

BOLLETTINO



ICF Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage

Gratitude in Action: ICF Builds a Stronger Community



Montebello, St. Benedict, Branch 111- Picnic



Grand Secretary and Past Grand President, Deborah Rodondi, with top golf tournament sponsor Tony Rodondi and family.

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

Heritage — Thanksgiving Louise Vento, Committee Member



In the United States and Canada, Thanksgiving is a special day to give thanks, thanking God for what he has given us. In the United States, Thanksgiving is usually a day families celebrate with a big din-

ner of turkey and all of the fixings and memories. It is also a time for church services and prayer.

The first Thanksgiving was celebrated by the pilgrims of Massachusetts. It was celebrated as a day of prayer for the deceased who died during the dreadful winter that killed half of its members. The following year they gave thanks and expressed their gratitude for the abundant harvest of crops.

In 1789, President George Washington issued a proclamation for a day of thanks in November.

In 1863, President Abe Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as a day of Thanksgiving.

President Roosevelt ruled in 1941, that the fourth Thursday in November be observed as Thanksgiving Day, and it would be a legal Federal holiday.

I hope all the members of the ICF will enjoy a thankful and healthy Thanksgiving Day.

Bend your head and pray for our departed members like the pilgrims on the first Thanksgiving Day.

Grand President's Monthly Message *Giving Thanks!*

Denise Antonowicz

This Thanksgiving, as members of the Italian Catholic Federation, we come together as families to express our profound gratitude.



We remember our ancestors, who courageously left behind the familiar shores of their fatherland to build a brighter future for their loved ones. Their sacrifices, their unwavering faith, and their unshakeable commitment to family have given us the blessings we enjoy today.

As we gather around our tables, surrounded by the faces of those we hold most dear, we feel the warmth of our family ties. We cherish the memories we are creating — the laughter of children, the wisdom of our elders, the love that binds us together. And we honor the memories of our past, the stories of our forefathers

Continued on Page 3

BOLLETTINO

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Important Notice

The email address for ALL *Bollettino* submissions is:

editor@icf.org

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

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

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

Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg
Include photo captions with your article submission.

Please keep your submission positive and informative.

Deadline for the December issue is November 10, 2024

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

Thank you!

Message from our Spiritual Director

Dear Friends of the Italian Catholic Federation:

As the year draws to a close, the Church begins to reflect upon the end times and the second coming of Jesus Christ. We recall that our life on earth is transitional, and that the old world is passing away as a new creation is being fashioned for us in eternity. The month of November, then, is especially dedicated to remembering and praying for our beloved dead.

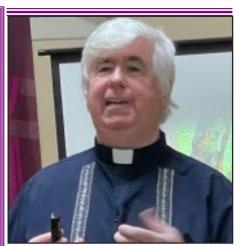
November begins with the celebration of the Solemnity of All Saints. This feast reminds us that God desires all people to be with him forever in heaven. On All Saints Day, Nov. 1, we celebrate the redemption of the countless men and women who have died and have already entered eternal glory, and we hope for our own participation in their joy one day.

From the earliest days of Christianity, the church has honored with profound respect the memory of the dead. The whole month of November is an interesting time of prayer as it is filled with many important feast days, and it includes the days on which we commemorate all the saints (November 1) and all the faithful departed (November 2). It is also rather interesting and perhaps ironic that these days are celebrated when we see plants, grasses and trees going dormant, appearing to be even dead, while knowing that they are merely protecting themselves

against the harsh winter that will come, so they can reemerge to a robust growing season next spring. The annual growing cycle in nature is a visible sign to us of new life emerging after certain death.

As members of the Body of Christ, each new day is yet another opportunity to unite ourselves to the Paschal Mystery and to participate with Christ in our own salvation and the salvation of all. To be clear, our prayers, Mass offerings and good works alone are not responsible for opening the gates of heaven to those who have died Rather, it is the death and resurrection of Jesus that saves each soul He and He alone is the Savior. However, because we have been united with Christ in Holy Baptism, we are members of His body. As the Body of Christ, then, we enjoy the ability to participate with Him in His once-for-all act of salvation. The Church's prayers today – and every day – are our way of joining in Jesus' work of saving our loved ones from eternal death.

As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary, in this month of November, let us remember all of our loved ones who have gone before us, especially our founders of the Italian Catholic Federation. Pope Francis has spoken regarding the remembrance of the dead: "The remembrance of the dead, the care of graves and prayers of repose are a witness of the confident hope, rooted in certainty, that death is not the final word on the human fate, since man is destined to a life



Father Christopher Bennett ICF Spiritual Director

without limits which has its roots and its God."

Remember we are one body, and we walk with each other, not only through this life but also over the waters of death into eternity. Whether someone we know died recently or many years ago, through our prayers and penances today, we can participate in the very moment that he or she is welcomed into the halls of heaven!

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

May God bless you and those that you love.

Fr. Chris





Get Your 2025 ICF Calendars Now!

The ICF 2025 Calendars are great gifts, great raffle prizes and offer wonderful stories, fun facts and recipes which remind us about our theme "Dinner And A Movie" as well as an opportunity to win money. Please keep this in mind with the Holidays coming up. This is a wonderful fundraiser for our Branches as well as a way to fund many of our organization's programs. So, let's focus on selling our calendars!!! Branches have been given their allotment of calendars – contact your local Branch if you are interested in buying one.

2024 - 2025 CENTRAL COUNCIL OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OFFICERS:

Grand President - Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184

Grand 1st Vice President - Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Br. 227

Grand 2nd Vice President - Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52

Grand Secretary - Deborah Rodondi*, Br. 19

Grand Treasurer - Lisa Crudo, Br. 343

Grand Parliamentarian - Leonard Zasoski, Jr.* (Betty/B.G.),

Br. 28

Grand Trustee - Rosemary Cook, Br. 13

Grand Trustee - Leonard Rossi, K.L.J., M.M.E.* (Karen), Br. 343

Grand Trustee - Theresa Shaw (Tad), Br. 108

Grand Sentinel - Robert Basuino*, Br. 191

Past Grand President - Deborah Rodondi*, Br. 19

Spiritual Director - Rev. Christopher Bennett, Br. 445

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Steven Fuentes*, Br. 173

Dante Galeazzi* (Julie), Br. 139

Teresa Helfand* (Cory), Br. 392

Dr. Vincent Malfitano (Roselyn), Br. 36

Roselynne McNeal* (Aaron), Br. 442

Andrew Pappani* (Siria/Sid), Br. 28

Michael Rossi, C.L.J.* (Marcie), Br. 391

Perry Shurko, Br. 362

(*denotes life member)

LIFE MEMBERS EMERITUS:

Robert Acquistapace (Kathy), Br. 198

Michael Cannady (Donna), Br. 154

James Jones, Br. 191

Carmen Kilcullen (Larry), Br. 52

Nina Malone, Br. 438

MEMBERS EMERITUS:

Gerald Delfino (Joan), Br. 368

Maria Di Paolo, Br. 379

Angelina Iarossi-Armenio, Br. 218

Patricia Mages (Louis), Br. 380

Kenneth Marshall (Elizabeth), Br. 342

Vincent Piro (Robyn), Br. 39

Frank Signorelli, Br. 291

Helen Tatone, Br. 380

Chris Valentini (Elizabeth), Br. 14

(Revised 9/24)



GP Message--Continued

Denise Antonowicz continued from p. 1

that have shaped us into the community we are today.

We give thanks for the strength of our families, for the support and the love that flows from generation to generation. We give thanks for the values that have been passed down to us — the importance of faith, the power of fellowship, the richness of our Italian heritage. And we look to the future, knowing that as long as we hold fast to these values, as long as we hold fast to each other, we can face anything that comes our way.

This Thanksgiving, let us raise

our voices in prayer, our hearts overflowing with gratitude, and our glasses held high in a toast. To our families, our faith, and our fellowship. To the Italian Catholic Federation, and to the countless blessings we have received. May the future be filled with joy, love, and the continued guidance of our Lord

Buon Ringraziamento, and may God bless us all.

Denise Antonowicz Grand President



There is a fountain of youth: It is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age.

-Sophia Loren_

Live to Give Convention Donations

(Report as of October 10, 2024)

Tom and Mary Cook
In Memory of Molly Widner

Donations

ICF General Fund

(Report as of October 10, 2024)

Everett and Patti Littlejohn
In Memory of Viola Carr

My heritage-- By Crescenza Lucnik - Member of Br. 392, Chicago

was born in a small town called Mola di Bari in Puglia, Italia

The funny thing is that Mola was just a small fishing town and as far as I can remember people could not wait to immigrate to America. In 1969-1970 the town emptied out! My family, including 22 cousins and friends, boarded the Michelangelo off the coast of Napoli and sailed away to a new adventure!

How exciting! For many years, though we thought about the town with sadness! Missing it! We were kids....we could not come back! We left that life

We went back several times as we got older and we noticed things were still unchanged! Although the town seemed more populated, the streets are the same, my nonna's house has not changed! It's like time stood still!

This year, again we came back and brought family, members, 15 of us. So fun! We saw the town with different eyes! We saw it thru the young ones, the excitement seeing how they viewed the town, not old and ancient but antique...like when you find a treasure in the thrift store! WOW!

The best part was going thru Bari Vecchio. Seeing St. Nicholas Church... time has stood still!

About the orecchiette ladies? Making orecchiette in those very small vicoli. A novelty! Again seeing this thru young eyes!

Not to mention the focaccia Barese! Two euro gives you a large slice of focaccia!

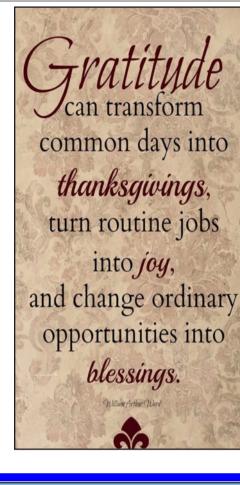
What about those trains? The trains in Italy are very impressive! About "La Freccia Rossa" Stupendous!

Now that I'm older and I've seen the town, again, somehow it's just beautiful! It does not need to change!

Mola stay as you are! So beautiful!







10/31 Margaret Woosley



OCTOBER CALENDAR WINNERS



DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
10/1	Amber Cavazos	362	Whittier, CA	\$30
10/2	Marlene Kellogg		Pacific Grove, CA	\$30
10/3	Marilyn Tuso	390	Tracy, CA	\$30
10/4	Nicole Lee		Sunnyvale, CA	\$30
10/5	Lauren Kilcullen	52	Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
10/6	Carla Contestable	14	Point Richmond, CA	\$30
10/7	Maggie Niescier		Tempe, AZ	\$30
10/8	Mike Marchini	39	Le Grand, CA	\$30
10/9	Stephen Neuburger		San Francisco, CA	\$50
10/10	Sue Kladstrup	408	Eagan, MN	\$30
10/11	Heather Thompson		Seattle, WA	\$30
10/12	JoAnn & Dave Lara		San Francisco, CA	\$30
10/13	Donna Pfaff	184	San Jose, CA	\$30
10/14	John Cardinalli	285	Pleasanton, CA	\$30
10/15	Steve & Nancy Stedman	209	Sebastopol, CA	\$30
10/16	Branch 179		Glendora, CA	\$30
10/17	Dave & Sandy Mehrwe	ein	San Francisco, CA	\$30
10/18	Pat Albini	332	San Rafael, CA	\$30
10/19	Juan Montelongo		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
10/20	Melanie & Parviz Fathali	342	Los Gatos, CA	\$30
10/21	Roy J. Shackel	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
10/22	Bryan & Jackie Perkins		Pleasant Hill, CA	\$50
10/23	Lia Stanley	54	Newman, CA	\$30
10/24	Sylvia Sorci	435	Morgan Hill, CA	\$30
10/25	Virginia Williams	285	Livermore, CA	\$30
10/26	Maria Camicia	173	Burlingame, CA	\$30
10/27	Ann Rolan		Madera, CA	\$30
10/28	Bill & Sue James		Gilroy, CA	\$30
10/29	Theresa Schanbeck		Kent, WA	\$30
10/30	Dominic & Deborah Rago	352	Alamo, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

Bakersfield, CA

\$30

Book Review--

The Italian Americans of Los Angeles

Vince Piro The Italian Americans of Los Angeles

Marianna Gatto Trinacria Editions LLC, 2024

 ${
m M}$ arianna Gatto, author of Los Ange-

les's Little Italy, has just released a new book entitled The Italian Americans of Los Angeles.

This history "chronicles the Italian Americans of Los Angeles, a group that, although integral to every facet of the Southern Cal-

ifornia megalopolis for two centuries, has largely been overlooked in both local and Italian American histories. Based on meticulous research, this multidisciplinary study by Gatto is the first extended account of Italian Americans in the City of Angels. Artists and agriculturalists, dreamers and outlaws, pioneers and powerbrokers come alive in this sweeping work and provide important points of comparison for understanding the American mosaic. Over one hundred images, including many never before published, help illustrate this impressive multi-layered history."

"By examining the Italian American cum laude with a degree in social sciexperience in Los Angeles, we develop ence before beginning her graduate a deeper understanding of one of the study in history and earning a teaching world's greatest metropolises and the credential in secondary education. Gatto varied nature of the Italian diaspora,"

The book has a chapter dedicated to the subject of faith and explains the role of



Catholicism in helping Italian immigrants achieve acceptance and upward mobility in Los Angeles.

Marianna Gatto is the executive director and cofounder of the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles (IAMLA), a historian and author with two decades of experience in public history, non-profit leadership, museums, and education. Gatto has served as the museum's director since 2010, and oversees matters ranging from development and exhibitions, to education, programming, and fundraising. A Los Ángeles native, Gatto attended the University of California Los Angeles, and California State University Los Angeles, graduating magna also has a master's in education. The Italian Republic has recognized her with the Order of the Star of Italy. Gatto is a Catholic author and a dame in the Constantinian Order.

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza **Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations***

Received as of October 1, 2024:

IN MEMORY OF: **DONATED BY:** Dolores McCartney Officers/Members of Central Coast District Officers/Members of Br. 21 Alvin Wilson Chuck Meier Jo-Ann and John Donivan Dan Maggiora Jo-Ann and John Donivan Dolores McCartney Richard and Valerie Vote Anamaria Falcone Franklyn Lopes, Jr. Anamaria Falcone Bob Basuino Mark Agustus Shriwise Bob Basuino Mark Shriwise Franklyn Lopes, Jr. Anamaria Falcone Louise Vento Betty Ford Louise Vento

GET WELL WISHES:

Carmen Kilcullen Franklyn Lopes, Jr. Officers/Members of Carmen Kilcullen Central Council

*Named after the co-founder of the ICF, 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.

In Loving Memory

(Report as of October 10, 2024)

Rev Guglielmo Lauriola	Branch 001
John Lira	Branch 014
Alvin O Wilson	Branch 021
Viola Carr	Branch 028
Josephine O Jimenez	Branch 028
Fred Conte	Branch 036
Charlene M Jackson	Branch 036
Isidoro Amalfitano	Branch 115
Alexander A Iacono	Branch 115
Dorothy Lovell	Branch 198
Bobbie Farrington	Branch 285
Charles Meier	Branch 285
Lynne Soldavini	Branch 332

Cooley's Anemia **Donations**

(Received as of October 10, 2024)

Branch 379 **Bunny Filice** In Memory of Viola Carr John G. and Kim Filice In Memory of Viola M. Carr David and Julie Schurba

In Memory of Giuseppina Baldocchi

Charles Gullo, Jr.

In Memory of Betty Ford



Welcome New Members

(Report as of October 10, 2024)

(Report as or Oct	.0001 10, 2024)	
Branch 025	Marilyn Parr	
Branch 025	Gwendolyn Klem	
Branch 026	Craig W Medlyn	
Branch 210	Diane Lamon	
Branch 214	Pamela J Piscitelli	Vince Piscitelli
Branch 215	Julio A Cruz	Julio D Cruz Jr
	Liliana D Cruz	Rebecca M Cruz
	Ruby R Cruz	
Branch 246	Eloise Gallagher	Peter Gallagher
Branch 285	Rose Brandi	
Branch 291	Dean Castellino	Norma Castellino
	Zach Castellino	Rene-Pierre J Romero
Branch 332	Ginny Esposito	Gordon (Gordy) Esposito
Duranah 242	Gary Musante Anna Marie Damiano	Mary Alice Musante
Branch 342		
	Dorothy La Rocca	Donna Mc Closkey Geri Steenveld
	Lynelle Pucci Lori Stewart	Scott Stewart
	Laura T Tattershall	Scott Stewart
Branch 351	Sharon A Ondry	Steve C Ondry
Branch 351	Bill Fanto-Chan	Michelle Fanto-Chan
Di anch 332	Joseph A Rubay	Whenene Fanto-Chan
Branch 417	Angel Lopez	
Branch 438	Margie M Perrault	Karen M Rutledge
Dianen 450	Michael M Rutledge	Karen Wi Kuticuge
Branch 442	Joe Della Santina	
Branch 445	Cynthia M Sevilla	Robert R Sevilla
Branch 446	Margherita Di Maggio	
2.4	Elmo S Herrera	
Branch 447	Enzo Ames	Greg Ames
	Lucia Ames	Marco Ames
	Armando M Barzaghi	
	Isabel W Mullin	Paul M Mullin



Gifts of Love Donations

(Report as of October 10, 2024)

Harold Fuentes In Memory of a Good Friend John Campanile Officers/Members of Br. 285 In Memory of Charles Meier Officers/Members of Br. 285 In Memory of Donald Merucci Joan and Jerry Delfino Get Well Wishes for Tom Bouska

Get Well Wishes for Michelle

Joan and Jerry Delfino

Antonowicz

Glaubke Joan and Jerry Delfino Get Well Wishes for Marlene Farber Eva Stern Antonowicz

Joan and Jerry Delfino Get Well Wishes for Janet

Get Well Wishes for Michelle



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Committee

SAINT FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI PILGRIMAGE, MASS AND LUNCHEON

"CELEBRATING THE 78TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MOTHER CABRINI'S CANONIZATION"

Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church 3801 Scott Rd., Burbank, CA 91504

DATE: Sunday, November 10, 2024

MASS/BENEDICTION: 11:30 AM. PILGRIMAGE: 12:30 PM. LUNCH: 2:00 PM

COST: \$25.00 / Adults & \$10.00 / Children under 12 "Each paid ticket includes one Raffle Ticket for a Special Raffle Prize."

MENU: BAKED CHICKEN, PASTA, MEAT BALLS, SALAD, VEGGIE, COFFEE, TE. WINE AND DESSERT (Catered by Jouni's Catering)

RESERVATION(S) DUE BY: NOVEMBER 1, 2024

CONTACT: ANDREA LINN T. 909-762-1392

SEND CHECK TO: ICF c/o ANDREA LINN

Dinner(s) at \$10.00 (Under 12)

4095 Fruit St. Sp 342 La Verne, CA 91750

I wish to reserve Dinner(s) at \$25.00: **Enclosed** is S

"All proceeds to help fund the ongoing operations and development of the Cabrini Chapel and Library."

(Please make checks to Italian Catholic Federation); memo: Cabrini Pilgrimage 2024)



Scholarship Donations

(Received as of October 1, 2024)

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year Mary and Marcello Ridi

In Memory of Sabina Solari

Antoinette and Angelo Pecora

In Memory of James O'Brien

Sandy Del Real

In Memory of Nettie Descalso-Del Nero Janet Pugliese and Family

In Memory of Nettie Descalso-Del Nero Dario and Josephine Giampaoli

In Memory of Nettie Descalso-Del Nero Joyce Hambley

In Memory of Nettie Descalso-Del Nero Denise Antonowicz

Get Well Wishes for Carmen Kilcullen

Germaine Antonowicz In Honor of the Wedding

Anniversary of Joan and Jerry Delfino

Scholarship Donations - 2nd -4th Year

Marlene Farber Get Well Wishes for Karen Raccanello

Joan and Jerry Delfino

In Honor of the Birthday of Elaine Osorio

History of the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Burbank

Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini came to San Fernando Valley, California in the late 1800s. In 1880, she founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart which then built the Villa Cabrini

In 1916 Mother Cabrini built a small chapel in honor of the Blessed Mother above Villa Cabrini Academy, atop Mount Raphael, for the residents of the San Fernando Valley. The chapel was said to protect their crops and shelter the residents from the ravages of fire. During the war, it also served as a beacon to pilots. Mother Cabrini made daily mediation visits to the chapel while overseeing a new academy for girls.

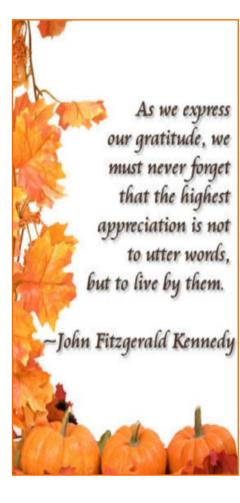
For decades, the chapel attracted thousands of pilgrims who made the steep climb every December to honor St. Cabrini and prayed to the woman who was consumed with the love of God and worked tirelessly "for the greater glory of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,' the motto she chose for the Missionary

In 1970, the land on which the chapel was built was sold to a developer. However, members of the Italian Catholic Federation in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles raised money to rescue the chapel and moved it down the mountain in 1973 to St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank where they later restored it with stained glass windows, a mosaic of St. Cabrini, new tile, and more. Fr. William C. O'Connor, St. Francis Xavier Church pastor and San Fernando Valley District ICF Chaplain at the time, headed the renovation committee. Many hours of planning went into the project and many donations were made in the form of construction-related labor and historical artifacts for the collection. A formal dedication ceremony of the restored chapel was held on the

grounds of St. Francis Xavier Church on Sunday, September 14, 1975.

A library sponsored by the ICF was built under the direction of ICF Branch 102 member Orlando T. Granata in 1993. Mr. Granata also supervised the moving of the chapel to its new location on the St. Francis Xavier Cabrini Church property. The library contains historical and contemporary works about the immigrant saint, and adjoins the chapel.

Today, the chapel and library collectively form a shrine in St. Frances Xavier Cabrini's honor.





We Treat Kids Better

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

If so, Laurice Levine, ICF Liaison for Children's Hospital Los Angeles, would be honored to come and speak at one of your

branch meetings or any special event (at no cost to your branch).

Contact Information:

360-860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com

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

Workshop Committee Vince Piro and Andy Pappani



The Workshop Committee will be holding a series of leadership workshops on the following dates. All workshops are via Zoom and begin at 6 p.m. Workshops are open to all members but designed for officers, new and old. For information on connecting to each workshop, please contact Andy Pappani at pappanil@yahoo.com.

President Training: November 14th and repeat session 15th First and Second Vice President Training: November 19th and repeat session on the 21st

Recording/Correspondence Secretaries Training: December 2nd and repeat session on the 3rd

Financial Secretary/Treasurer Training: December 18th and repeat session on the 19th

Orator and Sentinel Training:

January 6th and repeat session on the 9th Trustee Training: January 15th and

repeat session on the 16th



November 2024

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
4" height x 5" width (horizontal)	\$50
6 1/2" height x 5" width (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 (notated 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.





Thanksgiving isn't just a day...

Building Membership with Technology

Check out the instructions below for operating a Square Credit Card reader. They could be really helpful for your branch during fundraisers or collecting dues.

Square Credit Card Reader Operating Instructions

Direct from the National Convention Technology Session

- 1. Hold the power button until the Square logo appears on the screen.
- 2. After the home screen loads, press the "Items" menu.

Performing a Sale

- 1. Press the item's name to add it to the current order. To sell multiple of the same item, press the item that number of times.
- When order is complete, press the "Review Order" button.
- 3. Confirm order with customer, then press the "Confirm and Pay"
- 4. Slide/Tap/Insert credit card. If the customer is in the system, an email receipt will automatically be sent to them. In this case, skip to Step 6.
- 5. If the receipt menu appears, ask the customer if they would like a printed receipt. If they do, press the "Print Receipt" button.
- 6. Press the "New Sale" button in the upper left corner of the screen. Return to Step 1 of Performing a Sale to process the next order.

Shutting Down

- 1. Hold the power button until the power options appear on the screen.
- 2. Press the "Shut Down" button.

Created by Patrick Senge, Treasurer, ICF Br. #438, 09/01/24

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Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

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

Dear Members:

On Sunday, November 10th at 12 p.m. President Vic will host an Italian luncheon at his daughter and son-in-law's house in San Francisco. Invitations were sent to Branch 1 Members. Please call Vic at 650-755-1369 if you are able to attend.

Wishing you a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Cordiali Saluti Diana Cresci

SAN MATEO District

Burlingame Br. 173, Our Lady of Angels

The Convention celebrating our 100th year anniversary was very successful along with the Thursday evening 1920's theme dinner being lots of fun. Thanks to all who made this possible!

We have many new dates to include on our calendars such as: November 8th is Chaplain's Night/Bishop's Day, and it will be held at the Basque Culture Center - \$55.00 per person. Reservations need to be made no later than October 20th

Menu: Veal Roast with scalloped potatoes and vegetables. Breast of chicken Chasseur with vegetables and rice. Also, Vegetarian dish and all meals come with Ice Cream and coffee.

On our branch newsletter there is a section to complete for your Spiritual Bouquet to give throughout the year for the archbishop.

The San Mateo District will be hosting a Night of Recollection on December 10, 2014, at Branch 213, St. Augustine 6:00 p.m. (more information to follow next month.)

Installation of Officers for 2025 will be on February 8, 2025, at St. Pius Church in Redwood City. Mass is at 10:00 a.m. followed by light refreshments.

The Holidays are around the corner so let's be sure to remember any sick members throughout our branches that need our prayers.

God Bless, Roz Emery

South San Francisco Br. 213, St. Augustine

Our October 17 meeting was held a week later than scheduled and was held at the home of Donna DeVoe with help from Diane Pangburn and President Marianne.

Election of officers was held, and the slate of officers remains pretty much the same as 2024.

It has been slow since convention, so I don't have much to report.

COMING UP: November 8, Friday: San Mateo District Chaplains Night and Bishops Day to be held at the Basque Cultural Center.

December 1, Sunday: Our annual Christmas luncheon at the Basque Cultural Center. Info has been emailed to all members. Hope to see you all there.

December 10, Tuesday: San Mateo District Night of Recollections, to be hosted by our Branch 213 and held in St. Augustine Parish Hall. Set-up is at 6 p.m. and program begins at 6:30 p.m. Notice will be sent to all branches. We hope to have a good turnout!

Happy Thanksgiving to All!!

Millbrae Br. 403, St. Dunstan

I hope everyone who attended our "Polenta Dinner" fundraiser on October 20th enjoyed themselves. Much thanks to all of our volunteers and a special thanks to Mike Gianni and his Millbrae Lions team of cooks, and to Mike Kelly and his Millbrae Leos for set-up, serving & clean-up help.

Our November meeting is on Tuesday the 5th and features lasagna for \$15pp. If you haven't made your reservation yet and want dinner, call Eunice ASAP at 650-692-3740. Dinner includes wine, salad & dessert.

SAVE THE DATE! Our December meeting, which is Tuesday, December 3rd, is our branch Christmas party. This will be a special catered affair, and the menu and cost are TBD at the time that this article was written. The social will begin at the usual 5pm with dinner to follow at 5:30. Our meeting will follow dinner. Additional information will be in the December Newsletter, which will be published mid-November. I hope you can attend.

Ciao A Tutti! Adonna Amoroso, Secretary

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

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE District Council

What a busy month we had in the last month. On September 29th we gathered at St John's seminary for our annual Bishops Day. \$6,000 was donated by the members and an additional \$2,000 from the Providenza Fund. Thank you to all of those who came out for a beautiful day.

Branch 237 held its annual Christopher Columbus Day dinner dance, and Branch 447 had another Limoncello Festival.

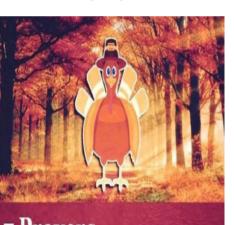
Frank Salomone was honored by the city of Montebello as Citizen of the Month, while the ICF and Branch 115 were honored at the Festa Italiana in Little Italy. Congratulations to you!!

Opera Italia had another concert. I didn't get to go but I know it was wonderful. Thank you, Francesca!!

We finished the month with the 2nd So Cal Golf Tournament. We had a great time and I'm looking forward to doing it again next year

This month we honor all of our Veterans. Thank you for serving your country! Please pray for our country at this crucial time as we go to the voting booth to choose the next president.

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a very Blessed Thanksgiving!!



7 Prayers for NOVEMBER

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

Amen



Montebello Br. 111, St. Benedict

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone Our November General Meeting will be on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, in Montebello. It has become our tradition for our November general meeting to celebrate Thanksgiving with a potluck dinner. Everyone brings their favorite dishes to share with everyone and the Branch will provide the main dish, turkey, and drinks. Thank you to everyone for your participation.

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

We are honored to report that Branch

111 President, Frank Salomone, was recognized by the City of Montebello during the City Council Meeting on September 25, 2024, as Citizen of the Month for September 2024, in appreciation for his commitment to serve the City of Montebello residents and for his significant contributions to improve the quality of life in the Montebello community. Frank has been a dedicated member of St. Benedict Church for nearly two decades, serving on the Finance and Pastoral Council since 2006. He has been President of the Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 111 since 2004 and serves as Vice President of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles District of the ICF. The Mayor of Montebello, Scarlet Peralta, stated that his leadership in these organizations has fostered unity and strengthened our sense of community, creating lasting impacts to those in need. Frank's work has significantly improved the lives of many in our community, inspiring us all to contribute to the betterment of Montebello.

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

Sunday, November 10, 2024 - Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage Mass & Luncheon - Burbank

Saturday, December 14, 2024 - ICF 111 Branch Christmas Dinner, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

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

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

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

On Oct 5th San Pedro celebrated Festa Italiana. Our branch was honored by the Little Italy of Los Angeles Association on celebrating our 70th anniversary and for our community and church involvement. President Neal DiLeva accepted the award on behalf of the branch. Thank you to the organization for this recognition.

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Mass and luncheon. Our members were able to share a meal and talk with the seminarians. Our branch is sponsoring Christian Eguaroje. He is so grateful to our branch for the support we provide.

This year's Mother Cabrini pilgrimage will be held on Sunday Nov 10. Bus will depart from the Boys and Girls club at 10 a.m. Mass will begin at 11:30 a.m. followed by procession, Benediction and Luncheon. Cost of luncheon is \$25.00 Please call Barbara West for reservations 310 548-1693

There is still time to join us on our Las Vegas trip. Trip will depart on November 12 and return on the 14th. Price for the 2 nites 3 day stay for Carson Towers is \$210.00 per person double occupancy \$270.00 single occupancy. Price for Gold Tower is \$265.00 per person double occupancy \$375.00 single occupancy. Please call Pauline Iacono for reservations 310 832-0563

Please plan on attending our general meeting on November 21 at 7:30 p.m. in parish center. Discussion will include our upcoming Christmas party to be held on Saturday Dec 7th at 6 p.m. free for members guest \$15.00. Please bring a gift for gift exchange table. Please call Giovanna Gioiello for reservations 213 605-3060

Happy Thanksgiving to all Anita Trujillo

Arcadia Br. 218, Holy Angels

Our next very important date is November 17, 18 for our Christmas Boutique which Jenni Hauge will be chairing this year. Set up will be on Saturday from 12 to 3:00. This event will actually begin on Saturday from 4:30 to 8:00 for the vendors to begin selling and again on Sunday from 8 to 2. Sausage/meatball sandwiches will be available. This is one of our largest fundraisers and with the additional vendors coming in with a very broad assortment of wares should be very successful.

The other important date to keep in mind is our Christmas party. The date for this has been changed to Sunday, December 8 from 1:00 to 4:00. The time slot will allow for persons to be home before dark. This will be a catered affair, no details yet, but will be a very nice event as usual.

Everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and hope to see every member at our meetings and events.

Lolly M.

Branch 218 enjoyed the lovely and inspiring Bishop's Day at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo. The seminar's beautiful grounds and picturesque setting resonated with peace and tranquility. Sharing lunch with the seminarians at our table gave us a snapshot into the vocational journey with Jesus they are undertaking. God bless them all!

Downey Br. 362, St. Raymond

Have you had your fill of Halloween candy yet? Here we are in November. Our Bingo and Bake Sale are on Sunday the 3rd. Please come out and enjoy some wonderful baked goods including cannoli and then join us for another Bingo luncheon.

On Sunday the 10th we will be gathering at St Francis Xavier parish in Burbank for our annual Mother Cabrini pilgrimage. Mass begins at 11:30 followed by the procession, rosary, benediction and lunch.

Our November meeting will be a Thanksgiving Potluck. Roast Turkey and Stuffing will be provided by the branch. Be sure to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Let's all be thankful for all that we have and please pray for our country as we elect the next president of the United States. Let's also be thankful for all the Veterans who've served in the Armed Services. We salute you.

Till next month, have a very Blessed Thanksgiving.

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

Excitement is building to continue to plan successful fundraising opportunities and increase charitable donations. Thanks to a healthy treasury, a substantial donation was recently made to Wounded Warriors and to Fr. Lorenzo Gomez, of Guadalupe Radio.

Phyllis Harb, our branch president, has already sent out donation requests to vendors for gift cards, vacation rentals, and items for the St. Joseph Silent Auction. The auction is a major income producer for our charities. Please assist Phyllis by acquiring a gift card from a restaurant you often frequent, or an item from a storeowner that would be suitable for auction.

Also, we need your kitchen skills to prepare a delicacy, pasta dish, or sauce for the St. Joseph Table. This year the March event will be held in the new impressive, large parish hall so we need lots of goodies to fill the Table.

With the holidays right around the corner, Fiora Murphy has already planned our branch Christmas Party. It will be held on Tuesday, December 17th, at 6 p.m. in the Parish Center. The catered Italian dinner will feature lasagna, meatballs, eggplant parmesan, salad, garlic bread, decadent tiramisu and, of course, lots of holiday joy and camaraderie. Invitations will be sent out shortly, be sure to respond promptly.

Several of our branch members have recently suffered the loss of family members. Please continue to pray for Fiora Murphy's sister and brother-inlaw, Mimma and Luciano Giannini; Joyce Serra, Phyllis Harb's mother, and Al Restivo. May they rest in peace.

Also, please pray for the safety of Raul Acevedo's son, Captain Raul T. Acevedo and his crew on the USS Lewis B. Puller currently in the Persian Gulf as a response to the Israel-Hamas War.

May your Thanksgiving be filled with peace, love, and joy!

Dates to remember:

Tuesday, November 18th- General Meeting, 6 p.m. – Parish Center

Tuesday, December 17th – Branch Christmas Party- Parish Center 6PM

Sunday, March 16th – Membership Table/ Donuts- After morning Masses Saturday, March 22nd – St. Joseph Set-up-10-2

Sunday, March 23rd – St. Joseph Table/ Silent Auction- After morning Masses

Simi Valley Br. 443, St Rose of Lima

Members gathered with family and friends at Rita and John's home on September 15 for a fun filled Sunday afternoon.

Over 40 people enjoyed eating, socializing, playing Bocce and Cornhole. In the evening, everyone sat around the fire pit telling stories

Peace and Blessings, Josephine M. Perini

Manhattan Beach Br. 447, American Martyrs

Branch 447 held our 2nd Annual Sorrento Lemon Festival. We enjoyed a wonderful evening connecting with our members, making new friends, and signing up new members. We started the evening with wine and appetizers while everyone reconnected and caught up with one another.

We had a delightful catered dinner of vegetarian lasagna, lemon chicken, garlic bread, and salad. After dinner, we enjoyed a large selection of delicious homemade lemon desserts made by our talented bakers. Members participated in a hilarious relay race where they carried large platters of lemons from one side of the room to the other. The team

that didn't drop any lemons won. (See photo of the winning team with district photos.) As we concluded our evening, we handed out samples of our lovely homemade Limoncello and sold approximately 30 bottles! We still have a few bottles of Limoncello for sale – get your bottle while they last!

November 2024

On October 18th we will be hosting our annual Halloween Potluck & Bingo Night. We will have a Halloween costume contest, and a contest for the spookiest appetizer, side dish, or dessert.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 10th for our annual pilgrimage to St. Francis Xavier Cabrini Church in Burbank to celebrate mass and visit the Mother Cabrini Shrine. Following the visitation of the Shrine we will have lunch at the school hall. More details to follow.

Oakland

East Bay District Council

Sempre Avanti! On the heels of the Convention this year was Bishop's Day with Contra Costa District on September 7th at St. Rose of Lima Church. Father Chris Bennett was in attendance and presented Bishop Barber with two checks, one from Central Council for \$2,000.00 and one from the East Bay and Contra Costa Districts combined at \$4,000.00.

Besides the joint Bishop's Day with Contra Costa District, we will be having our Installation together for the first time in January 2025 in Castro Valley at Branch 343. The East Bay and Contra Costa Districts' Installation will be in Castro Valley at Branch 343, starting in the early afternoon with Mass, Installation and followed by dinner. Details forthcoming!

All the branches in EBD are successfully selling their 2025 calendars.

Both Branch 285 and Branch 343 held their annual fundraising Bingo gatherings during September.

Branch 10 hosts their annual Ravioli Dinner Fundraiser October. 12th. A noteworthy event!

Branch 91 winners of the ICF Cross Necklaces are Donna Dianda Santich and Judy Wellbeloved.

The East Bay District will be co-hosting a Christmas Celebration at Branch 10, St. Philip Neri Alameda, on Dec.7th. It will be a fine dinner gathering complete with Santa Claus and raffles. Cocktails and appetizers start at 6pm followed by dinner.

Save the date for the EBD Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed on Feb. 8th, 2025. Our chef is Benny Ratto. As usual there will be plenty of Crab, Pasta with pesto, salad and more!! Details to follow.

Sincerely, Jo-Ann Maggiora Donivan

November 2024 10 - BOLLETTINO

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT





Branch 435 meeting Branch 435 meeting



Branch 435 meeting

ICF #47 St Joseph's Desserts for Sep Meeting







ICF #47 St Joseph's Ministry Fair, Norman & Max

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)







Br. 445 Buffet Line led by newest member Sylvia Ortiz





Br. 368, Robyn Schlice & Tom Bouska Chair persons for ICF Rib dinner





SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)





Br. 408, ICF plant sale to raise funds for scholarship



Br. 408, Madhu and Serving crew @ ICF Pancake breakfast

BLESSED SACRAMENT DISTRICT







Alameda Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

Our combined East Bay District-Branch 10 Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday evening, December 7 in Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda. Doors will be opened for social hour at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be served beginning at 7:00. There will be a hosted bar, but we have decided that we will not serve mixed drinks after 7:00. Prices are \$35.00 for adults and \$12.00 for young people 12 and under. We will be visited by Santa Claus, and gifts will be presented to the children in attendance. Reservations by 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 30 to John Zugnoni at john@zugnoni.net or 510-326-3474.

Thanks to all who joined us for our annual Ravioli Dinner on October 12. Over 130 persons attended, including officers of the Central Council, the East Bay District and other East Bay branches. Special applause to chef Ben Ratto, who seems to out-do himself as the years go by.

We elected our officers for 2025 at our meeting of October 10. Leading us next year are Jim Lee, president; John Zugnoni, first vice president; Ken Dorrance, second vice president; JoAnn Dorn, treasurer; Karen Harrington, financial secretary; Jeanette Zugnoni, secretary; Agnes Marcheschi, Betty Lupetti, Sheila Ewart and Sharon Brunetti, trustees; Terry Greig, orator, and Peggie Dorrance, sentinel.

A new but long-needed function has been added for Monsignor O'Brien Hall, the site of our meetings and most of our events. With recessed overhead lighting and shutters on its stained-glass windows, the 96-year-old building, which served as the first church of Saint Philip Neri Parish, will also now serve as a practice facility for the volleyball teams of the parish elementary school.

John Zugnoni Branch 10 publicity

Fremont

Br. 215, St. Francis of Assisi

Corpus Christi Church's Activities Committee monthly hosts Hospitality after all Sunday Masses. On 10/13/2024, while the Activities Committee handed out coffee, juice and baked goods, ICF Branch 215 played Italian Music in the background. At the same time President Fran LaTorre and Sentinel Debbie Nunes handed out ICF Information Packets. Many people took home Membership Applications and others left their contact information. We will follow up all who expressed interest in the ICF. Thank you, Corpus Christi Activities Committee, for inviting us to join you and for providing a

President Fran LaTorre, 1st VP Paul

Ferrario, Orator Julie Ferrario, Trustee Lorraine Niera and Sentinel Debbie Nunes were all re-elected to serve their branch offices during 2025. Thank you all for being willing to continue to serve our branch. Welcome to Rebecca Engineer, our new Financial Secretary/ Treasurer, Cathy Layden as our new Reoording Secretary and to John De-Lucchi as our second Branch Trustee.

Thank you, John, for serving our branch so well these past years as our Financial Secretary/Treasurer. Thank you, Shirley DeLucchi, for serving as our Recording Secretary for many years and lately as a Branch Trustee. Your support of Branch 215 is very much appreciated.

Our branch coffers are healthy enough that we look forward to making our Christmas donations to the St. Vincent DePaul Councils located at the Catholic parishes of Fremont as well as a donation to Abode Services. Now that Our Lady of the Rosary has joined Corpus Christi as one parish, we will make a donation to the SVDP there, too.

Much joy to all those celebrating November birthdays and/or wedding anniversaries! Happy Thanksgiving too! Please have a blessed and safe Thanksgiving with your families and friends.

Sincerely submitted by. Fran LaTorre

Livermore Br. 285, St. Filomena

Ciao Tutti,

Fall is here and we hopefully welcome the cooler days and nights. Our branch is moving along this fall, adjusting its meeting space and planning our events.

Sadly, we lost one of our dear long-time members recently, Bobbie Farrington. The celebration of life for this wonderful woman, will be held on October 12. Our prayers are with her family as they go through this difficult time.

Coming up, our Branch has some events that we are attending or in charge of.

The CCOP parish has it's Festa Italiana on Saturday October 26. Many of us attend that event and we try to sit together. We always try to support our Knights of Columbus, the sponsors of the Festa. and in turn, they are supportive of us and our events

On November 3, we have Ministry Sunday at St. Michael Church in Livermore. We have been successful signing up new members from these Sundays. We also are participating in the CCOP Fall Roundup on that Sunday. It should be a fun afternoon.

November 13 we are taking a trip to Savino Winery in Yountville to wine taste and socialize. Savino Winery is owned and managed by one of our member's family, Pia Murphy.

Our annual Mass of Remembrance is going to be held on November 22 at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel at 6 p.m.

All are invited to attend in order to to celebrate the heavenly lives of our deceased loved ones.

The Christmas dinner at Pastas is on the evening of December 11, 6 p.m. We always have a great meal and a lot of fun getting ready for the Christmas season.

Our general meetings are normally scheduled for the 3rd Sunday afternoon of the month 1:30 p.m., at St. Elizabeth Seton Church room A.

Ciao for now. Hope to see you at some of our events. Čon affezione, Carolina

Castro Valley Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace

Branch 343 had another successful bingo event last month. We had 48 people n attendance, a wonderful raffle and great food. Everyone had a good time.

October election of officers went well. Congratulations to all new, thank you to those who have faithfully served, and those who are continuing.

Branch 343 did a fab job preparing and serving the pasta dinner at our parish festival. (see picture on East Bay District page)

Can food drive at or November meeting will take place as usual for our St. Vincent de Paul pantry.

Wishing everyone a blessed and bountiful Thanksgiving!

Best regards Branch 343

CONTRA COSTA District Council

Hello from the Contra Council District Council

Our District Mass was held October 6 at Immaculate Heart of Mary parish. After Mass a delicious breakfast was served We thank our Brentwood Branch 432 for hosting. We are in need of mentors for several branches. Some have stepped down and one recently passed away. Being a mentor is an important but easy position. Once appointed you are a representative of the Central Council. It is recommended to visit the branch quarterly. It is important to see how the branch is doing and report if they are in need of help. There's no way for Central Council to know how branches are doing without a Mentor. Please consider then contact Patty at: jandp1976@aol.com

Please continue to work on membership and invite members back that have dropped out. They may appreciate a

Our next meeting will be held November 14 at 7 p.m. at CTK meeting room A and B in Pleasant Hill. Nominations will be accepted for 2025 officers.

We are sad to report that John Lira has died. He was a long time Crockett member, A mentor and visited many branches. He will be missed.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving.! Fraternally, Patty Jarrett, Br. 213 Past President/ District Mentor

Martinez Br. 13, San Martino

As leaves turn and crisp air of fall settles in, we're reminded of the joy and appreciation the upcoming holidays bring. Let's call upon the holy men and women in heaven to pray for us as we commemorate All Saints Day; followed by All Souls Day praying for those in purgatory to help them attain heaven. I'm praying especially in gratitude for my mother, who entered the pearly gates twenty years ago. She, who made me strong because she knew I'd have to deal with her death, rests in hallowed paradise. Life, and therefore, death is a state of mind. By that I mean, she is very much alive in my heart, mind, actions, prayers, and is actually present with me in the miracle of the Holy Eucharist. At the very moment God joins us in blood and body, my mother joins in a heavenly kiss and we become unified once again. I continue to grieve her absence, letting go daily, but am overjoyed I feel her presence receiving Communion.

God knows we're praying feverishly--for victims of recent natural disasters, for those working tirelessly for the betterment of others' wellbeing, and for those who'll adjust to a government that may not be of their choosing. We're all here in service to each other and together we can be grateful we have a God who loves us all equally.

We close November with Thanksgiving and the start of Advent--the expectant time of preparation for Jesus' nativity. From Martinez, may all your advent journeys be meaningful expressions of your faith.

Happy Thanksgiving. Sempre Avanti, Mary Cook





November 2024

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT



San Pedro Branch 115 attended Bishop's Day at the St. John Seminary in Camarillo on September 29



Neal Di Leva, President Br. 115 accepted recognition certificates from Little Italy of Los Angeles and Los Angeles 15th Council District on the occasion of the Branch's 70th Anniversary.



Presentation of recognition of Branch 115 to President Neal Di Leva and attending members at the Little Italy of Los Angeles Festa Italiana on October 5.



San Pedro Branch 115 attended Bishop's Day at the St. John Seminary in Camarillo on September 29



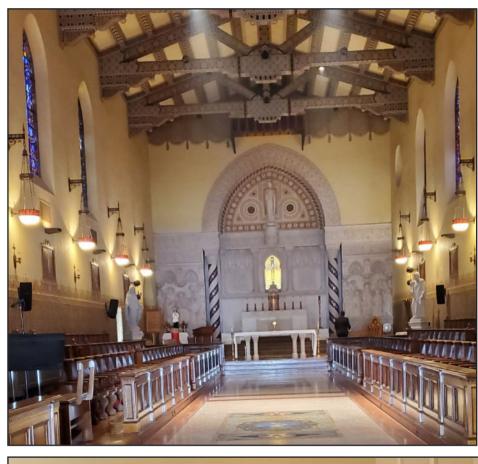
Br. 111, Cooley's Anemia BBQ

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)

















LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)













Br. 374 members Roseanne Kalaba (seated left), Rae Ann Mertz, Diane Autenrieth, President Phyllis Harb, and Minerva Astengo after enjoying a special Mass and lunch at St John's Seminary.



Br.108, Bishop's Day 2024.



ICF 111- President Frank Salomone - Montebello Citizen of The Month-SEPT



ICF 111 - Happy Birthday to Giuseppina & Alba

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)







Chrysarthemum NOVEMBER BIRTH FLOWER

Friendship Joy Happiness

FEB 1, 2025



Branch 443, Members gather with family and friends.





Branch 443



18 - BOLLETTINO

November 2024

Concord **Br. 214, Todos Santos**

Well, we are all still enduring the awful heatwave and hopefully it calms down

Two of our members are on our prayer list for their injuries. Irene Moore is still recovering from her fall, and Sandra Cordoni fell and fractured her pelvis. Hopefully they both have speedy healing. President Roberta Healy attended the district communion breakfast held at the Brentwood Branch on October 6th. The turnout was small. Only 7 members at-

At our September meeting we welcomed two new members, Vince and Pamela Piscitelli. We are happy to have them ioin our branch

tended from the districts.

We had a very successful fundraiser, pasta/bingo was held on September 14th. enjoyed the delicious ravioli, meatballs, Cesar salad and garlic bread from Zio Fraedos restaurant. For dessert we had lemon bars and ice cream cups. Popcorn was enjoyed while playing bingo. There were cash prizes for the winners of bingo games, and great raffle prizes. We all had a wonderful time.

At our October meeting we will have elections for officers for 2025.

The holidays are quickly approaching as you can see in all the stores.

We pray for the people in the hurricane southeast states. Our hearts go out to the ones who have lost their loved ones and their homes. It is truly unbelievable.

Please stay strong and healthy and safe. Con amore, Norene

Danville Br. 352, St. Isidore

At our last monthly dinner, Russ Bellici. who happens to be our famous cook did a presentation on Sicily. Every few months a member will talk about their particular region, their ancestors, the food, culture, and special customs. Sicily is a blend of many cultures from various Mediterranean countries, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Spain, North Africa.

A few months ago Russ lead a trip to Sicily where he's from, so he also did a PowerPoint presentation from his pictures and the different architectures. He told us the food is different than northern Italy you will not find any raviolis, but you will have more fish and garlic. Millie Gracia Russ

We are now preparing our annual auction raffle fundraising dinner dance on October 19 (wow). This should be quite an event, so many people from our club have donated items and people from our town have donated from their businesses. We are very fortunate and know our charities will benefit from their generosity.

Ciao and Bona Fortuna, Sally Panella

Brentwood Br. 432, Immaculate Heart of Marv.

Happy Fall to our old and new mem-

We had 14! Interested visitors at our Sept. 30 meeting and hope some do become members this year. Our membership is growing this year thanks to the efforts of Mike and his wife Eleanor, Sandy, and Sheila's recruiting efforts.

Our themed dinners are also attracting new folk and this month's dinner highlighted the Philippines thanks to Mike and Shelia Nilo's culinary efforts. We were also treated to an informative Heritage report provided by Isabel Lacson.

Our next meeting on October 28 will be an Octoberfest theme with dinner provided by Mike Valenti and his mother Hildegard. Mike will also provide We had 98 guests who attended and us with his Heritage report. We look forward to seeing some of our new

> Our Annual Car Show was a huge success with over 40 cars present! Four awards were given out by our Associate Pastor Fr. Candelario Jimenez and Jay Rizzo, who was very helpful with providing sponsors for us this year. We served over 300 pasta dinners with the help of our wonderful parish youth group. Pat Rebollar again provided us with over 30 raffle baskets and several silent auction items. A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED OUT IN ANY WAY.

> Mickie Modena, our Convention representative shared with us some interesting facts from her good time there. Our October *Bollettino* was chock full of great information. One thing for sure with 633 members in the ICF in 2023 we are all growing. Thank you, Mickie,

No meeting in November or December but we all look forward to our Christmas dinner on December 10 at Wence House hopefully with lots of new members

Happy Thanksgiving! We are all so grateful to God for all He provides.

Ciao for now! Mary M.



Deadline for December Issue of the Bollettino is November 10. Send your articles & photos:

editor@icf.org

BLESSED SACRAMENT District

Sacramento Br. 45, St. Mary

Our last Chicken and Polenta dinner for 2024 will be held on Sunday, November 17th at 6:00 p.m. in Giovanni Hall. On the menu: ½ Baked Chicken, Polenta with meat sauce, Salad, Bread, Dessert and Beverage. Pasta is available on preorder basis with your reservation. Cost is \$22 for members and \$30 for nonmembers, \$10 for children aged 12-7, and free for age 6 and under.

Branch meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. Please contact me for more information and reservations at (916) 508-1199 by Monday, November 11th.

Save-the-Date for our Annual Christmas Dinner being held on Saturday, December 7th at 5:00 p.m. at Vince's. More details to follow at the November meeting and in the *Bollettino*.

Congratulations to members Rebecca Ielati who received a 4th Year College Scholarship and Joshua Elboom who received a 3rd Year College Scholarship from ICF. Best wishes for a successful school year and we are so proud of your accomplishments!!

Happy Thanksgiving!! Ciao, Janine

Auburn Br. 342, St. Joseph

Our 2024 Picnic was a great success! Thank you so much to the Knights of Columbus for grilling our lunch and the members who brought yummy food to share. We had a great time playing bingo and bocce ball. I loved catching up with friends I had not seen in a while. If you were not able to join us this year, hope to see you next time.

Our Bunco Fundraiser will be held on November 2nd from 11 to 3 at St. Joseph's Church in Auburn. Tickets are \$30 each and can be purchased from MaryAnn at 916-759-8466 or Adriana at 530-823-8523. We hope you can join us.

*Pictures from the Branch 342 Annual Picnic can be seen on the district photo

Roseville Br. 438, St. Clare of Assisi

We had a whirlwind of events in September. We began with a Paint and Sip. This was a new fundraiser for our branch. The instructor took the participants step-by-step on the basics but allowed everyone to create their own masterpiece! In the end, everyone was excited about coming back for another fun time!

We also had our monthly dinner on Friday and then a Spaghetti Feed and Raffle on Saturday. The monthly dinner was a Delectable Ribs Dinner. It was prepared by Mark & Yvonne Anthony and Rob & Anne Finn. It was the first time they had prepared the mouth-watering ribs and all the side dishes for our branch. Everyone said it truly was delectable!

The Spaghetti Feed and Raffle Fundraiser was a big success! There were many baskets with a variety of gifts for the raffle. It was so much fun to see everyone making a selection. We also added a Kids Table, so the children could have a place to play. And, of course, the meal, along with the side dishes and dessert were also a big hit!

As we move into the holiday season, we are having our final fundraiser. Our Harvest Bake Sale always has such a big variety of sweet treats such as cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, muffins, and more. There is always something for everyone. There is no selling involved when the adults and kids take a look at all the choices they have. Yummy!

Ciao for now...

SANTA ROSA District

Petaluma Br. 127, St. Vincent

Hello and Happy Thanksgiving. Hope you all have a great turkey day. As usual we spend days preparing and cooking only to have it over in 20 minutes.

Our branch said the Bishop's day was really nice. They enjoyed it very much. Thank you, St. Eugene's branch. Nice

Our Orator, Donna Piezzi is recovering from knee surgery and doing nicely. That is about all I have. Stay well ev-

Ciao for now. Margaret Cordrey



CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT



Br. 214, Bingo players



Br. 214, Ed McGuirk calling bingo numbers



Br. 214, kitchen crew. Nikki, Diane, Marianne, Helene, and Linda



Br. 214, Karen, Chris, Sandy, Terri and Rick selling raffle tickets.



November 2024

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT (continued)



Branch 432 Winner President's Choice award with Fr. Candelario



Br. 13: Joan Cummings, Br. 442, and Rose-mary Cook, Br. 13, unknowningly twinned at the 93rd annual convention



Branch 432 Winner Best in Show Classic Car Branch 432 winning "Woody" Classic Car Show



Branch 432 Winner People's Choice Classic



Branch 432 Heritage report by Isabel Lascon



Contra Costa District: Gathering at the Communion breakfast are Judy Marren, Diana Mackinson, Christina DeBernardi, back: Joan Cummings, Deacon John Kortuem and Tom Cook.



Contra Costa District: Four branches, Martinez, Concord, Pleasant Hill, and Brentwood, in the Contra Costa District came together for the annual District Communion Breakfast. Mass and pancake, eggs, and sausage breakfast was held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Brentwood. Pictured from left to right. Sitting: Joan Cummings, Elena Hernandez, Judy Marren, Roberta Healy, Peggy Scalise, Bob Reber, Ethel Reber. Standing: Linda Kortuem, Carol Rojo, Tom Cook, Diana Makinson, Mary Cook, Deacon John Kortuem, and Sam Scalise.

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT



Branch #51 members Paul and Stefani Cortopassi along with Stefani's brother Kevin Tosolini learning to make ravioli in Lucca, Italy"



Br. 291 hosted the Central Coast District Bishop's Day on Sept. 28th. Pictured here L-R are some of the special guests who attended the event: Franklyn Lopes, Jr. Central Council Grand 1st V.P.; Denise Antonowicz, Central Council Grand President; Germaine Antonowicz, Denise's sister; and Roseann Costabile, Central Coast District President.



Priests that are at the Bishop's Day for Central Coast put on by Br. 291



Bishop Daniel Garcia and Roseann Costabile Bishop Day



Betty Lou and Felix Colello and Vincent Malfitano Branch 36



Br. 291 hosted the Central Coast District Bishop's Day on Sept. 28th. Pictured here L-R: Fr. Jose Alberto "Beto" Vazquez Martinez, Deacon Greg Dutra, Bishop Daniel Garcia, Fr. Abraham Berrera and Fr. Louie Bellen



Br. 291 hosted the Central Coast District Bishop's Day on Sept. 28th. Pictured here are some of our friendly servers who filled attendees plates with a delicious tri-tip and chicken BBQ. L-R: Margi Carducci (looking down), Margaret Franco, Annie Subia and Laura Vopatek.



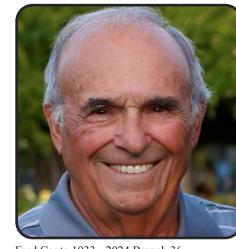
Debbie Morikawa Branch 36



Charlene Jackson 1938 - 2024 Branch 36



Tom Di Maggio 1922 - 2024 Branch 36



Fred Conte 1933 - 2024 Branch 36

EAST BAY DISTRICT



East Bay District /Contra Costa Bishop's Day - Bishop Michael Barber is 2nd from the left East Bay District/Contra Costa Bishop's Day





EBD-ICF Convention- Lisa Crudo and Fr. Chris Bennett



Branch 343 did a fab job preparing and serving the pasta dinner at our parish festival.

SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT





Br. 446 selling Festa Italiana tickets



Br. 446 members attending Padre Pio dinner in LA



Br. 446 Mary Sanchez Melie discussing her heritage story

Br. 446 St Toribio Romo



STOCKTON DISTRICT





Br. 390, Robert Bacchetti, Louie Serrato, and Chief Mike Bacchetti taking a break while the food cooks.



Br. 390, Our Chief, Mike Bacchetti with visiting past member from Texas, Joe Schlemmer.



Br 82 New Member Installation, Robert (mentor), new members Jess & Liz, Chris (president)

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT



Br. 144, Members helping at Chicken & Polenta dinner



Br. 144-Tony Gonsalves 1st Place Decoy



Br. 209's officers at the October General Meeting, L to R, Yvonne Dorr, Recording Secretary, Pam McAlvain, President, and Lorraine Vannetti,



Br. 144 Ruth Monge sharing garden produce







Branch 209's October General Meeting

Arcata Br. 144, St. Mary

What an amazing autumn we have been having here on the North Coast.

We truly live in a beautiful area up here "behind the Redwood Curtain".

Bountiful harvests from members' gardens are often shared at meetings along with tasty treats. (Photo).

Ruth Monge and I worked on the branch calendar for 2025, and our branch is excited with all the events planned for next year.

We currently have two new membership applications and goal is to add even more by the end of the year.

We are in the planning stages for our annual Advent Pancake Breakfast "Gift of Love," which will be on Sunday, Dec 8.

We began this "gift" two years ago to reignite our parish after the pandemic and it has been well received.

Our parish is blessed to have such an active ICF branch.

Our bi-annual Chicken and Polenta dinner was on Sunday, September 8 and it would have not been so successful without members like Patricia Macdonald, Joan Dalporto, Shannon Rohrbach-Gier, and Barbara Vanni. (Photo)

Member Tony Gonsalves received first place at the Pacific Flyway Decoy Association annual conference held in Sacramento (photo).

The Slate of Officers for our branch was presented and accepted. Installation will be hosted by our branch on Sunday, January 26 at St. Mary's Leavy Hall following the 11 a.m. Mass.

The officers: Alfred Eanni (Pres); Rosemary Melendy (VP, 1 yr); Jim Monge (Treasurer); Anne Carlisle Eanni (Secretary); Trustees: Pete Stagnoli, Toni Green, Shannon Rohrbach-Gier; Barbara Vanni (Orator); Lucille Fraga (Sentinel); and Fr. Prakash (Chaplain).

The next report will be after Thanksgiving, so we wish all a wonderful day of Giving Thanks!

Anne Carlisle Eanni

Santa Rosa Br. 198, St. Eugene

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of November is set aside by the Catholic Church as All-Souls month.

Remembering the last two years we pray for the souls of several key members of our branch. Please remember and pray for Nancy Azevedo, Mike Milano, Claire Giampaoli, Carmela Hauson, Gail Azevedo, Mary Gosiak, Ron Lapham and Lynn Stornetta-Green. MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

By the time you read this article it means that Thanksgiving and Christmas are getting closer. A time for families to get together and remember previ ous celebrations and look forward to a New Year.

With our Branch turkey dinner on November 4th and our Mass at 8:00 a.m. on election day November 5th we are busy

Plan now to attend our Christmas Party meeting on December 2nd and Mass at 8:00 a.m. on December 4th.

pray that all our members have a Happy and Holy Holiday season.

Ciao, Robert Acquistapace

Sebastopol Br. 209, St. Michael

Hello from Branch #209!

On Tuesday the 8th of October, we had our October General Meeting.

We served pizza, salad and dessert and had a great turnout! This meeting was important because we elected our 2025 Board Members. Thank you to those members who will represent our branch next year! We also discussed and finalized the plans for our upcoming Chicken and Polenta Dinner, which is scheduled for October 19th. We are all dialed in and expect another wonderful and successful event!

All of our six scholarships have been paid out for this year, and we are looking forward to giving out more next year. Also, this October month, we wished members Louie and Nancy Sanchietti a happy 62nd wedding anniversary, and Gene and Lorraine Vannetti a happy 68th wedding anniversary. We hope you are all well, and enjoying this beautiful fall season!

Important future dates to remember:

Our Ravioli Anniversary Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, December 7th, and also, our Branch (#209) is hosting our District Christmas Party scheduled for Sunday, December 8th.

See you next month!

Ciao, Yvonne Dorr Recording Secretary Branch #209

FRESNO District Council

We are excited to announce that our district won two awards at this year's convention.

Recognition of Outstanding Participation in the 2024 Scholarship Program in donating \$16,090.00.

100% District and Branch Participation of full and partial scholarships.

Congratulations everyone for participation!

Vince Piro will be calling all branch presidents to schedule a meeting in

Diocese of Fresno Social Media, check

Website: dioceseoffresno.org
Instagram: @dioceseoffresno

Facebook: @RomanCatholicDioce-seOfFresno

Twitter: @dioceseoffresno YouTube: Diocese of Fresno Robyn Piro

Merced Br. 39, St. Cecilia

Fall is the time of year we choose new leadership from our members willing to volunteer. With guidance, it is time participate in our branch leadership, our branch success depends on your help!

We are selling ICF 2025 calendars, and you have a chance to win money 365 days a year.

The next couple of months will be busy as we hold our annual Thanksgiving dinner meeting on Nov. 9th, free to all members, and our annual Family Christmas Party in December. We will also hold our holiday cookie sale in early December. The branch newsletter will have more details.

Catholic Charities of Merced is asking us to consider donating a Turkey that will feed a local family in need this Thanksgiving. Their goal is to feed five hundred families. You can donate one of two ways:

Bring it to mass at St. Patrick's or Sacred Heart on either Sunday, November 10th, Sunday, November 17th or Sunday, November. 24th. Their truck will be at mass collecting donations from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

You can also deliver your turkey to Catholic Charities, Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at 336 W. Main Street, Merced, CA 95340.

They are also seeking monetary donations that will allow them to purchase turkeys and the needed supplies to make up a holiday meal box.

With Thanksgiving just a couple weeks away, don't forget to take a moment to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for this year.

Robyn Piro

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

Clovis Br. 250, Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Happy November birthdays to Rachel Bejarano, Michael Caglia, Sylvia Dalton, Cynthia Newton, and Rich Zanarini.

Not much to write about as we did not have a September meeting due to so many members being gone, but the good news is it's finally cooling down! At last!

By the way, did you know pizza was invented in Naples?

Here's some Thanksgiving trivia: How fast can a wild turkey run? 15mph: 5mph;25mph. See end of article for answer.

Little known Popes" Department: Celestine II (the 165th Pope)1143-1144. Celestine was born Guy di Castello in Umbria to parents of minor nobility, His reign is recognized as one of the least impressive of the medieval period, He failed to achieve almost everything he set out to do and is notorious for launching the Second Crusade.

A friendly reminder: Our meetings for the rest of the year are November 23 (potluck) and the Christmas party on December 14.

Philosopher Angelino says: LA Rettitudine Fa L'Onore, La Costanza Fa Il Valore", Honesty Brings Honor, Perseverance Brings Valor'.

Answer to quiz: 25 mph.

Thought for the month:

He is faithful

Steadfast
Ever — present

Never changing

Ancient and eternal He is God (Hoff)

Ciao, Angelino



November 2024

SAN DIEGO DISTRICT









Branch 229 photos for our recent dinner dance.

CENTRAL COAST District

Monterey Br. 36, Santa Rosalia

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family. "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His love endures forever." 1 Corinthians 16-34

September 19, 2024: We had a great Western night with 170 members and guests. All enjoyed an Italian BarBQ. Betty Lou and Felix Colello were recognized for very their dedication and hard work that they have given to Branch 36. Congratulations to Debbie Morikawa for guessing 128 corks in the boot contest.

September 28, 2024: We celebrated Bishop's Day in Arroyo Grande, hosted by Arroyo Grande's and Paso Robles' branches. Bishop Danny and other Priests celebrated Mass at St. Patrick's Church, Arroyo Grande, CA. All enjoyed a Santa Maria Style BarBQ. Donations were given to Diocese of Monterey for our Seminarians.

October 24, 2024: Our annual Halloween Dinner/Meeting/election. Election results will be reported in our next *Bollettino*.

December 5, 2024: Family Christmas dinner/party at Moose Lodge.

Menu: Chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, vegetables, salad, roll and dessert. A child's plate with chicken tenders, fries and salad will be offered. Reservations will be available mid-November on our website MontereyICF.org. This will be a very festive holiday event for all of us.

We are saddened to report that Charlene Jackson, Fred Conte and Tom Di Maggio recently passed away. Our condolences to their families. May they Rest in Peace.

Bless the good before us,
And the family besides us,
And the LOVE between us. Amen

Sempre Avanti, Elaine Valentine President Br 36



Castroville Br. 51, Santa Caterina de Siena

Happy Fall!!

I would first like to thank all the members that attended our October general meeting. Not only was there a lot of yummy food and discussion of upcoming events but we also had a heritage presentation on the different olives of Italy. Thank you to Paul and Stefani Cortopassi who brought back olives from their vacation to Italy and thank you to our heritage chairperson Leonora Barlow who helped put the presentation together. Also, rumor has it-Paul and Stef learned to make ravioli on their trip, (see picture in Bollettino on Central Coast district page) ... I know I speak for all members in our branch when I say, we look forward to sampling what you learned.

This month we will be having our annual Thanksgiving breakfast. Every year we have our November general meeting on a Saturday and meet for breakfast at a local restaurant. It is a time for our ICF members to get together and not only give thanks for our families but to also give thanks for all the things we as a branch have done throughout the year to bring joy and help others in our community and parish.

And lastly Buon Compleanno to member Lisa Brom, we pray you have a wonderful year.

Happy Thanksgiving to all, Cindy Stefani (substitute November Bollettino Editor)

Aptos Br. 227, St. Joseph

The Oktoberfest dinner at our October meeting was enjoyed by all. The long table at Stewarts Floral was set out in the old-fashioned Italian style. Thanks to Jane Kotila, Dottie Smith and Magdalena Martinez who prepared Bratwurst and Sauerkraut served on buns along with potato salad made by Jane and Deanna Musler. President Franklyn Lopes supplied the fresh relish and veggie platter. This was followed up with a delicious apple cake baked by Magdalena.

Mark these dates on your calendar. The November10 Thanksgiving meeting will include a catered roast turkey dinner. Sunday, December 8, is the annual Christmas party. Times will follow later on. Those meetings will be held at the Mid County Senior Center at 829 Bay Avenue, Capitola. Many thanks to Vicky Howell for facilitating use of the Senior Center.

The upcoming poinsettia sale will support our scholarships program as well as donations to charitable organizations. The plants cost \$15 each and the deadline to order them is November 25. Make checks payable to ICF Branch 227 and send or deliver them to Franklyn at Stewarts Floral, 1658 Soquel

Drive, Suite A, Santa Cruz, CA 95065. You can then pick up the poinsettias at Stewarts Floral during the week of December 9.

2025 calendars are now available. They cost \$30 and you can get them any time from Franklyn Lopes. It's a good investment. Just ask Father Romeo. He won \$30 in the September drawing.

Please say get well prayers for Mike Rios and Gerald Shevenell.

Happy Thanksgiving. Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande Br. 291, St. Patrick

Br. 291 co-hosted the Central Coast District Bishop's Day on September 28th with Br. 354. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Garcia and Deacon Greg at St. Patrick's Church. The other three priests in attendance concelebrated—Fr. Jose Alberto "Beto" Vazquez Martinez, Pastor at St. Patrick's Church; Fr. Abraham Barrera, Parochial Vicar at St. Patrick's; and Fr. Louie Bellen, Vocational Director of the Diocese of Monterey. After Mass, everyone enjoyed a delicious Tri-Tip and Chicken BBQ, prepared by St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus. After lunch the Providenza donation and the Bishop's Burse were presented to Bishop Garcia, along with the Spiritual Bouquet representing each of the eight Branches in the District. Bishop Garcia thanked everyone and spoke for a short while about Vocations. The program ended with a drawing for gift baskets, donated by the various Branches and an Opportunity Drawing. This was the very first Bishop's Day to be hosted/held in Arroyo Grande. Having the Bishop officiate at the Mass was very meaningful and beneficial for the parishioners and there were many, many positive comments made

We held Branch elections at our October General Meeting. Congratulations to our 2025 Branch Officers: President – Pete Gallagher; 1st VP – Theresa Aston; 2nd VP – Jim Rallis; Secretary – Keely Sanchez; Financial Secretary – Laura Vopatek; Treasurer – Beth Nakamura; Orator – Pat Fairbanks; Trustees – Margi Carducci, David Sanchez and Patti Rorrer; Sentinel – Ellen Bavaro.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your loved ones!
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary

Paso Robles Br. 354, Saint Rose of Lima

Bishop's Day, co-hosted by Branch 291, St. Patrick's, Arroyo Grande; and Branch 354, St. Rose of Lima, Paso Robles, was held Saturday, September 28, 2024, at St. Patrick's Church. We were blessed to have The Bishop of the Monterey Diocese, Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia (aka Bishop Danny) and Mr. Gregory Dutra, Permanent

Deacon, as Mass celebrants. Mass was concelebrated by Fr. Louie Bellen, Fr. Jose Alberto Vazquez, and Fr. Abraham Barrera.

Following Mass and lunch Fr. Louie Bellen, Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Monterey, presented an update on the existing state of vocations. Currently our Diocese has 4 active seminarians. When Bishop Danny came to Monterey, the Diocese had twenty-four seminarians. Fr. Bellen discussed the important supportive role family members, friends and acquaintances play in encouraging vocations.

The following presentations were made to Bishop Danny:

- Central Council's Providenza Seminary Scholarship was presented by Denise Antonowicz, Central Council Grand President, ICF.
- District's Bishop's Burse for the Seminarians was presented by Roseann Costabile, District President, ICF.
- Roseann also presented our District's Spiritual Bouquets.

Our Crafty Angels have been at it again making seasonal tray favors—Halloween and Thanksgiving—for our local rehab center. These are very much appreciated!

CONGRATULATIONS to the winner of the ICF second year scholarship, Eligah Marsalek from Branch 291, Arroyo Grande.

Mark your calendars—our annual Christmas Luncheon will be held December 7th at the Madonna Inn.

Yvonne Maddalena Recording Secretary

CHICAGO District

Chicago Br. 392, St. Francis Borgia

Members and Friends, you are all invited to celebrate with us, Branch #392 "26th Annual Mother Cabrini Fundraiser" Sunday November 10th, 2024.

The festivities begin at the Sunday Mass at 10:00 a.m. at St Francis Borgia Catholic Church, 8300 W. Addison, Chicago, Il.

The luncheon will immediately follow at 12:00 p.m. noon at The Empress Banquets, 200 E. Lake St., Addison, IL. Tickets for the luncheon are \$90 per person (cash bar and wine at the table). For additional information and to reserve your space please contact Teresa Helfand @773-771-0728.

We look forward to seeing you. Teresa Helfand, President ICF Branch #392 Chicago

SANTA CLARA VALLEY District

Gilroy Br. 28, Santa Maria Ausiliatrice

ICF members Peggy Fortino, Mora Taormino, and Jeanette Hudson went to Florida to visit Louise Segreto, who continues her membership even though she moved to Florida. The time we picked to visit Louise was right when Hurricane Helene chose to land in Florida. We were on hurricane watch and had a shelter-in-place tornado warning. Good thing Louise's pantry was large enough for all of us to take shelter there.

Our Polenta Dinner in October was a great success! A big thank you to our cooks, set- up and clean-up committee members and all who helped make our fundraiser a success.

November 18, 2024, is our dinner meeting with Dave Peoples and Crew cooking. It will be a great Thanksgiving feast.

Mountain View Br. 47, San Giorgio

Buon Novembre! Happy November!

Thanksgiving is a wonderful American holiday. Whether it's a big turkey dinner, prime rib, ham or chicken, we hope you will be celebrating it with your family and loved ones.

Our ICF branch had a table at St Joseph's Parish Ministry Fair in September. It was great to come together to see all the other ministries at St Joseph's. We're also excited to be having another Pasta Grab-N-Go. We will be taking orders on Nov 2, 3, 9, & 10 and pick up will be Nov 16 & 17. Shortly after Thanksgiving, we look forward to having our annual branch ICF Christmas Party on Dec 1.

Wishing you a relaxing holiday season with good cheer to all! Peace and God Bless! Ciao, Julie

St. Mary Br. 184, Los Gatos

We are excited in preparation for our 60th Anniversary! It will be celebrated at the Polenta Dinner on November 2. After the loss of Romano Buonaccorsi, the brothers Richard and Jeff have agreed to make polenta in the way taught by their father Romano. We are humbled with this tradition. There will be take home boxes of polenta for sale after the dinner, provided of course that

we have leftovers!

We enjoyed hearing about the Convention. Our own Denise Antonowicz, Grand President, gave the opening address. Please read it in the Oct. *Bollettino*. We learned that Nationwide, ICF has donated \$371,151 to our charities. Also, two cargo van loads of blankets and socks were delivered to the Missionaries of Charity, and a load of blankets delivered to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. This was the result of the blanket and sock drive, such an outpouring of care!

There was a Heritage Room at the Convention, which was a popular attraction. We have Heritage reports at our own branch meeting each month, and we enjoy hearing them. In September, we heard the Heritage report from Lydia Norcia. Her mother's family was from Naples and her father's family from Catania, Sicily. The family emigrated to Lawrence Mass., and Lydia still speaks with a slight Boston accent! The Italian bakery, Tripoli, where they shopped when she was growing up, is still in business today! Lydia enjoys staying in touch with her relatives in Italy and Massachusetts via email.

We ask the Blessed Mother to carry our prayers for Peace and for our members who are in need, to her beloved Son.

Ciao for now, Lucy Amico

San Jose Br. 191, Saint Frances Cabrini

What a fantastic Oktoberfest the SCVD had! We had 12x members attend and enjoy a wonderful meal of German cuisine and outstanding Raffle baskets!

Branch 191 has a few busy months ahead of them! We had Polenta and chicken cacciatore for our General meeting in September! Thank you, Bob, Larry, Tony for cooking and Vince Piro who came all the way from Merced to help stir the polenta!! So much fun!!

We are looking forward to Bishop's Day, Elections and our Christmas Cookie Fundraiser! Happy October!

Debbie Piro



San Jose Br. 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

Our new board: Pres. Mary Ridi, 1st Vice Pres. Maureen Susino, 2nd vice Pres. Mike Clarke, Secretary Kathy Schroeder, Financial Secretary Ann Cordoni, Treasurer Tina Sousa-Dutra, Orator, Ed Wendler, Sentinel Cathy Orlowski, and Trustees Avis Erkel, George Taddie and Janet Glaubke.

Projects by Br. 368 in September and October were the ICF convention, Santa Teresa Garage Sale, ICF Rib Dinner (\$6510), Chili Cook Off (\$902), Dining for Dollars (\$341), and Ice Cream Social. A big thank you to all volunteers.

Santa Teresa Layette Group is doing knit, crochet, sew, quilt and purchasing items for new babies of families in need. Want to help? Call Janet Glaubke.

Bishop's Day October 27th. Mass at 11:30 a.m. followed by a catered luncheon for \$45 in Avila Hall. We will present the Bishop with our donation to the Seminarians. We will need help with setting up and cleaning up after the event.

Our Br. 368 Mass will be November 9th at 5:30 mass followed by dinner at Georgio's.

Please pray for Lorraine & Mike Nunziata and keep praying for Bill Rice who is improving.

Br. 368 did not have a winner for the monthly Calendar drawing this month but if you purchase a calendar for 2025, (\$30), your name will be put in a drawing for a prize of (\$30) every month.

Tom Myers shared part of his Italian Landucci heritage with the group. If you want to share your heritage, call Sharon Kroeber, our heritage person.

Bollettino is online at www.icf.org/about/news/bollettino/.

Have a wonderful October and November. God bless all and your families, Tom Myers

San Jose Br. 391, St. Martin of Tours

In October, our Branch celebrated Oktoberfest with a delicious bratwurst dinner

Our President, Steve Lencioni, reported on his Convention experience and thanked those who donated blankets and socks for those in need. He also thanked those who helped with the dinner for the installation of Fr. Celso as Pastor last month.

Steve asked for new officer candidates for our election of officers, which will be held in November. He also reminded us that 2025 Calendars are still available—remember that \$5 from each purchase stays with our branch.

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

It was announced that our Pastor, Fr. Celso, is our new ICF branch chaplain.

In her heritage presentation, Louise Vento spoke about her own Portuguese heritage and her family history in the Santa Clara Valley.

Reminders:

Branch 391 Dinner Meeting—Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. social and 6:00 p.m. dinner; ICF Quarterly Masses at St. Martin's at 11:30 a.m.—December 8, 2024, and March 10, June 9, September 8, and December 8, 2025; Officer installation at St. Martin's-Saturday, January 4, 2025; and Multicultural Celebration--Saturday, May 17, 2025.

Sunnyvale Br. 408, Resurrection

Happy Thanksgiving-

Our Annual Columbus Day Bake Sale – championed by Mary Jo DiMuccio – held on Sunday 13th October after all the Sunday Masses was a big Success. We sold more plants to raise funds for Resurrection Parish School. Thank you, Sandra, Patricia and Jennie!

Br 408 won the Prize for Collecting the Most Socks and Blankets for Mother Teresa's Missionary Sisters of Charity – Nice Job Jennie !!!- Over fifteen 35-gallon Garbage Bags of new Socks and Blankets were presented to the Sisters working with their patients in Hospice, young single mothers and the homeless. Jennie elected to donate the \$50 Donation awarded by our ICF Santa Clara Valley District winner to the Seminarians.

Bishop's Day at Santa Teresa on Sunday 27th October was a beautiful Event – with a special Mass Celebrated with Bishop Oscar Cantu followed by bountiful lunch in Avilla Hall.

We continue to hear positive responses to Laurice Levine's Presentation on living with Cooley's Anemia and to learn of renewed Pledges to donate Blood to our next Stanford Blood Center Mobile Blood Drive scheduled for Dec 1st in the Farana Center.

Our Fall ICF/Rez School Pancake Breakfast raised \$1200 Dollars for ICF Scholarships and the ICF 8th Grade Resurrection School Service Awards.

Please Pray for our Members: Fr. Chris Bennet, Laurice Levine, Spike Burkhardt, and Al.

Morgan Hill Br. 435, Santa Caterina D'Alessandria

Daniel & MaryAnn Sandidad, Catherine Ellis & Giulia Gallego attended S.C.V.D. Octoberfest at Germainiain S.J. Great lunch and weather was pleasant for patio dining. Our raffle basket with some Andy's Orchard items always well received by Winners.

Father Mendie joined us for dinner and led opening prayer. September dinner prepared by Giulia's Grandson Josh Seifert who works at Bon Appetite Restaurant at Google in Mountain View.

Also in the kitchen was Alex & Kim Gallego, Fran Scalzo, and Toni and Giovanni Foggiato. The apple pie and vanilla ice cream was great! A generous take home dinner was prepared for Father G who was teaching a class.

Virginia Sellers, a Charter member passed away on September 12, 2024. Memorial Mass was held at St. Catherine's on September 22.

Virginia often helped with greeting and checking in our members for our dinner meetings. She also managed the Morgan Hill Farmers Market for over 30 years.

In August, Grace Gallego and three friends completed the Camino De Santiago pilgrimage from Oviedo, Spain to the Cathedral in Santiago De Compostela, Spain. The journey of over 180 miles was accomplished in 15 days and was an enlightening adventure!

San Jose Br. 445, Transfiguration

September began with an evening of fun and delicious food at Kyoto Palace Restaurant ... definitely an event to repeat!

Many thanks to members Julie Araiza, Kathy La Scola, Gina and Larry Farro who brought Fall decor to Tabor Hall for our September meeting. Many thanks also to Pres. Jim Falcone for ordering / delivering our pizzas and to those who brought sides and desserts. The evening's Heritage report was an overview of ICF's 93rd Annual Convention. A poster board was also made to highlight the events and inspire others to attend next year. Welcome to our newest member Sylvia Ortiz!

Some of our members also enjoyed the Oktoberfest Luncheon sponsored by our SCV District!

October brings a variety of events: Election of Branch officers; Installation of Transfiguration's new pastor Rev. Christopher Bransfield by Bishop Oscar Cantu followed with a reception.

ICF Santa Clara Valley District's 43rd Annual Bishop's Day Mass / Luncheon and Transfiguration Parish Ministry Fair. Photos to follow in December.

Our Nov 3rd Family Feud Fundraiser has been temporarily postponed.

Happy November Birthday wishes to: Diane Devine, Bill Howell and Art Maggio!!!

Wishing everyone a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving -" Felice Ringraziamento a tutti"

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

STOCKTON District

Modesto Br. 48, St. Stanislaus

We started meeting again in September after a two-month break. We began planning right away for our parish Fall Festival and our ICF October Bake sale. A number of our members provided baked goods to the country store at the Fall Festival which was a success. Thank you to all members that donated to the Fall Festival.

We have two bake sales a year: one in May and one in October. We were very successful with our October Bake Sale. We are very thankful to our parish community for supporting us. A very big thank you to all the members that provided their time, talent, and treasure through all the baked goods donated, monetary donations, and the people power provided during the Bake Sale. It has been our most successful bake sale since before the pandemic.

We will have our annual Mass for members on October 20, 2024, at 8:00am followed by breakfast. At our October meeting, we were able to elect our Branch's officers for the 2025 calendar year. Here is to wonderful things for 2025

Upcoming Events:

Oct 20th, 8:00 a.m., Branch 48 Annual Mass and Breakfast

Nov 13th, 6:00 p.m., Branch Meeting - J Street Hall

Dec 11th, 6:00 p.m., Branch Christmas Potluck – J Street Hall

Cecelia McGhee Recording Secretary

Lodi Br. 82, St. Anne's

"Autumn, the year's last, loveliest smile." John Howard Bryant We do have many reasons to smile during this season...crisp, cool air; deep, rich, colorful flowers and leaves; the smell of a warm fire; a pile of leaves waiting for you to jump in; ICF get togethers...

Member meetings:

September officially installed new members, Liz Holladay and Jess Calloni. See photo.



October, a big thank you to Stockton's Br. 395 for the invitation on the 17th to join them for Laurice Levine's Thalassemia presentation, and to, guest, Ralph Clark who at our own branch meeting shared how Italians contributed to Lodi's history.

Our Polenta Dinner Dance just occurred on Nov. 2nd. Being our biggest fundraiser, I'm sure it was a huge success due to the dedicated hours of Lisa, the chair, and the committee. More on this, along with photos, in the December issue.

Want to feel as if you're in the Motherland? Then, attend the Italian mass at Presentation Church in Stockton on Nov. 12th at 5:30 pm. Grazie to Br. 395 for arranging this special celebration of the Eucharist.

Are you looking for a unique Christmas gift? The ICF calendar 'Dinner & A Movie' is filled with film memories along with food and cocktail recipes. With the chance to win daily cash, it's the gift that keeps on giving all year. Contact Chris to purchase for \$30.

This Thanksgiving may you enjoy gathering with family and friends to praise our Lord for all He has bestowed upon you.

Patty Litts Corresponding Secretary

Manteca Br. 139, Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio

Branch Presidente Birdie Nieri and Central Council member Dante Galeazzi represented our branch at the annual Grand Convention at the San Francisco Airport Marriott. Attending workshops, President Birdie reported that our problems—the ageing out of membership and finding and retaining new members—are shared by many other branches.

Our annual branch picnic, held on September 29, was at the beautiful home of Dino and Sharon Cunial, was a success. Steaks were barbecued by Mario Queirolo, under the close supervision of his father, Capocuoco Tony.

A brief special meeting was held and the idea of working with other parish organizations was discussed. Father Banka from St. Anthony's Church was present, and he encouraged the discussion.

Election of officers for 2025 are planned to be held at our October meeting.

Grazie to Segretario Ron Agostini for his help in preparing this report.

Ciao, Mariano

Tracy Br. 390, St. Bernard

Our branch had a very successful monthly dinner meeting in October. Of course, the RSVPs came rolling in as soon as everyone heard it was Mike Bacchetti and crew that would be preparing Polenta topped with Chicken Cacciatore. Who could ask for anything better?

November monthly dinner meeting will be a traditional Thanksgiving menu of turkey, stuffing and all that goes with it on Thursday, November 21st at 6:30 p.m. Canned food drive is on again so please bring any canned goods you would like to donate, as well as those wonderful raffle prizes and desserts from our generous folks who never fail to keep us in the giving spirit of every season.

We received thank you notes from the office of Bishop Cotta, as well as the Seminarians, for your donations to their education and dedication to serve God. We really enjoy our monthly dinners, and the fruits of our labor at these dinners are received by these spiritual men who eventually become priests who serve us...sort of a trade-in-kind would be a good way to put it because we all benefit in the end.

A quick note about "Santa's" visit - December dinner meeting is VERY early, Thursday, December 12th, so prepare for "Santa Is Coming to Town" with the kiddos! Photos with Santa and treats are always very special for them.

Please keep our ICF families and friends in your prayers as the health issues with some of our loved ones continue. Thanks to all 'prayer partners' for their support.

Check out our website. You can share family memories in our Heritage section through this website as well.

www.icfbranch390.org

Stay healthy, happy & safe. Ciao, Retty



30 - BOLLETTINO

November 2024

SAN DIEGO District

Chula Vista Br. 229, St. Rose of Lima

Branch 229 of St. Rose of Lima Parish (SRLP) in Chula Vista, held its 9th Annual Festa Italiana Dinner Dance on Saturday, September 28.

Parishioners had a great time enjoying a delicious Italian four-course meal, dancing to a local popular live band, and participating in nearly 30 raffle items. We had one lucky winner take home the ICF Basket Door Prize.

Our wonderful SRLP Youth helped all evening with serving, busing, and selling raffle tickets.

Proceeds from this fundraiser were earmarked to benefit Birthline of San Diego, whose mission is to provide life-affirming support and resources to pregnant women and young families in need.

Thanks to all our members who dedicated their time in making this event a huge success!

God's Blessings, Louie Pierotti Branch #229 President

San Diego Br. 449, Guardian Angels

4th Annual ICF Dinner, Dance & Fundraiser

Saturday, November 16, 2024, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Guardian Angels Catholic Church Cunanne Parish Center

9310 Dalehurst Rd. Santee, CA 92071

Join us for an unforgettable evening at the ICF Dinner Dance & Fundraiser. Indulge in charcuterie appetizers, Caesar salad, penne pasta with meat sauce and meatballs, or garlic penne with tomatoes & Italian herbs. Don't forget to save room for our delectable desserts. Bring your dollars for the 52/52 drawings and be sure to purchase tickets for the fabulous opportunity drawing items. DJ Eddie V will be playing the tunes to keep you on the dance floor. Make it a fun night out with a group of friends or date night for two! Secure your spot now!

Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased by visiting: https://square.link/u/GaBMAwuz

Or Scan the QR code

Debbie Reid dreid10@cox.net 619-548-2864



SAN BERNARDINO District

Upland Br. 446, Saint Anthony

Our Branch continues to be active in many ICF, parish and community events. As part of our continued effort to support our parish, many of our members serve as CCD teachers, choir members, ushers and Ems. We are visible in our parish and these efforts have helped us to increase our membership. We are proud of our 68 members!

We are also very proud of the commemorative brick that is imbedded into the walkway in front of St. Anthony church. This will forever represent the commitment our branch has to our faith and parish family.

Since the deadline for this *Bollettino* article is before our Festa Italiana on October 12, we will report later on the success of our dinner-dance. First Vice-President Carrey Rossie and the committee are planning a wonderful evening. Along with an opera singer, we will have a live dance band and a catered buffet dinner of pasta, meatballs, chicken marsala, salad, garlic bread and dessert for only \$25! After one weekend of ticket sales, the 200 seats are almost all sold out!

We continue to share our family stories during our meetings. Mary Sanchez Melie distant relative is Saint Toribio Romo. He is referred to as the angel of immigrants. He is popular among Mexican immigrants for his miraculous appearances to migrants that are seeking to cross the border. He was martyred in 1928 during the Mexican Revolution. He was canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II and is honored on May 21 with the other saints of the Cristero War. A shrine in their honor is in Santa Ana de

Guadalupe, Jalisco, Mexico. In 2012, the movie "For Greater Glory: The True Story of Cristiada" was released and is based on the events of the Cristero War.





ALL SAINTS' DAY

On November 1, we remember and honor all the saints, known and unknown, who have gone before us and are in heaven with God. We recognize our shared unity with them, the Church Triumphant.





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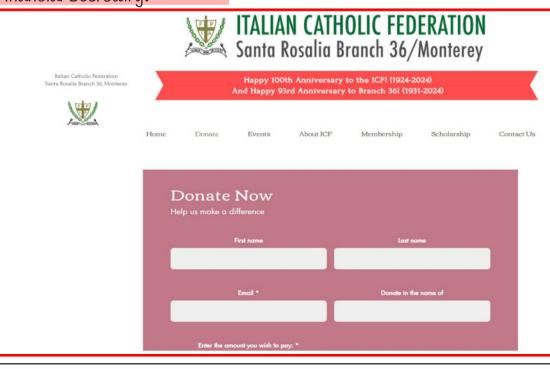
Building Membership with Technology



- Website: www.MontereylCF.org
- WIX.com is website host/program
- Costs ~\$300 / year
- Publish information about the branch, including events, membership, merchandise, charities supported
- Sell event tickets, membership/hospital plan, and merchandise and track everything sold
- Payment provider can be WIX.com, Square, PayPal, etc. debit and/or credit cards (~3% fee)
- Complete Membership information stored in "Contacts" function names, addresses, phone, email, notes
- Mass email distribution functionality as well (Email Marketing); integrates with Google mail (info.icf36@gmail.com)

This year at the ICF National Convention, there was a well-attended session explaing and showing how to use technology to enhance the branch's reach and ability to connect with current and potential members. This page highlights examples of the Santa Rosalia Branch 36 in Monterey website presented by George Leonard, Financial Secretary.





Check out Branch 36's website at www.MontereyICF. org to see what the branch has been able to do with its website. Some of its pages may spark ideas for your branch.

Finding better ways to connect and share information is good for everyone.

Take a look!

The Annual Northern California ICF Golf Tournament at Bennett Valley Golf Course, Santa Rosa

















