



BOLLETTINO

ICF Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage



Convention Update

As everyone knows, we have been planning to have our **2024 ICF Convention** at the San Mateo Marriott. On February 6, I was informed that the hotel is closing its doors on May 1, 2024.

Therefore, we are in the process of finding a new location for the Convention. The sales manager at the hotel is trying to move us to another hotel near San Mateo.

As of this writing, I am waiting to hear from her. The Central Council will keep the branches and members informed as to a new location as soon as we know. Please read the *Bollettino*, follow our ICF Facebook page and check the website for the latest information.

No explanation as to why the hotel ownership is closing the hotel. They are putting the employees out of work, displacing conferences, and other business.

Thank you,
Lauren Kilcullen

“Lord, teach us to step outside ourselves. Teach us to go out into the streets and manifest your love.” -Pope Francis

SAVE THE DATES in 2024

- **100th Anniversary Celebrations:**
 - June 9 — San Francisco
 - June 23 — Chicago
 - June 29 — Los Angeles
- July 26 — **Northern California Golf Tournament**
- August 30 - September 1 — **National Convention**
- October 26 — **Southern California Golf Tournament**
- November 10 — **Cabrini Pilgrimage, Cabrini Shrine, Burbank**

Grand President’s Monthly Message *A Joyful Lent*

Denise Antonowicz

Here we are halfway through Lent. May you find *Joy* during this Lenten season. **Joy? Lent? Not two words you usually hear together. Think about it. We are given 40 days (not counting Sundays) to use as time of spiritual self-renewal, and this can be a joyous thing. And that's what lies at the heart of Lent. We are spiritually recharging, renewing ourselves in faith in preparation for the biggest event of the liturgical year, the marking of Jesus' death and resurrection.**



Did you know that our own St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was accepted into the Church on Ash Wednesday of 1805. I found this on a website called Seton Reflections. “Elizabeth quickly found herself truly *far away from all so dear...*” having been summarily dropped from her neighboring social set and disowned by her family. Still, upon making her confession and receiving the Holy Eucharist for the first time, Elizabeth was overjoyed: “*At last...at last, GOD IS MINE AND I AM HIS! Now, let all go its round — I Have Received Him!*” But this is the great secret of the season: you keep going, even though it is hard, and you feel like you’ve been here before, and you’re slipping in the sand and getting nowhere. Suddenly, if you are looking for them, the blessings, and the graces you’ve already been given become apparent, and the promised land of further graces becomes enlarged in your sight, and everything... begins to make sense. And at that point there will be glory, but not of your own making. It will be Christ’s glory, shining from your

Continued on Page 3

Children’s Opera Festival !!!



Saturday, April 13, 2024
Casa Italiana 1051 N Broadway, Los Angeles 90012
12noon – 4pm

~All Kids invited to come in costume of favorite Opera Characters! ~

Admission \$15 per child aged 18 & under
Accompanying adult – no charge



~See professional Opera Mini-Shows ~
from Hansel & Gretel, Pirates of Penzance & more!

Costume games! Puppet workshops!
Craft Corner ~ Magic Show ~ Music Demos

Citywide Children’s Choruses invited to perform!

*contact Young Opera Theater to apply

TICKETS!



SCAN ME



Presented by Young Opera Theater, 501 (c)3 non-profit
With grateful support from Opera Italia
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/739779740117?aff=oddtcreator>

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO

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Important Notice

The email address for ALL

Bollettino submissions is:

editor@icf.org

All image and article submissions need to be sent in an electronic format. Those submissions not sent in an electronic format or those articles sent in the mail will not be used.

Finally, a reminder that ALL branch and district reports need to adhere to the **250 max word count** requirement or they will be shortened or possibly excluded entirely based on editor judgement.

Limit photos to 3 or 4 and include captions. Not all photos are able to be used due to possible limitations in space. Prioritize photos if possible. To insure photos are always linked to branch, include branch number when naming photos such as:

Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg

Include photo captions with your article submission.

Please keep your submission positive and informative.

Deadline for the April issue is March 10, 2024

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:

We do not know a lot about Joseph – we know that his Father’s name was Jacob and that he was the husband of Mary. We know that he was a carpenter and that he lived in Nazareth. We know that before he and Mary lived together, after their engagement, he found out that she was pregnant and instead of shaming her or causing scandal, he decided to divorce her quietly. The Gospel tells us that he did this because he was an upright man, a man of principle.

We also know that he was a righteous man who followed the law: He observed religious law and we know he went to Jerusalem for the Jewish festivals. He also followed civil law: He went to Bethlehem for the census. We also know that Joseph had dreams. God spoke to him in his dreams, and he followed his dreams.

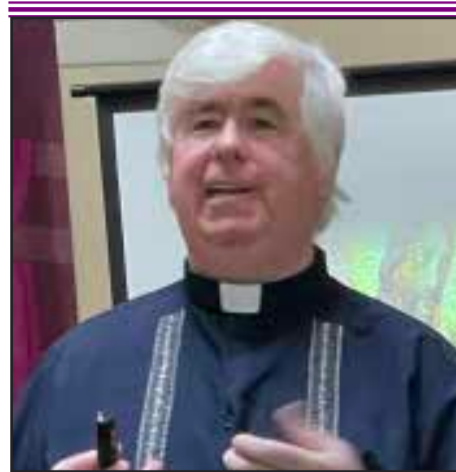
What is also interesting to me is that nowhere in the Gospels do we ever hear anything Joseph says. He never says anything. But he is a man of action: he does what the angel tells him; he takes Mary as his wife; he goes to Bethlehem; he finds a place to stay for the night; he takes his family to Egypt... He is a man of action – not a man of words.

St. Joseph is a great exemplar for us of Lenten virtues that we do well to ponder and emulate. He first teaches us about

the silence needed in Lent. The state of the desert is meant to be one of exterior and interior silence, when we remove ourselves from the distractions that crowd our lives with so much noise that we cannot hear God and so much clutter that we cannot see Him. St. Joseph is a man of silence, who did not speak a word in Sacred Scripture. Silence is a form of asceticism. It is not so much an emptying but an active listening to the God who in silence speaks.

Second, St. Joseph teaches us about the obedience Lent cultivates. On Palm Sunday, St. Paul tells us, "Have the same mindset that is in Christ Jesus, who ... humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, death on a Cross." (Phil 2:5-8). Lent is about learning to obey as Christ obeyed. St. Joseph shows us the way. We see his prompt obedience in his response to God who spoke to him in dreams not to be afraid to receive Mary into his home, to arise and flee with Jesus and Mary to Egypt, and to return with them to Galilee. It would have been easy for Joseph, even in a pre-Freudian age, to deconstruct these dreams according to the standard of his conscious desires.

Each dream was asking him to do something life-changing: to alter his notion of what his marriage would entail, to leave his job and his relatives completely behind and journey through the desert; to return once life was settled. In each of



Father Christopher Bennett
ICF Spiritual Director

these circumstances, however, Joseph obeyed immediately. He teaches us how to have Christ's obedient mindset.

This Lenten season, and 2024, is a time for us to place ourselves anew under Joseph's protection and patronage, in imitation of Jesus and Mary. As we embrace this 100th Anniversary of the Italian Catholic Federation, we like St. Joseph must be people of action.

Happy Feast of St. Joseph and let us not forget St. Patrick on the 17th of March.

Fr. Chris



Heritage — Easter and Passover

Louise Vento

Once Carnival is over and we have had our fill of rich food, along comes Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Lent is determined by the date Easter occurs. Ash Wednesday can be as early as February 4th or as late as March 11th. Ash Wednesday makes it clear that the season of penitence has arrived. The priest draws the sign of the cross on the forehead of believers—a reminder that death is always near.

The date of Easter has changed over the centuries depending on the moon. Easter was initially celebrated on the first full moon of springtime. Before there was an Easter celebration, there was Passover which the Italians called Jewish Easter. The food served during the Easter feast is Easter bread (Popo Olivia), artichokes and the traditional Lamb. The Portuguese also serve leg of lamb, rice pudding and Easter breads (Folares). The lamb is a symbol of Jesus, and the eggs represent a new life and a return of spring. The Passover commemorates the time



when Jews had fled Egypt so quickly that bread did not rise, so during the Lenten season unleavened breads were always served.

Easter is a Christian day that celebrates the resurrection of Jesus. It is the most important holy day of the Christian religion. Thousands of Italians worship and make a pilgrimage to Rome for Holy Week services at St. Peter's Church. The churches in Italy are decorated with white lilies the symbol of purity. Le feste religiose is celebrated all week long in both Italy and Sicily. Many churches hold sunrise services on Easter Sunday. We, as members of the Italian Catholic Federation, will gather on Easter Sunday in our own parishes to celebrate. He has risen. It is time to share with family and friends. **Buona Pasqua.**



Gifts of Love Donations

(Received as of February 11, 2024)

- Barbara Lawson
In Memory of Joe Yurosko
- Dennis and Lori McBride
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
Get Well Wishes for Louise Vento
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Eva Stern
In Memory of Dori Blefari
- Eva Stern
In Memory of Robert Osorio
- The Fuentes Family
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
In Memory of Robert Osorio
- Cathy and Gary Walz
In Memory of Robert Osorio
- Bill and Maria Greco
In Memory of Joe Yurosko
- Pat and Louie Cordich
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Pat and Louie Cordich
In Memory of Scott Filice
- Pat and Louie Cordich
In Memory of Evelyn Codiga
- Phil and Joyce Robba
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Bill and Maria Greco
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Mike and Lisa Rose
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
In Memory of Bruce Swarrigim
- Dennis and Marie Garcia
In Memory of Bob Osorio

- John Sedgwick
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Lorraine and Mike Nunziata
In Memory of Robert Osorio
- John and Camille Orlando
In Memory of Bruce Swarrigim
- Donna and Richard Pfaff
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- John and Natalie Canata
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Marie Yurosko
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Officers/Members of Br. 47
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Roger and Kathy Santos
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Roger and Kathy Santos
In Memory of Scott Filice
- Sal and Denise Campagna
In Memory of Joe Yurosko
- Sal and Denise Campagna
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Donna Rossi
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Dorene Campanile
In Honor of Patricia Dugoni
- Officers/Members of Br. 285
In Honor of the 100th Birthday of Anita Gandolfi
- Bob Basuino
In Memory of Robert A. Osorio
- Marie Yurosko
In Memory of Marie Antonowicz
- Eva Stern
Speedy Recovery Wishes for Denise Antonowicz
- Denise Antonowicz
In Memory of Bob Osorio

In Loving Memory

(Report as of February 9, 2024)

- Sam N Bonanno Branch 007
- John J Susa Branch 007
- Wanda Abbondanza Branch 014
- Lina Gemignani Branch 021
- Francis A Scilacci Branch 025
- Adolph Mayorga Branch 027
- Anna Raviscioni Branch 027
- Eleanor De Franco Branch 036
- Josephine Bellardita Branch 039
- Jane Hinman Branch 045
- Marie E Leonard Branch 045
- Renato Ranieri Branch 045
- Antonio G Fucci Branch 067
- Rita Nappi Branch 115
- Domenica Paletta Branch 154
- Toni Reeder Branch 154
- Joe Yurosko Branch 184
- Bruce Swarrigim Branch 191
- Ron P Lapham Branch 198
- Florence Brown Branch 227
- James Scudder Branch 291
- Clifford C Vattuone Branch 332
- Joan Lueke Branch 362
- Robert Osorio Branch 368

On the Occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Catholic Federation

A Pilgrimage to the Italy

Under the Spiritual Leadership of:

Fr. Christopher Bennett, Pastor

St. Christopher Catholic Church in San Jose, California

11-Days: November 5 to 15, 2024

St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel, the Vatican Museums, an audience with the pope, the tombs of St. Peter and St. John Paul II, and a trip to Assisi. This pilgrimage will take you to places and give you experiences unlike any other trip you've been on. What a great way to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Catholic Federation.

For more information, please contact Fr. Chris at 1-408-269-2226 or email at revbennett@sbcglobal.net



Membership Committee Report: Why Look for New Members?

Andy Pappani and Vince Piro

One member recently asked us, "Why is increasing membership important? We have a great little branch and we don't have the energy or time to recruit new members." There are many reasons to recruit new members. Below are a few reasons and we encourage you to visit the ICF Facebook page to share more.

1. Leadership. New members can provide you with future leaders. The number one reason branches close is that they cannot find current members to step into leadership positions. However, new members can provide needed leadership when mentored properly. When recruiting new members, one can actively look for those who could serve as future branch leaders.

2. New Ideas. New members can bring new ideas. Certainly, we have some great traditions in the ICF, but we are also open to new ways and ideas. A great source of new ideas are new members. If your fundraisers and events are not as dynamic or effective as they used to be, maybe a new member can provide some insights to improve them.

3. Growth and Stability. New members provide growth and stability to a branch. As our branches age, they begin to lose members. Adding new members to your roster can help create a healthy branch

4. Workers. How often have we heard "our branch is too old to hold fundraisers anymore?" Too many. However, new members can provide you with younger arms and stronger backs.

5. Mentorship. Young people are looking for ways to be involved in their community; however, they need mentorship. Our branches can provide them with a place to find fellowship, friendship and the reward of giving to one's community.

We encourage your branch in the coming months to recruit new members. The Workshop Committee has an informative and inspiring workshop on recruiting new members that it are willing to present to any district or branch. Contact Andy Pappani at pappani1@yahoo.com if you are interested.



GP Message--Continued

Denise Antonowicz *continued from p. 1*

own face. No wonder St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was so excited. I've been so blessed with my family, my friends, and of course the ICF. I have a lot to reflect on. Remember to use the 40 days of Lent to reflect on the Joy in our lives. And, instead of giving up what you love or need, **why not use Lent to cultivate a sense of mindful**

gratitude? After all, the idea is to have divine experiences through you, and then all experiences are fuller and more beautiful with deep gratitude.

So may you have a **Joyful** Lent and a truly Buona Pasqua!

Denise

Cooley's Anemia Donations

(Report as of February 2, 2024)

- Branch 220
- Branch 447
- Branch 449
- Julie Baldocchi Schurba
In Memory of Giuseppina Rossini (95th Birthday)

- Charlene Drobeck
In Memory of Angela Gentile
- Officers/Members of Br. 28
In Memory of Scott Filice

Live to Give--Blood is Lifesaving

Mary Cook

As it's been assigned, January is National Blood Donor Month, the perfect time to call attention to America's critical, nationwide blood shortage and the thousands of vulnerable patients endangered as a result. As we moved into February, the blood supplies hadn't gained enough momentum to meet the demand. Here we are in March and I ask that we continue to keep this severe blood shortage in the forefront of our minds.

As a thalassemic living with the trait, I was unable to donate each time I tried throughout my life. I would get to the point of testing the hemoglobin level and was graciously denied. That was until the Convention of 2023. For the first time, I made it past the information collection booth and into the swing back chair. I was in and out of that lounge chair within half an hour leaving behind a unit of my very own blood. It may sound like I'm glorifying/exaggerating/sensationalizing this event; and I am! It was thrilling for me at this age to be able. My first donation.

I took my tee-shirt and left grinning ear to ear. When some months passed, I thought I might try my luck again, and made an appointment

on the anniversary of my mother's birth. Both Tom and I had a double-red donation date. That's right. We were both able to leave platelets that swirled around in the centrifuge and were deposited into the receptacle that was going directly to the hospital for use immediately. Wow. Again, I felt exhilarated.

There's an emergency platelet shortage and less than 1% of Americans give platelets. Platelets are tiny cells in your blood that help form clots and stop bleeding. Millions of Americans need platelets to fight cancer, chronic diseases and more. Nearly 50% of all donated platelets go to cancer patients. One donation can help up to three patients.

As the nation faces the lowest number of people giving blood in 20 years, your blood donation is needed now. Please take a moment and consider calling your local blood donation center for an appointment. You can also locate a nearby blood drive online at redcrossblood.org or vitalant.org

Won't you join me in making regular donations? If you're able, please donate. Someone's life depends on it. Someday, it could be your own.



Mary and Tom Cook of Branch #13 donating platelets on a double-red donation date in Moraga.

The ICF 2024 Calendars

These are great gifts, great raffle prizes and offer wonderful stories, fun facts and recipes which remind us about our theme

"Celebrating the 1920s"

as well as an opportunity to win money. Please keep this in mind as we continue to celebrate our New Year. This is a wonderful fundraiser for our Branches as well as a way to fund many of our organization's programs. So, let's focus on selling our calendars!!! Branches have been given their allotment of calendars - contact your local Branch if you are still interested in buying one.

Welcome New Members (Report as of February 9, 2024)

Branch 010	Carol Coughlan	Don Coughlan
Branch 014	Gina Rigley	Kenneth W Souza
Branch 014	Rosanna Souza Bruce Hammergren Carmen Patane	Marina Hammergren
Branch 036	Patricia Boyle Chanella Crawley Nathaniel Dalton Laura E Hibert Bill Lynn Roseanne Ruccello	Mary Compagno Andrew Dalton Rachel Dalton Thomas Hibert Josephine Lynn Lana Tanzi
Branch 047	Antonio Corbelletta Jacqueline Halverson	Nancy Corbelletta Jamie Halverson
Branch 050	Bridget Mahoney	
Branch 052	Bud Elliff Bruce Levin Rev Peter Nwanekezie Losalina Tomasin	Rev Rafael Karekatt Carol Levin David J Tomasin Mike Tomasin
Branch 073	Christianne Barsotti Mary Jo L Herman Christina Law Nicholas Law Marie Piazza	Steve Barsotti Paul A Herman Godwin Law Renee C Nolan
Branch 115	Laura Brownlee	
Branch 173	Rita J Bonasera	Louis A Ferrigno
Branch 184	Marlene J Ferrigno Mary M Kalpin Michelle Lo Bue	Virginia C Giacomini Janice M Lamotte
Branch 198	Thomas Nguyen	
Branch 209	Lori A Todd	
Branch 214	Rev Luke Ssemakula	
Branch 218	Bernadette Andrews Ella S Andrews Teresa Choi Tony Farinella Elizabeth Christman	Daniel Andrews Erek N Andrews Sally Farinella Susan Serdarusich John Christman
Branch 285	Anita R Pasch	Ronald A Pasch
Branch 291	Donald S Macdonald Robert J Macdonald	Rhea L Macdonald Michael L Payne
Branch 332	Suzanne H Bales Rita J Bernardi	David M Bernardi Anna Pignati
Branch 342	Luciana Curtis Debbie Mc Auliffe Cathy J Senkbeil Rose M Wood	Beatrice A Johns Angela M Ragusa Kurt A Senkbeil
Branch 343	Robert W Britton Sharon Luther	Lucy D Cronin Linda A Mansouria
Branch 352	Patsy Harrington	
Branch 362	Jeanine Yotsov	
Branch 379	Lou Cacioppo	Sylvia Cacioppo
Branch 395	Eugene Neri	
Branch 413	Dalen L Brown	
Branch 435	Nicolo Benevento	Ronald D Stiltz
Branch 438	Jason S Pipitone Matt R Pipitone Monica M Sala	Laura J Pipitone Sarah M Pipitone
Branch 444	Dolly F Cincotta	
Branch 447	Liz G Bird Tom Bird Jr Scott G Crowell Lenore Hess Karen A Horlick Gregory A Raizk	Tom Bird Andrea L Bleecher Janet L Gattuccio Barry J Horlick Deacon Robert Mescher

St. Joseph's Table

Lisa Crudo, Apostolate/Charity Committee Member

Together we have shined! By offering so much of our time, services and prayers, as well as the enormous amount of money that has been donated to all of our causes, we have proven that our Apostolic and Charitable works are the core driving force of the Federation. And yes, we should be proud! We all know that the Italian Catholic Federation is first, and foremost, an Apostolic and Charitable organization. There is no better time than during this Lenten Season to embrace that aspect of our lives. These forty days of Lent are marked by fasting, both from foods and festivities, and by other acts of penance and charity. This very special time of year allows us the time to reflect, to pray, and to selflessly think of others who are less fortunate than ourselves.

A common feast during Lent is the Feast of St. Joseph. The Solemnity of St. Joseph is celebrated on March 19 in a variety of ways all over the world. The most well-known tradition is the St. Joseph's Table or St. Joseph's Altar, started in Sicily. This ancient tradition goes back to the Middle Ages. At that time there was an exceptionally severe drought in Sicily. No rain fell for an extended period of time, no crops would grow, and countless people died of famine. The peasants prayed to God for rain, and they also prayed to St. Joseph to intercede with God on their behalf. They promised that if God caused it to rain, they would have a special feast honoring God and St. Joseph. By a miracle, the rains came, and the crops were planted. With the harvest, the people prepared a feast of foods from their crops. This has become known as the Tavola di San Giuseppe. Through the centuries, people who have prayed for a favor and been granted the favor use this festivity to show their thanks. The "favor" requested must not be for personal gain or benefit. Some common requests are the safe return of a loved one from a war (a very common request during World War II), or that a loved one will be cured and survive from a serious, life threatening illness or accident.

St. Joseph has been chosen as the patron and protector of the family; and our families certainly need a powerful

lobbyist in heaven. Everyone loves St. Joseph's Day in Sicily. The rich prepare a great buffet dinner party. There are traditional dishes served, and all of them are especially good. And who are the guests? Who are the lucky ones to enjoy all this food? They are the ones whom St. Joseph would invite: the poor and downtrodden. One can almost say that the Italian Catholic Federation, with all of our charities and good work that we do, is like a large "St. Joseph's Table." Let us all gather together and pray: "O, glorious St. Joseph, we come before you with joyful and grateful hearts. We lovingly present to you the labor of our hands and the dedication of our hearts that have fashioned this Altar in your honor. We again place ourselves under your powerful protection. Help us follow your example of complete trust and faith in Divine Providence. Open our minds and hearts to love and serve the poor, the suffering and those rejected or ignored by society. As a family, teach us to love and honor each member of our families with the love and reverence you had for Jesus and Mary. As a nation, inspire in us the will and the way to live in peace with all nations of the world that in our day we can experience the fulfillment of the prayer of Jesus. Peace be to you. Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our sweet protector, St. Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection or implored your aid without obtaining relief. We ask this in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

During this month of March, when we take the time to reflect, give up a vice, or add something that will bring us closer to God or give the time or money to one of our charitable purposes. Let us remember that Lent is also a time of repentance and forgiveness. Let us pray for each other, and remain a united, constant force for good in the world.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Crudo, Member Apostolate/
Charity committee



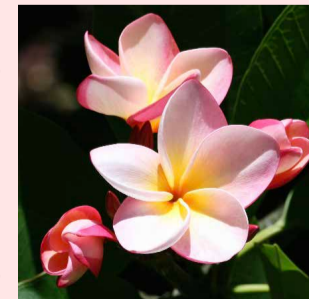
MAUI WILD FIRES RELIEF FUND

We received an additional donation to our Maui Fires Relief Fund since we published our last update in the *Bollettino*.

We thank the following for their generous contribution.

Branches:
Branch 108

This brings our total donation to \$4,797.00 as of January 11, 2024.



Gala's Save the Dates

SUNDAY - JUNE 9, 2024
BASQUE CULTURAL CENTER
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA

SUNDAY - JUNE 23, 2024
EMPRESS BANQUET HALL
ADDISON, IL

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2024
CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF ANGELS
LOS ANGELES, CA

Angel Studios Set to Release CABRINI—From SOUND of FREEDOM Director Alejandro Monteverde —in Theaters March 2024

In Theaters Nationwide on March 8, 2024, CABRINI is Director Alejandro Monteverde's Powerful Story of a Woman Who Fought the Establishment and Became the Greatest Social Entrepreneur of the 19th Century

Angel Studios, the platform empowering filmmakers with full creative control to crowdfund and create, is announcing today the release of CABRINI—the second Angel Studios release from SOUND of FREEDOM Director Alejandro Monteverde. CABRINI will launch in theaters nationwide on March 8, 2024.

"Francesca Cabrini is one of the most inspiring and influential figures in modern history, and yet few know her story. Faced with seemingly insurmountable life obstacles, Cabrini chose instead to focus on how she could change the status quo in her time, and her impact on the world is still felt today," said Liz Ellis, Chief Operating Officer at Angel Studios. "We're thrilled to be able to share her unbelievable story in theaters this Spring. This will be our second collaboration with SOUND OF FREEDOM Director Alejandro Monteverde—and the Angel Guild gave this film even higher ratings than SOUND OF FREEDOM. Our community has high expectations for this project."

Directed by Alejandro Monteverde (SOUND OF FREEDOM), CABRINI shares the story of Francesca Cabrini, a poor, audacious Italian immigrant who became one of the great entrepreneurs of the 19th century. Through her willpower, courage, compassion, and business skill, she overcame sexism and violent anti-Italian bigotry while fighting against an establishment seeking to hold her back.

CABRINI stars Cristiana Dell'Anna (Gomorra), Trust, John Lithgow (Third Rock from the Sun, FOOTLOOSE, The Old Man), David Morse (THE GREEN MILE, THE ROCK, St. Elsewhere), Giancarol Giannini (QUANTUM OF SOLACE, CASINO ROYALE), and Federico Castelluccio (The Sopranos, EL CANTANTE).

About Angel Studios Angel Studios is the home of stories that amplify light. Through its platform, tens of thousands of "Angel" investors choose which titles the studio will create, fund, and distribute. Angel Studios allows creators and audiences to form passionate communities around their creative projects, making the story behind the story as important as the final project itself. The studio's first projects—The Chosen and Dry Bar Comedy—have earned billions of views around the world. Learn more at Angel.com.

March, 2024

Celebrating 100 Years...1924-2024

Dear Members:

In Honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Catholic Federation we are asking our Branches, Districts and Individual Members to participate in this special event by placing Celebratory Ads/Messages in the June issue of the Bollettino.

These can be sent in, already designed and sized, or the text can be provided and we will create the design. These are the choices and prices for the ads:

- 2 1/2" x 2 1/2" (one column square) \$25
- 2 1/2" x 5" (vertical or horizontal) \$35
- 4" x 5" (horizontal) \$50
- 6 1/2" x 5" (horizontal, quarter page) \$70

To place a message, please send in your ad by e-mail, either finished or just the text you want, size selection, and your check made out to the ICF (notated 100th Anniversary Ad), to:

Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621
Attn: Bollettino

Please send all ad files electronically to info@icf.org.

The deadline is May 10th.
Thank you.
ICF Office



Scholarship Donations

(Received as of February 2, 2024)

1st Year Scholarships:

- James Wilson
In Honor of Madeleine Petri
- David Ramies
In Memory of Bob Osorio
- Norbert Walz
In Memory of Robert Osorio
- Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
In Memory of Phillip Douglas Sagaser
- Officers/Members of Santa Clara Valley District
In Memory of Marie Antonowicz
- Dorene Campanile
In Honor of Melanie and Fred Yeager
- Sheryl White
In Honor of the 90th Birthday of Carmen Kilcullen
- Officers/Members of Br. 184
In Memory of Joe Yurosko

2nd - 4th Year Scholarships:

- Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
In Memory of Filomena Teresa Cerbo
- Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
In Memory of Leonard Raymond Garber
- Giulia Gallego
Get Well Wishes for Louise Vento
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
In Memory of Mike Haughton

ATTENTION BRANCH PRESIDENTS AND FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

2024 WILL BE AN OPEN ENROLLMENT YEAR FOR THE HOSPITAL PLAN

As a special offer for the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Catholic Federation, the Central Council voted to make two changes in the Hospital Plan for Individuals and Branches in 2024.

FOR INDIVIDUALS:

During all of 2024 the Hospital Plan will be open to every member, regardless of their age. The age 70 restriction is temporarily suspended for 2024, only, as an invitation for all members of the ICF to take advantage of this opportunity to enroll in our special plan.

FOR BRANCHES:

For any Branch member who becomes a NEW member of the Hospital Plan and pays their \$25.00 in January, February or March, the Federation will only bill the Branch for \$20.00. Thus, for each

Member who joins the Plan as a NEW member the Branch will earn \$5.00.

The \$5.00 reduction is only for those joining NEW in January, February or March. So, you must act right away to get this benefit. After March, the Branch will again be billed the entire \$25.00 for any new members to the plan.

HOSPITALIZATION PLAN - FACT SHEET

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 the member.
- No medical examination is required to join.
- 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

If you have any questions, please contact the ICF Office.



ICF is Going Green!

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

2024 1st Year Scholarship Program

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

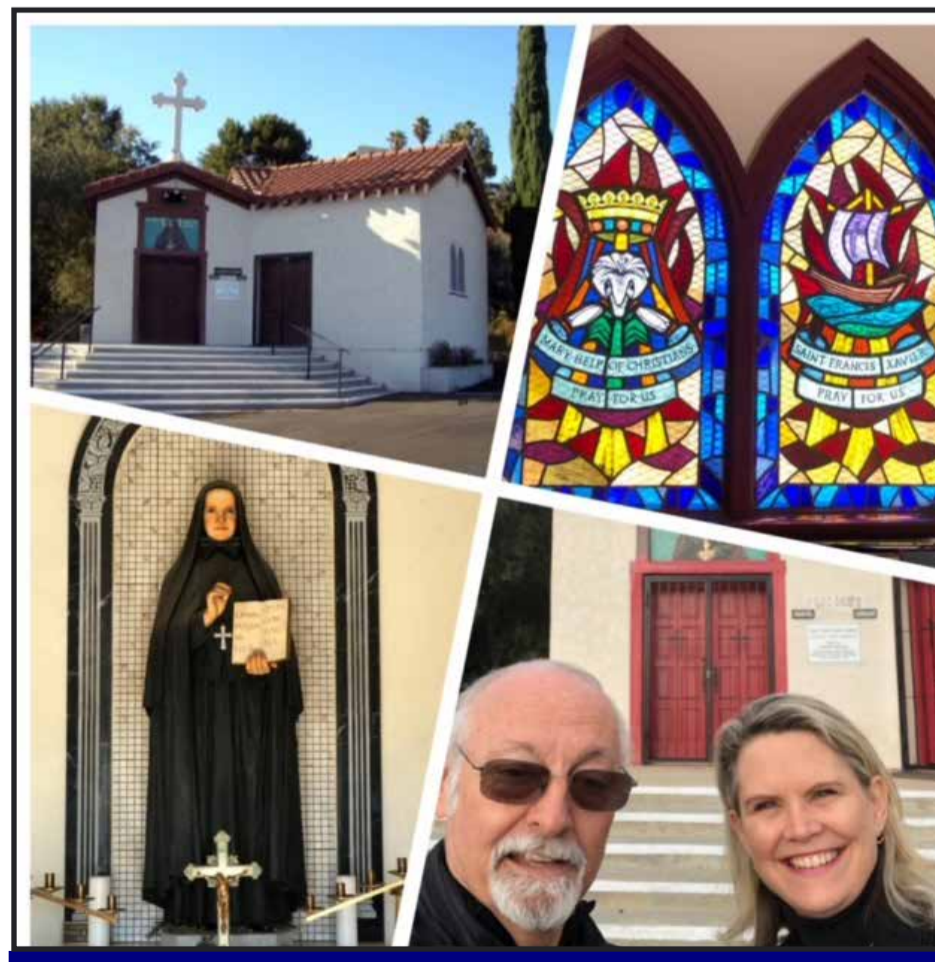
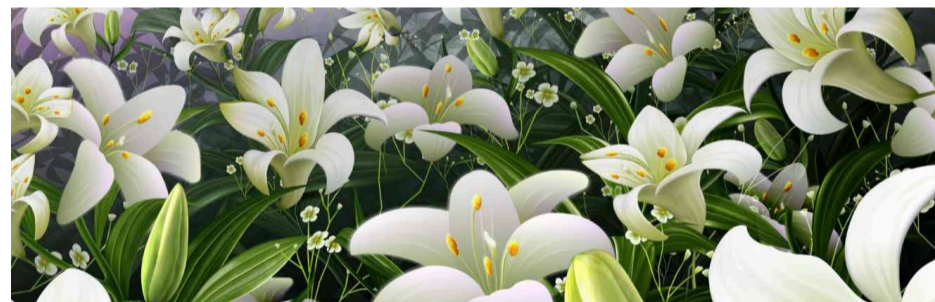
The **Deadline for Donations and Applications is April 1, 2024**. This will allow additional time for students to apply and for Branches and Districts to follow up with the high schools in their areas. Please discuss participating in the program by making a donation of a full scholarship of \$400.00, if possible, or a partial donation of any amount. Partial Donations do help to make other scholarships possible when that money is grouped together. Individual Donations are 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 \$400.00 Scholarship, they can download the application using the link on the homepage of the ICF website or they can fill out and submit the application, with required documentation attached, online.

These are the eligibility requirements for students:

A High School Senior, a total cumulative GPA (3 1/2 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 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.



Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of February 2, 2024:

IN MEMORY OF:

- Mike Dal Porto
- Antonio Fucci
- Joe Yurosko
- Bob Osorio
- Blanche Alessandrino
- Joe Yurosko
- Bob Osorio
- Lina Gemignani
- Elaine Langsdorf
- Joe Yurosko
- Bob Osorio
- Leonard Garber
- Marie Antonowicz
- Bruce Swarrigim
- Rev. John Keller, OSA

DONATED BY:

- Officers/Members of Br. 145
- Officers/Members of Br. 380
- Jo Bertaccini
- Mike and Marcie Rossi
- Officers/Members of Br. 380
- Mike and Marcie Rossi
- Jo Bertaccini
- Officers/Members of Br. 21
- Charlene Drobeck
- Donna and Richard Pfaff
- The Kilcullen Family
- Officers/Members of Br. 308
- Sal and Denise Campagna
- Officers/Members of ICF Br. 191
- Joey Bonino

GET WELL WISHES:

- Louise Vento
- Mike and Marcie Rossi

THANK YOU FOR OUR DISTRICT INSTALLATION:

- Lauren Kilcullen
- Denise Antonowicz
- Denise Antonowicz
- Denise Antonowicz
- Officers/Members of Stockton District
- Officers/Members of Los Angeles Archdiocese District
- Officers/Members of East Bay District
- Officers/Members of Santa Rosa District

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR WEDDING:

- Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hieronimus
- Bob Basuino

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY:

- Mary Ann Mikles
- Patricia Putkey

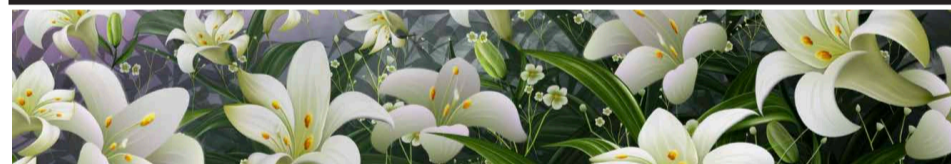
THANK YOU FOR THE VIDEO OF THE CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT INSTALLATION:

- Ed McGuirk
- Patty Jarrett

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Br. 227 - Aptos.

*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.



Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library

Carmelo Sabatella

On January 5, 2024, Cari Fair, Director of Merchandise for Angels Studio visited the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library. Cari indicated that the new CABRINI MOVIE is scheduled to premiere March 8, 2024 at theaters worldwide and would like to include information on the Cabrini Chapel and Library in Burbank in the promotion of the movie.

ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel, 3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504

- Mother Cabrini Chapel Store: DVDs on the Life of Mother Cabrini by Lucia Mauro are available.

SAVE THE DATES

- Mother Cabrini Chapel Open House on April 14, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hosted by San Fernando Valley Region.
- Mother Cabrini Chapel Open House on June 9, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hosted by San Gabriel Valley Region.
- Mother Cabrini Chapel Open House on September 15, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hosted by the Santa Barbara/Ventura Region.

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

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.

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.

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: _____

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

100TH ANNIVERSARY GALA
Basque Cultural Center
599 Railroad Ave, South San Francisco, CA 94080

SUNDAY | 09 JUNE 2024

11:00 am Mass with Lunch to Follow
Lunch choices:
Rack of Lamb or Veal Roast both served with Baked Potato & Veggies
or Salmon served with Rice & Veggies
all Meals served with Soup, Salad, Bread, Ice Cream and Coffee

COST: \$70 PER PERSON
ONLY 300 TICKETS AVAILABLE

FABULOUS RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION
Fill out the attached form with your meal choice. and send with check made to Italian Catholic Federation - Make sure you write SF-Gala in the memo section of your check.

San Francisco Gala - June 9, 2024
One Check per Branch (based on \$70.00 per person) made to Italian Catholic Federation and write SF Gala on the memo line sent to ICF Office 8393 Capwell Dr. Ste.110, Oakland, CA, 94621 *Deadline for Reservations May 31, 2024*

Name	Branch #	Rack of Lamb	Veal Roast	Salmon

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

100TH ANNIVERSARY GALA
SATURDAY | 29 JUNE 2024

1:00 pm Mass Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels,
555 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles

2:30 PM Lunch at Casa Italiana, 1051 N. Broadway,
Los Angeles

APPETIZERS FAMILY STYLE ~ BRUSCHETTA ~ CAPRESE- POLENTA
SERVED SALAD ~ MIXED GREEN SALAD ITALIAN DRESSING
PASTA FAMILY STYLE ~ PENNE PASTA DE LA CASA
ITALIAN VEGETABLES
MAIN COURSE SERVED ~ ITALIAN VEGETABLES ~ ROASTED POTATOES
NEW YORK STEAK PEPPERCORN SAUCE
DESSERT STATION ~ MINI CANNOLI ~ COOKIES ~ COFFEE

COST: ADULTS: \$70
UNDER 12 \$30 - 5 AND UNDER FREE
ONLY 300 TICKETS AVAILABLE

Fill out the attached form and send with check made to Italian Catholic Federation - make sure you write LA Gala in the memo section of your check.

Los Angeles Gala - June 29, 2024
One Check per Branch (based on \$70.00 per person) made to Italian Catholic Federation and write LA Gala on the memo line sent to ICF Office 8393 Capwell Dr. Ste.110, Oakland, CA, 94621 *Deadline/or Reservations May 31, 2024*

Name	Branch #

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

100TH ANNIVERSARY GALA
SUNDAY | 23 JUNE 2024

12:30 PM Lunch at Empress Banquet Hall,
200 E. Lake Street, Addison, Illinois 60101

DINNER IS SEMI-FAMILY STYLE
FRIED CALAMARI ~ ANTIPASTO ~
PASTA WITH VODKA SAUCE ~ SALAD
BEEF AU'POIVRE (SHERRY WINE SAUCE WITH MUSHROOMS AND SHALLOTS)
CHICKEN FRANCHESE ~ POTATOES, VEGGIES AND ICE CREAM
RED WINE ~ WHITE WINE ~ SODA ~ COFFEE INCLUDED WITH THE MEAL

COST: ADULTS: \$70

Fill out the attached form and send with check made to Italian Catholic Federation - make sure you write Chicago Gala in the memo section of your check.

Chicago Gala - June 23, 2024
One Check per Branch (based on \$70.00 per person) made to Italian Catholic Federation and write Chicago Gala on the memo line sent to ICF Office 8393 Capwell Dr. Ste.110, Oakland, CA, 94621 *If you have questions, or would like to make a reservation, call Teresa Helfand, 773-763-0507, or Maria Perna, 708-307-7180*
Deadline for Reservations May 31, 2024

Name	Branch #

EASTER BRINGS HOPE

“In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ...”

1 Peter 1:3

Italian Catholic Federation

22nd Annual Central Council **CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Save the Date

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

Friday JULY 26 2024

Start Time: 8:30 am

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

Book Review--*Giovanni's Tree: New Italian Folktales*

Vince Piro

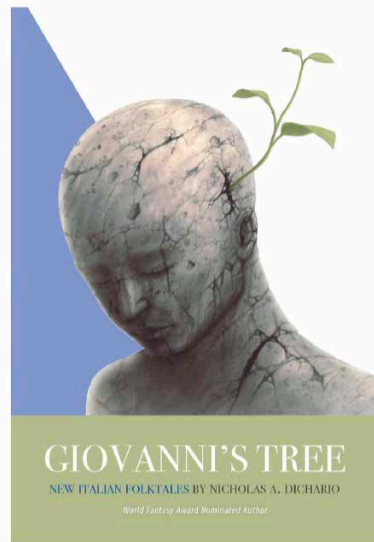
Giovanni's Tree: New Italian Folktales

By Nicholas A. DiChario



In *Giovanni's Tree*, a collection of nine original Italian folktales, Nicholas A. DiChario writes a series of tales that at once respects the traditional folktale form while giving it a contemporary context. It is a thoroughly enjoyable and thought-provoking collection of stories.

The Italian folktale tradition goes back to the 16th century with the first collection of known fairy tales *The Pleasant Nights* by Giovanni Francesco Straparola published in 1550. In 1634 and 1636, one of the most influential collections of Italian folktales was published under the pen name of Giambattista Basile. Titled *Pentamerone: Lo cunto de li cunti* ("The Tale of Tales"), this volume influenced the Brothers Grimm's famous anthology of folktales. Of course, many contemporary readers are aware of Italo Calvino's magical Italian Folktales first published in 1956



and translated into English in 1962. (I have reviewed this collection in this column in the past.)

DiChario's *Giovanni's Tree* continues this tradition with original stories that are founded in the genre of the conventional Italian folktale. In these tales, we find familiar characters: witches, devils, zombies, priests, rodents, peasants, magical items, sprites... Each tale centers around a fantastical plot that often ends in a surprising and satisfying twist. Despite the contemporary context of

many of the tales (the reader finds cars and marketing meetings mentioned in the text), one feels that these tales would fit comfortably among a collection of older folktales and fairytales - which is to say that they are utterly entertaining and intriguing.

In "Father Bernardo and the Country Devil," we find Father Bernardo faced with a dilemma after a member of the mafia brings his dead colleague to the priest's small town. To save his town from the wrath of mafia, he must come up with clever ways to provide for the "sin-eating" of the deceased mafioso. This ultimately leads him to make a deal with a local devil. The increasingly clever plot reminds one of the folktales presented in Calvino's collection. In the end, one is left satisfied and comes to understand that evil must not always triumph over good - if one is clever and innocent enough.

In "Peppino and the Heartsick Sweater," DiChario creates one of the funniest and most eerie characters, a talking, heartsick sweater. Peppino, the main character, purchases the sweater at a seaside market from an old witch, Brunilda, despite her warning that it "has a history." The sweater falls in love with Peppino's girlfriend, Rosa, and when she leaves

Peppino, the sweater insists that it be reunited with her although she has left it behind. What follows is a hilarious story of twists and turns that leaves the reader laughing aloud but also a bit disturbed. In the end, Peppino returns the sweater to Brunilda in exchange for a goblet with "a history."

In the title tale, one reads about a magical tree that protects the valuable wine of a small Italian village from the ransacking Romans and provides the villagers with eternal life. Of course, this comes with a price. It is perhaps the most powerful and moving tale in the collection.

Giovanni's Tree is a volume of tales that will reward the reader with tales that both delight and provoke.

DiChario's fiction has been nominated for the World Fantasy and Hugo awards, among others, and his stories have appeared in many magazines and anthologies, including *The Best Alternate History Stories of the 20th Century*. He has earned degrees: a bachelor's degree in English from St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York, and a master's in liberal studies from SUNY Empire State College.

JANUARY CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
1/1	Meghan Moyse		Stockton, CA	\$100
1/2	Nellie Cavazos		Gilroy, CA	\$30
1/3	Branch 51		Castroville, CA	\$30
1/4	Cathy Harnett		San Lorenzo, CA	\$50
1/5	Natalie Steele		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
1/6	Linda Marcelli	213	Daly City, CA	\$50
1/7	Rosemarie Clark	391	San Jose, CA	\$30
1/8	Will Santos		Brentwood, CA	\$30
1/9	Paula Marcheschi	10	Oakland, CA	\$30
1/10	Cash Silva		Tracy, CA	\$30
1/11	Patricia Macdonald	144	Arcata, CA	\$30
1/12	Elmer Lorenzi	39	Merced, CA	\$30
1/13	Leo Capovilla	130	Fremont, CA	\$30
1/14	Rita Schillin	438	Roseville, CA	\$30
1/15	Tim Santich		Alamo, CA	\$100
1/16	Robert Hoffman		Salinas, CA	\$30
1/17	Barbara Firpo	351	Palo Alto, CA	\$30
1/18	Leonard Rossi	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
1/19	Branch 198		Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
1/20	Maria Raphael	91	Oakland, CA	\$30
1/21	Branch 36		Monterey, CA	\$30
1/22	Annie McCarthy	210	San Bernardino, CA	\$30
1/23	Louise Segreto	28	Lakewood Ranch, FL	\$30
1/24	Joanne Alvarado	19	Daly City, CA	\$30
1/25	Dolores Aleccia	342	Lincoln, CA	\$30
1/26	Lisa M. Fugazi	82	Lodi, CA	\$30
1/27	Zosima Aquino	111	Montebello, CA	\$30
1/28	Carmelita San Juan	25	Salinas, CA	\$30
1/29	Lori Gallo	39	Merced, CA	\$50
1/30	James Barrett	47	Mountain View, CA	\$30
1/31	Donna Di Grazia		Claremont, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

FEBRUARY CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
2/1	John Strube		Atwater, CA	\$30
2/2	Mara McDaniel	39	O'Donnell, TX	\$30
2/3	Peggy Tartaglino		Santa Cruz, CA	\$30
2/4	Diana Plescia	108	South Pasadena, CA	\$30
2/5	Stephen & Alyssa Fanucchi		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
2/6	Lorna Dumont		Madera, CA	\$30
2/7	Tina Souza-Dutra	368	San Jose, CA	\$30
2/8	Therese Kirkendall		Half Moon Bay, CA	\$30
2/9	Kristine Conklin		Windsor, CA	\$30
2/10	Nancy Sanchez-Clark	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
2/11	Wade Wantoch		Brookings, SD	\$30
2/12	Sharon Brunetti	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
2/13	Laurie Sullivan		San Francisco, CA	\$30
2/14	Gina Civiello		Madera, CA	\$50
2/15	Virginia Williams	285	Livermore, CA	\$30
2/16	Analisa Zamora		Fresno, CA	\$30
2/17	Teresa Barnes		Salinas, CA	\$30
2/18	Fr. Cesar Galan		Downey, CA	\$30
2/19	Don & Joyce Kudrna	391	Santa Clara, CA	\$100
2/20	Jack Millpointer		Alameda, CA	\$30
2/21	Fr. Mario Rizzo	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
2/22	Dina Macdonald	144	Arcata, CA	\$30
2/23	Sophia Neveu		Torrance, CA	\$30
2/24	Angela Lu Duke		San Bernardino, CA	\$30
2/25	Bev Raggio		Merced, CA	\$30
2/26	Fr. Ron Shirley	36	Monterey, CA	\$30
2/27	Sharon Hromek	127	Petaluma, CA	\$30
2/28	Michele Silveri	108	South Pasadena	\$30
2/29	Fran La Torre	215	Hayward, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

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

22nd Annual Central Council
CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Save the Date

Friday JULY 26 2024

Start Time: 8:30 am

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

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

22nd Annual Central Council
CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday JULY 26 2024

Shotgun Start 8:30 AM

Bennett Valley Golf Course
3328 Yulupa Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

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

REGISTRATION FEE:
\$180 includes: Green Fees, Golf Cart, Range Balls, Prize Fund & Fiesta Buffet
Deadline Friday, July 14, 2024
After price per Golfer \$190
Banquet only: \$50

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

22th Annual Central Council
GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday JULY 26, 2024

"Fiesta Buffet"

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

Time: 1:00 pm
Place: Bennett Valley Grill - 3328 Yulupa Ave - Santa Rosa
Price: \$50 per person
Delicious Fiesta Buffet - 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
Bennett Valley Golf Course - 3328 Yulupa Ave - Santa Rosa, CA 95405

22th Annual Central Council
GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday JULY 26, 2024

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: One per Region Available \$250
Hole Sponsor: Sponsor a hole and have your name next to the tee box! (18 available) \$100
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 #: _____
My Sponsorship is for Northern CA

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

Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

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

Dear Members:

Happy March Birthday Wishes to our members: Fr. Guglielmo Lauriola, Mariano Fontana and Isabella Cresci.

Please save the date: Joe and Judy Matranga will host a luncheon at their house in San Francisco on Wednesday, April 3rd.

President Vic says thank you to all members who have paid their dues.

Easter Blessings to all Members and their Families.

Cordiali Saluti

Diana Cresci

San Francisco St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

We hope all of our members had a Happy Valentine's Day and we wish you a Happy St. Patrick's Day on March 17th. We also celebrate Easter on March 31st. Buona Pasqua to all of our members and their families.

A big thank you to Mark Neuburger and his family for our Merry Christmas donation to the ICF Scholarship Fund. Mark is Eva's Great Nephew and Mary's Grandson. We love all of you!! Grazie.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Br. 258 wishes that the New Year will bring Much Happiness and Good Health to all of our Branches and their Families. Please take care of yourself and stay safe.

*Ciao,
Eva Perata, President*

SAN MATEO District Council

Hope you all have a Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Our next District meeting will be February 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the small hall of Our Lady of Angels. We will be having a spontino and many branches have already told us what they will bring. If you haven't yet, please email Kathy Trevizo kltrvizo@gmail.com to find out what is needed.

Installation of Officers 2024—is set

for Saturday, March 9, at 11:00 a.m. Basque Cultural Center. Branch checks are due by February 29 and should be sent to Eunice Danli, 4 Spring Valley Lane, Millbrae, CA 94030. The entrees are Roast Veal with Piccata Sauce, Salmon with Champagne sauce, Eggplant Parmesan.

All Branches: Please, Please, Please, turn in your Bishop's Day Spiritual bouquet and your branch Seminary burse. You can send your information to Bea Tomasello (address below)

Reminder to All District Branches: Please pay your District Dues for 2024--\$50 and send your check to Bea Tomasello, 1348 Paloma Avenue, Burlingame, CA 94010.

Thank you to the branches that have sent in your 2024 officers list. Debbie Rodondi said she has received all.

Please mark your calendars for June 9, 2024. We will be celebrating 100 years of the Italian Catholic Federation at a Gala held at the Basque Cultural Center. I know this is far in advance so please mark your calendars.

*Ciao,
Barbara*

Burlingame

Br. 173, Our Lady of Angels

We welcomed two members to serve as part of our team. Mary Ann Camacho will be Vice-President as Brenda Wemiz will have her plate full with dues, hospitality and offering to help with finances. Kudos to you Brenda!

Our Sunshine duties will be handled by Helen Quilici a long time member of our branch. Thank you for stepping up!

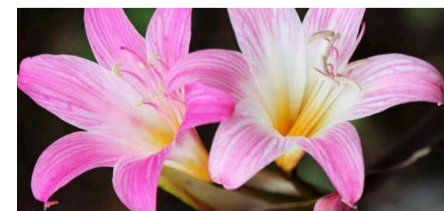
Installation of Officers for 2024 will be held on March 9, 2024. All members are invited to attend. The lunch will be from 11:00 - 3:00 p.m. starting with a prayer service, followed by installation and lunch around 12:30. Menu: Roast Veal, Salmon with Champagne Sauce and Eggplant Parmesan \$45/pp and includes wine.

Our 100-year anniversary celebration will be a lunch on June 9, 2024, at the Basque Cultural Center. More information will be advised soon.

Dues need to be paid no later than March 31, 2024. If any questions, please call Brenda or Dorene

Please keep ST. JOSEPH in mind this month along with prayers for Br#173- Mary Bodisco, Anita Cecena, Fred and Melanie Yeager who are both battling Cancer. Please include from Br.19 Jackie Barnes and Kathy Trevizo.

*God Bless,
Rosalind Emery*



South San Francisco Br. 213, St. Augustine

We began 2024 with our meeting on January 9. President Joyce and Marianne Cameron (hopefully our new president) provided a delicious ravioli dinner with all the trimmings. Unfortunately, our meeting was sparsely attended by our members.

Our next meeting on February 13, to be chaired by Donna DeVoe and her committee (Diane Pangburn and Marianne). Let's hope for a good turnout!

Our March 12 meeting will be our annual St. Joseph's Table. Because of our limited number of branch members, it was decided to have the Table for our members only. Donna DeVoe and her committee (Diane and Marianne) have volunteered to chair this event.

SAN MATEO DISTRICT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: Saturday, March 9, 2024. to be held at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. Details have been mailed to all members. Call Roberta for any questions.

UPCOMING EVENT: Sunday, June 9, 2024 is the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Catholic Federation. Celebration to be held at Basque Cultural Center. More information to come!

My thanks to President Joyce James who has worked so hard to keep Branch 213 going for the past five plus years. Great job, Joyce!

SUNSHINE: Please keep in your prayers, Jackie Smith and Linda Marselli, both who will be having surgery mid-February.

Lastly, my thanks to everyone for promptly paying their dues!

Menlo Park Br. 351, St. Patrick's

Happy St. Patrick's Day in March. We will have corned beef and cabbage dinner at our Thursday, March 7, meeting. Dinner will be \$18.00 a person. I have a pretty good count from our February meeting, but if you would like to join us, please give me a call 650-444-6999 or Cory at 650-867-8946 for your reservation.

We welcomed a new member at our February meeting, Lydia Dioli Cooper. Welcome Lydia!!

Installation of Officers will be March 9 at the Basque Cultural Center.

We voted to give an ICF 1st year Scholarship which are due by April 1.

Please hold June 9, 2024, for the 100-year Italian Catholic Federation Gala at the Basque Cultural Center. This is a once in a lifetime celebration and I hope many of us will be able to attend.

Please keep our sick and deceased members in your prayers. Also remember Nativity has a 5:30 p.m. mass for our deceased members the 1st Thursday of each month.

Barbara

Millbrae Br. 403, St. Dunstan

We must sadly report that member Lois Agresti passed away on February 2nd. Our hearts go out to her husband, Nate and their family. Our branch is making a \$400 donation in her memory to the Scholarship Fund. We will miss you, Lois!

We had a very enjoyable pizza dinner on February 6th. Special thanks to Tina Pessagno, who made a wonderful apple cake for dessert. Our next meeting will be a social & dessert "no cost" event on March 5th, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Eunice at 650-692-3740 by March 1st.

We have cancelled our St. Joseph's Table event for this year due to other events on our schedule. We are hosting the San Mateo District Installation on Saturday, March 9th at the Basque Cultural Center. The event begins at 11 a.m., and all officers should plan on attending. The cost for the lunch is \$45. Please contact your branch President for details and meal selections. Reservations are due by Thursday, Feb. 29th.

Lastly, our April meeting is April 2nd and features our very popular lasagna. The social begins at 5 p.m., & dinner at 5:30 with the meeting to follow. Cost is \$15 & includes salad, wine, & dessert. Contact Eunice by March 29th.

Ciao! -Adonna Amoroso, Secretary

MARIN

Novato

Br. 332, Our Lady of Loretto

Our February dinner meeting took place on the evening of Carnevale, and there was no shortage of colorful beads, masks, and spirited fun. The Italian saying, "A Carnevale ogni scherzo vale" (Anything goes at Carnival time), was in full play with surprise activities for our wonderful membership.

A special drawing will be held at the March dinner meeting during the celebration of the feast of St. Joseph and honoring Father's Day in Italy. A case of high quality imported Italian wines, valued at over \$400, will be offered in the drawing. The ticket price is \$10 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$20. The Branch is grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Larry Mazzotta, who procured and donated the case of wines.

The Branch is pleased to announce that in February a donation was made to the ICF Gifts of Love program, and that an ICF First Year Scholarship donation is being made in March. Thank you to the members for their continued support of our Branch and activities, making it possible for the Branch to meet its commitment to these and other important programs.

May the glory and promise of Easter bring peace and happiness to you and all those you hold dear. *Buona Pasqua!*

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE District Council

Well, 2024 is moving right along folks. Here we are in the month of March. Spring is here and the flowers are blooming from all of that winter rain we received. Lent is now over two weeks in and at the end of this month we will celebrate the glorious day of our Lord's Resurrection.

Officers and members of the LA district along with past grand president Andy Pappani manned the ICF's Exhibitor booth at the annual Religious Education Congress. A huge thank you to Past Grand President Jim Jones, for sponsoring this year's booth.

The plans are under way for the 100th Gala event in the LA district. June 29th with a 1 p.m. mass at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral in downtown LA and a luncheon to follow at Casa Italiana.

A very Happy and Blessed Easter to you all!!

Br. 67, National Branch, St. Peter

ICF members played Bocce in the first 2024 "PAISANI" BOCCE TOURNAMENT between members of ICF N Branch 67 and Garibaldina MB Society at the indoor Garibaldi Bocce Courts on January 13, 2024. Garibaldina won 1st place, ICF 2nd place and Garibaldina 3rd Place. The Perpetual Trophy was awarded to the 1st place team and will reside at the Garibaldina Facility. ICF Members have shown a strong interest to have a second Tournament in Spring for a chance at retrieving the Trophy. All ICF members interested in playing in the next Bocce tournament to be located at the new outdoor Bocce Courts in Burbank contact Carmelo at cas1810@aol.com.

Thank you ICF members for making this a successful event.

SAVE THE DATE

- March 8, 2024, The Cabrini Movie by Angel Studios opens worldwide at selected Theaters. All are encouraged to see this latest Movie of St Frances Xavier Cabrini

and learn about the Catholic Church's first American Saint and the founder of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Also plan a visit to the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank, CA on your next Pilgrimage. For more information call 626-372-7812.

- April 14, 2024, ICF National Branch 67 General Meeting 10:30 am to 12 pm.

- June 9, 2024, ICF National Branch 67 General Meeting 10:30 am to 12 pm.

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

who recently have gone to their eternal reward. May they rest in peace.

*Keep safe and stay healthy,
Carmelo Sabatella, AIA Past President
ICF Branch 67
C 626 372-78122. E cas1810@aol.com*

South Pasadena Br. 108, Holy Family

ICF Members staffed the Branch Continental Breakfast and 'HOLY CON-NOLI' event on Sunday, January 21st. Thank you ICF members and Holy Family Parishioners for making these two successful events.

SAVE THE DATE

- March 3, 2024, ICF Branch 108 Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in San Antonio Winery.

- March 8, 2024, The Cabrini Movie by Angel Studios opens worldwide at selected theaters. All are encouraged to see this latest Movie of St Frances Xavier Cabrini and learn about the Catholic Church's first American Saint and the founder of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Also plan a visit to the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank, CA. For more information call 626-372-7812.

- April 7, 2024, ICF Branch 108 General Meeting at 3 p.m. in HFC Connolly Hall

We continue to pray for the speedy Resolution of the present crisis and to keep our sick members in your prayers for a speedy recovery; and to our former Branch members and friends of ICF who recently have gone to their eternal reward. May they rest in peace.

*Keep safe and stay healthy,
Carmelo Sabatella, AIA Past President
ICF Branch 108. C 626 372-78122*

Montebello Br. 111, St. Benedict

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our March General Meeting will be on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, in Montebello. Join us for refreshments and cake as we celebrate the Birthdays of the following members who have birthdays this month: Tony De Lorenzo, Estera Veneziano, Margaret Valdez-Gallardo, Christina Grimaldi, Tanina Sergi, Della Rodriguez and Azadhoui Cursaro. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

This year we will be commemorating our annual Feast of St. Joseph Table at St. Benedict Church, Parish Hall, located at 1022 W. Cleveland Avenue, in the City of Montebello, on Saturday, March 16th, from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 17th, from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Table will be blessed on Saturday, March 16th at noon by St. Benedict's Pastor, Father Fredric Abiera. There will be a Free pasta meal on both days to everyone

attending the special event!

Traditional Italian foods, Italian sausage sandwiches, cannoli, and other desserts will also be available for purchase. Also available for purchase at nominal prices will be homemade breads, cookies, bottles of wine, fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, fresh flowers, and various blooming 1-gallon and 5-gallon nursery plants.

Mark your calendars: the ICF 100th Anniversary Gala for Southern California will be on Saturday, June 29, 2024 with mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels in Los Angeles, followed with a luncheon at Casa Italiana.

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

*God Bless!
Frank Salomone, President
ICF Branch 111*

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

Thank you to all our members and friends who supported our March 2 fundraiser crab dinner which honors our patron saint John Joseph of the Cross. We so appreciate all the help from many volunteers. We all enjoyed a delicious feast. The evening was spent dancing, singing and many guest walked away as raffle winners. Thank you to all ICF members, families and friends for supporting this major fundraiser.

Mass honoring St John Joseph of the Cross was celebrated on March 5. Thank you to all who attended.

Our next casino day trip will be on March 14th to Harrah's casino. Please call Pauline Iacono to sign up 310 832-0563 \$40.00 per person.

Our annual Laughlin trip is planned for April 7 to April 9th. We will be staying at Aquarius Hotel \$185.00 per person double occupancy or \$250.00 single occupancy. For more info or to reserve, please call Pauline Iacono at 310 8320563 deadline is March 5

Our next general meeting will be on March 21st at 7:30 p.m.

Deadline for ICF 1st year scholarship is April 1, 2024. Applications for graduating seniors can be found at ICF.org. Our branch donates 2 first year scholarships.

I am sad to report the passing of member Rita Nappi. She joined the branch in 1977. Our condolences to her family. May she rest in peace.

2024 dues are payable. Branch 115 dues are \$42.00 Dues can be paid at meeting or mailed to Pauline Iacono 1072 W 8th St. San Pedro 90731

Our branch would like to wish a Happy 90th birthday to member Cecilia Iacono! May God bless you and your family

Ciao! -Anita Gioiello Trujillo

Arcadia Br. 218, Holy Angels

To celebrate Catholic school week, the ICF Branch 218 welcomed parents, grandparents and guests to delightful pancake breakfast and raffle! All profits from the fundraiser went to support the parish school, Holy Angels School in Arcadia. A great time was had by all!

Backtracking a bit there were some changes on the board— Mary Rovarino is now 1st VP, Lorena Huang, 2nd VP, Barbara Hicks, Orator and Peter Serdersasich is our 4th trustee. A huge thank you to Scott Carrano for all his untiring contributions as 1st VP and for chairing the pancake breakfast once again and to all that helped in the kitchen and serving. The proceeds from this event were donated to Holy Angels School.

Another change is the way in which everyone RSVPs for the luncheons. These will be done by EVite from your phone (really easy) through Google. We also had a vote taken as to whether the lunches should be before the meetings or after. The vote was taken, and it was decided to have it before. At this time, there are some logistical problems which are being handled.

Our next event is the St. Joseph's Table which will be held on Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, the 17th. Set up will be on Friday, the 15th, after 3 p.m. Saturday, set up all day and pasta dinners served after the 5:00 Mass, Sunday, the event is from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is our largest fundraiser and is always an enormous success due to everyone's participation. Again, we need your baked goods and entrees which should be brought to the hall on Saturday or early Sunday morning. Looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Lolly M.

**Deadline for
April Issue of
the *Bollettino* is
March 10.
Send your
articles &
photos:
editor@icf.org**

***Be sure to
include branch
name and
number.***

Downey

Br. 362, St. Raymond

Happy March! We made it to Springtime! Last month at our General Meeting our Heritage Chairperson - Christina Ladd, made her very first batch of cannoli and gave us a brief history on them. She will now be making them for part of our St Joseph Bake Sale which will be the weekend of the 16th & 17th. Come on out on Saturday the 16th after the 5 p.m. mass and enjoy the table blessing and a wonderful pasta dinner. We will continue it on Sunday the 17th after the morning masses.

A few of us from the district spent Presidents' Day weekend in Anaheim at the convention center manning the ICF booth at the annual Religious Education Congress. It was a great weekend and we got to meet some wonderful people.

Don't forget to pay your dues if you haven't already. Our next General Meeting will be on Thursday March 7th at 7 p.m. and looking towards April, our next Bingo Luncheon will be on April 14th.

On March 10th Danette Buckley will be presenting the Living Last Supper once again. A living depiction of Leonardo Da Vinci's famous painting.

Can you believe that Easter is right on our tails? It's an early Easter this year, Happy and Blessed Easter to you all.

Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia!!

La Canada Flintridge

Br. 374, St. Bede the Venerable

The biggest fundraiser of our branch, the Feast of St. Joseph is coming up soon. Chairpersons Lila Nastro and Gloria Mc Gaughey busy finalizing plans for the Table and Phyllis Harb is categorizing the wonderful array of items and restaurant gift cards. In addition, Maria DeSalquero and Raul Acevedo have arranged for a special procession at the Sunday, March 17th 11:00 Mass.

We ask all members to contribute in some way to the Table. Bring baked goods and casseroles to the Parish Center Sat., 3/16 between 10-2 p.m., or if your time is limited, a monetary donation would be greatly appreciated. Monies collected will be allocated to our usual charities and to the ANEW project. Profits were so healthy last year that we were also able to recently make a generous donation to the St. Peter's Italian Church Maintenance Fund.

Italian classes, another of our successful fundraisers, will be held May 4-8, Saturday mornings for 6 weeks. Cost is \$135 for members and \$150 for non-members.

Welcome new members Joyce Serra, George Harb, and Tony Baumgartner. We hope you will be active participants and enjoy the ICF camaraderie.

Dates to remember:

Sunday, March 3rd- Membership Drive
Sat., March 16th- St. Joseph Set-up -volunteers are needed.

Sunday, March 17th- Feast of St. Joseph Mass and Table

Sunday, June 9th- Lakeside Country Club Mass and Lunch

Saturday, June 29th- L.A. District 100th Anniversary Mass and Dinner Celebration

Diane Restivo

Thousand Oaks

Br. 380, St. Paschal Baylon

Greetings from Branch 380 as we enter our 40th year as an ICF branch. This year, Easter comes early, so Madi Gras, Fat Tuesday and Ash Wednesday seemed to be an extension of the Winter Holidays.

Our district officer installation was held on January 28, at Branch 443, Simi Valley. Everyone was welcomed to St. Rose of Lima church by Father Larry Neumeier, assisted by Deacon Dave Lawrence, and by guest Deacon, Bob Mescher, from Branch 447, American Martyrs, Manhattan Beach, CA. An outstanding lunch followed the ceremony.

Our Branch meeting consists of a core group which plan our events. Our St. Joseph Table is planned for March 17, with a bake sale from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and dinner from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. We are inviting our young members and their friends to bake their favorite goodies for the bake sale and dinner dessert. This year we will provide dining entertainment by the Rhythm Kings, along with the usual fare and raffle baskets. Dinner ticket sales will begin Sunday, February 25th after all masses, and will continue on March 3rd and 10th. Adults--\$20, Children--\$10, and \$25 for reserve seating. Tickets may be purchased online as well.

Blanche Alessandrino, charter member of Branch 380, passed on to her eternal reward. Blanche, and her husband, Iggy, started the branch in March 1985, and were active members, including recognition by the Central Council as Family of the Year in 2018. Blanche and Iggy will be missed.

Members were invited to participate in the special screening and the worldwide release of the movie, Cabrini. Some information used in the movie was acquired from the Cabrini Shrine in Burbank, CA. Branch members also participated with the ICF booth at the Religious Education Congress in Anaheim, CA, February 16-18. Save the date for the ICF 100th Anniversary Gala in Los Angeles, June 29.



Simi Valley

Br. 443, St. Gianna

On Sunday, January 28, St. Rose of Lima, Branch 443 hosted the LA District Installation. Representatives from eleven branches attended. The day began with Mass at which Deacon Dave, spiritual advisor to Branch 443, assisted.

This was followed by everyone gathering in the church hall where the officers of LA District and local branch officers were installed. Perry Shurko, District president, presided.

Deacon Bob from Manhattan Beach also joined us.

After the installations were completed, we all enjoyed delicious Italian food catered by Viva La Pasta. We also had an opportunity to talk with members from other branches about their future events.

ICF Branch 443 supports the Knights of Columbus Fish Fry. Delicious grilled or fried fish with coleslaw, fried clams, French fries, macaroni and cheese, bread, coffee, punch and dessert are served. Join us every Friday during Lent, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the KC Hall 1255 Patricia Ave. Simi Valley 93065.

Buona Pasqua a tutti !!! Happy Easter to all !!!

Peace and Blessings,

Josephine M. Perini

Rancho Palos Verdes

Br. 444, St. John Fisher

We are happy to say that Br. 444 survived El Nino's first rain. Mary Alley's outside water-measuring device recorded 9.44 inches to date. Today's earthquake was 4.6 & shook our peninsula pretty good.

Our Officer installation was held, Sunday, January 28th at St. Rose of Lima Parish. President, Hany Francis, Carol Piccirillo, Bruno Vieri, Tonia Amalfitano & Cristina Baldemor were installed. A lovely luncheon was served & our group were able to meet other ICF members who attended.

On February 16th we will be hosting the annual Lenten Soup Supper. We will prepare tomato soup & Grilled cheese sandwiches. Many will distribute suggestions for individual prayers & actions for the 40 days of Lent.

On March 3rd we will be participating in the exhibition of all the active ministries in our parish. Each ministry will have a special table to show what each of them do yearly. Our table will display all ICF activities on March 15th at 7:00 p.m. On Friday, the General Meeting will pay homage to St. Joseph. Our St. Joseph's table will include, bread, fruit, sweets, flowers, maybe Polenta. We hope to see all of you there to celebrate St. Joseph's Special day.

Sending prayers to Marianne Canetti, Guido Frassinelli & others not feeling well. St Catherine & Mother Cabrini, pray for us.

Ciao, Patty Longo Hansen

Oakland

East Bay District Council

Starting the year enthusiastically and wholeheartedly, EB district held the installation of 2024 district and branch officers on January 21st with an afternoon of faith, fellowship, and good food!

After a beautiful opening Mass offered by Chaplain, Father Mario Rizzo, the formal installation conducted by Grand President Denise Antonowicz proceeded.

Father Rizzo's homily, Denise's opening remarks, and EBD President, JoAnn Maggiora-Donivan's installation speech inspired us to maintain our commitment to the ICF values, serving in faith, fellowship, and enjoyment (often with good food).

The Fratellanza Club kitchen served a delicious luncheon of antipasti, ravioli, and ice cream; complementing lively, warm speeches and commentary, presented by our entertaining MC, Ed McGuirk. Thanks to Branch 285 and President Carlotta Schauer for coordinating the event.

EB District appreciates CC members/dignitaries who joined us: Denise Antonowicz: Grand President, Lauren Kilcullen: 2nd Grand VP, Deborah Rodondi: Grand Secretary/Past Grand President, Lisa Crudo: Grand Treasurer, Leonard Rossi: Parliamentarian, Past Grand President/ Chevalier-Order St. Lazarus, Karen Rossi: EBD Mentor, Bob Basuino: Grand Sentinel/ Past Grand President/ Life member, Mike Rossi: Past Grand President/Life member emeritus/ Commander-Order St. Lazarus, Jim Jones: Past Grand President/ Life Member emeritus, Carmen Kilcullen: Past Grand President/ Life Member emeritus.

Sincerely
Roberta Madej



SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT



Branch 368, Installation Dinner Head Table



Br. 368 ICF Officers at Church



Br. 368 Installation of ICF Officers - Award to John Gillio



Br. 368 Installation of Officers, Fr. Crisp, guest, Fr. George John Gillio



Santa Teresa San Jose Creche 2024 SCVD Installation



Branch #184 Being initiated are Lou and Marlene Ferrigno, Virginia Giacomini, Janice Lamotte, Mary Kalpin and Richard Geruson. Donna Pfaff and Deanna Meyer conducted the initiation.



Patricia Look and Jennie Castilano @ 2024 SCVD Installation



Br. 408, 2023 SCVD Christmas Party @ Tina Duta, Jennie Castilano, Sandr Delatuer



Br.408, CC installing officers @ SCVD 2024

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)



Branch 391 Charter Members Mary Lipari, Donna Rossi and Marie Patellaro



Br. 445 Officer's for 2024



Br.445 Phil and Jean Cosentino



Br. 445 Members with December/January Birthdays



Br. 445 Marti Rao and Mardi Gras Basket

EAST BAY DISTRICT



The ICF Branch #215 - Fremont / East Bay District Installation of Officers January 21, 2024



EBD President JoAnn Maggiora Donivan giving installation speech. Grand President Denise Antonowicz is seated.



Father Mario Rizzo being installed as EBD Chaplain by Lisa Crudo

BLESSED SACRAMENT DISTRICT



Branch 342 Board for 2024

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT



Br. 291, Arroyo Grande, was honored to have Grand 1st Vice President, Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Grand President, Denise Antonowicz, and Central Coast District President, Roseanne Costabile, attend our 50th Anniversary celebration!



An original Charter Member of Br. 291, Mario Ancecchini, is pictured here with President Pete Gallagher at the 50th Anniversary celebration of Br. 291, Arroyo Grande.



Br. 36, More Pasta Night



Phyllis Grillo Branch 36



Hope and Sal Cardinalli Branch 36



Tarantella Branch 36



Pasta Night Branch 36

Alameda

Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

We welcomed 89 more-than-satisfied guests to our annual Polenta Dinner on Saturday evening, January 13. Many thanks to our co-chefs, Ben Ratto and Bob Lubeck.

Our Lenten Fish Fry Dinners began on Friday, February 16. The dinners are served after Stations of the Cross at Saint Philip Neri Church on every Friday in Lent through March 22. The doors of Monsignor O'Brien Hall will be opened at 6:00 p.m. The price is \$17.00. Reservations are not required. The meal is followed by religiously themed movies. The first two were American classic films "Casablanca" and "Rear Window."

At the time this article was submitted, we were planning our annual Irish Social scheduled for Saturday, March 9. We were to be entertained by young ladies from the McBride School of Irish Dance.

Our Saint Joseph's Day Table celebration, our first since 2019, is planned for Tuesday, March 19. The dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. and will be preceded by a special Mass for ICF members offered by our pastor-chaplain, Father Joseph Pathiyil, mf. The price is \$25.00. Reservations to Michael Marcheschi, 510-523-4720, by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 14. Payment by check made payable to "ICF Branch 10" and mailed to Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish Office, 3101 Van Buren Street, Alameda 94501. Attendees are asked to bring a dessert—Italian or otherwise—to be enjoyed by all.

Yes, this is our busiest time of the year!
John Zugnoni, Publicity

Fremont

Br. 215, St. Francis of Assisi

2024 began with ICF Branch 215 welcoming four new members. Welcome Rick and Cathy Laden as well as Rebecca Engineer and hubby. Your initiations will take place a branch meeting in the near future.

Members, be sure to mark your calendars with these upcoming events:

- (1) Wednesday Night Soup Suppers beginning 2/21/2024 and ending 3/20/2024. Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at 7:30 p.m.
- (2) April - Br. 215's 2nd Annual Cash Raffle.
- (3) 6/2/2024 Branch 215 will host the Dessert Booth at Corpus Christi's Parish Festival
- (4) July, Br. 215 will host a fundraiser at Strizzi's Italian Restaurant, Fremont, CA. Date and time to be announced in near future.

Last, but not least, please mark

6/9/2024 on your calendars. The Northern California ICF Districts and Branches will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the ICF at The Basque Cultural Center.

Check district picture section for the photo of our branch at the East Bay District Installation of Officers on January 21, 2024

Best wishes to all members celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and any other special family events during the month of March. Happy St. Patrick's Day and Happy St. Joseph's Day!

Respectfully submitted,
Fran LaTorre, President ICF Br. 215

Livermore

Br. 285, St. Filomena

We are all enjoying the "almost Spring" weather this month. ICF is now 100 years old and lots of anniversary events are planned to celebrate. We are all looking forward to our highly anticipated Polenta Dinner in April, but before then we will be hosting our February 18, Sunday Social Meeting at St. Augustine's. The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. with a homemade pasta main dish and end with an assortment of tasty desserts, all while enjoying our planned program. Then, on Sunday, March 17, we will be hosting our traditional St. Patrick and St. Joseph's Table, at 1:30 at St. Augustine's, collecting non-perishable food for our local charities. As always, our members bring finger foods to be enjoyed during our programs. Our meetings now include our Italian heritage illustrated with a map of Italy and displaying the locations where our members originated and offer a bit of their history.

On Sunday, April 27, at 6:00 p.m. we will offer our long-awaited Polenta Dinner. The cost of the dinner is \$45, which includes the delicious polenta, dessert, and beverages, including wine. There will be Raffle baskets to win, and good company to enjoy. More details will follow shortly.

Future meetings we are planning in May: a possible speaker from the Independent to give us some insight into the history of the building, its founder, and the current newspaper. Christmas in July is being planned, and we are considering another Bingo Fundraiser with Golden Friends for August at St. Michael's. Our last bingo event was very successful; everyone had a wonderful time and there were lots of winners.

We are looking forward to the coming months, with lots of fun and interesting activities planned. If you interested in attending any of our upcoming events and would like more information, please contact me at virginia1153@comcast.net. We would love to have your company.

Virginia Williams
Recording Secretary

Castro Valley

Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace

Well, it has been an eventful beginning of the year for our Branch; we began with Installation at the Fratallanza club, with Mass being held at 1 p.m. instead of at 2—which worked out fine. We then followed up with 2 fine meetings of pizza in Jan. and baked potatoes and salad in February, and although Lent will begin in February, we will be looking forward to Corned Beef and Cabbage in March.

The annual Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed went well, thank you to all who turned out and helped. There were 136 who attended, happy eating!

Due to the knee surgery of our leader for the Manicotti sale, Cheryl Miraglia and the illness of her husband Mike, we have cancelled the sale for the present.

Our Branch will celebrate its 45 anniversary on April 20th with a dinner at the Buon Appetito, watch for the flyer! Outreach at Transfiguration church has brought in new members, maybe we need to have one at OLG.

As we begin this holy season of Lent, let us remember that it leads up to the sacrifice that God made of His Son to save us, so any sacrifice that we make is in thanksgiving for this. Pray and Sacrifice!

Pat Grasso, Sec. Br. #343

CONTRA COSTA District Council

Our annual Installation was held on January 27 at St. Isidore parish in Danville. District Chaplain, Rev. Larry Young celebrated the mass and district president, Diana Mackinson was the cantor accompanied by Teri Hurlbut, pianist. Lectors were Joan and Bob Marx. The Installing officer at the Installation was Lauren Kilcullen, Second Vice President of the Central Council. Our Marshalls were Past Grand President and Parliamentarian of the Central Council, Leonard Rossi and Grand Treasurer of the Central Council, Lisa Crudo. Former first lady, Karen Rossi also joined us. Thanks to Ed McGirk for serving as acting secretary and to Marianne Bordogna and the Danville Branch for hosting our luncheon. Brentwood will host next year.

District mentor, Patty Jarrett appointed the following members as 2024 mentors: for Crockett, Matt Dallara; for Richmond, John Lira; for Concord, Peggy Aiello Hagerthy; for Danville, Juliette Cote; and for Pleasant Hill, Maria Catanese-Helberg. We still need mentors for Martinez and Brentwood.

Our next meeting will be on April 11 at 7 o'clock p.m. at Christ the King Parish Hall, Rooms A and B. Happy Saint Patrick's Day on March 17, and St. Joseph's Day on March 19. As we continue our Lenten journey, we wish all a blessed and happy Easter.

Patty Jarrett
Past President/ District Mentor

Martinez

Br. 13, San Martino

Words matter. Actions matter more. We see it in our lives, we see it in government, and we see it in the ICF. Remember the adage, "Actions speak louder than words" meaning that people's actions show their real attitudes toward you? It's so obvious and disheartening to watch ICF members at every level, disrespect others rather than act as God would do. Don't ignore or exclude someone from helping with projects or keep them from offering their opinion on a matter, invite them to participate, encourage them to offer suggestions, include them, welcome them, and speak to them. It's a simple and kind gesture to acknowledge a person's presence whether or not you're fond of them, especially at the sign of peace.

Remember the words of Dorothy Day who said, "Your love of God is only as great as the love you have for the person you love the least." A mantra I live by.

In recognition of "International Women's Day" on March 8th during "Women's History Month" the premier of the movie, "Cabrini" opens in theaters marking the date. Maybe use an outing to view this film of one of our patrons as your branch heritage for the month.

March 10th put your clocks ahead to gain that hour of sunshine. Use the extra daylight to complete your Lenten sacrifices in anticipation of the triduum, always and most importantly keeping God's presence at the center of your days.

Branch#13's Pasta Bingo Dinner, Saturday, April 13. \$30 each. For tickets: ICFbranch13martinez@gmail.com.

Enjoy Saints Patrick's and Joseph's days and have a joyous Easter!

Arrivederci, -Mary Cook



CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT



Installed Officers of Branch #214



Installation of new officers for 352



Crab Feed 352



ICF Contra Costa Installation



Br. 352, Russ and Dan



ICF Contra Costa Installation



ICF Contra Costa Installation



ICF Contra Costa Installation



ICF Contra Costa Installation

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT (continued)



Crab. Feed in January, Branch 352, Delizioso!!!



Branch #442 Installation of Officers for 2024



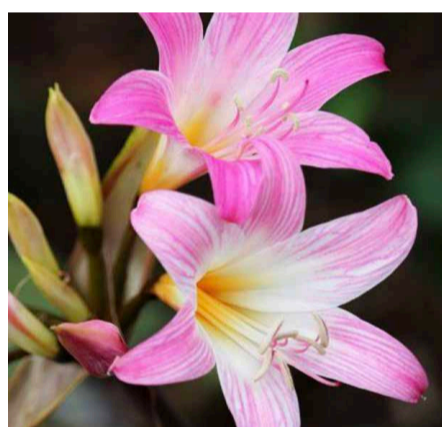
Branch#13: President Tom Cook holds the flyer for the upcoming branch Pasta Bingo Dinner on April 13 in Martinez. For tickets, call 925-229-2665 or visit ICFbranch13martinez@gmail.com



Congratulations to our Crockett #14 officers at the Contra Costa installation. Wishing you all a successful upcoming year.



Sad news from Crockett #14. We lost one of our longtime officer in December, Wanda Abbondanza. She was our financial secretary for many, many years. We will miss you. Rest In Peace



**Crockett
Br. 14, San Carlo**

Ciao Amici!

It's hard to believe that the celebration of Easter is right around the corner. It's such a wonderful time to reflect and share with others. I love all the traditions of Easter, both religious and secular. The hope and promise of the Resurrection, along with egg hunts and chocolate bunnies. As a branch, we can enjoy this special season together as a group of friends. And as we all know, a true friend is someone who thinks you're a good egg, even if you're cracked.

Congratulations to our installed officers for 2024. We were very well represented at the February Installation in Danville, and we know that they will continue to make us proud in the coming year.

A big thank you to the Smith sisters, Clo and Sylvia, for treating us to such a delicious dinner at our last meeting. We're waiting for you to publish a cookbook for us!

Our March 12th meeting will be the blessing of our St. Joseph's Table by Father Leo (along with a few special guests.) There will be no mass, but our regular meeting will follow. Please bring a meatless dish to share with the branch.

We're sending our warmest thoughts to Lois Ramos, Sandy Bowman, Rose Catalano, Sandy Diaz, and Carmen Nemanick. We hope to see you soon.

Please say some special prayers in memory of Wanda Abbondanza, Tony Cortez, and Carmen McFarling. You will always be in our hearts. Blessings for a Happy Easter! ~Helen

**Concord
Br. 214, Todos Santos**

Ciao,

I hope you are recouping from the wet cold weather. I hope this finds you well and safe.

We had a few events that took place in January.

The new officers of our branch attended a zoom meeting regarding their responsibilities for the position they hold. It was very informative.

We had the installation of district branch officers on January 27th at St Isadoras. There was a mass at 10:00 a.m. in the beautiful church followed by the installation of officers in the hall. There was a delicious lunch catered by the Bellini Family. It was a great event and enjoyed by all. We had 11 representatives from our branch.

For our February meeting we are having a potluck soup dinner made by our branch members. This is a great way to warm up before our meeting.

We are planning our Pizza/Bingo on

March 23rd in Cauche Hall. There will be a delicious lunch catered by Zio Fraedos restaurant. Price includes lunch, 5 games of bingo, dessert and soft drinks and popcorn when playing bingo. There will be raffle prizes also. It is a fun time enjoyed by all. Flyers will be distributed soon.

I hope you have a blessed and happy Valentine's Day.

We pray for the sick and homeless.

Ciao for now,
Norene DeLuca

**Danville
Br. 352, St. Isidore**

Hello All,

January was a busy month for 352. We thank Marianne Bordogna for her service as president for the last 10 years. Our new board includes President: Fred Sanchez, First Vice President: Marianne Bordogna, Second Vice :Russ Bellici, Corresponding Secretary: Ann Marie Baatz, Treasurer and Financial Secretary: Art Panella, Orator, Sally Panella, Trustee's: Joey Rago, Margie Favro, CoTrustee's: Patti Sagrafina/Ray Mattias, Sentinel, Bob Marx, Chaplin TBD. We look forward to planning some events for our community to raise money for our Charities.

Our branch hosted Contra Costa District installation of officers on January 27. Mass was at Saint Isidore at 10 o'clock with Father Larry Young presiding, followed by installation and lunch. 58 members attended, nice to meet other members from other districts.

We also had our annual crab feed in January. The crab was exceptional! We had antipasti, salad, pasta and delicious crab, followed by spumoni Bomba for dessert. "Delizioso." Thank you to Russ and staff and of course the kids from Monte Vista that served and all the members that helped to put on this fun event. We had spontaneous entertainment of singing Italian songs, accompanied by the accordion, thank you Russ, Patti and Dan for encouraging a sing along.

Ciao, Sally Panella

**Pleasant Hill
Br. 442, Christ the King**

At Christ the King, Branch 442, ushered in the new year, 2024 with our first quarterly mass and brunch held on Sunday, January 28th. Mass was at Christ the King church at the 10:30 a.m. mass followed by a lovely brunch at Sherry's Kitchen.

The new Heritage Committee chair, Jan Wrobel, will coordinate a new element for our monthly meetings. Each member is invited to share their family heritage with the group. This promises to be fun and engaging.

On January 27th the ICF District meeting included the installation of the 2024

officers for the district. Mary Ragsdale will be the representative from Branch 442, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill. Thank you, Mary! We are including a photo of our newly elected officers with this edition.

Saluti a tutti e Dio vi benedica!
Diane Delucchi
Christ the King, Branch 442, Pleasant Hill

**BLESSED
SACRAMENT
District Council**

**Auburn
Br. 342, St. Joseph**

We hope you will be able to join us at St. Joseph's Hall in Auburn on April 13th (11:30 - 3:00) for an afternoon of fun and fellowship as we host bingo and lunch. For a ticket price of \$25, you will receive lunch and dessert, one bingo card (more will be available for purchase), ten games of bingo, snacks, one free raffle ticket, and an ICF wine glass with a celebratory beverage. Please contact MaryAnn Mikles (916-759-8466) or Bridget Piziali (530-906-0634) for tickets. Hope to see you there!

Ciao!
Pam Andersen
Board President

**SANTA ROSA
District Council**

**Healdsburg
Br. 52, San Francisco Di
Sales**

We had a great polenta dinner on February 3! We thank everyone who helped set-up and who attended this fun evening. Richard Passalacqua and the crew did an outstanding job with the polenta and sauce!

As a reminder, if you have not paid your 2024 dues, please send them to Carmen, as soon as possible. We are fortunate to be gaining new members.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, March 3: ICF Mass - 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Tuesday, March 12: ICF Monthly Meeting. 6:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Friday, March 22: Fish Fry! Scott Cavallo will be cooking the fish! The price is \$45.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. Childcare will be provided. Please call Carman and Lauren 707-595-3111 for tickets or purchase after Mass starting the weekend of March 2/3. We need raffle and silent auction items for the Fish Fry. This is always a

great event and our biggest fundraiser of the year, Tuesday, May 14: Mother's and Father's Day Dinner. More details to come.

Sunday, June 9: ICF 100th Anniversary Gala at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. More information can be found in the Bollettino.

Happy St. Patrick's Day and Happy Easter!
Lauren

**Petaluma
Br. 127, St. Vincent**

Dear members,

Not sure how clear my messages were last month. It seems that Modesto, branch 27, had their news items attached at the end of ours. In any case it was mostly a reminder regarding the fact that you should have received your events list and officers list. In the meantime, we have voted to change our meeting time to 3 p.m. in the afternoon. It will still be the same day, The second Monday of the month in room 9. Hoping this will make it possible for more of you to join us.

Our district installation was February 4 in Sebastopol. Unfortunately, because of the weather none of the Central Council members were able to join us. Lauren Kilcullen, Carmen and Bob had everything under control. And we had a great time. Sebastopol did a beautiful job, the food was excellent, and the company outstanding. Our own Margaret Cordrey received the president's award for service to the ICF. Way to go Margaret.

Our branch will be in charge of the next major district event, District Day of recollection on April 7 at Saint James. More info to follow.

Sending out good wishes to all,
Dennice DiGirolamo

**Sacramento
Br. 45, St. Mary**

Our first dinner for 2024 will be on Sunday, April 14th at 6:00 p.m. in Giovanni Hall. On the menu: 1/2 Baked Chicken, Polenta with meat sauce, Salad, Bread, Dessert, and Beverage. Pasta is available on pre-order basis with your reservation. Cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members. Branch meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. Please contact me for more information and reservations at (916) 508-1199 by Tuesday, Apr. 9th.

Our deepest sympathy to the Leonard, Raneiri and Hinman families for the recent loss of our members.

Buon Complianno to Branch members with March birthdays: Pat Korf, Phoenix Messier, Ross Messier, and Leo Gignorotti. Have a blessed and joyous day!

Buona Pasqua!
Ciao, Janine

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

February and March are very active months for our branch but first we had installation which was hosted by Branch #145 (Eureka) on Saturday, Jan 27. Bob Acquistapace (Emeritus) did the honors. (photo)

For Shrove Tuesday, Feb 13, we will be enjoying a feast organized by Alfred Eanni (VP).

The bi-annual Chicken & Polenta dinner will be Sunday, March 3. This time we will have a hybrid dinner, having both sit-down and take-out options. The price remains at \$20, and tickets are on a prepaid basis. Call Toni Green @ 707-633-5679 to order. Alfred Eanni ('15) is chair with Pete Stagnoli ('89) being head chef. (photo)

We are pleased to have Joan Dalporto ('06) return in her post as Apostolate and is organizing the St. Joseph's table for March.

The members are looking forward in having a Movie Date for us all to go see the Cabrini movie together when it shows at a local theatre in March. The trailers look amazing!

*Respectfully submitted,
Anne Carlisle Eanni, Secretary*

Eureka**Br. 145, St. Ambrose**

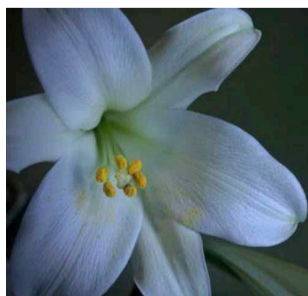
The results of the Bette Chinn Super Bowl of peanut butter and jelly collection competition were not available at press time. The champion of the PB&J Super Bowl will be announced in the next edition of *Il Bollettino*.

Branch 145 and 144's combined installation luncheon held in St Bernard parish hall on January 27th was a happy affair. Thank you to past Grand President Bob and Kathy Acquistapace for driving up from Santa Rosa and officiating the installation.

Please contact Gene Senestraro or Jerry Colivas at jerry.colivas@yahoo.com for information about applications for the Jerry J. Colivas Memorial College Scholarships. Deadline for applications is April 1st.

High school seniors can now complete their applications online at the ICF.org website.

St. Joseph Day table will once again be presented by the Eureka ICF in the courtyard between the church and the parish hall. Members, please bring baked goods for the table before the start of the 10:30 a.m. mass on Sunday March 17th.

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The District Installation of officers in Sebastopol was wonderful. It gave all our officers an official start to 2024. We are very fortunate to have good leaders in our branch and we should thank them for their service.

The cookie exchange on February 5, was very "Sweet" as usual. Thanks to all the good bakers we had a super dessert after our meeting.

The March meeting is set to have our annual corn beef dinner. We also are giving our \$75.00 donation to the Santa Rosa District for the combined charity donation to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa. This annual donation should make all of us feel good.

If you plan to donate a memorial scholarship this year, please get your \$400.00 to Bob Acquistapace before March 14. The judging will be held in April, and we will invite the winners to our meeting in May.

We know that some of our members need our prayers. Please offer up a daily prayer for them and try to attend the Mass at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 27 for both our living and deceased members.

Remember the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday, March 31.

Buona Pasqua a tutti Robert Acquistapace

PS. Plan to attend the Religious Day of Recollection in Petaluma on Sunday, April 7 with Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Sebastopol**Br. 209, St. Michael**

Hello from Branch 209!

This year has started off with lots of fun and exciting events!! On February 4, 2024, our Sebastopol Branch hosted the Santa Rosa District Installation of Officers. It was a stormy day, but the food and company were wonderful. During this event, our Branch President, Pamela McAlvain, was awarded the prestigious President's Award. Pam has been key to the success of our branch!! We are so blessed to have such a wonderful leader.

On February 17, we had our famous Chicken and Polenta dinner, and on March 15 was our delicious and very popular Fish Fry! Both of these events bring the community together for a fun filled night of great food and great fellowship. The proceeds are then given back to many community charities.

We have recently welcomed two new members to our group, Lori Todd and Lane Mills, and look forward to inviting many more new members to join!

Our year is just getting started, and we have many more fun and exciting things to come. FYI, our annual Bocce Tournament is coming up May 19 for any branches that would like to join in!

*Take care and be well!
Yvonne Dorr, Recording Secretary*

FRESNO District**Los Banos****Br. 31, Santa Lucia**

Hello again from branch 31! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday with your family and friends. In a few days we have our annual polenta dinner fundraiser. Make sure you have tickets because it is always a great time with delicious food and desserts! If you have any questions or want to know if there are any tickets left, contact Terri Post.

As a reminder, scholarship and graduation season will soon be here. If you know a high school senior, remind them to pick up our application.

Our next meeting is a breakfast meeting on March 31st at Country Waffles. God Bless!

*Ciao,
Giona Boffa*

Fresno**Br. 32, St. Alphonsus**

We hope that 2024 is starting off as a good year for everyone. We are hoping to have a meeting in March. We will probably meet at a restaurant. We can eat and enjoy each other's company and discuss who we will be donating to this year.

We haven't heard anymore from central council about the decision of closing the branch.

We continue to pray for Lupe Avila, Erna Bonetto, Joann Christian, Annette Husak, Cle-Estria Lett, Isidra Murillo, Josie Reyna, Eddie & Patricia Vivenci.

Lord, we ask you to open our ears so that we may hear your voice. Open our minds so we may receive your eternal wisdom. Open our spirits so that we may know your leading and guidance. Open our hearts so that we may receive your wonderful love.

Happy Birthday to Martha Acuna (Mar. 4th), and a Happy Birthday to Eddie Vivenci (Mar. 12th). Lord, please watch over them on their special day.

*Monica Fisher
Financial Secretary/Treasurer*

Sanger**Br. 70, Sant' Antonio**

Greetings from Branch 70 in Sanger!

We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. At our last meeting we decided to donate \$3,000.00 in scholarships to Sanger High school students who will be chosen after applications are received. We also are giving St. Mary's church \$125.

Our next meeting is a member favorite, a polenta dinner on Feb 17 where everyone attending brings their favorite side dish. It is always a delicious evening.

We want to wish Bob and Sue Merlo speedy recoveries from their current health problems.

Kay Lopez has been our President for the past 12 years and is stepping down after her many years of generous service. She has done a fantastic job and we have been incredibly lucky to have her. Thank you, Kay, for a job well done.

*That's all for now. God Bless you all and have a Happy New Year!
Orsolina Casella*

Clovis**Br. 250, Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

Happy March! We made it to Spring-time! Last month at our General Meeting our Heritage Chairperson—Christina Ladd, made her very first batch of cannoli and gave us a brief history on them. She will now be making them for part of our St Joseph Bake Sale which will be the weekend of the 16th & 17th. Come on out on Saturday the 16th after the 5 p.m. mass and enjoy the table blessing and a wonderful pasta dinner. We will continue it on Sunday the 17th after the morning masses.

A few of us from the district spent Presidents' Day weekend in Anaheim at the convention center manning the ICF booth at the annual Religious Education Congress. It was a great weekend and we got to meet some wonderful people.

Don't forget to pay your dues if you haven't already. Our next General Meeting will be on Thursday March 7th at 7 p.m. and looking towards April, our next Bingo Luncheon will be on April 14th.

On March 10th Danette Buckley will be presenting the Living Last Supper once again. A living depiction of Leonardo DaVinci's famous painting.

Can you believe that Easter is right on our tails? It's an early Easter this year, Happy and Blessed Easter to you all. *Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia!!*

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

Hello Members,

We did not have a meeting in February. Our meeting night coincided with Ash Wednesday.

Our first Sausage Sandwich Sale of the year was held on January 13 and 14. In spite of the cold weather, it was a sell-out. Thank you to Bernie, the kitchen crew, Patti, Cinde, Susan, Debbi, and anyone else I may have missed. These sales along with our restaurant fundraisers, and gift basket raffle make it possible to keep our club alive and allows me and Susan to attend convention.

By the time you read this our Cool Hand Luke's fundraiser will be over. Thank you to all that sold tickets and participated. Especially Debbi.

Another Sausage Sandwich Sale will be held on March 23 and 24. Susan and I will be out of town so our son Dr. Nicholas Newsome will help sell, manage funds and attend to all of your advanced mathematical needs. Bernie will make sure Nick's math is correct.

Many of our members have had serious health issues this year. Our dear Patti Lometti is recovering from surgery. Please keep in touch with her. Her son, Dr. Mark, has returned from Italy to help care for her. Terry continues to improve from her health issue. Rita is recovering and staying active. Antoinette continues to represent the club in spite of her back issues.

Let's keep all our members in our thoughts and keep in touch.

Jay Newsome, Co-President

CENTRAL COAST District**Santa Cruz****Br. 21, N.S. Del Soccorso**

Buon giorno! Well, we're back and I apologize for the missing articles these past 3 months, but now we are back up and running. During our absence, we hope you all survived this winter's heavy rains and wild winds. They say rain is Nature's tears of joy, but enough already!

We are happy to announce that Branch 21 has four new members, Al Pavot, Christy Beck, Lisa Foley, and Vita Hall. If you get a chance, give a warm welcome to these folks when you meet them. We are always happy to add more people to our group.

Last month, we held a combined Mardi Gras/Valentine Day event. A big thank you to Gary and Petra Castiglioni for making a delicious polenta dinner. We also thank those who helped to setup, prep cook, serve, and clean up. There's nothing like good food to bring folks

together and at our next meeting on March 12th, we will have another dinner. Stay tuned for more information.

We would also like to thank Salinas ICF Branch for hosting the District Installation of this year's Branch board members. It's always inspirational to get together with officers from other branches.

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Lina Gemignani and JoAnn Basile. They long supported Branch 21 with their graciousness and will be missed. We offer our condolences to their families.

That's all for now. May the good Lord continue to bless us, one and all. Bye for now.

Patty Morelli, Trustee – ICF Branch 21

Monterey**Br. 36, Santa Rosalia**

"During Lent, let us find concrete ways to find our indifferences." Pope Francis.

1/18/2024 Appreciation Volunteer dinner. All enjoyed an Italian buffet dinner. We are thankful to have so many volunteers helping Branch 36 during our Lenten Dinners and other events.

2/01/2024 Pasta Dinner/ Meeting. At Moose Lodge. All enjoyed pasta, Italian sausage, salad, garlic bread and dessert. Thank you, Phyllis Grillo, for teaching us how to do Tarantella. We were very honored to have Galeazzi ICF Grand Trustee/Branch Mentor present.

Lenten Dinner, at San Carlos Hall. Six Friday's. Dinner tickets can be purchased on-line.

Menu: Chef choice salad, fried fish, pasta, and garlic bread. (menu changes weekly) Desserts and beverages are available for purchase.

- Six Fridays: February 16 & 23 and March 1, 8, 15 & 22
- MontereyICF.org. On-line orders guarantee you a dinner before we sell out.
- Doors open at 4:30 p.m.
- Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$25.00 per ticket.
- Take-out orders are available starting at 5:00 p.m. The dining room will begin to serve dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Members are asked to donate a dessert weekly. We rely on these for our dessert table. Thank you.

3/15/2024 Deadline for Branch 36 ICF scholarships for graduating High School Seniors. Contact Sandie Russo 831-521-4866 Or MontereyICF.org.

3/16/2024. St Joseph's Celebration 11 a.m. mass.

San Carlos Cathedral followed by light lunch.

4/18/2024 Initiation of new members/Scholarship dinner/meeting.

We are saddened to report Eleanor DeFranco recently passed away. Our condolences to her family. May Eleanor Rest in Peace.

*Happy Easter, Elaine Valentine
President Br 36*

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

Our branch celebrated the Epiphany with a potluck dinner and Bingo on Friday, January 5. At the dinner, Ashley Stefani shared with us the story of La Bufana. Thank you, Ashley, for doing such a great job reciting the story in both English and Italian! Also, thank you to Cindy Stefani for providing the wonderful King cake for dessert and all of the great bingo prizes.

We want to send happy birthday wishes to Branch 51 members Bethany Barlow (3/15), Nathan Cortopassi (3/3), and Frank Rossi (3/9). May you each have a wonderful day celebrating you!

"God, may Your light guide my day, and your spirit bring me peace."

Stefani Cortopassi

Aptos**Br. 227, St. Joseph**

February marked the 56th Anniversary of Branch 227. We thank our founders and salute the charter member still with us, Alice Ponza. It was the beginning of what President Franklyn Lopes calls a family. We have shared many things together and we will continue doing so for many more years to come.

Due to the wind/rainstorm and power outages, it was necessary to cancel our February 4th meeting. Hopefully it is not too late to thank Mike and Liz Rios who put together a delicious pork loin dinner at the January meeting. Also included were scalloped potatoes, sweet potatoes, salad, and banana bread and chocolate cake for dessert.

Thanks to all those who participated in the Membership Drive on the weekend of March 2nd and 3rd.

Our Lenten Fish Dinner is being held on March 8. It will be both sit down and takeout. Takeout is from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. and eat in will be from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The price is \$20.00 and \$10.00 for children 13 and under. Thanks to Sharleen Hedgpath for cooking and to the members who furnished desserts and helped in the kitchen and dining hall.

My apology for the error in the list of officers in our message last month. Bruce Dunn is Orator and Ken Olsen, Heidi Ambiel, and Dottie Smith are the Trustees.

Here's an Irish blessing in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

"May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow, and may trouble avoid you wherever you go."

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande**Br. 291, St. Patrick**

Our Lenten Fish Frys are in full swing! We have three more remaining in March on the 1st, 8th and 22nd. If you're in the area on these dates, please come by our church hall from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. for a delicious fish dinner with homemade coleslaw and a dessert table bursting with delicious homemade cakes and goodies! We get so many compliments on our fish...it's the BEST fish and chips in town!

Branch 291 recently lost one of our longest members and a very sweet lady, Doris Wais. Doris passed away peacefully surrounded by her family, waiting until after the 50th Anniversary of Branch 291 before she took her final breath. Doris joined Br. 291 in 1978. She loved the ICF and was always very generous, donating many, many quilts to the ICF for raffles and gifts. She had just celebrated her 96th birthday in January. Doris loved to dance in her younger years, and she is now dancing with Jesus in heaven. Doris will be greatly missed.

Please pray for the Wais family during their time of grieving, and all ICF members who are experiencing pain, illness or heartache at this time.

*Happy St. Patrick's Day!
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary*



Paso Robles

Br. 354, Saint Rose of Lima

Late this evening, after leaving a pot of chili bubbling on the stove, Bleu and I slipped away for our "appreciation of nature walk." Bleu is our aging 120-pound Catahoula Hound who wisely finally understands the futility of chasing deer, sea gulls, and lizards. Thankfully so, because we came upon our neighborhood family of 9 deer munching down the tender green spring grasses. Some gave Bleu a brief glance, then with little concern they continued with their dinner. What a beautiful world we have been given! With palms upturned we thank our Creator.

- Branch 354 continues to grow. Waiting in the wings are 4 interested new members. Welcome to all of you.

- Hosted by Salinas, Br. 25 will be the Central Coast District Installation of Branch and District Officers, Feb. 28.

- Co-hosted by the Arroyo Grande Branch 291 and Paso Robles Branch 354 will be Bishop's Day in Arroyo Grande.

- To help Branch Officers better understand their duties ICF Central Council will provide Zoom training meetings in March. Training sessions will be recorded for future reference.

Branch 354 member and hero, Marianne Cates recently donated her time, talents, and personal resources to volunteer as a surgery nurse in a rural area of the Philippines. Marianne, together with many other American healthcare professionals worked long hours with limited medical supplies to provide quality lifesaving and practical medical care to those who are underserved in the poorest areas of the Philippines.

*Yvonne Maddalena
Recording Secretary*



Deadline for April Issue of the Bollettino is March 10. Send your articles & photos: editor@icf.org

SANTA CLARA VALLEY District

Gilroy

Br. 28, Santa Maria Ausiliatrice

Blessed Members,

I hope your relationship with God is getting closer as you travel this journey of the Lenten season together. Opening your heart to God is the greatest joy there is! How perfect that this month ends with Easter, a new beginning to continue that special relationship.

Our March 18th meeting will be catered by Old City Hall. It's Corned Beef and Cabbage time again! The Shrimp and Ravioli dinner is tentatively set for April 6th. So is our bake sale tentatively set for April 21st. Our calling committee will give you more details about our April events.

Joyous Awakening, -Jeanette Hudson

St. Mary

Br. 184, Los Gatos

One of our new members, Richard Gerson, presented his Heritage Report at our January meeting. With his background in technology, we were treated to a color video of his family history, from Italy to present. We learned also that his aunt, Ann Nichols, was a singer and dancer and toured with the Lionel Hampton band! Thank you, Richard, for such an enjoyable Heritage Report! Thank you also to new member Janice Lamotte, who brought warm, freshly baked cookies to share.

We were able to send a donation of \$500 to Tunnels to Towers, from money raised at our Polenta Dinner on November 11, Veteran's Day. We appreciate all who worked and/or attended this traditional polenta dinner.

We would like to increase our membership. How great would it be if we could each bring in one new member?? Remember, you just need to be Catholic or Italian.

The Grand Lodge is collecting socks and blankets for the Convention taking place in September. These items will be given to agencies for distribution to those in need, and the collection ends in August. If each of us can do one small thing...

The Italian Catholic Federation offers college scholarships, and applications are now available. The criteria is 1. Roman Catholic 2. Of Italian descent, ICF Member or child/ grandchild of a member 3. Cumulative GPA of 3.2. You can call the ICF office at 888 423 1924 or visit the website: www.icf.org/ scholarships. The application deadline is April 1, 2024.

Remember, our branch meets on the 4th Friday of the month, 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Please come and share your time and ideas. We would love to see you.

Along with Valentine's wishes, we hope you have a prayerful and Spiritual Lent.

Ciao for now, Lucy Amico

San Jose

Br. 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

Happy New Year to all.

A sad note, Robin Hayr's son passed away last week, and his Memorial Mass will be Saturday, February 10th at 12 p.m. with a reception in Avila Hall. Please let Anne Schlice know if you can help with the reception. Keep Robin in your prayers.

We have a lot of functions coming up this year and we will need everyone healthy. Pray for our sick members: Ron Sanchez, Bobbie Gallegos, Jackie, Mike Butler, Mike and Lorraine Nunziata, Gail Resz, and Phil Robba.

On January 6th, our branch hosted mass and Installation of ICF Officers, with lunch in Avia Hall. Our branch worked very hard making this function special. THANK YOU to all that helped. Dialing For Dollars for this month was at Burma Choice. THANK YOU, Robin Hayr for chairing this event. Sharon Kroeber, our new heritage person, gave a presentation with a game show theme contest. We all tried to answer questions about Italian history.

Apply to the board The Gift of Love funds, if you have a problem and need help. We have some new members. Jim and Carol Provenzano, Beckie and Doug Arant, and Myrlin and George Taddie. If you get a chance, welcome and introduce yourselves to them.

Pray for peace, stay healthy and may God bless you and your families, throughout this new year. Also, STD, for the 2024 Bishops Day on October 27, 2024, with mass and lunch to follow. Please let the Board know if you are interested in a position on the Board or committees.

*God Bless you and stay dry,
Thank you,
Tom Myers*

San Jose

Br. 391, St. Martin of Tours

In February, members were treated to a surprise dinner of chicken and pasta, prepared by Tony and Alba's Al and Diana Vallorz and enjoyed by all.

President Steve Lencioni reported on our financials, the successful Installation of Officers' event, and the upcoming ICF 100-year-old anniversary event, which will be held in San Francisco on June 9, 2024. He also thanked Doug Schenk and crew for their support in making the January Pancake Breakfast possible.



Rose Lipari Clarke reported on first year scholarship applications, which are due on April 1, 2024. Forms may be downloaded on the ICF website.

President Steve asked for volunteers for our Multicultural Celebration Fundraiser being held in April. Assistance is needed for the Silent Auction and Food and Libation Committees.

Steve also encouraged members to become active in outreach activities at St. Martin's such as the Food Box Program, St. Vincent de Paul, bringing Communion to homebound, and farm worker activities.

Cathy De Maria announced that Father George Aranha will be presiding over the Ladies of Charity's annual Lenten Reflection at St. Thomas of Canterbury on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 9:30am.

Reminders:

Branch 391 Dinner Meeting—Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 5:30 p.m. social and 6:00 p.m. dinner; ICF Hosting St. Martin's Stations of the Cross—Friday, March 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.; Multicultural Celebration Fundraiser—Saturday, April 27, 2024; 2024 ICF Quarterly Masses at St. Martin's at 11:30 a.m.—March 10, 2024, June 9, 2024, September 8, 2024, and December 8, 2024.

*Wishing you all a Holy and Happy Easter!
Janis Patellaro*

**Sunnyvale
Br. 408, Resurrection**

Happy Valentine's Day (and Ash Wednesday) to all!

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Dori Blefari on 2 January 2024 who was a Charter Member of our Branch along with her husband Paul. Paul and Dori led our Branch thru its startup with Paul serving as President and working with Fr. Mike. May she rest in Peace.

We also note the passing of the original ICF Deputy to our Branch - Bob Osorio on 6 January 2024. He was a good friend and attended and supported many of our Fundraising Events.

ICF hosts the first Lenten Soup after Friday Stations of the Cross of this early (2024) Lenten/Easter Season.

We look forward to our upcoming Pasta Dinner Fundraiser with the 5th Grade Students to raise Funds for their week at Science Camp on 9 March 2024.

Our First Blood Drive of 2024 will be held on St Patrick's Day Sunday 17 March 2024.

Please Pray for our Members who need our Prayers: Laurice Levine, Donna Richey, Steve Richey, Al Chantelope. Morgan Hill

STOCKTON DISTRICT



Br. 390, The Amavoo family enjoying their Chicken Cacciatore and Polenta.



Our Branch 390 Chaplain Deacon Pete Ryza and his wife Linda



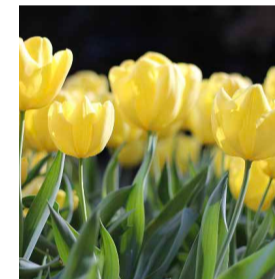
Br. 390, Polenta Stirrers: John Arrington, Keny Pombo, Bob Bacchetti, & Louie Serrato



Br. 82 Grant and Scholarship recipients Lorenzo and Rebecca



Br. 390, Gallery QR Code



Br. 390, Our new president Anita Ridolfi initiation our 6 new members.

SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT



Branch 446 January General Membership meeting



Branch 246 Lenten Fish Frys are Back!



Branch 446 Officers at the District

FRESNO DISTRICT



Br. 308 Installation



Branch 308 Christmas



Br. 27, Dr. Cecilia A Massetti, Madera County Superintendent of Schools was honored with the Champion's Award.



Br. 308 Anna 101 years old and her daughter

ICF 2024 Calendars Are Here

The ICF 2024 Calendars are great gifts, great raffle prizes and offer wonderful stories, fun facts and recipes which remind us about our theme "Celebrating the 1920's" as well as an opportunity to win money.

Please keep this in mind with the Holidays coming up. This is a wonderful fundraiser for our Branches as well as a way to fund many of our organization's programs.

So, let's focus on selling our calendars!!!

Branches have been given their allotment of calendars - contact your local Branch if you are interested in buying one.

**San Jose
Br. 445, Transfiguration**

The New Year events for Br. 445 began on January 6th with a Mass at Santa Teresa Church celebrated by Rev. George Aranha (ICF District 12 Chaplain), and followed by Installation of Branch Officer's for the entire District. A tasty luncheon followed at Avila Hall with raffle prizes. Br. 445's Recording Secretary Marti Rao won the door prize: a fantastic Mardi Gras basket filled with all kinds of goodies which she donated to our Branch for our February General Meeting on Fat Tuesday!! Thank you, Marti!

Our January meeting took on a Winter's theme of snowmen (pulpazzi di neve) and wishes for a Happy New Year (Buon Anno o Felice Anno Nuovo)!! Many thanks to our decorating team: Larry and Gina Farro, Kathy La Scola, Jean Cosentino, Jim Falcone and Jan Stumhoffer. Our cooks Jim Canger and Jim Falcone deserve a round of applause for their spaghetti and meatballs. Thanks as well to members who added side dishes to the night's menu. A birthday cake was served for dessert in honor of December and January birthdays with two milestone dates for ages 95! and 75!

Phil Cosentino, 93 years young, presented a most interesting Heritage Report with Q&A on his 65-year career in agriculture here in the once known 'Valley of Hearts Delight' and the creation of the J&P Cosentino Family Farm in San Jose. His family's original 10 acres, purchased in 1945, were reduced to 2 acres in 1992 when the state purchased the needed land for Highway 85. They have 300 trees per acre producing the best fruit in the best soil. His daughters are successfully managing the farm and the fruit stand. His grandson is learning pruning skills from him. Phil's legacy continues!

A Lent Morning of Reflection with Fr. Kevin Joyce at Transfiguration Church was attended by Br 445 members.

Upcoming March Events:

Continuing See's Spring/Easter Candy Sale Fundraiser - Contact Jim Falcone
March 3rd Quarterly Mass; March 11th - 'Cabrini' movie (20 members have signed up)

March 19th St Joseph's Day; March 27th Soup Supper at St. Christopher's
Happy March Birthday wishes to Emily Corral who will be 90 years young!! Tanti Auguri Emily!

Until next month stay safe and well. :-) Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer



**STOCKTON
District**

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

We are thankful to all who helped with the Officers' Installation. The branches that supplied the tasty appetizers. The Tracy Branch that helped with the setup. Annette Martin who has catered for our events these past few years and always has great food. And everyone who helped with, as John put it, the "Ministry of the Chairs." We really appreciate everyone's involvement, all the branches, Central Council, and especially to those who traveled long distances. And thank you to our Master of Ceremonies for the luncheon, Dante Galeazzi.

If you have anyone applying for a scholarship it, should be in by March 15. The applications are now available online.

We will have our St. Joseph's Table Celebration Sunday, March 17, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. It is a potluck so bring your favorite dish along with your family and friends. It will be at the St. Stanislaus Church Hall at 709 J Street, Modesto, CA. We will have our fun raffle of wrapped gifts after the potluck.

Upcoming Events:

Wed March 13 - 6:00 p.m. Branch Meeting - J Street Church Hall
Sun March 17 - 2:00 p.m. St. Joseph Table & Potluck - J Street Church Hall
Wed April 10 - 6:00 p.m. Meeting - J Street Church Hall
Sat May 4 & Sun May 5 - Bake Sale after the masses.

Cecelia McGhee

**Lodi
Br. 82, St. Anne's**

Well, the Groundhog predicted an early Spring. With the current weather outlook, it looks like that may be the case. An early Spring to go along with an early Easter.

Our branch is predicting March to be a busy month. Here are upcoming opportunities that you can attend and/or volunteer. Watch your email for more details.

March 8th - Mother Cabrini movie premiere. She is one of ICF's adopted patronesses. The branch plans to attend in the theater on the 8th or gather on another date at a member's home to view it through a streaming service.

March 12th - Salvation Army Hope Harbor Dining Hall, decorate for Easter at 6:00 p.m. Contact Patty.

March 16th - St. Anne's Confirmation Retreat (12:30-3:30), assistance needed to set up St. Joseph Table and guide the Candidates through the activity.

March 16/17th - St. Anne's Ministry Weekend for Catholic Fellowship (membership drive) after all masses. ICF representatives needed at our table. Contact Lisa.

March 19th - St. Joseph's Feast Day.

March 26th - Member Meeting, St. Anne's Youth Room, 6:00 Social, 6:30 business meeting.

Continue to have a reflective Lent contemplating on Jesus' ultimate sacrifice. For inspiration, participate in Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Attend Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession, a 2-session program inviting us to experience God's immeasurable love in this sacrament. March 2nd and 9th 3:30-5:00 in Dominican Hall.

May the renewal of life at Easter bring new blessings of love, hope, peace, good health, and happiness to you and your loved ones.

Patty Litts, Corresponding Secretary

Manteca

Br. 139, Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio

Branch 139's first meeting of 2024 found us having further discussion regarding hosting the Bishop's Burse in June at St. Anthony's in Manteca. This will benefit the seminarians of the Stockton diocese.

Accidental falls have taken their toll on our branch membership. Vice-president Ida Queirolo is recovering from a broken leg and Patti Fichtner fractured her hip. Prayers can always speed the recovery process.

Many thanks to Segretario Ron Agostini for his assistance in preparing this report.

*Ciao,
Mariano*

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

March dinner will present Italian Roasted Chicken & Pasta Pesto and will be held on Thursday March 21st. We will try again to notify our members by mailing cards at the post office—still no clue as to where they all went last month since no one received a card. However, we are now adding email notices to those of you who have provided us with those addresses—thank you. We'll see if modern technology emails will replace the post office, which will also, by the way, omit the cost ICF Branch 390 pays for printing post cards and buying stamps ten times a year—stamps that continue to go up in price while the reliability continues to go down.

Scholarship deadline was just this last March 15th, so we want to wish anyone who applied good luck - we hope to be giving out some scholarship awards again this year.

We are happy to WELCOME our seven new members! That brings our member total to 170—and we are thrilled to thank you all for your continued support and for attending our fabulous dinners—and thanks to Mike Bacchetti and crew for cooking them!

Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Dolores Gomes who passed away recently. May she rest in peace.

Steve Ridolfi continues to post the life of our branch though pictures and stories on our website. Check out the Heritage section and please submit yours to Steve.

www.icfbranch390.org

Stay healthy, happy and safe.

Ciao,

Betty

**SAN DIEGO
District**

San Diego

Br. 246, St. Charles Borromeo

Lent is approaching fast, which for Branch 246 means our Friday night fish fry is back! The original ICF Phil's BBQ Lenten fish fry starts on February 16, 2024. Come join us as we gather with our community each Friday evening during Lent to enjoy the best fish fry in San Diego. You can dine with us in the Parish Hall or take your meal to go. Dates are February 16 & 23 and March 1, 8, 15 & 22. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 10 and younger. Tickets can be purchased online at our website: icfbranch246.com. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door each Friday. We hope to see you at St. Charles Borromeo for good food and fellowship each Friday in Lent.

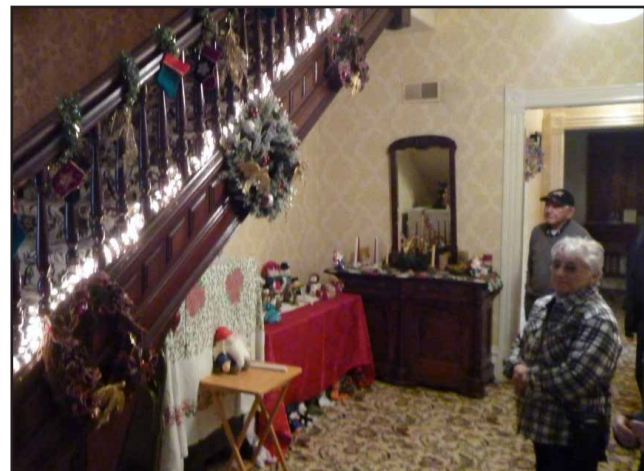
Ciao! Anthony Torregiani, Branch President

Deadline for April Issue of the Bollettino is March 10. Send your articles & photos: editor@icf.org Be sure to include branch name and number.

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT



Branch 144 Installation



During our January meeting Fr. Mike Cloney gives a tour to ICF Br. 145 members of the Victorian Christmas decorations that he used to decorate the St. Bernard Church Rectory in Eureka. The Victorian style rectory dates to 1896. Fr. Cloney restored the interior and painted the exterior by himself in the mid-1990's while he was pastor of St Bernard Parish.



Branch 144 Chicken & Polenta Cooks



Br 52 Healdsburg President Monika Besancon, Vice President Ken Spadoni, Financial Secretary Carmen Kilcullen and Recording Secretary Lauren Kilcullen braved the rain to attend the Santa Rosa District Installation.



Pam McAlvain (Sebastopol Branch #209) and family. Pam was the winner of the 2023 President's Award.



Officers Installation Br. 198 Doreen O'Rourke, Bob Acquistapace, Linda Sherman, Butch Bondi, Kathy Acquistapace,



Br. 52 Healdsburg held a membership drive in conjunction with Catholic Schools Week.



ICF Br 198 Attendance Winner Sofia Galetto

SAN BERNARDINO District Council

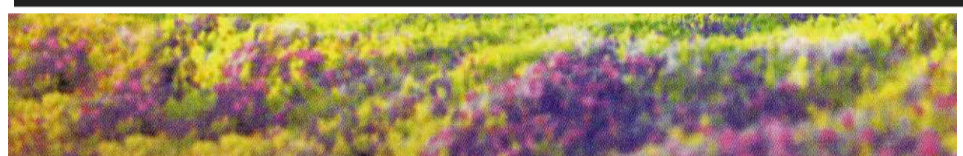
Upland Br. 446, Saint Anthony

Our new year started off with the installation of district and branch officers. Seventeen of us participated in the wonderful event hosted in Redlands at Holy Name of Jesus. It is always a pleasure to have Fr. Jerry Ochetti attend our branch meetings. He blessed the many delicious treats we all shared and engaged many of us in lively conversations. We welcomed guests Marge and Mike Meyerhofer who immediately became members! We honored Mrs. Nan Judge with flowers for her 58 years of marriage to her dear husband Mike. We also acknowledged all the January

birthdays. Mary O'Neil gave a beautiful Faith presentation on Saint Faustina and Divine Mercy. Our 1st Vice-President, Carrie Rossie conducted a rousing food quiz and gave out many prizes. Mary Pocius, our Scholarships Chair, gave us an update on promoting the ICF scholarships to the parish. She will be making announcements after all the Masses and publishing information in the church bulletin. Marie Garcia, our Historian, shared albums in which she is maintaining our branch history. President Tony Santorufo discussed our upcoming calendar highlighting our Tennen's of Faith, Heritage and Charitable works.

Our branch will be presenting the Stations of the Cross on February 23 and many members signed up to participate.

We have opened our February 25 meeting to all parishioners to hear a Lenten presentation from Frater Raphael and Frater Killian from St. Michael's Abbey.



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 2023 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 2023 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, 2024. 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, 2023. 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 ICF Office at 1-888-423-1924.

Thank You,
Lisa Crudo, Grand Treasurer

Results for Prizes as of February 9, 2024

Top Selling Branches in each of 4 categories receive Five (5) 2024 Calendar Stubs placed in the Raffle Drawings.

Branches placing 2nd and 3rd in each of 3 categories receive One (1) 2024 Calendar Stub in the Raffle Drawings.

- Top Selling Individual receives \$50.00.**
- 2nd Place Individual Seller receives \$30.00.**
- 3rd Place Individual Seller receives \$20.00.**

Category 1: 1 – 45 Members

1st Place:	Branch 281, Bakersfield	Sold 67 calendars
2nd Place:	Branch 33, Bakersfield	Sold 43 calendars
3rd Place:	Branch 91, Oakland	Sold 41 calendars

Category 2: 46 – 70 Members

1st Place:	Branch 27, Madera	Sold 20 calendars
	Branch 214, Concord	Sold 20 calendars
2nd Place:	Branch 285, Livermore	Sold 18 calendars
3rd Place:	Branch 198, Santa Rosa	Sold 14 calendars

Category 3: 71 – 129 Members

1st Place:	Branch 10, Alameda	Sold 65 calendars
2nd Place:	Branch 342, Auburn	Sold 50 calendars
3rd Place:	Branch 391, San Jose	Sold 44 calendars

Category 4: 130 and Above Members

1st Place:	Branch 28, Gilroy	Sold 60 calendars
2nd Place:	Branch 39, Merced	Sold 50 calendars
3rd Place:	Branch 14, Crockett	Sold 40 calendars

Individuals

1st Place:	B.G. Zasoski – Br. 281 – Bakersfield	Sold 67 calendars
2nd Place:	Peggie Dorrance – Br. 10 – Alameda	Sold 54 calendars
3rd Place:	Carol Salmeri – Br. 39 – Merced	Sold 50 calendars



Tips for Donating Blood

We hope you have signed up to donate blood and save lives at the ICF convention. If you have not and would like to do so, please contact Laurice Levine at Llevine430@aol.com. For those of you donating we wanted to give you some tips for a successful and smooth donation:

Before Your Donation

- Maintain a healthy iron level in your diet by eating iron rich foods (red meat, fish, poultry, beans, spinach, iron-fortified cereals and raisins).
- Get a good night's sleep.
- Hydrate well in the days before your donation and drink an extra 16 oz. of water right before you donate.
- Eat a healthy meal before your donation. Avoid fatty foods (if there is too much fat in your blood, your donation cannot be tested for infectious diseases and the blood will not be used for transfusion).
- If you are a platelet donor, do not take aspirin for two days leading up to your donation.
- Recruit a friend to donate blood with you!
- Remember to bring your donor card and driver's license.

During Your Donation

- Wear clothing with sleeves that can be raised above the elbow.
- Let the person taking your blood know if you have a preferred arm and show them any good veins that have been used successfully in the past to draw blood.
- Relax, listen to music, talk to other donors or read during the donation process.
- Enjoy snacks and drinks in the refreshments area immediately after donating.

After Your Donation

- Drink an extra four (8 ounce) glasses of liquids and avoid alcohol over the next 24 hours.
- Remove the wrap bandage (if you had one put on your arm) within the next hour.
- Keep the strip bandage on for the next several hours.
- To avoid a skin rash, clean the area around the strip bandage with soap and water.
- Do not do any heavy lifting or vigorous exercise for the rest of the day.
- If the needle site starts to bleed, apply pressure to it and raise your arm straight up for about 5-10 minutes or until bleeding stops.
- If you experience dizziness or lightheadedness after donation, stop what you are doing and sit down or lie down until you feel better. Avoid performing any activity where fainting may lead to injury for at least 24 hours.
- Call the blood bank if questions arise or to report if you required medical care after donating blood.
- Continue to eat iron-rich food. If you donate frequently talk to your doctor about taking a multi vitamin with iron to ensure that you replenish your iron stores. For more information on blood donation and iron: www.redcrossblood.org/iron.

Thank you for giving the gift of life!

Source: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>



2023 - 2024 CENTRAL COUNCIL OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OFFICERS:

- Grand President - Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184
- Grand 1st Vice President - Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Br. 227
- Grand 2nd Vice President - Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52
- Grand Secretary - Deborah Rodondi*, Br. 19
- Grand Treasurer - Lisa Crudo, Br. 343
- Grand Parliamentarian - Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E.* (Karen), Br. 343
- Grand Trustee - Rosemary Cook, Br. 13
- Grand Trustee - Dante Galeazzi* (Julie), Br. 139
- Grand Trustee - Perry Shurko, Br. 362
- Grand Sentinel - Robert Basuino*, Br. 191
- Past Grand President - Deborah Rodondi*, Br. 19
- Spiritual Director - Rev. Christopher Bennett, Br. 445

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Steven Fuentes*, Br. 173
- Teresa Helfand* (Cory), Br. 392
- Roselynn McNeal* (Aaron), Br. 442
- Andrew Pappani* (Siria/Sid), Br. 28
- Vincent Piro (Robyn), Br. 39
- Michael Rossi, C.L.J.* (Marcie), Br. 391
- Theresa Shaw (Tad), Br. 108
- Leonard Zasoski, Jr.* (Betty/B.G.), Br. 281

LIFE MEMBERS EMERITUS:

- Robert Acquistapace (Kathy), Br. 198
- Michael Cannady (Donna), Br. 154
- Nettie Descalso-Del Nero, Br. 39
- James Jones, Br. 191
- Carmen Kilcullen (Larry), Br. 52
- Nina Malone, Br. 438
- Vincent Picciola (Diane), Br. 358
- Leroy Taddei (Stella), Br. 343

MEMBERS EMERITUS:

- Gerald Delfino (Joan), Br. 368
- Maria Di Paolo, Br. 379
- Angelina Iarossi-Armenio, Br. 218
- Patricia Mages (Louis), Br. 380
- Kenneth Marshall (Elizabeth), Br. 342
- Frank Signorelli, Br. 291
- Helen Tatone, Br. 380
- Chris Valentini (Elizabeth), Br. 14
- (Revised 9/23)
- (*denotes life member)

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION 2024 Yearbook

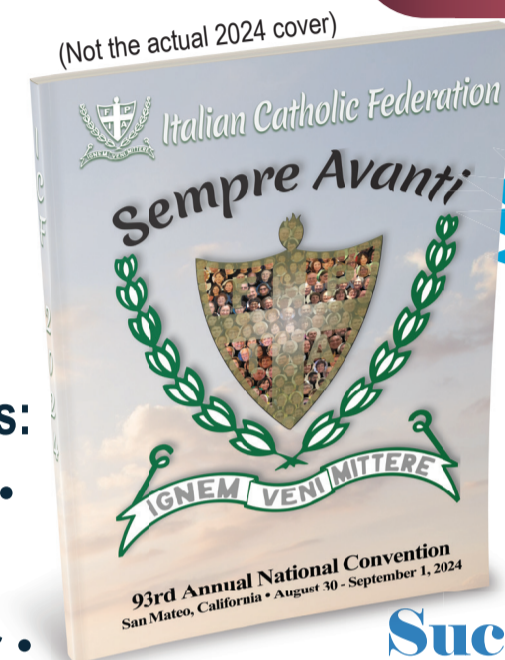
YOU Are Needed!

Show us your celebrations.

Let us celebrate your joys and successes with you!

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.

**Artwork Deadline
JULY 1ST!**

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 San Mateo District looks great in the 2023 book! (See page 70.) So much more impactful than black and white would have been.

Please consider color for impact.

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!



CELEBRATING
Mary & Tom Cook
30th Wedding Anniversary
Sep 4, 1993 - Sep 4, 2023



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT



Branch 218 Pancake Breakfast 2024



Branch 218 Pancake Breakfast 2024



Branch 218 Pancake Breakfast 2024



ICF Branch 179 January meeting had 4 LRC dice game winners! One of them was off to Vegas the next day! Congratulations to (from L to R) Bruce Brancato, Debbie Felt, Jacki Boardman, Dionisio Garza.



Br. 444 Installation of Officers



Br. 444 Installation of Officers Hany Francis, Carol Piccirillo, Cristina Baldemor, Tonia Amalfitano and Bruno Vieri



ICF 111 - Dinner & Meeting



ICF 111-2024 Officer's Installation



Br. 444 Installation of Officers



ICF 111 - Meeting & Dinner



ICF 111-January Birthdays-Frank & Kathleen

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)



Branch 108



Branch 443 hosts LA District Installation



Rita Downey is installed as President of Branch 443



Br. 447, Trustees Mary Pizel and Luanne Donahue are installed



Br. 447, Sheila Walsh (Vargas) installed as sentinel



The Bocce "Paisani" Tournament between ICF N Branch 67 and Garibaldi MB Society on their indoor Bocce Courts on 1/13/24. ICF Team Members (R to L) Richard P (Branch 111), Tad S (N Branch 67, Branch 108), Dist Pres Perry S (N Branch 67, Branch 362) and Dennis (Guest Branch 108) won 2nd Place at the Garibaldi Bocce Courts Tournament!



Deacon Bob Mescher assists priest at St. Rose of Lima Church for the installation Mass



Branch 108, ICF Members staffed the Branch Continental Breakfast and 'HOLY CONNOLI' event



Officers for 2024 Branch 447 American Martyrs Church Manhattan Beach (L to R) Deacon Bob Mescher (Treasurer), Rich Romano (Trustee), Luanne Donahue (Trustee) Perry Shurko (President), Sheila Walsh (Sentinel), Stephanie De Raddo (Vice-President)

DON PASQUALE

GAETANO DONIZETTI

Three Shows:
 Saturday, May 18, 2024
 Sunday, May 19, 2024
 Saturday, May 25, 2024

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SCAN ME



St. Dorothy Parish Deacon--Tommy Green will be ordained on June 1st.

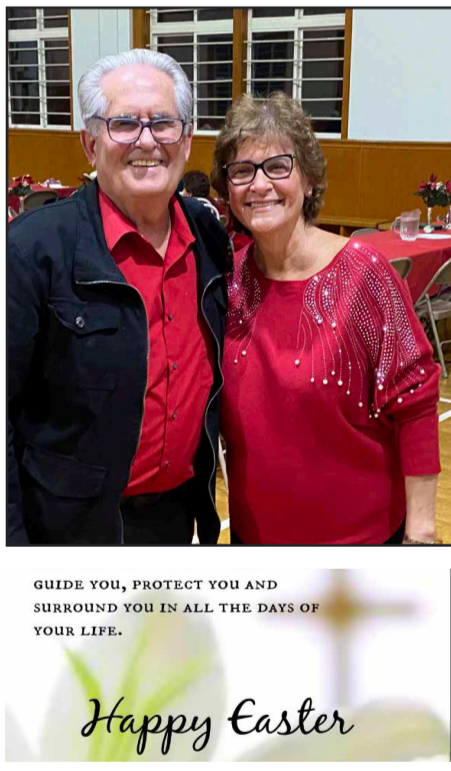
Branch 179 is spearheading the parish fundraising for Deacon Tommy's vestments. We need to raise \$8,900 to purchase 8 chasubles.

In addition to our local fundraising, we are accepting private donations. If any Branch and/or Individual wishes to donate, please make your check payable to ICF Branch 179, and send it to

**St. Dorothy Catholic Church,
 ATTN: ICF, 241 S. Valley Center Dr.,
 Glendora, CA 91741.**



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)



Branch 115



Branch 115



San Pedro Branch 115 Christmas Party, December 9 included dinner, playing games, piñata, musical chairs and wrapping crepe paper our adopted Seminarian Christian also a visit of Santa.