonte, Mariam Pepper, and Judy Parnin.

After dinner we held our 2023 elections and were interrupted with a surprise visit from Santa Claus! Thank you to Santa for coming by. Thank you to Monica Rossi, Luanne Donahue and Jodi Rich for teaching us the Italian Tarantella! It was so upbeat and so much fun with almost everyone participating in the dance. After dancing, we enjoyed an evening of Karaoke. We also had a wonderful Christmas raffle with lots of fun items that were auctioned. A special thank you to Mary Roberti for putting together the Christmas raffle and ensuring we had just the right mix of fun and useful Christmas items.

I want to acknowledge Mary Roberti, a founding member and our Financial Secretary/Treasurer since 2018 for her dedicated service and leadership of our Branch. After five years as our Financial Secretary/Treasurer, while also giving service to other worthy organizations, Mary decided to give up her role as Financial Secretary/Treasurer. Thank you so much Mary for your service, leadership and friendship!

I also want to acknowledge Joana Brown, who joined ICF and quickly became a Sentinel. In 2021 Joana Brown became our 2nd Vice President. Joana was a wonderful addition to the Board and worked hard on planning and executing all our events. Joana also decided to step away from her Board duties to give more time to other worthy causes. Thank you so much Joana for your hard work and dedicated service!



Br. 447, Christmas Party



Br. 447, Christmas Party



Italian Catholic Federation Branch 54

Annual Pasta Take-Out

Monday February 27, 2023

4-7 p.m. GPS Hall Gustine, CA

Dinner plate \$15--Sauce only \$10

Contact:

Regina Chavez 209-675-2454

Carol Camboia 209-862-2275

Susie Martinho 209-704-0279

Darla Pometta 209-648-8035

To purchase tickets or more info



Oakland

East Bay District Council

Here's to a busy and productive 2023 all members of the East Bay District. We began our year with a meeting filled with many happenings and needs for help from many people.

We will begin with Installation this very weekend, followed by a Dinner and a chance to socialize with some people we only get a chance to see a few times a year.

Congratulations to all the new and returning Officers! It's a big job, but you can do it, (with a little help from your friends).

Our next big event is our Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed to be held on Saturday, Feb. 11 @ 6 p.m. Monsignor O'Brien Hall in Alameda. We will have hors d'oeuvres, raffles and fun, so come join us the cost is \$75.00.

I think that this is a good beginning for now. So, we hope to see you soon,

Happy St. Valentine's Day to All.
Pat Grasso,
District Sec.

Hall, starting at 5:00 p.m. The meal will be prepared by Maria Croft. Those attending are requested to bring a tasty dessert to be shared with other guests. Payment in advance, by check made payable to ICF Branch 10 and mailed to the Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish Office, Attn: ICF Branch 10, 3001 Van Buren Street, Alameda, CA 94501.

For reservations, please contact Michael Marcheschi, (510) 523-4720. We lost a member in December with the passing of Ralph Pelletieri. Ralph had been a member for almost 10 years. His survivors include his wife, Ginger, also an ICF member.

John Zugnoni
ICF Branch 10 publicity

Fremont

Br. 215, St. Francis of Assisi

Happy February! I hope the start of our New Year was full of blessings for you and your family.

We were delighted to have members of St. Vincent de Paul, Knights of Columbus, Legion of Mary, Corpus Christi Choir, Simbang Gabi Committee, and the chair of our Corpus Christi Flea Market, Missy Kohl and her husband, Alan, join us at our branch Christmas party. ICF Br. 215 works with these parish groups regularly and these parish ministries, in turn, have given their support to ICF Br. 215's fundraisers.

The East Bay District Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed to be held at St. Philip Neri Hall on Saturday, February 11th. For more information call President Fran at (510) 887-1509.

As you know, we need members! Please make an extra effort to recruit at least one friend or relative to join the ICF!

A big thank you to our branch president, Fran LaTorre, for continuing to do a wonderful job leading our branch!

And, please check out our Branch 215 webpage at: <https://sites.google.com/view/italian-catholic-fed-branch215/home>

Have a wonderful February full of love and blessings!

Happy Presidents' and Valentine's Day!

Dio ti benedica,
James Francis McGee
Vice President

Deadline for
March *Bollettino* is
February 10th.
Send articles &
photos to
editor@icf.org

Alameda

Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

We are about to enter our most busy time of the year.

It commences with our Lenten Fish Fry dinners to be served every Friday in Lent through March 31 following Stations of the Cross at Saint Philip Neri Church, i.e., approximately 6 p.m. in Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda. The menu consists of fish, pasta, coleslaw, roll and dessert. Soda, wine and beer will also be available. The prices are \$15 for adults and \$5 for youngsters 12 and under.

Next up will be our very popular, if not Italian, Irish Social dinner Sunday, March 12 in Monsignor Hall. Social hour starts at 5 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6 p.m. The fare is traditional Saint Patrick's Day—corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, and dessert with a no-host bar. The prices are \$35 for adults and \$15 for children. Payment in advance, please, by check made payable to ICF Branch 10 and mailed to the Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish Office, Attn: ICF Branch 10, 3001 Van Buren Street, Alameda, CA 94501. For reservations, please contact John Zugnoni, (510) 326-3474.

Then, on the following Sunday, March 19, we will present our annual—and very Italian--Saint Joseph's Day Table at Monsignor O'Brien

TASTES OF ITALY

PEELED SHRIMP AND RAVIOLI

DINNER FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 18, 2023

Doors open at 5:30pm
Dinner starts at 6:00pm

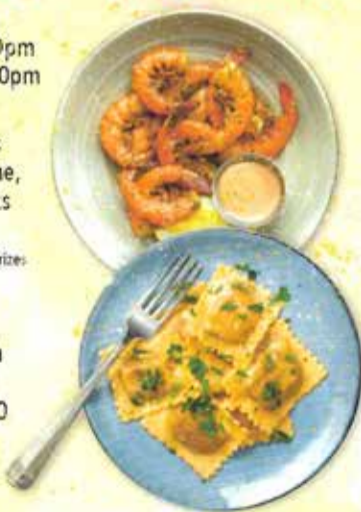
Dinner includes
Salad, Bread, Wine,
Water, Soft Drinks
and Dessert.

Member provided Raffle Prizes:

Cullen Hall
St. Mary Church
11 First Street
Gilroy, CA 95020



Sponsored by the Italian Catholic Federation (ICF) Branch 28, Gilroy



Adults \$35.00
Children
Under 12
\$15.00

Tickets limited to 150.
No tickets to be sold at the door.

Andy Pappani, Chairperson:

For Tickets Contact:
Pat Cordich
(408) 710-5313
Diana Berry
(408) 219-2223
Kim Filice
(408) 842-6561

**Livermore
Br. 285, St. Filomena**

Our Board had a very productive meeting as we planned activities for the coming year. We would like to spend more time at our monthly meetings discussing the heritage of our members.

In January, we enjoyed ourselves playing Tombola and listening to a spiritual presentation by Father John from St. Michael's. Many fun prizes were awarded.

Plans are going smoothly for our Mardi Gras Bingo Fundraiser at St. Augustine's, Pleasanton, Saturday, February 18 at 6pm. \$10 donation per packet, no reservations. Pizza, snacks and drinks available for purchase. Cash or check only. Proceeds benefit Scholarships for Tri Valley HS Students and ICF Charities. Any questions, call Carlotta 925 449 5944.

Happy February Birthdays to: Chuck Berardi, Philomena Buonsante, Ignatius Piazza, Aurora Roselli, Carlotta Schauer, Judy Wellbeloved and Anna Yocham.

We pray for our sick and recuperating members.

*Continued Best Wishes for a Healthy and Safe New Year!
Carlotta Schauer
President, Branch 285*

**Castro Valley
Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace**

Here's hoping that all of you had wonderful holidays and memorable times to keep you warm over this rainy season. We are hoping to see more of you at our meetings and get to renew old friendships.

Our Cannoli Kits were a success; busy hands made the work go quickly and we were finished before noon. Mike and Ed mixed the filling and filled the pastry bags, Allison, Karen and Pat lined the boxes and Cheryl made sure that we packed them nicely. Lisa and Pat made sure that they were all picked up and ready for Christmas dinner.

For our first dinner/meeting we plan to have Pizza, salad and dessert, now what could be more Italian! Hopefully, even with the rain, more people will venture out and enjoy themselves. We hope to keep our meals fun and meetings productive, so come join us.

*Pat Grasso
Branch Sec.*

**CONTRA COSTA
District Council**

Happy February from the Contra Costa District!

This past month, we got together as a district for two events: our annual

Installation of Officers on Saturday, January 21, and our district meeting on Thursday, January 26. Thanks to Branch 214 Concord and their president, Roberta Healy, for hosting and planning the Installation. The following were installed as District Officers for 2023:

- President: Patty Jarrett
 - 1st Vice President: Diana Mackinson
 - 2nd Vice President: Bruce Pedrotti
 - Orator: Deacon John Kortuem
 - Secretary: Roberta Healy
 - Treasurer: Walter Costa
 - Trustees: Aaron Cargo, Dee Carole and Jim Jarrett
 - Sentinel: Maria Catanese-Helberg
- Wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and a blessed season of Lent!

*Diana Letizia Mackinson
First Vice President
Contra Costa District*

**Martinez
Br. 13, San Martino**

In this month dedicated to LOVE, let's be reminded to express love to those special to us. If Valentine's Day encourages spouses to say "I love you" and friends to commemorate friendships, great. Our world would be better if people expressed their love more often. Our calling, as Jesus' followers, is to love others even those who don't reciprocate, and extend goodness, not so they might respond, but so we might live daily as faithful children of Our Father.

St. Valentine was a Roman priest who served during the third century. When the emperor decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives/families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice, defied the emperor, and continued to perform marriages for couples in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, his death was ordered by the emperor--in the name of LOVE. Thus, February 14th is marked St. Valentine's Day.

Shrove Tuesday aka Pancake Tuesday aka Mardi Gras (literally meaning "Fat Tuesday" in French) is Ash Wednesday Eve! The custom of dining on pancakes comes from the need to consume fat, eggs, and dairy before the Lenten fasting/abstinence begins. The Church feasts before it enters the penitential season of Lent. "Shrove"/"shrive" means to hear a confession, assign penance, and absolve from sin. Wednesday, February 22, marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent (Sundays excluded) when we receive ashes as an outward sign of our faith.

Whatever you plan on giving-up or adding this Lenten season to grow closer to Christ, do it with LOVE.

*Ciao for now,
Mary Cook*

**Crockett
Br. 14, San Carlo**

We sadly note that Pauline Cardoza, President Donna Hoffmann's mother, passed away peacefully at her home in Rodeo. Pauline, at age 101, was an ICF member for 55 years! She, and her spirited ways, will be greatly missed by not only her family, but also by her many ICF friends. Please keep Pauline and her family in your prayers.

Dinner at our first ICF meeting of 2023 was delicious, thanks to our ever-reliable skilled chefs and organizers. It was so good to see members enjoying the beginning of a new year together.

Can you believe our February ICF meeting is on Valentine's Day? Where else can you go with someone special to experience a Chicken Marsala din



Pauline Cardoza will be greatly missed by our Crockett Branch. She would always be there if you needed something done. She was a member for 55 years and enjoyed and proud to be an ICF member. Rest in Peace

ner for \$15? Not even an Early Bird dinner can top that.

Circle March 14th for our St. Joseph's Table Celebration. There is no mass, and members are asked to bring a favorite meatless dish to share. Always impressive, how we are all such good cooks.

Circle in red (or maybe green?) March 18th, when we will have our annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner! Tickets will be available at the February meeting.

Notice anything in the above four paragraphs? Not surprising, the central theme seems to be food. We ICF members do love to eat, whether it be Italian, Irish, or our Mexican Taco Bar in May. Comfort food at its finest! It has been said that every flavor tells a story. Let our Branch always be generous of comfort and rich in flavor!

Diane Bottini Thomas



Br. 14, Crockett, Pat Botta found out she was a good girl this year from Santa. (Johnny V)



Branch 14, Crockett's appetizer crew who did a fabulous job at our Christmas Social.



Our children from Branch 14, Crockett enjoying Santa and company.

Pittsburg Br. 72, San Domenico

Dear Members,

I hope that all of you are staying happy and healthy.

A few of our members attended the District Installation. It was held on January 21 at Zio Freado Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. Our host was the Concord branch # 214. We thank them for a job well done. The Grand President was unable to attend but sent a representative. The festivities started with a prayer service lead by Father Larry Young. He is the district chaplain. The Installation ceremony and luncheon followed. Watch for pictures next month.

I am sad to report that we have lost one of our long-time members. Grace Scanapico passed away at the age of 101. Grace was our secretary and an active member for many years. The ICF was very important to her. She made us laugh with her funny stories. We would often tease her about dressing like a teenager. May she rest in peace. She will be missed.

On a happier note, we offer congratulations to Josie Leontini. She continues to welcome more great grandchildren.

*That is all for this time. As we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti.
Happy Valentine's Day!
Your President and friend,
Patty*

Pleasant Hill Br. 442, Christ the King

This year 2023 promises to continue to be fun and "Italian-filled"! Our new President, Juliette Cote, is taking over from the great leadership which Past-President, Diana Mackinson, provided Br. 442 these past few years.

The new slate of officers for 2023 is: Juliette Cote, President; Matt Dallara, 1st VP; Pam DeBernardi, 2nd VP; Diana Mackinson, Recording Secretary; Eileen McGauran, Corresponding Secretary; Joan Cummings, Financial Secretary; Paul Peterson, Treasurer; Jan Wrobel, Orator; Myrna Sperl, Sentinel; Judi Dallara, Mary Ragsdale and Teri Hurlbut, Trustees.

Our branch will again be offering scholarships for high school seniors. Please be looking for details of the application in the near future.

The Installation of Officers for the District was held on Sunday, January 21. Our branch hosted this event at Zio Freado's, and it was well-attended. Thank you to all the officers from the various branches for your dedication and time you devote to the ICF. Grazie mille!

Our February meeting will be held on February 12. Juliette has arranged for a guest speaker, Francesca Taylor, to

give a presentation on Mother Cabrini. Please look for the elite that gives all the information about that meeting.

The officers have scheduled our 2023 general meetings for these dates: February 12, March 19, April 19 evening, May 16 evening and June 25. Please calendar these days and elites will be sent for each meeting.

So, for now, remember: Chi ama me, ama il mio cane.

*E come sempre, ci vediamo quando siamo piu' vecchi,
Teri Martinucci Hurlbut*

BLESSED SACRAMENT District

Sacramento Br. 45, St. Mary

Join us for our first dinner of 2023 on Sunday, February 26th in Giovanni Hall. Members' meeting starts at 4:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. The menu includes ½ a Chicken, Polenta w/meat sauce, salad, roll, beverage and wine. Cost is \$22 for members and \$30 for non-members. Call me at 916-508-1199 with your reservation by Monday, Feb. 21st or for further information. Let's start the year off with a successful event!

Sadly, member George Hoover unexpectedly passed away December 18th. Our heartfelt sympathy to his wife Beverly and family. George was an active member of the branch and always by Bev's side helping with our dinners and events. He will be missed.

Buon Compleanno to those members with birthdays in February: Andy Cavagnaro, Manuel Cazares, Joe Courey, Olivia Ebert, Ted Geor-guson, Arlene Gianatasio, Dominic Ielati, Matthew Ielati, Nives Legarizzi-Schettini, Sue Olson, Emily Rossi, Katherine Stefani (102 on Feb. 6th). Woo Hoo Katherine!! A blessed day to you all!

Ciao, Janine



Br. 438

Auburn Br. 342, St. Joseph

Congratulations to our 2023 Board! Instillation will take place at St. Joseph's Church in Auburn on February 25th. We look forward to a great year together.

President - MaryAnn Mikles
Vice President - Ken Marshall
Treasurer - Adriana Jensen
Financial Secretary - Bridget Piziali
Secretary - Pam Andersen
Orator - Marisa Borba
Sentinal - Maria Pena
Trustees- Lina Wuelfing, Holly Letcher

*Ciao!
Pam Andersen*

Roseville Br. 438, St. Clare of Assisi

I hope you were all able to attend our January Branch meeting. We shared everyone's favorite dishes and came together for a bountiful potluck. I'm pretty sure a few recipes were exchanged along the way. The new year brings with it a lot of excitement, and this first meeting of the year included a lot of discussion and planning for several upcoming fundraisers and events. Stay tuned for more details.

We want to thank all of you who have gotten your 2023 dues in on time. Let's all contribute our part to help ensure this is our most successful year yet!

Congratulations to our new 2023 Board members:
President: Pat Brown
Vice-President: Ron Bertacini
Treasurer: Rick Steir
Financial Secretary: Joseph Aguilar
Recording Secretary: Anne Finn
Sentinel: Millie Chiarani
Trustees: Irene Perez, Debbie Silvernagel and Rita Schillin
Orator: Deacon Carl Kube

We appreciate your leadership, and we wish you all the best of luck. Thank you, as well, to our outgoing Board members for your hard work and dedication.

We'd like to introduce a few new members to Branch #438; Patricia Rice, Elizabeth Snyder, and Mary Anne Snyder. Welcome to our family!

Please remember our members' special intentions. We ask the Lord to hear our prayers and bless us with his loving spirit. Wishing everyone a wonderful Valentine's Day filled with joy and love.

*Ciao.
Anne Finn*

SANTA ROSA District

Cloverdale Br. 75, L'Annunciata

Father David Galeana picked up COVID while in Mexico visiting Family! His parish family had planned a party celebrating his 11th anniversary of being a priest, but we had to celebrate without him. Happy Anniversary, Padre!

Our board met to create a calendar for 2023. Sadly, we had to cancel our Annual Chicken/Spaghetti Dinner that coincides with Cloverdale's annual Citrus Fair. a long-standing event that will be sorely missed by our community. We just could not come up with the personnel to pull it off.

January's meeting, ironically called "Happy New Year," will decide whether Branch #75 will continue to exist, present its calendar, and have Prosecco and Appetizers. Our Officer's list has lost a favorite couple! They have decided to move on to other pursuits. Their dedication and love for The ICF cannot be forgotten or replaced. We wish them God's blessings wherever they go and in whatever they do.

Sincerely, Patsy Buchignani

Sonoma Br. 103, St. Sebastian

It's time to renew your annual membership for 2023, all renewals have been mailed. Dues are \$38.40 per person and hospital benefits are an additional \$25.00 per person. All renewal payments should be mailed to: ICF St. Sebastian #103,

PO Box 517, Yountville CA 94599 at your earliest convenience.

Mark your calendars...our next branch dinner is being held on Saturday, February 18th in Father Robert's Hall beginning at 5:45pm. Dinner to include appetizers, salad, pasta, garlic bread and dessert and it will be prepared by our wonderful cook, Diane Klauber. Pre-paid tickets can be purchased in the parish office no later than Monday, Feb. 13th. Any questions, call Lisa at 707-996-5573.

We continue to pray for our sick members and their families, our wish is everyone will be back to good health soon.

To those of our members celebrating a February birthday – Buon Compleanno! We wish you many more years of happiness and good health.

Our next branch meeting will be held on Monday, February 9th at 7pm in the parish office (469 Third St. West). Hope to see some new faces.

*Buon San Valentino!
Lisa Galli-Galetto*

**Arcata
Br. 144, St. Mary**

With the new year our branch has a number of events being planned. The first was the celebration of La Befana for the Epiphany. Although our Epiphany brunch and meeting were cancelled due to illnesses and very bad weather, some of us attended the Friday morning Mass, which was in honor of Elena David (RIP). Afterwards Toni Green, Barbara Vanni and I, prepared the gifts bags for Sunday's La Befana. Thank you, Joan Dalporto, for the oranges.



On Sunday morning, we went to the Religious Education classrooms and visited 40 students and related the story of La Befana. We were very happy that the winds had calmed down and it had stopped raining for the event! Thank you, Barbara Vanni, you made a wonderful La Befana!

The installation of officers is planned for January 29, with members of the Eureka branch #145 also in attendance. Bishop Vasa will be visiting our parish on Feb 25. Then our bi-annual Chicken and Polenta take-out dinner will be happening March 12. Looks like a busy first quarter for 2023!

We request prayers for the on-going healing of Linda Spallino, past president and member since 1994, and to all our members in need of restoration of health.

*Grazie!
Anne Carlisle Eanni*



LeBefana.#144with little ones



LeBefana.#144.BarbaraVanni



Br. 198, From left: President Doreen O'Rourke, Past President and Treasurer, Robert Acquistapace, Carmen Kilcullen, Past Grand President of the Central Council, Lauren Kilcullen, Grand Secretary of the Central Council and Larry Kilcullen.

**Santa Rosa
Br. 198, St. Eugene**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On January 9, 2023, we celebrated our 57th anniversary as a branch of the Italian Catholic Federation on the day we were formed in 1966. From our first president, George Scinto, to our current president, Doreen O'Rourke, we have had a steady line of leadership and our Branch has led all ICF branches in scholarship donations, has supported our Parish, our Seminarians, and Catholic Charities. Be proud of our membership and ask other Catholics to join us. We do have a bright future ahead of us.

Joining us for our anniversary celebration was Carmen Kilcullen, Past Grand President, Lauren Kilcullen, Grand Secretary of the Central Council, and Larry Kilcullen, Carmen's husband and Lauren's dad.

We will have our annual cookie exchange at our meeting on February 6th. YUMMY!!!

If you have not already paid your dues for 2023, try to do so this month.

For your future plans, mark March 6th on your calendar for our Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. This is always a great food and fun event.

Please pray for Louie Azevedo, Mary Gosiak, Claire Giampaoli, and any other members who are ill, alone, or in need of our prayers.

If you plan to donate a \$400 scholarship this year, make your check payable to ICF #198 and get it to Bob Acquistapace by March 6th.

Prepare for the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday ~ February 22nd.

*God Bless Everyone,
Gail Bonggi-Azevedo*



Br. 144, LaBefana giftbags

**FRESNO
District**

**Madera
Br. 27, Santissimo
Crocifisso**

Greetings to all Members,

Along with the New Year, we welcomed abundant rainstorms to the state. All those prayers for "rain in the valley and snow in the mountains" at mass are most certainly being answered! In addition, we welcome new officers to our ICF branch. At the same time, please join me in a sincere thank you to our outgoing president Jim Cavallero, for his years of faithful leadership.

Our annual Christmas party was held on December 11th at Gabriella's restaurant and, a wonderful time along with a delicious lunch was enjoyed by all. Thanks to the December committee chaired by Louise Chiarelli, for making the party such an enjoyable time.

It is not too soon to start thinking about scholarship applications. They are due by April 1 this year. The annual orange sale will be coming in February.

*Ciao,
Mary Keitz*

**Merced
Br. 39, St. Cecilia**

In December, we held a wonderful family Christmas party in conjunction with the Italo-American Lodge of Merced. The hall was festive with decorations provided by Janet Dal Porto, who chaired the event. There was holiday music provided by Ted Barber and crafts and story time for the children as well as bingo for all. Mike and Holly Pelicano proved popcorn and nachos for attendees and lunch was proved by the Italo-American Lodge and chef Nick Pugliese. Santa Claus also made an appearance, delighting everyone with his jolly demeanor.

Our January dinner meeting was cancelled due to severe rain and flooding in the county.

Elected officers for the year are
President: Chris Martin
1st VP: Maryellen Mazzei
2nd VP: Terrie Rhodes
Recording Secretary: Vince Piro
Financial Sect: Sandy Del Real
Treasurer: Sally Latorraca
Sentinel: Carol Salmeri

Orator: Micheal Belluomini
Past-President: Micheal Belluomini
Trustees: Anne-Marie Bandoni; Patty Simas; Mabel Wilmon
Chaplain: Fr. Robert

Apostolic Chair: Anne-Marie Bandoni and Millicent Piro

Vince Piro

**Gustine
Br. 54, N.S. Del Pettoruto**

Ciao ICF family!

Branch 54 met in December to celebrate Christmas at our annual Christmas Brunch at Pea Soup Andersen's in Santa Nella. All those in attendance had a wonderful time. Blessings were given, new friendships were made, and everyone left full and happy.

Thankfully, branch 54 has been blessed with successful fundraising efforts from the last year. The branch was happy to share the blessing of financial support with the church and community in many ways. To continue our commitment of giving back to the community, I am sharing the details of our next fundraiser. We will be hosting our annual Pasta Take-out on Monday February, 27, 2023. Dinner plates and sauce containers will be available for take-out from the GPS Hall in Gustine from 4-7pm. GPS Hall is located at 145 5th St. in Gustine. Everyone is welcome to come and support our take-out.

*Have a blessed day,
Branch 54*

See ad page 14.



Clovis
Br. 250, Our Lady of Perpetual Help

We enter a new year with birthday wishes for Verona DeLuca (a charter member) and Ron Travis.

Our monthly meetings will now be held on Saturday from 11 to 3, at least through the Winter months. Lunch will be served. This change should provide relief to those who do not like to drive at night. We will meet on the fourth Saturday of each month until further notice.

Little known Popes department: John V (685-686); John implemented a return to native Greek speakers in the Papacy after the death of St. Benedict II; Born in Antioch and probably went to Rome to escape Muslim rule; he continued building works begun by Pope St. Benedict II including St. Peter's, the Pantheon, and San Lorenzo in Lucina; he died barely a year later.

Our January meeting was well attended and was high-lighted by gift exchanges and searching for the "cupcake" infant Jesus. Our new President, Mike Caglia, took office and we look forward to his energy and ideas.

Philosopher Angelino says: "Fino A Quaranta Si Balla E Si Canta, Da Quaranta In La, Si Sente Qui, Si Sente La: "Until Forty We Sing And Dance, After Forty We Ache Here and There."

Let's ALL remember our member s who are ailing and in need of healing prayer.

Thought for the month:

"God 's love tunes morning song with evening rest,
 Records the prayers of all the blessed,
 Transposes darkest night to dawn,
 As life and hope and joy sing on"(Anon)

Ciao, Santina Santamaria

Fresno
Br. 308, St. Anthony of Padua

Hello members.

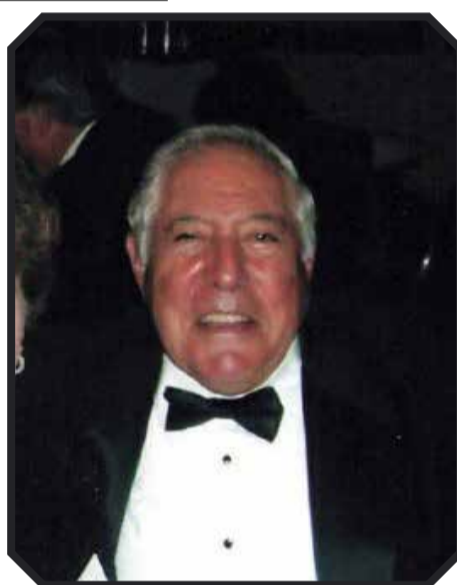
I begin with a correction: Antoinette Pecora assembled the basket of goodies to complement the hand-made quilt for our raffle. Winning ticket will be drawn at the February meeting.

This time of the year is a busy time for the ICF. Dues are due. Please send a payment as soon as you can. I.C.F. Scholarship applications are available, deadline is April 1st. No foolin'. Also it's never too early to think about nominations for: Grand President's Award, Pope St. John XXIII, St. Teresa of Calcutta, Family of the Year and Young Adult Leadership Award. All due April 1st. All applications are available on the ICF website: icf.org

Don't forget our club will be awarding scholarships from The Nick and Angie Diliddo Scholarship. Any



Branch 308 Christmas Party



Joseph Robert Panetta 1933 - 2022 Br. 36



Patricia Clark 1932 - 2022 Br. 36

member's child or grandchild that is graduating can apply. Just send a bio. (ideally, written by the child) as soon as possible. This scholarship is separate from the I.C.F. Scholarship. Why not apply to both!

I will be attending the first District meeting since the pandemic. It will be at St. Mary's in Sanger on Friday, January 14th. I will present a report at the February meeting.

A big thank you to our leadership volunteers who are continuing to run the club. As usual I extend an invitation to any member that desires a leadership position.

Our next Sausage Sandwich Sale will be March 4th and 5th.

Jay Newsome
 President

CENTRAL COAST
District
Monterey
Br. 36, Santa Rosalia

Valentine's Day blessings to you and your family.

"Love one another as I have loved you"- John 13:34

2/22/2023 Ash Wednesday, Lenten season begins. "During Lent let us

find concrete ways to overcome our indifference"- Pope Francis

2/24/2023 Lenten Fish dinners return to San Carlos Cathedral Hall! Lenten dinners will be on Fridays, Feb 24, Mar 3, Mar 10, Mar 17, Mar 24, and Mar 31.

\$20.00 per dinner, purchase dine-in or take-outs, weekly on our website: MontereyICF.org

Doors open: 4:30pm - tickets on sale (if not sold out online)

Take outs available: 5:00pm

Dining room service begins: 5:30pm

Menu: Chef's choice fried fish and pasta and salad (changes weekly) plus garlic bread. Desserts and bar beverages also available for purchase.

Members are asked to donate a dessert weekly - we rely on them for our dessert table - thank you.

Remember - order online each week to guarantee a dinner ticket before we sell out!

3/16/2023. Br 36 Scholarships applications are due. Applications are available to all High School students that are members, or their parents or

grandparents are members of Branch 36. Applications and guidelines are available on our website Monterey-ICF.org or contact Sandie Russo at 831-521-4866.

We are saddened to report that Patricia Clark and Joseph Panetta have recently passed away; we will miss them at our events. Our condolences to their families. May they Rest in Peace.

Happy Valentine's Day,
Elaine Valentine
 Br36 President



Dr. Vincent Malfitano - New Trustee Br. 36

Castroville

Br. 51, Santa Caterina de Siena

We will be having our annual scholarship polenta and stew fundraiser on Superbowl Sunday, February 12, at Richards Hall in Castroville. It will be pre-paid take-out only from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost of the meal is \$20 and includes polenta, stew, salad, bread, and dessert. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and we always sell out so please get your orders in early. You can contact Linda at 831-970-5344 for questions on how to order.

Buon Compleanno to our February members: Gregory Stefani (2/4), DL Grier (2/9), Amber Souza (2/12), and Franca Rossi (2/18).

Happy Valentine's Day, Stefani Cortopassi

Aptos

Br. 227, St. Joseph

A big thank you to Richard and Valerie Vote for the scrumptious dinner they prepared for our January meeting. It featured Italian sausage, roasted potatoes and peppers, green salad, and apple pie a la mode for dessert. Thanks also to Heidi Ambiel who supplied a wonderful array of appetizers.

We are happy to welcome returning members Adrian and Jenna Wilson along with their children, Anthony, Vincent and Joseph.

Plans are being made for a memorial mass for living and deceased members of our branch. Stay tuned for the exact date.

Due to the increased cost of food, members voted to increase the price of dinners from \$10 to \$12 starting with the February meeting.

Here's an early reminder about the 2023 scholarship program. There is a \$400 scholarship each from the Ponza memorial, Otto Ambiel memorial and our branch. Seniors from Aptos High, Harbor High or St. Francis High are eligible. The \$1,000 Schaarschmidt scholarship will be awarded to a Soquel High School student, as the family requested. So, if you have children or grandchildren who are going off to college in the fall, encourage them to apply. Information about applications will be sent out by email from President Franklyn Lopes.

We are planning a take-out fish dinner during Lent and a spaghetti dinner in the fall. The dinners will be in conjunction with membership drives.

It's that time of year again—dues are payable. Send them to Financial Secretary Marie Mungai.

Happy Valentine's Day! Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande

Br. 291, St. Patrick

After we rang in 2023, Branch 291 continued the celebrations with the arrival of the Lunar New Year at their January 22nd General Meeting! Members enjoyed a Chinese food buffet and festive Chinese New Year decorations—including lots of red—adorning the church hall. As we enter the Year of the Rabbit, we pray for a healthy and happy New Year for everyone!

February is upon us and that means it's FISH FRY TIME! Our first Fish Fry will take place on February 17th, and it will be a Mardi Gras themed event. All proceeds from this Fish Fry go towards our Catholic School Registration Assistance Program. The following Friday, Feb. 24th, kicks off our Lenten Fish Frys, so please join us beginning on Feb. 17th from 4pm-7pm in our church hall for a delicious

fish dinner with homemade coleslaw and lots of delectable desserts to choose from! Dates of upcoming Fish Frys are: 2/17, 2/24, 3/3, 3/10, 3/24 and 3/31. (There is no Fish Fry on March 17th due to the St. Patrick's Day celebration at our church.)

Please continue to keep ICF members in your prayers who are experiencing pain, illness or heartache at this time. We also pray that all our California ICF Members safely survived the very wet January we experienced! It was a blessing to receive the rain we needed so badly, but maybe not so much all at once next time?

Happy St. Valentine's Day! Keely Sanchez Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

Br. 354, Saint Rose of Lima

Three of our young creative members, Melissa, Brook and Hope Ellsworth, were busy making 60 Christmas tree tray favors made of pinecones decorated with brightly colored bulbs to say "Merry Christmas" to the patients at Vineyard Rehabilitation Center in nearby Templeton. To quote Saint Teresa of Calcutta, "Do small things with great love."

The toys that we collected at our Christmas luncheon were delivered to the Paso Robles Fire Department, Station No. 1 for distribution to children in our local community at Christmas time. It is heartwarming to imagine Christmas morning smiles on the faces of little ones as they see what Santa brought.

Deadline for March *Bollettino* is February 10th. Send articles & photos to editor@icf.org

Branch 354 continues to grow as we look forward to welcoming two new families. We are thankful for their interest and welcome them to our January meeting.

Several of our members cooked food for and attended Father Edwin Limpiado's 10th anniversary party at Saint William's Church in Atascadero; and then returned on January 7th to prepare food, attend Mass, and partake in the Feast of Santo Nino. We are grateful to Father Edwin for his generous service to the community. His joy is contagious!

We need to continue to pray for our members who are recovering from COVID. At least one of our Registration Assistance families all had COVID during Christmas, and other members caught it during December.

February dates to remember: Ash Wednesday, February 22; Lent begins, February 26.

Yvonne Maddalena Recording Secretary

for the beautiful mass. Thanks to Grand President Debbie Rodondi and the Central Council members present for installing the new officers. And thanks to the talented and witty Vince Piro for serving as our Master of Ceremonies.

Congratulations to the new district officers for 2023: President Mike Rossi, First VP Debbie Piro, Second VP Ric Shimshock, Secretary Diana Berry, Treasurer Steve Lencioni, Orator Noreen Gillio, Trustees Tina Souza-Dutra, Giulia Gallego, Janet Glaubke, and Sentinel Eva Stern. Rounding out the leadership team is District Mentor John Gillio and Diocesan Chaplain Father George Aranha. Thanks to all for stepping up to serve our district.

We thank outgoing District President Bob Basuino who stepped down after six years of dedicated service as our leader. Thank you, Bob!

The Santa Clara Valley District wishes all ICF members and their families a Happy Valentine's Day! Michael Rossi

SANTA CLARA VALLEY District Council

The Santa Clara Valley Installation ceremony and mass was held at Saint Frances Cabrini parish in San Jose on January 7th. Thanks especially to host Branch 191 for organizing the event and for serving a delicious pasta lunch. Thanks to Father Chris Bennett, Father George Aranha, Father Greg Kimm, and Father Paolo Gobbo

"A loyal friend laughs at your jokes when they're not so good and sympathizes with your problems when they're not so bad."
— Arnold H. Glasgow



SCVD Installation District Officers 2023



Paso Robles Branch 354, Toys for Local Children



SCVD Rossi & Basuino

Gilroy
Br. 28, Santa Maria
Ausiliatrice

On December 12th Branch 28 had our member Christmas party at the Old City Hall Restaurant in Gilroy. Members enjoyed visiting and dinner followed by a dessert "sweet table" that included cookies, candies, Holiday treats and take-home boxes.

Our "Tastes of Italy" Peeled Shrimp and Ravioli Dinner Fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2023, in Cullen Hall at St. Mary Parish. If interested contact Pat Cordich at (408) 710-5313.

The Italian Catholic Federation, Santa Clara Valley District, Installation of Officers was held on January 7, 2023, at St. Frances Cabrini Church in San Jose. Newly installed Br. 28 members are: Trustee, Vince Saso; Second Vice President, Moe McHenry; Mentor, Andy Pappani. Also, the reigns of the President of the ICF Santa Clara Valley District were transferred from Bob Basuino to Mike Rossi. Branch 28 would like to thank Bob Basuino for his six years of service as President, and Mike Rossi, for their awe-inspiring commitment to this Italian Catholic Federation.

January will be our last formal fundraising month for Cooley's Anemia. At our January 23rd dinner meeting there is a planned presentation by Laurice Levine, the outstanding spokesperson for Cooley's Anemia which is the National Charity of the Italian Catholic Federation. As charitable giving is one of the purposes of the Italian Catholic Federation here are a list of those charities:

Cooley's Anemia: Treatment and research for an inherited blood disorder
 Providenza Fund: Support for seminarians

Gifts of Love: Help for developmentally disabled

Organ Donor Awareness: Information for organ donation

Live to Give: A blood donation program

Peace and God Bless,
Kim M. Filice

See ad page 14.



Branch 28 attendees at Installation of Officers at St. Frances Cabrini Church in San Jose. Left to right: John Filice, Kim Filice, Sondra Serenka, Marianne Peoples, Dave Peoples, Diana Berry, Andy Pappani, Vince Saso

St. Mary
Br. 184, Los Gatos

The stormy weather could not dampen the spirits of those who attended the Installation of Officers at St. Frances Cabrini Church on January 7. Fr. George Aranha was the Celebrant, assisted by Fr. Chris Bennett, ICF Spiritual Director, Fr. Greg Kim, Chaplain of Br. 184, and Fr. Paolo Gobbo. Several members of the Central Council were there for the Installation. The words of encouragement for the branches to go forward were heartfelt.

Our new president, Deanna Meyer, is eager to begin our new year. We are sad that Denise Antonowicz is not at the helm, but understand her very busy ICF schedule. She will be our Mentor, so I know we can rely on her for help.

It doesn't seem possible that Lent is here. We just finished taking down the Christmas lights! Hello February, a short but sweet month.

Happy Valentine's Day!
Ciao for now, Lucy Amico



Br. 184, Lucy Amico, Deanna Meyer, Fr. Greg Kim, Donna Pfaff and Marie Yurosk at the Installation Jan. 7 at St. Frances Cabrini Church.



Br. 28 - Nativity scene at St. Frances Cabrini Church on day of ICF Installation



Br. 184, New president Deanna Meyer and outgoing president Denise Antonowicz, along with members of Br. 184, at the Antonowicz Open House.



Branch 191 St Frances Cabrini



Branch 191 St Frances Cabrini

San Jose
Br. 191, Saint Frances
Cabrini

The year of 2023 has been set into motion, for Branch 191. We celebrated the New Year with the Installation of Officers of the SCVD, with the Branch being the host of the activities. The Installation Mass, celebrated by Father George Aranha, SCVD Diocesan Chaplin, was a beautiful ceremony and blessings for all Officers. The day progressed into the SFC Essig Hall, with a luncheon provided by Pasta Market. A Special Thank YOU goes out to Robert Basuino, who was instrumental in making sure the event ran smoothly. Every member of our Branch put their BEST foot forward in making this event an outstanding affair. A job well done!

Branch 191 finished our year celebrating Christmas at Tomato Thyme in San Jose. All members who attended, celebrated with menu choices of salmon, pasta or pizza. A new venue

for a Christmas Celebration for the members of Branch 191.

As we begin our New Year, let us pray for the families of two of our deceased members. Edward Bertaccini, the husband of past President Jo Bertaccini, has gone to his final resting place. Jo, Edward (son), and Lisa (daughter) would like to thank the ICF for all of the outpouring of love and support during this most difficult time. May my dear friend Ed, rest in the blessing and light of the Lord.

Past President, Past Grand President Jim Jones also lost his loving spouse, Janice, in December. Janice was a very active member in ICF, and not just in our Branch. She was at Jim's side in his role as Grand President. Her loving smile and infectious laugh made our branch a welcome place.

May her family, Todd, Anthony, Gina, Amy, Traci, grandchildren, great grandchildren have much support and love at this time. May eternal light shine upon Janice.

Sentinel,
Shirley Catania

San Jose Br. 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

First of all, a big thank you to our wonderful ICF 11 board members for volunteering their time and talent to Branch 368. Amazing projects and ideas come from our members and especially our board, strengthening our ICF community and the Santa Teresa Parish. Installation of ICF Officers was on January 7th at 11 AM mass at Saint Christopher's with a reception that followed. Father George and 9 members were present from our branch. Looks like covid is still around, so, be careful at meetings and other functions. Please pray for those recovering from sickness: Paul Butler, and others who you know that are ill. If you haven't got all the covid shots to help you when you are sick, get em', the shots help. Here are a couple of dates for your calendar: Ash Wednesday is March 2nd and March 19th will be our Pasta and Polenta dinner with St. Joseph's Table fundraiser chaired by Mary Ridi, our president and Kathy Schroeder, our treasure, Friday April 1st Stations of the Cross, Bocce Ball and BBQ in March, date to be determined. Mary Ridi wanted to let you know that the ICF Santa Clara Valley meetings are held in Avila Hall the second Tuesday of every month and you are welcome to attend. Come and hear what other branches are doing. If you have an

item or picture you would like to see in the *Bollettino*, Please let me know. myers.tr@gmail.com, or call 408-826-1043. The deadline for articles is the 10th of each month.

Thank you. San Valentino,

*Happy Valentines Day,
Tom Myers*



Br. 368, Installation of officers. Robin Robba, Ann Cordoni, Paula Radzinski, Mary Ridi, Janet



Br. 408, CC Installation Team SCVD 2023



Br. 408, CC Attending SCVD Mass & Installation



Br. 408, Mike Rossi presenting Award to Bob Basuino SCVD 2023 Installation



Branch 368 Christmas Party

Sunnyvale Br. 408, Resurrection

Happy Valentine's Day!

The 2023 SCVD Installation Mass and Luncheon and was held between the various Rain Storms at St Francis Cabrini on Saturday, January 7th. Fr George Presided with Fr Chris, Fr. Paulo and Fr Greg Con-Celebrating a beautiful Christmas Season Mass.

May God Bless our Br 408 2023 Officers and guide us to success in the coming year!

Congratulations to Fr Arthur, Deacon Mike and Patricia! – who all were December Calendar winners.

We look forward to hosting our ICF Friday Lenten Soup and Cohosting the ICF/Rez School Pasta Dinner to raise funds for the Rez School Science Camp Trip.

Please Pray for our Members who need our prayers: Steven Richey, Al Chantelope, Dori Blefari, and Stephen Shimshock



Br. 408, Jim Jones at SCVD 2023 Installation



Br. 408, Fr. Paolo, Fr. Gregg, Fr. George & Fr. Chris 2023 SCVD Installation Mass



Morgan Hill
Br. 435, Santa Caterina
D'Alessandria

Hello everyone,

We are hoping all our fellow members have recovered nicely from the holiday celebrations!

This messenger is so happy to report what a beautiful joy it is to finally be worshipping in our newly remodeled church! It has taken some time but the results are well worth it.

We are progressing in our efforts of obtaining dates for our Club events in the O'Donnell Center. We will also continue to support Tommy Palmer and his Palmerino's Restaurant. Congratulations Lindsey and Tommy on the birth of their son, Enzo.

Installation of the Officers for our district was held on, January 7, at St Frances Cabrini. Attending from Branch 435 were, President, Giulia Gallego, Catherine Ellis, Frances Scalzo and Sue and Chris Monohan.

God's blessings be on all of us and have a wonderful St Valentine's Day! Respectfully submitted, Sylvia Sorci

San Jose
Br. 445, Transfiguration

Buon Anno a tutti' ... Happy New Year to all and we hope you had a wonderful Christmas as well!

February is here and Valentine's Day is fast approaching. In Italy Valentine's Day is called "La Festa Degli Innamorata". John and Lorraine Sellarole are one of our branch Valentine couples. Both are Charter Members of Br.445 and have served as officers. They are always ready and willing to support Branch events and serve on committees. John is currently facing a health challenge. Believing in the Power of Prayer, we are reaching out to ICF Branches to please join us in prayers for John.



Br. 445 Barbara & Bill Howell - Buon Novan-tesimo Compleanno Bill!



Br. 445 John and Lorraine Sellarole

On January 7th, some of us attended the Installation Mass, Ceremony and Luncheon of ICF Branch and District Officers for 2023. Many thanks to Br. 191 St Frances Cabrini for hosting this wonderful event.

Br. 445 Officers for 2023 are: Chaplain, Fr. Chris Bennett; President, Jim Falcone; 1st VP, Janis Marianelli Stumhoffer; 2nd VP, Janie Falcone; Recording Secretary, Donna Pfaff; Corresponding Secretary, Jean Cosenino; Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Phil Lang; Orator, Emily Corral; Trustee, Kathy La Scola; Trustee, Marti Rao; Sentinel, Reyne Rafoth and Branch Mentor; Jim Jones.

Jim Jones was present at the Inauguration of Br. 445 in 2016 to become Branch 445's first Deputy/Mentor. Through the years we had the opportunity to meet his wife Janice at our Branch events/meetings.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Jim and his family on the passing of Janice in December after a lengthy illness. May she rest in peace and God's love.

We are saddened to learn of the recent passing of our Br. 445 member Sam Morocco. Sam and other ICF members Richard Pfaff and Jean Avram often participated Transfiguration's

music ministry. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Jean Avram and Sam's family. May Sam rest in peace and God's love as well.

Our officers will be presenting ideas to our members for possible upcoming events. In the meantime we send Happy February Birthday wishes to members: Marti Rao, Dodie Morin and Jean Avram! Buon Compleanno a tutti voi!

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

Error in January so reprint of photos



Br. 445 Installation of 2023 Officers

STOCKTON
District

Stockton District photos on this page and the next.



Br. 445 Jan & Jim selling Nativity Set Raffle tickets after masses



Br. 445 December catered brunch with Marie Adragna & Jean Avram



Br. 445 Wishing all 'Buon Natale'



Stockton District



Stockton District

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

For the members that have children who want to apply for a scholarship they need to send them in by March 15, 2023. If they need an application, contact us and we will see that they get an application. The applications are also available at the High Schools.

January is dues time. Carla has sent out the reminder notices of our yearly dues so please pay your dues as soon as possible.

Our next big event is our St. Joseph's Table Celebration. It will be Sunday March 19, 2023. It is a potluck lunch at 2:00 p.m. We have a fun raffle with all the gifts wrapped so that you do know what you are getting. The proceeds from the raffle go to St. Vincent De Paul to help the needy in our Parish. Bring your favorite dish, your family and friends and joins. It is a very enjoyable afternoon with great food, family and friends and we have a lot of fun with the raffle. We hope you will join us.

The St. Joseph's Table Celebration will be Sunday March 19, 2023 at 2:00 pm in the Hall at 709 "J" Street.

The branch calendar for the year has been accepted by the parish office.

I was born and raised in the Central Valley and for the first time ever I woke up to a tornado warning. I hope all of you stay safe in all these storms and rain.

*Blessing!
Cecelia McGhee*



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

January dinner was the ever-popular polenta and chicken cacciatore and almost 200 feasted on the fabulous, although labor-intensive meal that Mike Bacchetti and crew made for us. We know how that goes, constant stirring and stirring until your arms are screaming at you to stop! Again, thanks again for all your amazing hard work - we appreciate it!

February dinner will be on Thursday February 23 - same time, same place - check the church bulletin or Tracy Press for the menu, which is to be announced soon.

It is with great sadness that we share the loss of Henry Long, who has been an ICF member since 1988 and always filled our raffle table with his delicious homemade wine vinegar, to the absolute delight of our attendees at our monthly dinner meetings. Our condolences to his family, he will be missed.

See the great photos in this month's issue from Steve Ridolfi, who continues to post the life of our branch through pictures on our Website. Check out the Heritage section - love to see more so just submit yours to Steve.

www.icfbranch390.org

*Stay healthy, happy and safe.
Ciao,
Betty*



Br. 390 Christmas Party

Stockton

Br. 395, Presentation of the BVM

Hello. Buon Anno and Happy New Year from Branch 395 in Stockton. Our Branch is up and running in the new year. On December 3, 2022, we had a wonderful Christmas Party with delicious food, games, and a gift exchange. I want to take this opportunity to thank our past President, Mary Ann Piana Chapman for 4 dedicated years as President. She served us well. We are in the process of planning for our annual Polenta, Chicken and Sausage Cacciatore dinner to be held on February 16, 2023, in the Presentation Community Center. Branch Presidents keep an eye out for a notice and flyer. It has been three long years since we held this event. We are also gearing up for Lent (yes, it is just around the corner). Our branch will be participating in the Stations of the Cross and our great cooks will be preparing homemade soups for the Soup Supper to follow.

Upcoming Events:

Branch Meeting: January 12
 Polenta and Chicken & Sausage Cacciatore Dinner – February 16

*Josephine Weber, President
 Branch 395*

**Angels Camp
 Br. 413, St. Patrick**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We hope that everyone is having a very blessed 2023. With the weather that we have experienced so far in January, may February be less stressful and bring gentle rain showers.

On December 18th, our branch held its annual Wendell's Give-away (free Parish Breakfast) and bake sale. It was a hit with the parishioners, and everyone enjoyed the delicious scrambled eggs, sausages, and pancakes. Our hats are off to our cooks, Jon Singleton, Wendell Barnes, Dewayne Brown, Tom Kingshill, and Dominic Ruff! They did a great job and are much appreciated. The bake sale went well, too!

Installation of Officers for the Stockton District was January 8, 2023. Thank you to Branch 48 for hosting the Installation and meal.

We're looking forward to our Valentine Dinner on February 18th. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets, please contact Robert Pachinger at (209) 754-9619.

*Ciao,
 Annette Pachinger
 Correspondence Secretary*



Branch 395 Members and Guests



Br. 395, Fun games!



Br. 395, Welcome Members Cake



Br. 413, Wendell's Give-away cook Dominic Ruff



Br. 413, Wendell's Give-away Supporters

**SAN BERNARDINO
 District**

**Upland
 Br. 446, Saint Anthony**

Branch 446 was excited to host the installation of the San Bernardino County and Branch Officers on Saturday, January 7 at St. Anthony Church. We were especially honored to have so many Central Council dignitaries join us. Perry Shurko, Pat and Lou Mages, Maria DiPaulo, Theresa and Tad Shaw were very instrumental in making our event meaningful.

Our mass was celebrated by District Chaplain Fr. Jerry Ochetti who gave an inspiring homily in keeping with the theme of family and the Epiphany. The installation ceremony, conducted in the church, gave us a chance to reflect on the important role we all serve in the Italian Catholic Federation. Afterwards, we gathered in the hall and had a delicious luncheon of

Italian salad, bread, penne pasta with oil and garlic, lasagna and chicken Marsala catered by Jouni's Kitchen. Our special guests included Fr. Jerry Vidar, pastor of St. Anthony's along with the founder of our parish, Fr. Ned O'Donnell, and Parochial Vicar Fr. Kenneth Okoroudo. To make our luncheon extra special, a string quartet played music from Italian composers as well as Italian themed movies. Opportunity baskets were provided by all the branches with wonderful gifts inside.

Branch 446 could not have made this event possible without many helping hands. We are grateful for the guidance from Andrea Linn from ICF at Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Claremont. Contributions of time, treasure and talent were given by many of our members, especially Joyce and Peter Tesoro, Amy Pasquarelli and Jim Impastato. We especially appreciate the hard-working committee members Nan Judge, Betty Cavanaugh, Tony Santorufo, Mark Stratman and Danny Centurioni for their dedication to making this event both festive and memorable.

See next page for more photos.



Br. 446, Fr. Jerry Ochetti celebrating Mass for the installation ceremony





Branch 446 President Tony Santorufo making opening remarks



San Bernardino District Officers during installation



Central Council members with Br. 446 Banner



RENO

Reno Br. 135, St. Albert

On Sunday evening, December 11, 2022, a dinner was held to honor Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg, Bishop of the Reno Diocese and to present him with monetary gifts to fund the education of the Seminarians in our diocese to fund the TV Mass that is aired every Sunday morning on one of our local channels.

We welcomed 32 members and guests that enjoyed an excellent dinner. Special thanks goes to Bob and Suzanne Capurro and Bobby and Rachael Ferrari who prepared a delicious dinner of Chicken Marsala, pasta, green beans, salad and profiteroles for dessert. Rachael also prepared the delicious appetizers.

In addition to Bishop Mueggenborg, other special guests were Father John McGuire, substitute pastor at St. Albert the Great Church; Deacon Chuck Lanham, Deacon at St. Albert the Great Church and his wife Janice; and

Deacon David Norman, Deacon at Our Lady of Snows Catholic Church and his wife Terry.

President Charlyne Pacini presented gifts from Branch 135 of \$1,200.00 to Bishop Mueggenborg for his Seminary fund and a gift of \$200.00 for his TV Mass ministry. As our Central Council officers were unable to attend, President Pacini presented a check of \$1,000.00 from Central Council's Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund for the education of the Seminarians of our Diocese.

Our next meeting will be January 15, 2023, and our meeting in February will be on February 12, 2023

*Happy New Year!
Charlyne Pacini*



Pres. Charlyne Pacini and Br. 135 members enjoying Reno Bishop's Day with Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg.



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

21ST ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE!!

Friday
July 28, 2023

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

Italian Catholic Federation
Bennett Valley Golf Course - 3328 Yulupa Ave - Santa Rosa, CA 95405

21st Annual Central Council

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday
JULY 28,
2023

Sponsorship Opportunities

Even if you can't attend the tournament or banquet, you can show your support of the ICF with one of our sponsorship opportunities:

- 🌿 Hole-In-One Sponsor: Signage at the 11th hole for the Hole-In-One! (1 Available) \$200
- 🌿 Hole Sponsor: Sponsor a hole and have your name next to the tee box! (18 available) \$100
- 🌿 Wine Corkage Sponsor: Sponsor the corkage for the wine at the Banquet (6 available) \$60
Signage at each table at the banquet
- 🌿 Closest to the Pin Sponsor: Your name on the sign on the closest to the pin hole (4 available) \$50
- 🌿 Goodie Bag Sponsor: Sponsor the Golfers Goodie Bags. Your name on each bag. (10 available) \$25
- 🌿 Raffle Donations: Donate a basket (minimum \$50 value) or money towards a basket (Unlimited)

Name: _____
Email: _____
Phone #: _____

Please make your checks payable to:
Italian Catholic Federation Golf Tournament
8393 Capwell Dr. Suite 110 Oakland, CA 94621

Deadline July 14th, after this day, we cannot guarantee a sign will be produced, but the sponsor will be mentioned.

For More Information: 1-888-ICF-1924 or www.ICF.org

Italian Catholic Federation
Bennett Valley Golf Course - 3328 Yulupa Ave - Santa Rosa, CA 95405

21st Annual Central Council

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday
JULY 28,
2023

"The BBQ Buffet"

Not a Golfer...We have the perfect opportunity for You!
Come and Congratulate the Winners and Commiserate with the Non-Winners!

Time: 12:30 pm
Place: Bennett Valley Grill - 3328 Yulupa Ave - Santa Rosa
Price: \$50 per person
BBQ Buffet Banquet - No-Host Bar - Great Raffle

Name: _____
E-Mail: _____
Phone #: _____

Please make your checks payable to:
Italian Catholic Federation Golf Tournament
8393 Capwell Dr. Suite 110 Oakland, CA 94621
Deadline July 14th. (Write Banquet on the memo line)

For More Information: 1-888-ICF-1924 or www.icf.org

Italian Catholic Federation

21st Annual Central Council

CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday
JULY 28
2023

Shotgun Start 8:30 AM
Bennett Valley Golf Course
3328 Yulupa Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

REGISTRATION FEE:
\$180 includes: Green Fees, Golf Cart, Range Balls,
Prize Fund & BBQ Buffet Banquet
Deadline Friday, July 14, 2023
After price per Golfer \$190
Banquet only: \$50

BBQ Buffet Catered by
Bennett Valley Grille
3328 Yulupa Ave - Santa Rosa

Make check (\$180 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

Name of Golfer: _____
E-Mail: _____
Name of Golfer: _____
E-Mail: _____
Name of Golfer: _____
E-Mail: _____
Name of Golfer: _____
E-Mail: _____

For More Information: 1-888-ICF-1924 or www.ICF.org

Italian Catholic Federation 1st Annual SoCal Charity Golf Tournament



**Location: Temecula Creek Inn
44501 Rainbow Canyon Rd,
Temecula 92592**

July 28th

Friday, 2023

**Shotgun Starts at 8 AM
Registration: \$200
After Deadline: \$210**

Name of Golfer: _____
 Email: _____
 Name of Golfer: _____
 Email: _____
 Name of Golfer: _____
 Email: _____
 Name of Golfer: _____
 Email: _____

SIGN UP DEADLINE

Friday, July 14th

For more info, contact Perry Shurko.
 Cell: 562-804-0230
 Email: p_shurko@yahoo.com



Sponsorship Opportunities

Even if you can't attend the tournament or banquet, you can show your support of the ICF with one of our Sponsorship Opportunities

Hole-in-one Sponsor : \$200

Hole Sponsor (Have your name next to the tee box) : \$100

Closest to the pin Sponsor : \$50

Raffle Donations (Donate a basket) : Minimum \$50 value

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

For more info, contact Perry Shurko.
 Cell: 562-804-0230
 Email: p_shurko@yahoo.com



Not a Golfer? We Have the Perfect Opportunity for You!

July 28th

Friday, 2023

**The Italian Buffet
Great Raffle: \$50/person**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

For more info, contact Perry Shurko.
 Cell: 562-804-0230
 Email: p_shurko@yahoo.com

IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

As you are aware, the IRS and Franchise Tax Board for the State of California require annual tax returns to be filed by our Districts and Branches.

It is important to remember that all Districts and Branches now have two numbers a Federal Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the IRS and a State Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the State. The IRS limit for the tax year ending 2022 is the following: Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file IRS Form 990 EZ or 990.

Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file IRS Form 990-N which is an e-Postcard.

The State limit for the tax year ending 2022 is the following: Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file State Form 199.

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

THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED
 Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2023. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.

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

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

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that Bank Statements are reconciled through December 31, 2022. Remember that the Gross Receipts are total amounts received without subtracting any costs or expenses. These amounts include, but are not limited to, Membership and Hospitalization Dues, Dinners, Fundraisers, Raffle Tickets, Income from Convention Raffle Tickets and Calendar Sales, Interest from all Bank Accounts, Monetary Donations, etc.

If you have any questions, or need help filing, please call the I.C.F. Office at 1-888-423-1924.

Thank You,
 Lisa Crudo, Grand Treasurer

Heritage -- Valentine's Day

Louise Vento

Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14th as a day for romance and affection. It is a day to send greeting cards like valentines to friends and love one's. "Be my Valentine".



In the United States Valentine's Day became popular in the 1800. Many Valentines of that period were hand painted with a cupid whose arrow pierced a heart. Many old Valentines have become collector items.

Women kept their Valentines and displayed them or put them away with other keepsakes. When my mother died, I found a box tied with a pink ribbon, inside were Valentines from my father to her. All were signed "I Love You" Joe.

I still have the first Valentine I received from my boyfriend in 1953 while he was in Korea it is signed "Love your future husband" Russell.

Today Valentine's Day is next to Christmas for spending on gifts and sending cards and flowers.

Happy Valentine's Day.

In Italy and Sicily, people celebrate the feast of St. Valentine. Customs says that single girls will stand by their window hoping to see the man she hopes to marry someday. Most single girls will write the name of her future husband on paper and put it under her pillow at night, hoping he will be the one. On Valentine's Day she will send him a Valentine. Many people get married on Valentine's Day it is so romantic.

Mike Rossi's parents John and Donna married on Valentine's Day.

Gifts of Love Updates

Teresa Helfand, Chairperson

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, The Gifts of Love Committee is holding its first meeting of 2023 to select recipients for our Gifts of Love Awards.



In this month of February, when we celebrate Valentine's Day and think of those we love and care about - let us also open our hearts, thoughts and prayers to our fellow parishioners and neighbors in our communities who may be in need. We send our thoughts and prayers to everyone. We need healing in our world more than ever and so we are asking for help in finding the value in kindness, respect and helping others. We know these are difficult financial times, but we encourage our Branches, Districts and Individual Members to continue to contribute to the fund in any amount. With your help, we can continue the important work of this very vital program.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Gifts of Love program, we have a fund from which we make awards to individuals with disabilities or agencies that assist individuals with disabilities. We do this throughout the year, in order to provide funds to individuals with disabilities to help lead fuller, more independent lives, and to find greater inclusion within their communities.

We also work with providing assistance to agencies whose goal is to do the same for their clients.

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

If you would like more information about the Gifts of Love program, please contact Committee Chairwoman Teresa Helfand at da-via902005@live.com.

**God Bless You,
Teresa Helfand**

Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library

by Carmelo Sabatella

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

SAVE THE DATE

- February 12th - Mother Cabrini Chapel Open House. Hosted by the Los Angeles Region.

- April 9th - Open House 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. hosted by the San Fernando Valley Region*

- June 11th - Open House 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. hosted by San Gabriel Valley Region.

Also, DVDs on the Life of Mother Cabrini by Author Lucia Mauro are available with prayer cards, medals, coffee mugs and many other items from the Chapel Gift Shop.



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

**Deadline for
March Issue of
Bollettino
is February 10th.
Send articles
& photos:
editor@icf.org**

Tickets may be purchased on Eventbrite
Scan QR code or follow link
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pinocchio-the-lyric-opera-tickets-511462787967>

If paying by check, make payable to "Opera Italia" & mail to:
Opera Italia, 1108 Palms Blvd, Venice, CA 90291

- > Opera in Italian with English Supertitles --
- > Staged and with FULL Orchestra for all events
- > No host Bar Open for all events

Saturday Eve meal is authentic Italian Dinner
Sunday Matinee - no meal served; Snacks & Drinks available for purchase

Adult (18 - 59)	Senior (60 +)	Student (18 - 25 with ID card)	Youth (17 and under)
Name:	Email:		Phone:
DINNER & Opera, Saturday, Apr 22, 2023 Number of tickets:		Adult x \$84 = Senior x \$68 = Student x \$44 = Youth x \$36 =	\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____
Opera Matinee with pre-show children's activities, (No meal served) Sunday, Apr 23, 2023 Number of tickets:		Adult x \$64 = Senior x \$54 = Student x \$34 = Youth x \$28 =	\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____
Call/text 213-248-2510 for School/ Youth Group Discounts			
Total:			\$ _____

