



BOLLETTINO

ICF Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage



Together Toward the Future: *Introducing Our Central Council Officers*



Congratulations and a warm welcome to our newly elected Central Council officers. We look forward to your leadership and vision in the year ahead.

BACK ROW: Grand Treasurer—Deborah Rodondi, Grand Sentinel —Mike Rossi, C.L.J., Grand Trustee—Dr. Vincent Malfitano, Grand Trustee—Dante Galeazzi, Grand Trustee—Denise Antonowicz, and Grand Parliamentarian—Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E.

FRONT ROW: Grand First Vice President—Lauren Kilcullen, Grand President—Franklyn Lopes Jr., Spiritual Director—Rev. Chris Bennett, Grand Second Vice President—Lisa Crudo, and Grand Secretary—Perry Shurko

Grand President's Monthly Message

Franklyn Lopes Jr.



Good afternoon, Father Christopher Bennett, Reverend Fathers, Officers and Members of the Central Council, Brothers and Sisters of the Italian Catholic Federation, family, and friends.

It is an honor to be standing here as the newly elected Grand President of the Italian Catholic Federation. Words cannot describe how I am feeling at this moment. First, I would like to thank my parents, Franklyn and Carol Lopes, for all the support and guidance they have given me. Due to health issues, they are at home and are grateful for friends who are recording this for me. They, too, have enjoyed what ICF means to them, in friendship and family. They have been there for me to all the ends of the earth. In March of this year, we lost my aunt, Marie Mungai; she was a true member of ICF, held the office of Treasurer and Financial Secretary for many years at Branch 227, helped David Botta count ballots at past conventions, and with my parents, participated in many conventions, enjoying the many people they have encountered. I know she is looking down, smiling, and saying how proud she is of this moment.

After attending my first convention in Sacramento in 2006, I was instantly hooked on knowing more about the ICF. I was a first-time delegate, accompanied by two very special members of Branch 227, Dave and Dolores McCartney. As most of you know, when you attend conventions, there is always a hospitality room where you're invited to come and have drinks and food. I was asked to the McCartney room, and Dave and I were talking. He looked me in the eye and said, Franklyn, one day, you will become Grand President. Well, unfortunately, Dave and Dolores have passed away and never got to see me at this moment, but I know they are looking down and smiling, and I could hear Dave say, "See, I told you so."

2025 Convention Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following members who won a Prize in the Convention Raffle.

1st Prize, \$2,500
Mara Millis
Br. 173, Burlingame, CA

5th Prize, \$1,000
Mary Jo Belli
Br. 21, Santa Cruz, CA

2nd Prize, \$1,500
Bill and Edna Perry
Br. 445, San Jose, CA

6th Prize, \$500
Nick Armentano
Br. 352, Danville, CA

3rd Prize, \$1,500
Mary Deakin
San Ramon, CA

7th Prize, \$500
Jeannette Vanbibber
Br. 352, Danville, CA

4th Prize, \$1,000
Diane Thomas
Br. 14, Crockett, CA

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

Continued on Page 3

BOLLETTINO

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Editor: Nanette Metz
editor@icf.org

Office Staff: Charlene Kramer
admin@icf.org
Patty Smith
accounting@icf.org

Phone: (510) 633-9058
(888) ICF-1924

Fax: (510) 633-9758

Website: www.ICF.org

Information: info@icf.org

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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 for-
mat. Those submissions not sent in
an electronic format or those articles
sent in the mail will not be used.

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

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

Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg

Include photo captions with your
article submission.

Please keep your submission positive
and informative.

**Deadline for the
November issue is
October 10, 2025**

Include district name, branch number
and branch name in all submissions.

Thank you!

Message from our Spiritual Director

Dear Friends of the Italian Cath-
olic Federation:

I hope this message finds you
well and filled with the same
sense of awe and gratitude that
continues to resonate in my
heart following the recent Ital-
ian Catholic Convention. What
a truly amazing gathering it
was. To see so many passionate
individuals united in purpose,
sharing wisdom, encouragement,
and vision—it was nothing short
of inspiring. The atmosphere
was electric with possibility and,
yet, deeply grounded in humil-
ity and grace. Each session, each
conversation, felt like a divine
appointment, reminding us of
the bounty of God’s goodness
poured out through community,
learning, and connection.

I left the conference renewed in
spirit and purpose and grateful
for the opportunity to witness the
transformative power of coach-
ing and the deep care that un-
derpins our shared work. It was
a blessing to reconnect with fa-
miliar faces and meet new ones.
Each encounter was a reflection
of the light we carry into the
world. May we continue to walk
boldly in our calling, uplifted
by the memories of this extraor-
dinary event and the assurance
that we are part of something far
greater than ourselves.

It is hard to believe that we are
into October which is a time
to celebrate Fall. Families and
friends may gather to pick apples
and pumpkins or take a long
drive to see the Fall foliage. For
some, October primarily focuses
on Halloween, emphasizing
costumes, candy, decorations,
and celebrations. The history of
Halloween serves as a poignant
reminder of the holy days that
follow, particularly All Saints’
Day and All Souls’ Day. Hallow-
een, also known as All Hallows

Eve, is rooted in the Celtic fes-
tival of Samhain, a time when
people honored the spirits of the
departed.

For Catholics, October is tradi-
tionally dedicated to the Rosary,
with the Feast of Our Lady of the
Rosary on October 7th. In a world
filled with unrest, the Rosary
provides us with a way to bring
peace to our hearts and communi-
ties. Saint John Paul II called it
his "favorite prayer," emphasizing
that through it, we can profoundly
encounter Christ.

October is also a time to honor
several saints who inspire us to
live courageously in our walk of
faith.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux, the
“**Little Flower**,” reminds us that
small acts of love done with great
devotion can transform the world.
Her Feast Day, October 1st, kicks
off the month with a call to live in
simplicity and trust in God’s care.

**October 2nd is the Feast of the
Guardian Angels**, a day dedi-
cated to honoring the heavenly
beings assigned by God to protect
and guide us throughout our lives.

**On October 4th, we honor St.
Francis of Assisi**. His Feast is
celebrated with the blessing of
animals in many communities,
reminding us to honor and care
for all living beings as part of our
stewardship of creation.

We honor **St. Faustina on Oc-
tober 5th**. She was a Polish nun
known for her profound devotion
to Divine Mercy. Her teachings
encourage the faithful to trust in
God’s mercy and to extend that
mercy to others.

**October 7th is the Feast Day
of Our Lady of the Rosary**, a
celebration that honors the Virgin
Mary’s role in the promotion of
the Rosary as a powerful form of
prayer.



Father Christopher Bennett
ICF Spiritual Director

**October 15th is the Feast Day of
Saint Teresa of Avila**. Saint Tere-
sa taught about the importance of
deepening one’s relationship with
God through prayer and reflec-
tion. Her Feast Day invites us to
explore her teachings on interior
life and to seek a closer connec-
tion with God through prayer and
devotion.

And lastly, on **October 22nd, we
honor the Feast Day of Saint
Pope John Paul II**. Through
his papacy, he inspired millions
through his message of hope,
love, and the importance of faith
in everyday life.

As we celebrate the feasts of
saints and honor our guardian
angels, this time encourages us to
deepen our spiritual lives and pre-
pare our souls for the holy days
ahead. As we navigate the chang-
ing seasons, let us remember the
eternal truths of our faith and seek
to grow closer to God and one
another.

I promise to remember you in my
prayers, even as I would be grate-
ful for a place in yours. May God
bless you and those that you love.

Fr. Chris





In Loving Memory

(Report as of September 10, 2025)

Patricia Arnaudo	Branch 001	Wesley R Johnson	Branch 250
Norma J Lombardi	Branch 007	Richard Johnson	Branch 343
Richard P Cafferata	Branch 052	Angelina A Long	Branch 390
Nita M Gren	Branch 052	Stan Morri	Branch 390
Peter Smiderle	Branch 052	Al Chanteloup	Branch 408
Concetta M Davis	Branch 218	Mary L Forestiere	Branch 417
Verona De Luca	Branch 250		

Convention Article:
“Gateway to God’s Bounty” Update

Lauren Kilcullen
Convention Director



Thank you to all the delegates for attending the 2025 ICF Convention!

The Convention Directors Committee hopes everyone enjoyed this year’s convention. Some of the committee spent Monday at the hotel pool recuperating from the weekend!

As delegates, please share what you learned and your experiences at the Convention with your branches.

I thank the Convention Directors Committee for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. We meet monthly to plan the Convention and work from early mornings to late at night on-site to ensure a great

Convention. I also thank members who volunteered their time at the Convention to help whenever we needed extra hands.

Thank you to all the members for the donations to Salt & Light Organization. Manny, who came to pick up the donations, was overwhelmed and had to make two trips with the pick-up truck to bring the donations to the organization.

Looking forward to seeing everyone throughout the year at Bishops’ Days and Installations and at the 2026 Convention.

Save the dates: September 4 – 6, 2026 at the Silver Legacy Resort in Reno, NV!

Lauren Kilcullen
Convention Director

Save The Date
Grand President Testimonial
honoring

Denise Antonowicz

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Palermo Italian Restaurant

791 Auzerais Ave, San Jose, CA

Cocktails: 5:00 PM

Dinner: 6:00 PM



GP Message---Continued:
Frankyn Lopes Jr. *continued from p. 1*

I want to thank our immediate past Grand President, Denise Antonowicz. Denise has been there for our organization, while balancing the loss of her mother, Marie. Denise challenged us to seek new ideas and continually move forward towards the future. Because of her love for the federation, she wanted it to be there for the next generation. Please join me in giving Denise a warm round of applause.

To the Past Presidents who have been there for me on this journey: Jim and Janice Jones, who took me on my first trip to Chicago and showed me the many sights of the town. Bob Basuino, who has been my mentor since day one, taught me the proper way to dress for meetings and events, as well as the protocol of ICF. I appreciated Nettie Descalso-DelNero, whom we affectionately called the Godmother of ICF, and her wisdom-filled phone calls, which she always had. David Botta, who had a smile for everyone, and believed that there were no strangers in life, only friends he hadn’t met yet, told me in San Diego that you will be Grand President one day. To, Carmen Kilcullen, Leonard Zasoski, Leonard Rossi and Bob Aquistapace, for always being there whenever I had a question and for their support. Deborah Rodondi, who, when I was Grand

Treasurer, has such knowledge of figures and ICF history that I wish I had her mind. Vince Piro, whom I looked up to during his presidency, as he guided the Italian Catholic Federation during the COVID quarantine. The friendships of Steve Fuentes, Michael Rossi and Andy Pappani, and to all the past Grand Presidents who are here today, please stand and give them a warm round of applause. I thank you all for helping pave the pathway for me.

I would like to thank Roselynn McNeal, who was Convention Director during most of my time on Central Council; whenever I had a question about anything, she always had the answer. Lauren Kilcullen, our newly elected Grand 1st Vice President and current convention director, has done an outstanding job at these past two conventions. Her hard work has paid off, and for that, she deserves congratulations.

To my Central Coast District and Branches 227 Aptos and 21 Santa Cruz, I thank you for your support and for the help you have given me. I align myself with one of our great past Grand Presidents, Dan Petrolino, from Branch 21, and his wife, Diana. They always encouraged me to move forward within ICF, and I am happy to say, that I have.

Fifteen years ago, at the Los

Angeles Convention, I was elected to the Central Council. After the Sunday session concluded, the Central Council members gathered to vote on the officers of the year. Not knowing what to expect, I walked into the room, and there, sitting, was Richard Valli. He gave me a thumbs up, and at that moment, I knew I was accepted.

The ICF would not be running as smoothly as it is without the ladies in the office. Charlene Kramer and Patty Smith. Their knowledge is priceless; whenever you have a question, they will have the answer for you. If your branch or district is hosting an event, please send the information to Charlene, and she will distribute it to the Central Council members.

Now, down to business. As I mentioned in my nomination speech, my primary goal is to collaborate with the members of the Federation on strategies to increase membership throughout our branches, which is also the goal of ICF 101. We must share ideas and spread the vision of the Italian Catholic Federation, supporting our church and religious communities, our children, and our brothers and sisters in need throughout our communities.

I request communication between your branches and churches, especially with your pastors, as this is key to keeping the branch going. Advertise in your bulletins when you have a meeting, fundraising event, or other essential activities. Remember, if you are experienc-

ing problems with the church or branch, please reach out to your nearest Central Council member. We are here to help you. Communication is to be the primary focus in the coming years.

As of this time, the following Central Council Members have agreed to be Chairperson for the various committees:

Lauren Kilcullen will continue as Convention Directors Chair, and Andy Pappani will continue to chair the Membership Committee. Mike Rossi will take over Apostolate Chairity/Live to Give Committee, and Perry Shurko will continue on as Expansion Chair.

Rosemary Cook will chair the Public Relations Committee, Vince Piro will continue as Workshop Chair. Carmen Kilcullen will stay on as Scholarship Chair, Bob Basuino will continue with Ways and Means, and Teresa Helfand will stay on as Chair to Gifts of Love.

In closing, I look forward to attending the different events your branch and or district is having this next year, and getting to know more of the wonderful members that the Italian Catholic Federation has. I would like to leave you with this quote from Saint Pope John Paul II.

“Let us remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence.”

God bless you all and God bless the Italian Catholic Federation.

Cooley's Anemia Donations

(Received as of September 10, 2025)

Branch 10	Eugene and Lorraine Vannetti
Branch 47	Eugene and Sharon Vannetti
Branch 52	Agnes and Bill Daws
Branch 108	In Honor of the 90th Birthday
Branch 198	of Jerry Brascia
Branch 210	Theresa and Tad Shaw
Branch 215	In Honor of the 90th Birthday
Branch 351	of Jerry Brascia
Branch 408	Marlene Farber
Branch 435	In Memory of Marie Canale
East Bay District	The Risso Family
Agnes and Bill Daws	In Memory of Norma Lombardi

ICF General Fund Donations

(Received as of September 10, 2025)

Michael Orumor
The Marinai Family
In Memory of Aurora Roselli



Gifts of Love Donations

(Received as of September 10, 2025)

Gerald Delfino	Steve and Shirley Newton
In Memory of Rose Arnaudo	In Memory of Rose Arnaudo
Marie Yurosko	Julie and David Schurba
In Memory of Rose Arnaudo	In Memory of Patricia Arnaudo
Carla Del Carlo	Laurice, Ben and Matt Levine
In Memory of Lena Garbarino	In Memory of Rose Arnaudo
Troy and Jubie Jaramillo, Jr.	Marlene Farber
In Memory of Rose Arnaudo	In Memory of Pat Arnaudo
Officers/Members of Br. 380	Stephen and Donna Barnes
In Memory of Marie Hutchison	In Memory of Patricia Arnaudo
Officers/Members of Br. 403	Laurie Sullivan
In Memory of Lewis Grasberger	In Memory of Patricia Arnaudo
Officers/Members of Br. 438	Officers/Members of Br. 285
In Memory of Jack Bacigalupi	In Memory of Aurora Roselli
Eugene and Margaret Paluzzi	Robert an Beatrice Tomasello
In Memory of Rose Arnaudo	In Memory of Patricia Arnaudo
Officers/Members of Br. 218	Marie Yurosko
In Memory of Joe Lanera	In Memory of Barbara White
Barbara Firpo	
In Memory of Patricia Arnaudo	



September 10, 2025

Cancer and Blood Disease Institute
Hematology Section
Red Cell Defects Program
Sickle Cell Treatment Center
Tel: (323) 361-5507
Fax: (323) 361-7128

THOMAS D. COATES, MD
Professor of Pediatrics
Director, Sickle Cell Center
Section Head for Hematology
FRANCISCO BRACHO, MD
Professor, Clinical Pediatrics & Medicine
EDWARD GOMPERTS, MD, MB, BCH
Emeritus Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
TAYLOR KIM, MD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Assistant Medical Director for Hematology
THOMAS C. HOFSTRA, MD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Coordinator, Medical Student and
Resident Education
SARANYA VELUSWAMY, MD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
GUY YOUNG, MD
Professor of Pediatrics
Director, Hemostasis &Thrombosis Center

SPECIALTY CONSULTANTS
Cardiology:
JOHN C. WOOD, MD, PHD
JON A. DETTERICH, MD
Pulmonology:
ROBERTA KATO, MD

NURSING TEAM
Nurse Practitioners:
SUSAN CARSON, MSN, RN, CPNP
DEBBIE HARRIS, MSN, RN, CPNP
ANNE NORD, MSN, RN, FNP-C
TRISH PETERSON, MSN, RN, CPNP
Nurse Care Manager:
HEATHER VON BIELA, RN, BSN, CPHON

DIETICIAN TEAM
STEPHANIE HANNE, MS, RD, CSSD, CNSC

SOCIAL WORK TEAM
MICHELLE LAHAT, LCSW
CHYNNA AMING, MSW
PASSAGES Social Work Case Worker:
JOHN GREMELDI, BSW

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM
Administrative Assistant:
BRITNEY SHADILLA
Project Coordinators:
KELLY RUSSELL, MA
NATHAN SMITH

RESEARCH TEAM
Research Coordinators:
OBDULLIO CARRERAS
JORDAN SWANIER, BS

Dear Grand President Denise Antonowicz, Members of the Central Council, Branch Presidents, Members of the Italian Catholic Federation, and ICF Staff:

Thank you so much for your donation of \$48,800 presented at the 94th Annual ICF Convention in Visalia. It is always a highlight of our year to reunite with our ICF friends and meet new delegates.

We are truly grateful that Cooley's Anemia/Thalassemia continues to be your national charity as there are countless worthy causes you can support. As we experience more funding cuts, the funds you donate are needed more than ever. ICF is a lifeline to the thalassemia program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. The difference you make in patients' lives is invaluable and we are grateful for your support of thalassemia research that will undoubtedly improve the lives of patients around the world.

Educating the community about thalassemia and providing updates on current research and projects that the ICF funds at CHLA is a priority for us. If you are interested, please contact Laurice at (360) 860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com. This of course comes at no cost to your branch.

Thank you again for your generosity, unwavering support, and most of all your caring and friendship. You are improving the care and quality of life for thalassemia patients.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Coates, MD
Section Head for Hematology
Director, Sickle/Hemoglobinopathy Program
Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Professor of Pediatrics & Pathology
Keck School of Medicine
University of Southern California
P: 323-361-2352

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Thalassemia Outreach
Program Consultant
P: 360-860-2023
LLevine430@aol.com

Tax ID: 95-1690977
To comply with federal rules on charitable giving, we certify that Children's Hospital Los Angeles has provided no goods or services in consideration of your contribution.



Apostolate-Charity Classifications

Total Amount Donated: \$427,081

- Branches 1-75 Members
- 1st - #108- So. Pasadena
 - 2nd - #179-Glendora
 - 3rd - #191-San Jose
 - 4th - #354-Paso Robles
 - 4th - #446-Upland
 - 4th - #362-Downey

- Branches 76-130
- 1st - #209-Sebastopol
 - 2nd - #111-Montebello
 - 3rd - #10-Alameda
 - 4th - #14-Crockett

- Branches 131 and up
- 1st - #36-Monterey
 - 2nd - #52-Healdsburg
 - 3rd - #28-Gilroy
 - 4th - #115-San Pedro

ICF RESOLUTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS 2025

Chairperson: Rosemary Cook

Committee Members: Perry Shurko, Leonard Zasoski, Jr., Carmelo Sabatella (Member at Large), Nanette Metz (Ex-Officio Member)

Advisors: Lauren Kilcullen, Vincet Piro

Bollettino Proof Readers: Laurice Levine, Patricia Mages, Betty (B.G.) Zasoski and Deborah Rodondi

Officers and Members of the Italian Catholic Federation, assembled in the Diocese of Fresno for their 94th Annual Convention on August 29-August 31, 2025, adopt the following Resolutions and Communications:

COMMUNICATIONS:

COMMUNICATION TO POPE LEO XIV

We pledge our loyalty, affection, and devotion to the Vicar of Christ on earth. We commit ourselves to living a life of faith. We pledge our prayers that God will grant him many years of his Pontificate.

COMMUNICATION TO THE MOST REVEREND JOSEPH V. BRENNAN

We express our gratitude and assurance of our prayers for his continued service to the people of the Fresno Diocese. We are grateful for his participation in this year's convention.

COMMUNICATION TO REVEREND CHRISTOPHER BENNETT

As our Spiritual Director, Reverend Christopher Bennett, we want to thank him for all his years of loyal service to the I.C.F. We appreciate his spiritual guidance and leadership to the Central Council and membership of the I.C.F. We look forward to many more years of his friendship and guidance.

COMMUNICATION TO GRAND PRESIDENT DENISE ANTONOWICZ

We wish to thank Grand President Denise Antonowicz for her leadership during the past two years. Your tireless devotion to the Federation and your many efforts to usher the organization into its second century have not gone unnoticed. We are truly appreciative of all of your hard work during your presidency.

COMMUNICATION TO ALL BISHOPS AND PRIESTS WHERE THE FEDERATION IS ESTABLISHED

We reaffirm our devotion and send affectionate greetings and heartfelt gratitude for their inspiring guidance. We ask for their blessings on the works of the Federation, that we follow in the footsteps of our founders, Sir Luigi Providenza and Father Albert Bandini. We are united in a common faith and love for Christ's Body and the Church; and we will continue to be faithful and diligent in our message of our values: faith, family, and heritage. We continue to support the many needs of the Catholic Church, especially our seminarians and clergy.

RESOLUTIONS:

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY FORCES

As officers and members of the Italian Catholic Federation and as proud Americans, we stand united today in defending our freedom and liberty. We offer our prayers to all in the Armed Forces, praying for their well-being and safe return, especially in these uncertain times.

TO ALL ELECTED LEADERS OF OUR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

We offer our prayers of support to our elected leaders as they make difficult decisions and compromises to assure the well-being of ALL in our United States of America and in the World.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD AND UNITED STATES WHO HAVE SUFFERED FROM NATURAL DISASTERS AND VIOLENCE IN 2024 AND 2025

We offer our prayers and support to the people of the World and in the United States, devastated by natural disasters and human violence in 2024 and 2025. We join them in their sorrow over lost loved ones and offer our petitions to the Lord for the survivors. We pray to the Lord to protect and heal them.

TO THE PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING IMPACTED BY THE TERRIBLE TRADEGY OF WAR IN UKRAINE, PALESTINE, AND ISRAEL

We offer our prayers and support to the people of Ukraine, Palestine, and Israel who are being impacted by these terrible tragedies of war and for peace to come to our world. We also offer our prayers to those who must stay behind or are unable to leave.

TO THE CONVENTION DIRECTOR'S COMMITTEE

Whereas the preparation of the convention entails many months of dedicated work, time, and sacrifices on the part of many individuals; and whereas, under the direction and outstanding leadership of Lauren Kilcullen, we, as members of the Italian Catholic Federation, express our sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation for all that you do and have done as the Convention Director this past year.

TO THE OFFICE STAFF OF THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

We offer our appreciation to Charlene Kramer, Patty Smith, and Nanette Scarpellini Metz, Editor of the *Bollettino*. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts and command them for their untiring work for our organization.

TO MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION WHO ARE DEALING WITH ILLNESS AT THIS TIME

We miss your presence and leadership, advice, and good company. Be assured of our prayers for your health and well-being.

TO THE FAMILY OF JOAN DELFINO, WIFE OF JERRY DELFINO MEMBER EMERITUS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

We offer our condolences to the family of Joan Delfino wife of Jerry Delfino, Member Emeritus of the Central Council, on her recent passing. We offer our prayers for the repose of her soul.

TO THE FAMILY OF ESTELLE CARNEY, MOTHER-IN-LAW OF STEVE FUENTES, LIFE MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

We offer our condolences to the family of Estelle Carney mother-in-law of Steve Fuentes, Life Member of the Central Council, on her recent passing. We offer our prayers for the repose of her soul.

TO THE FAMILY OF MARIE MUNGAI, AUNT OF FRANKLYN LOPES JR., OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

We offer our condolences to the family of Marie Mungai, Aunt of Franklyn Lopes Jr. of the Central Council, on her recent passing. We offer our prayers for the repose of her soul.

TO OUR FIRST RESPONDERS, FIRE FIGHTERS, POLICE, AND MEDICAL PERSONNEL

We offer our prayers that they will be granted strength and courage in the face of emergencies, and that they continue to be there for all of us when needed. We also pray that they are protected from harm.

Madame Grand President, I move that these Communications and Resolutions be adopted. Thank you.



BRANCH CHALLENGE

Alaina Borrelli, age 9, proudly serves as Sentinel for Branch 54—and she absolutely loves it. On the morning of our Sunday luncheon, she was up at 5:30 a.m., apron on and working at the hall by 6:00 a.m., continuing straight through until late afternoon.

Challenge: does any branch have—or has had—an officer younger than Alaina?



Interested in learning more about the ICF's National Charity, Cooley's Anemia (Thalassemia)?

If so, Laurice Levine, ICF Liaison for Children's Hospital Los Angeles, would be honored to come and speak at one of your branch meetings or any special event (at no cost to your branch).

Contact Information:
360-860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com

It does not matter how small or how large your branch is, the goal is to educate everyone on Cooley's Anemia and the great work the ICF does for this cause.

Book Review -- *Women of War: The Italian Assassins, Spies, and Couriers Who Fought the Nazis*

Vince Piro

***Women of War:
The Italian As-
sassins, Spies,
and Couriers
Who Fought the
Nazis***

**By Suzanne
Cope**

**Penguin Pub-
lishing, 2025**



Often when history gets written, some people get left out of the story. Their contributions are either ignored, forgotten, or diminished. In *Women of War: The Italian Assassins, Spies, and Couriers Who Fought the Nazis*, Suzanne Cope aims to bring to the forefront the forgotten stories and contributions of the Italian women who resisted Nazi occupation and Fascist rule during World War II.

Below is the publisher's description of this fascinating book that focuses on the lives of four women resisting the forces of suppression and oppression. Their life stories - left out of the traditional annals of history - serve as reminders of the importance of standing up for what we believe in.

"The gripping, true, and untold history of the Italian anti-fascist resistance during World War II, told through the stories of four spectacularly courageous women fighters

From underground soldiers to intrepid spies, *Women of War* unearths the hidden history of the brave women who risked their lives to overthrow the Nazi occupation and liberate Italy. Using primary sources and brand new scholarship, historian Suzanne Cope illuminates the roles played by women while Italians struggled under dual foes: Nazi invaders and Italian fascist loyalists.

Cope's research and storytelling introduces four brave and resourceful women who risked everything to overthrow the Nazi occupation and pry their future from the fascist grasp. We meet Carla Capponi in Rome, where she made bombs in an underground bunker then ferried them to their deadly destination wearing lipstick and a trenchcoat; and Bianca

Guidetti Serra who rode her bicycle up switchbacks in the Alps, dodging bullets while delivering bags of clandestine newspapers and munitions to the anti-fascist armies hidden in the mountains. In Florence, the young future author of Italy's new constitution, Teresa Mattei, carried secret messages and hid bombs; while Anita Malavasi led troops across the Apennine Mountains. *Women of War* brings their experiences as underground resistance fighters, partisan combatants, spies, and saboteurs to life.

Essential and original, *Women of War* offers not only a reexamination of the elision of women from vital WWII history but also a valuable perspective on the ongoing fight for gender equality and social justice. After all, these were the women who launched a feminist movement as they fought for the future of their country, and what that could mean for its women, all while under Nazi and fascist fire."

Suzanne Cope is a scholar and journalist and the author of *Power Hungry: Women of the Black Panther Party and Freedom Summer and Their Fight to Feed a Movement*. Her writing has appeared in several magazines and newspapers, including *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Los Angeles Review of Books*. She is a professor at New York University.



Family Recipe--Sweet Potato Pie

Deborah Rodondi

Convention in Visalia is now a fond memory; always fun getting together with friends and rekindling friendships. Kathy and I went a few days early to shop all the antique stores in the Visalia area - always a fun time.

Heading into autumn comfort food and pumpkins come to mind. This recipe is a combination of recipes from 2 great southern cooks (and entertainers) - Trisha Yearwood and Patti LaBelle.

Sweet Potato Pie

1 ½ cups canned sweet potatoes or 2-3 roasted, peeled and pureed sweet potatoes equaling 1 ½ cups (I use fresh)

1 cup light brown sugar (or a combination of brown and white sugar)

¼ cup granulated sugar

2 large eggs

5 Tbls. butter, softened

1-2 Tbls. butter, melted, for bottom of pie crust

1/2 cup milk or half and half or evaporated milk (I usually don't have milk, but I keep evaporated milk in the pantry in case I need it for cooking) may need a little more milk to get a consistency you like.

1 tsp. vanilla extract

½ tsp. ground cinnamon

1 tsp. ground nutmeg

Pinch of salt

1 pie shell, uncooked (I use the Pillsbury pie crust that is found in the refrigerator section of the grocery store)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place



pie crust dough in a 9 inch pie plate, crimp edges to your liking. Brush the interior of the pie shell with melted butter. Sprinkle ¼ cup of brown sugar over the bottom of the pie shell. Bake until the dough is set and just beginning to brown, about 15 minutes. If the pie shell puffs - DO NOT prick.

Lower heat to 325 degrees.

Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, using an electric beater/mixer, combine the sweet potatoes, remaining ¾ cup brown sugar, eggs, butter, milk, vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt. Beat until thoroughly blended and smooth. Pour mixture into prepared pie shell. Sprinkle ¼ cup granulated sugar over top. Allow pie to sit for 15 minutes before baking to allow the sugar to melt into the mixture.

Bake until a toothpick, inserted into the center, comes out clean. About 1 hour 15 minutes.

NOTE: You can just pour mixture in an unbaked pie shell, but I found preparing it as stated above makes for an extra layer of delicious flavor.

Also, adding a little ginger (1/2 to 1 tsp.) and/or clove (1/2 tsp.) will make this sweet potato pie anything but boring.

Hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down with the members of the ICF. Send them to me at drodondi@comcast.net or mail to the ICF office, include a story if any. If you have questions send them also, I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

Remember a good Italian cook measures with their eyes and heart!

BuonAppetito!



Deborah Rodondi & Kathy Trevizo antique shopping in Visalia & showing off hats that were for sale.



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 Sponsor (Have your name next to the tee box) : \$100
Closest to the pin Sponsor : \$50
Raffle Donations (Donate a basket) : Minimum \$50 value

Name: _____
Email: _____
Phone Number: _____

Make checks payable to
Italian Catholic Federation Golf Tournament
8393 Capwell Dr. Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621

Sign up deadline is October 10th. We cannot guarantee a sign will be Produced, but the sponsor will be mentioned

October 25th
Saturday, 2025

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



Raffle 2025

Deadline to Enter – October 10, 2025

WHO WANTS TO WIN SOME \$\$\$?
TAKE A CHANCE WITH
THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION'S SECOND GOLF BALL RAFFLE.
...\$15 FOR 1 ♦ \$30 for 2 ♦ \$45 for 3 OR \$50 FOR 4...(BEST DEAL)
...CASH PAYOUTS INCLUDE PRIZES OF \$100, \$500, \$750, & \$1,000...
THE DRAWING TAKES PLACE AFTER THE
I.C.F. SO CAL REGION GOLF TOURNAMENT ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26TH.
CHECKS CAN BE MADE OUT TO ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
WITH THE MEMO - GOLF BALL RAFFLE.
WE NEED YOUR NAME, E-MAIL, PHONE NUMBER & BRANCH NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE).
ONLY 1,000 GOLF BALLS WILL BE SOLD.
CONTACT THE I.C.F. OFFICE AT (510) 633-9058 OR
PERRY SHURKO AT (562) 804-0230, P_SHURKO@YAHOO.COM

Send this Form with your check...made payable to Italian Catholic Federation...
Memo Golf Ball Raffle... to: 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621

Name: _____ Branch Number: _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____
I am purchasing _____ Golf Balls for the Raffle



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

Mexican Buffet: \$50 per person

Name: _____
Email: _____
Phone Number: _____

Make check \$50 per person. Write Banquet in memo line
Make checks payable to
Italian Catholic Federation Golf Tournament
8393 Capwell Dr. Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621

October 25th
Saturday, 2025

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

Italian Catholic Federation's 3rd Annual So Cal Charity Golf Tournament



Location: Lakewood Country Club
3101 E. Carson St, Lakewood, CA 90712

October 25th
Saturday, 2025

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

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

Make checks payable to:
Italian Catholic Federation Golf Tournament
8393 Capwell Dr. Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621
Make check for \$200 per Golfer, write Golf in memo line

SIGN UP DEADLINE
Friday, October 10th

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

2025 APOSTOLATE/CHARITY COMMITTEE – CONVENTION REPORT

Total Number of Branches – 87 Total Reports Submitted – 60

Of the 60 Branches Submitting an Annual Report:

- 57 Branches submitted an Apostolate Charity report in 2025
- 41 Branches have an Apostolate Chairperson
- 31 Branches give an Apostolate Report at each meeting
- 25 Branches have an active Chaplain
- 7 Branches attend Mass together Monthly
- 14 Branches attend Mass together Quarterly
- 6 Branches attend Mass together Semi-Annually
- 17 Branches attend Mass together Annually
- 49 Branches recite the rosary or pray for special intentions at each meeting
- 58 Branches offer Masses for deceased members
- 49 Branches donate to the Provvidenza Fund

Participation in Branch or District Sponsored Events:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| • Retreats | 3 Branches | Pilgrimages | 5 Branches |
| • Day/Night of Recollection | 17 Branches | Bishop’s Days | 47 Branches |

Participation in Parish Life:

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| • 114 Mass Greeters | 153 Lectors | 254 Eucharistic Ministers |
| • 83 Ushers | 72 Choir Members | 74 CCD Teachers |

Total Dollars Donated = \$427,081

The Districts and Areas listed below had 100% participation in the Apostolate/Charity program:

Contra Costa – East Bay – San Bernardino – Stockton – Reno

Thank you to our Apostolate/Charity Chairpersons and members for your hard work and dedication!

Heritage — Visalia Convention

Louise Vento, Committee Member



This summer, the branches of the ICF participated in BBQs, festivals, fundraisers, and our annual convention in Visalia. These events keep our organization thriving. As members, we serve through Apostolate work in our branches and parish churches, promote the heritage of the ICF, and support our charities.

The annual convention reminds us what this organization is all about. At 101 years strong, we continue to learn and grow together. I especially enjoyed attending the Genealogy workshop. Beyond the sessions, we also shared fellowship through golf, bingo, banquets, luncheons, and most importantly, the Memorial Mass and Sunday Mass. The Sunday Mass was celebrated by Bishop Joseph Vincent

Brennan of the Fresno Diocese, along with Rev. Father Christopher Bennett, our ICF Spiritual Director.

A highlight of the convention was the installation of our Grand President, Franklyn Lopes, along with all the newly elected Central Council officers. These officers are here for all ICF members—so be sure to reach out with concerns and remember to congratulate them when you see them.

I also enjoyed meeting so many members and new delegates in the Heritage Room. The Heritage Committee did a fantastic job—the displays truly highlighted the rich history of the ICF.

Enjoy the rest of your summer! Before we know it, we'll be celebrating Bishops' Days and the holidays together.

Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library
OPEN HOUSE ON NOVEMBER 8

Carmelo Sabatella

The Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee would like to wish all ICF Members and Friends of Mother Cabrini a very Happy End of Summer. We continue to celebrate the Roman-Catholic Church's "2025: Jubilee Year of Hope" which is celebrated every 25 years just as Mother Cabrini did when Pope Leo XIII asked Mother Cabrini and her first Seven Sisters to arrive in New York on March 31, 1889 to evangelize and care for "the unhappy sons of Italy."

Come visit the Chapel and Library and Mother Cabrini Chapel Store. For more information on the Chapel and Library please visit icf.org/mother Cabrini shrine.

SAVE THE DATES:

- November 8, 2025 - Mother Cabrini

Chapel and Library Open House at St. Francis Xavier Church, 3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. hosted by the ICF Los Angeles and Santa Barbara/Ventura Regions.

- November 9, 2025 - Annual Mother Cabrini Chapel Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon at St. Francis Xavier Church, 3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA from 11:30 a.m. (Mass), 12:30 p.m. (Pilgrimage) and Luncheon (2:00 p.m.) following the Pilgrimage. Please RSVP via email no. Cas1810@aol.com for more information and for a copy of the Pilgrimage flyer.

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



Scholarship Donations

(Received as of September 10, 2025)

1st Year Donations
The Kilcullen Family
In Memory of Aurora Roselli
Lola Braccini
In Memory of Aurora Roselli

2nd - 4th Year Donations
Annette Maggiora and Family
In Honor of the 103rd Birthday of Mary Perata
Giulia Gallego
As a Thank You to Diana Berry
Vanni and Humphrey CPAs
In Memory of Josephine Jimenez

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
9/1	Pat and Julie McDermott		Meadow Vista, CA	\$100
9/2	Paul Larson	403	Millbrae, CA	\$30
9/3	Millicent Piro	39	Atwater, CA	\$30
9/4	Mike Repetto	390	Tracy, CA	\$30
9/5	Angela Bilich		San Ramon, CA	\$30
9/6	Kevin and Katrina Healy		Lakewood Ranch, FL	\$30
9/7	Diana Plescia	108	South Pasadena, CA	\$30
9/8	Dino Cunial	139	Manteca, CA	\$50
9/9	Phyllis Fortino	26	Hollister, CA	\$30
9/10	John and Raina Cordich		Great Falls, MT	\$30
9/11	Liz Trujillo		Altaville, CA	\$50
9/12	Fred Sanchez	352	Danville, CA	\$30
9/13	Norma Harris	342	Auburn, CA	\$30
9/14	Wade Kelly		Arroyo Grande, CA	\$30
9/15	Mary Elizabeth Van De Car	210	Forest Falls, CA	\$30
9/16	Frances Beaudet		Gilroy, CA	\$30
9/17	Jessica Bauer		Alexandria, VA	\$30
9/18	Jan Lorenzi		Merced, CA	\$30
9/19	Eileen McGauran	442	Pleasant Hill, CA	\$30
9/20	Linda Marselli	213	Daly City, CA	\$30
9/21	Mary Ann Collins	342	Auburn, CA	\$30
9/22	Linda Sherman	198	Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
9/23	Francesca Brown		Angels Camp, CA	\$30
9/24	Valerie Hashim	281	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
9/25	Ed and Gina Roden		McKinleyville, CA	\$30
9/26	The E. Bayer Family		Benicia, CA	\$30
9/27	Maryellen Mazzei	39	Merced, CA	\$30
9/28	Paul Morrison	438	Roseville, CA	\$30
9/29	Robin G. Wiltz 111		Montebello, CA	\$30
9/30	Susan Matheny	52	Healdsburg, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of September 10, 2025:

IN MEMORY OF:

Linda Calciano
Evelyn Pedron
Patricia Arnaudo
Grace Evangelista Englis
Patricia Arnaudo
Patricia Arnaudo
Norma Lombardi
Patricia Arnaudo
Bob Burick

DONATED BY:

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Officers/Members of Br. 191
The Kilcullen Family
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Bob Basuino
Officers/Members of Br. 7
Diana Bacigalupi
Dottie Smith

GET WELL WISHES:

Carol Lopes
Carol Lopes

Bob Basuino
Richard and Valerie Vote

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Malcolm Barrack
The Kilcullen Family

IN CELEBRATION OF 30 YEARS ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD:

Fr. Gerardo Menchaca
Fr. Robert Brocato

Officers/Members of Br. 435
Officers/Members of Br. 435

*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.

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 de-
vice, and like
the idea of
saving a tree
while helping
us save print-
ing costs, visit
this link to sign up:



[http://eepurl.com/
bLaMFb](http://eepurl.com/bLaMFb)



Apostolate -- *Mike Rossi* New Chairperson

Carmen Kilcullen
Apostolate/Charity Committee

This is my last
article, as Mike
Rossi will be
taking over as
Chairman. I wish
to thank everyone
who has been so
cooperative in
moving the pro-
gram forward.



You are all to be congratulated

for the very fine apostolic and
charitable works that you do.
Continue your efforts as the
need is great. With this article is
the report from the branches on
all the apostolic and charitable
works reported this past year.

Congratulations to all!
Carmen

Welcome New Members

(Report as of September 10, 2025)

Branch 028	Julie Barberi	Robert Van Tassel
Branch 036	Erasmo Aiello	Jason Arnaldo
	Lori Arnaldo	Sebastian Barbarino
	Kathleen Cardinalli	Elisa Cavaliere
	Turie Cavaliere Jr	Rob Chopyk
	Sally Chopyk	Maria Cianci
	Joelle Davi	Cesca Enea
	Frank Enea	Beth A Fridley
	Daniel Fridley	Dorothy Heinrichs
	Antonina M Leavenworth	
	Scott S Leavenworth	Saime Matsu
	Les Moro	Marilyn Moro
	Ramona Olaeta-Reed	Julie Pacheco
	Steve Pacheco	Angela Russo
	James Russo	Victoria Spadaro
	Cris P Staedler	Gina M Davi Staedler
	Chad M Ventimiglia	Lisa D'agui White
	Nick White	
Branch 130	Elaine Piparo	Camilla Roos
Branch 191	Raquel Carranza	John Marino
	Marie Y Marino	Evelyn Revels
	Casey Rodriguez	
Branch 209	Louis J Sanchietti	
Branch 218	Grace N Corsini	Veronica Palma Vandenwyngaert
Branch 227	Marilee French	
Branch 229	Andy L Cota	
Branch 250	Catherine Culleton	Georgia Rios
	Val Rios	Darlene M Smay
Branch 342	Michael A Greene	
Branch 354	Vincent Tavernetti	
Branch 368	Jo Ann Bjornstad	Roger B Bjornstad
Branch 380	Jeremy James	
Branch 403	Marge J Colapietro	Charlene O'Connell
Branch 408	Rev Mark Gazzingan	
Branch 432	Judy Simpson	
Branch 435	Michael Slevin	Roseliane Slevin
Branch 438	Robert Fiore	Stanley G Gamba

Gifts of Love Convention Donations

Branch 36

Branch 48

Branch 173

Branch 281

Branch 291

Branch 308

Branch 332

Branch 354

BG and Leonard Zasoski, Jr. - In Memory of Leonard and Marian Zasoski, Sr.

Branch 368

Branch 374

Branch 390

Branch 395

Branch 413

Branch 442

Branch 446

Grand Total: \$4,592.00

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund
Convention Donations

Branch 36

Branch 332

Branch 446

Grand Total: \$1,300.00

Scholarship Convention Donations
2nd - 4th Year

The Antonowicz Family

Grand Total: \$1,000.00

Cooley’s Anemia Convention Donations

Branch 25

Branch 36

Branch 48

Branch 173

Branch 184

Branch 218

Branch 281

Branch 291

Branch 308

Branch 332

Branch 342

Branch 354

Branch 368

Branch 374

Branch 379

Branch 390

Branch 395

Branch 406

Branch 413

Branch 442

Branch 445

Branch 446

Denise Antonowicz

Fred and Gerry DeRienzo

Lou and Pat Mages

Maggiora Jewelry (Jo-Ann Maggiora-Donivan)

Annemarie McCarthy - In Memory of Fabiola Di Paolo

Anita Ridolfi

BG and Leonard Zasoski Jr. - In Memory of Ed and Shirliann Swertfager

Grand Total: \$9,000.00

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Full Name		Complete Mailing Address	
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	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	0	0
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c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		3,680	3,642
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	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	4	4
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d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c × 100)			
☐ I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.			
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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form

Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco

Br. 1, Maria S.S. Immacolata

Dear Members:

Our heartfelt condolences to President Vic on the passing of his beloved wife, Patricia.

Happy birthday wishes to Severino Alpi, Julie Giovannoni, and Catherine Quigg.

Please save the date—Sunday, November 9—for an Italian lunch to be held in San Francisco at the home of Diana and Dennis. Invitations will follow.

Cordiali Saluti
Diana Cresci

SAN MATEO

District

South San Francisco

Br. 7, Sacro Cuore

Happy Anniversary South City!

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW - Saturday, October 25, 2025, Branch 7 will be celebrating our 100th anniversary with a luncheon at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco from 11a.m. to 4 p.m. The lunch will be preceded by a Mass celebrated by ICF Spiritual Director, Fr. Christopher Bennett, in honor of former and current Branch members.

Cost is \$55 per person with lunch entrees choices of Veal Roast, Chicken Chasseur or Eggplant Parmesan. All lunches include salad, bread, coffee and dessert. Send reservations to Donna Smith at 930 Mission Rd #26, SSF, CA 94080.

Our condolences to the family of Norma Lombardi who recently passed away. Norma was a 40-year member, lifelong South San Franciscan and will be greatly missed.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Colma

Br. 19, San Vincenzo De Paoli

As we return from our summer break, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Kathy Trevizo and Joanne Alvarado for representing our branch as delegates at this

year's ICF Convention. Both shared wonderful and informative reports about their experiences — thank you for your service!

2025 Calendar Fundraiser

Our branch is now selling the 2025 ICF Calendars as part of our annual fundraiser. This year's theme is:

"Sports — Italian Style"

Each calendar costs \$30, which includes daily drawing entries.

To purchase, please contact Deborah.

Feast of the Holy Angels Celebration

Holy Angels Parish will be celebrating the Feast of the Holy Angels with a four-day event filled with themed Masses and community festivities:

- Thursday & Friday Night Masses at 6:30 p.m.
 - Saturday Afternoon Mass at 4 p.m.
 - Sunday Mass at 12:00 PM followed by fellowship and the Parish Raffle Drawing
- Saturday Festival:
- 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - Includes kids' rides, live entertainment, and various vendors!

For more details, please contact the Parish Office.

Looking Ahead

As we approach the end of the month, we observe:

- Halloween – October 31
- All Saints Day – November 1
- All Souls Day – November 2

Let us take time to reflect and honor these important days in our Catholic tradition.

October Branch Meeting

Our next branch meeting will take place on: Columbus Day – Monday, October 13, 2025, 5:30 p.m. at Deborah's House

Please RSVP to Deborah by October 10 if you plan to attend.

Officer elections for 2026 will be held during this meeting — we encourage all members to participate!

Burlingame

Br. 173, Our Lady of Angels

The trees are turning into Fall colors and we still have many events in store for this year.

Branch 7 is celebrating 100 years in the ICF - CONGRATULATIONS! The San Mateo District has voted not to have Bishop's Day, Chaplain's Night and A Night of Recollection so all members can join in on the Celebration. It will be held at the Basque Cultural Center on October 25 and the cost is \$55.00. Mass will be at 11a.m. with lunch following.

Happy to report one of our members, Mara Millis was the lucky winner of the Grand Prize Raffle Ticket Drawing at the Convention. \$2500.00.

We will be hearing more regarding the Convention at our September meeting/ Pizza dinner. Branch members voted to

give \$500 to Cooley's Anemia and the same to Gifts of Love where checks were presented at the Convention.

2026 Calendars will be available for \$30.00 at the September meeting

Please pray for the ill in our Branch and throughout the Federation. Fr. Brian, Fr. Gerald, Fr. Harold, Mary Bodisco Anthony Bruno, Mary Ann Camacho, Maria & Victor Camicia, Rina Cassanego, Anita Cecena, Donna Cervelli and Lisa Martinelli. Branch 19: Kathy Trevizo and Branch 1- Patricia Arnaudo.

God Bless,
Roz Emery

South San Francisco

Br. 213, St. Augustine

Here we are enjoying our Indian Summer, back to school and back to work.

Keep buying those ICF calendars. We had two big winners last month Faith Hill \$100 and Lorraine D'Elia \$50 congratulation.

Our Bocce Ball tournament was canceled due to lack of participation. Hopefully we can have the tournament next year.

We welcome back our President Marianne Cameron from the ICF Convention who was inspired by all the information she gathered which she will share with the membership.

There has been a time change for our monthly meetings. Doors open 4:30 p.m. Dinner 5:00 p.m. Meeting to follow.

A Happy Birthday to Linda Benedetti, Gloria DeVincenzi, Norma Flores,

Keep in your prayers Chuck Baumann, Jackie Smith, Barbara Gabriel and Lorraine D'Elia.

Ciao
Joe Crosetti.

Millbrae

Br. 403, St. Dunstan

Ciao! I hope everyone had a great & healthy summer. Our next meeting is a "Dessert & Coffee" -no cost- event on Tuesday, October 7th at 6:30PM. Please RSVP to Eunice at 650-692-3740 so we know how much dessert to buy! We will be putting the finishing touches on planning for our Polenta Dinner/Fundraiser.

Our "Polenta Dinner" is Sunday, October 19th, with cocktails at 4pm & dinner at 5pm. For \$45 (\$25 for 12 & under!), you get antipasti, salad, creamy polenta, 1/4 chicken, sausage, WINE, & dessert. Great raffle prizes too! Mail checks (payable to "ICF Br 403") to Faye Dawdy, 200 poplar Ave, Millbrae, CA 94030. Her # is: 650-588-5400. The deadline is Fri, Oct 10th. Hope to see you there!

Our November meeting is on Tuesday, Nov 4th, Lasagna. See your Sept/Oct Newsletter for details.

Sadly, we recently lost our former member, Lew Grasberger. May he rest in peace at 95.

Adonna Amoroso, Secretary

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE

District Council

Welcome to October everyone. I can't believe we're in Fall now. It's my favorite time of year.

The convention is week behind us and it's time to look at all of our events for the rest of the year. First, we celebrated Monsignor Cacciapuoti's installation as pastor of St John Fischer. Bishop Trudeau celebrated the Mass and there were a ton of people there. Congratulations Monsignor.

Now it's time for our annual Bishop Banquet. Sunday October 26 at St John Seminary. We will have Bishop Slawomir to celebrate the Mass and we look forward to seeing Fr Leon Hutton again.

The day before we have our So Cal Golf Tournament at Lakewood CC. Please consider playing or buying some Raffle Balls or just joining us for a late lunch.

The CHLA party has been rescheduled till April of 2026.

The Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage will be on November 9th this year. Prayers for all of our ICF members and their families. Keep praying for the ICF and its continued growth and success. Happy Halloween.



Br. 67, National Branch, St. Peter

On September 7, 2025 Msgr. Antonio Cacciapuoti was installed by Bishop Trudeau as the Pastor of Saint John Fisher Catholic Church in Palos Verdes.

ICF Members from National Branch 67 including LA Archdiocese President Perry Shurko along with members of several ICF Branches in the Southern California Region joined in the celebration and extended their hearty congratulations to Msgr. Antonio.

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

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

Please keep our sick members in your prayers that they may reach a speedy recovery. and to our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward; may they rest in peace.

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

SAVE THE DATE

- October 18, 2025 - ICF National Branch 67 General Meeting at St Peters Catholic Church in Downtown Los Angeles and via Zoom.

South Pasadena Br. 108, Holy Family

On September 7, 2025 Msgr. Antonio Cacciapuoti was installed by San Fernando Regional Bishop Trudeau as the Pastor of Saint John Fisher Catholic Church in Palos Verdes. Luncheon followed in their Church Hall.

ICF Members from Branch 108 including LA Archdiocese President Perry Shurko along with members of several ICF Branches in the Southern California Region joined in the celebration and extended their hearty congratulations to Msgr. Antonio.

Following the above celebration, Carmelo S. joined the Branch 108 General Meeting in the Galilee Room of Holy Family Pastoral Center where President Michele S discussed several items including fundraising event possibilities followed by celebration of September birthdays and wedding anniversaries of branch members.

SAVE THE DATES

- 10/26/25 ICF Bishop Day Banquet at St. John's Seminary, Camarillo.

- 11/9/25 Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrim

age and Luncheon at SFXC Burbank.

- 12/7/25 Mother Cabrini Chapel Open House at SFXC Burbank from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. hosted by the San Fernando Valley Region. Call 626 372-7812 or email cas1810@aol.com for more information.

Please keep our sick members in your prayers for a speedy recovery; and special prayers to former Branch members and friends of ICF who have gone to their eternal reward may they rest in peace.

*Keep safe and stay healthy.
Carmelo Sabatella, PP
ICF Branch 108
C 626 372-7812
E cas1810@aol.com*

Montebello Br. 111, St. Benedict

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our October General Meeting will be on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, in Montebello. At this meeting, we will also have Nominations/Elections for 2025 branch officers. After the meeting, we will have cake to celebrate the October birthdays of the following members: Vienna Busalacchi, Lina Canzonieri, Crocetta Salomone, Patricia Soto, Giovanni Sergi, and Jeanne Vieni-Orofino. Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

On Sunday, October 19, 2025, at the 10:00 a.m. mass at St. Benedict Church, 1022 W. Cleveland Ave., Montebello, the mass will be offered for the living and deceased members of ICF 111. After mass, we will gather at the Rio's Pizza, 531 N. Montebello Blvd, Montebello, for a luncheon.

The 2025 Bishop's Day and Chaplain's Recognition Mass & Luncheon will be held on Sunday, October 26, 2025 at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo. Mass will be at 11 a.m. followed by a luncheon. Luncheon tickets are \$30 per person. Branch 111 members pay \$15. If you plan to attend, RSVP and bring your money to our October 16th meeting or send a check to Frank Salomone so he receives it no later than October 16th.

SAVE the dates for the following events: more information will follow.

Sunday, November 9, 2025 - Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage Mass & Luncheon.

Saturday, December 13, 2025 - Branch 111 Christmas Dinner, at Salvatore's Italian Restaurant.

Finally, please pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

*A Presto!
Frank Salomone
Branch 111 President*



San Pedro

Br. 115, St. John Joseph of the Cross

Please join us for our next branch meeting on Thursday Oct 16th at 7:30 p.m. in parish center. Election of officers for 2026 year will take place at this meeting. Please consider serving on next year's board. It is a very rewarding experience for all who step up.

Bishop Day Banquet will be held on Sunday Oct 26th. Bus will be leaving from the Boys and Girls club at 8 a.m. \$30.00 includes lunch. Come meet our wonderful seminarians. For reservations call Neal DiLeva 310 433-1044

Mother Cabrini pilgrimage will be held on November 9th. Bus will leave from Boys and Girls club at 10:30 a.m. \$25.00 includes lunch. Call Barbara West for reservations 310 548-1693

Join us for our annual Las Vegas trip. Three days two nights of unforgettable fun! Leaving from Boys and Girls Club on November 12th 9 a.m. returning November 14th. Please call Pauline Iacono for pricing and reservation. 310 832-0563

For more gambling fun join us on November 30th day trip to Viejas casino. \$40.00 donation Departure from Boys and Girls club 8:30 a.m. Call Pauline Iacono for reservations.

Save the date members annual Christmas party will be held on Saturday December 6th at 6 p.m. Free to members \$15.00 spouse/guest. For reservations, please call Giovanna Gioiello 213-605-3060

The branch is saddened to announce the passing of member Rose Vuoso. Rose became a member in 1977. Our condolences to her family.

Condolences also to the family of Ciro Lauro. Ciro was a generous volunteer helping out with our many fundraisers. He will be missed.

Congratulations to members Tony and Nancy DiBernardo on their 75th wedding anniversary. Your journey together is a beautiful example of enduring partnership and devotion.

Please keep our sick and deceased members in your prayers Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

Glendora

Br. 179, St. Dorothy

Due to the extreme heat in SoCal in August, St. Dorothy Branch 179 changed their originally scheduled outdoor Bocce tournament to a rousing game of Bingo inside! As it was last meeting, we played 3 games for \$\$\$ prizes. We still had our delicious potluck dinner. And, we tasted two red wines, Syrah and Sangiovese, harvested and bottled last year by a group of members trying their hand at wine making. Both wines are delicious! But, of course the highlight of the evening was our youngest member, Carmela Lima, helping with the tablecloths!

Patricia, Trustee, Branch 179

Arcadia

Br. 218, Holy Angels

As we enter the Fall time of year, there will be quite a lot on our agenda. Our next meeting is October 12th at which time we will have our election of officers. Please think about becoming an officer. Our meetings are always interesting with an element of fun to them.

We will be passing out baby bottles after each Mass to be hopefully filled and donated.

November's meeting is on the 6th. This is an important meeting as we will be discussing our Christmas Boutique which is on the 16th, setup on the 15th. We will again need your donations of baked goods. Jenni Hauge is the chairperson and will be counting on help to set up, the kitchen crew, and the baked goods table.

November 16 is also the Mother Cabrini Mass and lunch. It is not too early to mention our Christmas party which will be December 6th. Again, I will be in charge and am planning on a very nice and fun event. More on that later.

We lost another member recently, Connie Davis. Connie was such a sweet and nice person and always a pleasure to talk to. Our sincere condolences to the family.

*Hope to see all our members at our meetings.
Lolly M.*

Downey

Br. 362, St. Raymond

Hello everyone. Welcome to October. Autumn is in the air and it's time to gear up for the remaining holidays.

Well, it's been a month since the convention, and the calendar is full of activities. Please consider buying a golf ball or two for the golf tournament Ball Toss and if you know of a golfer or you yourself play, join us on the 25th at Lakewood CC for the 3rd annual ICF So Cal Golf Tournament. It's \$200 a golfer which includes green fees and lunch. There will be raffle prizes and prizes for the longest drive, closest to the hole and a trip for someone who can sink a hole in one. The deadline is coming up quick, so don't delay. The day after, on the 26th is our districts annual Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day held at St John's Seminary in Camarillo. We are hoping to have our ICF Spiritual Director Fr Chris Bennett join us and the main celebrant will be Bishop Slawomir of the Santa Barbara / Ventura region. We are also looking forward to seeing Fr Leon Hutton, a friend of the ICF, who is the newest rector of the seminary.

Please continue to pray for vocations and our seminarians.

Last month we lost a dear friend of the ICF and member of our branch, Madeline Buckley. RIP Madeline. Looking at next month we have the annual Cabrini Pilgrimage on November 16th. Have a wonderful and Happy Halloween.

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT



Br. 291 Members David Sanchez (guest), Annie Subia (Delegate), and Keely Sanchez (Delegate) are pictured here at the Saturday Night Banquet during the 2025 ICF Convention in Visalia.



Sebastian Barbarino, Branch 36



Ed and George Leonard, Branch 36



Fran Bonificino & Bruna Weiland, Branch 36



Florence & Turie Cavaliere & Elaine Valentine Branch 36.

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT



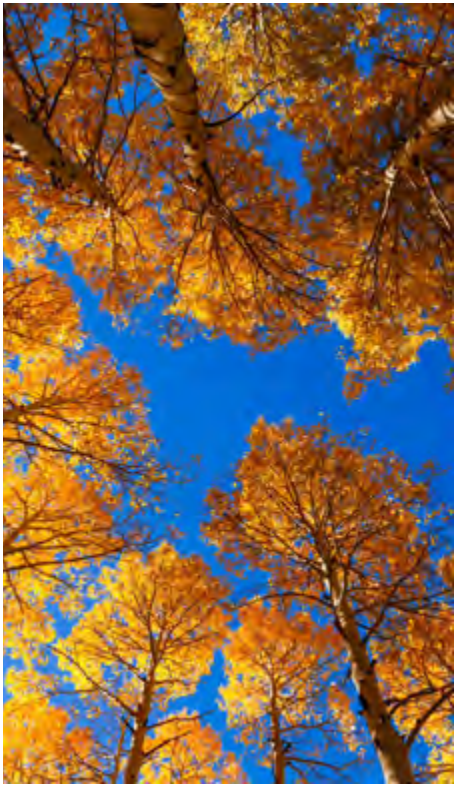
Branch 144



Branch #209 General Meeting, L to R, Yvonne Dorr, Recording Secretary; Pam McAlvain, President; Lorraine Vannetti, Treasurer; Leona Spadoni, Financial Secretary



Branch 144



Branch 144



Members of Branch #209 enjoying dinner at a General Meeting

FRESNO DISTRICT



Pictures from Sunday, August 24th: ICF Branch #54 of Gustine Celebrated its 89th Our Lady of Pettoruto Celebration. Next year we will be Celebrating our 90th



Branch #308 attendees to Visalia Convention. Larry Pricolo, Marie Pricolo, Bernie Squeo, and Russell Renna.



Br. 54



Branch 39 at Visalia Rawhide game.



Branch 39 and Italo Lodge Representatives at International Fair

Thousand Oaks

Br. 380, St. Paschal Baylon

ICF BRANCH 380's Recent Meeting and Events

Our meeting on August 1, 2025, included a potluck meal and a roundtable discussion with representatives from eight Ministries of Saint Pascal Baylon Church. The following ministries were represented: Adoration Chapel, Boy Scouts, Lectors, Adult Choir, Respect for Life, OCIA, Adult Confirmation and Altar servers. Each ministry representative explained their mission, and they were well received by all. Father Michael, Pastor, stated that "I'm pleased that more of this kind of co-operation among the Ministries will occur on a continuing basis." It is believed that the meeting will lead to stronger ties between ICF and the Parish Ministries.

The upcoming Ministry Fair at St. Paschal Baylon Parrish on September 21ST was also discussed and it was agreed that ICF Chapter 380 will have a table at this event.

Another event that we are anticipating is a screening of the film "Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality at St. Paschal Baylon Parrish on September 20, 2025. The documentary film explores the life of the Catholic Church's first millennial saint, Carlo Acutis, who was canonized by Pope Leo XIV in Rome on September 7, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by Don Modaro

Rancho Palos Verdes

Br. 444, St. John Fisher

Mario Ruggiero, our Scholarship Winner for 2025 will attend Universal Technical Institute to Study Diesel Mechanics. His sister, Lilliana, received the ICF Scholarship in 2021. His parents, Anthony and Lisa have been married 25 yrs. with family heritage from Ischia, Italy. We are proud of Mario and wish him continued success on this new journey.

Msgr. Antonio Cacciapuoti was installed by Bishop Marc Trudeau Sept. 7th, as Pastor of our Parish. Many honored Co-Celebrants & Msgr. David Sork, retired Pastor, participated in the Installation of Msgr. Antonio. Brunch was served after the Ceremony in Barrett Hall for all parishioners & guests. Benvenuto, Msgr. Antonio. ICF Convention was attended by President Hany Francis. Bishop Brennan of Fresno was Hany's Pastor at Immaculate Heart Parish when his family immigrated from Egypt. Bishop Brennan helped Hany's family to become an active part of the parish & feel at home. The Convention brought all ICF members together in faith and love.

Remember to pray for our members not able to attend: Marianne Canetti, Joe Trani, Guido Fassenelli, Sheryl Payne & Gary Hansen.

Ciao, Patty Longo Hansen

Manhattan Beach

Br. 447, American Martyrs

Hello everyone. Autumn is here and the holiday season is coming up quick. Last month our branch celebrated its third annual limoncello festival. The food was delicious and the silent auction items were amazing. Thank you to Stephanie and Luanne who co-chaired the event this year. It was a huge success

We now move on to the LA district's annual Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Slawomir at St John's Seminary at 11 a.m. on October 26. We will have lunch afterwards and present the seminary Burse at that time. On Saturday the 25, we will have our third annual So Cal Golf tournament. Our own Grant Donohue will be playing this year. \$200 a golfer, hole sponsorships are \$100 and don't forget the Ball Toss raffle. \$15 a ball or 4 for \$50. You could win \$1,000!

The Mother Cabrini pilgrimage is set for November 9 at St Francis Xavier in Burbank. Our parish will be hosting the 2026 LA District Installation of Officers on January 18. Next month we will hold the election of officers at a pot luck general meeting on November 14.

Happy Halloween!!!

Oakland

East Bay

District Council

The ICF Convention in Visalia was the highlight of the end-of-summer events! Every EBD branch was represented.

Congratulations to Lisa Crudo (Branch 343) for winning re-election to Central Council. EBD appreciates and congratulates all those who made the effort to run and those who won. We are blessed with an abundance of talented and dedicated members from which to choose our Central Council. We pray for our ICF leadership that the year ahead is productive and fulfilling.

We are also grateful to our EBD Chaplain, Father Mario Rizzo who was at Convention. We appreciate the generosity of all clergy for their presence during the weekend.

EBD received awards for contributions to Scholarship Funds. One for supporting 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships, and one for participation by every Branch in the District and the District itself. We also received an award for 100% participation of our Branches in the Apostolic and charitable works of the ICF.

Our officers transported MANY contributions of EBD members to the Salt+Light Charity Drive and participated in the Convention Blood Drive as well. EBD also made a substantial contribution to the Cooley's Anemia Foundation. Thank you, EBD members for generously supporting these important charitable efforts.

September 21st, Bishop's Day -celebrated jointly with Contra Costa District- is hosted by Branch 343 at Our Lady of Grace in Castro Valley. Spiritual and monetary donations to the to the Seminary Burse are presented.

Read the EBD Branch reports for more activities and details!

Sincerely
Roberta Madej

Alameda

Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

At press time we had commenced preparations for our annual Ravioli Dinner scheduled for Saturday evening, October 4. Flyers had been sent to all members and to friends of the branch who regularly enjoy our functions. We were hoping for an attendance as large as last year's (130 persons).

Next up on our social calendar will be our annual Christmas Party planned for Saturday evening, December 6. Information regarding the menu and prices will appear in the November *Bollettino*. However, Santa has already promised to be present and to bring gifts for the children who attend.

Our branch has been participating in the centennial celebration of Saint Philip Neri Church, the older of the two churches which comprise Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish. Several of our officers belong to the planning committee. We contributed a sponsorship to the September 14 centennial Fun Fair and sold pizza (what else?) at the event. The observance will culminate on Sunday, October 19 with 10:30 a.m. Mass offered by Diocese of Oakland Bishop Michael Barber, SJ, followed by a reception in Monsignor O'Brien Hall and a musical concert in Saint Philip Neri Church featuring singers Sarah Hart and Jesse Manibusan. All three events are free of charge. For information, contact John Zugnoni, 510-326-3474 or john@zugnoni.net.

We returned from the convention in Visalia with a third-place award for Apostolate/Charity. Thanks to JoAnn Dorn for compiling the information.

John Zugnoni
Branch 10 publicity

Livermore

Br. 285, St. Filomena

Ciao Amici,

We skipped the August membership meeting to enjoy other summer pursuits, but the Andiamo Group had some summer fun in Lodi with olive oil tasting at an olive oil company followed by a delicious lunch at Pietro's Trattoria. The Italian Conversation Group celebrated the Italian Ferragosto holiday by watching the charming movie "Il Pranzo di Ferragosto."

The weekend of September 20th-21st will be a busy one for our branch with an ICF cookie booth at the Catholic Community of Pleasanton's Holy Hoe-down, an ICF table at the St. Michael's Parish Festival, and Bishop's Day at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley.

No one will want to miss our September 28th membership meeting where we will be celebrating Octoberfest with German food, music, and fun. Additionally, we will be hearing from Carlotta and Dale Schaurer about all the events at the ICF convention. They attended a number of workshops, including Technology and Genealogy, so we can look forward to hearing about what they learned.

We mourn the loss of our member Aurora Roselli. Please pray for her, for her daughter Pia Murphy, and the family. Also, please keep those members who are ill in your prayers.

Lastly, Buon Compleanno to all those with October birthdays!

Ciao,
Paula Flessatti

Castro Valley

Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace

My how time flies when you're having fun! The annual convention, this year in Visalia, was a success! The elections were held and the newly elected officers of the Central Council selected Franklyn Lopes as our new president. Branch #343's own Lisa Crudo was selected as the Central Council's 2nd Vice-President. In other news, by the time you are reading this, our branch would have already celebrated our "Bites and Bingo" event. Our members supplied all of the "heavy appetizers" for our guests to enjoy. Our 20+ raffle baskets ensured that many lucky guests went home with some great prizes. September has been a busy month for us. Besides our bingo event, our wonderful "elegant chicken dinner" was a hit at our branch meeting, and we hosted Bishop's Day, which included members from both the East Bay and Contra Costa Districts. We are definitely looking forward to a more relaxing October!

Preghiamo per la pace nei mondo!
Edoardo McGuirk

DEADLINE
October 10th for
the November
issue of the
***Bollettino*.**
Send your
articles & photos:
editor@icf.org

EAST BAY DISTRICT



Branch 343 and Fr. Mario



Minor League ballgame line-up card (some future Hall of Famers?)



Fran La Torre and Rebecca Engineer from Br. 215 at Convention.



East Bay District at Convention

SAN MATEO DISTRICT



Br. 213 - change it to Marianne Cameron President, Br. 213, St. Augustine, So. San Francisco with Certificate for increase of membership.



ICF Convention Awards EBD

CONTRA COSTA
District Council

Hello from Contra Costa! We are pleased all seven of our branches sent delegates to the convention. We congratulate many who received awards. Including our District who received certificates. Congratulations to Rosemary Cook. She was reelected to the Central Council and will be on the executive board. We thank Rose Mc Neil for being the mistress of ceremonies at the convention awards luncheon. We send best wishes to new Grand President, Franklyn Lopes Jr. Plan ahead for next year's convention in Reno Nevada.

Bishop's day was held September, 21. With East Bay District hosting. Since I'm writing this article before that date, I'll report next month.

Plans are being made for our Christmas party. Details forthcoming. Save the date of Saturday, January 10, 2026 for our District Installation. Our Brentwood Branch is hosting. Festivities will include a social, Installation, luncheon and Mass. Flyers will be sent.

Our next District meeting will be held Thursday, November, 13 at 7 p.m. At Christ the King parish meeting room in Pleasant Hill. Election of 2026 officers will take place.

*Happy Halloween and Happy All Saints Day. Fraternally,
Patty Jarrett, Past President*

Crockett
Br. 14, San Carlo

Ciao Amici!
Congratulations to our branch for celebrating its 98th year (Really? But you don't seem a day over 97!). Thank you to Johnny V and crew for the delicious ball tip dinner, and all the members who participated in the celebration. We also owe a debt of gratitude to all the past members who are no longer with us, but who provided a solid foundation that lives on today. Cheers to all!

Our ICF Bocce Team has made it into the final playoffs! At the time of this writing, we are still in the game, so keep your fingers crossed for continued success.

We have some members who are experiencing some health issues; Elva, Chico, Aaron, and Pat. We're thinking of you, and hope you feel better soon. We send our deepest sympathy to Corrine S. on the loss of her family member, and Rita DeTomas on the loss of her brother. You are all in our prayers.

Mark your calendars for our next meeting on Oct 14th. It will be an International Potluck. We have some fabulous cooks out there, so it's time to shine with your favorite international dishes to share. Also remember to bring your canned goods for our branch food drive.

Our Annual Polenta Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, October 25th. We'll be serving our delicious genuine Italian polenta along with both sausage and chicken (and our secret recipe 'gravy'), salad and dessert for \$30.00. This is a very popular and lively event with good food, good friends, and great raffle prizes. Tickets for the event are on sale now. You can also purchase them by contacting Donna Hoffmann or Helen Petersen (510) 990-2139.

*Happy Fall Y'all
Blessings,
~Helen*

Concord
Br. 214, Todos Santos

Well, there's a change in the weather Looking forward to Fall.

Our four representatives went to the convention in Visalia, despite the hot weather, all went well.

They really enjoyed the banquet dinners. They were delicious.

We are pleased and happy to report that our heritage member, JoAnn Lee won second place for her essay. She does a great job every month with very informative essays. Congratulations to her. We are so proud of her.

Sue Giorgetti and Allison McGuirk were elected to count the votes of the candidates.

Congratulations to the new Grand President, Franklin Lopes. We are looking forward to working with him,

On September 20th we are having our pasta/bingo event. We are sold out at 98 people. This is a big fundraiser for our branch. A lot of time and work goes to make this a big success thanks to our members.

We pray for our members who are having surgeries. We wish them well and speedy recoveries.

*God bless you all with good health and happiness.
Ciao con amore,
Norene
DeLuca*

Danville
Br. 352, St. Isidore

Dear ICF members, hope you had a wonderful summer. On Tuesday, August 5, fifty-six people from our branch went to Cash Creek. Some people gambled some people had spa treatments and I think the consensus was we would like to do it again, maybe stay a little longer. We had a few winners and a few losers, but we had fun. I know myself, I felt like a big winner because I lost only \$8.50.

The ICF convention was held in Visalia. Ann Marie Baatz., Art, Panella, and myself, Sally Panella attended. We all enjoyed meeting new people and some old friends that we had met before. We

received a second place achievement award, second year in a row, in the category of 100 to 140 members, for increasing our membership.
We were fortunate to have two of our members receive cash prizes in the annual drawing. Nick Armentano and Jeanette Vanbibber were the lucky winners!

*That's all the news for now,
Ciao, Sally Panella*

Pleasant Hill
Br. 442, Christ the King

Welcome to Fall! The weather is changing and it's time to plant your fava beans and broccoli. The end of summer brought us a very fun and engaging convention. There were 7 of us that attended and we saw many familiar faces and shared several meals together. We discussed the convention workshops and the award winners at our September meeting so please review the minutes if you were unable to attend the meeting. Some very disserving people received awards.

Hope many of you were able to attend our Bishop's Day event, hosted by the East Bay district. It's a good chance to share mass and a meal with our bishop. Our district will be hosting in 2026.

Although we cancelled our annual dinner, we will be having a few members only events coming up. Please stay up to date by reading your emails.

Elections are coming up and we would like to see some new faces on the board. Please consider serving for a year. We need fresh brains!

Don't forget the Mother Cabrini Feast Day mass on November 13th. We are searching for a date to show the Mother Cabrini movie too, since it has been a few years since we all watched it. Look for details in your email.

*Ciao,
Branch 442 Guest Correspondent*

BLESSED
SACRAMENT
District

Auburn
Br. 342, St. Joseph

A big thank you to those members and their families who attended our annual picnic at ARD Park! Another big that you to the Knights of Columbus members that cooked the delicious burgers for us! We had so much fun visiting, catching up with friends and playing games. I will have pictures from the day in next month's article.

Tickets are now on sale for the November 1st Bunco Fundraiser that will be

held from 11 to 3 at the Canyon View Community Center in Auburn. We will be having a lunch of sandwiches, salads, desserts, coffee and tea followed by several rounds of bunco. There will also be a raffle with awesome prizes! Tickets are \$30. Please contact Carol Barnett at (209) 605- 6567 to purchase your ticket. we hope you can join us for this afternoon of fun.

*Ciao!
Pam Andersen*

Roseville
Br. 438, St. Clare of Assisi

On August 9, we had our very popular BINGO fundraiser in partnership with our Blessed Sacrament District. Congratulations to all the Bingo winners! Also, cheers to all the people who won the raffles for the amazing gift baskets that had so many themes. It all ended with everyone enjoying themselves. I am sure everyone is looking forward to the next Bingo event, which will be in 2026.

In September, we had a yummy ice cream fundraiser at Leatherby's Family Creamery in Citrus Heights. Voted as the number 1 ice cream in Sacramento for over 40 years, they have a commitment to excellence. They are also very good at giving back to the community. It was a very tasty time for all who attended. Thank you all for joining us!

The October dinner will bring one of our favorites, the Mama Mia Dinner. It is rich in flavor as it is in the stories that it evokes by all who attend. This is always a crowd pleaser. The attendance will be lively, as will the laughter and sharing with family and friends. Please mark your calendar for October 17, 2025.

*Ciao for now...
Irene Perez*



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***Bollettino*.**
Send your
articles & photos:
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STOCKTON DISTRICT



Br. 413 Booth at St. Patrick's Parish Festival: Robert Pachinger, Fr. John Peter, Gabe Singleton.



Branch 390 taken at the convention in Visalia.



Br. 395, Mary Ann with three first time delegates!



Br. 82 at Stockton District Picnic: Deacon Karl, Elisa, Amanda, and Patty.



The Stockton District convention attendees.



Stockton District members enjoy dinner together at the Convention.

SANTA ROSA
District

Healdsburg
Br. 52, San Francisco Di
Sales

Our ICF Convention delegates, Richard Passalacqua, Bob Besancon and Carmen Kilcullen had a great time at the convention. They presented their reports at our Potluck Dinner on September 16.

The potluck dinner was yummy with many delicious dishes prepared by our wonderful cooks in the branch.

Upcoming events:

ICF Monthly Mass: Sunday, October 12 at 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Polenta Dinner: Saturday, November. Richard Passalacqua will be cooking the polenta. We will celebrate the branch's 90th Anniversary at the dinner! Rumor has it, cake and champagne will be involved. Price: \$25.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. Call Carmen and Lauren for tickets: 707-595-3111.

We are looking for members who want to become officers of the branch. We need some new people willing to take leadership roles in the branch. Please contact President Monika Besancon if you are interested.

Happy Halloween!
Lauren

Petaluma
Br. 127, St. Vincent

We had our meeting about continuing with Br. 127. Very few members showed up. We had as a guest Bob Acquistapace who gave a great lot of info about the ICF. In the end it was voted to close as of the end of 2025. Hopefully some of us will join another branch. I will miss seeing you all as we have been together for so long. The ICF made my catholic faith stronger and gave me a lot of new friends. Wishing you all Gods blessings.

Ciao for now, Margaret Cordrey

Arcata
Br. 144, St. Mary

Our bi-annual Chicken & Polenta dinner on September 7 was a rousing success!

Great thanks to Cooks: Pete Stagnoli ('89), Joe Rodrigues ('07), Manny Sousa, Jason Alvarez ('23). Kitchen crew: Rosemary Melendy, ('93), Jim & Ruth Monge ('08), Charla Davis, Paula Proctor, Chris Ross, Ruth & Jim Monge ('08), Enrique Esparza ('24),

Shannon Rohrbach-Gier ('11), Maggie Fleming, Dennis & Cindy Sullivan, David

Dahler.

Lisa Pedicino ('22) for managing the spreadsheet & seating chart.

We were also blessed with volunteers from AFS (photo) who represented countries Bosnia (Mia), Brazil (Luiza), Latvia (Loreta), Moldolva (Niki), and Lebanon (Catherine). Thank you, Jim Bierwirth (member of St. Mary's KoC), for coordinating their time.

CalPoly Humboldt University Newman Center members were a great help, especially Natalia and Kieran.

Special thanks to our dishwashers: Gabe Valli and Christopher Curry, (grandson of Rosemary Melendy), for filling in last minute as dishwashers.

We had an amazing array of basket raffle items (photo), with special thanks to Deacon Ken & Rose Bond, Toni Green ('11), Tom Cone, and Charla Davis.

Thank you to:

- Humboldt Creamery donation of vanilla ice cream (they are the Kirkland supplier and it is the best ice cream)!

- Humboldt Bay Coffee for the excellent organic coffee.

A huge thank you to:

- Toni Green ('11), whose tireless work with doing the calling and taking phone reservations.

- Alfred Eanni, for his time and weeks of shopping and gathering supplies.

Tony Gonsalves won first place at the Humboldt County Fair in the Adv. Amateur & Pro Division for woodcarving: Bridled Tit-mouse (photo).

Anne Seymour Carlisle (Eanni)
Secretary

Eureka
Br. 145, St. Ambrose

The Colivas Memorial Scholarship Dinner is back and it will be better than ever. October 11th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. a delicious pasta dinner will be served by the members of ICF Eureka Branch #145 using Jerry Colivas's recipe for the sauce.

Please call Joe Bonino at home phone 707-445-5799 if you can help sell advance tickets, set up, serve, clean up, or have a raffle prize to donate. Or email Joe at FJB504@gmail.com

Dinner tickets are \$10 for adults and \$25 for families.

Reminder: Be sure to attend our October 14th general meeting at 1:30 p.m.

That is correct: we are switching back to daytime meetings for the winter darkness times. Hope to see you there.

Finally, and sadly, our longest serving member, Irene Simoni, passed away on August 28th. She had been a member of the Eureka Branch since February 15th, 1960! She was 95 years old.

Irene had two children, three grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

Her father, Angelo Lavagnino, was the first President of Arcata Branch #144 in 1959. Her mother, Rose Lavagnino

Giuntini, was also a charter member of the Arcata Branch #144.

Her brother, Angelo Lavagnino, Jr. and his wife LeAnne, are members of Clovis/Fresno Branch #250.

Until recently, Irene had attended both Arcata and Eureka's monthly meetings faithfully for decades. Our sincerest condolences, prayers, and gratitude to her family for sharing Irene with us for such a long and enjoyable time.

Santa Rosa
Br. 198, St. Eugene

Dear Brothers and Sisters

STEUGENE'S BR 198 SANTA ROSA

The annual convention of the Italian Catholic Federation was held over the Labor Day weekend and it was a real success. The delegates elected Franklyn Lopes Jr. as the top vote getter and the Central Council elected him as our new Grand President. Franklyn is from Santa Cruz, but he represents the entire Federation.

Our president Doreen, attended every session and really represented us well. She received a certificate for our branch for giving the largest number of scholarships (7)

Put October 6 on your calendar for our Harvest and Salad night.

Soup is served at 6:00pm and our meeting to elect officers for 2026 will follow.

Please pray for all our sick members and say a special prayer for peace in the World.

Ciao, Robert Acquistapace

Sebastopol
Br. 209, St. Michael

Greetings from Branch #209!

We hope everyone is enjoying summertime!

Our August General Meeting will include barbecued hotdogs, potato salad, and root beer floats! It will be nice to see everyone after July's break.

The Convention is coming up (over Labor Day) and after that, the Santa Rosa District will be hosting Bishop's Day on September 14 at St. Eugene's Church. Branch 209 is helping this event by preparing a delicious ravioli and pork- loin lunch. In October, we have another one of our delicious Polenta Dinners, followed by a Ravioli Dinner in December! Lots of fun and important events coming up!

We cannot believe how fast this year is rolling by. In the blink of an eye, it will be Fall, and then the Christmas holiday! We hope everyone is enjoying each and every moment of this year.

Please take care, and we'll check in next month!

Ciao,
Yvonne Dorr, Recording Secretary

FRESNO
District

Merced
Br. 39, St. Cecilia

We kicked off September with our monthly meeting and dinner on Wednesday, September 10th. We had a lovely meal of barbecued cheeseburgers with all the fixings and potato and green salad and a nice dessert. Thank you to Mary Ellen and her kitchen helpers for always keeping us well fed. The delegates from this year's convention shared their reports and it sounds like they all had a great time and brought back some exciting things to help our Branch in the future.

Also in September, our branch contributed to the International Wine and Food Tasting Fundraiser by manning the Italy table at the event. It was a fun night, and we look forward to helping with this event again next year.

We have our pasta sauce fundraiser coming up with pick up on October 8th at the Italo Lodge. Our next meeting will also be on October 8th with Social Hour at 5 p.m. and Dinner of Spaghetti and Meatballs and meeting at 6 p.m. We look forward to seeing you all then!

Arrivederci!

Fresno
Br. 308, St. Anthony

Happy Fall!

Our Central Valley has experienced two unexpected Summer storms. Thus, bringing moisture to our dry hot air and the smells of rain. Doesn't take much imagination to know the Big Fresno Fair is just beginning to peek around the pumpkin patch. I saw a scary sight at Costco... A Christmas Decoration in August!

Don't miss our October meeting where we celebrate Oktoberfest when chef Bernie will prepare Bratwurst and of course beer will be the beverage of choice.

Debbi Jorgensen



CENTRAL COAST

District Council

Congratulations to all our new Grand officers elected at our National Convention in Visalia.

We are very proud of Franklyn Lopes Jr from Br 227 Aptos as our Grand President. Congratulations to Dr. Vincent Malfitano from Br 36 being elected as Grand Trustee. Thank you, Father Robert Vera, Central Coast District Chaplain for participating in our national convention. Bishops Day was held on September 13, 2025 at San Carlos Cathedral in Monterey, CA, hosted by Branch 36

*Respectively submitted,
Elaine Valentine, President
Central Coast District*

Santa Cruz

Br. 21, N.S. Del Soccorso

Branch 21 and members continue to be a mighty force, supporting our parish and serving for 96 years at Holy Cross Church. During 2024 to the present, we have donated \$5940 to the church, scholarships and charities in the Santa Cruz community!

Our annual Memorial Mass to remember our loved ones will take place on November 2, 2025. Rosa Radicchi will be contacting those who have participated in previous years.

Monterey ICF hosted Bishops Day on September 13, 2025. All attended Mass and enjoyed a delicious lunch afterwards.

It's time to once again recognize our members 90 years and over. Watch for your invitation via email or phone call.

At the convention, Cindy Schuette, our delegate, Roseann, Rosa and Vicky cheered for Franklyn Lopes as he was appointed Grand President of the Central Council. Congratulations to our favorite florist and Branch member!

Our gratitude to Bishop Daniel Garcia for his leadership in the Monterey Diocese, as he leaves to return to Austin, Texas where he began his spiritual journey. We look forward to welcoming our new Bishop.

*Pray for peace and compassion,
Roseann Costabile
Branch 21, Santa Cruz*

Monterey

Br. 36, Santa Rosalia

"Autumn is God's way of showing us how beautiful change can be." Heather A. Stillufsen.

August 21, 2025: Summer Dinner Meeting: We served 155 dinners: pasta with fresh tomato sauce, chicken piccata, mixed green salad, garlic bread and pineapple upside-down cobbler. Congratulations to Anne Roberts for

winning the attendance drawing.
2025 National Convention: We had 5 delegates attend our National Convention in Visalia. Congratulations to Franklyn Lopes Jr, our newly elected Grand President from Branch 227 Aptos. Also, congratulations to Branch 36 members Past Grand President Denise Antonowicz and Dr. Vincent Malfitano, both re-elected to Central Council and both will be Grand Trustees. Br. 36 received 1st place for the Apostolic/Charity Award for top total donations over the past year. We presented donations of \$1,000 each to Providenza Seminary Fund, Cooley's Anemia, and Gifts of Love national charities at the convention.

September 13, 2025: Br 36 will host Bishop's Day this year. The Central Coast District donates a \$2,300 Seminary Burse to the Diocese of Monterey to support seminarians. Attendees to enjoy a lunch of Rigatoni with Tomato sauce, Italian Sausage with peppers/onions, Antipasto Salad, Garlic Bread, and dessert. We are honored to have Grand President Franklyn Lopes attend our event.

October 23, 2025: Halloween Dinner Meeting at San Carlos Cathedral Hall. Elections for 2026 will also be held that evening. Costumes are optional. This is always a fun family event.

November 13, 2025: Turkey Dinner Meeting – Moose Lodge, Monterey - more to come.

Please pray for members in our Branch who are ill, homebound and need special intentions.

*Happy Fall,
Elaine Valentine
Co-President Br 36*

Aptos

Br. 227, St. Joseph

Congratulations to our Branch President Franklyn Lopes, Jr. who was elected to the office of Grand President at the recent convention in Visalia. At the convention to support Franklyn in his campaign were delegates Nancy Harrold and Deanna Musler, as well as Branch 227 First Vice President Vicky Howell, and members Charlene Hedgpeth and Jolene Smith. We were delighted to have past Branch President Bob Montonye and his wife Mary join us at the Sunday luncheon and installation of officers. Bob and Mary have lived in Visalia for several years now.

Congratulations also to Mary Jo Belli of Branch 21 who won \$1,000 in the Convention raffle.

Oktoberfest is the theme for our meeting on October 5 at the Mid-County Senior Center Annex. The meal will be sausages, sauerkraut, potato salad, and Magdalena Martinez' delicious apple cake for dessert.

Save these upcoming meeting dates:
-November 9, Senior Center, Thanksgiving dinner and election of 2026 officers;

-December 14, Stewarts Floral, Christmas party with potluck appetizers.

2026 calendars are now available. They cost \$30 and \$10 of that stays with our branch.

We are sorry to report that 14-year member Bob Burick passed away on August 24. Our sincere condolences to his wife Judy and their family. Members of our branch honored him with our rose ceremony at his funeral at St. Joseph's Church on September 6.

Best wishes for a happy 50th birthday to Fr. Romeo Evangelista on September 25.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande

Br. 291, St. Patrick

Our Branch Delegates, Annie Subia and Keely Sanchez, enjoyed attending the ICF National Convention in Visalia. This was Annie's first time as a delegate and she did a great job representing Br. 291! Both she and Keely look forward to sharing lots of information and ideas to our members at the next Branch meeting.

We will be holding Branch Officer elections at our Nov. 2nd General Dinner Meeting. If you would like to run for a Branch Officer position, let Pete or Keely know before Oct. 30th.

Christmas is right around the corner, so mark your calendars for our Annual Christmas Luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Sunday, Dec. 7th from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Members will be able to RSVP for the luncheon at our Nov. 2nd meeting, or by mail. A big thank you goes out to Beth Nakamura who is once again making all the arrangements for this fun and festive event!

Please continue to pray for all ICF members who are experiencing pain, illness or heartache at this time.

*Ciao!
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary*

SANTA CLARA VALLEY

District Council

The Santa Clara Valley District September meeting was held at Santa Teresa and hosted by Branch 184, St. Mary's of Los Gatos.

At the ICF Convention on Labor Day weekend, the Santa Clara Valley District was well represented with a festive group. The district branches did well winning several awards for their membership, scholarship, and heritage programs. The District overall won an award for the most money, over \$15,000, given to scholarships. We are proud that two district members were given ICF awards: Bill Perry of Branch 445 winning the Pope St. John award

and Vince Sasso of Branch 28 winning the Grand President's award.

We welcome Grand President Franklyn Lopes Jr. to his new office, and congratulate immediate Past Grand President Denise Antonowicz on a job well done. All district members please attend the testimonial dinner of our own Past Grand President Denise Antonowicz at Palermo Restaurant in San Jose on Saturday, October 18th.

A reminder that San Jose Diocese Bishop's Day is Sunday, October 5th, 11:30 am mass at St. Martin of Tours in San Jose, celebrated by Bishop Oscar Cantu, followed by lunch at Three Flames. All district members please attend mass even if you can't make the lunch.

All branches please remember to hold branch officer elections in October, or November at the latest. District officer elections will be in November.

The Santa Clara Valley District wishes the ICF a happy Columbus Day and Halloween.

Michael Rossi

Gilroy

Br. 28, Santa Maria

Ausiliatrice

Dear Members,

It was a pleasure going to the ICF Convention Luncheon on Sunday, August 31st. Vince Saso made a wonderful speech about giving back to our community through service. The members of Branch 28 who were there at the luncheon were proud that Vince received the Grand Presidents Award.

Father Chrisopher Bennett gave a moving speech about who the ICF is. We are the church! Father Bennett's painting of a church was presented to all the districts. I hope our branch will get to see this beautiful painting sometime.

The dinner meeting will be on October 20. The Vanni Family is cooking. Always wonderful.

Our Polenta Fundraiser dinner is on October 25. There's always delicious food, good company, and raffle prizes to win.

*Blessings,
Jeanette Hudson*



Mountain View Br. 47, San Giorgio

Salve! Greetings! Super Happy Fall! Days will become shorter and temperatures will start to gradually drop. It's going to be time for hot chocolate and pumpkin spice everything. We can throw in some apple cider too! We all had a fun time at the Santa Clara Valley District Mass & BBQ, catching up with other branches, with each other, and making new friends. It was a super relaxing time. Thank you, Craig for BBQing the burgers and dogs.

We also wanted to welcome two new members, Bob & Phyllis. We are super excited to have you join us!

We contacted nearby parishes without ICF conferences and invited them to join us. We also passed out fliers with invitations on one side and Italian jokes on the other such as, "Where does the tomato and pasta go to dance? At the Meat ball" and "Why is the Tower of Pisa leaning? It got Italicized". then stapled individually wrapped Italian le onelle gelee candies to the flier. A little something for everybody. We met some interested Italians so we are keeping our fingers crossed they will join us at our next meeting.

*Peace and God Bless!
Ciao, Julie*

St. Mary Br. 184, Los Gatos

The Convention was well attended this year, and enjoyed by many. Our Branch donated 50 filled backpacks for the Convention Charity for the Unhoused. Branch Chaplin Fr. Greg Kimm presented a workshop on Ancestry, which was greatly received.

Bishop's Day is a District event, scheduled for Oct. 5 at St. Martin of Tours Church. Our Branch voted to donate \$1000 for the Bishop's Burse. All monies collected go toward the important ministry of teaching Seminarians. We support the educating and training of our future Priests.

Plans are fully underway for our Polenta Chicken Cacciatore Dinner, scheduled for October 25! Our crew is working hard to give you an evening of good food and good company. Please call or text Donna Pfaff at 408 804 0293 or Deanna Meyer at 408 230 9105, for tickets or information.

I hope you all had a wonderful summer, as we now head into Fall. Our next meeting is Oct. 14, 3:30 in the Conference Room.

Ciao for now, Lucy Amico



San Jose Br. 191, Saint Frances Cabrini

As summer comes to a close the Members of ICF Branch 191 continues to have many activities to look forward to. A number of our members attended the 94th Annual Convention in Visalia, California, and stated that the Convention is always so spiritual and uplifting. It allows us to spend a few days catching up over what's happened the past year with our ICF families. The workshop, banquets and award ceremonies gave us hope for our future.

With Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 27th at Teske's Germania, a wonderful time will be had by all. This is a wonderful way for ICF members and their families to come together and enjoy a fun filled afternoon.

Bishop's Day on October 5th will be a wonderful way for our District to come together to enjoy a beautiful Mass offered by Bishop Cantu as well as enjoy a delicious lunch at The Three Flames Restaurant in San Jose.

St. Frances Cabrini will be celebrating its 70th Anniversary with a mass on November 16th. Mass will be at 12:00 noon, with a reception to follow in Essex Hall. We hope that many will attend and celebrate this special day with our St. Frances Cabrini Parish.

*Blessings to ALL,
Sharon Logan*

San Jose Br. 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

Please pray for Loraine Nunziata, Ron Sanchez, Bill Rice, Maureen Curulla, Louie Cordich, John Gillio, Kevin Eck. I spoke to Maureen Curulla. She is doing much better and September 10 was her birthday so, she had other plans with her family. She hopes to return to meetings in November. Jerry Delfino reported that all the scholarship winners' pictures are in the August / September issues of *Bollettino*. Deven Merced was Br. 368's winner. A good fundraiser is Dining for Dollars and it doesn't take a lot of work to put on and you get to meet local business owners. If you are interested in doing this easy money maker, please see or tell Robin Hayr and she will help you get started. We need volunteers to help with Bishop's Day on Sunday, October 5th and the Rib Dinner, "Ra luau," Saturday September 13th is ready to go. If you want to help, please call Ann Cordoni or Mary Ridi. ICF Convention: was on August 29-31, 2025 in Visalia, California. Our two delegates were Maureen Susino and Kathy Schroeder and they will be giving feedback at our Sept. 10th meeting. Thank you to Tina Sousa-Dutra and Janet Glaubke for being backups for our representatives. Santa Clara Valley District Picnic was on Sunday, August

10, 2025 at Almaden Lake. Sounds like it was fun. Mark your calendars for The Chili Cook Off Sunday February 1, 2026 and Polenta Dinner Saturday March 2, 2026. Now is a good time to volunteer to help with these events.

Have a wonderful and healthy month of October and get your flu shots now.

Tom Myers

San Jose Br. 391, St. Martin of Tours

Father Celso opened our September dinner meeting with a prayer, and Steve said a special prayer for our sick and deceased members and their families. He also thanked everyone who participated in our salad bar dinner.

It was announced that TJ Lencioni won a fourth-year scholarship—Congratulations, TJ.

Thank you, Marina Tilbury, for presenting a concise and informative report on the workshops and events at the ICF Convention. Making many connections and learning about ICF, its history, and the election process of the organization, Marina provided insight into the workshops she attended, especially the genealogy workshop.

The following websites were of most value to workshop participants: Italian Government Records site at <https://antenati.cultura.gov.it> (Italian Birth Records) and General Genealogy sites regarding Ancestry <https://www.ancestry.com> and Family Searches <https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-states/>

It was stressed that technology should be used to increase membership and to inform members on how to support different branches.

During the Convention, it was announced that our Branch won a first place Heritage Award, and that ICF donated \$48,800 to Cooley's Anemia Research.

The 44th Annual Bishop's Day will be held at St. Martin's on Sunday, October 5, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. with lunch to follow at Three Flames Restaurant. Please contact Cathleen Lencioni for further information. Steve has asked for our support for this event

Reminders:

Branch 391 Dinner Meeting—Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. social and 6:00 p.m. dinner; Branch Election of Officers—Tuesday, November 4, 2025; #391 Quarterly Communion—December 7, 2025, 11:30 a.m. mass, St. Martin's.

Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale Br. 408, Resurrection

Happy Fall!

Our Summer Sendoff for Fr Phong and Fr Arthur was a grand success enjoyed by over 300 Folks. We will host our

Welcoming Party for Fr Mark and Fr Louis Nov 16th

Our Fall Community Service Pancake Breakfast resulted in another Fun Filled Parish/Community Sunday. We hope to see you all next Spring at our next Community Service Pancake Breakfast.

Our next ICF/Parish Blood Drive will be 14th December.

We hope to see you at our October District Bishop's Day Sunday 5 October.

Please Pray for our ICF Members and Friends: Patricia Look and Laurice Levine.

Morgan Hill Br. 435, Santa Caterina D'Alessandria

Branch 435 had their ICF themed Sunday mass on July 13 at the 8:45 a.m. mass. Giovanni Foggato, our liturgical coordinator, worked with the Liturgical Committee to develop a Sunday mass which highlighted the ICF and provided for the whole congregation. Before mass started Giovanni gave an introduction about the ICF with slides. The entrance song was "noi Vogliam Dio." Fr. Gerardo also proclaimed some prayers in Italian. At the exit, Andy Pappani signed up three new members!

On July 17th our Branch had our Annual BBQ fundraiser at the Guglielmo Winery. It was a wonderful event enjoyed with excellent food, good weather, and beautiful surroundings. Attendance included many attendees from other branches, Central Council members and was opened with a prayer from Fr. Mindy. Scholarship winners, Xavier Reinhardt and Lilly Hanson were formally recognized. The evening was simply full of joy and friendship. Thank you to the Guglielmo family and their crew for their great generosity. We ask God's blessing to all who helped make it a success.

At our Aug meeting we honored Fr. Menchaca and Fr. Brocato who are both celebrating their 30-year anniversary as priests with donations to the Providenza seminary scholarship fund and the "Ladies of Charity". We started with a marvelous dinner enjoyed by all of BBQ Chicken, Sushi, and Tri-tip teriyaki prepared by Jim Wilson, Mark Tamura and Marcus Carpena. And finally, a thank you to Pat Cordich our branch mentor for her ongoing support. She's great!



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT



Br. 179, Vince Daigneault & Maria Teresa calling Bingo.



Br. 179, Wine Tasting event.



Br. 179, The Cleanup Crew.



Br. 179, Carmela Lima.



Br. 374 members attended Mass followed by a delicious polenta lunch at St. Peter's Italian Church in LA.



Br. 380, Ministry Leaders who attended the meeting.

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)



Br. 444, Installation of Msgr. Antonio, ICF Representatives attending from San Pedro, Montebello, Downey, Thousand Oaks & La Canada



Mario Ruggiero, Br. 444 Scholarship Winner



Br. 444: Tonia, Msgr. Antonio & Christina - ICF Representatives - attending the Installationas Pastor from Thousand Oaks and La Canada.



Br. 444, ICF Convention: Bishop Brennan and Hany.



October 18, 2025 - ICF National Branch 67 General Meeting at St Peter's Catholic Church in Downtown Los Angeles and via Zoom.



ICF 111-2025 Annual Picnic.

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)



Branch 115- Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross at Mary Star of the Sea Church in San Pedro.



Congratulations to Branch 115 members--Tony and Nancy Di Bernardo celebrating their 75th Wedding Anniversary. Tantissimi auguri!



Branch 115 Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross. (right) President Neal Di Leva with son Tony Di Leva.



Br. 115, (L-R rear) Antonio Amalfitano and Onorato family statue carriers. (L-R front) Msgr. Antonio Cacciapuoti and Fr. Sharbel Grbavac.



ICF 111-Annual Picnic Bocce Players



ICF 111- Crocetta & Frank Salomone at ICF Convention



ICF 111-Happy Birthday to Lourdes Cruz

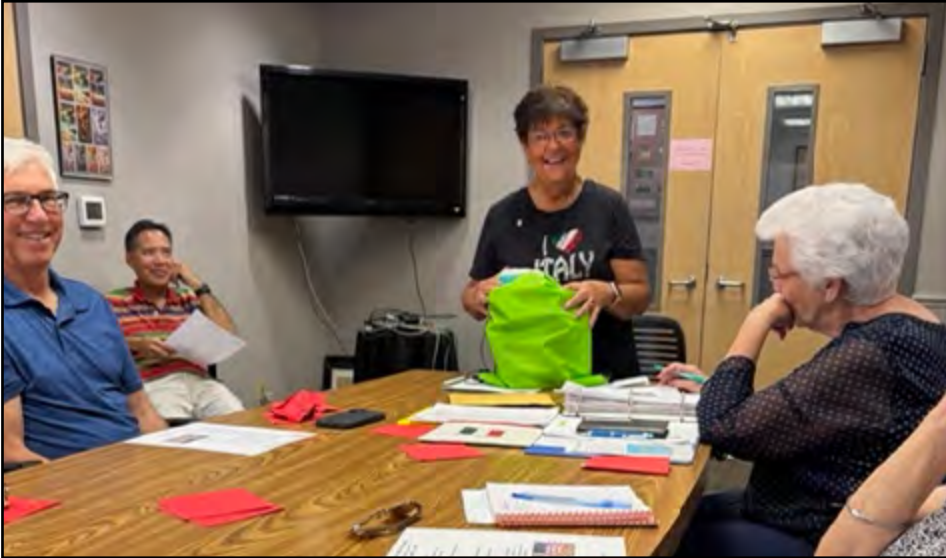
SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT



Br. 47 at ICF Convention: Shirley Pruett, John Canata, Ken Floyd, Leanne Simione and Natalie Canata August 31, 2025



Br. 47 President Natalie Canata presenting Max Wester with \$500 College Scholarship



Br. #184: Left to right are Larry Vollman, Fr. Greg Kimm, Gr. President Antonowicz and Donna Pfaff at a meeting. President Denise is showing one of the backpacks to be Given for the Convention Charity. Our Branch gave 50 filled backpacks for the Unhoused Charity.



Congratulations to Scholarship Recipients Lilly Hanson (Cal Poly), niece of the Pappani's and Xavier Reinhardt (Oregon State), grandson of the Reinhardt's, Branch members.



Br. 435, Receiving our fabulous food at our annual fund raiser BBQ at Guglielmo Winery. It was a fabulous success on all counts.



Br. 435, Celebrating our Member's recent Birthdays.



ICF 191 Members at Convention with award - Jaime Portillo, Debbie Piro, Julie and George Midwin.

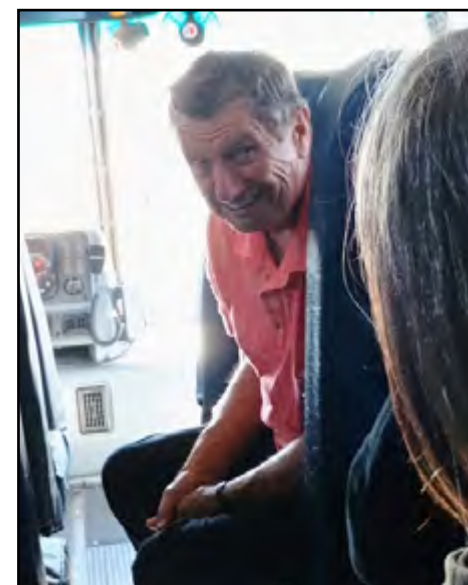
SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)



Visalia Convention - Santa Clara Valley District delegates with Grand President Franklyn Lopes Jr. and Spiritual Director Father Chris Bennett.



Branch 28 members enjoying the Italian Festival in Monterey.



Br. 28, This is our Frank Angelino. He organized our successful trip to Table Mountain.



Br. 28, Happy gamblers on our way to Table Mountain!



Br. 28, Frank Angelino organized a fabulous trip to Table Mountain Casino! Thank you Frank!



Br. 445 Raffle Winners with Fr. George Aranha at SCV District Picnic.



Br. 445 Summer BBQ Chefs: Larry Farro, Joe Adragna, Phil Lang, Jim Falcone.



Br. 445: Gina & Larry Farro with Barbara & Bill Howell.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)



Br. 368, Robin Hayr just being Robin Hayr



Br. 368, Joyce Robba and Maureen Susino



Br. 368 Donations for the poor brought to convention

SAN DIEGO DISTRICT



Branch 229 Parish Patron Saint Festival



Branch 229 Parish Patron Saint Festival



Branch 229 Parish Patron Saint Festival



Branch 246 Donation to St. Charles Academy Principal Chris Moeller



Branch 246 Donation to Special Delivery



Branch 246 Donation to St. Charles Pastor, Fr. John Amsberry

San Jose Br. 445, Transfiguration

Save the Date - Sunday Nov 2nd Br.445's Family Feud Game Show Fundraiser!

Doors open 12:30 p.m.- show starts 1:00 p.m. For more information, team registry or tickets contact Br.445 Pres. Jim Falcone at jim@jfalcone.com.

Also, in November our annual See's Holiday Candy Fundraiser will begin.

Many thanks to our summer BBQ chefs: Joe Adragna, Jim Falcone, Larry Farro, Phil Lang, Andy La Scola and even Fr. Chris Bransfield who assisted with events. Thanks also to the members for side dishes and desserts. August Heritage report featured Italy's celebration of Ferragosto 8/15 and the one food watermelon - certain to be on everyone's table throughout Italy.

Br. 445 was well represented at the ICF District Picnic this summer. Everyone had a great time! Br.445 won 7 of the 11 raffle prizes! Many thanks to the District for their efforts to make this a success!

The Pope John XXIII Award, the highest award bestowed by the ICF at the Annual Convention, was presented to Bill Perry, Br. 445 member and orator, at the Saturday Night Convention Banquet. A \$1,000 donation was made by ICF to his charity of choice. Bill has worked tirelessly in support of marginalized people living in our community and beyond. In April of 2020, he helped start a weekly Sack Lunch Ministry for the unhoused. To date 23,000 sack lunches have been distributed!

Happy October Birthday wishes to members: Grace Brown, Jean Cosenzino, Maureen Godar, Ken Ledbetter, Gary Pedone and Cindy Sevilla.

*Until next month stay safe and well,
Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer*

STOCKTON DISTRICT

Lodi Br. 82, St. Anne's

Autumn is in full bloom. We can see the amber, crimson, and vermilion flowers and trees, feel the crisp breeze, smell the aroma of woodsmoke, and savor the taste of "everything pumpkin spice."

At our Sept. meeting, Chris and Lori shared the Convention news to include our branch's 3rd place Heritage Award. Plus, Fr. Joe shared ways to prepare for this month's rosary devotion to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Rosary on the 7th and to honor the Blessed Mother and the protection she gives the Church.

At Convention, new Central Council

officers were elected. A nominating committee for our 2026 officer election will meet soon. We do have a busy branch...many hands make for light work. Anyone interested in an officer role, please contact Chris.

The October Ravioli Dinner Fundraiser is rescheduled for May. In its place, support our DeVinci's Fundraiser by selling \$20.00 tickets to redeem for Pasta, Salad, and Bread at any DeVinci's location Nov. 9th through Nov. 15th. Promote this special deal...BUY 3 TICKETS, GET 1 FREE!! Contact Elisa for tickets.

Celebrate Italian American Heritage Month at our Tues., Oct. 28th meeting at Olive Crush Farms (Lodi Ave. and Sacramento St.). Meeting begins at 6:00 with an olive oil tasting with appetizers. Cost is \$7.00/member, \$14.00/ non-member to be paid to Elisa by Mon., Oct. 20th.

Mary's intercession through recitation of the rosary is attributed to many miracles. Our world is in desperate need right now. As you pray the rosary this month, pray for peace.

Patty Litts, Corresponding Secretary

Modesto Br. 48, St. Stanislaus

The Stockton District Picnic was on Sunday, August 17th in Escalon and our members felt it was a wonderful gathering.

We sent two delegates to the 94th National ICF Convention held in Visalia, CA this year. John Zamora and Nancy Souza represented our branch. It was a very good time of fellowship, reconnecting with familiar faces, and getting to meet new ones. The \$3.00 increase to 2026 yearly dues was approved and we have a "new" Central Council in place.

Don't forget to participate in the St. Stanislaus 62nd Annual Fall Festival, September 26th through 28th. Come for fellowship, fun, and enjoy the food, Country Store, rides, music, and auction. New this year will be classic cars on display.

Coming up on October 4th and 5th is our big Bake Sale which happens after masses that weekend. We are asking as much help as possible. Through the kind donations of members and others, we need cakes, brownies, biscotti, pies, banana nut bread, cookies, and any other specially baked items you can make. The more baked items we have the better. We continue to well with this event and looking forward to another successful Bake Sale in October.

Wed Sept 10 - 6 p.m. Meeting J St. Hall 7 & K Streets

Sept 26 - 28, St. Stanislaus Fall Festival

Oct 4 & 5 - Bake Sale after masses

Sun Oct 19 - ICF Br 48 Members Breakfast

Wed Oct 8 - 6 p.m. Meeting J St. Hall 7 & K Streets

Cecelia McGhee

Tracy Br. 390, St. Bernard

Delegates at this year's ICF Convention participated in pretty much everything that was offered. Full participation is what we are all about! Great job done by first-time delegates Denis and Liz Della Nina. Thanks again to all who donated so many items for this year's convention philanthropic cause, "Salt & Light." We witnessed truckloads of these items going out!

We resumed our monthly dinners after the summer break and had a wonderful turnout for our September 25th Country-Style Ribs and Mike's Special Beans. October 30th will be all-time favorite Polenta and Chicken Cacciatore. Reservations due Monday October 27th - it's always a sell-out so reserve early.

Our condolences and prayers go out to the family of Stan Morri, who passed away on August 8, just a few weeks short of his 99th birthday - he has been an ICF member since 1986 - 39 years. He was a devoted family man, loyal friend and community leader. He is survived by his lovely wife Eileen and many children and grandchildren. We will always remember Stan and Eileen sitting at Table 1 at ICF monthly dinners with folks stopping by their table to enjoy Stan's sense of humor, share a laugh with them and wish them well. Many will also remember Stan's 8 a.m. 'coffee club' at the Tracy Inn dating back to the '70s. May he and all of the dearly departed rest in peace.

Please keep our ICF families and friends in your prayers. Pray that God's healing power will fill them with strength and hope for our many members who are in need of your prayers.

You can share family memories in our Heritage section. We would love to hear where all your ancestors came from.

www.icfbranch390.org

*Stay healthy, happy & safe.
Betty*

Stockton Br. 395, Presentation of the BVM

Our Branch 395 would like to thank the Central Council and the Fresno District for putting on another great convention and congratulations to the newly elected officers. Thank you all for your commitment to the ICF.

First time delegates, Robyn Deiro and Jenn Peterson shared an overview and their experience of the convention with our members at our September meeting.

Our speaker at our October meeting was Greg Traverso. Greg is a retired educator who speaks on a variety of topics, but ours was very special. His talk was titled, The Italian Lifestyle. Greg explored the lifestyle of Italians and how they came to settle in our local area. He also shared a few real-life stories.

Elections are around the corner. Our nominating committee has been determined, and we look forward to holding elections next month. We encourage our new members to get involved. It is a wonderful way to give back to the Federation.

*Alla prossima,
Mary Ann*

*"For it is in giving that we receive"
- St Francis of Assisi*

Angels Camp Br. 413, St. Patrick's

Congratulations on a successful convention!

While I was away at the Convention, my group was busy preparing for our Parish Festival, which took place on Sunday, the 7th. Branch 413 participated by selling delicious meatball sandwiches at the event. The festival wrapped up with the big raffle drawing in the afternoon. The lucky winner was a parishioner from Arnold!

We're now shifting our focus to the upcoming Columbus Day Dinner, which will be held on October 18th. The menu will feature Italian sausage with polenta, and doors will open at 5:00 p.m. We'd love to have you join us! Please let us know if you're interested in attending.

*Wishing you a joyful and blessed fall season.
Robert J. Pachinger
President, Branch 413*

SAN DIEGO District

Chula Vista Br. 229, St. Rose of Lima

Branch 229 participated in the celebration of their Parish's Patron Saint Rose of Lima on her Feast Day August 23rd. We were among several Ministries serving food and prepared 25 pounds of delicious Pasta Marinara for all attending the Festival. Much fun was had and the food and Peruvian dancing were enjoyed by all. Cari saluti a tutti!"

*Thank you,
Esther I. Pierotti
Corresponding Secretary
Branch 229*



CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT



Br. 14, Members from Crockett #14 who stayed & watched the final bocce playoff game at our annual branch picnic . It was a fun Hot day in the park.



Br. 14, Linda McCain and Pat Botta having a good time at the ICF #14 Crockett bocce tournament . You only live once. Enjoy!



Br. 352, Cache Creek



Contra Costa District

San Diego
Br. 246, St. Charles Borromeo

Summer is winding down for Branch 246 members and we are gearing back up for our Fall events. Recently, member Margherita Cianflone hosted our annual summer BBQ where we enjoyed each other's company and some fine grilled Italian sausages with all the trimmings. We also distributed the proceeds from our Saint Joseph's Table fundraiser to several local charitable groups: Special Delivery; Saint Augustine High School; Saint Charles Borromeo Academy; the Diocese of San Diego's Million Meal Event; and our Pastor, Father John Amsberry. We also contributed a portion of the proceeds from our Lenten Fish Fry Dinners to help replace the floor in the Parish Hall. In just a few weeks we will tie our aprons back on and serve delicious, barbecued ribs and chicken at the annual Borromeo Bash, that raises funds for the Saint Charles Borromeo Academy.

Buona Pasqua – Anthony Torregiani, Branch President

San Diego
Br. 449, Guardian Angels

Below, please find details for the upcoming Guardian Angels Annual Fall Festival. If you are so inclined, please add this to the San Diego District Section.

For over 60 years, Guardian Angels Church in Santee has proudly hosted its beloved Annual Fall Festival — and we're excited to announce it's back again this year!



- October 10–12 (Friday 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 12 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
- Guardian Angels Church, Santee
- Free Entry | Fun for the Whole Family!

Join us for a weekend filled with food, games, live entertainment, raffles, and activities for all ages. It's a community tradition you won't want to miss!

ICF Branch 449 will be preparing the Annual BBQ Pork Plate, which will be served on Saturday, October 11 (12 p.m. to 7 p.m.) while supplies last.

Save the Date: Guardian Angels ICF Branch 449 will be hosting Festa 2025. Join us Saturday, November 22 at 6PM for dinner, drawings, auctions, no host beer and wine, and a whole lot of fun.

DJ Eddie V will be spinning the tunes to keep the dance floor alive. Who doesn't love a good Italian Dinner just before Thanksgiving? All are welcome. Purchase tickets at

Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased by visiting: <https://square.link/u/GaBMAwuz> , or call Debbie Reid at 619-548-2864. Last day to purchase tickets in Wednesday, November 19th.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Debbie Reid
dreid10@cox.net
619-548-2864

SAN BERNARDINO
District Council

Today, The San Bernardino District held our annual Bishop's Day. We had a total of 46 people in attendance. Among our guests, we had the great honor of hosting our new Grand President, Frankly Lopes, as well as Denise Antonowicz, our lovely Past Grand President and her sister Germaine. We hosted Lou Mages and Maria DiPaolo, CC Emeritus. We had ten priests, 2 Seminarians and 4 Discerners as well as our District President, John Guerin and our 3 branch presidents (210, 217 & 446). Also, present were many guests from our Cathedral, Our Lady of the Rosary in San Bernardino, and several Serra Club members. Our Bishop, The Most Reverend Alberto Rojas really enjoyed seeing a full room of guests from different walks of life but with one thing in common, we all love Jesus. Our Bishop regaled us with a couple of stories of his encounters with Pope Leo who he knew from his time in Chicago. Many of our guests were asking if they could attend next year! In a word, our lunch was AMAZING! Looking forward to next year, I'm thinking we may need a larger room!

Ciao,
Annie McCarthy,
President Br 210 and Financial Secretary for the San Bernardino District

Upland
Br. 446, St. Anthony

Branch President Carrie Rossie and Secretary Betty Cavanaugh attended the San Bernardino District's annual Bishops Day Seminarian Luncheon. In attendance were Bishop Rojas and over 10 priests and seminarians. Carrie presented a check to the Bishop as well as cards for Masses and prayers from our members. We enjoyed a delicious meal and had a wonderful time talking with members of the Central Council who were also in attendance. Our branch also sponsored the lunch of seminarian Luis Morales. He entered the seminary in 2023 and has a passion for cooking and playing baseball.

Members of our branch have been working hard preparing for our upcoming Festa Italiana. Our annual event will take place on Saturday, October 18 at 6 p.m. Our Festa will include dancing with music from a live band and a delicious Italian dinner. The catered meal will include pasta, meatballs, chicken marsala, bread and salad. Dessert will be pane cotta and a selection of cupcakes and Italian cookies. Wine and beer will be available for purchase. A highlight of the evening will be the raffle of many themed gift baskets. The cost of the evening is \$30 for adults and \$20 for children 10 years old and under. Please join us at St. Anthony parish hall at 2110 North San Antonio in Upland, California for an evening of fun and friendship. For tickets, please contact branch president Carrie Rossie at 818-720-2414. Tickets need to be purchased in advance, none will be sold at the door. We look forward to seeing you!



DEADLINE
October 10 for the November
issue of the *Bollettino*.
Send your articles & photos:
editor@icf.org

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT (contintued)



Branch 442 at the convention with our mentor

SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT



Our Bishop, Priests, Seminarians & Discerners. Bishop's Lunch 2025.



Just our Bishop, priests, seminarians & discerners. Bishop's Lunch 2025



Branch 446 President Carrie Rossie making a presentation to Bishop Rojas



Head table, Denise, Lou, John Guerin, Franklyn, Bishop Rojas, Fr Jerry Ochetti



Paul Behrens, Annie McCarthy, John Guerin & Michelle and Barbara Keough, Br 217 at Holy Name of Jesus in June 2025.



At 2025 Convention: Paul Emerick, Pres. Br. 217, Fr. Roberto Vera, Annie McCarthy, Pres. Br. 210 and John Guerin, President, San Bernardino District.

Congratulations to ICF 2025

2nd to 4th Year Scholarships Winners

2ND YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS (\$500.00) - 41 AWARDED

Student	In Memory of	In Honor of	Donated by
Ben Gingerich			Br. 354 - Paso Robles
Timothy Slater			Br. 354 - Paso Robles
Claire Diaco	David Botta		Br. 14 - Crockett
Cashe Esposito			Br. 352 - Danville
Matthew Fillari			Br. 352 - Danville
Allison Bell			Br. 442 - Pleasant Hill
Ava Bozzone			East Bay District
Giovanni Carlo			Br. 10 - Alameda
Michael Klapperich			Br. 10 - Alameda
Romano Smith			Br. 10 - Alameda
Aaron Branchaud			Br. 91 - Oakland (Closing Donation)
Gianna Masinter			Br. 285 - Livermore
Gianna Salerno			Br. 285 - Livermore
Francis Gates			Br. 39 - Merced
Miriam Dever			Br. 362 - Downey
Nicolo A. Mazza			Br. 332 - Novato
Ariana Bottel			Br. 342 - Auburn
Allison Dariano			Br. 342 - Auburn
Nathan C. Ries		Officers and Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Elizabeth Forsell	Jeanne Bencharsky		San Mateo District
Gina Storniolo	Joan Delfino		San Mateo District
Sabrina Philip	Melanie Yeager		Br. 173 - Burlingame
Mia A. Colabianchi			Br. 351 - Menlo Park
Danica Bachman			Br. 169 - Ventura (Closing Donation)
Konrad Hardy			Br. 380 - Thousand Oaks
Joseph Pantess			Br. 380 - Thousand Oaks
Benjamin Coulter		All Members of Br. 5	Br. 5 - Santa Clara (Closing Donation)
Sophia Antuzzi			Br. 28 - Gilroy
Chiara Rocchio			Br. 184 - Los Gatos
Isabella Marquez			Br. 368 - San Jose
Kylee O'Brien			Br. 435 - Morgan Hill
Jessica Tusso			Br. 445 - San Jose
Matthew Zichichi			Br. 52 - Healdsburg
Brett Ghisletta		The Gatti Family	Br. 127 - Petaluma
Kayden Mattos			Br. 390 - Tracy
Vince Cortese		Members of Br. 5 Living and Deceased	Denise Antonowicz - Br. 36 - Monterey /Br. 184 -Los Gatos
Micalyse Gates	Andrew Santo Palumbo		Viva Palumbo - Br. 379, Huntington Beach
Olivia Shull	Andrew Santo Palumbo		Viva Palumbo - Br. 379, Huntington Beach
Bethany Mello	Robert and Theresa Dianda		Michael and Donna Santich - Br. 343, Castro Valley
Bethany Barlow			Scholarship Fund
Lauren Smith			Scholarship Fund

3RD YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS (\$600.00) - 20 AWARDED

Keira Dooley		Br. 442 - Pleasant Hill
Antonio Arevalo		East Bay District
Alena Gagnon		Br. 285 - Livermore
Kassidy Taylor		Br. 39 - Merced
Michael Geloso		Br. 332 - Novato
Michael Geloso		Br. 332 - Novato

Congratulations to ICF 2025 2nd to 4th Year Scholarships Winners

3RD YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS (\$600.00) - 20 AWARDED (continued)

Student	In Memory of	In Honor of	Donated by
Justin Gregory Ries		Officers and Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Giuliano C. Santos			Br. 449 - Santee
Justin Gregory Ries		Officers and Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Giuliano C. Santos			Br. 449 - Santee
Katharine A. La Corte			Br. 218 - Arcadia
Sadie La Monica Johnson			Br. 169 - Ventura (Closing Donation)
Eleanor Crema	Anamaria Falcone		Santa Clara Valley District
William L. Anderson			Br. 184 - Los Gatos
Grace Gallego			Br. 191 - San Jose
Raven Juniper Leilani Alvarez	Jerry Colivas		Br. 145 - Eureka
Jose Luis Lopez, Jr.	Jerry Colivas		Br. 145 - Eureka
Halena Hill			Stockton District
Isabella Israel			Br. 390 - Tracy
Anthony Jariett	Joan Delfino		Family and Friends
Audrianna Bellotti	Ambrogio and Teresa Solari		Larry and Carmen Kilcullen - Br. 52, Healdsburg
Jeffrey Abbott			Scholarship Fund
Gina Sorbi			Scholarship Fund

4TH YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS (\$1,000.00) - AWARDED 12

Dominic Bolla Morris		Br. 442 - Pleasant Hill
Addison Thomas		East Bay District
Gianna Catherine Huckins		Br. 10 - Alameda
Sophia Lilly		Br. 10 - Alameda
Dominic Gates		Br. 39 - Merced
Grace Perryman		Br. 332 - Novato
Timothy Lencioni		Br. 391 - San Jose
Dominic Arcuri	The Gambonini Family	Br. 127 - Petaluma
Kayla Guzman		Br. 390 - Tracy
Sara Simoni	Josephine Jimenez	Vanni and Humphrey CPAs - Gilroy
Valentino Bugica		Scholarship Fund
Lily Zichichi		Scholarship Fund

We also acknowledge the following partial donations that made some of the additional scholarships from the ICF Scholarship Fund possible.

Officers/Members of Central Council - In Memory of Estelle Carney; **Central Coast District:** Br. 36; **Contra Costa District:** District and Antoinette Maggiora and Family (Br. 432) - In Memory of the 103rd Birthday of Mary Perata; **East Bay District:** Br. 215 and Vicky Marlar - In Memory of Vilma Romo; **Fresno District:** District, Br. 31, Br. 250 and Antoinette and Angelo Pecora (Br. 308) - In Memory of Marilyn Goodall; **Los Angeles Archdiocese District:** Br. 374; **Marin Area:** Marlene Farber (Br. 332) - Get Well Wishes for Karen Raccanello; **Orange District:** Viva Palumbo (Br. 379) - In Memory of Andrew Santo Palumbo; **Blessed Sacrament District:** Mark Neuburger - In Honor of the Birthday of Mary Perata; **San Mateo District:** Br. 19, Officers/Members of Br. 213 - In Honor of Br. 213 Mentor Dorene Campanile, Dorene Campanile (Br. 173) - Get Well Wishes for Donna Cervelli, Dorene Campanile - In Memory of Patricia Dugoni, Dorene Campanile - In Memory of Rafael Wemiz, Dorene Campanile - In Memory of Fred Yeager and Deborah Rodondi (Br. 19) - In Memory of Marie Mungai; **Santa Clara Valley District:** District, Br. 191, Br. 368, Br. 408 - In Memory of Mary Jo Di Muccio, Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Bambas - In Memory of Rose Arnaudo, Jo Bertaccini (Br. 191) - In Memory of Maria Greco, Jo Bertaccini - In Memory of Marie Mungai, Jerry Delfino (Br. 368) - In Memory of Estelle Carney, Joan and Jerry Delfino - In Memory of Emily Corral, Joan and Jerry Delfino - In Memory of Anamaria Falcone, Joan and Jerry Delfino - Get Well Wishes for Carmen Kilcullen, Joan and Jerry Delfino - In Memory of Mike Nunziata, Joan and Jerry Delfino - In Honor of the Birthday of Elaine Osorio, Jerry Delfino - In Memory of Diana Robba, Joan and Jerry Delfino - In Memory of Ray Viotti, Giulia Gallego (Br. 435) - In Appreciation of Giovanni and Toni Foggiano, Giulia Gallego - In Memory of Maria Greco, Giulia Gallego - In Memory of Mike Nunziata and Donna Pfaff (Br. 184/Br. 445) - In Memory of Rose M. Arnaudo; **Santa Rosa District:** Br. 209; **Stockton District:** Br. 413.

Thursday at the Convention



Friday at the Convention

THURSDAY, August 28, 2025
VISALIA RAWHIDE BASEBALL GAME

A spirited crew of members kicked off the weekend at the Visalia Rawhide baseball game, where Grand President Denise Antonowicz wowed the crowd by throwing out the first pitch to enthusiastic cheers.

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

The day began with a successful **BLOOD DRIVE**, coordinated by the Live to Give Committee with Laurice Levine, Kenneth Marshall, and Pat & Lou Mages. The event drew strong participation, and donors were treated to raffle entries for a chance to win festive gift baskets.

The **HERITAGE ROOM** was a brand-new feature at this year’s convention, celebrating a century of ICF history. Open throughout the event, it offered a welcoming space for members to gather, reminisce, and share stories. Visitors could explore a collection of artifacts, photos and heritage reports.

The **ICF MARKETPLACE**, curated by Allen Watts of the Fresno District, was filled with fun and meaningful Italian- and ICF-themed gifts—and so much more. Shoppers browsed everything from cutting boards, trivets and even fine art by Joe DiGrado, Orange District President. There was truly something for everyone to enjoy and take home.

Additionally, Wells of Life, led by Executive Board President Peter Callahan, hosted an information booth at the event. Founder Nick Jordan was honored with the 2020 Pope St. John XXIII Award for his leadership and vision. Wells of Life is a faith-based nonprofit that brings safe, sustainable drinking water to rural communities in Uganda. Since 2010, the organization has drilled or restored more than 1,400 wells, transforming the lives of over 1.4 million people. Learn more at www.WellsofLife.org or call 855-935-5763.

At **DELEGATE REGISTRATION**, guests were warmly welcomed to the beautiful Wyndham Visalia and received packets to prepare for the exciting days ahead.

BINGO: The Ways and Means Committee hosted a lively game of BINGO, drawing an eager crowd of members who dotted their cards with excitement, each one anxiously waiting to shout ‘BINGO!’

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14th Annual Convention Blood Drive: Giving Life By the Live to Give Committee

The Live to Give Committee would like to extend their deepest appreciation and gratitude to all who donated or attempted to donate blood at the 14th Annual Convention Blood Drive in Visalia. The ICF blood drive had 22 donors register and the Central California Blood Center was able to collect 18 successful donations (one unit can help up to 3 individuals in need of blood products) with the potential to save up to 54 lives in the community. Donors received a goodie bag and raffle tickets for an array of fabulous prizes donated by the Live to Give Committee and Denise Antonowicz.

Special Thanks to Macario Ramirez and his collections team at the Central California Blood Center for their time and hard work.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the following blood donors: thank you for donating blood and giving the gift of life. *God bless each of you.*

Joseph Aguilar
Mary Cook
Denis Dezcana
Jo-Ann Donovan
James Lee
Lou Mages
Ken Marshall
Nanette Metz
Jennifer Nisich
Robert Pachinger
Elizabeth Patocchi

Pat Pasquinelli
Jaime Portillo
Terrie Rhodes
Joan Rinaldi
Joan Ryder
Christine Ragusa
Richard Shimshock
Tina Tallman
Leonard Zasoski Jr.
Jeanette Zugnoni

If you missed the blood drive and still want to donate blood, contact your local blood bank. If you care to donate in honor of a loved one or to celebrate a friend’s milestone, you can get a card from the ICF office, and a letter of acknowledgment will be sent to the honoree. Your donation will also be recognized in the *Bollettino*, just the same as all the other donations. What better way to celebrate life than to give life? To find out if you qualify to donate, you can contact your local blood bank or contact the Live to Give Committee.

**For questions about donating blood or planning a blood drive, please contact
Laurice at 360-860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com.**

Thank you again to everyone who participated.
Respectfully,
Carmen Kilcullen, Chair, Live to Give Committee
Ken Marshall, Member, Live to Give Committee
Pat Mages, Member, Live to Give Committee
Lisa Crudo, Member, Live to Give Committee
Laurice Levine, Member, Live to Give Committee



Friday at the Convention



Friday at the Convention

NEW DELEGATE ORIENTATION

Led by Grand 1st Vice President Franklyn Lopes, Jr. and Grand President Denise Antonowicz, 28 new delegates were introduced to convention life. Together, the Central Council leaders shared over 80 years of ICF experience, while former Grand President Bob Acquistapace encouraged everyone to “have fun this weekend while working hard to make connections and gather ideas for your branch.”

Delegates were reminded of the larger mission: “While you represent your own branch, you are also part of a 101-year-old organization. Attend as

many workshops as possible, especially if your branch has more than one delegate. Bring back ideas, energy, and leadership.”

They concluded with a powerful message: “We must modernize the ICF, but we don’t need to lose our tradition.”

MEET THE CENTRAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES

- Rosemary Cook, Br. 13, Martinez
- Dr. Vince Malfitano, Br. 36, Monterey
- Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52, Healdsburg
- Theresa Sabetella Shaw, Br. 108, South Pasadena (Read by Leonard Zasoski, Jr. as she was unable to attend due to family hospitalization)
- Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184, Los Gatos
- Annamarie McCarthy, Br. 210, Fontana
- Franklyn Lopes Jr., Br. 227
- Kenneth Marhsall, Br. 342, Auburn
- Lisa Crudo, Br. 343, Castro Valley

Perry Shurko, Br. 362, Downey

OPENING CEREMONIES DINNER:

The Convention officially began with a warm welcome from Convention Director Lauren Kilcullen, Grand 2nd Vice President, who set the tone for a weekend of community, reflection, and celebration.

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES were led by the Zasoski Family, with Leonard Zasoski Jr.—Past Grand President and Grand Parliamentarian, Br. 281, Bakersfield—sharing a heartfelt story of his family’s journey in ICF. Though not Italian by heritage, they were welcomed into the ICF by his Sicilian godfather. Now four generations strong, the Zasoski family reflects the organization’s inclusivity: “Love what you do in the family... ICF has many ethnic backgrounds represented, but being Catholic is what brings us together.”

The evening continued with an OPEN

ING PRAYER from Deacon Karl Welsbacher, Diocesan Chaplain, Diocese of Stockton, who encouraged everyone to renew old friendships, followed by a Presentation of Colors by Past Grand Presidents and a stirring National Anthem beautifully sung by Kristen Zasoski, Br. 281.

•PRESENTATION OF COLORS: Past Grand Presidents Bob Acquistapace (Life Member Emeritus), Leonard Rossi and Mike Rossi (Life Members).

The **HOST DISTRICT WELCOME** came from Allen Watts, Fresno District President, who presented Grand President Denise Antonowicz with a lovely orchid and a special edition painting by one of ICF’s own. In a joyful nod to past conventions, Watts also led the room in a spirited round of “Aloha!”

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Friday at the Convention

When **Grand President Denise Antonowicz** took the stage, she expressed her gratitude to the Fresno District, the convention committee, and her sisters Michelle and Germaine for their unwavering support. She reminded delegates and guests that “*what you put in is what you will get out of it*,” inspiring all to fully engage in the weekend ahead.

The evening’s **INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE** was delivered by **Reverend Christopher Bennett, Spiritual Director**, who used breathtaking images of nature as a backdrop to his reflections. He posed the question: “*What are you thankful for?*” and emphasized that “*Gratitude is the best attitude*.” Father Chris led the room in a meditation exercise to quiet busy minds, reminding all that “*God will make a way... we are always in the hands of God*.”

He also shared a personal update on his health, noting his recovery from a heart attack and his hope for a kidney

transplant, asking for prayers as he seeks admission into Stanford’s hospital program. Drawing from centuries-old tradition, he grounded his message in the familiar prayer:

“Bless us, Oh Lord,
and these Thy gifts which
we are about to receive from Thy
bounty,
through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.”

Father Chris closed with a powerful reminder: “*Blessings don’t work unless you give them away. Give them away, and they will come back to you. Jesus is always talking to us—we just aren’t always listening*.”

The evening concluded with a Closing Prayer and a moving rendition of the **FEDERATION ANTHEM, “NOI VOGLIAM DIO,”** led by **Karen Rossi, Br. 343, Castro Valley**, joined by all in attendance.



Our Delegates at this year’s Convention representing Crockett#14. Thank you for a great job, Donna, Dee and Sylvia.



Sally and Art Panella and Ann Marie Baatz, Br. 352 delegates



Saturday at the Convention

MEMORIAL MASS: The day began with a moving Memorial Mass, presided over by Reverend Christopher Bennett, Spiritual Director, with Deacon Karl Welsbacher, Father Greg Kimm, and Father Mario Rizzo. Crystal and Allen Watts filled the church with beautiful music, while Deacon Karl read the Gospel.

Father Chris shared a heartfelt reminder that the *two most important days in our lives are the day we are born and the day we return to God*. As members reflected on loved ones lost this past year, he offered a comforting image of them seated at the banquet table with Jesus. He reminded everyone that heaven is being surrounded by family and friends—and that *love is not something we merely talk about, but something we live*.

SPIRITUAL WORKSHOP: Following Mass, Reverend Bennett led a spiritual workshop designed to help

participants reconnect and center themselves. *It only takes one snowflake to create an avalanche.*

Father asked “*Are you a holy person?*” and wanted those to stand up. Not many people stood up and Father asked why? Some people responded.

Is there something God cannot do? Yes. He can’t not Love.

First thing in the morning—get up, go on your knees and say “*Good morning dear Jesus, what can I do for you today?*”

Women have so much to offer in the Church. A Mother’s heart is so important to extend love to others.

The uplifting session encouraged reflection, renewal, and deeper faith.

MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP: The Membership Committee—**Vince Piro, Dr. Vincent Malfitano, Andy Pappani, Rosemary Cook, and Pat**

Mages—hosted an interactive workshop exploring how ICF can continue to grow and stay relevant across generations.

Members discussed surveys on engagement, enjoyed brainstorming about new initiatives, and learned about creative outreach efforts, including the first ICF podcast: **Bold Traditions—ICF Voices – Faith, Heritage, Traditions** curated by **Dr. Vince**. For details, contact DrVince@ICFVoices.org.

TECHNOLOGY 102 WORKSHOP:

George Leonard (Co-President, Br. 36 Monterey) and Patrick Senge (Br. 438 & 450 Lincoln) led an eye-opening workshop on technology tools for branches. George shared how Monterey uses a database and email marketing through Wix to keep members connected and ensure events are sold out in advance. They use WIX.com for \$400/year to host website. Their complete

membership information is stored in their own database in Wix that Br. 36 uses email marketing. Patrick guided participants through practical Excel tips, showing how spreadsheets can streamline tasks far better than calculators. Members left with practical skills to apply immediately in their branches. There are templates on icf.org

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: Fr.

Greg Kimm led a fascinating dive into genealogy research, showing participants how to interpret historical records such as the 1890 birth register and marriage indexes. He cautioned about common mistakes—like confusing witness names with fathers’ names or mistaking declaration dates for birth dates. Helpful resources included the Italian government’s archives (antenati.cultura.gov.it), Ancestry.com, and the free FamilySearch.org.

Saturday at the Convention

ITALIAN WORKSHOP: Francesca Taylor (Br. 67) brought Italian heritage to life through the lens of opera. She guided the audience through four classics—La Bohème, Don Pasquale, Gianni Schicchi, and La Traviata—explaining their choruses, dialogue, and the power of opera vocabulary. She encouraged everyone to use music as a bridge to culture: “Keep singing and keep music in our lives.”

ICF PROGRAMS & FUNDRAISING: Lisa Crudo explored creative strategies for planning engaging branch activities and building participation across the community. It covered best practices for organizing successful fundraisers, from setting clear goals to promoting events and maximizing support for ICF charities.

CONVENTION GENERAL SESSION

Call to Order by Denise Antonowicz, Grand President said it was “great to see so many new faces.”

An **OPENING PRAYER**—given by Julian.

- Pledge of Allegiance and Federation Salute
- Introduction of Central Council, Clergy, and Staff

ADOPTION OF RULES/REGULATIONS to ensure smooth voting procedures; led by **Grand Parliamentarian Leonard Zasoski, Jr.** This included setting ground rules for speaking and discussion.

CREDENTIAL REPORT explained by **Grand Secretary Lauren Kilcullen** highlighted 129 voting delegates present including Central Council members. Three chaplains were also present.

TREASURER’S REPORT described by **Grand Financial Secretary Lisa Crudo** reviewed the financial packet, including profit and loss projections.

BYLAWS discussion led by **Vince Piro** encouraged everyone to complete and submit a membership survey. Also, dues which are due in January each year, are going from \$39.60 + \$2.40 for Apostolate fund per person to the proposed and adopted to \$42.60 + \$2.40 for Apostolate fund in 2026.

CENTRAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS followed the candidates speeches where each shared two-minute speeches outlining their visions for ICF’s future prior to voting for 8 of the 10 candidates.

PODCAST PRESENTATION: **Dr. Vince Malfitano** shared how communication has transformed since ICF was first founded. Back then, there were no cell phones or emails—but today, in our second century, digital communication is essential. Most people now get their

news and information online, often through podcasts. Vince highlighted how podcasts can be a powerful way to connect with younger generations who are searching for faith but struggling to find a connection. Unlike the *Bollettino*, podcasts can reach them where they are. He invited members to share their thoughts and suggestions on “Family, Faith, Heritage, and Tradition” by emailing him at DrVince@ICFVoices.com.

DISCUSSION ON FUTURE OF AWARDS

Led by Lauren Kilcullen, this session raised important questions about the awards program. Some felt there were too many awards, while others thought the award packages were too complex. Suggestions included reducing the number of awards from five to three, allowing more time to complete the packages, or encouraging branches to put greater effort into recognizing deserving individuals and groups.

ATTENDANCE DRAWING

Three lucky delegates were awarded gift cards.

The first General Session concluded with a Closing Prayer.

BANQUET SOCIAL & SATURDAY BANQUET

The evening banquet brought members together in celebration and fellowship. Guests were warmly welcomed by Fresno District President Allen Watts, while Vince Piro, Past Grand President and Member Emeritus, kept the program lively as Master of Ceremonies.

•**OPENING PRAYER** was offered by **Father Greg Kimm.**

SPECIAL REMARKS

The Honorable Brett Taylor, Mayor of Visalia, welcomed ICF members and shared a personal connection—his wife is Italian. He said, “*You have a beautiful spirit...and we’re excited that you are here.*”

POPE SAINT JOHN XXIII AWARD PRESENTATION

The award was presented to Bill Perry of the Diocese of San Jose, with his wife Edna, by Denise Antonowicz. Denise praised Bill’s “*dedication, kindness, and unwavering commitment to service—faith in action.*”

In his heartfelt acceptance, Bill said:

“I stand before you humbled. This is a culmination of years of hard work...in my service I support God—the greater glory of God.”

He described his ministry with Contemplatives in Action, which led to the creation of a lunch ministry that has distributed over 23,000 lunches since April 2020. He affirmed his commitment to continue this mission.



REMARKS FROM BISHOP JOSEPH V. BRENNAN

The Bishop of Fresno, serving since 2019, spoke on the value of earthly life and God’s bounty:

“This earthly life is so valuable...life we have to engage in our love for our brother and sister and that’s what our God’s Bounty is.”

He shared how every parish in the Fresno Diocese now celebrates a St. Joseph’s Table, a tradition he has introduced. Though not Italian, he said, “I like to think of myself as a citizen of the world.”

CLOSING PRAYER was offered by Father Christopher Bennett:

“May God continue working in us to do something wonderful tomorrow.”

The banquet ended with Francesca Taylor of Branch 67 leading the attendees in a moving rendition of “**GOD BLESS AMERICA.**”

continued on Page 46



Robyn Piro, Branch 39 with raffle baskets at convention with money was donated by branches of the Fresno District and the Fresno District Council

Saturday at the Convention

In Loving Memory

Flora Adiego Frank Aguilar Gary Aguilar Kay Aguilar Enrico Alfonsi Yolanda Alfonsi Bruno Alpi Joyce Alpi Antonio Amato Bill Androtti Cathy Androtti Mary Androtti Raymond Androtti Steve Androtti Pasquale Ansuini Patti Ansuini Doris Antonini Joe Antonini Peter Antonini Chester Antonowicz Marie Antonowicz Michael Antonowicz Zofia Antonowicz Humberto Aravz Cosmo Arena Robert Arena Carl Armento Wilma Armento Jim Armstrong Rose Arnaudo Steve Arnaudo Tina Arnaudo Yolanda Arnaudo Linda Auzenne Reverend Albert R. Bandini Eva Barcellos Albert Bardini Michael Basarich Ann Basuino Frank L. Basuino Joseph Basuino Lorraine Basuino Edmund Bayer Jeannette Beeler Maureen Benito Jeanette Bennett Noel Bermadez Ed Bertaccini Elise Bertaccini Fernando Bertaccini Georgia Bianchi Pauline Bigby Antoinette Billici Frank Billici Helene Billici Peter Billici Pietro Billici Dori Blefari	Paul Blefari Michael Bodisco Eva Bogger Nestone Bogger Ron Boitano David Botta Clara Bronzini Mary Bronzini Bill Brown Millie Brown Stephany Brown Eleanor Bruno The Buonsante Family Patrick Burks Michelle Buttici Mike Caldwell Semi Caligiure Betty Camacho Ernie Camacho Robert L. Camacho Carl N. Camero Charles A. Cameron Dwight A. Cameron Nancy L. Cameron Concetta Campanile Edna Campanile John B. Campanile Peter A. Campanile Santo Campanile Gina Candiloro Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli Angelina Cardinalli Horace Cardinalli Carlo Family Jess Carlos Viola Carr Bobby Casavant Gary Casavant John Cassanogo John Castillo Antonietta Castro Roselane Catania Vincent Catania Emma Cavagnaro Larry Cavagnaro Roy Cavagnaro Mona Celotti Donald J. Cervelli Al Chantelope Buell Cipolla Cora Cipolla Richard Clarke Evelyn Codiga Katherine Codiga Roland Codiga Rene Rovers Collier Reverend Andrew Colnaghi, Cam. O.S.B. The Colonna Family	Peggy Constantino Fr. Bob Copsey Amelia Corral Anna Cortopassi Carlo Cortopassi Michael Costabile Betty Cox Steve Crisafi Cody Crosby Edward Crosetti Brian J. Crudo Rosalind E. Crudo Stephen P. Crudo Frank S. Crudo, Jr., MD Miguel Figueroa Cruz Terry Cruz Carolyn Cugia Janet Cummins Caterina Cuneo John C. Cuneo Wilma Cursi Joan D'Oliva Tony Daigle Daniel Darby Eleanor Darby Theresa Darling Mike Davis Helen Dawon Danny Dawson Mark Dawson George De Luca Anna De Maria Sam De Maria Fedora De Martini Vince De Martini Gloria De Santos Deceased Members of Br. 332 Deceased Members of the Central Council Olive DeFrancisci Richard DeFrancisci Alfred Del Carlo Elaine Del Carlo Joan Delfino Angelina Depew Gayton DeRosa Dino DeSantis Mary DeSantis Nettie Descalso-Del Nero Margaret Devengeno Fabiola & Osvaldo Di Paolo Theresa Dianda Robert Dianda, K.S.G. Reno Diascenti Tony Diascenti Evelyn Donati Cathleen Doran	Sharon Dunn David Dupuis Joan Dwyer Milton Elm Maria Emilio Jesse Engineer JJ Kelly Engineer JR Phiroze Engineer John Estes Alva K. Kaneaiakala Kenneth Kiser Maureen Kolda Adelina "Addie" Kramer Pete La Torre Pietro Paolo La Torre Patti LaBrash Angela Lamb Johanna Lambiase JoAnn Latham Joe Latham Lazer Family Irene Lencioni Robert Lencioni John Paul Letcher Salvador Lipari JoAnne Lira Mike F. Long Anna Lopes Frank Lopes Theresa Lowe Cindy Lowe Angelo Maggi Luella Maggi Frances Malfatti Michael Malfatti Josephine Mallia Rosie Mammimi Livio Mandolati Fr. Milton "Mike" Marini Elise Marsalli Jerry Marsalli Papa Joe Marsalli Larry Marsalli Nancy Marsalli Steve Martinelli Frank Martino Geraldine Martino Giuseppe Martino Larry Masi Dolores McCartney Richard & Robert McKeehen Charles Meier Louis Mencarini Mary Mencarini Victor Mencarini Lia and Del Merlini Donald Merucci Marco Michelato
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Of Our ICF Members, Family & Friends

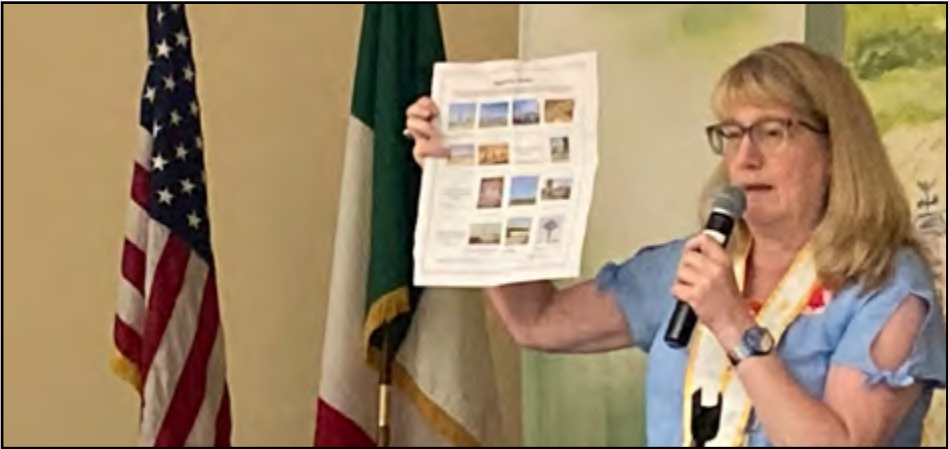
Marlene Hintzman George Huly Gladys Huly Mark Ijams Josephine Jimenez Richard Johnston Kelly Johnston Janice Jones Vickie Kancer Alva K. Kaneaiakala Kenneth Kiser Maureen Kolda Adelina "Addie" Kramer Pete La Torre Pietro Paolo La Torre Patti LaBrash Angela Lamb Johanna Lambiase JoAnn Latham Joe Latham Lazer Family Irene Lencioni Robert Lencioni John Paul Letcher Salvador Lipari JoAnne Lira Mike F. Long Anna Lopes Frank Lopes Theresa Lowe Cindy Lowe Angelo Maggi Luella Maggi Frances Malfatti Michael Malfatti Josephine Mallia Rosie Mammimi Livio Mandolati Fr. Milton "Mike" Marini Elise Marsalli Jerry Marsalli Papa Joe Marsalli Larry Marsalli Nancy Marsalli Steve Martinelli Frank Martino Geraldine Martino Giuseppe Martino Larry Masi Dolores McCartney Richard & Robert McKeehen Charles Meier Louis Mencarini Mary Mencarini Victor Mencarini Lia and Del Merlini Donald Merucci Marco Michelato	Zorana Milic Joann Miller Virginia Miller Helen Minotti Rose Misuraca Monica Mize Eileen MLadenka George MLadenka Percellia MLadenka Ada Mocelin Bob Molinari Rena Molinari Battista Montone Nuziata Montone Mercedes Montoya Norma M. Montoya Peter & Frances Morally Roselie Moresi Emma Moretti Pete Moretti Cheryl Koenig Morgan Angelo Mungai Lena Mungai Marie Mungai Paul Ng Bernice Nickols Oralee Nicosia Sam Nicosia David Novi Mike Nunziata Diana Ojard Katherine Oliver Alverda Orlando Harry Pacini Alfred Padreddii Julia Padreddii Carter B. Pagan Celeste Love Pagan Corky Papenfus Americo Parenti Giuseppina Parenti Esther Partido Emilio Persiani Maria Persiani Mary Piffero Severino Piffero John Pistorino Rosario Pistorino Gloria Pizzinelli Jerry Plummer Irene Podesta John Podesta Helen Politakes Norm Ponti Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Provenza Angie Publico Tony Publico John Quilici Lily Quilici	Angelo Raffaelli Marian and Phil Ragona Loren Ramorini Pat Ramorini Zola Ramorini Teofilo Ramos Lena Ratto Peter Ratto Robert Reif Sylvia Reif Marilyn Renna Sister Lillian Repak, O.S.U. Wilda Robinson Lawrence Rocchi Rose Rocchi Edward Rodondi June Rodondi Pauline Rogers Romagnoli Family Roger Roman Jerry Romero Vilma Romo Dave Rose Deiro Rossetto Carl Rossi Carmel Rossi Cookie Rossi John Rossi Jr. Louise Rossi Mary Margaret Rossi Nello Rossi Ronald Rovere Geraldine Rugani John A. Ruiz Donald Sabatini Eugene F. Sabatini Janice Sabatini Philip Sabatini Jennie Sacco Steven J. Sacco Agnes Salcedo Anita Salcedo Beverly Salcedo Conception Salcedo Ernesto Salcedo Orlando Salcedo Ida Salisbury James Salisbury Lorena Santana Mark Santos Alfred Sapienza David Sauterfield Lesa Scatena Amy Schmid Ron Schmid Ralph A. Segarra Raymond Segarra Frank Segreto Melissa Sellick	Joe Shelton Eva Mae Sigala Vic Sigala Dick Silva Rich Silva Shirley Silva Lynne Soldavini Grazia Spinella Jack Stagnaro Germaine Stalteri Pasquale Stalteri Ann Stayman Dorothy Steiner Janie Stephens Lillian Sturiale Madeleine Sturiale Pete Sturiale Flora Swartfager Tommy Swartfager William Swartfager Pinky Swenson Leroy Taddei Bernadette Tapella Angela (Angie) Teal Kelly Tidwell Angelina Tomasello Jack Tomasello Cecilia Tommei Italo Tommei Elizabeth Tracy Louise Trevizo Richard Trevizo Jeffrey Tucker Lillian Valli Mario Valli Richard Valli Rose Valli Rena Vallorz Emil Varni Teresa Varni John Vasta Marlene Vasta Russell Vento Mary Vera Joanne Wallace Joanne Weatherman Daniel Wemiz Rafael Wemiz Dorothy Erickson Whyte Mabel Willmon Al Wilson David Wittmayer Paul Wittmayer Rick Wittmayer Russell Wolfe Terry Wolfe Fred Yeager Melanie Yeager Joe Yurosko
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“Blessings don’t work unless you give them away. Give them away, and they will come back to you. Jesus is always talking to us—we just aren’t always listening.”





Saturday at the Convention



Saturday at the Convention



Salt & Light Donations



Br. 445 Bill Perry recipient of ICF Pope John XXIII Award with his wife Edna Perry



Sunday at the Convention



Sunday at the Convention

CONVENTION GENERAL SESSION
• **OPENING PRAYER**
• **RESOLUTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

NATIONAL CHARITY PRESENTATION to Dr. Thomas Coates was presented with a check for \$48,800 for the thalassemia program. He thanked everyone and said “Given everything going on, not just the amount...but the spirit that shows every year. Helping others is a hoot...and we need that more than ever.” He related that there were now two cures for thalassemia that involved gene therapy which costs approximately \$2.5 million.

Laurice Levine shared that this year CHLA would have an outdoor Fall Fest at the end of September that could be attended by ICF. The Christmas party would still be on restricted terms due to flu season.

Discussion about Scholarship Ideas led by chairperson Carmen Kilcullen. The scholarship program started in 1965. Some of ideas/concerns branches suggested were that they want the scholarship money to go to their communities instead of going out of the area.; the dollar amount should be increased from \$400 to maybe \$1000. It would be better to have few scholarships at an increased amount; given fewer first year scholarships and more of subsequent years.

COMMITTEE RECOGNITION:
APOSTOLATE/CHARITY—led by Carmen Kilcullen was “blown away by what you’ve done with 60 of 87 branch

es reporting.” This year \$427,081 was given to Apostolate charities. This is a substantial increase from last year.

Awards given for Branches with 1 through 75

1. Br. 108, South Pasadena; 2. Br. 179, Glendora; 3. Br. 191, San Jose; 4. Br. 354, Paso Robles, Br. 446, Upland & Br. 362, Downey

Awards given for Branches with 76 through 129

1. Br. 209, Sebastopol; 2. Br. 111, Montebello; 3. Br. 10, Alameda; 4. Br. 14, Crockett

Awards given for Branches with 130+

1. Br. 36, Monterey; 2. Br. 52, Healdsburg; 3. Br. 28, Gilroy, 4. Br. 115, San Pedro

100% Participation from the following Districts/Areas: Contra Costa, East Bay, San Bernardino, Stockton and Reno

SCHOLARSHIP

120 first year scholarships--100% District/Area/Branch Participation: Blessed Sacrament, Contra Costa, East Bay, Marin, Orange, Reno, San Bernardino, San Mateo and Santa Rosa.

Branches which offered at least one, and sometimes more first, second, third and fourth year scholarships: Br. 442, Pleasant Hill, Br. 39, Merced, Br. 332, Novato, and Br. 390, Tracy.

HERITAGE AWARDS given out by Franklyn Lopes Jr.

Outstanding report by Jan Stumhoffer.

Awards given for Branches with 1 through 40

1. Br. 210, Fontana—San Bernardino District
2. Br. 217, Redlands—San Bernardino District
3. Br. 13, Martinez—Contra Costa District

Awards given for Branches with 41 through 70

1. Br. 184, Los Gatos—Santa Clara Valley District
2. Br. 214, Concord—Contra Costa District
3. Br. 82, Lodi—Stockton District

Awards given for Branches with 71 through 100+

1. Br. 391, San Jose—Santa Clara Valley District
2. Br. 191, San Jose—Santa Clara Valley District
3. Br. 28, Gilroy—Santa Clara Valley District
3. Br. 111, Montebello—Los Angeles Archdiocese District

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS given by Vince Piro and Andy Pappani.

Branches with 100% Retention

- Br. 67, Los Angeles
Br. 444, Rancho Palos Verdes
Br. 13, Martinez
Br. 185, Fresno
Br. 354, Paso Robles
Br. 408, Sunnyvale
Br. 229, Chula Vista
Br. 449, Santee
Br. 210, Fontana

Br. 217, Redlands
Br. 1, San Francisco

Branches with the largest increase in 1 to 50 members

1. Br. 26, Hollister
2. Br. 213, South San Francisco
3. Br. 73, Roseville

Branches with the largest increase in 51 to 100 members

1. Br. 432, Brentwood
2. Br. 354, Paso Robles
3. Br. 130, Redwood City

Branches with the largest increase in 100+ members

1. Br. 332, Novato
2. Br. 352, Danville
3. Br. 31, Los Banos

CONVENTION SITE REPORT:

Convention Director Lauren Kilcullen announced that the 95th Annual Italian Catholic Federation Convention will take place September 4–6, 2026 in Reno, Nevada—the “Biggest Little City in the World.” The event will be hosted at the Silver Legacy Resort, with a special room rate of \$150 per night, including free resort fees and parking.

The 2027 convention may be in Orange County.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS made

at this year’s convention:
Scholarship: \$1000
Providenza Fund: \$1300
Gifts of Love: \$4592
Cooley’s Anemia: \$9000

CLOSING PRAYER offered by Branch 449, Santee.

continued on Page 50



Sunday at the Convention



Sunday at the Convention



Sunday at the Convention



Sunday at the Convention

AWARDS LUNCHEON

Welcome & Opening

Convention Director and Grand 2nd Vice President Lauren Kilcullen opened the session with a warm welcome. Roselynn McNeal, Central Council Life Member, served as Mistress of Ceremonies, offering a blessing that highlighted the ICF's spirit of faith, charity, and genuine care for community.

OPENING PRAYER: Father Mario Rizzo invited all to pray intentionally for friends of every background—Italian, Chinese, Irish, and more—reminding members that “God is with us even in difficult times.”

GRAND PRESIDENT'S AWARD:

Presented to Vince Saso by Grand President Denise Antonowicz, who praised him as “a person who has given so much so quietly for so long...a fixture at fundraisers and a true friend to ICF. He is a rare individual who does not see a problem, but rather sees a person, a neighbor, a friend.”

In accepting, Vince said: “I am extremely honored to accept this award. We are resilient and strong like our ancestors...they taught us to be humble and help others. That makes us wise, with never-ending strength for almost 54 years.” He then generously donated his award to the Cooley's Anemia Fund.



ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

AWARD: The award was presented to the Margaret Aylward Center by Grand President Denise Antonowicz, who described it as “a beacon of hope for thousands...always with open arms; always with dignity. They are a testament to what we can achieve when we come together in faith.” She added Mother Teresa's reminder: “Small acts done with great love can change the world.”

Accepting on behalf of the center, Sisters Gabrielle and Miriam shared its history, dating back to its origins in the 1840s–1950s during the Irish famine, with the California center opening in the past 20 years. Sister Miriam acknowledged the invaluable support of Perry Shurko, active on their board and with St. Ray's and Branch 362. She reflected, “We thank God for your goodness. We are only as good as those who inspire us.”

CLOSING PRAYER: Father Roberto Vera closed with words of gratitude: “Italian became international...thank God Catholic comes at the center. Working with ICF brings life to my heart as a priest.”

CONCELEBRATED MASS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:

The Mass was presided over by Most

Reverend Joseph V. Brennan, Bishop of Fresno, joined by Fathers Greg Kimm, Mario Rizzo, Roberto Vera, and Deacon Karl Welsbacher.

In his homily, Bishop Brennan reminded members that the ICF is made up of incredible people called to share in a sacred and joyful movement. He reflected on how even a simple Sunday meal can be sacred, holy, and fun. Quoting C.S. Lewis, he said, “*Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of ourselves less.*”

INSTALLATION OF CENTRAL COUNCIL OFFICERS:

Installing Officer: Denise Antonowicz, Past Grand President

Central Council New Officers

Grand President - Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

Grand 1st Vice President - Lauren Kilcullen

Grand 2nd Vice President - Lisa Crudo

Grand Secretary - Perry Shurko

Grand Treasurer - Deborah Rodondi

Grand Parliamentarian - Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E.

Grand Trustee - Denise Antonowicz

Grand Trustee - Dante Galeazzi

Grand Trustee - Dr. Vince Malfitano

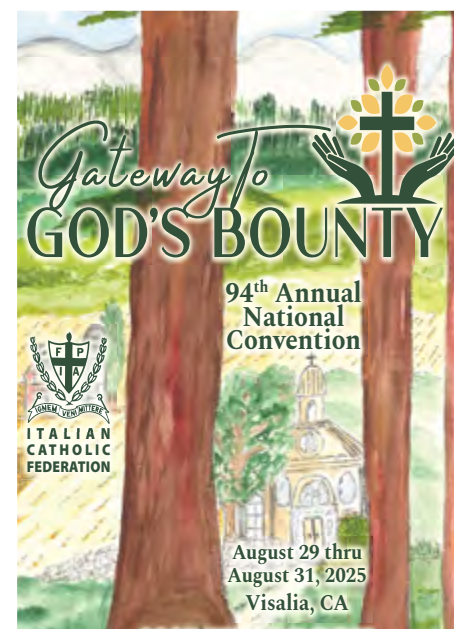
Grand Sentinel - Mike Rossi, C.L.J.

ICF Spiritual Director - Reverend Christopher Bennett

Remarks by the **2025-2026 Grand President, Franklyn Lopes Jr.** (see Page 1 of *Bollettino* for complete remarks.)

Raffles were conducted for gift baskets prepared by Robyn Piro to raise funds for the Fresno District, and for the **ICF-CONVENTION RAFFLE** Presented by: The Ways and Means Committee (See Page 1 for winners.)

ADJOURNMENT: Laughter, music, and fellowship filled the room as the day ended on a joyful note.



October 2025

Dear Branch President,

As you know, many individuals, districts, and branches traditionally place Christmas and New Year's messages in the December issue of the Bollettino. These may be submitted already designed and sized, or you may provide the text and we will create the design for you.

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" width x 5" height (horizontal)	\$50
5" width x 6 1/4" height (vertical, 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 I.C.F. (noted Christmas 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 November 10th.

Thank you.
ICF Office



2025 - 2026 Season



Opera Italia




October 18, 19, 26, 2025
i Capuleti e i Montecchi
(Romeo & Juliet)
Bellini



Nov 30, Dec 6 & 7, 2025
*Amahl
& the Night Visitors*
Menotti



**Apr 25 & 26, May 3,
2026**
Die Fledermaus
Strauss



Mar, 2026



In collaboration with
YOUNG OPERA THEATER
Children's Opera Festival

Performances DTLA, Long Beach, South Pasadena, San Marino, San Pedro

213-248-2510/ www.operaitalia.com
info@operaitalia.com / [@operaitalia](https://www.instagram.com/operaitalia)



Hawaiitalian
TESTIMONIAL
Grand President
Denise Antonowicz
OCTOBER 18
Happy Hour: 5:00 p.m. Dinner: 6:00 p.m.
Palermo Restaurant
791 Auzerai Ave., San Jose

Menu Choices:
___ Minestrone Soup OR ___ House Salad
___ Rack of Lamb: \$70.00
___ Chicken Parmigiana: \$70.00
___ Gnocchi Al Pesto: \$60.00

Name: _____

Branch #: _____

Deadline: October 4, 2025
Make checks payable to: Italian Catholic Federation
Write "GP Testimonial" on memo line and indicate menu choice
Address: 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621



RESERVATIONS FORM

FOR THE
TESTIMONIAL DINNER FOR
PAST GRAND PRESIDENT DENISE ANTONOWICZ

Name	Br. #	Soup or Salad	Lamb	Chicken	Gnocchi

Contact Name: _____

and Phone Number: _____

Total # of reservations _____ x \$70.00 (Lamb or Chicken)

Total # of reservations _____ x \$60.00 (Gnocchi)

A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed.

PLEASE MAIL FORM AND CHECK NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 4, 2025 to:

Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, California 94621

Branches will be seated together unless notified differently.