



BOLLETTINO

ICF Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage



Thankful for Tradition, Faith, and Family — The ICF Spirit Shines Bright



Br. 144 Rosemary Melendy ('93) and daughter Krista share the Arcata Farmers' Market bounty with St. Marys' Parishioners every weekend.

La gratitudine
non è solo la più
grande delle virtù,
ma la madre di
tutte le altre.

— Cicero

"Gratitude is not only the
greatest of virtues, but the
parent of all the others."



Br. 408 Community Service Pancake Breakfast Youth Group

The **2026 ICF Calendars** are here — and they're more than just calendars! Each month features inspiring stories, fun facts, and delicious Italian recipes that celebrate our theme, **"Sports Italian Style."**

They make perfect holiday gifts and raffle prizes, and each one gives you a chance to win cash prizes throughout the year!

Best of all, every purchase helps support our Branch fundraisers and vital ICF programs that give back to our community.

Get yours today! Contact your local Branch for calendars before they sell out — and let's make this our best fundraising year yet!

Grand President's Monthly Message

Franklyn Lopes Jr.

Happy Thanksgiving to all the members of ICF. It is hard to believe that the holidays are among us. Where has the time gone? I have such great memories of this holiday, going to Nanny and Papa's house, having my whole family around the table, enjoying the great food and conversations, and giving thanks for all that God has blessed us with. Let us remember how precious life is. You never know what the next day may bring to us all. So, enjoy your family and friends.



Two months ago, I was elected as your new Grand President in Visalia, and since that moment, I have attended Bishops' Days in San Bernardino, Monterey, Santa Rosa, Contra Costa/East Bay, San Jose and Los Angeles. It is great seeing all the members of our Federation, and how welcoming they all are.

During this past month, branches and districts should have elected their officers for the coming year and, with that in mind, now comes the task of planning, budgets, fundraising, etc. Remember to post in your church bulletins, your meetings, fundraisers, or other events, so your fellow parishioners can also partake in the festivities. If you have any questions about anything, please reach out to your Central Council members, as we are here to help.

Below is a listing of the Committee Chairpersons:

Apostolate-Charity/Live to Give- Michael Rossi, C.L.J.

By-Laws and Ritual- Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E

Convention Directors' - Lauren Kilcullen

Mentor Program/Troubled Branches- Lauren Kilcullen and Lisa Crudo

Finance- Deborah Rodondi

Gifts of Love- Teresa Helfand

Hospitalization- Dante Galeazzi

Membership- Andrew Pappani

Continued on Page 3

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO

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Important Notice

The email address for ALL
Bollettino submissions is:
editor@icf.org

All image and article submissions
need to be sent in an electronic 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
December issue is
November 10, 2025**

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

Thank you!

Message from our Spiritual Director
“Gateway to God’s Bounty”

Dear Friends of the Italian Cath-
olic Federation:

My favorite feasts of the liturgi-
cal year are the twin feasts of
All Saints and All Souls, which
actually seem to be one two-day
feast. I think that is explained by
the first word of both: “All.” Ev-
eryone is there—we the living,
all who have gone before us and
all who will come after, various-
ly described as “a great multi-
tude,” “a cloud of witnesses” and
“every race, nation, people and
tongue.”

I don’t believe we have to wait
until we get to Heaven to expe-
rience what these feasts cele-
brate. A previous translation
in the liturgy proclaimed, “Life
is changed, not taken away.”
People live not only in our
memories, but also in our pres-
ence. Is not prayer a communica-
tion, not only with God, but with
the saints and souls?

As we gather together in faith
and fellowship, it is important
that we take a moment to re-
member and honor all of our
loved ones who have gone
before us, especially all of the
members of the Italian Catholic
Federation. Their dedication,
kindness, and unwavering spirit
have shaped our church into the
caring and vibrant community it
is today.

Each of them brought something
special—whether it was a gentle
word of encouragement, a help-
ing hand in times of need, or a
joyful spirit that lifted our hearts.
Their contributions, both seen
and unseen, have left an indelible
mark on our congregation and
have inspired us to follow in their
footsteps.

We recall the laughter shared at
church gatherings, the prayers
whispered in moments of hope,
and the steadfast faith that guided
us through challenges. Through
their examples, we have learned
the true meaning of service, com-
passion, and unconditional love.
Though they are no longer physi-
cally with us, their legacy endures
in every corner of our church—in
the smiles of children, the hymns
we sing, and the bonds of friend-
ship that unite us. We are grateful
for the foundation they have built,
and we strive to carry their light
forward, continuing the work they
began.

We also remember countless in-
dividuals have lived lives marked
by faith, sacrifice, and compas-
sion. These saints—whether
formally recognized or simply
known in the hearts of those they
touched—have paved the way for
us, inspiring generations through
their examples. As we pause to
remember all the saints who have



Father Christopher Bennett
ICF Spiritual Director

gone ahead of us, we honor their
memories.

Let us cherish their memories and
celebrate their lives by living with
the same generosity, grace, and
faith that they so beautifully dem-
onstrated. May we honor them not
only through words, but through
our actions and our commitment
to the church and each other.

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 October 10, 2025)

Antoinette Morsello	Branch 001	Frank Signorelli	Branch 291
Nino Campagna	Branch 036	Iolanda Gardner	Branch 332
Terry L Wecker	Branch 036	Helen T Tatone	Branch 380
Richard M Lira	Branch 039	Sylvia Sorci	Branch 435
Ernie E Ralston	Branch 052	Michael Fuentes	Branch 438
Rosa Vuoso	Branch 115	Maureen Godar	Branch 445
Irene Simoni	Branch 145	Art Maggio	Branch 445
Alba G Segarra	Branch 210		

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

Lauren Kilcullen
Convention Director

The Convention Directors received a month off, however, we have returned to work planning the 2026 Convention in October. We went to Reno on October 20 for a site visit to the Silver Legacy Resort. Photos and more information from the visit will be in the December *Bollettino*.

The Committee also reviewed the 2025 Convention evaluations. 72 evaluations were completed.

Some of the statistics:

Breakdown of respondents:

- First Time Delegates: 17.14%
- Returning Delegates: 81.43%
- Clergy: 1.43%

Overall Convention Rating:

- Excellent: 42.25%
- Very Good: 47.89%
- Good: 9.86%

WORKSHOP RATINGS:

Excellent –	Very Good –	Good
–		
Spiritual		
66.67%	29.17%	4.17%
Technology 102		
23.81%	52.38%	23.81%
Membership		
25.81%	48.39%	25.81%
Programs/Fundraising		
28.95%	44.74%	26.32%



Genealogy

66.67% 16.67% 16.67%

Italian for Opera Lovers

47.62% 23.81% 28.57%

25 people played the Road Trip game. I’m thinking of an updated version for next year.

Overall comments were positive with some helpful suggestions the committee will take into consideration in planning next year’s convention. One comment was to have the Roll Call of Districts on Friday night, which we will do.

A few comments wondered why there are gaps in timing between general sessions and the meals. The gaps are to give the hotel time to reset the room from general session to banquet. The hotel needs to remove any trash, put new linens on the tables, place cutlery, glasses, move chairs, etc. Depending on hotel staffing levels, this can take a few hours to complete.

A request for a workshop on Cooley’s Anemia by Laurice Levine was a popular request. Good News – Laurice has agreed to give a workshop! Other workshop comments included not having enough time for Q&A. We will look at the possibility of extending the workshop time.

As branches prepare their 2026 budgets, please allocate enough money to send your delegates to the convention.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Lauren Kilcullen
Convention Director

GP Message--Continued:

Franklyn Lopes Jr. continued from p. 1

Public Relations- Rosemary Cook
Scholarship- Carmen Kilcullen
Ways and Means/Heritage- Robert Basuino

Workshop- Vincent Piro

Please feel free to contact the committee chairs with any ideas or concerns that you may have.

Once again, ICF members came out for the annual Columbus Day Parade in San Francisco, on Sunday, October 12. Thanks to Jim Friebel and Andy Pappani for driving and getting our trailer ready, so that we could decorate it with our Italian colors. It is always a pleasure to see the men and women in uniform walking by our float, and thanking them for their service. A special thanks to the Ways and Means/Heritage Committee for making this possible.

So, as the aroma of turkey and

stuffing, mashed potatoes, or whatever fills your homes this Thanksgiving holiday, it is at times like this that we realize how important our religion and the people that surround us are. Communicate with them and tell them how important they are to you.

I am thankful for your support, and to my family, and to the Central Council for electing me as Grand President, which gives me the opportunity to visit all the wonderful members of our Federation.

I leave you with this Thanksgiving blessing, that was used throughout at this year’s convention.

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive, from Thy bounty, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone
Franklyn Lopes Jr.
Grand President.

2025 - 2026 CENTRAL COUNCIL
OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OFFICERS:

Grand President - Franklyn Lopes Jr., Br. 227
Grand 1st Vice President - Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52
Grand 2nd Vice President - Lisa Crudo, Br. 343
Grand Secretary - Perry Shurko, Br. 362
Grand Treasurer - Deborah Rodondi*, Br. 19
Grand Parliamentarian - Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E.*
(Karen), Br. 343
Grand Trustee - Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184
Grand Trustee - Dante Galeazzi* (Julie), Br. 139
Grand Trustee - Dr. Vincent Malfitano (Roselyn), Br. 36
Grand Sentinel - Michael Rossi, C.L.J.* (Marcie), Br. 391
Past Grand President - Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184
Spiritual Director - Rev. Christopher Bennett, Br. 445

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Robert Basuino*, Br. 191
Rosemary Cook Shaw (Griffin), Br. 13
Teresa Helfand* (Cory), Br. 392
Roselynne McNeal* (Aaron), Br. 442
Andrew Pappani* (Siria/Sid), Br. 28
Theresa Shaw (Tad), Br. 108
Leonard Zasoski Jr.* (Betty/B.G.), Br. 281
(*denotes life member)

LIFE MEMBERS EMERITUS:

Robert Acquistapace (Kathy), Br. 198
Michael Cannady (Donna), Br. 154
Steven Fuentes, Br. 173
James Jones, Br. 191
Carmen Kilcullen (Larry), Br. 52
Nina Malone, Br. 438

MEMBERS EMERITUS:

Gerald Delfino, Br. 368
Maria Di Paolo, Br. 379
Angelina Iarossi-Armenio, Br. 218
Patricia Mages (Louis), Br. 380
Kenneth Marshall (Elizabeth), Br. 342
Vincent Piro (Robyn), Br. 39
Chris Valentini (Elizabeth), Br. 14
(Revised 10/25)



Cooley's Anemia Donations

(Received as of October 10, 2025)

Branch 229

Branch 285

Branch 444

Julie and David Schurba

In Memory of Pina Baldocchi

John and Natalie Canata

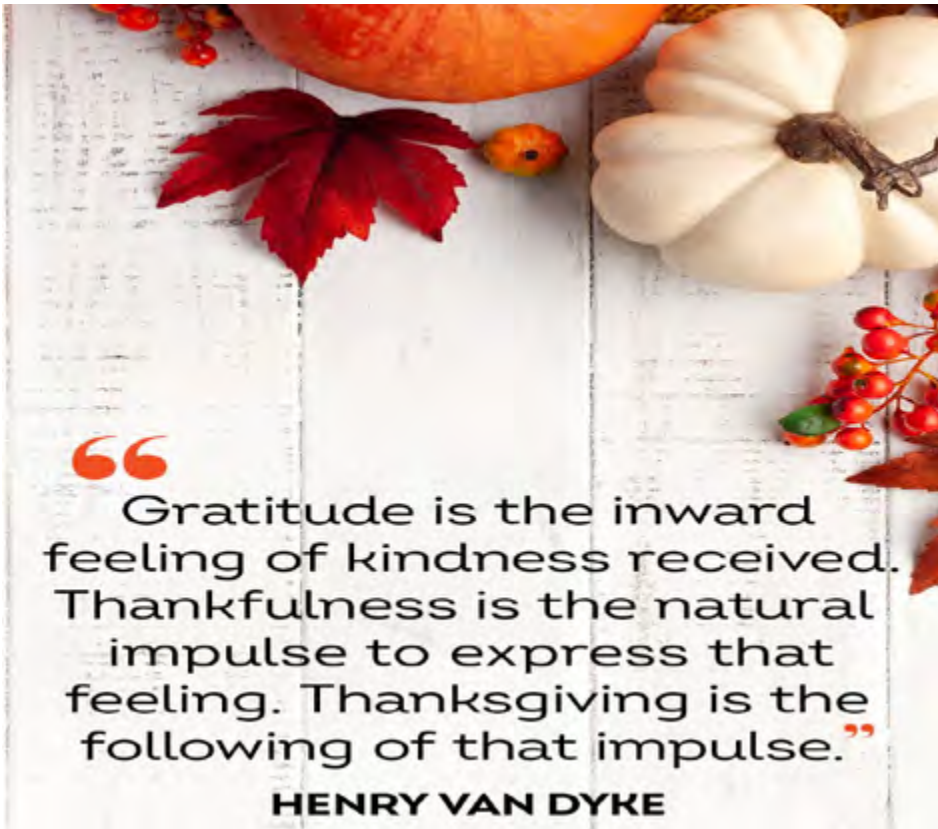
In Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Filippo and Rossana Baretta

John and Natalie Canata

In Memory of Bob Dickerson

John and Natalie Canata

In Memory of Eleanor Toney Williams



Your Hospitalization Plan

You are in good health??? YES.

Just in case the need arises that you need an overnight stay or surgery at an acute care hospital (or outpatient surgery at a licensed surgical center)... hopefully, you have the additional benefit of the Hospitalization Plan offered by ICF. Sign up now.

Your Hospitalization Committee recommends that each District should appoint a Chair to assist each Branch to encourage enrollment in the PLAN. Remember, your Branch President and Treasurer have many duties throughout the year, whereas an opportunity exists to have a Branch Hospitalization Chair to sign up new applicants to the PLAN.

Your Central Council Hospitalization Committee met and discussed recommendations for the 2026 year at the October 18, 2025 meeting for final approval.

Congratulations to the Branches who promote and encourage the benefits of membership.

The ICF Office Staff is very diligent to assist with advice for completing the application to receive the benefits as well as processing the claims.

The PLAN is easy at a nominal membership fee - \$25.00 a year in addition to your membership dues. So, ask for the application to review the rules and eligibility for the plan, your additional financial benefits and enroll. Any Questions, you may also ask a PLAN Member or your Branch Hospitalization Chair. Your PLAN Members are Dante Galeazzi, Andy Pappani, George Leonard, Jim Friebe and Grand Treasurer Deborah Rodondi.

All Applicants, who are interested in learning more about the benefits can reach me at (209) 815-8825.

Gifts of Love Donations

(Received as of October 10, 2025)

Branch 229

Mr. and Mrs. Mariano Fontana

In Memory of Pat Arnaudo

Joe Matranga

In Memory of Patricia Arnaudo

Officers/Members of Br. 215

In Memory of Dr. Peter Paul La Torre

The Engineer Family

In Memory of Dr. Peter Paul La Torre

Dorene Campanile

In Memory of Patricia Arnaudo

Mara Barsotti Millis

In Memory of Jean Watterson

Officers/Members of Br. 380

In Memory of Helen Tatone

Donna Pfaff

In Memory of Art Maggio

Officers/Members of Br. 362

In Memory of Madeline Buckley

The Ragusa Family

In Memory of Madeline Buckley

Officers/Members of Br. 218

In Memory of Connie Davis

Esther Ramonda

In Memory of Yvonne Venaas



OCTOBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
10/1	Ashley Choate		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
10/2	Rose Flahavan	403	Millbrae, CA	\$30
10/3	Philip & Sydney McDermott		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
10/4	Joe Giovannetti		Greenbrae, CA	\$30
10/5	Bob & Julie Thompson		Gilroy, CA	\$30
10/6	Helene Billecci	214	Concord, CA	\$30
10/7	Karyne Burcit		Rodeo, CA	\$30
10/8	Donna M. Pfaff	184	San Jose, CA	\$50
10/9	Roy Avila	227	Santa Cruz, CA	\$30
10/10	Annette Maggiora	442	Antioch, CA	\$30
10/11	Peter & Megan Dupuis		Bend, OR	\$50
10/12	Laly Savoy		Gardena, CA	\$30
10/13	Stephanie Marchini	39	Le Grand, CA	\$30
10/14	Dolores Finch	446	Upland, CA	\$30
10/15	Elaina Shanks	21	Santa Cruz, CA	\$30
10/16	Suzan DiRicco		San Ramon, CA	\$30
10/17	Michelle & Dom Lewis		Las Vegas, NV	\$30
10/18	Roger & Kathy Santos	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
10/19	Joanne Alvarado	19	Daly City, CA	\$30
10/20	Anne Marie Santich		Alamo, CA	\$30
10/21	Bob & Cindi Hurley		Napa, CA	\$30
10/22	Karen Glen	13	Martinez, CA	\$50
10/23	Melissa Rodriguez		Phoenix, AZ	\$30
10/24	Crocetta Salomone	111	Montebello, CA	\$30
10/25	Carol Orfino	403	Millbrae, CA	\$30
10/26	Millicent Piro	39	Atwater, CA	\$30
10/27	Jason Simon		Somerset, CA	\$30
10/28	Fr. Chacko Muthoottil, MF	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
10/29	Johanna Tacci	435	Morgan Hill, CA	\$30
10/30	Sam Trevizo		Clearlake, CA	\$30
10/31	Mary Jo Belli	21	Santa Cruz, CA	\$50

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

Book Review -- Four books about the history of Italian wine-making. “Salute.”

Vince Piro

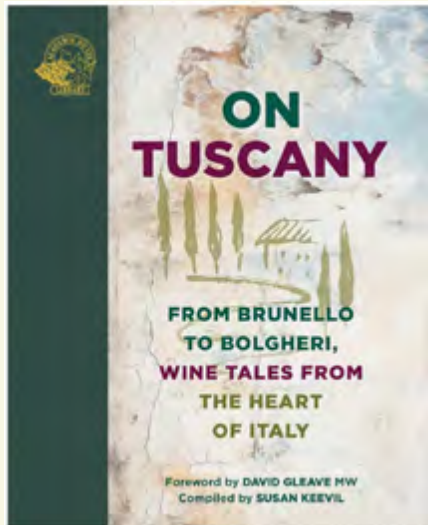
Italy is known for its immense contributions to Western culture, spanning art, history, fashion, food, and music. As the heart of the ancient Roman Empire and the birthplace of the Renaissance, its historical and cultural legacies continue to shape the world. And one must not forget its contributions to wine making. Below are four books about the history of Italian wine-making. “Salute.”



today, steadying the roller coaster before it once again goes too far and too fast...
 With contributions from Andrew Jefford, Hugh Johnson, Nicolas Belfrage MW, Jancis Robinson MW, David Gleave MW, Walter Speller, Gabriele Gorelli MW, Burton Anderson, Ruth Rogers, Neil Beckett, Victoria Moore, Gerald Asher, D H Lawrence, Fiona Morrison MW.”
Italy in a Wineglass; The Story of Italy Through Its Wines
 Marc Millon
 Melville House

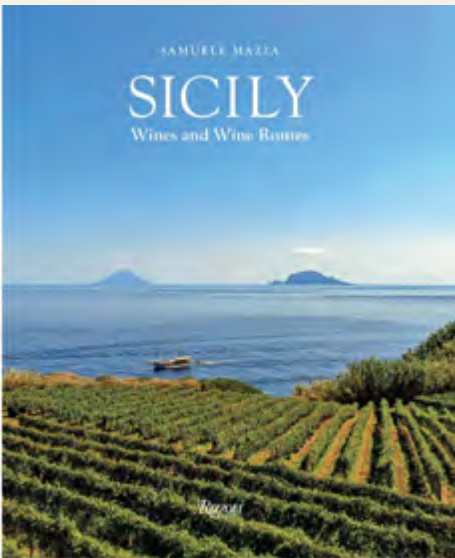
On Tuscany: From Brunello to Bolgheri, Wine Tales from the Heart of Italy
 Susan Keevil, David Gleave
 Academie du Vin Library Ltd.

From the melée and muddle of Italy’s vinous past, Tuscany emerged triumphant. The world’s restaurants began to clamor for its Chianti and the Super Tuscan rebel-wines that captured the hearts, palates and pockets of any wine lover who sipped them. It found fame and fortune but had it gone too far...? On Tuscany’s authors unravel the truths of this enchanted vineyard – its tortured landscape of clashing mountains and upended seas, its mysterious Etruscan forebears, the Medici aristocrats and warring tribes who fought to control it. And the stoic peasants, whose thwarted creativity and intuitive ways with wine won through in the end. It tells the story of its king of grapes, Sangiovese, and the courtiers that grapple for its throne, and of the maverick winemakers who harness this region’s passion for wine



Sicily: Wines and Wine Routes
 Samuele Mazza, Riccardo Cotarella, Elena Berlinghieri Rizzoli
 “Discover Sicily's wineries in its farmhouses, historic residences, traditional estates, and large rural complexes located in a magnificent

region renowned for its beauty. The book is organized into wine-growing areas and offers the opportunity to explore the whole island, passing through natural parks and visiting the island's many art destinations. This stunning book is perfect for those who love to daydream and travel to seek out unusual places characterized by beauty, hospitality, and fine wine. It showcases wineries and farmhouses restored with a charming balance between sites of production and hospitality, combining modern comfort with respect for the past. Sicily's wines are the perfect expression of the island's complexity and variety, and this volume provides an introduction to the local wine tradition. The island of Sicily is a realm of contrasts and cultural and environmental variety, from the snows of Etna to the sun-drenched beaches of Capo Passero, from art-destination cities to the islands of the archipelagoes,



providing the perfect backdrop for wine tasting.”
Italian Wine: The History, Regions, and Grapes of an Iconic Wine Country
 Shelley Lindgren, Kate Leahy
 Clarkson Potter/Ten Speed

“From award-winning sommelier Shelley Lindgren, who has long been recognized (and now knighted!) for her promotion of lesser-known Italian wines, and acclaimed cookbook author Kate Leahy comes a user-friendly and charming guide to Italian wines two decades in the making. The dynamic storytelling duo takes you through a beautifully photographed and delightfully comprehensive journey to understand what Italian wine looks like today: the makers shaping the industry, the innovative ways farmers are adapting to climate change, and the history that paved the path for this current movement.”



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.

Heritage — Immigration

Louise Vento, Committee Member

Today, im-migrants come from all coun-tries around the world. In 1890, however, the majority of im-migrants came from Southern Italy or Sic-ily. One reason for this was that plantation owners in the southern United States needed workers, as they had no one to bring in their crops. It is estimated that 300,000 immigrants arrived from Italy and Sicily through ports such as New York, Boston, or New Orleans. Many of your grandparents may have arrived on those very ships. Why did they come? Because crops had dried up, the govern-ment had changed, they were be-ing heavily taxed, and they longed for freedom and a place to raise their families.

My late husband Russell’s grand-fathers, Rosolino Vento and Ange-lo Lercara, came under the Inden-ture Act to work on the plantations in Louisiana. They spent long days



picking cotton or cutting sugar cane for just \$1.50 a day. It was hard work. Still, they managed to raise their families, preserve their traditions, and attend the Catholic Church. The family unit was very important to them.

Some men came to America without their families, hoping to earn enough money to return to Italy or Sicily and eventually bring their loved ones back to the United States with them.

Immigrants who settled in the northern part of the country found work in factories, on the railroads, and in construc-tion, helping to build roads and infrastructure. They often lived in areas known as “Little Italy.” America was very different from their homeland, but they worked hard to build a new life.

Let us remember that all Ameri-cans are descendants of immi-grants. This Thanksgiving, let us give thanks to our immigrant relatives who helped make America their home.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library

OPEN HOUSE ON NOVEMBER 8

Carmelo Sabatella

Come visit the Mother Cabrini Chapel, Library and Chapel Store. For more information on the Chapel and Library please visit icf.org/mother Cabrini shrine or call 626 372-7812.

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 am to 5:30 pm hosted by the ICF Los Angeles and Santa Barbara/Ventura Regions.
- November 9, 2025 - Annual Mother

Cabrini Chapel Mass, Pilgrim-age and Luncheon at St. Francis Xavier Church, 3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA from 11:30 am (Mass), 12:30 pm (Pilgrimage) and Luncheon (2:00 pm). Following the Pilgrim-age. Please RSVP via email no. Cas1810@aol.com for more informa-tion 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



Thanksgiving Word Search

S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	S	H	I	I	G	Z	E
M	I	R	G	L	I	P	D	N	U	F	N	P	C	Y
T	R	E	W	O	L	F	Y	A	M	I	E	U	Z	L
Y	V	A	R	G	A	G	P	C	V	D	A	M	R	I
C	O	R	N	U	C	O	P	I	A	S	L	P	U	M
E	W	R	F	T	F	D	G	R	R	A	L	K	T	A
J	I	T	E	E	X	S	A	E	T	C	L	I	H	F
T	U	P	A	N	K	P	B	M	R	T	L	N	U	U
N	H	S	E	N	N	M	I	A	S	U	A	P	R	I
S	T	A	A	L	E	I	N	E	L	R	B	I	S	T
Q	Q	H	N	V	P	B	D	V	L	K	T	E	D	A
T	T	U	O	K	E	P	I	I	O	E	O	G	A	B
C	T	N	A	R	F	O	A	T	R	Y	O	C	Y	L
J	D	G	R	S	W	U	P	A	Q	D	F	G	R	E
C	V	Y	F	A	H	O	L	N	P	O	T	A	T	O

APPLE PIE

DINNER

FOOTBALL

NATIVE AMERICANS

PILGRIM

ROLLS

STUFFING

THANKSGIVING

CORNUCOPIA

FAMILY

GRAVY

POTATO

SAUCE

TABLE

THURSDAY

CRANBERRY

FEAST

MAYFLOWER

PARADE

PUMPKIN PIE

SQUASH

THANKFUL

TURKEY

Scholarship Donations

(Received as of October 10, 2025)

1st Year Donations
Jean Whittier
In Memory of Aurora
Pialorsi Roselli
Maria Caccia
In Memory of Aurora
Pialorsi Roselli
Loretta Fontana
In Memory of Aurora Roselli
Donna Pfaff
In Memory of Maureen Godar

CC Spouses’ and Family Association
In Honor of Bill Perry
CC Spouses’ and Family Association
In Honor of The Margaret Aylward Center

2nd - 4th Year Donations
Gerald Delfino
In Memory of Helen Tatone

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

(Received as of October 10, 2025)

IN MEMORY OF:

Madeline Buckley
Helen Tatone
Helen Tatone
Cathy Misuraca
Frank Signorelli

DONATED BY:

Charlene Drobeck
Officers/Members of Central Council
CC Spouses' and Family Association
Jim and Patty Jarrett
Officers/Members of Central Council

IN HONOR OF:

Franklyn Lopes Jr. Officers/Members of San Bernardino District

CONGRATULATIONS:

Grand President Franklyn Lopes Jr. Elaine Osorio

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Branch 285 - Livermore.

*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.

Apostolate -- St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Mike Rossi

Apostolate Chairperson

This month, our branches and members should celebrate and honor the ICF co-patron saint, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini. She is the first American to be canonized a saint. She was beatified in 1938, canonized in 1946 by Pope Pius XII, and was identified as the patron saint of immigrants. She was adopted as patroness of the ICF, an honor that today she shares with St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Her feast day is celebrated November 13th in the U.S.



She is most remembered for founding hospitals, schools, and orphanages in America. She was born Francesca Cabrini in Italy. As a young woman, she founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus with a small group. She hoped to travel to China and the East, but the Pope told her "not to the East, but to the West" and he sent her to America to minister to the Italian immigrants who

had fallen on hard times. The sisters established themselves in New York City and also fell on hard times, but somehow God always provided.

Eventually she became worn out from her labors, but before her death in 1917, her order founded nearly seventy institutions to help the needy, the poor, and the ill in the U.S. and Latin America.

A film about her remarkable life and mission was released in 2024 and watched by many ICF members.

ICF branches and members are encouraged to recite a prayer for this remarkable woman:

"God our Father, you called Frances Xavier Cabrini from Italy to serve the immigrants of America. By her example, teach us concern for the stranger, the sick and those in need, and by her prayers, help us to see Christ in all the people we meet, through Christ our Lord, Amen."

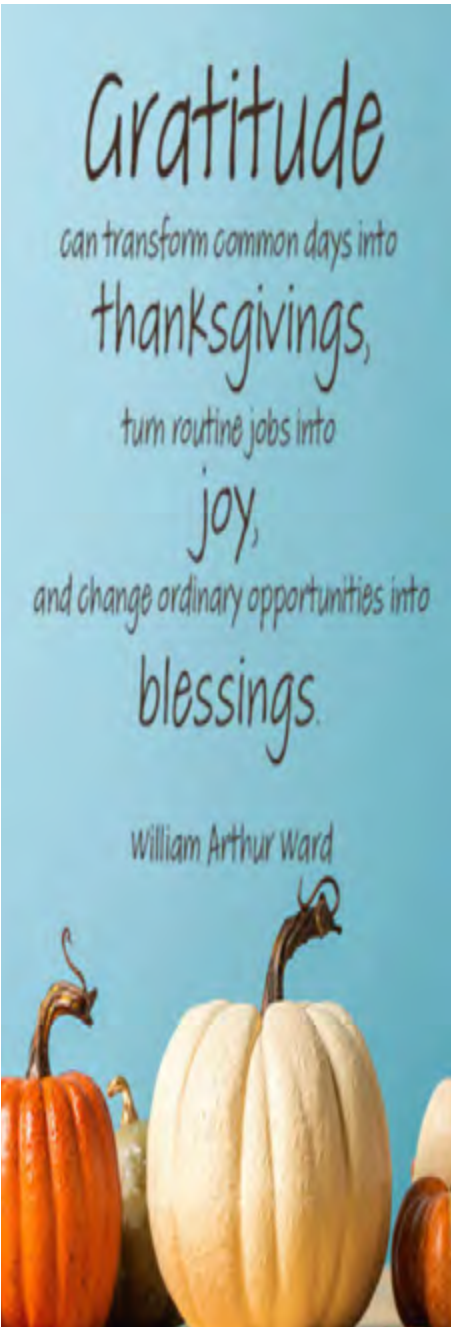


ICF is Going Green!

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



<http://eepurl.com/bLaMFb>



Welcome New Members

(Report as of October 10, 2025)

Branch 028	Phyllis Avina-Berger	
Branch 036	John Burns	Maria Burns
	Bennett Compagno	Lisa De Lacy
	Jennifer Dorio	Vincenzo Dorio
	Jolynn Silva	Joseph Silva
Branch 039	Dino J Migliazzo	
Branch 045	Terri L Stowers	Sarah Wright
Branch 144	Annaka N Sefcik	Chad M Sefcik
	Morguine A Sefcik	Nolan R Sefcik
Branch 191	Cecilia Herrera	
Branch 246	Lilliana Bosforo	Elena M Piranio
Branch 285	Jeanne J Walker	
Branch 332	Patricia A Gilleran	Rita M Murphy
Branch 368	Lenore Greene	
Branch 374	Margaret Ramponi	Pierangelo Ramponi
Branch 403	Stephen U Rainaldi	
Branch 438	Rita Barbosa	
Branch 442	William Santos	
Branch 447	Elissa Valentino	Gia Valentino
	Johnnie Valentino	

Membership Committee: *ICF Workshops for One and All*

Andy Pappani and Vince Piro



Over the next couple of months, the Workshop Committee will be presenting a series of workshops via Zoom that will enhance your branch and ICF participation. These workshops are run as interactive presentations and discussions, so bring your ideas and experiences to share and join in the fun.

All members are welcome.

You can join the workshops by clicking on the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84096910300>

Meeting ID: 840 9691 0300

SCHEDULE

SPECIAL WORKSHOP:

Nov. 13, 7 p.m. - **Charity in Action.**

In this workshop, we will share ideas of how our branches can impact our communities through acts of giving from serving meals to the homeless to participating in St. Joseph Tables. Hear what other branches are doing and bring your own ideas to share.

Leadership Workshops: The following workshops are designed to help new and experienced branch leaders. There is a presentation detailing the roles and responsibilities of each position as well as lively discussion and sharing. Whether you are a new officer or an experienced officer, come and share your ideas and questions.

Nov. 19, 6 p.m. and Nov. 20, 7 p.m. - **Presidents**

Dec. 1, 6 p.m. and Dec. 2, 7 p.m. - **Vice-Presidents**

Dec. 8, 6 p.m. and December 11, 7 p.m. - **Financial Secretaries and Treasurers**

Dec. 17, 6 p.m. and Dec. 18, 7 p.m. - **Secretaries** (Corresponding and Recording)

Dec. 29, 6 p.m. and Dec. 30, 7 p.m. - **Trustees**

Jan. 5 6 p.m. and Jan. 6, 7 p.m. - **Sentinels and Orators**

Open Forum Workshop:

Jan. 15, 6 p.m. - Open Forum **featuring Grand President Franklyn Lopes Jr.**

We will also hold a series of Open Forum workshops in which ICF members will have a chance to talk to the Central Council Leadership. These are open discussions.

Future Workshops:

Later in 2026, we will hold workshops in the Mentor Program, Increasing and Retaining Membership, Conflict Resolution, ICF charities, and more.

*Thanksgiving Day is a jewel, to set in the hearts of honest men;
but be careful that you do not take the day, and leave out the
gratitude.*

~ E.P. Powell



The Value of Gratitude in Today's World

In a fast-paced world filled with distractions, *la gratitudine* reminds us of what truly matters. Gratitude connects us to God and to one another, nurturing humility and joy in our hearts. When we pause to say *grazie di cuore* for the blessings in our lives—our families, friends, and faith—we live more fully in God's grace.

As Catholics, *ringraziare Dio ogni giorno* is not just an act of politeness but a spiritual practice that deepens our love and strengthens our community.

Let us remember: *La gratitudine apre il cuore e rinnova la fede.*

Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco

Br. 1, Maria S.S. Immacolata

Dear Members:

On Sunday, November 9th at 12 p.m. President Vic will host an Italian luncheon at his daughter and son-in-law's house in San Francisco. Invitations were sent to Branch 1 Members. Please call Vic at 650-755-1369 if you are able to attend.

Wishing you a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Cordiali Saluti
Diana Cresci

SAN MATEO District

Colma

Br. 19, San Vincenzo De Paoli

It is amazing how the year passes by so fast. Our final meeting of the year will be November 10, 2025 at Deborah's House. There will be a hosted dinner along with the meeting starting at 5:30 p.m. Get your reservations to Deborah by November.

The Branch will be having its Christmas and Anniversary Dinner on Monday December 8, 2025 at Sharp Park Golf Course. Non-Host cocktails at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner and raffle. Dinner Choices are Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon Blue, or Salmon at \$50.00 per dinner and especially for Branch 19 and guests, Lobster at \$55.00 per dinner. This event is open for any ICF member wishing to attend. Please make sure you place your reservations early because of limited seating. Information and reservations to Donna Barnes – Phone 650-991-0178

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Redwood City

Br. 130, Our Lady Star of the Sea

On October 9, ICF Branch 130 hosted a Halloween Extravaganza Spooktacular FUN!

Branch 130 came alive with over 100 participants with Halloween magic as members and families gathered for an evening filled with laughter, costumes, and community spirit

The hall at Saint Pius Homer Crouse Hall, Redwood City, CA. was decorated by Leo Copovilla, David Patane, John Philpott, Stephanie Perrier, Angelo Manchia, Roberto Manchia & Lou Hole. The hall was decked out in festive orange and black, with cobwebs, witches' hats, flickering lanterns, vampires, and classic witches and just the right touch of spooky charm.

Costumes of every kind filled the room, including the most talked about arrivals was "Pope Leo XVI" himself resplendent in flowing gold trim blessing the crowd and sprinkling of holy water (club soda). With laughter he posed for photos with a mischievous witch by his side, a perfect photo of Halloween humor meeting history.

The main course was headed by Biran & Adlheid Tupper making delicious chicken cordon blu where various side dishes served in a corpse buffet table. Lively music set the tone while the smell of autumn treats filled the air, where a potluck was enjoyed by all.

By the end of the night, everyone agreed: between the spirited company, inventive costumes, and the surprise appearance of a long-departed pope, it was a Halloween ICF Branch 130 party to remember.

Burlingame

Br. 173, Our Lady of Angels

Well, the weather is changing and we have a busy list of events to finish out the year. They are: 100th Anniversary for Branch 7 on October 25, 2025. We will all come together to share their special event.

10-19 Branch 403's Polenta dinner, Cocktails: 4 p.m. Dinner 5 p.m. - COST: \$45.00 \$25.00 FOR 12 and under our group will be celebrating on 11-13 Rina Cassanago's 100th birthday along with our Thanksgiving feast.

Our October meeting was a pot luck and we have decided our slate of officers for 2026.

12-11-25 - our Christmas dinner courtesy for members (in the planning stages).

We regret to advise we missed our longtime member, Jean Watterson, who recently passed away. Please keep John and the rest of her family in your prayers.

We also were happy to hear Donna Cervelli is doing much better and her doctors are pleased with her progress.

Along with Donna please keep our various members in your prayers Fr. Brian, Fr. Gerald, Mary Bodisco, Anthony Bruno, Mary Ann Camacho, Maria & Victor Camicia, Rina Cassanago, Anita Cecena, Ed Gigliotti,

Lisa Martinelli. Branch 19: Kathy Trevizo.

God Bless,
Roz Emery

South San Francisco Br. 213, St Augustine

I hope you all had enough candy for Halloween which will keep you warm through the winter.

We celebrated Columbus Day Oct 12th Italian Heritage Day with Polenta, Italian sausage, provolone cheese and a glass of good red wine or 2. It is very important to keep this tradition alive and not let anybody take it away from us.

Keep buying those ICF calendars. We had two big winners last month Linda Marcelli \$30 and E. Bayer \$30, congratulations.

Remember the time change for our monthly meetings. Doors open 4:30 p.m. Dinner 5:00 p.m. Meeting to follow.

A Happy Birthday to Faith Hill and Jolie Poulet

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

Thanks to Judy and Joe Crosetti for hosting the last Br. 213 meeting at their home even their cat (Gracie Marie) participated.

Ciao,
Joe Crosetti

Millbrae Br. 403, St. Dunstan

Ciao! I hope everyone enjoyed our "Polenta Dinner & Raffle" event on October 19th. A big "thank you" to Millbrae Lion Mike Gianni and his Lion helpers who shopped and cooked for us, and to the Millbrae Leo's Club who served and helped with the clean-up. Our sincere thanks also to our donors from the business community, many of Millbrae's favorite restaurants, and our generous members who donated gift certificates, cash & wonderful items to our raffle. And, much thanks to our member volunteers for their time & energy in preparing for & helping out during the event!

Our next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 4th. This is our popular "Lasagna Dinner", which includes salad, WINE, bread, dessert & coffee for \$15pp. The social begins at 5pm and dinner at 5:30 pm. Send your check (payable to "ICF BR 403") to Eunice Danli, 4 Spring Valley Ln., Millbrae, CA 94030. The deadline is Friday, Oct. 31st.

Save the date! Our Christmas party will be Tuesday, Dec. 2nd and will be catered. Details will be in our December newsletter!

Please welcome our new members: Marge Colapietro, Charlene O'Connell, & Council Member Stephen Rainaldi.

Have a lovely Thanksgiving!
Adonna Amoroso, Secretary

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE District Council

Last week our district held back-to-back events. First, we had the So Cal Golf Tournament. Thank you to all of the golfers, hole sponsors, raffle prize donors and the Golf Ball Toss participants. We held the tournament at Lakewood CC this year and it was a great day. Then we went to St. John Seminary in Camarillo for our Bishop Day. Thank you to our Grand President Franklyn Lopes Jr. for presenting the Providenza check. The seminary has a new rector, Fr Leon Hutton, who is no stranger to the ICF. It was great to see him again.

Next, we move on to the Cabrini Pilgrimage on November 9th with mass at 11:30, followed by the procession, benediction and then lunch.

Lastly, we will be gathering on December 7th for an opera event hosted by Francesca Taylor and her company. We will start the New Year at American Martyrs on January 18 for the Officers Installation with mass at Noon followed by lunch and Installation in the O'Donnell Hall. I would like to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and to all of our veterans, thank you for your service!

Br. 67, National Branch, St. Peter

ICF National Branch 67 is a virtual branch that reach's out to members and non members 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

- November 15, 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 October 18th, ICF members staffed the annual Holy Family Church Booth in support of this year's fundraising event entitled "Pumpkin Palooza." Thank you for all your help in making this a successful event.

Extending warm wishes to all Members celebrating their October Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries this year!

SAVE THE DATE

- 11/9/25 Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage 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 November General Meeting will be on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, in Montebello. It has become our tradition for our November general meeting to celebrate Thanksgiving with a potluck dinner. Everyone brings their favorite dishes to share with everyone and the Branch will provide the main dish, turkey, and drinks. Thank you to everyone for your participation.

We would like to congratulate the following members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of November: Sandra Lira-Lua, Rene Mata, David Estrada, Massimo Sorce, Georgia Albanez, Gary Cruz, Joe Canzonieri, Christina Orofino, Bella Fugueroa, and Celia Ramos. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day Mass & Luncheon and program held on Sunday, October 26th, at St. John's Seminary, in Camarillo. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all you do for the ICF, the charitable works you do, and in a very special way for your continued and generous support of vocation to the priesthood and religious life.

A group of ICF 111 members will attend the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage, Benediction & Luncheon

at St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank, on Sunday, November 9, 2025. This year marks the 79th anniversary of Mother Cabrini's canonization to sainthood.

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

Saturday, December 13, 2025- ICF 111 Branch Christmas Dinner, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Salvatore Italian Restaurant in Montebello.

We pray for our sick members and those in need; let's keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

*A Presto!
Frank Salomone, President
ICF 111 – St. Benedict, Montebello*

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

On October 26th we gathered at St John's seminary for our annual Bishops Day. It was a spiritually uplifting and inspiring occasion, especially as we connected with our seminarian's Christian and Jose. Their dedication and testimonies were a highlight of the day.

There is still time to join us on November 9th for a special pilgrimage to honor Mother Cabrini. Bus is free Luncheon will be \$30.00 Bus will leave from Boys and Girl's club at 10 a.m. For reservations, please call Barbara west 310 548-1693 This is a wonderful opportunity for reflection, prayer and community

We wish our Las Vegas bound bus a safe and exciting trip.

There's still time to join the fun for our Sunday November 30th Viejas Casino turnaround. \$40.00 Call Pauline Iacono for reservations 310 832-0563

Join us for our upcoming general meeting on November 20th at 7:30 p.m. in Parish Hall. Up for discussion will be annual Christmas Party on December 6th at 6pm held in auditorium. Free to members \$15.00 for nonmember spouse and guest. Please bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10.00 for gift exchange. Call Giovanna Gioiello for reservations 213- 605-3060

Please keep all our sick and deceased members in your prayers Have a very blessed Thanksgiving

Anita Trujillo Gioiello Trujillo

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

Our next meeting is November 9 and we have a very special guest speaker in honor of Veterans Day and this is our Thanksgiving dinner meeting. Our Christmas Boutique is fast approaching, November 16th from 8:00 to 2:00. Meatball and sausage sandwiches and cannoli will be available for purchase. We will need your baked goods for the baked goods table. Set up is Saturday, 10:00. The vendors are varied in their offerings and this should be a very successful fundraiser.

The important date next is our Christmas Party on December 6 from 1:00 to 4:00. (The time slot may be changed slightly). The menu this year will be Claro's lasagna, sausage, mediterranean salad, garlic bread, and dessert and drinks. We have a new Santa and will also have Jose Soto from Holy Angels School play the piano again and hopefully there may be some of the children from the Holy Angels Church choir who will sing for us. Possibly there will be dancing this year. The cost per person is \$15.00 and it is very important that I receive your RSVP at the November meeting if you have not given it at the October meeting.

This article is being written October 8th and we are in the early stages of planning a New Years Eve Party. Watch for details later. Hope to see everyone at our meetings which we are striving to make interesting and to see everyone at all of our events.

*Everyone have a wonderful Thanksgiving.
Lolly M.*

Downey Br. 362, St. Raymond

Hello everyone. I hope you had a fun Halloween. Happy All Saints Day and All Souls Day. About a week ago we had back-to-back events in the district. Our 3rd annual So Cal Golf Tournament and then our districts annual Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day. The golf tournament was a small but mighty group. We had a lot of fun and I want to thank all of those who attended, or participated in any way.

Our branch is hosting another Bingo luncheon on the 9th of November. This just happens to be the same day as the Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage. Let's hope we get our biggest group yet.

Our branch Christmas party will be on December 9th at Frantone's in Cerritos, and the Officers Installation Mass and

lunch will be at American Martyrs in Manhattan Beach on January 18, 2026.

To all of our veterans out there, we thank you for your service to our country, and I would like to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving.

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

Our beloved St. Bede parish community recently united to celebrate a Birthday Bash and the official opening of its new parish hall. Many of our members attended the joyous event and joined other ministries by assisting at the various stations.

Our branch Christmas Party, to be held on Wednesday, December 17th at 6:30 in the Parish Center will be, as always, quite plentiful. Chairperson Fiora Murphy tells us that this year the pasta entrée will be cheese ravioli w/ meat sauce. Additionally, meatballs, eggplant parmigiana, a hearty salad, garlic bread, wine, and a special dessert will complete the meal. Cost is approx. \$32.00. A White Elephant exchange after dinner is sure to provide lots of fun and entertainment.

Plans are moving along for the Feast of St. Joseph Day Table Celebration chaired by President Phyllis Harb. Next year it will be a 2-day event (March 21-22) with goods being sold on Saturday evening in addition to Sunday morning. Also newly added will be a catered Pasta Luncheon coordinated by the dynamic Dykes family and will be served after the Sunday, March 22nd 11:00 Special Mass.

Dates to remember:

Tuesday, Nov. 18th Potluck General Meeting- 6:00 Parish Center—If you are eating with us, please bring food to share.

Wednesday, Dec. 17th 6:00 Christmas Party and White Elephant Exchange

Sat. to Sun. March 21-22, 2026 Feast of St. Joseph Celebration

During this month of Thanksgiving, we thank God for all the blessings and gifts He has given us, especially our family and ICF friends.



CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT



Central Coast District



Central Coast District



Br. 36, Father Louie Bellen & Father Omarr Solis



Br. 36, Franklin Lopes Jr., Grand President and Seminarians



Nino Campagna1931 - 2025 Branch 36



Branch 21

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT



Branch 209, Bishop Robert Vasa at Santa Rosa District's Bishop's Day Lunch on 9/14/25.



Santa Rosa District honoring Bishop Robert Vasa with a rum cake at our Bishop's Day Lunch.



Santa Rosa District's Bishop's Day Lunch, 9/14/25.



Br. 144 Shannon Rohrbach-Gier hosting with Alfred Eanni.

Thousand Oaks

Br. 380, St. Paschal Baylon

ICF Branch 380: October Meeting Highlights

Our monthly general meeting on October 3rd was a festive success with a lively "Hallo-Wine" theme! Members shared favorite wines and potluck dishes. The spirit was high, with several attendees in costume. A big shout-out to Pat Mages for winning the Best Costume prize, with honorable mentions to Marie Chadkowski and Jean Bridges.

Plans are moving ahead for the ICF Branch 380's participation in the 2025 St. Paschal Baylon Fall Festival. Our volunteers will staff the booth on those three days and offer the festival goers pizza, pasta and meatball sandwiches. We will be assisted by the dedicated SPB Church teens and young adult volunteers.

Upcoming Events & Chapter Business

- 2026 Board of Directors Nominations: Nominations for the Board will be accepted at our November 7th meeting.
- Mother Cabrini Shrine Pilgrimage: Join us on Sunday, November 16th, as we caravan to the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Burbank. We will attend Holy Mass there before visiting the Shrine, followed by lunch in the Parish auditorium.

Chapter Service in Review

- St. Carlo Acutis Film: On September 20th, our chapter sponsored a showing of "Roadway to Reality," a film about the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis. The film was enjoyed by approximately 50 parishioners of St. Paschal Baylon.

Ministry Fair: Chapter 380 was proudly represented by our smiling volunteers at the St. Paschal Baylon Ministry Fair on September 21st.

Rancho Palos Verdes

Br. 444, St. John Fisher

ICF Br. 444 Recent Meeting and Events what a "Bella Luna" we had this Sept. and Oct. Hope all were able to see the spectacular Moon & enjoy the glow.

The Board approved money to go to St. John's Seminary in Camarillo. Tonia Amalfatano & parents will be attending this yearly event.

The ICF Third Annual Golf Tournament will take place soon. We will support the tournament by purchasing 4 golf balls for their event.

Our Monthly Meeting's theme for November, is "Our Favorite Saint" Trivia questionnaire. Keeping the meeting simple we will have dessert and coffee in lieu of a potluck meeting.

Gina Albi submitted new ideas to increase the membership & spice up our meetings. We will discuss them at the next meeting.

Christmas is just around the corner, so planning & Assigning jobs will be done

that evening. Tonia, was contacted by someone who will donate the funds for a Sicilian Band to play at our Christmas Celebration. Hany plans to create a flyer & publicity for the Parish. Special guest will be Msgr. Antonio, our new Pastor of St. John Fisher.

Let's continue to pray for Joe Trani, Marianne Canetti, Guido Fassenelli, Sheryl Payne, Gary Hansen & Mary Alley.

A presto, Patty Longo Hansen.

Manhattan Beach

Br. 447, American Martyrs

Happy November to you all. Well, we made it past Halloween, the golf tournament and Bishop Banquet. Thank you to our own Grant Donahue for playing in this year's tournament. He played great!

We move on to our next events. On November 9th we have the annual Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage held at St Francis Xavier in Burbank with mass at 11:30 followed by the procession, benediction and lunch. Lunch is \$30 and RSVPs are needed. I hope to see you there.

Our next general meeting will be on November 14—a Friday evening with a Pot Luck, Bingo and the elections of officers. Again, RSVP and let us know what you plan to bring.

There's a fundraising opera on December 7—it's a Christmas themed opera. Details to come soon.

Finally, the installation of officers will take place here at American Martyrs on January 18, 2026. Mass at Noon with lunch to follow.

I would like to thank all of our veterans for their service to our country and a very Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

EAST BAY

District Council

Summer's capstone event for EBD was our shared (with Contra Costa District) Bishop's Day on September 21st! Oakland Diocese ICF members gathered at Our Lady of Grace in Castro Valley for a beautiful Mass concelebrated by Bishop Michael Barber with Fr. Chris Bennett, ICF Spiritual Director, Fr. Mario Rizzo, EBD Chaplain, Fr. Larry Young, CCD Chaplain, and Fr. Raphael Zwolenkiewicz, Br. 343 Chaplain and Pastor of OLG.

A reception followed Mass with delicious hors d'oeuvres and delectables made by EBD members. MC, Leonard Rossi (President Br. 343/CC Parliamentarian) introduced Central Council guests (Franklyn Lopes Jr- Grand President, and Life members, Dante Galeazzi, Mike Rossi, and Dr. Vince Malfitano) and District Presidents (Jo-Ann Maggiora Donivan-EBD and Diana Mackinson- CCD).

Diana Mackinson presented a district-combined spiritual bouquet for Bishop

Barber and the seminarians which included thousands of Masses. Jo-Ann Donivan Maggiora presented him with a check for \$3,700 from both districts for Seminarian education. Franklin Lopes Jr., followed with \$2,000 from Central Council.

In thanksgiving for Church/facility use and continued ICF support by the Franciscan Friars in Castro Valley, Fr. Zwolenkiewicz was presented with two \$300.00 checks- from EBD and Branch 343 for the education of Franciscan brothers.

Bishop Barber, Fr. Bennett, Fr. Young, Fr. Rizzo and Fr. Zwolenkiewicz each gave inspirational, warm (and entertaining) remarks.

Ed and Allison McGuirk conducted the raffle of over 15 amazing gift baskets!

This annual event represents the heart of ICF's mission: sharing faith, friendship, our bounty- and fun!

Please read Branch reports for other activities!

*Sincerely
Roberta Madej*

Alameda

Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

Our annual combined East Bay District-Branch 10 Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday evening, December 6, in Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda. Social hour begins at 6:00 p.m., to be followed at 7:00 p.m. by the dinner of pork, potatoes and vegetables. The program includes a visit by Santa Claus and musical entertainment by Central Council Grand Parliamentarian Leonard Rossi on his accordion and his wife Karen as vocalist. Prices are \$35.00 for adults and \$12.00 for young people 12 and under. Reservations to Sheila Ewart, 510-331-6660, by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 2. Payment in advance by check made payable to ICF Branch 10 and sent to the Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert; The Great Parish Office, 3101 Van Buren Street, Alameda, CA 94501.

We welcomed 120 celebrants to our annual Ravioli Dinner on October 4. Many thanks to relatively new member Fred Costello for calling the winning raffle numbers. Also, thanks to all those who brought raffle prizes and to those who purchased tickets--a total of 15 prizes were awarded.

Our pizza booth at the parish Fun Fair on September 20 was an absolute success—sold out! Desiree Olson, Ernie Poggi, Elena Serles, Jeanette Zugnoni, Dale Wright, Peggie Dorrance, Kim Lara, Sherry Eastwood-Falls, Karen Harrington and Jim Lee all helped.

Congratulations to young member A.J. Arevalo for receiving an ICF third-year scholarship. A.J. is studying at Sonoma State University and frequently assists at our dinners.

*John Zugnoni
Branch 10 publicity*

Livermore

Br. 285, St. Filomena

Ciao Amici,

Fall is in full swing, and we enthusiastically celebrated Oktoberfest at our September membership meeting. Thank you to Elaine and Kathy for making it such a fun and successful event. Also, thank you to Carlotta and Dale Schauer for sharing the interesting Genealogy handouts from the convention with us. Italian heritage will be the theme of our October meeting.

Our busy members have recently participated in the cookie booth at the Catholic Community of Pleasanton's Holy Hoesdown, the ICF table at the St. Michael's Parish Festival, Bishop's Day at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley, Branch 343's Bits and Bingo, and the St. Michael's Ministry Fair. Whew!

The topic of the Italian Conversation Group's September meeting was September in Venice. We learned about their world-renowned film festival, their historic regatta, and sampled some Venetian cookies.

We hope to see you all at our annual Mass of Remembrance on Friday November 21st at 6:00 at St. Elizabeth Seaton. The Mass will be followed by a Thanksgiving turkey dinner with members bringing side dishes.

The Board is exploring options for us for polo shirts, aprons, and badges, so stay tuned for more information.

Welcome to our newest member Jeanne Walker!

Congratulations are in order for second year scholarship winners Gianna Masinter and Gianna Salerno, and for our third-year scholarship winner Alena Gagnon.

Please keep those members who are ill in your prayers.

Finally, Buon Compleanno to all those with November birthdays!

Ciao, Paula Flessatti

Castro Valley

Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace

Now with summer gone and the fall season is upon us, we know, based on all of the decorations on display at all of the major retail stores, that it won't be long before we have to prepare for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

We here in Castro Valley, along with the rest of the East Bay District, recently hosted Bishop's Day at Our Lady of Grace Church. Like we did at our Officer's Installation, we combined both the East Bay and Contra Costa districts.

Although we had hoped to have more ICF members in attendance, those that joined us at the concelebrated Mass were treated afterwards to a selection of "heavy hors d'oeuvres" and raffle prizes, in addition to the great company.

Many thanks to Bishop Barber, Fr. Raphael, Fr. Chris, Fr. Mario, and Fr. Larry for sharing their time with us!

Buon autunno, Edoardo McGuirk

CONTRA COSTA District Council

Greetings to all in Contra Costa. Welcome to November! I'm happy to report that our Bishop's day was a success. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Michael Barber. A luncheon and program followed. Monetary and spiritual donations were presented from Contra Costa and East Bay Districts. Also, from the Central Council. Presented by Grand President, Franklyn Lopes Jr. We thank the East Bay District for hosting. In the future, we need higher attendance. Representatives from East Bay joined our district for a special meeting to discuss that topic. Great ideas were shared. A survey will be sent to branches, Asking for input on future Bishops Day events.

Our next meeting will be held Thursday, November, 13 at Christ the King parish in Pleasant Hill at 7 pm. An email will be sent with the meeting room number. Each branch should send delegates. An election for 2026 officers will take place. Consider accepting a nomination. Or perhaps offer to be a chairperson for either, Apostolic, *Bollettino*, Heritage or Membership...

Watch for flyers with details for our Christmas party and Installation of officers. You won't want to miss the festivities.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Fraternally, Patty Jarrett, Past President

Martinez Br. 13, San Martino

We begin November with All Saints Day asking all holy people to pray for us; followed by All Souls Day--this year, not a holy day of obligation. Let's try to increase the practice of praying a sixth decade of the rosary for those souls in purgatory to assist them in attaining heaven as the Chaplet of St. Bridget teaches us.

We gather with family and friends and as a nation on Thanksgiving. This is a time to remember each of us is uniquely created in God's image with something distinctive to share; and part of a larger communion of persons--all members of one race--the human race. "Get along with each other and forgive one another. If someone does wrong to you, forgive them because the Lord forgave you. Do all these things; but most important, love each other. Always be thankful."

--Colossians

We close the month with the start of Advent on November 30. As we begin waiting for Jesus' nativity, we prepare "him room" in our hearts and in our lives. Each week let's be mindful of the themes of HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE.

Though the year has been a strain on so many, let's try to identify the roses among the thorns and look ahead. Be



kind to each another. May all your advent journeys be meaningful expressions of your faith. Happy Thanksgiving.

We wish Rosemary, Central Council and Branch Member, congratulations on being united in Holy Matrimony to Griffin Shaw on October 11. She will now be known as Rosemary Cook Shaw. God bless you both!

*For the greater glory of God,
Mary Cook*

Crockett Br. 14, San Carlo

Ciao Amici!

Autumn brings us warm thoughts of family and friends as we gather to celebrate our many blessings.

In Italy, Autumn festivals, or sagre, celebrate the chestnut harvest. Historically, the chestnut tree was nicknamed "the bread tree" (l'albero del pane) because its nuts were a staple food for many rural Italians. Cities and villages across Italy host these lively events, featuring street vendors selling roasted chestnuts (caldarroste) and stalls offering regional delicacies.

While we won't be serving chestnuts, please join us anyway on November 11th for our Thanksgiving Social where we'll enjoy a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Cost is \$20.00. We'll also be collecting new toys for our Toy Drive that same evening. No need to wrap your toys, as Santa's elves will happily take care of that task.

We send our deepest sympathy to the Pereira Family on the passing of Judy Pereira. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Get Well Wishes go out to Al DiPrima, Bonnie Leal, and Jerry Carone with the hope that we will see them up and around very soon.

We send a very big thank you to all the members who worked so hard and supported our Polenta Dinner last month. From the Crew, to the decorators, planners, cleaners, bartenders, raffle organizers, and diners, everyone played a part in this successful event. Thank you!

Mark your calendars for our upcoming Bus Trip to Red Hawk Casino on December 5th. The cost is \$50.00 and includes transportation and other goodies and surprises. These trips are always a hoot, so don't get left behind! Contact Donna to sign up or for more details.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all!
Blessings,
~Helen

Concord Br. 214, Todos Santos

Fall is upon us leading to the holidays. Where does the time go? Our branch has many exciting things planned to look forward to.

At our meeting in September, we enjoyed a catered Mexican theme dinner. For the Bishops dinner, unfortunately because of low attendance might not be planned in the future. We had two members from our branch who attended.

We had our pasta/bingo Sept. 20th. It was a huge success and we had to turn some guests away. We had 100 people. The food was catered by Zandanellas and was delicious. Bingo was called by Ed McGuirk and there were 5 games of bingo. We had 21 great raffle prizes and two door prizes. This is a fun event and everything went smoothly thanks to the help of our branch volunteers. I thank them for all their help in making this a success.

Our charity for the month of Sept. was Gifts of Love. We also donated to the Seminarian fund.

At our October meeting we will have an Italian theme dinner prepared by Il Pavone. We will elect our branch officers for 2026.

October is the month of the Rosary. Please remember to pray with your rosary beads during this month.

In November, we will have a Toys 4 Tots event to help with children in need for Xmas. We have very generous members who donate many great toys.

The annual District Xmas dinner will be held at Wise Girl in Pleasant Hill on Dec. 3rd.

There will be a delicious buffet and many great raffle prizes donated by each Branch.

Our branch Xmas/meeting party will be held at Zio Fraedos on Dec. 7th. This is a fun event to share the holiday spirit.

Sandra Cordoni our branch member had hip surgery on Sept. 18th

She had a speedy recovery with our prayers and well wishes.

Ed DeMartini had another surgery and is doing well.

Busy times ahead and I wish you all good health and happiness.

Con Amore,
Norene DeLuca

Danville

Br. 352, St. Isidore

Hello everyone!

Branch 352 in Danville has had a lively and rewarding month filled with fellowship, food, and fun — all in the name of supporting our mission.

We recently gathered for a delicious dinner where Brian and Susan Moresco treated us to their homemade Bolognese sauce with a unique twist — a subtle touch of nutmeg, which brought a warm, comforting flavor to the pasta that everyone loved.

At that same dinner, Lisa Sager introduced a new fundraising idea: a 50/50 raffle. It was a hit! Over \$500 was raised, with half going to the lucky winner and the other half donated to Gifts of Love. It turned out to be a fun and effective way to raise money for our charities — and we look forward to doing it again.

We also hosted another successful Donut Sunday, which has become a popular tradition in our parish. We served 19 dozen donuts and 4 dozen donut holes — and still nearly ran out! We were thrilled to see so many new faces and enjoyed chatting with everyone about the ICF and what we do.

Russ also shared a fun cultural recommendation with the group: the Italian TV series Makari. It's spoken in Italian and dubbed in English — a great way to enjoy some Sicilian scenery and storytelling from the comfort of home.

That's all for now — until next month!

As always, we're grateful for the spirit of faith, family, and friends that keeps our branch strong and connected.

Ciao and many blessings,
Sally

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



SAN MATEO DISTRICT



Branch 213 St Augustine, Left to Right: Judy Crosetti, Roberta Franchini, Linda Marcelli, Kathy Amiot, Dona De Voe, Dorene Campanile, Linda Benedetti and Marianne Cameron.



Branch 130 Adriene Figone - STOP in the name of Love!



Branch 130 Dorothy Guarino kissing the “Ring” with Leo Capovilla, AKA Pope Leo XIV



Bishop's Day Reception



7 Prayers for NOVEMBER

- 1. May your health improve.
- 2. May your friends be blessed.
- 3. May your family be loved.
- 4. May your finances multiply.
- 5. May your pains be less.
- 6. May your worries disappear.
- 7. May you be blessed.

EAST BAY DISTRICT



Branch 343 Our heavy hors d'oeuvres on Bishop's Day!



Bishop's Day Mass, Our Lady of Grace, September 2025



Diana Mackinson presents Bishop Barber with EBD-CCD spiritual Bouquet at Bishops Day Reception.



EBD CC Members- District Presidents-Clergy present for EBD-CCD Bishop's Day Mass & Reception



Bishop's Day Reception



Jo-Ann Maggiora Donovan presents Bishop Barber with EBD-CCD



Leonard Rossi presents Fr. Zwolenkiewicz with EBD- Br 343 Seminary Burse for Franciscan Friars at Bishops Day Reception.



Br. 343, Bishop Barber and Grand President Franklyn Lopes Jr.

EAST BAY DISTRICT (continued)



Members at Branch 285's table at St. Michael's Fall Festival. Branch 285 members manning the cookie booth at the Catholic Community of Pleasanton's Holy Hoedown.

SAN DIEGO DISTRICT



Branch 246 Members with Fr. John Amsberry's Likeness.



Branch 246 Borromeo Bash

STOCKTON DISTRICT



Branch 246 Borromeo Bash Event.



Br. 82, Patti Litts 3rd place Heritage award 2025 with Chris Whiting.

Brentwood**Br. 432, Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Hello to all our members – old and new!

First, a big “Thank you” to Mickey Modena for representing Branch 432 at the recent ICF Convention in Visalia. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting. Mickey did mention that Branch 432 won an award for best increase in Membership. HATS OFF to our terrific committee!

Please keep Ana Ellenberger in your prayers. Ana was recently released from the rehab hospital and is in a brace due to a bad fall she had at home last month. She will need 24-hour care. Please send get well cards to the parish office, 500 Fairview Avenue.

We welcomed new guests John and Judy Lullo, Rolf and Pat Murchison and Lynn Marie Picinich, who became a new member. Lynn was kind enough to offer her experience and shadow Linda to eventually take over the Book-keeper role.

Our Fiesta di Italia and Car Show was a success! The cars were amazing, the pasta dinner prepared by Sam Scalise and Sheila Nilo was delicious. Everyone had a great time. Our winners were: Renee Malgradi's 1961 fuel injected Chevy Corvette which won Best in Show AND People's Choice. Pastor's Choice award went to Rick Gromacki, 1965 Ford Mustang and the President's Choice award went to Tim Chavez, 1967 Pontiac GTO. Thanks to everyone who registered their cars. We all enjoyed the trip down Memory Lane.

Our President, Deacon John, will be stepping down at the end of this year and the search is on for a new President. Those who feel qualified (as our Mentor Patty Garret mentioned we can have co-presidents and can do this for every office if necessary) please submit your name at our October 27 meeting. This matter is urgent as we do not want our branch to close.

We do not meet in November so Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. And we look forward to our end of year Christmas dinner at Smith's Landing on DECEMBER 1.

Ciao for now, Mary M.

BLESSED SACRAMENT District

Sacramento Br. 45, St. Mary

Our last Chicken & Polenta dinner for the year will be held on Sunday, Nov., 23rd in Giovanni Hall. Our branch meeting will be at 4:30 p.m., and dinner at 6:00 p.m. The cost will be \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members,

\$10 for Ages 7-12 and Free for 6 and under. Pasta option is available by PRE-ORDER only. Call me at 916-508-1199 for more information and reservations by Tuesday, Nov. 18th

Welcome new members to the Branch. SARAH WRIGHT and TERRI STOWERS. We look forward to your participation in the branch and thanks for joining us!

SAVE THE DATE for our remaining events for 2025: Nov. 23rd Chicken and Polenta Dinner, Dec. 6th Pasta Dinner with the Parish, and Dec. 13th Christmas dinner at Vince's. More details to follow.

Ciao, Janine

Auburn Br. 342, St. Joseph

By the time this *Bollettino* has reached you, we will have had our Bunco Fundraiser. I would like to thank Carol Barnett for taking charge of the event and everyone else who helped plan the event, sell tickets, prepare lunch and create raffle prizes. We would not have been successful without all of your hard work.

Our annual Christmas luncheon will take place at Canyon View Community Center on Saturday, December 13th from 11 to 3. More details to come! Please watch your email and next month's *Bollettino* for the information.

*Ciao!
Pam Andersen*

Roseville Br. 438, St. Clare of Assisi

Thank you to everyone who attended the Mama Mia Dinner! It was enjoyable and deliciously successful! Since our branch loves to have fun, everyone had a great time. Every table was lively and energized with the sounds of laughter and lots of conversation. What a treat it was to, again, have Connie Terry and Tina Flanders jointly put on this dinner event.

In addition to our dinner, this year, on October 25-26, 2025, we also had our annual Harvest Bake Sale, after all the masses. Everyone began lining up even before the 7:30 a.m. mass picking out their favorite dessert! Again, a big Thank You to Connie Terry who always does an extraordinary job with this yearly fundraiser. Whatever sweet treat you were looking for, it was presented and sold at the tables for you to enjoy with your family.

How time flies! We are already thinking about the holiday season. In November, we are having our “Friendsgiving” dinner. We already have a committee selected to determine what the menu is going to be. No matter what the decision is, I am sure it is going to be a mouth-watering extravaganza. In fact, I can't wait to enjoy the main dish and all the fixings!

Ciao for now...Irene Perez

SANTA ROSA District

Healdsburg Br. 52, San Francisco Di Sales

We celebrated our 90th Anniversary at our November 1 Polenta Dinner! We celebrated with cake and champagne. Here's to our next 90 years!

Upcoming events:

ICF Monthly Mass: Sunday, November 16 at 10:00 a.m. Mass.

ICF Meeting: Tuesday, November 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the rectory. All members are welcome at our meetings.

ICF Christmas Party: Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. Please bring yourself and your favorite holiday appetizer to celebrate the holiday season. Call Carmen and Lauren for reservations: 707-595-3111. Exact location TBD

*Happy Thanksgiving!
Lauren*

Petaluma Br. 127, St. Vincent

Well so little news this month.

Lucy is having some trouble with her walking and Father Bill at St. Vincent's lost his father. Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. And as you know by now next month will be my last report as we will be gone.

Take care and stay well.

Ciao for now. Margaret Cordrey

Arcata Br. 144, St. Mary

Autumn is upon us! We had our first major rain storm at the end of September.

Love the rain...guess it is why we live up here behind the Redwood Curtain.

Our branch does the second weekend of each month as hosts for the Social/Coffee Hours at Church. Saturday after the 4 p.m. Mass has become a nice time for parishioners to socialize and enjoy some tasty appetizers. Alfred Eanni ('15), likes to make polenta snacks following the Chicken & Polenta Dinner the previous weekend. They are a hit! Even those who don't like polenta tend to gobble them up! Shannon Rohrbach-Gier ('11), baked some delicious cookies! See photo on district page.

We are happy to welcome Christine Ross as a new member to our branch. Chris is involved with Catholic Church Music Liturgy. She has also volunteered at our bi-annual Chicken & Polenta dinner twice now. Decided she was a keeper! Benvenuta, Chris! Thank you, Joe Bonino, deputy/mentor from branch

#145, for performing the initiation. See photo on district page.

Rosemary Melendy ('93) and daughter Krista bring surplus items from the Arcata

Farmers' Market for parishioners to “harvest.” See photo on district page.. Grazie Mille!

Thanksgiving will soon be here. To help get us in the mood, our branch is planning to have a Thanksgiving dinner for our members and guests on Sunday, November 16th at 1 p.m. in the Fr. Kelly Room. Yum Yum!

*Anne Carlisle Eanni
Secretary*

Eureka Br. 145, St. Ambrose

The Jerry J. Colivas Memorial Scholarship Dinner on October 11th (the day before Columbus Day) was successful. Over 65 people attended and there were 5 takeouts.

Along with the dinner ticket sales, the raffle, the bar, and generous non-dining donors the scholarship fund netted over \$1000.

A big thank you to Branch 144 Arcata members who came out in large numbers to support our dinner. The Colivas family members donated raffle items for the raffle and made generous donations to the fundraiser.

Thank you to all of our #145 members who volunteered to help prepare, cook, serve, and take down for this important event.

On another note, sadly, our former member Dianne Luzzi passed away on October 7th. She was a member for many decades and her father, Vito Caracappa, served as our Branch 145 president in 1972. Sincerest condolences to her family.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday November 11th at 1:30 p.m.

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



Santa Rosa
Br. 198, St. Eugene

There is no doubt that Fall is here and winter is on the way. Days and nights are cooler, leaves are turning colors, summer vines and plants are ready to be removed and our thoughts turn to turkey and Thanksgiving.

Our next meeting is on November 3rd with a turkey dinner to be served at 6:00 p.m. Try to bring a guest who is a prospective member for 2026.

A special note for your calendar: THE DECEMBER MEETING WILL BE ON THE SECOND MONDAY, not the first Monday. Since Thanksgiving is only four days before the first Monday we will have our party a week later.

The Mass for our living and deceased members is on November 11th this year at 8:00 a.m. Please try to attend.

The feast day for one of our Patron Saints St. Francis Xavier Cabrini is on November 13th. Say a special prayer to her and ask her to look out for all ICF members.

Happy Thanksgiving, Robert Acquistapace

Sebastopol
Br. 209, St. Michael

Hello from Branch #209!

On Sunday, September 14th, the Santa Rosa District hosted a Bishop's Day lunch, honoring Bishop Robert Vasa. Our Branch #209, prepared and served the ravioli, pork tenderloin, salad, and green bean lunch, followed by a delicious rum cake. Everyone enjoyed the meal and our District blessed the Bishop with monetary donations.

We are now gearing up for our Chicken and Polenta Dinner scheduled for October 18th. We anticipate a full house and are excited for this wonderful event! It's always a fun night of great food and great fellowship. This will be followed by our Ravioli Dinner on December 6th. As always, if you want tickets to any of our events, please contact Lorraine Vannetti at (707) 527-9552.

Fall has arrived and we are embracing its beauty and enjoying the bounty this harvest time brings! Please take care, and be well.

Ciao,
Yvonne Dorr
Recording Secretary
Branch #209

FRESNO
District

Merced
Br. 39, St. Cecilia

We started off October with our monthly meeting and dinner on Wednesday, October 8th. We had a lovely meal of spaghetti with ICF meat sauce, meatballs, salad and a nice dessert. Thank you to Gena Mauzy and the kitchen helpers for a delicious meal. At the meeting, next year's officers were nominated as follows: Terrie Rhodes, President; Michael Belluomini, 1st Vice President; Mike Pellicano, 2nd Vice President; Robyn Piro, Treasurer; Sandy Del Real, Financial Secretary; Paula Pimentel, Recording Secretary. Voting will be held at our November Meeting on Wednesday, November 12th.

Also on October 8th, we concluded our pasta sauce fundraiser. We met our goal and the sauce was delicious. Thank you for everyone who helped make this a success!

We are starting to collect orders for our December biscotti sale, the cut-off date for orders is November 19th. If you are interested in placing an order, please contact Chris Martin by phone/text (209) 658-6436 or email sewchris52@gmail.com.

The date has been set for our annual CHRISTMAS PARTY! The party will be held on Sunday, December 7th at 12 p.m. at the Italo Lodge. Members are encouraged to bring a cake/dessert for the cake walk. We will have crafts and fun things for the kids to participate in. We've asked Santa himself to stop by and pay a visit to all the good boys and girls!

Our next meeting will also be on November 12th with Social Hour at 5 p.m. and Dinner of Thanksgiving Delight and meeting at 6 p.m. We look forward to seeing you all then! Arrivederci!

Clovis
Br. 250, Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
(St. Paul Newman Center)

Happy Birthday greetings to Dina Camoroda and Shirley Mitchell!

Our October meeting was highlighted by several different, delicious soups, a gourmet's delight!

Little known Popes' Department:

St. Boniface IV (the 67th Pope)608-615: He served as senior Treasurer to Gregory I and like Gregory, he was a firm supporter of monks, although he may not have been a monk himself.

Our annual fundraiser at Tahoe Joe's was a success. Chairman Rich Zanarini reported it sold out and thanked those who supported the event. There may be an opportunity to have two events next year.

Our Branch recently participated in the International Food Fair sponsored by St. Paul Newman Center. We provided coffee, biscotti, and doughnuts. The biscotti were provided by Melissa Squeo and were quite popular with those in attendance.

Jennifer Campopiano proudly announced that her grandson, Marcus V. Powe, recently graduated from the University of San Diego with a degree in accounting and participated in a Master's program which took him to Zurich, Milan and Rome. Congrats Marcus!

Philosopher Angelino says: "Chi Somiglia, Si Piglia," "Those With Common Traits---Marry!"

Thought for the month; "Lord, help us to look at life through a window, not a mirror" (Hoff).

Ciao,
Louie Lamborghini

Fresno
Br. 308, St. Anthony

Happy Thanksgiving Blessings.

Our last Italian sausage fundraiser was October 11th and 12th. If you missed this delicious opportunity the 2026 dates are March 7 and 8, June 20 and 21, October 10 and 11 at St Anthony of Padua church in Fresno. A big Grazie to chef Bernie, Tim, Larry, John, Jeff, Paul, Caroline, Ann, Archie, Maria, and Janet.

Reeving up our appetites we will have a full Thanksgiving dinner for the November meeting. Followed up by Decembers Christmas part at the Old Spaghetti Factory.

May all your Thanksgiving tables be filled with God's abundance, peace and love.

Debbi Jorgensen

CENTRAL COAST
District Council

September 13, 2025, Bishop's Day was held at San Carlos Cathedral with a Mass, followed by a luncheon held at San Carlos Hall, hosted by Branch 36 Monterey—Santa Rosalia. Father Louie Bellen, the Director of Seminarians was the representative for the Diocese of Monterey,

Elaine Valentine, District President presented a \$2,300 and Franklyn Lopes Jr, Grand President presented \$2,000 donations to Father Louie Bellen to be given the Diocese of Monterey for Seminary Fund. After lunch, we held our district meeting, which included our elections of our 2026 Central Coast District Officers.

Congratulations to Elaine Valentine, President; Julie Richards, 1st Vice President; Jim Friebel, 2nd Vice President; Roseann Costabile, Recording Secretary; George Leonard, Treasurer; Vickey Howell, Orator; MaryAnn

Friebel, Sentinel; Dr Vincent Malfitano, Trustee.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Valentine
Central Coast District, President

Santa Cruz
Br. 21, N.S. Del Soccorso

On October 7th, Branch 21 Santa Cruz celebrated our most senior members who are 90 years or more with a Polenta Dinner at Holy Cross Hall. The gathering opened with a prayer by Fr Dat. Following the prayer our current president Cindy Schuette gave a speech welcoming our honorees. The branch has 18 members who are 90 or more years old, the oldest of whom is Virginia Stagnaro who is 102 years young! Attending were 13 or more celebrants. It was a festive group of 50 or more including members and guests.

After the opening remarks our VP Norma Wilson gave spoke briefly giving fun anecdotes about the honorees many of whom have lived in the Santa Cruz area for many years.

A delicious Polenta with Chicken dinner was served following the presentation. The dinner committee was led by our former president Rosa Radicchi, she was assisted by many helpful volunteers. Included were donations from local businesses Marini's Candies, Zoccoli's Delicatessen and Marianne's Ice Cream. There were also door prizes following the meal.

Also in attendance, along with our members and guests, was the newly elected ICF Grand President, Franklyn Lopes Jr., a local member and former officer of Branch 21. We would also like to honor our current acting Bishop Slawomir Szkredka who was appointed in September.

Lastly, we would like to wish Buon Compleanno to all those with November birthdays

Lisa Foley
Secretary Br 21
Santa Cruz



Monterey Br. 36, Santa Rosalia

Wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever."

-Psalms 136:1

October 5, 2025: Congratulations to David Benech, Bella Cutino, and Annie Ferrante who were honored at the Italian Heritage Society Honoree Dinner. We are very proud of them and salute their outstanding community service!

October 23, 2025: Halloween Dinner Meeting kicked off with a Trunk or Treating activity for kids, organized by our membership committee. Our dinner menu: Beef Ravioli with marinara sauce, Pork Milanese, Green Salad, Garlic Bread, and Pumpkin Pie. We were honored to have Laurice Levine attend and provide our branch with a presentation on Cooley's Anemia, the ICF national charity. A costume contest was held, many raffle prizes were on display, and our business meeting/election of 2026 board of directors was on the agenda. Updates on the election next month.

November 13, 2025: Turkey Dinner/Meeting

Please bring canned goods to donate to Loaves and Fishes for their food pantry. This event will be held at the Moose Lodge. More details about the event and ticket sales will be posted on our website: www.MontereyICF.org

December 11, 2025: Family Christmas dinner will be at the Monterey Moose Lodge.

Please plan to donate an unwrapped toy for families with children in need. More details will follow soon.

We are sad to report that Nino Campagna recently passed away. Our condolences to his beloved wife Millie and his family. May he rest in peace.

Bless the food before us,
And the family beside us,
And the love between us.
Amen

Buon Ringraziamento,

*Elaine Valentine
Co-President, Br. 36*

Aptos Br. 227, St. Joseph

We celebrated Oktoberfest at our meeting of October 5 which was presided over by First Vice-President Vicky Howell. Thanks to Manny Martinez who prepared the sausages. Jane Kotila provided the sauerkraut, pickled red cabbage and potato salad. This was followed by Magdalena Martinez' yummy apple cake for dessert. Thanks to the members who brought gifts for the raffle—it's always fun.

Our annual Thanksgiving meeting will take place on November 9 at the Mid-County Senior Center. It will be a catered turkey dinner and the price is \$20 per person. Get your reservations in early. Election of officers for 2026 will take place at the meeting, and raffle gifts are always welcome.

Save the date of December 14 for the annual Christmas party at Stewarts Floral. Bring an appetizer to share.

Remember to get your 2026 calendars from Nancy Harrold.

Your get well prayers are requested for Judy Burick, Valerie Vote and Dottie Smith, who are all dealing with knee surgeries. Longtime member Rosemarie Candau is in an assisted living facility and would like your prayers also.

Happy Thanksgiving too all and remember, *"Nothing is more honorable than a grateful heart."*

Deanna Musler, Secretary

SANTA CLARA VALLEY District Council

The Santa Clara Valley District October meeting was held at Santa Teresa and hosted by Branch 191, St. Frances Cabrini in San Jose.

In September, Santa Clara Valley District members enjoyed Oktoberfest at Teske's Germania Restaurant in San Jose. We were treated to authentic German beer and food including sausages, sauerkraut, spätzle, and apple strudel. Special thanks to Bob Basuino for organizing this wonderful event. And thanks to the branches for attending and donating so many beautiful raffle baskets.

We were blessed in October to celebrate Bishop's Day mass with San Jose Bishop Oscar Cantu at St. Martin of Tours church in San Jose. Our District presented prayers and donations over \$10,000 to Bishop Cantu for the benefit of seminarians in our diocese. A hearty luncheon followed at Three Flames restaurant in San Jose. Special thanks to Branch 391 for hosting the event, and thanks to the branch members for attending.

We congratulate immediate Past Grand President Denise Antonowicz on a job well done. Her testimonial dinner was held at Palermo Restaurant in San Jose.

All branches please remember to hold branch officer elections in November if you missed doing it in October. All branches please send a list of branch officers to the ICF office, and to District Secretary Mike Rossi for use at the Installation ceremony on January 3rd.

All members remember to celebrate the feast day of our ICF co-patroness St. Frances Xavier Cabrini on her feast day, November 13th.

*The Santa Clara Valley District wishes the ICF a Happy Thanksgiving.
Michael Rossi*

Gilroy Br. 28, Santa Maria Ausiliatrice

Dear Members,

Come to our Bake Sale on Sunday, November 30th. What to buy? Diana Berry's biscotti. Dunking them in your morning coffee never tasted so good. How about Marianne Peoples' beer bread with her homemade jam? Always a favorite. And then there are Louie Cordich's delicious baked goods. Louie's macaroons are my favorite. What will be your favorite? Come and see all the delightful baked goods!

Our dinner meeting is on November 17th. Come for a wonderful Thanksgiving feast.

Blessings, Jeanette Hudson

Mountain View Br. 47, San Giorgio

Buon Novembre! Happy November!

Aren't we all looking forward to seeing family and friends? Soon our houses will be warmed up with the delicious scents of pumpkin pie, apple cider, and turkey. It's so American but mixed with the delicious scent of pasta and gravy. The best of both worlds.

We just finished our 6th Bi-annual Pasta Grab n Go, 50/50 raffle, and raffle baskets in October. All proceeds from our raffle baskets and donations will go to St Joseph School in Mountain View. Ten members are excited to be going to the Nov 15th trip to the Cabrini Pilgrimage in Burbank. Our annual ICF branch's Christmas party is coming up. We have a lot of happenings for the Holiday Season.

Wishing you all a Thanksgiving full of love and blessings.

*Peace and God Bless,
Ciao, Julie Wester*

St. Mary Br. 184, Los Gatos

At the time of writing this letter, there is real hope for peace in the Middle East, with promises to release the hostages. After two years, this is an answer to Prayer. May it continue to give hope to all those involved.

We were able to award a \$500.00 Scholarship to Vince Cortese of San Jose. Congratulations and best wishes for your future studies!

We are still working towards our Polenta Dinner scheduled for Oct. 25. Our work, and hopefully success, are what makes it possible to support our Scholarship and other funds. Thank you to all who help to make this possible.

Sending good wishes to all for a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving! Enjoy the beautiful Fall colors.

Ciao for now, Lucy Amico

San Jose Br. 191, Saint Frances Cabrini

Happy Fall!

As we begin our Fall season, the members of Branch 191 continue to be very active in their community and in their Branch. We just enjoyed a wonderful Bishop's Day with the Santa Clara Valley District Members on Sunday, October 5th at St. Martin of Tours for a lovely mass followed by a delicious lunch at The Three Flames Restaurant. This event is always a special way for us to honor our Bishop as well as raise money for the Seminarians.

On November 11th, Branch 191 will have a fundraiser at the Lazy Dog Restaurant on Almaden ExpressWay in San Jose. We hope to see many of you there.

Saint Frances Cabrini will be celebrating their 70th Anniversary Mass on November 16th. Mass will be at 12:00 noon, with a reception to follow in the hall.

*With many blessings,
Sharon Logan*

San Jose Br 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

Please pray for Robin Hayr, Lorraine Nunziata, Ron Sanchez, Bill Rice, Louie Cordish, John Gillio, and Janet Glaubkei. Cathie Orłowski will be doing the gardening while Robin Hayr is recovering. We are looking for members to chair the Dining for Dollars fundraiser. 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 for our branch, please see Robin Hayr and she will help you get started.

Rib Dinner, "Ra luau," was Saturday September 13th and was a great success. Thank you to Ann Cordoni and Mary Ridi for being leaders to all of us that volunteered and gave us such a great event, with great fun and great food.

Mark your calendars for The Chili Cook Off Sunday February 1, 2026 and Polenta Dinner Saturday March 2, 2026. Cathie Orłowski is the chair for this event.

Now is a good time to volunteer to help. Volunteering will raise your spirits and you get to meet others that are interested in the same things you love and live for.

We have new members, JoAnn and Roger Bjornstad. Find them and welcome them. If you are interested in joining the board, see Mike Clarke. We will be collecting Layette items this month for the District Tea on December 6th at St. Francis Cabrini.

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

*May God Bless all of you and your families.
Tom Myers*

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT



Br. 380, Ministry Fair



Br. 380, St. Carlo Acutis



Br. 380, Hallo-wine



Br. 374



Br. 374, Fiora Murphy, Mike Floures, Daniel Van Slyke, Gloria Mc Gaughey, waiting for the beverages to start flowing.



Br. 374



Br. 374



Msgr Antonio Cacciapuoti pastor installation luncheon at St. John Fisher Church.

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)



ICF 111 Montebello-July ICF Mass In Italian



ICF 111 September Meeting



ICF 111-Happy Birthday to Ruben Valdez



ICF 111-Mass Dedicated to ICF Members



Br. 115, Convention delegates: Hany Francis, Louise Garcia, Perry Shurko, Anna Di Leva and Neal Di Leva.

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)



Members of the Los Angeles Diocese celebrated the installation of Msgr. Antonia Cacciapuoti as pastor of St. John Fisher Church, home of Br. 444.



Br. 115 convention delegates. Neal Di Leva, Anna Di Leva and Louise Garcia



Br. 444, Board members



Br. 444, Jingles, Dolly, Carol, Hany, Betty, Bruno. Fr. Cristina, Mary, Gina and Tonia.



Br. 444, Cristina, Hany & Mary



SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT



Los Gatos, St. Mary Br. 184--Recently some members gathered to celebrate member Frances Filice's Birthday. Shown here left to right are Lucy and Richard Amico, Frances Filice, Marie Yurosko, Joe Mannina and Victoria Nguyen. Auguri Frances and Buon Compleanno!



Members of ICF Branch 191 at Bishop's Day lunch with Bishop Cantù



Br. 408, Bishops Day CC



Members of ICF Branch 191 at Bishop's Day lunch with Bishop Cantù



Members of ICF Branch 191 at Bishop's Day lunch with Bishop Cantù



Br. 408, Al and Chuck cooking sausages



Br. 408 Community Service Pancake Breakfast 2025

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)



Nov 2025 - San Jose Bishop's Day lunch



Nov 2025 - Santa Clara District Oktoberfest



Nov 2025 - San Jose Bishop Day mass



Br. 445 Members Marie Adragna and Janie Falcone Celebrating Milestone Birthdays.



Br. 435, August Meeting at Work.



Br. 445 President Jim Falcone Reporting on Convention



Br. 445 Jan Stumhoffer & Bill Perry with Convention Awards



Br. 445 Members Enjoying General Meeting

San Jose**Br. 391, St. Martin of Tours**

In October, members enjoyed a delicious Oktoberfest Dinner which included sausage, sauerkraut, and German potatoes, provided by Tony and Alba's.

Treasurer Teresa Brodersen reported that our financials are in good shape for the funding of our charitable donations distributed at the end of the year.

Louise Vento spoke of the Italian immigrants who came to Louisiana to work on the plantations—working in the sugar cane, strawberry and cotton fields. She cited Bread and Respect: The Italians of Louisiana by A. Margavio and Jerome Salomone in her heritage report on the Italians who went there because of its rich soil, climate and the catholic church community.

Tina Rossi announced that 2026 Calendars will be available at our November meeting—remember that \$5 from each purchase stays with our branch.

Steve thanked all those members who participated in last month's Bishop's Day at St. Martin's. The district presented a gift of over \$10,000 to Bishop Oscar Cantu to benefit our seminarians.

Members, please consider serving as officers for 2026; elections will be held on November 4.

Steve spoke of the upcoming Serra Club fundraiser at St. Martin during National Vocations Awareness Week celebration on Friday, November 7 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Cathedral.

Reminders:

Branch 391 Dinner Meeting—Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. social and 6:00 p.m. dinner; Branch Election of Officers—Tuesday, November 4, 2025; Family Faith Night—November 12, 2025 at 6:00p.m.; #391 Quarterly Communion—December 7, 2025, 10:00 a.m. mass, St. Martin's.

Wishing you all a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!
Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale**Br. 408, Resurrection**

We wish all of our Members a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

Our Mary Jo Dimuccio Columbus Day Bake Sale was well received by our Parish Community. We raised Funds for our ICF Scholarships.

We will host our Welcoming Party for Fr Mark and Fr Louis Nov 16 th after the 1130 AM Mass. Please Contact Patricia to volunteer tp help with this Event.

Our next ICF/Parish Blood Drive will be 14th December from 8- 130 PM.

Please Pray for our ICF Members and Friends: Fr. Seth Kupo (deceased), Fr Chris Bennett, Donna Richey, Patricia Look and Laurice Levine.

Morgan Hill**Br. 435, Santa Caterina D'Alessandria**

Branch 435 attended the Santa Clara Valley District picnic at Almaden Lake Park in August. We had a wonderful time and made many new friends. All thought the site was a winner. It was a very pleasant day.

Our Branch President, Guilia Gallego enjoyed the State Convention in Visalia. She renewed acquaintances, and enjoyed the great prize-winning, Heritage-Binders. She left with many new ideas to improve our branch. What a sight to see two pick-up trucks full of personal and cleaning supplies for the "Salt and Light" project. Finally, she congratulates Vince Saso of Br#28 in our neighboring city of Gilroy who received the President's award.

Octoberfest at Teshe Germania, a Santa Clara Valley District fundraiser was enjoyed by Helga Brooks, Guilia Gallego, and Toni and Giovanni Foggiano. The food was great, and the weather was ideal. Thanks to Toni Foggiano, for putting together our brimming raffle basket to assist in fund raising.

Our Branch welcomed two new members, Michael and Roseliane Selvin.

We also belatedly thank Tom Tacci for doing a great job on the BBQ Chicken at our August meeting.

We are saddened to report the death of Charter Member, Sylvia Sorci on Sunday, September 21. Sylvia held officer positions, was a member of the Sunshine Committee and wrote many articles for the *Bollettino*. Our condolences to her family. May her soul and the souls of all the departed ICF members, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

San Jose**Br. 445, Transfiguration**

We look forward to our Nov 2nd Family Feud Game Show Fundraiser and are grateful to all who helped organize and support this event! Many thanks also to our community members who offered donations for our raffle.

Orders for our See's Candy Holiday Fundraiser can still be ordered in November. Contact Pres. Jim Falcone: jim@jfalcone.com.

President Jim Falcone was Br. 445's delegate to this year's ICF Annual Convention. He gave a convention report to members for our September meeting complete with a video of our member Bill Perry receiving the Pope John XXIII Award and Bill's acceptance speech. Bill's award and the convention Heritage Award for Jan Stumhoffer were on display for members to see.

Members also brought in Christmas gifts for children for the annual December CMO distribution.

Members enjoyed the SCV District Oktoberfest event at Teske's Germania

Restaurant. Great food, fun & friendship!

Members also attended the Bishop's Mass and luncheon. A \$700 donation from Br. 445 was contributed to the Bishop's Burse.

We are anticipating our 10/15 general meeting celebrating Italian American Heritage Month and guest speaker to talk about AP Giannini.

Transfiguration Parish celebrated its 60th Anniversary Oct 18th. Several ICF members actively assisted in the planning by serving on various committees for this event.

The first of the month ICF sponsored Snack Saturday/Donut Sunday for parishioners continues as well as the 90 sack lunches donated weekly to those in need.

Happy November Birthday wishes to members: Diane Devine and Bill Howell.

We are saddened by the recent passing of members Art Maggio and Maureen Godar. May they Rest in God's Love and Peace.

Until next month, stay safe and well,

Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer

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

We extend heartfelt thanks to Karla for organizing a private tasting and tour at Olive Crush Farms for our October 28th meeting. This special gathering provided an opportunity to honor our Italian roots while exploring the unique flavors of our region. Members enjoyed sampling a variety of specialty olive oils and appetizers, followed by an informative guided tour of the facility. The event highlighted the growing recognition of the Lodi area for its olives and specialty olive oils, a perfect fit for ICF members!

Special thanks to Deacon Karl for explaining the Rosary at our September meeting and leading us in reciting the rosary to kick off October's month of the Holy Rosary.

From November 9th- 15th, our branch hosted a fundraiser featuring pasta meals-to-go from DeVinci's Deli. This event allowed members to support our organization while savoring delicious Italian cuisine from a beloved local eatery. The fundraiser was a wonderful way to combine community support with an appreciation for our culinary traditions. Speaking of traditions, share your favorite Italian or American thanksgiving recipe at our November 25th meeting. We will have a special guest from St. Anne's PETAL Ministries coming to learn more about us.

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Patron Saint of the Italian Catholic

Federation, will be honored on her feast day, November 13th. All are encouraged to observe this day and reflect on her enduring legacy. Together, we say, "St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, pray for us."

Happy Thanksgiving!
Elizabeth Holladay, Corresponding Secretary

Manteca**Br. 139, Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio**

Our September meeting was held at President Birdie Nieri's home. President Nieri prepared a light dinner of lumpias, home-made potato and corn salads, and a fresh fruit cobbler. Dante Galeazzi also brought a pumpkin pie. Of course, whipped cream was available too! The usual business was conducted including reading and approval of the Minutes from the July meeting and balances provided in our Checking Accounts as of September 1. As always, Members are encouraged to read the "*Bollettino*."

The Spaghetti Feed held on August 14th was, overall, a success. Discussion was held on the pluses and minuses of the day to be noted for next year's event.

President Birdie Nieri reported that the Annual District Picnic held on August 17th was attended by about 50 people. Even though it was a windy day, a good time was had by all. Lots of good food and raffle prizes.

The Annual Convention was held over Labor Day Weekend in Visalia. Ron Agostini reported that he enjoyed meeting and talking with other Branches and attended several presentations. Ron's already looking forward to next year's convention which will be held at The Silver Legacy in Reno. Branch #139's member, Dante Galeazzi, was elected as a Grand Trustee. Congratulations Dante!

Our next meeting will be on October 28th in St. Anthony's Cafeteria. The menu will be heavy appetizers and cookies provided by Ron Agostini and Michelle Harmon. Meeting was closed by the playing of our Federation Anthem.

Bye for now,
Michela

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

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT



Br. 214, Bishop's Dinner --The Marshall's and McGuirks



Br. 214, Pasta Bingo



Br. 214, Pasta Bingo



Br. 214, Pasta Bingo



Br. 432, Laura Pierce and Eleanor Valenti registered cars for our event. Thank you



Br. 432, Rick Gromacki, Pastor Award, 1965 Ford Mustang



Br. 432, President's award, Tim Chavez, 1967 Pontiac GTO



Br. 432, Best in Show AND People's choice Awards, Renee Malgradi, 1961 Chevy Corvettes Fuel Injection



Tracy
Br. 390, St. Bernard

October 30th dinner of Chicken Cacciatore and Polenta brought out the crowds once again. We are approaching approximately 200 reservations each and every month and occasionally we go over that number of diners when Mike's cacciatore and polenta is on the menu.

Our condolences and prayers go out to the family of Angie Bacchetti Long who passed away recently. She was a long-time member of our ICF family - joined back in 1988, 37 years ago!

Please keep our smiling, happy bartender Joey Bacchetti, who is having hand surgery, as well as our ICF families and friends, in your prayers. Pray that God's healing power will fill them with strength and perseverance.

Festival this year at St. Bernard's Church was successful, with lots of offerings of toys, games, food, music and entertainment, auction prizes, and the ICF volunteers going wherever they are needed - cooking in the kitchen, handing out take-out dinners, working the token booths and having a good time. Plan to attend next year.

November dinner is an annual tradition with nice and moist turkey, stuffing, all the trimmings, and a table full of desserts featuring pumpkin as the main attraction. Please remember we always collect canned and packaged goods for folks in need of food for their families. We can feel better about ourselves when we are helping those less fortunate than we are.

"Save the Date" and mark your Christmas calendars because our "Santa's coming to town" dinner meeting is going to be very early this year - Thursday December 11th. The little kiddos always enjoy this one!

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

The election results are in. May we present the 2026 Board:

President — Mary Ann Piana Chapman
1st VP — Jenn Peterson
2nd VP — Bob and Linda Langone
Financial Secretary — Josephine Weber
Orator — Robyn Deiro
Trustees — Geof Lin-Cereghino & Pat Beglou
Sentinal — Virginia Larson

A grande GRAZIE to our members that have volunteered to support the organization. We look forward to a fantastic 2026.

It's our turn to host the Stockton District meeting on November 1. It is always a pleasure to bring the branches together and share ideas.

It is official. Our infamous Polenta Dinner is back and is scheduled for February 12, 2026. We expect it to be a sold-out event so make your reservations early if you are craving polenta.

*Alla possima,
Mary Ann*

"We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become."

-Clare of Assisi

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

Angels Camp
Br. 413, St. Patrick

By the time that you read this, we had our Columbus Day Dinner on October 18th, and it was a success! There was Italian music, raffle prizes, and wine. We are grateful for the faithful supporters who are much appreciated.

Our last event for 2025 is the annual Wendell's Giveaway, also known as the Free Christmas Breakfast for the parish. Branch members will make pancakes, sausages, and eggs for the parish members. Juice and coffee will also be served. This is Branch 413's way of thanking the parishioners for their support.

May all the saints be praying for all the members of the Italian Catholic Federation.

*Ciao,
Robert Pachinger
Correspondence Secretary*

SAN DIEGO
District

San Diego
Br. 246, St. Charles Borromeo

Recently Branch 246 members donned our ICF aprons and participated in the Annual Borromeo Bash, which is a fundraiser for the Parish's school - Saint Charles Borromeo Academy. It's a tremendous event that is like the good old County Fair. Branch members served barbecued chicken and ribs from Phil's BBQ to hungry "Bash - Goers" and was a rousing success. Our Christmas Dinner is fast approaching on December 6. This year we will be dining at Anthony's Fish Grotto in La Mesa.

Ciao - Anthony Torregiani, Branch President

THANKSGIVING RIDDLE ME THIS...

1. Why did the pilgrim eat the candle?	
2. What did the farmer say to the green pumpkin?	
3. Why didn't the Pilgrims tell each other their secrets in the cornfield?	A. Plymouth Rock!
4. What would you get if you crossed a turkey with fire?	B. The corn had ears!
5. Why did the pilgrim cross the road?	C. It was already stuffed!
6. Why was the turkey the drummer in the band?	D. TurKEY
7. Where do turkeys go if they want to dance?	E. To prove he wasn't a chicken
8. Why did the turkey cross the road?	F. He was chasing the turkey!
9. What's always in the middle of table on Thanksgiving?	G. Blueberries
10. How did the turkey, goose, and duck get in trouble on Thanksgiving?	H. A Butter Ball
11. What sound does the turkey's phone make?	I. Squash
12. Why didn't the turkey finish the dessert?	J. The "b"
13. What is a scarecrow's favorite fruit?	K. They had fowl language!
14. What kind of music did the pilgrims listen to?	L. Wing! Wing!
15. What is the favorite sport of pumpkins and gourds?	M. Why orange you orange?
16. April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?	N. He had drumsticks!
17. What are unhappy cranberries?	O. Straw-berries!
18. What's something you can never eat at Thanksgiving dinner?	P. He wanted a light snack.
19. This key has legs, but can't open a door. What is it?	Q. Thanksgiving breakfast and Thanksgiving lunch
20. What did the turkey say to the computer?	R. A roasted turkey!

S. Pilgrims!
T. Google, Google



SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT



2025-09-20 ICF, San Bernardino District Meeting



Branch 217 Redlands



Br. 446 Veronica Mora, Sandra Seabrook wine-tasting



Br. 446 wine tasting



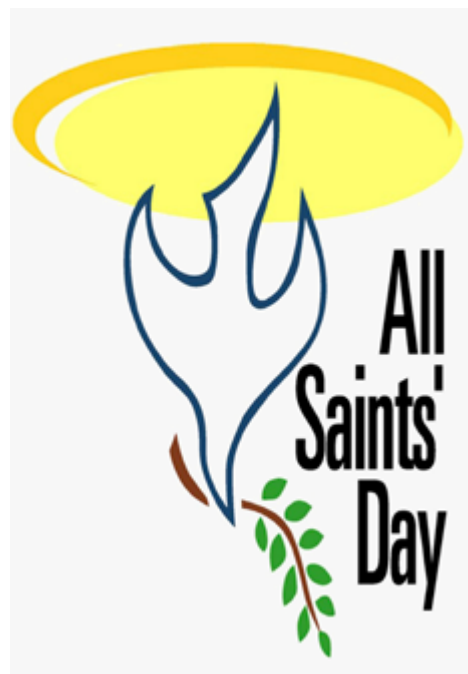
Br. 446 Carrey Rossie holding zucchetto

SAN BERNARDINO District Council

Our quarterly District meeting was very productive. We discussed our recent Bishop's Lunch and agreed that it was a success. We were honored to host our new Grand President, Franklyn Lopes as well as our Past Grand President, Denise Antonowicz; Our Bishop, Alberto Rojas enjoyed talking with all our guests. We hope to make our next Luncheon even better next year! We all gave reports on our experiences at our Annual Convention and gave our Branch reports. Everyone who attended the Convention had a different story to tell but we all agreed that it was a great convention. All three presidents shared what was won for their Branch at Convention. At our Branch reports, all presidents shared what we are planning for the future.

Our Upland Branch #446 will be hosting our next Installation in February 2026 and they are currently planning their next big fundraiser, the Festa Italiana in October 2025. 210 reported that we are looking for new members in different places, hoping to increase our membership soon. 217 shared that they are looking into new fundraising opportunities. As always, we enjoyed a pleasant lunch with our Chaplain, Father Ochetti and set the date for our next District meeting.

*Till next time,
Annie McCarthy, President Br. 210
& Treasurer, San Bernardino District*



Fontana Br. 210, St. Joseph

Just a quick note to let you know that today we sent one of our beloved members, Alba Segarra, home to Our Lord and Momma Mary. Her Mass of Resurrection was so beautiful and very well attended by her family and many friends. Alba was a member of Branch 210 for many years and every time she was able to attend one of our meetings, she lit up the room with her smile. She will be missed, but we know she is now home and happy with Our Lord. See you again, our dear friend.

Annie McCarthy President, Branch 210

Redlands Br. 217, Sacred Heart

Our monthly meeting fell on the feast date of St Francis of Assisi and our Heritage Report was on St. Francis. This year, in September, the Italian Parliament approved a bill restoring October 4th as an official national holiday after nearly 50 years. The law takes effect in 2026. We also heard the story of St. Francis and the wolf of Gubbio. How St. Francis made an agreement with the wolf who was terrorizing the citizens of Gubbio. Seems the poor wolf was hungry! When the citizens agreed to feed him daily, he stopped killing the livestock and people. The wolf lived for another two years, in peace with the people of Gubbio. According to tradition, Gubbio gave the wolf an honorable burial and later built the Church of Saint Francis of the Peace at the site. During renovations in 1872, the skeleton of a large wolf, apparently several centuries old, was found under a slab near the church wall and reburied inside. Legend holds that the church of the Vittorina was built on the spot where Francis met the wolf. Our Heritage Report was fascinating.

Our branch discussed several fundraising ideas; among them we thought about selling scarfs that would double as chapel veils. We need an ok from our pastor to sell them at Church, but the samples were so nice, all the ladies in the group bought several! We were our own best customers! We will hold off selling them at Church for now until permission is granted, but there is nothing stopping us from buying them ourselves!

*Till next time, ciao!
Annie McCarthy, VP Branch 217 Redlands*

Upland Br. 446, Saint Anthony

September and October were filled with both fun and busy activities. We had a great time during our wine-tasting excursion to the Renzoni winery in Temecula. The facilities include a magnificent view of the surrounding vineyards, a bocce court, and a wonderful Italian trattoria where we enjoyed a delicious lunch. We plan on scheduling another wine-tasting field trip sometime in the Spring. In the planning stages are a trip to view an exhibit of the Shroud of Turin that will be touring the US in the coming months. Our Festa Italiana is on the horizon. Because this is our major fund-raiser of the year, we are all working feverously to make our dinner-dance a success. Our third annual event will feature a live dance band, 12 fabulous gift baskets and delicious Italian food by Five Star Catering. It takes a lot of planning to put on such an event, our members have been very generous with their time and donations to ensure our success. They are all greatly appreciated! During a recent meeting, President Carrey Rossie showed us a treasured family heirloom and told us a very interesting heritage story. In September 1957 her father traveled to Italy and was honored to meet Pope Pius XII. As customary, the Pope was wearing a white "zucchetto", the white skull cap covering his head. There is an old tradition where someone can offer the Pope a new zucchetto, in exchange, the Pope will give them the one he is currently wearing. The zucchetto dates to the Middle Ages at a time when clergy shaved the crown of their heads as a sign of humility and devotion. The word "zucchetto" comes from the Italian word for pumpkin or gourd. We were all excited to see it and learn about the tradition. We look forward to hearing additional heritage stories from the wide range of cultures that enrich our branch.



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

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



Amahl's Christmas Opera Party



Join us!
Gian Carlo Menotti's classic children's opera ~
Amahl and the Night Visitors

Opera sung in English,
with supertitles projected

Add-ons:
Tasty, Kid-friendly Snack Buffet!
Ornament craft to take home!

Nov 30 ~ Grand Annex Music Hall, San Pedro
Dec 7 ~ Our Mother of Good Counsel Hall, LA (Los Feliz)
Doors open 12noon, Opera at 2pm, 50 minute-show

youngoperatheater@gmail.com 213-248-2510

Grateful for support from our sponsors!




Adult \$25
Senior \$22
Student \$18
Youth \$15






"Intro to Halloween" was the theme for the October meeting of Branch 218 at Holy Angels church in Arcadia. Surprises were abundant as members wore unique costumes for a smile or two!



BLESSED SACRAMENT DISTRICT



Members of Branch 342 and guests at our annual branch picnic.



Members of Branch 342 and guests at our annual branch picnic.