



BOLLETTINO

ICF Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage



Building the Future as One:
Congratulations to our incoming Central Council officers!
We look forward to driving new progress and achieving great things together under your guidance this coming year.

Grand President's Monthly Message

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

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



It is again an honor to be standing before you today as the Grand President of the Italian Catholic Federation. To my fellow officers and members of the Central Council, thank you again for electing me.

I want to thank Lauren Kilcullen and her committee for doing an outstanding job of planning a successful convention here in Reno. I also wish to thank my parents, Franklyn and Carol Lopes, for the guidance and support they have given me. Due to health issues, they are at home, and I am grateful for all your prayers for them this past year. To my Central Coast District and Branches 227, Aptos, and 21, Santa Cruz, I thank you for your support and the help you have given me.

Looking back at my first year as President, I was involved in many installations, bishops' days, and celebrating anniversary milestones with branches and districts. It was an honor to celebrate Branch 7 in South San Francisco and Branch 10 in Alameda on their 100th Anniversary, along with the 90th Anniversaries of the East Bay District, Branches 47 in Mountain View, 54 in Gustine, 52 in Healdsburg, and 51 in Castroville. Recently, I helped celebrate the 95th anniversary of Branch 36 in Monterey. I was also present for the reinstallation of the San Diego District, and I am thankful to Debbie Reid and Owen Evans, who were instrumental in getting the district back up and running.

The ICF would not run as smoothly as it does without the ladies in the office. Charlene Kramer and Patty Smith. Their knowledge is priceless; whenever you have a question, they will have the answer.

Continued on Page 3



BACK ROW (L to R): Grand Trustee - Bob Basuino, Grand Treasurer - Deborah Rodondi, Grand Parliamentarian - Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E., Grand Trustee - Denise Antonowicz, Grand Secretary - Perry Shurko, Grand Trustee - Rosemary Cook Shaw, & Grand Sentinel - Michael Rossi, K.L.J., FRONT ROW (L to R): Grand 2nd Vice President - Lisa Crudo, Grand President - Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Grand Chaplain - Fr. Christopher Bennett, & Grand 1st Vice President - Lauren Kilcullen

2026 Convention Raffle Winners

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

1st Prize, \$2,500
Heidi Ambiel, Br. 21, Santa Cruz, CA

2nd Prize, \$1,500
Shirley Pruett, Br. 47, Mountain View, CA

3rd Prize, \$1,500
Frances Carter, Br. 115, San Pedro, CA

4th Prize, \$1,000
Robert Hohman, Jr., Br. 115, San Pedro, CA

5th Prize, \$1,000
Barry Buckett, Br. 285, Livermore, CA

6th Prize, \$500
Roy Fry, Br. 403, Millbrae, CA

7th Prize, \$500
Lois Billings, Br. 218, Arcadia, CA

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO

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Important Notice

The email address for ALL

Bollettino submissions is:

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

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

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

Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg

Include photo captions with your
article submission.

Please keep your submission positive
and informative.

**Deadline for the
November issue is
October 10, 2026**

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

Thank you!

Message from our Grand Chaplain “Our Legacy: Faith, Family, Heritage”

Dear Members and Friends of the
Italian Catholic Federation,

With hearts filled with gratitude, we
give thanks to God for the tremen-
dous success of our recent Italian
Catholic Federation Convention,
“Our Legacy: Faith, Family, Heri-
tage.” It was truly a blessing to see
so many members gathered in faith,
fellowship, and friendship. The joy
and enthusiasm throughout the con-
vention were a beautiful reminder
that the Italian Catholic Federation
continues to be a living and vibrant
community.

At the heart of our gathering was
the recognition that our legacy is
more than a memory of the past—
it is a gift entrusted to us for the
future. Our Catholic faith teaches
us that what we receive from those
who came before us is meant to
be cherished, strengthened, and
handed on to the generations who
follow. Like a beautiful tapestry,
each generation adds its own thread
to the story God continues to weave
among us.

The Italian Catholic Federation has
played a remarkable role in this
sacred work. Through our local
Branches, the Federation creates
opportunities for people to come
together, strengthen family life, sup-
port our parishes and communities,
encourage vocations and faith for-
mation, and reach out to those who
are in need. Through acts of charity,
fellowship, scholarship, service, and
prayer, the Italian Catholic Federa-
tion puts the Gospel into action.

This is what makes the work of the
Italian Catholic Federation so im-
portant. We do not simply preserve

our heritage; we allow our heritage
to become a living expression of our
Catholic faith. The traditions handed
down to us become meaningful when
they lead us closer to Christ and
inspire us to serve one another.

Our Catholic faith is always a faith
of communion. Jesus calls us not
to walk alone, but to become one
body in Him. In this spirit, the Italian
Catholic Federation brings people to-
gether across generations, reminding
us that faith grows when it is shared
and that a strong community is built
when each person recognizes that
they have something to offer.

The convention was a beautiful
expression of that communion. See-
ing so many members together was
a powerful witness to the dedication,
generosity, and love that have sus-
tained the Italian Catholic Federation
throughout the years. We are grate-
ful to every person who traveled,
volunteered, organized, participated,
prayed, and contributed in any way
to make the convention such a won-
derful success.

We also give thanks to the countless
members who quietly serve through-
out the year. The work of the Italian
Catholic Federation often happens
beyond spotlighting parish com-
munities, local Branches, families,
charitable efforts, and in the simple
acts of kindness that make a differ-
ence in the lives of others. This is
where our legacy truly comes alive.

As we look toward the future, may
we never forget the shoulders upon
which we stand. May we honor
those who planted the seeds of faith,
family, and heritage before us by
continuing to plant those same seeds
in the hearts of our children and



Father Christopher Bennett
ICF Grand Chaplain

grandchildren.

May Christ, who calls us into one
family and nourishes us at the table
of the Eucharist, continue to bless
the Italian Catholic Federation. May
He strengthen our local Branches,
inspire our families, and give us
generous hearts for service.

And may the legacy we have re-
ceived become, through God's grace,
an even greater gift for those who
will come after us. Faith. Family.
Heritage.

*Three gifts received. Three
treasures to cherish.*

*And three blessings we are
called to hand on.*

*With heartfelt gratitude and
prayer.*

*With prayer and gratitude to
the Lord,*

Fr. Chris



Heritage — Happy Fall and Happy Halloween!

Louise Vento, Committee Member

Fall is in the air, and the trees are losing their leaves. The
days are getting shorter, and before we know it, it will be
Halloween. I like to decorate with pumpkins, ghosts, orange
candles, and dried leaves. My late husband, Russell, had a
train board and ran two trains. I decorate it every holiday. I
have just put up all my Halloween decorations on the board.
My neighbor brings her three grandsons over to see the trains,
and they like to see what is new on the board.



I love the fall and seeing the children on Halloween. I can
remember dressing up on Halloween and going out with the kids for trick-or-
treating. We need to keep traditions alive. Talk to your grandchildren and great-
grandchildren about how you celebrated Halloween as a child. Did you play
in a pile of leaves? Memories are important to all of us. Share them with your
loved ones. Pass on your heritage to the next generation.

Happy Fall and Happy Halloween!

*“Autumn is
a second
spring when
every leaf is
a flower.”*

*— Albert
Camus*

Convention Article:
 “Our Legacy: Faith, Family, Heritage” Recap
 Convention Director's Committee

Thank you to all the delegates for attending the 2026 ICF Convention!

The Convention Director's Committee hopes everyone enjoyed this year's convention. The committee recuperated on Monday at a pool cabana!



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

I thank the Convention Director's Committee for their hard work and dedication throughout the year and during the Convention. This year, especially, their friendship and hard work meant the world to me. I also thank members who volunteered their time at the Convention to help whenever we needed extra hands. A special shout out to Tad Shaw as he became our go-to A/V person on-site and was DJ at the Friday night dance.

Our Raffle Baskets brought in over \$5,000 in ticket sales. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and congratulations to those who won! Thank you to Denise Antonowicz for

organizing the raffle. These proceeds help offset Convention expenses.

Thank you to all the members for the donations to Spread The Word Nevada. Courtney Vogt from Spread The Word Nevada had to bring their cargo van and it took five hotel housemen two trips each to load the books into the van. Courtney will be sending me the final totals. We also donated \$1,700 online and onsite to the organization. Once again, your generosity knows no bounds.

At the Sunday Mass, we collected \$1,387 for Reno Fire Relief. This money will be sent to Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada for their Fire Relief Fund.

Looking forward to seeing everyone throughout the year at Bishop's Days and Installations and at the 2027 Convention.

Save the dates: September 3 – 5, 2027 at the Hotel Fera, a DoubleTree Hotel in Orange, CA!

Lauren Kilcullen
 Convention Director



GP Message--Continued:
 Frankyn Lopes, Jr. continued from Page 1

It is still my goal to collaborate with Federation members on strategies to increase membership across our branches. We must share ideas and spread the vision of the Italian Catholic Federation, supporting our church and religious communities, our children, and our brothers and sisters in need throughout our communities.

I request that you maintain communication between your branches and churches, especially with your pastors, as this is key to keeping the branch going. Advertise in your bulletins when you have a meeting, fundraising event, or other essential activities. Remember, if you are experiencing problems with the church or branch, please reach out to your nearest Central Council Member. We are here to help you. Communication is to

be the primary focus in the coming years.

I look forward once again to attending the different events your branch and/or district is having next year and getting to know more of the wonderful members of the Italian Catholic Federation. I want to leave you with this quote from Pope Saint John Paul II.

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

Before closing, I would like us to take a moment of silence and remember all the lives lost 25 years ago on 9/11.

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

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."
 — Margaret Mead



Welcome New Members

(Report as of September 10, 2026)

Branch 014	Ben Levine	Laurice Levine	Matt Levine
Branch 036	Peter John Curatolo	Leslie F Frates	Jordyn Claire Valentine
Branch 073	Jacob C Gunn	Jeannette M Gunn	Michael S Halverson
Branch 115	Anthony P Baccari	Felipa A Baccari	Marcus A Baccari
	Paul A Baccari	Rosa Tuberosi	Josephine Vitale
Branch 135	Diane P Masegian		
Branch 179	Ed Gillis	Nancy Stupik	Paul Stupik
Branch 184	William Rossi		
Branch 198	Linda K Curry		
Branch 246	Frank Giacalone	Grace M Ingrande	
Branch 342	Rev Sal Bringas	Marsha Dolkas	Geri A Nibbs
	Diane P Pette	Lynelle Pucci	Joseph P Sirovy
	Catherine Sorci	Joseph Sorci	
Branch 352	Darren G Gutierrez	Teresa A Gutierrez	Sharon Miller
	Rose Marie Thorne		
Branch 368	Rev Edgar Elamparo		
Branch 380	Deanna Gray		
Branch 413	Tammie Lee	Delia Villamor	Roberto Villamor
Branch 432	Jeannie L Banuelos	Vicki D Gordon	
Branch 438	Pro Ecclesia Sancta Sisters		
Branch 450	Caroline P Caracciolo	Stephen J Caracciolo	Pamela Fearon
	Catherine A Mela		

Scholarship Donations

(Received as of September 10, 2026)

2nd - 4th Year Donations

Jeanne Gage
 In Memory of Geraldine Meacham
 Officers/Members of Br. 28
 In Memory of Geraldine Meacham
 Paul Baxter
 In Memory of Geraldine Meacham
 Frank and Betty Angelino
 In Memory of Geraldine Meacham
 Yvonne Columbaro Johnson
 In Honor of Jean Columbaro Gambill

Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library
OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

Carmelo Sabatella

The Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee wishes all ICF members and Friends of Mother Cabrini a very happy end of summer. We would like to extend an invitation to all members, families, and friends to visit the Chapel and Library.

The St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Chapel continues to host regularly scheduled open houses through 2026. Bring your family, friends, and fellow parishioners to visit Her Chapel and Library in Burbank to learn about America's first canonized saint (July 7, 1946). Currently, select Mother Cabrini artifacts are on display at the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles and in special exhibitions on the East Coast.

For more information on the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library, to view the open house calendar, to schedule a group visit, or to make a donation to support facility maintenance and the annual Pilgrimage event in Burbank, please call (626) 372-7812 or visit www.icf.org.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

SAVE THE DATE
October 18, 2026:

1) Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Open House 10 am to 2 p.m.
Host: Santa Barbara/Ventura Region.

2) Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Committee Meeting 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

November 15, 2026:

Mother Cabrini Annual Mass 10 a.m. (St. Francis Xavier Church), followed by Pilgrimage to Benediction (Cabrini Chapel) and Luncheon (SFXC Hall).

December 13, 2026:

1) Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Open House 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Host: San Fernando Region.

2) Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Committee Meeting 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library
at St Francis Xavier Church
3801 Scott Rd, Burbank, CA 91504

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

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
9/1	Patricia Richard	108	Pasadena, CA	\$30
9/2	Michael Lombardo		San Francisco, CA	\$30
9/3	Francesca Taylor	67	Venice, CA	\$30
9/4	Jeanette Zugnoni	10	Alameda, CA	\$50
9/5	Stephen and Alyssa Fanucchi		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
9/6	Johnny Picetti		Vacaville, CA	\$30
9/7	Jackie Barnes	19	Daly City, CA	\$100
9/8	Will and Gia Borba		Cardiff, CA	\$50
9/9	Deanna Carone	14	Rodeo, CA	\$30
9/10	Helen Jeffcoat	362	Bellflower, CA	\$30
9/11	Tilly Spagnolo	191	San Jose, CA	\$30
9/12	Laurice Levine	28	Petaluma, CA	\$30
9/13	Anne-Marie Bandoni	39	Merced, CA	\$30
9/14	John and Steph Rossi		San Jose, CA	\$50
9/15	Daniela Hole	130	Redwood City, CA	\$30
9/16	Bob Basuino	191	San Jose, CA	\$30
9/17	Angie and Kris Kobliska		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
9/18	Lorraine Neira		Fremont, CA	\$30
9/19	Sandra Cordoni	214	Concord, CA	\$30
9/20	Jackie Anderson	408	Sunnyvale, CA	\$30
9/21	Angela Pena		Rancho Cordova, CA	\$30
9/22	Denise Huerta		Castro Valley, CA	\$30
9/23	Analisa Zamora		Fresno, CA	\$30
9/24	John Shimshock		Coon Rapids, MN	\$30
9/25	Nan Trevizo		Fairfield, CA	\$30
9/26	Branch 73		Roseville, CA	\$30
9/27	Magdalena Niescier		Tempe, AZ	\$30
9/28	Jackie Aluffi		Watsonville, CA	\$30
9/29	Jessica and Frank Segreto		Geneva, IL	\$30
9/30	Jennie Castelino	408	Sunnyvale, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

(Received as of September 10, 2026)

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Leonardo Salomone	Denise Antonowicz
Sara Shaw	Bob Basuino
Leonardo Salomone	Officers/Members of Br. 362
Lillian Jeannette Peoples	Officers/Members of Br. 28
Angelo Cuneo	The Kilcullen Family
Jean Iverson	Loretta Reaves
Patricia Grasso	Officers/Members of East Bay District
Leonardo Salomone	Diane Restivo

GET WELL WISHES:	
Larry Flocchini	Bob Basuino
John Donivan	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

IN HONOR OF:	
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.	Officers/Members of Br. 135

HAPPY 102ND BIRTHDAY:	
Mary Perata	Jo-Ann and John Donivan

*Named after the co-founder of the I.C.F., the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides I.C.F. 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.

2026 APOSTOLATE/CHARITY COMMITTEE – CONVENTION REPORT

Total Number of Branches – 84 Total Reports Submitted – 60

Of the 60 Branches Submitting an Annual Report:

- 54 Branches submitted an Apostolate Charity report in 2025
- 44 Branches have an Apostolate Chairperson
- 24 Branches give an Apostolate Report at each meeting
- 27 Branches have an active Chaplain
- 42 Branches attend Mass together monthly, quarterly or annually
- 48 Branches recite the rosary or pray for special intentions
- 55 Branches offer Masses for deceased members
- 42 Branches donate to the Providenza Seminary Fund
- 25 Branches attend branch or district retreats, pilgrimages and recollections
- 52 Branches attend their district Bishop’s Day

Participation in Other Branch, District, Parish and Community Sponsored Events:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| • Food pantry and delivery | St. Joseph tables | School programs | Community events |
| • St. Vincent de Paul | Soup kitchens | Parish councils | Clothing drives |
| • Parish services | Blood donations | Homebound visits | Hospice |
| • Youth programs | Bereavement | Toy drives | Many other services |

Participation in Parish Life:

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| • 92 Mass Greeters | 145 Lectors | 209 Eucharistic Ministers |
| • 91 Ushers | 91 Choir Members | 64 CCD Teachers |

Total Dollars Donated = \$447,055

The Districts and Areas listed below had 100% participation in the Apostolate Charity program:
Blessed Sacrament – Central Coast – Chicago – Contra Costa – East Bay
Reno – San Bernardino – Santa Clara Valley – Stockton

Branches with highest monetary donations for the period of July, 2025 to June, 2026:

1-50 Members

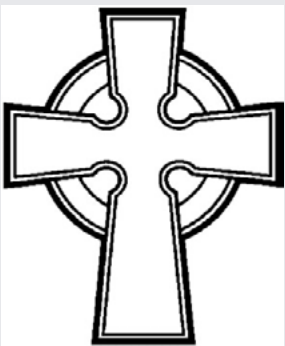
- 1 – Br. 362 Downey
- 2 – Br. 184 Los Gatos
- 3 – Br. 237 Gardena
- 4 – Br. 408 Sunnyvale

51-100 Members

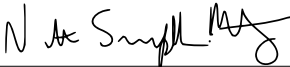
- 1 – Br. 111 Montebello
- 2 – Br. 191 San Jose
- 3 – Br. 179 Glendora
- 4 – Br. 432 Brentwood

101 or More Members

- 1 – Br. 36 Monterey
- 2 – Br. 52 Healdsburg
- 3 – Br. 28 Gilroy
- 4 – Br. 14 Crockett



Thanks to the Apostolate/Charity Committee and all ICF members for your hard work and dedication!

16. Electronic Copy Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date	
Bollettino					
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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)					
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c × 100)					
☐ I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.					
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership					
☒ If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed _____ in the <u>October 2026</u> issue of this publication.					
☐ Publication not required.					
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner				Date	
Nanette Scarpellini Metz Bollettino Editor 				9/21/26	
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form					

ICF RESOLUTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS 2026

Chairperson: Rosemary Cook Shaw
Committee Members: Vincent Malfitano, Theresa Shaw, Laurice Levine (Member at Large) and Nanette Metz (Ex-Officio Member)
Assistants: Dante Galeazzi and Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Bollettino Proof Readers: Laurice Levine, Betty (B.G.) Zasoski and Deborah Rodondi
Officers and Members of the Italian Catholic Federation, assembled in the Diocese of Reno for their 95th Annual Convention on September 4 -September 6, 2026, adopt the following Resolutions and Communications:

COMMUNICATIONS:
COMMUNICATION TO POPE LEO XIV

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

COMMUNICATION TO THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL H. MUEGGENBORG

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

COMMUNICATION TO REVEREND CHRISTOPHER BENNETT

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

COMMUNICATION TO GRAND PRESIDENT FRANKLYN LOPES, JR.

We wish to thank Grand President Frankly Lopes, Jr. for his leadership during the past year. His tireless devotion to the Federation and many efforts to ensure that the organization and its members thrive have not gone unnoticed. We are truly appreciative of all of your hard work during your presidency.

COMMUNICATION TO ALL BISHOPS AND PRIESTS WHERE THE FEDERATION IS ESTABLISHED

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

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

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

TO ALL ELECTED LEADERS OF OUR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD AND UNITED STATES WHO HAVE SUFFERED FROM NATURAL DISASTERS AND VIOLENCE IN 2025 AND 2026

We offer our prayers and support to the people of the World and in the United States, devastated by natural disasters and human violence in 2025 and 2026. We join them in their sorrow over lost loved ones and offer our petitions to the Lord for the survivors. We pray to the Lord to protect and heal them.

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

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

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

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

TO THE CONVENTION DIRECTOR'S COMMITTEE

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

TO THE OFFICE STAFF OF THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

We offer our appreciation to Charlene Kramer, Administrative Assistant, Patty Smith, Bookkeeper, and Nanette Scarpellini Metz, Editor of the *Bollettino*. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts and commend them for their untiring work for our organization. We also wish to thank Aaron Del Monte for maintaining our organization's website.

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

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

TO THE FAMILY OF HELEN TATONE, MEMBER EMERITUS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

We offer our condolences to the family of Helen Tatone, Member Emeritus of

the Central Council, on her passing last Fall. We offer our prayers for the repose of her soul.

TO THE FAMILY OF FRANK SIGNORELLI, MEMBER EMERITUS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

We offer our condolences to the family of Frank Signorelli, Member Emeritus of the Central Council, on his passing last Fall. We offer our prayers for the repose of his soul.

TO THE FAMILY OF NATALIE MALONE, MOTHER OF NINA MALONE, LIFE MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

We offer our condolences to the family of Natalie Malone, Mother of Nina Malone, Life Member Emeritus of the Central Council, on her passing last Spring. We offer our prayers for the repose of her soul.

TO THE FAMILY OF SARA SHAW, DAUGHTER OF THERESA SHAW, MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

We offer our condolences to the family of Sara Shaw, Daughter of Theresa Shaw, Member of the Central Council, on her recent passing. We offer our prayers for the repose of her soul.

TO THE FAMILY OF LARRY KILCULLEN, HUSBAND OF PAST GRAND PRESIDENT AND LIFE MEMER EMERITUS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL CARMEN KILCULLEN AND FATHER OF GRAND 1ST VICE PRESIDENT LAUREN KILCULLEN

We offer our condolences to the family of Larry Kilcullen, husband of Past Grand President and Life Member Emeritus of the Central Council Carmen Kilcullen and Father of Grand 1st Vice President Lauren Kilcullen on his recent passing. We offer our prayers for the repose of his soul.

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

In Loving Memory

(Report as of September 10, 2026)

Ed Leonard	Branch 036	Sal Priolo	Branch 332
Paula Rossi	Branch 036	Veronica D Mora	Branch 446
Larry Kilcullen	Branch 052	Kenneth Austin	Branch 450
Margaret Valdez-Gallardo	Branch 111	Veronica D Mora	Branch 446
Giovanna Perone	Branch 115	Kenneth Austin	Branch 450
Liliana Witz-Hancsak	Branch 115		

Gifts of Love Donations

(Received as of September 10, 2026)

Branch 374	Carmen Caldwell
Branch 413	In Memory of Robert Albert Osorio
	John and Natalie Canata
	In Memory of Mario Hug

Congratulations to ICF 2026

2nd to 4th Year Scholarships Winners

2ND YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS (\$600.00) - 39 AWARDED

Student	In Memory of	In Honor of	Donated by
Lila Barrera			Br. 354 - Paso Robles
Cariana Ciapponi			Br. 14 - Crockett
Madison Hansen			Br. 352 - Danville
Domenic Smalley			Br. 352 - Danville
Grace Nudo			Br. 442 - Pleasant Hill
Joseph Kremer			East Bay District
Diana Olmos			Br. 10 - Alameda
Amelia Ferrario			Br. 215 - Fremont
Nicolas Presto			Br. 39 - Merced
Marcus Baccari			Br. 362 - Downey
Grace O'Hara			Br. 332 - Novato
Sarah Pipitone			Br. 438 - Roseville
Allison Dariano			Br. 342 - Auburn
Angelo Carlo		Officers & Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Dante Zappia		Officers & Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Mary Corinne Marsalek			San Mateo District
Amy Irias			Br. 7 - South San Francisco
Angelina Modir-Manchia			Br. 130 - Redwood City
Laura Hodges			Br. 351 - Menlo Park
Jonah Guardino			Santa Clara Valley District
Matthew Anderson			Br. 28 - Gilroy
Jacob Ryan Patterson			Br. 184 - Los Gatos
Deven Merced			Br. 368 - San Jose
Giada Nuovo			Br. 368 - San Jose
Caleb Pitlock			Santa Rosa District
Brandon Curry		Miria Garfagnoli's 100th Birthday	Br. 52 - Healdsburg
Sofia Galetto			Br. 198 - Santa Rosa
Karli Sikes			Br. 198 - Santa Rosa
Katherine Thomas			Br. 198 - Santa Rosa
Sofie Billigmeier			Stockton District
Philip Martin, IV			Br. 390 - Tracy
Haiden Priddell			The Antonowicz Family - Br. 184, Los Gatos / Br. 191, San Jose
			The Antonowicz Family - Br. 184, Los Gatos / Br. 191, San Jose
Maisen Priddell			Viva Palumbo -
			Br. 379 - Huntington Beach
Chiara De Lorenzo			Viva Palumbo -
			Br. 379 - Huntington Beach
Giulianna Thompson			Scholarship Fund
			Scholarship Fund
Areesha Tariq			Scholarship Fund
Sabina Marino			Scholarship Fund
Alexander Sciarra			Scholarship Fund
Morgan De La Torre			Scholarship Fund
Sean Dunn			Scholarship Fund

3RD YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS (\$700.00) - 17 AWARDED

Student	In Memory of	In Honor of	Donated by
Ben Gingerich			Br. 354 - Paso Robles
Matthew Fillari			Br. 442 - Pleasant Hill
Gianna Masinter			East Bay District

Congratulations to ICF 2026 2nd to 4th Year Scholarships Winners

3RD YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS (\$700.00) - 17 AWARDED (continued)

Student	In Memory of	In Honor of	Donated by
Francis John Gates			Br. 39 - Merced
Alyssa Spagnuolo			Br. 332 - Novato
Nathan Ries		Officers & Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Konrad Hardy			Br. 380 - Thousand Oaks
Chiara Rocchio			Santa Clara Valley District
Vincenzo Cortese			Br. 191 - San Jose
Kylee O'Brien			Br. 368 - San Jose
Jessica Tuso			Br. 445 - San Jose
Bethany Mello			Br. 390 - Tracy
Nicolo A. Mazza	Ambrogio & Teresa Solari		Carmen Kilcullen - Br. 52 - Healdsburg
Bethany Barlow			Scholarship Fund
Ariana Bottel			Scholarship Fund
Kayden Mattos			Scholarship Fund
Lauren Smith			Scholarship Fund

4TH YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS (\$1,000.00) - 15 AWARDED

Keira Dooley			Br. 442 - Pleasant Hill
Alena Gagnon			East Bay District
Antonio (AJ) Arevalo	Matthew James Rayta		Br. 10 - Alameda
Kassidy Taylor			Br. 39 - Merced
Michael Geloso			Br. 332 - Novato
Margaret Laborde Lagrave			Br. 342 - Auburn
Justin Ries		Officers & Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Katharine La Corte			Br. 218 - Arcadia
William Anderson			Santa Clara Valley District
Eleanor Crema			Br. 368 - San Jose
Lucas Lipari			Br. 391 - San Jose
Isabella Israel			Br. 390 - Tracy
Audrianna Bellotti		Jean Columbaro Gambill	Yvonne Columbaro Johnson
Grace Gallego	Josephine Jimenez		Vanni and Humphrey CPAs - Gilroy
Raven Juniper Leilani Alvarez			Scholarship Fund

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

East Bay District: Missy Kohl-Rubinstein - In Memory of Donna Rae Primrose; **Fresno District:** District and Br. 31; **Orange District:** Viva Palumbo (Br. 379) - In Memory of Andrew Santo Palumbo; **San Bernardino District:** Br. 217; **San Francisco Area:** Mary Perata (Br. 1) - In Memory of Isola Diodati and Mary Perata - In Memory of Nick Neuburger; **San Mateo District:** Br. 19, Dorene Campanile (Br. 173) - In Honor of the 100th Birthday of Rina Cassanego, Deborah Rodondi (Br. 19) - Thinking of You Wishes for The Lopes Family and Deborah Rodondi - In Memory of Natalie Malone; **Santa Clara Valley District:** Officers/Members of Br. 28 - In Memory of Geraldine Meacham, Br. 191, Br. 408 - In Memory of Mary Jo Di Muccio, Br. 435 - Officers/Members of Br. 435 - In Memory of Vince McLoughlin, Frank and Betty Angelino (Br. 28) - In Memory of Geraldine Meacham, Gerald H. Delfino (Br. 368) - In Memory of Ann Fitzgerald, Gerald H. Delfino - In Memory of Aldine Grisenti, Gerald H. Delfino - In Memory of Lorraine Nunziata, Gerald H. Delfino - In Memory of Phil Robba, Gerald Delfino - In Memory of Frank Signorelli, Gerald Delfino - In Memory of Helen Tatone, John G. and Kim Filice (Br. 28) - In Memory of Geraldine Meacham, Jean Gage (Br. 28) - In Memory of Geraldine Meacham, Giulia Gallego (Br. 435) - Thank You to Diana Berry, Giulia Gallego - In Memory of Phil Robba and Giulia Gallego - In Honor of the 90th Birthday of John Zaucha; **Santa Rosa District:** Br. 209 and Carmen Kilcullen (Br. 52) - In Memory of Patricia Arrigoni; **Stockton District:** Br. 413, Paul Baxter - In Memory of Geraldine Meacham and Mary Sides - In Honor of the Birthday of Jim Lee.



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

THOMAS D. COATES, MD

Professor of Pediatrics
 Director, Sickle Cell Center
 Section Head for Hematology

FRANCISCO BRACHO, MD

Professor, Clinical Pediatrics & Medicine

EDWARD GOMPERTS, MD, MB, BCH

Emeritus Professor of Clinical Pediatrics

TAYLOR KIM, MD

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Assistant Medical Director for Hematology

THOMAS C. HOFSTRA, MD

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Coordinator, Medical Student and

Resident Education

SARANYA VELUSWAMY, MD

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

CASSANDRA WANG, MD

Clinical Instructor of Pediatrics

GUY YOUNG, MD

Professor of Pediatrics

Director, Hemostasis & Thrombosis Center

SPECIALTY CONSULTANTS

Cardiology:

JOHN C. WOOD, MD, PHD

JON A. DETTERICH, MD

Pulmonology:

ROBERTA KATO, MD

NURSING TEAM

Nurse Practitioners:

SUSAN CARSON, MSN, RN, CPNP

DEBBIE HARRIS, MSN, RN, CPNP

TRISH PETERSON, MSN, RN, CPNP

Nurse Care Manager:

HEATHER VON BIELA, RN, BSN, CPHON

DIETICIAN TEAM

STEPHANIE HANNE, MS, RD, CSSD, CNSC

SOCIAL WORK TEAM

MICHELLE LAHAT, LCSW

CHYNNA AMING, MSW

PASSAGES Social Work Case Worker:

JOHN GREMELDI, BSW

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Administrative Assistant:

LYNDA LEMUS

Project Coordinators:

KELLY RUSSELL, MA

NATHAN SMITH, BA

Thalassemia Outreach Liaison:

LAURICE LEVINE, MA, CCLS

RESEARCH TEAM

Research Coordinators:

OBDULIO CARRERAS

JORDAN SWANIER, BS

September 23, 2026

Dear Grand President Franklyn Lopes Jr., Members of the Central Council, Branch Presidents, Members of the Italian Catholic Federation, and ICF Staff:

Thank you so much for your donation of \$46,100 presented during the 95th Annual ICF Convention in Reno to support Cooley's Anemia/Thalassemia.

While Dr. Coates was very sorry to miss the convention this year, Dr. Kim had a truly meaningful weekend meeting all of you. It was an honor to present our workshop on Cooley's Anemia/Thalassemia 101 and we hope the attendees gleaned valuable information from it. We also appreciated the opportunity to speak on Sunday to thank our ICF friends for their hard work and incredible generosity throughout the year.

We are truly grateful that Cooley's Anemia/Thalassemia continues to be your national charity! We realize that there are countless worthy causes you could support and we are humbled that the members stepped up with such vigor to support Cooley's. Since thalassemia is a rare disease in this country and funding is scarce for rare diseases, the ICF is instrumental to our program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. The difference you make in patients' lives is invaluable and we are grateful you support our endeavors to improve patients' quality of life locally and, through our research, globally.

Educating the community about thalassemia and keeping you updated on current research and projects that the ICF funds here at CHLA is a priority for us. Laurice visits any branches who invite her - it does not matter if there are 5 members or 50 - if you want to learn we want to support that desire! If you are interested, please contact her at (360) 860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com. This of course comes at no cost to your branch.

Thank you again for your generosity and continued support and love of our program. You are making a significant difference in countless lives.

Sincerely,

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
 Thalassemia Outreach Liaison
 360-860-2023

Karen Kim, MD
 Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Fellow
 Children's Hospital Los Angeles
 Cancer and Blood Disease Institute

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

Tax ID: 95-1690977

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

4650 Sunset Blvd. | Los Angeles, CA 90027 | 323.660.2450 | CHLA.org



Cooley's Anemia Donations

(Received as of September 10, 2026)

Branch 14

Branch 52

Branch 374

Branch 413

Officers/Members of Br. 362

In Memory of Sara Shaw

CC Spouses' and Family Association

In Memory of Sara L. Shaw

Jo-Ann and John Donivan

In Memory of Milt La Honta

Loretta Reaves

In Memory of Dolores

McCartney

Charlene Drobeck

In Memory of Leonardo Adamo

Salomone

Pat and Lou Mages

In Memory of Sara L. Shaw

Laurice Levine

In Memory of Sara Shaw

**"No one is useless in this world who
 lightens the burdens of another."**

— Charles Dickens

Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco

Br. 1, Maria S.S. Immacolata

Dear Members:

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

Please save the date of Sunday, November 8th for an Italian lunch to be held in San Francisco at the home of Diana and Dennis. Invitations will be sent.

Cordiali Saluti
Diana Cresci

SAN MATEO District

Colma

Br. 19, San Vincenzo De Paoli

There are some events scheduled around the area for our Branch members to consider attending.

- October 10-11 — Saints Peter & Paul Bazaar, North Beach, San Francisco

A big Italian-American community weekend with Italian food, shopping, and a good vantage point for the parade. The festival runs 10 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

- October 11 — Italian Heritage High Mass

10 a.m. at Saints Peter & Paul Church in North Beach, immediately preceding the parade.

- Sunday, October 11 — San Francisco Italian Heritage Parade

Probably the must-see Italian event of the year. The parade starts around 12:30 p.m. at Jefferson & Powell, travels through North Beach, and ends at Washington Square. Expect marching bands, Italian organizations, floats, music and lots of Italian-American food.

The ICF – 2027 Calendars are available to be purchased. The cost is \$30.00 per calendar which includes the Daily Raffle.

Branch 19's Next Meeting will be held on Monday, October 12, 2026, at Deborah Rodoni's home. 5:30 p.m.



Burlingame

Br. 173, Our Lady of Angels

Our branch is currently awaiting the reports regarding the Convention at our next meeting.

Our Branch was very successful in our Ravioli dinner and our first Car show held in our OLA School yard on 8-1-26.

Ravioli dinner contributors: Connie & Keith Aguilar and Sons, Inc. for the donation of ravioli, John Crosby of Crosby N. Gray for our wine and Raymond's Breads served with our dinner.

We had 22 cars join us and our portion of the car show profit was \$700.00.

A huge thank you to Josh, the OLA Men's Club President. Also, special thanks for their participation in the success: Bob Ahern, (Chef) Mary Ann Camacho, Lori Clyne, Geri & Dan Rolandson and Bob Bea Tomasello.

We are planning on a discussion amongst members on a decision on what's next on our dinner schedule.

Also, a reminder of OCTOBER 10-8 is ELECTIONS.

October 2 and 3rd - Br. 213 is holding a rummage sale 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - 1620 Howard Ave. Burlingame (Dorene Campanile's house)

Members throughout the Federation need our prayers: Fr. Brian, Fr. Gerald, Fr. Harold, Mary Bodisco, Maria & Victor Camicia, Rina Cassanego, Virginia Fuentes. From Branch 19: Cheryl Simon and Kathy Trevizo.

God Bless, Roz Emery

South San Francisco Br. 213, St Augustine

We are having a Rummage Sale on Friday, Oct 2 thru Saturday, Oct 3. Times are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

1620 Howard Ave., Burlingame.

Hoping the *Bollettino* comes out before the Rummage Sale.

All proceeds will go to charities supported by Br. 213 St Augustine.

Marianne Cameron, and Donna DeVoe will be attending the ICF Convention.

It was nice to see our scholarship recipient Madison Ketcham in the *Bollettino* with all the other recipients.

Due to the construction at St. Augustine's Hall our meetings will be held at different locations to be announced at a later date.

Keep in your prayers our members Jackie Smith, Faith Hill, Loraine D'Elia and Barbara Gabriel for a speedy recovery.

And a Big Happy belated Birthday to Linda Benedetti, Marianne Cameron, Joe Crosetti, Gloria DeVincenzi and Bethany Filippi.

See you next month. -Joe Crosetti

Millbrae

Br. 403, St. Dunstan

Ciao! Our August "Hot Dog & Chili Dinner" meeting was very successful. A big thanks to our kitchen helpers & our servers: It really makes a difference in the success of the event.

On Sunday, October 18th, we will be holding our "Polenta Dinner Fundraiser." The event begins with a social at 4 p.m. & dinner at 5 p.m. This very popular event features antipasto, salad, Mike Gianni's creamy polenta, 1/4 roasted chicken, sausage, WINE, dessert & coffee. We also have excellent raffle prizes, including a \$100 cash prize and gift certificates from local restaurants & vendors La Colina, The 16-Mile House, O'Sole Mio, Pape Meats, The Millbrae Pancake House, Leonardo's Deli, Lai Lai Mandarin & Celia's Mexican. The cost is \$45pp for adults, & \$25 for those under 12. Reservations are due by OCT 9TH. RSVP to: Faye Dawdy, 200 Poplar Ave., Millbrae, CA 94030. Include a list of attendees with your check (payable to "ICF BR 403"). Her # is: 650-588-5400.

Adonna Amoroso, Secretary

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE District Council

As summer ends and school starts, the ICF wrapped up a busy convention season. Thank you to the Reno Region and convention committee for a well-organized event. Congratulations to the branches awarded for their work last year and to our district member who won the grand raffle prize. We look forward to next year's convention in the city of Orange, hosted by the Orange and Los Angeles districts!

Upcoming Events

-Bishop's Day: Sunday, October 11, at St. John's Seminary. Join ICF members, seminarians, and staff to show our appreciation and support for future priests.

-Annual Pilgrimage to Cabrini Shrine (Burbank): Sunday, November 15. The day begins with Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church, followed by a Rosary procession with the St. Frances Cabrini statue, Benediction at the Shrine, and lunch in Cabrini Hall. Everyone is invited! (See flyer in this issue of the *Bollettino*.)

-Officers' Installation: Planned for January.

-Religious Education Congress: April 22-25, 2027, in Anaheim.

In Remembrance

We extend our prayers to the families of members who recently passed:

Sara, daughter of Central Council member Theresa Shaw and Tad Shaw.

Leonardo, son of Los Angeles District President Frank Salomone and Crocceta Salomone.

Barbara Tweety, former District Trustee.

Della Spinelli, 2010 Pope Saint John XXIII Award recipient.

Farewell to you from all corners of the District. Rest in the peace of the Lord.

That's it for now.

God Bless you all, Lou Mages



Br. 67, National Branch, St. Peter

At the 95th Annual ICF National Convention in Reno, Nevada over the recent Labor Day weekend, NBr 67 Perry Shurko and Theresa Sabatella Shaw won reelection of their ICF Central Council Seats for another year. NBr 67 Member Lou Mages assumes the position of President of the Los Angeles Archdiocese District until further notice. NBr 67 member Francesca Taylor shared her recent visit to the hometown of Mother Cabrini in Codugno,

Italy along with other regions known for Saint Anthony, and Padre Pio among others.

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

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

- Oct 11, 2026 ICF Bishop Day Banquet at St John's Seminary, Camarillo, CA.

- Oct 17, 2026 - ICF NBr 67 Gen Meeting via zoom from 10:30 to 12:00 pm.

- Nov 14, 2026 - ICF NBr 67 Gen Meeting via zoom from 10:30 to 12:00 pm.

- November 15, 2026 ICF Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage, Benediction, Luncheon at St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank, CA.

- Dec 25, 2026 - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

South Pasadena Br. 108, Holy Family

At the 95th Annual ICF National Convention in Reno, Nevada over the recent Labor Day weekend, Br. 108 member Theresa Sabatella Shaw won reelection for another year in a field of six other members running for five ICF Central Council Seats for 2027. Congratulations to Theresa and the four other winning Candidates.

Congratulations also to all members celebrating their October birthdays and wedding anniversaries.

We continue to pray for our sick members and ask that you keep them in your prayers for a speedy recovery and to our former branch members and friends of ICF who recently have gone to their eternal reward; may they rest in peace.

Keep safe and stay healthy,

Carmelo Sabatella, AIA

Past President, ICF Branch 108

C 626 372-7812. E cas1810@aol.com

SAVE THE DATES

- Oct. 4, 2026: ICF Br 108 General Meeting in Connolly Hall from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- Oct. 11, 2026: ICF Bishop Day Banquet at St. John's Seminary, Camarillo, CA.

- Nov. 1, 2026: ICF Br 108 General Meeting in Connolly Hall from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- Nov. 15, 2026: ICF Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage, Benediction and Luncheon at St. Francis Xavier Church, Burbank, CA.

- Dec. 13, 2026: ICF Br 108 Christmas Party in HF Connolly Hall from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Montebello Br. 111, St. Benedict

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our October General Meeting will be on Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, in Montebello. At this meeting, we will also have Nominations/Elections for 2026 branch officers. After the meeting, we will have cake to celebrate the Birthdays of the following members who have birthdays this month: Vienna Busalacchi, Lina Canzonieri, Crocetta Salomone, Patricia Soto, Giovanni Sergi, and Jeannine Vieni-Orofino. Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

On Sunday, October 18, 2026, at the 10:00 a.m. mass at St. Benedict Church, 1022 W. Cleveland Ave., Montebello, the mass will be offered for the living and deceased members of ICF 111. After mass, we will gather at the BJ's Pizzeria, 1424 W. Beverly Blvd, Montebello, for a luncheon.

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

Sunday, November 15, 2026 - Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage Mass & Luncheon.

Saturday, December 12, 2026 - Branch 111 Christmas Dinner, at Salvatore's Italian Restaurant.

Please keep our beloved deceased members and members families in your prayers: Leonardo Adamo Salomone, Margaret Valdez-Gallardo and Frank Ramos. Eternal rest grant into them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Finally, please pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

A Presto!
Frank Salomone
Branch 111 President

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

Thank you to everyone who joined our September potluck! Delegates Bob Hohman, Giovanna Gioiello, and Barbara West shared insights from the convention, and we congratulate raffle winners Frances Carter and Bob Hohman.

Upcoming Events

Bishop's Day Banquet (Sun, Oct 11): St. John Seminary. Bus leaves Boys & Girls Club (San Pedro) at 8:30 a.m. Price TBD. Features Mass and meeting seminarians. RSVP: Neal Dileva (310-413-1044).

Branch Meeting (Thu, Oct 15, 7:30 p.m.): Parish Hall. Join us for officer elections—your leadership is needed!

Harrah's Casino Trip (Tue, Oct 20): Bus leaves Boys & Girls Club at 8:30 a.m. \$40/person. RSVP: Pauline Iacono (310-832-0563).

Mother Cabrini Mass & Pilgrimage (Sun, Nov 15): Lunch at St. Francis Xavier (Burbank). Bus leaves Boys & Girls Club at 10:30 a.m. Price TBD. RSVP: Barbara West (310-548-1693).

Seminarian Christian Eguaroje's Diaconate Ordination:

Ordination: Sat, Nov 21, 9 a.m., Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels.

Reception: Sat, Nov 21, 4 p.m., Mary Star of the Sea.

First Mass: Sun, Nov 22, 9 a.m., Mary Star.

Christmas Party (Sat, Dec 5, 6 p.m.): Parish Auditorium. Free for members; \$15 for non-member spouses. Bring a \$15+ gift for the exchange and cookies to share. RSVP: Anita Trujillo (310-612-9811).

In Remembrance

We mourn long-time members Giovanna Perone (Italian Mass lector) and Carmela Gioiello. Both will be deeply missed.

Happy Halloween. Anita



Arcadia Br. 218, Holy Angels

Hope everyone had a good summer. Our membership meeting is October 11. Also, we have a donut sale that day and will pass out baby bottles after each Mass. This meeting is also election of our officers. November 8 is our next meeting. Upcoming: The Christmas Boutique is once again chaired by Jenni Hauge. This will be a 2-day event - November 14 and 15. Jenni has arranged several fun events which promise to be very entertaining. More detail to come. The Christmas party this year will be on December 6, a Sunday, 1:00. I will be chairing again this year. Mary Rovarino will once more handle the New Year's Eve party.

We hope to see all of our members in attendance at our meetings and these events.

Lolly M.

Downey Br. 362, St. Raymond

Hello and welcome to October! Wow! This year is moving so fast and here we are at the last few months of 2026. Well, last month was exciting as the 95th annual convention took place at the Silver Legacy resort in Reno Nevada. The drive up was stunning. Cool weather welcomed all of us there. It was a weekend of workshops, banquets, masses and catching up with old friends. You wouldn't believe how many books were donated!!

LA/OC did a great job presenting next year's convention at the Hotel Fera in Orange.

We also had another Bingo luncheon. Thanks to everyone who came out once again in support of our branch. Our branch came in first place for small branches in the Apostolic category!

October brings a lot of change in the air, and I hope cooler weather. On the 11th we will gather at St. John's Seminary for our districts annual Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day. Mass is at 11 a.m. and lunch follows. Tickets are \$30.

I hope you all have a very safe and *Happy Halloween!*
Perry Shurko, Branch Vice President.

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

St. Bede is celebrating its 75th Parish Birthday on October 4, 2026! The Denim & Diamonds Celebration will feature a BBQ dinner, live entertainment, variety of games, photo fun, community, and fellowship.

Please contact the St. Bede Parish Office to purchase tickets. All proceeds support St. Bede in sustaining the

ministries and programs that serve our community.

Branch #374 will be volunteering onsite and overseeing the dinner line throughout the day.

Adult General Admission Meal: \$27

Children 10 and under Meal: \$16

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Benardo "Benny" Volpe, a longtime member of Branch #374.

Benny was known for his kindness and generosity, particularly his support of St. Joseph's Feast and Silent Auction events. He will be greatly missed by our ICF family.

We extend our prayers and condolences to his wife, Janice, and to all of Benny's family and friends. May he rest in peace.

We are pleased to welcome Zana Zefi as a new member of our Board overseeing our Membership Committee with her enthusiasm, energy and new ideas.

Upcoming events:

St. Peter's Church – Los Angeles

Polenta Lunch: October 18, 2026 – 2:30 p.m.

Bishop's Banquet

October 11, 2026 – St. John's Seminary, Camarillo

Mass – 11:00 a.m.

Lunch & Program – 12:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Table – 2027

Setup: March 13, 2027 – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Table, Bake Sale & Lunch: March 14, 2027 – 8:00 a.m. – Lunch at 12:30

Silent Auction Closes: 1:30 p.m.

Thousand Oaks Br. 380, St. Paschal Baylon

On September 11th, 2026, ICF Branch 380 held a Back From Summer Break meeting and invited all members to bring a friend to start the new season with renewed motivation and purpose.

The potluck dinner was well attended and the whole evening was a great start to a new year of activities.

Respectfully submitted Don Modaro

DEADLINE

**October 10th for the
November issue of
the *Bollettino*.**

**Send your
articles & photos:
editor@icf.org**

Rancho Palos Verdes Br. 444, St. John Fisher

The Parish Welcome Center was formally opened in July with Msgr. Antonio Cacciapuoti & Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, concelebrating the Mass. Msgr. Sork's vision for the Center finally became reality for all the Parish & newcomers to enjoy. A delicious buffet was served on the patio, after everyone toured the new Center. July's General meeting was hosted by President Hany Francis. Barbequed Tri Steak, vegetables, salad & sides brought by all the members. Tonia, won first place for outstanding dessert. Arcade Style Bean bag throw was won by Pat Payne, with Dolly, Mary, Carol, Cristina & Kathleen in overall second place. Money made for the evening was donated to the Cooley Anemia Fund.

Happy Birthday to August, September & December members.

Please remember in prayer the souls of the faithfully departed in our membership, our parish & the world.

Ciao, Patty Longo Hansen

Manhattan Beach Br. 447, American Martyrs

Greetings to you all. Well, another ICF convention has come and gone. Next year's convention is at the Hotel Fera in Orange and I hope to see as many of you as possible. This year's convention was a huge success.

There's still a lot to do for our upcoming Limoncello Festival. Tickets are still on sale. Get 'em while they're hot! Raffle prizes and Silent Auction items are needed.

On the 11th of this month the LA district gathers as one to honor and support our local seminarians at our Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day. Mass is at St. John's seminary in Camarillo. Tickets are \$30 for the lunch which follows the Mass. if you've never been, you need to go.

We want to plan a bus trip to a local casino soon. Harrah's has a great deal for bus trips. We just need to fill up a bus - about 50 people. So, let's plan on that for November.

*Let's all have a fun and safe Halloween.
Perry Shurko, Branch Mentor.*

East Bay District Council

The transition from summer to fall is marked by the annual ICF Convention. Continuing our tradition, every EBD branch was represented at Convention again this year. For EBD, this year's convention is especially meaningful as two of our members are honored. Melody Klever, Branch 343, received the Grand President's award and Bob

Britton, also from Branch 343, received the Pope St. John XXIII award. Both are remarkable embodiments of the attributes noted in the awards they received and inspire us in their dedication and service to ICF and their communities.

EBD has also continued our tradition of support of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships, with one of our Branches - Branch 285- providing additional scholarships. Donations to Thalassemia (Cooley's Anemia), Gifts of Love and Spread the Word Nevada were brought to Convention on behalf of our generous members.

EBD congratulates all those who won election to Central Council. We have deep gratitude for those who stepped forward to run and those who are completing their service. We pray and pledge our support for our ICF leadership.

The rest of the year is BUSY!

September 20st is Bishop's Day—celebrated jointly with Contra Costa District—hosted by CCD in Richmond.

EBD will co-celebrate Christmas with Branch 10 on Dec 5th in Alameda.

Installation with CCD is January 17th 2027.

And the EBD Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed is planned for Feb 6th—squeezing it in right before Lent!

Please consult the EBD Branch reports for more activities and details!

*Sincerely
Roberta Madej*

Alameda Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

Nuestro Signora Della Gracie

You are all welcome to attend our annual Ravioli Dinner scheduled for Saturday, October 17, in Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda. The evening begins with social hour at 6 p.m. The dinner prepared by Ben Ratto will follow at 7 p.m. The menu includes salad, roll, meat and cheese cold cuts, ravioli, wine and dessert. There will be a hosted bar, but mixed drinks will not be served after 7 p.m. The evening includes collection of baby items and funds for Birthright, the crisis pregnancy center located in San Lorenzo. Also, we will be initiate three new members. Prices are \$35.00 for adults and \$12.00 for young people 12 years old and under. For reservations, please contact Terry Greig, 510-504-5098. Reservations are due by 9 p.m. on Monday, October 12. Payment in advance, please. Checks should be made payable to "ICF Branch 10" and mailed or delivered to the Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish Office, 3101 Van Buren Street, Alameda 94501.

Next up will be our combined East Bay District—Branch 10 Christmas Party on Saturday evening, December 5, in Monsignor O'Brien Hall. Details

to follow in the November *Bollettino*.

At our September meeting we celebrated those attending with September birthdays.

We presented an ICF Certificate of Appreciation to longtime member Ernie Poggi, who always assists with set-up and take-down for our dinners and meetings.

Thanks also to financial secretary Karen Harrington, who presented us with the membership report (116 adult members, 14 children and nine families), and to trustee Peggie Dorrance, for selling 56 books of convention raffle tickets.

J

Livermore Br. 285, St. Filomena

Ciao Amici,

While our Branch at large took an August break, The Italian Conversation group met and spent an enjoyable afternoon playing Tombola, the Italian game that was brought over to America by Neapolitan immigrants and became the model for Bingo. We started with a video about the history of the game that has its roots in 17th century lotto games. We also learned about the patron saint of gambling, San Cono!

September activities will include Bishop's Day at Our Lady of Mercy in Point Richmond, participation in St. Michael's annual Fall Festival, and the September social meeting featuring a presentation by members who traveled to Rome for a Holy Year pilgrimage. Additionally, we will be looking forward to hearing all the latest news from the Reno Convention at that meeting.

October is Italian Heritage Month, so to celebrate, we will be watching the Italian Film, "Il Pranzo di Ferragusto", also known as "Mid-August Lunch". This popular film is in Italian with English subtitles and is about a bachelor who is tasked with looking after his mother and three other women over Italy's major Summer holiday, the Ferragosto. Members are sure to enjoy this entertaining film that is poignant, but also humorous.

Please keep those members of our Branch who are ill or facing any challenges in your prayers.

Buon Compleanno to all those with October birthdays!

*Ciao,
Paula Flessatti*



Castro Valley Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace

My, how fast time flies!

The convention in Reno is now history, and with Labor Day marking the unofficial end of summer, and with Costco selling their Christmas merchandise, the end of the year will be here before we know it!

But we still have plenty of plans for the remainder of the year!

Speaking of the convention, we were honored to have two members of our branch receive awards: Bob Britton was selected as the 2026 Pope Saint John XXIII Award recipient, and the 2026 Grand President's Award went to our own Melody Klever. Congratulations to you both!

A lot of work has been going into making our next fundraiser, our annual "Bites and Bingo" event, a successful one. Games of Bingo, lots of raffle baskets, and plenty of heavy hors d'oeuvres is a recipe for a successful fundraiser!

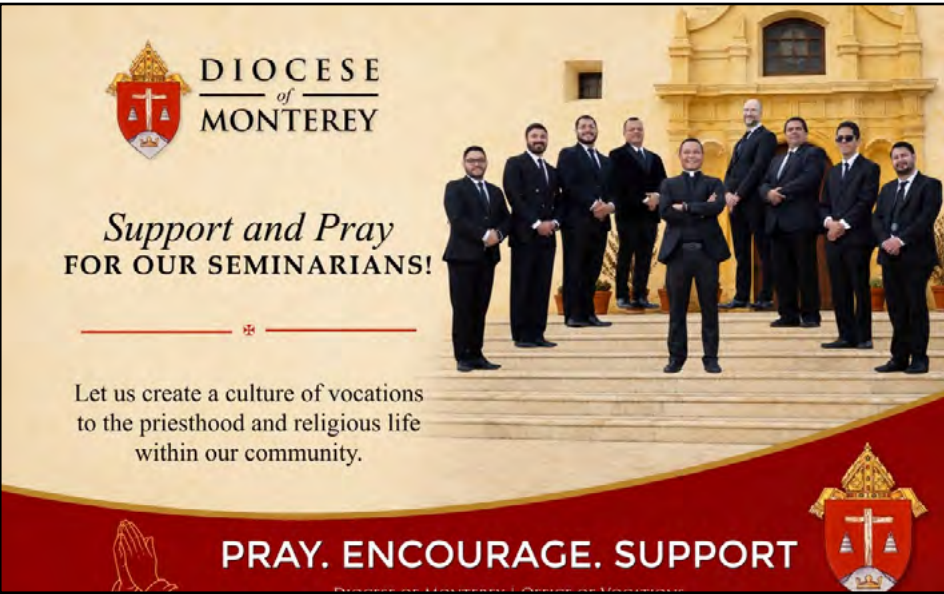
Our branch is stepping up to the plate and once again helping at Our Lady of Grace School's annual Fall Festival by putting together a pasta dinner. This meal will be served at the end of the festival and is always well-received. Nobody goes home hungry!

Rod Ladley and Laura Putnam-Ladley prepared dinner at this month's branch meeting. They served up a hearty dinner highlighted by a tasty baked rigatoni.

Fall season is truly a wonderful time to be in Italy: there is the "Fiera Internazionale del Tartufo Bianco d'Alba", in Piedmont, world-famous for truffle hunting, tastings, and gourmet markets; Eurochocolate in Perugia a massive, multi-day chocolate festival in the historic center of Perugia (Umbria), featuring sculptures, tastings, and cooking classes; and in Tuscany, Umbria, and northern Italy, small towns host weekend festivals celebrating new wine, chestnuts (castagne), mushrooms, and pumpkins.

*Altro in arrivo il mese prossimo!
Edoardo McGuirk*

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT



Seminarians of Diocese of Monterey



Central Coast Bishop's Day



Most Reverend Bishop Ramon Bejarano- Diocese of Monterey



Father Louie Bellen, Director of Vocations- Diocese of Monterey



Bishop and Central Council



Branch 36, Bishop's Day



Monterey Faternity Young Adults



Paula Rossi
Branch 36 1941 - 2026



Branch 36, Bishop Ramon and Father Louie

Italian Catholic Federation

Santa Rosalia Branch #36

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email: info.icf36@gmail.com Monterey, CA 93942

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT (continued)



Annie Subia and Keely Sanchez, from Br. 291, enjoyed playing the slots during their “free” time at the Convention.



Delegates Annie Subia and Keely Sanchez from Br. 291, Arroyo Grande.

SAN DIEGO DISTRICT



Br. 246 Borromeo Bash



Br. 246 Borromeo Bash



Br. 246 - Branch Appreciation BBQ



Br. 246 Borromeo Bash

SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT



Annie McCarthy, San Bernardino representative appointed to Central Council.



Annie McCarthy, Central Council - Br. 217, Redlands



Br. 446 at lake house



Br. 446 boat ride



Br. 446 on boat



Br. 446 wine at the lake

STOCKTON DISTRICT



Br. 395, Stockton District represents



Branch 395 scholarship winners, Gabrielle and Zachary with our Chaplain, Fr. Mark.



Br. 413, Growing up fast!



Branch 82 and 413



Branch 82, Angelina Fugazi - Peru Mission presentation



Branch 82, Angelina Fugazi - Peru Mission



Br. 413, A few Stockton members



Br. 413, Great Friends!

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT



Branch #209's September General Meeting Summer Potluck



Melanie Lujan from Branch #209 shares delicious desserts!!



Branch #209's Board conducts our September General Meeting.



Branch #209 sings Happy Birthday to Rich Petuya.



Branch #144 Rosemary and Chris off to Reno Convention



Branch#144 Chris Brunelle in concert



Branch#144 Deacons John Gai ('78)and Jon Pedicino ('22) at Mass for the 30th Anniversary of the dedication of St Mary's Church



Branch#144 Rosemary Melendy & Christine Ross at Reno Convention

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT



Br. 214, Cabana club get together



Congratulations to 1st and 2nd place Bocce winners at the Crockett #14 Annual Picnic. ... Great job.



Br. 214, Giants game



Donna and Nancy from Crockett #14 visiting with an old friend Bob A. From Santa Rosa at the Reno Convention.



Donna H. And Nancy C. From Crockett #14 stopped to say hello to Laurice Levine at the Reno ICF Convention.



Br. 214, Cache Creek bus trip



Members who attended the Crockett #14 Branch Picnic. Fun day with great friends!

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT (continued)



Branch 442 members and guests enjoying the Ladies Tea Luncheon.



Branch 442 members and guests enjoying the Ladies Tea Luncheon.



Branch 442 members Nancy Santos and Dough Whitaker busy making pancakes



Branch 442 Pancake Breakfast. Terri Hurlbut and volunteers taking a break for a photo.



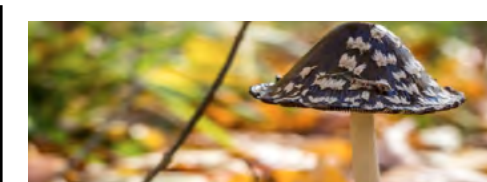
Br. #13 Officer, Griffin Shaw, at his first convention, a first-time blood donor accomplished a double red donation.



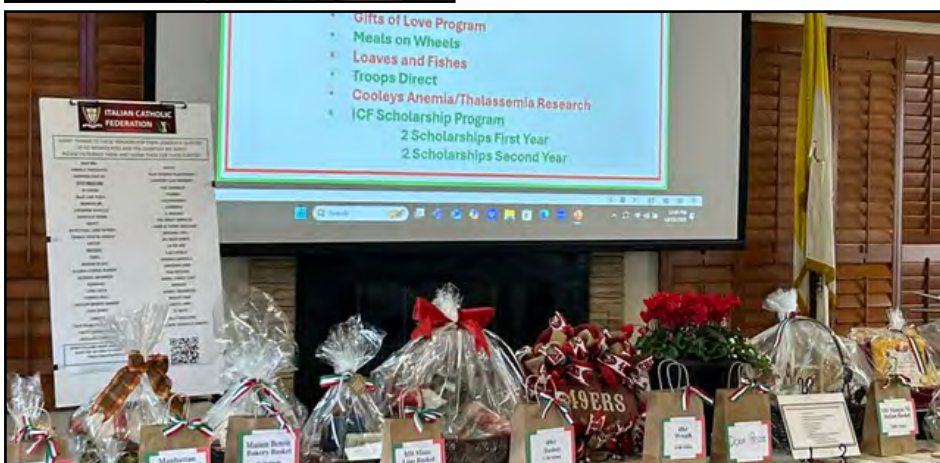
Br. #13 Officers, Mary Cook, was one of 23 donors at this year's convention blood drive when 27 units of blood were collected.



Br. #13 Officers, Mary Cook, Rosemary Shaw, and Griffin Shaw stand beside the Federation banner at the Saturday banquet representing Martinez and the Contra Costa District.



Br. 352, Steve and Chris Lacy are enjoying sausage and pepper dinner for our monthly meeting.



Br. 352, Our fundraiser dinner dance last year was a success for our charities. This year it will be held October 24.



Br. 352, Our newest member Sharon Miller was the biggest winner at Cache Creek.!



Br. 352, Lisa Sager is with our 50-50 raffle winner SandySiino at our dinner meeting. Donation went to Catholic charities.

CONTRA COSTA District

Martinez Br. 13, San Martino

Autumn reminds us that life moves through cycles, a season for letting go and for new beginnings. Spiritually, fall is a season for introspection; and just as trees shed their leaves, autumn invites us to let go of old habits, relationships, and emotional burdens that no longer serve us. We create energetic space for new growth and opportunities to enter our lives. Let God be with us through these challenges.

It is a time of profound gratitude, encouraging us to recognize and honor our personal growth, accomplishments, and resilience. In that light, we recognize member, Rosemary Shaw, accomplished her reelection and secured a seat on the Central Council, was elected Grand Trustee, and appointed to the Executive Board with immense thanks to the delegates.

We acknowledge Richmond branch for organizing the Contra Costa and East Bay District's Bishop Day in September honoring Bishop Barber and our Oakland Diocese seminarians. We look forward to November and December district/branch events.

*For the greater glory of God,
Mary Cook*

Crockett Br. 14, San Carlo

Ciao Amici

Thank you to Donna and Nancy for representing our branch at the convention in Reno. It is always great to see old friends and come together to continue the traditions of ICF.

We had an active summer this year. We went on a bus trip to Cache Creek with a great group of people. Our branch picnic & bocce tournament in August was a success. We enjoyed good food, wonderful friends and many fun memories were made. Thank you to everyone who supported these events.

Our branch celebrated its 99th anniversary with an excellent dinner from chef Johnny V & crew. Thank you to all who came and celebrated with us. Our 100th anniversary is next year. So, save the date—August 1st, 2027!

Our October meeting will be on the 13th and we will have an international themed potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share. We will also have our canned food drive. Please bring cans to help feed those in need.

Our famous Polenta, Chicken and Sausage Dinner is on Saturday, October 24th. Tickets are \$30 and will go fast. Please contact Donna if you are

interested.

On a sad note, please keep the families of Debbie Keys and Pat Botta in your prayers for the loss of their beloved brother and nephew. Say prayers for all our sick members. Lastly, please pray for St. Rose of Lima so the bishop sees how important this parish is to the Crockett community.

*Sempre Avanti
Nancy*

Concord Br. 214, Todos Santos

I hope you all enjoyed your warm summer days. We enjoyed many fun activities at our branch.

In June we had a branch meeting with a barbecue of hamburgers and hot dogs with Pam Piscatelli's son in law doing a fantastic job barbecuing for us.

12 people enjoyed going to the Giants Italian Heritage baseball game. We all received a T shirt also. Too bad they lost!!

Sue Giorgetti hosted a member only appreciating event at her Cabana Club. Appetizers and drinks were served. I was 100* that day. We played games too.

We all had fun at Cache Creek. The bus ride was fun and Terri Di Loreto provided us with fun games and prizes. There were some lucky winners. Thank you, Pam Piscatelli for arranging this fun trip. Chris Androtti brought great donuts to share.

Chris Androtti hosted a bowling night at Clayton Bowl. There were 12 bowlers. Marion Armstrong's team won and everyone had a few laughs.

Our representatives are looking forward to going to the convention in Reno for Labor Day weekend. Hopefully they will come back with new ideas for our branch.

We are planning our Pasta/Bingo on Oct. 24th at Zio Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill. We will have 5 games of Bingo, a buffet lunch, and many great raffle prizes and door prizes. Flyers will be out soon.

Ed DeMartini is doing better and going to PT for his leg. Sandy Cordoni is also in PT for her hip and doing well and back to playing the piano.

Roberta Healy our President is finally doing well and able to be back working hard for our branch.

I won \$30 from the Calendar drawing and so did Sandy Cordoni. She won \$30 also. It's fun to receive the surprise in the mail.

Please stay healthy and safe. The holidays are coming!!

*Bless you all,
Norene Deluca*

Danville Br. 352, San Isidore

Ciao Branch 352

In August, we held our annual Sausage and Pepper Dinner Meeting. Our 50/50 charity raffle was won by Sandy Siino, and the charity donation went to Catholic Charities.

We also enjoyed our annual trip to Cache Creek. Margie always makes the trip so much fun! There are opportunities to win prizes and money along the way, and everyone has a great time. Sharon Miller, our newest member, was the biggest winner at Cache Creek. Congratulations, Sharon!

We recently returned from the annual ICF Convention, which was held this year in Reno at the Silver Legacy. The delegates from our branch were Sis and Nick Baatz and Sally and Art Panella. We learned a lot and look forward to bringing new ideas and information back to our branch.

Our favorite workshop was "Italian Spiritual Heritage." The presenter, Francesca Taylor, is an opera singer and producer of Italian operas. She gave a fascinating slide presentation and shared information about Italian saints and our rich Italian spiritual heritage.

We felt our members would really enjoy this presentation, and we will discuss the possibility of bringing it to our branch at our next board meeting. That's all for now until next month.

Many blessings, Sally Panella

Pleasant Hill Br. 442, Christ the King

Here are some of the major events we had this Summer.

We hosted our second annual parish pancake breakfast on July 19th. We had long lines after each Mass, but our cooks were able to move everyone along quickly. It was so much fun to see parishioners, of all ages, engaging with one another while enjoying their pancakes and sausages with lots of butter and syrup. Thank you to Terri Hurlbut for heading the event and all the members who volunteered to make this a very enjoyable gathering for all.

Thank you to Sandy Lione and Anne McEntorffer who volunteered at our local Loaves and Fishes on Sunday August 23rd. Several members have volunteered in the past. It is a very worthy cause. Be on the look-out for future volunteer opportunities.

We closed August with our Ladies Tea fundraiser event on Saturday the 29th at our Saint Stephen Campus. Many ladies got into the spirit with elegant hats and fascinators. Thank you to our hostesses who did a marvelous job decorating the tables giving the room a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Thank you for the incredible donated gift baskets, and to our young helpers, Madison and Betty, for making it a fun raffle. Thank

you to our gentlemen servers who did a great job serving the tea sandwiches and desserts and keeping the teapots full, as well as to the many volunteers. A big thank you goes to Diana Mackinson and Joan Cummings for their tireless work in front of and behind the scenes that made this event possible!

*Arrivederci estate. Benvenuto autunno.
Eileen McGauran and Ann Consul*

BLESSED SACRAMENT District

Auburn Br. 342, St. Joseph

We hope you will be able to join us for Fall Bingo on at the Canyon View Community Center on Saturday, October 10th from 11 to 3. We will be having tacos with rice and beans for lunch. We will also have a great raffle and fun games of bingo. If you would like to purchase tickets, please contact Pam at (530)913-2041 or Adriana at (530)906-6996. Tickets are \$35.00 each.

On the following day, October 11th, our district will be celebrating Bishop's Day at St. Mary's Church in Sacramento. Mass begins at 12:30 with lunch following in the hall. Tickets are \$20.00 each. All branch members are welcome to attend. Please contact Pam if you would like to join us.

Ciao! Pam Andersen

Roseville Br. 438, St. Clare of Assisi

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Labor Day weekend, especially our delegates who represented our branch at the convention: Joe Aguilar, Tina Flanders, and Kathy Neuburger. A big thank you to all of you.

We had a delicious Hawaiian Luau for our August branch meeting given by Mark and Yvonne Anthony, and Robert and Ann Finn. The decorations were absolutely beautiful, as always, by Vera Beine. Thank you so much to Robert and Ann Finn, who helped make this possible. Also, Pat Brown who made the yummy macaroni salad, and all the members that pitched in and helped.

Upcoming events; October the 5th, Parish Picnic—Free Lunch served at Morris Hall. Lots of activities planned.

October 11th, Bishop's Day—11 a.m. St. Mary's Church, lunch following at Giovanni Hall. Cost is \$20.00.

October 24th and 25th- Harvest Bake Sale- Connie Terry is the Chairperson for this event.

Your Reporter, Yvonne Anthony

EAST BAY DISTRICT



Toast to Melody Klever receiving Grand Presidents Award at EBD August meeting



Members of #343 Enjoying a Baked Rigatoni Dinner



Homemade Bugia for our EBD August meeting by Paul Ferrario - Br. 215



Br. 343, Ron Ladley and Crew Preparing Our Baked Rigatoni Dinner



Br. 343, Bob Britton receives his Pope Saint John XXIII Award

FRESNO DISTRICT



Merced ICF Branch 39 Members attending THE HARVEST OF HOPE appreciated the recognition of their caring and dedication.



Susan Mencarini showing off her raffle prize at The Convention.



ICF Branch 39 President Terrie Rhodes accepts Ministry of Presence award from Bishop Brennan of Freson Diocese.



Br. 39, Vince Piro treated members to an auction dessert. Pictured are Franklyn Lopes, Jr. Grand President of ICF, Debbie Piro, Vince Piro and Terrie Rhodes.

Thursday & Friday at the Convention

THURSDAY, September 3, 2026

Central Council arrived at the Silver Legacy to prepare the venue for ICF delegates and guests. Early arrivals started the ICF Convention the right way—with great food, great company, and a night to remember for a Basque Buffet Dinner at the legendary Louis Basque Corner in Reno.

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

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

The **HERITAGE ROOM** featured at this year's convention celebrated over a century of ICF history. Open throughout the event, it was paired with the ICF Marketplace so visitors could explore a collection of photos while having an opportunity to purchase a variety of Italian-themed products including original artwork, to by Joe DiGrado, Br. 406 President, as well as Italian crafted rosaries, and ICF-themed T-shirts and aprons.

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

BINGO: The Ways and Means Committee hosted a lively game of BINGO, drawing an energetic crowd of 65 members who dotted their cards anxiously waiting to call out 'BINGO!'

NEW DELEGATE ORIENTATION

Led by Grand President Franklyn Lopes, Jr. and Grand 2nd Vice President Lisa Crudo, 18 new delegates were introduced to convention life. Together, the Central Council leaders shared how convention is run as well as encouraged everyone to share new ideas with other branches. They also reviewed requirements for delegates and discussed the importance of discussing the issues and voting.

Fresh delegates brought bold ideas to the table, sparking conversations on high-impact fundraisers and game-changing member retention strategies. The call to action was clear: turn strangers into lifelong friends, ignite bold new concepts, and bring that creative momentum back to transform local branches and districts!

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Friday at the Convention



15th Annual Convention Blood Drive: Giving Life By the Live to Give Committee

The Live to Give Committee would like to extend their deepest appreciation and gratitude to all who donated or attempted to donate blood at the 15th Annual Convention Blood Drive in Reno, NV. The ICF blood drive had 23 donors register and Vitalant Blood Bank was able to collect 27 successful donations (one unit can help up to 3 individuals in need of blood products) with the potential to save up to 81 lives in the community.

Donors received a goodie bag and raffle tickets for an array of fabulous prizes donated by the Live to Give Committee and Mary Cook. Special Thanks to Scott Kelley and his collections Team at Vitalant for their time and hard work. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the following blood donors: thank you for donating blood and giving the gift of life.

God bless each of you.

Joseph Aguilar
James Canger
Wendy Cosentini
Lou Mages
Laurence Mazzotta
Robert Pachinger
Sid Pappani
Christine Ragusa
Joan Rinaldi
Mike Rossi
Griffin Shaw
Tina Tallman

Pam Andersen
Mary Cook
Mary Josephine Fragnito-Lira
Ken Marshall
Nanette Metz
Andy Pappani
Debbie Piro
Terrie Rhodes
Marcie Rossi
Carmelo Sabatella
Tad Shaw

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

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

Thank you again to everyone who participated.

Respectfully,

Mike Rossi, Chair, Live to Give Committee
Ken Marshall, Member, Live to Give Committee
Pat Mages, Member, Live to Give Committee
Lisa Crudo, Member, Live to Give Committee
Laurice Levine, Member, Live to Give Committee



Friday at the Convention



Friday at the Convention

MEET THE CENTRAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Rosemary Cook, Br. 13, Martinez
Theresa Sabetella Shaw, Br. 108, South Pasadena
Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184, Los Gatos
Annamarie McCarthy, Br. 210, Fontana
Perry Shurko, Br. 362, Downey

OPENING CEREMONIES DINNER:

The Convention officially began with a warm welcome from Convention Director Lauren Kilcullen, Grand 1st Vice President, who opened the 95th Convention.

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES was Andrew Pappani, Past Grand President, Br. 28 -- Gilroy. He welcomed everyone to the Biggest Little Town of Reno.

In a nod to past conventions, Allen

Watts also led the room in a spirited round of "Aloha!"

PRESENTATION OF COLORS: conducted by Boy Scout Troop #7322, established in 1988, the only Catholic sponsored unit in the Diocese of Reno.

The **Italian and US National Anthems** were led by Nina Malone, Life Member Emeritus, Br. 450 President, Lincoln.

The evening continued with an **OPENING PRAYER** and **PROGRAM** by Reverend Christopher Bennett, Grand Chaplain.

The **HOST AREA WELCOME** came from Charlyne Pacini, Br. 135 -- Reno President who presented Grand President Franklyn Lopes, Jr. with a donation for the Providenza Fund.

Grand President Lopes encouraged

everyone to take advantage of what we have to offer this weekend. Bring what you have learned back to your branches!

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE:

Fr. Chris led all gathered in songs and prayers highlighting Our Legacy: Faith, Family, Heritage. He reminded all that family teaches that love goes with sacrifice and the value of culture links us to our roots and inspires the futures.

Tonight we gather as members of the Italian Catholic Federation family to remember the threads God has woven through our lives--threads of faith, family, and heritage. Each of us carries a story. Each story matters. Together, our stories form the tapestry of the ICF.

In recognition of all the districts gathered, Past Grand Presidents Bob Basuno and Denise Antonowicz conducted the **ROLL CALL OF DISTRICTS & PROCESSION** which included

the **Rite of Remembrance** where the *Litany of Saints* was called naming the patron saint for each district with representatives processing while presenting a decorative plate with the patron saint and pictures from the district.

The evening concluded with a Closing Prayer and a moving rendition of the **FEDERATION ANTHEM, "NOI VOGLIAMO DIO,"** led by **Diana Letizia MacKinson**, Contra Costa District President, Br. 442 President, Pleasant Hill, joined by all in attendance.

As an added bonus this year, the evening ended with the first group of **RAFFLE PRIZES** drawn and distributed to the lucky winners. More opportunities to win continued on Saturday and Sunday.

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Saturday at the Convention



In Loving Memory

Mayme Abbott Flora Adiego Frank Aguilar Gary Aguilar Katherine Aguilar Lorraine Aguire Roger Aguire Enrico Alfonsi Yolanda Alfonsi Joyce Alpi Bill Androtti Cathy Androtti Mary Androtti Raymond Androtti Steve Androtti Laura Angelino Cody Anthenien Chester Antonowicz Marie Antonowicz Michal Antonowicz Zofia Antonowicz Carl Armento Wilma Armento Patricia Arnaudo Primo Arnaudo Steve Arnaudo Tina Arnaudo Yolanda Arnaudo Reverend Albert R. Bandini Anna Barberi Eva Barcellos Fern Barnes Kent Lincoln Barnes Doreen Barroza Manual Barroza Ann M. Basuino Frank L. Basuino Joseph E. Basuino Lorraine Basuino Edmund Bayer Michael Beam Jeannette Beeler Danielle Marie Beller Michael P. Beller George Bennet Jeanette Bennett Bert Berry Travis Berry Edward Bertaccini Patricia Bertilacchi Alaide Bertini Albert Bertini Georgia Bianchi Pauline Bigby Dori Blefari Paul Blefari David Botti Julia Botti	Raffrele Botti Aurelia Bozzo Ellen Bozzo Albert Brignone Teresa Brignone Matt Brodersen Bill Brown Millie Brown Olga Brunetti Raymond Brunetti Douglas Buessing Romano Buonaccorsi Linda Calciatore Seni Caligiure Robert L. Camacho Carl Camero Charles A. Cameron Dwight A. Cameron Nancy L. Cameron Concetta Campanile Edna Mae Campanile John B. Campanile Peter A. Campanile Santo Campanile Rosalie Campisi Gina Candiloro Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli Viola Carr Bobby Casavant Gary Casavant Roselane Catania Vincent Catania Larry Cavagnaro Roy Cavagnaro Donald J. Cervelli Al Chanteloup Fung-Lan Ng Chiu Michael Chiu Sze-Kwan Chiu Dean Clark Frank Cline Evelyn Codia Katherine Codiga Louis Codiga Roland Codiga Fr. John Coleman Rene Rovere Collier Reverend Andrew Colnaghi, Cam. O.S.B. Annabelle Conconi Peggy Constantino Anna Cortopassi Carlo Cortopassi Veronica Cosenza Alberto Costa Giovanni Costa Tina Costa Vilma Costa Madeline Crews	Steve Crisafi Cody Crosby Ed Crosetti Elaine Cruci Brian J. Crudo Rosalind Crudo Stephen P. Crudo Frank S. Crudo, Jr., MD David R. Cruz Carolyn Cugia Mario Cugia Jack Cummins Janet Cummins The Cuneo Family Wilma Cursi Pia D'Olive Daniel Darby Eleanor Darby Mike Davis Mark Dawson George De Luca Anna De Maria Joe De Maria Sam De Maria Flora De Pasquale Linda De Ville Bertha DeAndre Deceased Members of Br. 26, Holister Deceased Members of the Central Council Olive DeFrancisci Richard DeFrancisci Alfred Del Carlo Elaine Del Carlo Angelina Depew Nettie Descalso-Del Nero Theresa Dianda Robert Dianda, K.S.G. Fabiola & Osvaldo DiPaolo Cathy Dolon Evelyn Donati Mariangela Donato Sharon Dunn Perrin Elivia Eleonor L. Emery Jesse J. Engineer Phiroze Engineer Kelly Engineer, Jr. Henry Feldman Frances Ferrello Leorna Ferrello Miguel Figueroa-Cruz Franca Filice Lois L. Filice Marlene Filice W. John Filice Ines Fiorio	Mario Fiorio Frieda Fiocchini Lorena Fiocchini Fr. John Flutsch Jeffrey Fontana, SJPD Vera Fontanetti Emma Fortino Franco Franchini Norma Freese Maria Fregosi Gilbert Frenna Eleanor Frusetta Don Gage Daniel Ganguin Angelo Gardella Lorraine Gardella Robert Gardella Anita Gatti Orlando Gatti Marie Ghezzi Al Giorgetti Albert Giovannetti Florence Giovannetti Jane Girardo Della Giuliani Evelyn Gould Sonny Gould Pat Grasso Maria Greco Ario Gregori Aldine Grisenti Inez Guerrero Norma Harris Mike Healy David Heinrich Beverly Hendon John Herren Rosemarie (Dixie) Herren Gina Hill Barry Hill, Jr. Marlene Hintzman Kitty Hodge Anthony Hole George Huly Gladys Carbone Huly Marc Ijim Margaret Imhof Josephine Jimenez Kelly Jones Guy Jones Janice Jones Leona Jones Robert Jones Diane Joy Kenneth Kiser Agatha Kiever Henry Kiever Adelina "Addie" Kramer
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Of Our ICF Members, Family & Friends

Patti La Brash Richard Lara Joann Latham Joe Latham JoAnn LaTorre Violet LaTorre Peter P. LaTorre, Sr. Dr. Peter P. LaTorre, Jr. The Lazar Family Genevieve Lemucchi Leo Lemucchi Marie Irene Lencioni Robert Vincent Lencioni Salvador Lipari Anna Lopes Frank Lopes Cindy Lowe Antonio Machiorlatti Joe Machiorlatti John Machiorlatti Lou Machiorlatti Christia Malden Frances Malfatti Michael Malfatti Rosie Mammuni Livio Mandolati Karen Mann Marie L. Mannino Dixie Marino Steve Martinelli Thomas Martinez Francesco Martino Giuseppe Martino Jeralina Gerri Martino Gino Martinucci Gloria Martinucci Bob Masik Dolores McCartney Andrea F. McGuirk Louis Mencarini Mary Mencarini Del Merlini Lisa Merlini Lisa Miani Pia Miani Marco Michelato JoAnn Miller Mike Miraglia Rose Misuraca Eileen Mladenka George Mladenka Ludmilla Mladenka Percellia Mladenka Bob B. Molinari Louise Molinari Rena M. Molinari	Robert L. Molinari Alveta Mondelli Gennaro Montone Nuziata Montone Britt Moore Emma Moretti Pete Moretti Bruno Mozzetti Erminid Mozzetti Gemma Mozzetti Gino Mozzetti Santino Mozzetti Angelo Mungai Lena Mungai Marie Mungai Josephine Nola Lily Noronha David Novi Lorraine Nunziata Elvira Pacciorini Harry Pacini Alfred Padreddi Julia Padreddi Joe Panfiglio Ben Pappani Harry Pappani Katherine Pappani Loretta Pappani Esther Partido Frances Perondi-Halley Emilio Persiani Harry Persiani Mary Piffero Severino Piffero Dolores Piscitelli Savino Piscitelli Diane Piziali Irene Podesta John Podesta Helen Politakes Crescenciana J. Portillo Guadalupe A. Portillo Toni Proietti Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Angelina Publico Antonio Publico Joe Quilici John Quilici Lily Quilici Nina Quilici Karen Raccanello Annunziata "Nuni" Radicchi Nello Radicchi Marian Ragona Loren Ramorini Pat Ramorini	Zola Ramorini Robert Reif Sylvia Reif Sister Lillian Repal, O.S.U. The Restifo Family Margarita Rinaldi Adriana Robba Phil Robba Wilda Robinson Lawrence Rocchi Rose Rocchi John Rocchio Edward Rodondi June Rodondi Pauline Rogers Geraldine Roggio The Romagnoli Family Jerry Romero Dave Rose Carl J. Rossi Carmel Rossi Cookie Rossi Louissette Rossi Mary Margaret Rossi Nello Rossi John Rossi, Jr. Ronald Rovere Don Sabatini Frank Sabatini Phil Sabatini Jennie Sacco Stephan Sacco Anthony Saliccia Ida Salisbury James Salisbury Carmen Sanchez Jesus Sanchez Rose Valli Rena Vallor Sharon Vanni Emil Varni Teresa Varni Russell Vento Mary Vera Joan Vevoda Joanne Weatherman Bev Wildermann Clifford Williams Mabel Willmon David Wittmayer Paul Wittmayer Richard Wittmayer Russell Wolfe Terry Wolfe Sonja Woolley Dave Young Joe Yuroski Andy Zanardi Anita Zanardi
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MEMORIAL MASS: The day began with a moving Memorial Mass, presided over by Reverend Christopher Bennett, Grand Chaplain, with Deacon Karl Welsbacher, Father Roberto Vera, and Father Ron Shirley. Crystal and Allen Watts filled the church with beautiful music, while Deacon Karl read the Gospel. Juliana Midwin, Br. 191, San Jose, and Debbie Reid, Br. 449, Santee, served as Lectors.

Father Chris shared a heartfelt reminder that the *two most important days in our lives are the day we are born and the day we return to God*. As members reflected on loved ones lost this past year, he offered a comforting image of them seated at the banquet table with Jesus. He encouraged everyone to *share the recipe of love and kindness. Don't take it to the grave--pass it along...a little act of kindness goes a long way.*

SPIRITUAL WORKSHOP: Following Mass, **Reverend Bennett** led a spiritual workshop designed to help participants reconnect and center themselves. *Where is Jesus in my life today? Let us quiet our lives and invite him into this time together...Faith is a gift we receive --and a gift we pass on.*

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

PAVING YOUR WAY TO THE FUTURE: Central Council members **Perry Shurko and Rosemary Cook Shaw** led the workshop designed to share the Who--What--When--How of Central Council. They explained why we have it and how it functions. They encourage members to get out of their comfort zone and run for Central Council which is made up of 16 members: 8 elected and 8 life members with a 6 year term and no age limit. *Having life members allows for consistency and retaining*

historical knowledge to better run the organization. However, new members need to run for Central Council. *Interest is the seed. Do not be afraid to be more visible.*

OPEN FORUM WORKSHOP—MEMBERSHIP: Past Grand President **Andy Pappani** and CC member **Vincent Malfitano** led the session highlighting key areas of finding and retaining members through various activities and outreach with parish, schools and community.

While ICF has brought in 517 new members this year—bringing total membership to 5,718—404 members remain delinquent. Programs included scholarships where students were followed for all four years, as well as registration assistance programs with scholarships for parish schools and Catholic highs schools. Some branches offer support for technical schools as well.

Branches can drive growth by enrolling members' grandchildren and boosting local visibility with top-down support like official banners and flags. When it comes to fundraising, switching from traditional raffles to opportunity drawings and replacing fixed prices with suggested donations can significantly increase revenue.

COOLEY'S ANEMIA WORKSHOP: Laurice Levice, Dr. Kim and Ben Levine led a meaningful exploration of Cooley's anemia and the long history with ICF. Ben presented via Zoom a clear and informative presentation All About Blood to help members understand the impact of the disease. Laurice shared her heartfelt gratitude to the members of the ICF for their continued support and involvement in educating others, spreading the word, and giving blood. Dr. Kimm explained updates in the field and the need for continued testing. The disease can present

Saturday at the Convention

later in life for those you have a milder case. There is a Thalassemia spectrum. Only the most severe cases are found in newborn screening. However, genetic testing is available to detect the trait. The disease may appear later but still have devastating impact if not treated. Individuals may survive, but not thrive without intervention.

ITALIAN WORKSHOP: Francesca Taylor (Br. 67) brought Kaleidoscope of Italian Treasures to share with the members. With her grandparents hailing from Calabria, Francesca makes annual visits to Italy enriching her understanding of heritage.

She shared that saints are always around us and spoke of four saints: St. Pier Giorgio Frassati, St. Elena Guerra, St. Francis of Assisi and St. Francesca Cabrini.

St. Pier : Known for his motto "Verso l'alto" ("To the heights"), which applied to both his love of mountain climbing and his spiritual life. Pope John Paul II dubbed him the "Man of the Eight Beatitudes," making him a popular patron saint for youth, young adults, and outdoor enthusiasts.

St. Elena was born in Lucca in 1835 and is known for the Rosary to the Holy Spirit which includes 7 sets of 7 beads to reflect the 7 Mysteries of the Holy Spirit.

St. Francis known for his devotion to Christ's humility, his love for peace and creation, and receiving the stigmata.

Francesca told of exploring the St. Cabrini museum in Cordono and shared pictures and stories from her travels.

OPEN FORUM WORKSHOP—MEMBERSHIP: Panel included Past Grand Presidents and CC members Mike Rossi, Dante Galeazzi, Bob Acquistapace, Carmen Kilcullen and Leonard Rossi.

The session was a lively discussion of what was missing from ICF and what was needed as well as what worked. There was a call for updated technology including pushing key information out to members. New/young members do not read the *Bollettino*; they need short bullet points. Members were glad to hear the website is undergoing modernization led by CC member Rosemary Cook Shaw. Hands-on technology workshops were requested where members would be able to work along with their laptops/tablets. They want all reports and papers to be submitted electronically. Enable e-payments.

Fingerprinting for all members working with children may be necessary to comply with new regulations. Much discussion over who covers the cost.

CONVENTION GENERAL SESSION

Call to Order by Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Grand President said it was "great to see so many new faces."

An **OPENING PRAYER**—given by **Jeanette Zugnoni, Br. 10, Alameda.**

- Pledge of Allegiance and Federation Salute

- Introduction of Central Council, Clergy, and Staff

ADOPTION OF RULES/REGULATIONS to ensure smooth voting procedures; led by **Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E. Grand Parliamentarian.** This included setting ground rules for speaking and discussion.

CREDENTIAL REPORT explained by **Grand Secretary Perry Shurko** highlighted 119 voting delegates present and 20 Central Council members. Three chaplains were also present.

CENTRAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS followed the candidates speeches where each shared two-minute speeches outlining their visions for ICF's future prior to voting for 5 of the 6 candidates.

There are not as many people running this year because 3 CC members (Grand President, Grand 1st Vice President and Grand 2nd Vice President) are currently serving 2-year terms.

NOMINATION FOR MEMBER AT LARGE for Hospitalization Committee. Initial nominations taken, but delayed until after the results of elections are known to determine eligibility.

TREASURER'S REPORT described by **Grand Treasurer Deborah Rodondi** reviewed the financial packet, including profit and loss projections as well as explaining the Futures account as a holding cell for specific donations such as Cooley's, Gifts of Love and Scholarship as well as the Silva Account.

DISCUSSION OF NATIONAL CHARITY Michael Rossi, Apostolate Chairperson explained that CC selects the national charity each year. The discussion centered on if CC should continue to vote or if delegates should vote. There was a lively and dedicated support to continue Cooley's anemia as the National Charity.

There will be collection added on Sunday for Reno fire relief.

ATTENDANCE DRAWING delayed until evening session.

CLOSING PRAYER given by **Christine Ragusa of Br. 362, Downey.**



As members of the Italian Catholic Federation, we are part of a living tradition. Our legacy of faith, family, and heritage is not simply a memory of yesterday; it is a responsibility for today and a hope for tomorrow. The question is not only, "What did we inherit?" but also, "What are we faithfully handing on?"

SOCIAL & SATURDAY BANQUET

The evening banquet brought members together in celebration and fellowship. Guests were warmly welcomed by **Charlyne Pacini Br. 135 President, Reno**, while **Nina Malone, Life Member Emeritus, Br. 450 President, Lincoln**, kept the program moving as **Mistress of Ceremonies.**

OPENING PRAYER was offered by **Father Roberto Vera.**

SPECIAL REMARKS by **Marc Teglia and family** on behalf of Past Grand President Al and Verna Teglia. Al was founder of the Gifts of Love—a charity which devoted every dime going to good and not overhead much like the Children's Fund. Al and Verna left a legacy of selfless giving resulting in a check for \$340,975.74 to the Gifts of Love bringing the total raised to \$1.2 million.

POPE SAINT JOHN XXIII AWARD PRESENTATION

Nina Malone presented the award to **Karen Rossi, Past 1st Lady**, on behalf of **recipient Robert Britton.** Nina said the award reflected the spirit of the good Pope who had a lifelong concern for tolerance and world peace well represented by the recipient. Karen shared that Robert has a remarkable spirit full of gentleness and hope which he shared with all he encountered. He placed others' needs above his own and served as a beacon of safety, compassion and moral strength.

Karen said that Bob was the first happy and smiling face she met at the medical center where they worked. She was a nurse and he was part of the dietary unit. He always approached his job with kindness and humility.



Central Council Officers, Perry Shurko and Rosemary Cook Shaw present their workshop "Paving Your Way to the Future."

Bob said, "I am grateful and humbled to accept this award." His sister sent a letter saying "Bob's life is a daily witness to the Gospel...God calls us to serve one another with compassion... Bob sees God's light in every person and situation."

SPECIAL REMARKS with **Fr. Roberto Vera** singing a special song celebrating ICF being the International Catholic Federation due to its influence spreading out of the US to Italy and Mexico as well.

CLOSING PRAYER was offered by **Father Christopher Bennett** with *blessings of faith, family & culture.*

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

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Saturday at the Convention



Saturday at the Convention



Saturday at the Convention



Past Grand President Al and Verna Teglia



Saturday at the Convention



Los Angeles Archdiocese District at Convention



Br. 47 at Convention, Bottom row (left to right) Treasurer Lynn Noah, Sentinel Shirley Pruett (who won one of the grand prizes in the raffle) Trustee Leanne Simone and President Natalie Canata. Back row (left to right): Orator Craig Noah and John Canata.



Santa Rosa District at Convention

Saturday at the Convention



Contra Costa District at Convention



East Bay District at Convention



Sunday at the Convention

CONVENTION GENERAL SESSION

- **OPENING PRAYER** offered by **Mary Cook, Br. 13, Martinez.**
- **RESOLUTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS** presented by **CC Rosemary Cook Shaw.**

NATIONAL CHARITY PRESENTATION to **Dr. Karen Kim and Laurice Levine** standing in for **Dr. Thomas Coates.** Grand President **Franklyn Lopes, Jr.** presented with a check for **\$46,000 for the thalassemia program.** Dr. Kim thanked everyone and shared her enthusiasm for the continued research into treatment and cures for Cooley's anemia.

Laurice Levine thanked everyone for 27 units of blood collected at convention as well as the ongoing support of Cooley's anemia. "It is much bigger than me... only a drop in the bucket." She said, "ICF and you all have embraced me and the cause beyond my wildest dreams."

ATTENDANCE RAFFLE conducted for delegates for Saturday and Sunday sessions.

COMMITTEE RECOGNITION:

APOSTOLATE/CHARITY—led by **Mike Rossi** was proud of all the work the branches have done to contribute to charitable causes with reports from 61 of the 84 branches. This year over \$447,000 was sent to Apostolate charities. This is a substantial increase from last year.

Awards given for Branches with 1 through 50 members

1. Br. 362, Downey; 2. Br. 184, Los Gatos; 3. Br. 237, Gardena; 4. Br. 408, Sunnyvale.

Awards given for Branches with 51

through 100

1. Br. 111, Montebello; 2. Br. 191, San Jose; 3. Br. 179, Glendora; 4. Br. 432, Brentwood.

Awards given for Branches with 101+

1. Br. 36, Monterey; 2. Br. 52, Healdsburg; 3. Br. 28, Gilroy; 4. Br. 14, Crockett.

100% Participation from the following Districts/Areas: Blessed Sacrament, Central Coast, Chicago Area, Contra Costa, East Bay, Reno Area, San Bernardino, Santa Clara Valley and Stockton.

HERITAGE AWARDS given out by **Bob Basuino.**

Awards given for Branches with 1 through 40

1. Br. 210, Fontana
2. Br. 82, Lodi
3. Br. 362, Downey & Br. 184, Los Gatos

Awards given for Branches with 41 through 70

1. Br. 214, Concord
2. Br. 191, San Jose
3. Br. 445, San Jose

Awards given for Branches with 71 through 100+

1. Br. 368, San Jose
2. Br. 391, San Jose
3. Br. 21, Santa Cruz

HOSPITALIZATION AWARDS—led by **Dante Galeazzi** announced first time presenting the award as an incentive for branches: Br. 39, Merced; Br. 395, Stockton; Br. 210, Fontana; Br. 198, Santa Rosa; Br. 47, Mountain View; Br. 217, Redlands; Br. 380, Thousand Oaks; Br. 438, Roseville; Br. 184, Los Gatos; Br. 36., Monterey

SCHOLARSHIP

112—1st year scholarships for \$56,000. 71 --2nd to 4th year for \$50,300.

Santa Clara Valley donated \$17,579.24.

Br. 198, offered 7-1st Year and 3-2nd year scholarships

Programs offered 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships:

-Branches 446-Upland, 442-Pleasant Hill, 390-Tracy, 368-San Jose, 332-Novato, and 39-Merced.

-Santa Clara Valley and East Bay Districts

100% District/Area/Branch Full or Partial Participation: San Mateo, Fresno, Contra Costa, Santa Rosa, and Santa Barbara/Ventura Region.

Districts/Region offering full scholarships: East Bay, Marin Area, Reno Area, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara/Ventura and Santa Rosa.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS given by **Andy Pappani.** Thanked committee members **Rosemary Cook, Vincent Piro, Perry Shurko, Maria Di Palo, and Nina Malone.**

Branches with 100% Retention

Br. 406, Orange
Br. 139, Manteca
Br. 48, Modesto
Br. 51, Castroville
Br. 215, Fremont
Br. 403, Millbrae
Br. 19, Colma
Br. 50, San Francisco

Branches with the largest increase in 1 to 50 members

3. Br. 246, San Diego
2. Br. 250, Clovis
1. Br. 406, Orange

Branches with the largest increase in 100+ members

2. Br. 36, Monterey
1. Br. 209, Sebastopol

Branches with the largest increase in 51 to 100 members

2. Br. 374, Paso Robles
1. Br. 198, Santa Rosa

CONVENTION SITE REPORT: Convention Director **Lauren Kilculen** announced the 96th Annual Italian Catholic Federation Convention taking place September 3–5, 2027 in Orange, California. Co-hosts **Lou Mages** (LA Archdiocese District Acting President) and **Joe Di Grado** (President, Br. 406-Orange) kicked things off with an energetic preview of the upcoming convention and its vibrant Southern California setting. Jointly hosted by the Los Angeles Archdiocese District and the Orange Area Branches (Br. 379, Huntington Beach and Br. 406, Orange), the event takes place at the Hotel Fera Anaheim—a DoubleTree by Hilton hotel in Orange, CA. *Cowabunga!*

CHARITABLE DONATIONS made at this year's convention:

Scholarship: \$1,100
Providenza Fund: \$1300
Gifts of Love: \$345,507.74
Cooley's Anemia: \$10,200

CLOSING PRAYER offered by Branch 449, Santee.



Sunday at the Convention



Apostolate/Charity Small Branch Awards



Apostolate/Charity Medium Branch Awards



Apostolate/Charity Large Branch Awards



Apostolate/Charity District/Area with 100% Participation



Heritage Small Branch Awards



Heritage Medium Branch Awards



Heritage Large Branch Awards



Sunday at the Convention

AWARDS LUNCHEON

Welcome & Opening

Convention Director and Grand 1st Vice President Lauren Kilcullen opened the session with a warm welcome. Mike Rossi, Past Grand President, served as Master of Ceremonies, offering a blessing that focused on the future of ICF.

OPENING PRAYER: Offered by Reverend George Aranha, Santa Clara Valley Diocesan Chaplain.

GRAND PRESIDENT’S AWARD:

Presented by Grand President Franklyn Lopes, Jr. to **Melody Klever** for her selfless dedication, artistry, and servant’s heart. From decorating, cooking, and sewing to supporting conventions and events across every level, Melody’s joyful hospitality, humility, and tireless support enrich and unite our entire community.

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA AWARD:

The Italian Catholic Federation proudly honors **Father Ron Shirley** with the St. Teresa of Calcutta Award. Marking 53 years of priesthood in the Monterey Diocese, Father Ron has faithfully served as a pastor, teacher, coach, and Branch 36 Chaplain—inspiring all through his compassionate guidance, warm homilies, and lifelong service.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Italian Catholic Federation proudly honors **Donald and Cheryl Simon** with the Family of the Year Award. Dedicated to Daly City and Holy Angels Parish for decades, they have served as teachers, youth organizers, and ICF leaders—exemplifying faith, service, and family values alongside their sons, Corey, Jason, and Matthew.

YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP AWARD:

The Italian Catholic Federation proudly presents **Dr. Alexandra Kidd** with the Young Adult Leadership Award. A member for over 20 years, Alexandra faithfully served through parish events, high school veteran fundraisers, the Gifts of Love Committee, and pro bono dentistry—exemplifying deep faith, compassion, and strong youth leadership.

CLOSING PRAYER: Reverend Ron Shirley gave the final prayer.

CONCELEBRATED MASS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:

Most Reverend Daniel H. Mueggenborg (correct spelling), Bishop of Reno, was the main celebrant of the Mass.

INSTALLATION OF CENTRAL COUNCIL OFFICERS: Installing Officer: Denise Antonowicz, Past Grand President

Central Council New Officers

- Grand President - Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
- Grand 1st Vice President - Lauren Kilcullen
- Grand 2nd Vice President - Lisa Crudo
- Grand Secretary - Perry Shurko
- Grand Treasurer - Deborah Rodondi
- Grand Parliamentarian - Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E.
- Grand Trustee - Denise Antonowicz
- Grand Trustee - Bob Basuino
- Grand Trustee - Rosemary Cook Shaw
- Grand Sentinel - Michael Rossi, K.L.J.
- Grand Chaplain - Fr. Christopher Bennett

Remarks by the **2026-2027 Grand President, Franklyn Lopes, Jr.** (see Page 1 of *Bollettino* for complete remarks.)

The raffle drawing took place for the **ICF CONVENTION RAFFLE** Presented by: The Ways and Means Committee with Franklyn Lopes, Jr, Bob Basuino and Lisa Crudo drawing the lucky winners. (See Page 1 for winners.)

ADJOURNMENT: The final day of the convention concluded on the highest note possible. Between vibrant conversation, good music, and the exciting announcement of our new officers, the room was filled with a palpable sense of unity and hope for the future.



Branches receiving Hospitalization Award

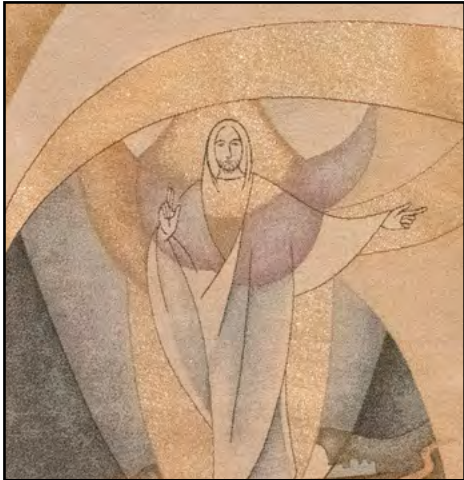


Branches receiving scholarship awards



Membership Awards for Branches with 100% Retention and/or Increased Membership

Sunday at the Convention



Sunday at the Convention



**"The secret of change
is to focus all of your
energy not on fighting
the old, but on
building the new!"
— Socrates**

SANTA ROSA District

Healdsburg Br. 52, San Francisco Di Sales

Our Convention delegates enjoyed the convention in Reno!

Upcoming Events:

ICF Meeting: Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Ravioli Dinner: Saturday, November 7: Price: \$30.00 for adults. \$10.00 for children ages 6 -12 Please call Carmen and Lauren for reservations: 707-595-3111 or purchase tickets after Mass. The deadline is November 1. Please purchase your tickets early, as we expect this dinner to be extremely popular.

Our branch needs raffle chairpeople for our upcoming ravioli dinner. We have some items for raffle baskets, but need more items and people to make the baskets and sell tickets at the dinner. If no one volunteers, we will not have a raffle. The raffles at our dinners help offset the costs of the dinners, allowing the branch to have more funds for our charitable giving. Please contact President Monika Besancon if you would like to volunteer.

Thank you to Marie Butler for chairing our Potluck Dinner in September. As usual, the great cooks in our branch brought wonderful food to share.

Mom and I thank everyone for your messages of sympathy and your prayers on Dad's recent passing. He was a wonderful man who is missed.

Happy Halloween!
Lauren

Arcata Br. 144, St. Mary

Rosemary Melendy and Christine Ross were our delegates at this year's ICF convention in Reno. Photos on district page. They had a great time but, alas, didn't bring home any winnings.

Our parish, St. Mary's Church of Arcata, celebrated the 30th anniversary of the dedication of our beautiful Church. It was a gorgeous day for the Parish Picnic. Bishop Vasa from Santa Rosa Diocese celebrated the Mass with us. Our branch members, Deacons John Gai ('78) and Jon Pedicino ('22), also served. (Photos can be found on district page.).

Our branch helped sponsor Chris Brunelle, an accomplished guitarist and vocalist from Portland, Oregon, for a concert on Friday, August 28. Chris has become a well-known and respected leader in the Catholic music ministry and is recognized worldwide through his YouTube page, where he features over 2000 videos of Catholic music

selections. He has most recently been called to share his music and story in concert. His concert calendar fills up, but you can contact him at csbrunelle@msn.com for availability. See photo on district page.

Autumn is here, and we have been blessed with beautiful weather, though we need the rain. Our home is "naturally" decorated on the outside with Halloween spiders (live ones)!

Anne Carlisle Eanni
Branch #144 Secretary

Eureka Br. 145, St. Ambrose

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

The location for the Colivas fundraiser is the St Bernard Parish Hall in Eureka. (Enter on the parking lot side of the building.) Please call Joe Bonino at home phone 707-445-5799 (landline) if you can help sell advance tickets, set up, serve, clean up, or have a raffle prize to donate. Or email Joe at FJB504@gmail.com At the very least, we need homemade cookies for the dessert portion of the dinner. So please bring some cookies to share. Dinner tickets are \$10 for adults and \$25 for families.

Reminder: Be sure to attend our October 13th general meeting at 1:30 p.m.

And please try to recruit members for our branch.

Branch #145 is shrinking and we need a few new younger members to join us in our activities.

Santa Rosa Br. 198, St. Eugene

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

The ICF Convention in Reno was very successful and our president, Doreen O'Rourke, represented us well. She gave us her report at the September meeting and you could see that she kept busy.

Fall brings us closer to the major holidays and is a time for the colors to show on trees and grape vines. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

Following our October soup dinner, we will have our monthly Mass at 9:00 a.m. in the Cathedral on November 1st and our Turkey Dinner meeting on November 2nd. Also, in November is the feast day for one of our Patron Saints Mother Cabrini.

I will close with a prayer:

"Lord as you love us, let us love your people, our brothers and sisters. Fill our hearts with LOVE FOR ALL."

Ciao, Robert Acquistapace

Sebastopol Br. 209, St. Michael

Greetings from Branch #209!!

I'd like to start out with a correction. In last month's *Bollettino*, I wrote the wrong date for our Chicken and Polenta dinner in October. Please note: The correct date for Sebastopol Br. #209 (St. Michael's) delicious wonderful Chicken and Polenta dinner is Saturday, October 17, 2026. Please put that date on your calendar and if you've never attended one of our dinners, I highly suggest you come check us out. You won't be disappointed! If interested, please contact Lorraine Vannetti, at (707) 527-9552. Tickets are \$25.

For our September General Meeting, we had a summer potluck. It was absolutely delicious. We have so many good cooks in our branch! During the meeting, our members, John and Tami Marian, gave a report about the 2026 Convention. They had a wonderful time! They were busy from beginning to end. They went to all of the workshops and bounced ideas and shared experiences with other members. They came back with lots of valuable information. It was nice to hear how other people do things and share tips and tricks with each other. A highlight from the convention was that our Branch #209 got First Place in our membership division for the year!! We are so proud!!! Something else we are very proud of is when completing our Apostle Charity Report for 2026, our total charitable contributions equaled \$15,815.52! We are blessed with a wonderful membership and a wonderful community.

Hope everyone else is doing well! Fall is upon us and the leaves are changing.

That is all for now. Ciao!
Yvonne Dorr, Recording Secretary
Branch #209

FRESNO District

Merced Br. 39, St. Cecilia

Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 39 receives Ministry of Presence Award at Catholic Charities Harvest of Hope Celebration. The Bishop John T. Steinbock, D.D. Ministry of Presence Award recognizes those who faithfully accompany others with compassion, humility, and love. For more than 90 years, Italian Catholic Federation Branch 39 has embodied that spirit by strengthening families, enriching parish life, preserving a cherished Catholic and Italian American heritage, and quietly serving the Merced community with generous hearts and unwavering faith, their legacy is not measured simply by the years they have existed, but by the countless lives they have touched and the enduring sense of belonging they continue to foster



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

Happy Birthday greetings to Dina Camorada, Shirley Mitchell and Linda Scambray.

Our September meeting was another well-attended event with members enjoying a variety of pizza, salad and dessert. Vice President John Rainaldi chaired the meeting, as President Mike Caglia was attending a convention. We look forward to Mike's convention report at the next meeting.

Several of our members will be performing with the famous Tarantella Dancers at the St. Paul Newman Center annual festival October 25th. They always earn accolades for their performances.

Little known Pope's department: John II (the 56th Pope, 533-535): The elderly deacon Mercurius came to power largely because nobody objected to him strongly and many hoped he would soon die anyway. As his name honored a pagan god, he changed it to John.

Two big events to look forward to, the initiation of new members and the election of officers for the new year. You are encouraged to step forward and serve as an officer. An organization thrives when it is served by new, energetic folks.

Rich Zanarini reported on the results of the fundraiser at Cool Hand Luke's. All tickets were sold. Thanks to all who participated and a big thanks to Rich and Mary for their leading the way again.

Thought for the month: There is a common saying, "you are what you eat." In other words, to achieve good health we need a balanced diet. Likewise, reading the Bible gives spiritual food for our souls.

Angelo Lavagnino

DEADLINE

**October 10th for the
November issue of
the *Bollettino*.**

**Send your
articles & photos:
editor@icf.org**

Fresno

Br. 308, St. Anthony of Padua

Happy October. That means fall weather (finally), pumpkins, persimmons, pomegranates, and All Hallows Eve.

Our September meeting was a fundraiser held at The Habit Grill. Our next sausage sandwich sale will be on October 10/11.

Congratulations to Branch 54 in Gustine for celebrating their 90th anniversary. Jay and I attended along with Central Council members Franklin Lopes, Jr., Denise Antonowicz, Lisa Crudo, and Leonard Rossi. The mass was beautiful, the lunch was amazing, and the auction was wild. We were introduced to the famous sauce of Frank Borelli. Jay had the tripe too (I skipped it).

Jay and I just returned from the Convention in Reno. Good fun, people, and food. The response to this year's charity, Spread The Word Nevada was overwhelming. About a zillion books were donated. Plus \$1700 in cash! ICF comes through again (as usual). Congratulations to Branch 250 (Newman Center-formerly Clovis) for their award for increased membership. I even won a raffle prize.

Happy October feast days to St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Francis of Assisi, St. John XXIII, St. Carlo Acutis, St. Teresa of Avila, and St. John Paul II.

Happy September birthdays to Michael Berdinella and Larry Pricilo. And happy October birthdays to Lauri Andreoni, Julie Areias, Frances Berdinella, Joann DeBenedetto, Angelo Pecora, and Ann Rader.

Susan Mencarini
Branch 308
St. Anthony of Padua
Fresno

CENTRAL COAST

District Council

August 22, 2026—Central Coast District held our Bishop's Day at San Carlos Cathedral/ Hall in Monterey. We were honored to have our Most Reverend Bishop Ramon Bejarano celebrating Mass and dinner with us. Thank you ,Father Louie Bellen, Father David Allen, Deacon David Ford, ICF Grand President Franklyn Lopes, Jr., and many faith leaders for being there on this special occasion. Thank you to Branch 36 - Monterey for hosting and serving 165 dinner/dessert to our members and special guest.

Bishop Ramon Bejarano and Father Louie was presented two checks from our Seminary Burse Funds. \$2,500 from Central Coast District and \$2,000 from Central Council.

With Fall blessings,
Elaine Valentine, President
Central Coast District

Monterey

Br. 36, Santa Rosalia

Congratulations to all our newly elected Central Council Officers.

Aug. 22: We hosted Central Coast District's Bishop's Day. The Most Reverend Ramon Bejarano, Bishop of the Diocese of Monterey, celebrated Mass at San Carlos Cathedral, along with Father Louie Bellen, Father David Allen and Deacon David Ford. Following Mass, 165 members and guests, including several Central Council members, enjoyed a delicious dinner at San Carlos Cathedral Hall. Central Coast District President Elaine Valentine presented a \$2,500 seminary burse to Father Louie, Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Monterey. ICF Grand President Franklyn Lopes Jr. presented a \$2,000 check to Bishop Ramon. A Spiritual Bouquet basket was also presented to the Bishop.

Sept. 24: Dinner Meeting / New Member Initiation / Theme: Oldies but Goodies! We'll initiate over 70 new members. Will report next time.

Oct. 22: Family Halloween Dinner Meeting / Election of Branch Officers. Costume contest and a special Halloween cocktail! Menu: Breaded Calamari Steak, Pasta Puttanesca, Salad, ICF Garlic Bread and Chocolate Cake. Online ticket sales only at www.Monterey-ICF.org beginning Oct. 7: \$20 for ICF members, \$30 for non-member guests.

Nov. 19: Friendsgiving Dinner Meeting — save the date. More information to follow.

We are saddened to report that Paula Rossi recently passed away. Condolences to her family. May she rest in peace.

"Love never fails" 1 Corinthians 13:8

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Valentine
Co-President, Br. 36

Castroville

Br. 51, Santa Caterina de Siena

Italian Catholic Federation Branch #51 Castroville held our Sausage Sandwich Lunch Fundraiser on August 27, 2026, and we are happy to share that the event was a wonderful success!

The fundraiser helped support Relay for Life Salinas Valley and its important work in the fight against cancer. We sincerely thank everyone who purchased lunches, volunteered their time, helped prepare and serve the food, and supported our fundraiser. Your generosity and participation made the event possible.

We are proud that Branch #51 can continue bringing our community together while supporting such an important cause.

And we're not stopping here! Branch #51 is already looking forward to planning more fundraisers and community

events in the future. We hope to continue supporting worthy causes while celebrating the fellowship, faith, and Italian heritage that bring our members together.

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Sausage Sandwich Lunch Fundraiser a success!

"Chi ha fede non è mai solo."
"Those who have faith are never alone."

Sincerely,
Kevin Cortopassi
Italian Catholic Federation
Branch #51 – Castroville

Aptos

Br. 227, St. Joseph

Our August meeting featured a delicious chicken salad along with fruit skewers prepared by Jane Kotila. That was followed by carrot cake, chocolate tart and cookies baked by Deanna Musler. Thanks to Valerie Vote who helped serve the meal.

Due to the expected absence of several officers, it was necessary to cancel our September meeting.

The hall at Aptos Resurrection Church is being re-dedicated on September 27. Hopefully, we will be meeting there by October. Watch your email for information about the October meeting.

Congratulations to Heidi Ambiel for winning \$2,500 in the Convention raffle. Ironically, it was Grand President Franklyn Lopes, Jr. who drew her number!

We are selling Poinsettias again this year. They are \$15 each. The order deadline is Friday, November 20th, and you can pick them up at Stewart's Floral the week of December 7. Proceeds from the sale will go scholarships and our donations to the various charities we support.

Many thanks to Joyce Hopkins for chairing the Nominating Committee for 2027 officers. We will have some vacancies to fill, so if you get a call from her, please consider serving as an officer.

Happy Birthday wishes to Fran Boczek who will be celebrating her 90th birthday on October 25. Please offer your prayers and get well wishes to Carol Lopes who has been admitted to Dominican Hospital.

The changing leaves and autumn skies declare God's glory. Psalm 19:1

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande

Br. 291, St. Patrick

Branch 291 Delegates, Annie Subia and Keely Sanchez, had a great time attending the ICF National Convention in Reno at the Silver Legacy Resort! Between General Sessions and attend

ing workshops, they enjoyed visiting with ICF friends, playing BINGO and spending lots of time at their favorite slot machine (KONG) in the huge casino! They look forward to sharing information and ideas to our members at a future Branch meeting.

We will be holding Branch Officer elections at our Nov. 1st General Meeting. If you would like to run for a Branch Officer position, let Pete or Keely know before Oct. 25th.

Our Christmas Luncheon is right around the corner, so mark your calendars for, Dec. 6th from 11:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m. at the Madonna Inn. Members will be able to RSVP for the luncheon at our Nov. 1st meeting, or by mail. A big thank you goes out to Beth Nakamura who is once again making all the arrangements for this fun and festive event!

We recently lost a dear member, Barbara Musalo, who was a dedicated worker at our dessert table during our Lenten Fish Frys. Please keep Barbara's family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their mother, grandmother and sister. Also, continue to pray for all ICF members who are experiencing pain, illness or heartache at this time.

Ciao!
Keely Sanchez, Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

Br. 354, Saint Rose of Lima

Branch 354 wishes a happy fall y'all to our ICF brothers and sisters. We hope you had a healthy, relaxing, and fun-filled summer.

Our travelers who attended Convention reported on having a great time. President Zanini from Branch 354, together with Keeley Sanchez, Recording Secretary, from the Arroyo Grande Branch gave an educational presentation on the Registration Assistance Program which has been successfully implemented in the Paso Robles and Arroyo Grande branches. This innovative program has provided registration funding to qualifying students attending Mission College Prep, Saint Patrick's Catholic School, and Saint Rose Catholic School.

At Convention Branch 354 awarded financial support to:

Scholarships
Lila Barrera—2nd year scholarship winner—\$600
Ben Gingerich—3rd year scholarship winner—\$700
Charitable Donations
Cooley's Anemia—\$500
Gifts of Love —\$500 (assists people with disabilities)

We are grateful to all those who helped with the California Mid-State Fair Parking Lot Fundraiser. Because of your generous giving of time and talents our profit was over the moon-- \$17,292. Move over all you new zillionaires, we're on our way!

Yvonne Maddalena, Recording Secretary

SANTA CLARA VALLEY District Council

The Santa Clara Valley District August meeting was held at Santa Teresa parish and hosted by Branch 191 St. Frances Cabrini of San Jose. The September district meeting was cancelled as the date was too close to Convention.

The ICF Convention was held Labor Day weekend in Reno and the Santa Clara Valley District was well represented. If you haven't yet, delegates please remember to report back to your branches what you learned at Convention.

Congratulations to the Santa Clara Valley district on receiving the award at Convention for 100% participation of all branches sending Apostolate Charity reports for the 2025/2026 fiscal year. Thanks for the support of all branches in the district.

Oktoberfest was held at Teske's Germania in San Jose on September 26th. A good time was had by all as we celebrated German heritage. Thanks to all branches and members for supporting this district fundraiser and thanks to Bob Basuino for organizing the event.

Congratulations to Chiara Rocchio of Morgan Hill who was awarded a third-year ICF scholarship, donated by the Santa Clara Valley district, while attending Arizona State University.

A last reminder that San Jose Diocese Bishop's Day will be Sunday, October 11th, 11:30 a.m. mass at Resurrection Church in Sunnyvale, celebrated by Bishop Ligot, and followed by lunch at Three Flames. All district members please attend mass even if you are not attending the lunch.

Also, remember that branch officer elections will be held at the October branch meetings.

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

Michael Rossi

Gilroy Br. 28, Santa Maria Ausiliatrice

Happy Fall Everyone!

Members enjoyed a delicious Pork Chop dinner in August at Old City Hall. Special thanks to member, Elaine Bonino, for making the Pizzelle cookies served with ice cream. Janice DeCosta delivered an interesting Heritage Report about Italian immigrant Antonio Meucci, who invented what he called the telettrofono. He was unsuccessful at patenting his invention. More than 100 years later, on June 15, 2002, the US Congress passed a resolution (H.R. 269) declaring Antonio Meucci, not Alexander Graham Bell, as the inventor of the telephone.

In our monthly membership drawings, Angelo Benassi won the Membership Card Draw and Kathy Filice won the ICF Pin Draw.

Several of our members enjoyed the Bus Trip to Table Mountain. They had fun gambling and enjoyed a nice lunch. Many thanks to Frank Angelino for coordinating another fun day.

We've learned that ICF Branch 28 – 2nd Year Scholarship was awarded to Matthew Anderson, grandson of members Rosemary Anderson and Frank and Betty Angelino. Congratulations Matthew!

Monday, October 19 is our next monthly dinner meeting and will be prepared by the Vanni Family. The calling committee will be contacting members with more information.

Saturday, October 24 is our Polenta Dinner. The deadline to purchase tickets is October 10, 2026. Adults \$35.00, Children 12 & under \$15.00. This is one of our major fundraisers of the year. The food is always delicious! Member donated Raffle Prizes. Contact Chris Filice at 408-499-2345 for tickets.

*Ciao for now!
Christine Filice*

Mountain View Br. 47, San Giorgio

Branch 47 has been busy. We had a wonderful 90th Anniversary celebration on Saturday, August 1 at Ristorante Don Giovanni. 60 people attended. Seven of us attended the wonderful convention in Reno over Labor Day weekend.

The bishop from Reno who presided over the Sunday afternoon Mass celebrated beautifully and delivered a down-to-earth, deeply human homily. We were all very impressed. The food for the Sunday afternoon lunch was the best buffet we've had in a long time. The ICF members who attended the Friday and Saturday night dinners were also impressed with the food quality. Our branch member Shirley Pruett won 3rd prize in the raffle. The prize was a \$1500.00 cash award. We're looking forward to our delegate, Craig Noah's report at the next branch meeting on September 15.

Our next member Mass will be on September 20 at the 8:30 a.m. Mass and then we will go out for breakfast at a local coffee shop. Our next round of Grab and Go dinners will start the weekend of October 17 and 18. Price will be \$40.00.

Check out some pictures from our 90th Anniversary celebration and from Convention on our district page.

Please pray for our member Jacque Halverson who has recently been diagnosed with ALS.

*Sempre Avanti.
John Canata*

San Jose Br. 191, Saint Frances Cabrini

Hello everyone!

We hope everyone who attended the Annual Convention had a very enjoyable time. Our Branch 191 members enjoyed all the convention had to offer. They enjoyed seeing those members that they only see once a year and enjoyed catching up with them as well. We are looking forward to hearing more about what was discussed and voted on at the meetings. Thank you to our delegates and other members for attending on our behalf.

We are now getting ready for our Annual Oktoberfest to be held on September 26, 2026 at Teske's Germania as well as Bishop's Day on October 11, 2026 at Church of the Resurrection in Sunnyvale. We hope you can join us and enjoy a fun-filled day.

We are now getting ready for our Christmas Fundraiser of Poinsettia plants. The cost is \$15.00 each. We will be taking orders on November 22 & 29 outside Saint Frances Cabrini Church after the masses. They will be ready for pick-up on Sunday, December 6, 2026, after the masses at St. Frances Cabrini church.

Save the date of January 27, 2027, for our Polenta Dinner fundraiser. Please watch *Bollettino* for more information.

*Wishing everyone an enjoyable fall!
Stay warm and healthy.
Sharon D. Logan*

San Jose Br. 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

Hello members!! We really need a computer to help our Treasurer keep our finances in order. Free and donations will be accepted. Please call Zack or Tina with information about computers.

If you are interested in volunteering as the chairperson for our Dining for Dollars Fundraiser, call Tom Myers for information. Our heritage person, Sharon Kroeber, needs stories about our family's histories. If you don't know much about your Italian heritage, that is okay. You can do any nationality that your family is from. (Asian, English, German, Irish, etc.) Last meeting Kathy Myers did a presentation on her Irish heritage and how she became an Irish Citizen this year and how her family came to the United States.

The convention was September 4th, 5th and 6th in Reno Nevada.

The Church Ministry Weekend is not scheduled yet, but we will need volunteers to help at our branch table.

Rib Dinner was September 12th and very successful.

This month Jerry Delfino reported the amounts given for scholarships. Students that are 2nd year \$600, 3rd year

\$700 and 4th Year \$1,000. 2nd Year changed from \$500 to \$600 and there isn't any \$800.

Bishop's Mass will be October 11th at Resurrection church and lunch at The Three Flames restaurant.

At our meeting we voted to keep everything the same as it has been, regarding dinner at our meetings.

Please remember our sick members in your prayers, including, John Gallio, Ron Sanchez, Steve Resz, Bill Rice, Janet Glaubke and Ron Morton.

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

San Jose Br. 391, St. Martin of Tours

In September, our Branch celebrated its 40th anniversary and were treated to a beautiful dinner of pasta with pesto, chicken and salad, ending with a celebratory cake!

It was announced that Deacon Thien Bui, who led us in prayer, will be our new Branch Chaplain. Deacon Thien spoke of St. Martin's upcoming school events and the parish's "Sowing Seeds of Faith" fundraising campaign.

Scholarship Chairperson Rose Clarke announced that Lucas Lipari was awarded the 4th-year scholarship of \$1,000. He is currently attending Arizona State University.

In celebration of our 40th anniversary, Heritage Chairperson, Louise Vento, provided a detailed display of Branch 391's history. President Steve Lencioni called upon members to relate stories from the past—wonderful memories of members, fundraisers and social events.

Thank you to those who attended our September's quarterly communion mass, which honored our deceased members.

Our October 6, 2026 meeting will feature a fundraiser and membership night (\$30), which will include a special menu, raffle prizes, and homemade desserts—there will not be a formal meeting. We welcome new members and encourage everyone to bring a guest!

In November, Steve and Marina Tilbury, will report on the ICF Convention, which was held in Reno during Labor Day weekend.

Reminder: Branch 391 Dinner Fundraiser—Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.; Bishop's Day—October 11, 2026 at 11:30 a.m., Church of the Resurrection with lunch at Three Flames; Quarterly Communion—December 6, 2026—10:30 a.m. Mass.

*Have a safe and fun Happy Halloween!
Janis Patellaro*



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT



Br 444 St John Fisher Rancho Palos Verdes members



Br. 444, Ricardo Mata & Lynn Hernandez Parish Coordinators



Br. 115, Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross



Br. 115, Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross



Br. 115, Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross



Br. 115, Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross



Br 444, Bruno, Hany & Cristina



Bernardo "Benny" Volpe - 1941 - 2026
Br. 374 St. Bede the Venerable



Theresa Sabatella Shaw, Central Council -
Br. 108, South Pasadena

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)



ICF 111-2026 ICF Picnic



ICF 111-2026 ICF Picnic



ICF 111-July-Happy Birthday to Terry & Lourdes



ICF 111-June-Happy Birthday to Gary

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT



Initiation of Marialisa Caruso into Branch 191.



Br. 191, Tony & Tilly Spagnola at convention



Br. 191, George & Julie Midwin at convention



Br. 408, The Deacon prepares the Altar at Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg's Mass.



Br. 408, Denise arranging Raffle Prizes--nice smile!



Patricia Look and Br. 408 Children's Book Donations.Br. 408 brought over 300 pounds of Children's Books to Reno.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)



Santa Clara Valley District BBQ



Santa Clara Valley District BBQ Cooks



Santa Clara Valley District BBQ Outdoor Mass



Morgan Hill Branch 435 members enjoying the Santa Clara Valley District picnic at the Almaden Lake Park in San Jose. Three gift baskets were also donated to raise funds to support the SCV District charities.



Br. 28, Dinner meeting at Old City Hall. Wonderful meal!



Br. 28, Our beloved board addressing the members. Kris Filice, Kim Filice, and Marianne Peoples.



Br. 28, Janice Decosta's heritage presentation.



Morgan Hill Branch 435 enjoyed the mass led by Fr. George Aranha at the Santa Clara Valley District picnic at the Almaden Lake Park in San Jose.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)



Br. 445 Pres. Jim Falcone Adding Books to Convention Book Drive.



Br. 445 Members Attending District Picnic/BBQ



Br. 445 Members Enjoying Convention Luncheon.



Br. 445 Members outside Kyoto Palace Japanese Restaurant.



Br. 28, Mike Codiga and Pat Cordich enjoying the Santa Rosalia Fisherman's Festival.



Br. 28 President, Kim Filice, and John Filice enjoying Festa Italia!



Br. 368, Kathy Myers, Ann Schlice



Branch #391 Happy Anniversary!



Br. 28, Festa Italia Royal Court!



Br. 368, Members at monthly meeting wait to be called for dinner.



Br. 368, Wait for dinner at monthly meeting.

Sunnyvale Br. 408, Resurrection

Happy Columbus Day!

The ICF Blood Drive hosted on Sunday, 13 September in the Parish Farana Center after all the Masses Contributed more than 60 Productive Units to our Local Community. This is very generous Contribution at a time of Critical Need for Blood Products. A Prayerful Thanks to all our Donors for this Gift of Life.

Patricia and I met with Laurice Levine at the ICF 2026 Convention in Reno. She was moving a little slower at the Reno altitude as the lower oxygen level at altitude diminish the oxygen carrying capacity of her blood. She reported that with diminished healthcare funding from the Federal Government – the ICF Contributions are critical to the Cooley's Programs. She also reported that ICF has contributed over \$2.5 million dollars to Cooley's since the ICF Program Started.

We look forward to your help and support for the SCVD ICF Bishop's Day, 11 October at the 11:30 a.m. Mass followed by lunch with Bishop Andy at Three Flames in San Jose. See Patricia for your volunteer positions

ICF will participate with the Parish Ministry Fair in the Main Church, 25 October. We will need help staffing our table at all the weekend Masses.

Please pray for our ICF Members and Friends: Donna Richey, Fr. Chris Bennett (awaiting his kidney replacement), and Laurice Levine.

Morgan Hill Br. 435, Santa Caterina D'Alessandria

Morgan Hill Branch 435 focused on planning during August. Our upcoming meeting in September will have a "back to school theme." Members will be asked to bring pictures and memorabilia from their school days to be enjoyed by all.

In August, John and Toni Foggiano, Bill Scheid, Giulia Gallego, Chris and Susan Monahan, and Helga Brooks attended the Santa Clara Valley District picnic at Almaden Lake Park. The surroundings at the lake were comfortable and encouraged communications between District members. The picnic began with an enjoyable and meaningful mass led by Santa Clara Valley District Chaplin, Father George Arranha. A BBQ lunch followed and was enjoyed by all. Next came the Gift/Basket auction to benefit ICF Charities. Branch 435 donated three baskets of gifts.

Sheila Walters and our President Giulia Galego plan to thoroughly enjoy the upcoming September state convention in Reno.

San Jose Br. 445, Transfiguration

Welcome to Fall and Br.445's annual "Family Feud Game Show Fundraiser" on Sunday afternoon, November 15th at Transfiguration's Tabor Hall. For ticket information or team sign-ups, contact Pres. Jim Falcone: (408) 806-6787 or jim@jfalcone.com. Guaranteed to offer Great Fun, Great Prizes and Great Raffle Baskets!

Summer ended with members attending a variety of events:

- a fun afternoon at Almaden Lake Park for the annual Santa Clara Valley ICF District Picnic /BBQ

- group dinner at Kyoto Palace Japanese Steakhouse in Campbell, Ca.

- mid August General Meeting with beach theme / decor; deli trays for making sandwiches, variety of sides and desserts. Heritage report "History and Facts of Immigration and Ellis Island" was an extension of Celebrating America's 250th Birthday.

- Labor Day weekend in Reno for the ICF 95th Annual National Convention celebrating Our Legacy: Faith, Family, Heritage. Twelve representing Br 445 attended and found it to be an inspiring experience. In support of the Convention's Book Drive for Children in Nevada, over 1,000 books were donated by Br. 445 via members and member contacts within the San Jose community. Many thanks to Pres. Jim Falcone and 2nd VP Janie Falcone for delivering them to the Convention. Br. 445 was honored to receive a First Place Heritage Award for reports submitted from July 2025 - June 2026 by a medium size branch.

Happy October birthday wishes to members: Grace Brown, Jean Cosentino, Ken Ledbetter, Jose Palma, Gary Pedone, Edna Perry and Cindy Sevilla .

*May the Autumn season bring many Blessings to everyone!
Until next month stay safe and well,
Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer*

STOCKTON

Modesto Br. 48, St. Stanislaus

The District Picnic on August 16th turned out to be very nice. Though the weather was warm, it was wonderful and there was a nice breeze that kept us comfortable at Escalon Park. The food was very good, and we had a great raffle.

The Convention this year was wonderful. The food was very good. Father Bennett did a very nice job opening program. We attended the workshops and members enjoyed dancing after dinner. St. Stanislaus Fall Festival was September 25 – 27, 2026.

You could make cookies for the Country Store, cakes for the Calk Walk, and help out wherever you can. There are rides, the food tents, dinners each night, games, and entertainment.

We will have our Bake Sale October 10th and 11th at the big church. There will be cakes, pies, cookies, and all kinds of homemade baked goods. Our bakers will be busy. Thanks to all our members for the help and support.

Coming up:

Sept 26 – 28, St. Stanislaus Fall Festival

Oct 10 & 11 – Bake Sale after Masses

Sun Oct 18 – ICF Br 48 Members Breakfast

Wed Oct 14 – 6pm Meeting J St. Hall 7 & K Streets

Cecelia McGhee

Lodi Br. 82, St. Anne's

Chris and Lori were the delegates representing Branch 82 at the convention held over Labor Day in Reno. They had a wonderful time and returned with a Second-Place Award for our annual Heritage Report. Congratulazioni, Branch 82!

At our September meeting, we enjoyed a wonderful presentation by Angelina Fugazi about her recent mission trip to Chimbote, Peru. During the trip, the group built small homes for families in need and toured a local water purification plant. They also distributed fresh drinking water to the community and participated in a "Loaves and Fishes" day, providing fresh fish and small loaves of bread to local families. Angelina said it was a wonderful experience and has stayed connected with some new friends. Grazie, Angelina, for sharing your inspiring experience with us!

Elisa Moberly had hip replacement surgery on September 8th, so had to miss our meeting, but still sent a text letting us know she was home, and it went well. Please add her to your prayer list for a speedy recovery.

Due to scheduling conflicts, our Polenta dinner and Raffle has moved to December 5th at St. Anne's Hall. Dinner menu is polenta, chicken cacciatore and ravioli, salad and dessert, cost is \$65 per ticket, we hope to see everyone there, porta un amico!

*Ciao,
Elizabeth Calloni Holladay
Corresponding Secretary*

Manteca Br. 139, Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio

Branch #139 met on Tuesday, August 25th, in St. Anthony's Cafeteria. President Ron Agostini presided over the meeting. The usual business was

conducted including reading and approval of the Minutes from the July 2026 meeting and balances provided in our Checking Accounts as of August 1. As always, members are encouraged to read the *Bollettino*.

Our meeting was attended by 5 Members. Four of our Members were on a cruise "up the Mississippi" and others were either on vacation as well or had other commitments.

President Agostini reported that the District Picnic held earlier in August was a very fun event. About 35 ICF members attended and enjoyed barbecued steaks, salads, and desserts. There were many raffle prizes to be won by those in attendance. The weather was ideal for a picnic. President Agostini took the opportunity to hand out flyers to all ICF District Presidents announcing Branch #139's upcoming fundraiser to be held on Sunday, October 25th, from 3-6 p.m. at the Deaf Puppy Club in Manteca. Tickets are available for this event by calling Ed @ 209-484-9685 or visiting Deaf Puppy Club's website at deafpuppyclub.com.

President Agostini will be representing our Branch at the annual Convention to be held over Labor Day weekend. Always a fun event with lots to learn and great ideas to bring back to our Branch. President Agostini will share about the Convention at our September meeting.

Our next meeting will be on September 22nd in St. Anthony's Cafeteria.

*Bye for now,
Michela*

Tracy Br. 390, St. Bernard

September events all went well—St. Bernard's Festival where ICF members and friends served over 300 drive-thru dinners! Convention attendees all checked in with good reports and our September 24th dinner was well-attended, a sign of a good year ahead. Our last Thursday of each month from September through June seems to be on everyone's calendar! Thank you for your support.

Menu plans for October include one of our favorites, polenta and chicken cacciatore and will happen on Thursday, October 29th. As usual, we enjoy receiving your many raffle prize donations and desserts, many of which are homemade - Yum!

Happy New Baby to new Dad Mike and new Mom Bianca (formerly Tusio) and great job done to Grandparents Chuck and Marilyn Tusio. Glad to hear he's healthy and surely came into the world with a healthy Italian appetite.

You can share family memories in our Heritage section. We would love to hear where all your ancestors came from. www.icfbranch390.org

*Pray we all stay healthy, happy & safe,
Betty Hollars*

Stockton

Br. 395, Presentation of the BVM

What a wonderful convention! A great time was had by all, and we are grateful to the Central Council, Reno District, and Sacramento District for helping make the convention such a memorable experience.

Before we headed off to Reno, we had the pleasure of welcoming our first- and second-year scholarship winners. We enjoyed dinner and then gave each of them an opportunity to tell us about their future plans. It was wonderful to hear about their goals, dreams, and aspirations. The future certainly looks bright for these two!

Mark your calendars, our annual Italian mass will be held on Monday, November 16 at 6 p.m. This year we will honor the Italian Saint, Giuseppe Moscati. He is known as the Doctor of the Poor. He was beatified in 1975 and canonized as a Saint by Pope John Paul II in 1987. Hope you can join us for Mass followed by a rinfresco.

Election time is just around the corner, and our Nominating Committee is hard at work putting together a slate of officers for the coming year. We especially encourage members who have never held an office before to consider getting involved. Serving as an officer is a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, become more involved in our branch, and give back to the Federation. Your participation helps keep our branch strong and moving forward!

*Alla prossima,
Mary Ann*

Angels Camp Br. 413, St. Patrick

August ended with a Memorial Mass for one of our past members, Karalee Canham. For many years, she organized our Baccalaureate Mass, making sure that graduates from the local public school were welcomed and celebrated. Whenever her health allowed, Karalee was a great supporter of our Branch, and she will be greatly missed.

We also have the good news of welcoming several new members. Coleen Franklin, Robert and Delia Villamor, and Tammie Lee have joined us. We are very happy to have them as members of our Branch.

I have just returned home from our annual ICF Convention. It was wonderful to catch up with many friends. As the representative from our Branch, I consider it my duty to share some of the many highlights from the convention. I would consider one of the best moments to be Father Chris' Spiritual Workshop. I am happy that he gave us handouts as this makes it easy to pass on his message down to the members.

Now that the convention is over, we are back to work! We will be holding an

Oktoberfest themed dinner on October 10th with German sausage, sauerkraut, potato salad, dessert, rolls, and two drink tickets for \$30. We hope you will join us for a fun evening of good food, fellowship, and friendship!

*Ciao,
Robert Pachinger,
Br. 413 President*

SAN DIEGO District

San Diego

Br. 246, St. Vincent De Paul

Cari Amici,

As the summer comes to a close, ICF Branch 246 recently enjoyed a wonderful branch appreciation barbecue hosted at the Cianflone home. It was a beautiful afternoon to grill Italian sausage, share delicious food, and catch up with fellow members and their families. A warm thank you goes out to the Cianflone family for opening their home and hosting such a lovely gathering.

The branch also hosted a late-summer event on August 29th called the Borromeo Bash at the St. Charles Borromeo Parish. This was in partnership with the school, Phil's BBQ, and Mocerri Produce, who generously donated to make this annual celebration a great success, bringing the community together for incredible food, a bustling Kid Zone, fantastic live entertainment, and fellowship.

While the fall season brings a quieter period for branch events, members are encouraged to stay tuned for upcoming meeting announcements and our holiday party. Looking ahead, the new year will kick off with our annual spaghetti dinner, followed by the busy Lenten season. Until then, enjoy the final dog days of summer.

*Saluti,
Margherita Cianflone*

Santee

Br. 449, Guardian Angels

Guardian Angels Fall Festival Returns October 9–11 with Family Fun, Entertainment and a Celebration of America's 250th Anniversary

SANTEE, Calif. — The Guardian Angels Fall Festival returns October 9–11 for a weekend of free family fun, live entertainment, food, games, crafts and community activities at 9310 Dalehurst Road in Santee.

This year's festival will celebrate America's 250th anniversary with a special Flag Retirement Ceremony, along with a full lineup of activities for all ages. Admission and parking are free, making the festival an ideal destination for families, friends and neighbors to enjoy

a festive fall weekend together.

Festival highlights include:

- America's 250th Anniversary Flag Retirement
- Craft Show
- \$3,000 Cash Prize Raffle
- Games and Crafts
- Food & Beer Garden
- Live Stage Entertainment
- Virtual Auction
- Free Parking
- Free Entry

Festival Hours

Friday, October 9: 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 10: 12:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 11: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Guardian Angels Fall Festival offers something for everyone, from delicious food and refreshments to shopping, games, entertainment and opportunities to connect with the local community.

Come celebrate the season, enjoy a weekend of family fun, and join the community in honoring 250 years of America.

Admission and parking are FREE!

For more information, contact gaccfestival@gmail.com.

Debbie Reid, dreid10@cox.net

619-548-2864

SAN BERNARDINO District Council

OUR LEGACY: FAITH, FAMILY, HERITAGE. What a beautiful theme for this year's convention. Going to Convention every year is like going to a family reunion; we catch up with old friends from all over! 210 was represented by Annie McCarthy and Paul H Behrens, 217 was represented by our District President and member of 217, John Guerin and 446 was represented by Andrea Scarpelli, who was a first-time delegate. The hotel, Silver Legacy in Reno, was very accommodating. All our meeting halls were in the same area, so it was extremely convenient going from one event to the next. The workshops were just what we needed and the food was great! Thanks to Lauren Kilcullen and her Convention Team for all the work they did setting this up for us.

All three Branches came home with awards. Br. 210 received 1st place in branches under 40 for Heritage and Br 210 & Br 217 were also recognized for adding members to the Hospitalization Plan. Br. 446 got an award for contributing a first, second, third- and fourth-year scholarship. And our District received awards for 100% participation in scholarship & apostolate reports.

Annie McCarthy was elected to Central Council and will serve on the Hospital

ization Committee. Next, we're looking forward to our Bishop's Lunch on Tuesday, Sept 22. Hope to see you there!

*Blessings always,
Annie McCarthy
Treasurer, San Bernardino District.*

Upland

Br. 446, Saint Anthony

Although our branch decided not to meet in July, we made time for a "field trip" to Lake Arrowhead. Our branch president, Carrey Rossie, owns a beautiful lake view home. In July she hosted members with a leisurely afternoon filled with stories, beautiful views and a delicious lunch. Members also brought wine and other goodies to share. We especially enjoyed the abundant harvest of vegetables and fruit shared from the garden of Gina and Dominico Ricci. After lunch, we roamed through the village on the way to the docks. Carrey's son Jeremy helped to make the day festive as captain of their boat. The lake was not crowded so we enjoyed a very pleasant time on the water with points of interest narrated by Captain Jeremy. Especially interesting was Jay Leno's massive waterfront home. After our time on the water, we returned to Carrey's home for more refreshments before driving down the hill. Luckily, we car-pooled so the drive was easy. Carrey plans on making this a yearly summer event

Now it's time for us to launch our annual programs. During our August membership meeting we discussed upcoming events. Most important is our major fundraiser Festa Italiana in October. Planning has already started. Members are needed to help sell tickets as well as donate items for the raffle baskets. Members Leyda and Dr. Edward Hess are producing a major play on the life of St. Francis of Assisi which will be presented at our parish. The ICF will help with hospitality at the performance.

We were saddened at the passing of our dear Orator, Veronica Mora. She always volunteered to help at our ICF events and was a member of many parish ministries as well. Veronica brought us uplifting prayers that were extremely spiritual. She was a woman full of grace and we will miss her gentle spirit.

DEADLINE

**October 10th for the
November issue of
the Bollettino.**

**Send your
articles & photos:
editor@icf.org**

October 2026

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

2 1/2" x 2 1/2" (one column square)	\$25
2 1/2" x 5" (vertical or horizontal)	\$35
5" width x 4" height (horizontal)	\$50
5" width x 6 1/2" 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 ICF (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

Sept. 3rd - 5th
Hotel Fera
Room Rate:
\$145+tax/night
\$18 daily parking

2027 ICF Convention
Double the Fun!

SUN
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FUN

2026-27
Season

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Ticket Packages
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Nov 28 & 29, Dec 5, 2026
Amahl & the Night Visitors
Menotti

Apr 24 & 25, May 1 & 2, 2027
The Magic Flute
Mozart

Sept 27, October 3 & 4, 2026
The Barber of Seville
Rossini

Nov 21 & 22, 2026
The Consul
Menotti

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Gian Carlo Menotti's
classic family opera ~
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Nov 28 & 29 ~ Our Mother of Good Counsel Hall, Los Feliz
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Doors open 2 hours before each show,
Join us for snacks, dances, crafts & games!
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