



YMI ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL # 613 FEBRUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting: February 10th @ 7:00 p.m. (St. Cecilia's Green Room.)

Menu: Dinner coordinated by Br. Rod Ordona

Stop by between 6:30-7:00 p.m. for a beverage; dinner at about 7:00 p.m.

The meeting concludes with our popular "Find the Joker" game.

YMI #613 Events & Activities:

2026 Membership Dues – Please remember to pay your membership dues of \$85 before January 31st! (Please note that 50th Year, Honorary and Junior members are exempt from paying dues). Checks are acceptable, made payable to "YMI Council #613" and sent to **YMI Council #613, P.O. Box 320584, San Francisco, CA 94132**.

While most of our members have already submitted their dues (thank you!), **we're still missing about 30 membership renewals.** A **\$15 late fee** will be assessed for any late dues submitted **after January 31st**, meaning your membership cost will rise to \$100 if unpaid going into February! **If any questions about the dues, please contact Br. John Kavanagh at 415-735-8430 or at jkavesq@gmail.com.**

YMI Pasta Bingo: The YMI Grand Council is holding its **Pasta Bingo** event this year on **Saturday February 14th (Valentine's Day) at St. Cecilia's Lower Church.** **Br. Mike Dimech #613 and Br. Steve Cresci #32** are co-chairing the event. Please plan to bring your special Valentine, as well as your family to this popular event which will include a pasta meal and many games of bingo! The costs is only \$40 per person and proceeds support the YMI Pro Patria Essay Contest Fund. **If any questions about the Pasta Bingo, please contact Br. Dimech at 650-922-2667. To make reservations, please see the attached flyer.**

YMI Red & White Mass: Please also plan to attend our YMI anniversary celebration, (aka **YMI Red & White Mass/Dinner**) on **Saturday March 14, 2026.** **Br. Mario Balistreri, the Grand 2nd Vice President** is organizing this celebration, and we expect to be joined by many YMI Councils throughout California. The Red & White event begins with a banner procession and Mass in St. Cecilia's Church and follows with dinner in the Lower Church. Cost for dinner is just \$30 per person. **If any questions about the Red & White Mass, please contact Br. Mario Balistreri at 650-922-2667. To make reservations, please see the attached flyer.**

Jim Calabretta Essay Contest: 78 essay were submitted for our 23rd Essay Contest. At present, the essays are being examined by a panel of judges, and we plan to have an Essay Contest Awards Ceremony on March 28th at about 3:00 p.m. More details to be provided in the coming weeks. If any questions about the contest, please contact **Br. John Kavanagh at jkavesq@gmail.com.**

Ladies Night: Please save the date of **Sunday May 3rd** for our annual Ladies Night Dinner. The event will take place once again at Westlake Joe's. Details of the event are

under development, so stay tune! If questions about this event, please contact **Br. Bob Fioroto at 650-867-6702.**

YMI Golf Tourney: Get ready to hit the links on Sunday April 19th. The YMI will be hosting its annual golf tournament at nearby **Crystal Springs Golf Course** this year. The cost per golfer is \$150, but YMI #613 will likely subsidize a good portion of the golf fees from those playing for YMI #613. If questions about this event, please contact **Br. Bob Fioroto at 650-867-6702.**

YMI Raffle Tickets: Last September, you should have received a YMI letter asking you to buy YMI raffle tickets for the **YMI Pro Patria Essay Contest** (*this is separate essay contest than the Jim Calabretta Essay Contest discussed above*). We ask all our members to buy YMI raffle tickets as the funds collected ultimately support students who participate in the YMI Pro Patria Essay Contest. So far about 22% of our membership has bought tickets. If you lost the letter, please contact Br. Dimech or Br. Amato for raffle ticket forms.

YMI #613 Council Info:

Personal Info Changes: **If you have recently changed any of your personal info (e.g., phone number, e-mail address, mailing address, etc.), please contact Br. Mike Amato at mamato871@aol.com to update your YMI contact information.** We have noted that several members have either cancelled landline phones or changed their e-mail addresses. If you haven't already, **please let us know in writing of any updated info** in case we need to contact you. **Similarly, for YMI Death Benefit coverage, please advise us in writing if there have been any recent changes to your listed beneficiary.**

Elections: Per the **YMI #613 By-Law, elections for the various Council Offices are held every two years in May of an even year.** Each office post has a 2-year term and there are no term limits for the various Brothers holding an office or serving on a committee. As it is only a few months from May, all YMI #613 Brothers are requested to consider their willingness to serve (or continue to serve) the YMI as an officer or committee member for the term beginning July 2026-June 2028. You may contact the **Business Manager (Br. Mike Amato) at 650-296-6297** if you are interested in being considered a candidate for any office or if questions about any of the duties associated with those positions.

Meal Coordinators: Here is the line-up of YMI #613 Brothers volunteering to serve as **meal coordinators in 2026**. As a meal coordinator, you basically just need 1) to place an order for food for about 25-30 people at a restaurant that either delivers or has pick-up service and 2) take a lead role with the meal set-up & clean-up during the meeting.

- February: Br. Rod Ordonea (Chinese New Year: Asian)
- March: Br. Mike Amato (Irish: Corned Beef)
- April: Br. George Totah
- May: Br. John Kavanagh (Cinco de Mayo: Mexican)
- June: Br. Jeff Schwind
- July: Br. Mario Balistreri
- August: Br. John Bower
- September: Br. Dominic Panina
- October: Br. Mike Dimech
- November: Br. Stephen Goulding (Thanksgiving: Turkey)
- December: Br. Bob Fiorito

Canned Good Reminder: Please remember to bring canned goods or toiletries to our monthly YMI #613 meetings. All items collected are delivered monthly by **Br. Mike Dimech** to the Catholic Workers' Hospitality House in San Bruno.

Membership Status: Our YMI #613 membership level remains at 113 members. YMI #613 now has 94 Benefit Members, 4 Junior Members, & 15 Honorary Members and we are the 4th largest YMI Council! Please consider bringing a relative, friend, co-worker, or a neighbor to become part of our terrific YMI Order!

Congratulations, Salutes, & Sentiments:

- **Congratulations & Other Messages:**
 - We congratulate **Br. Jonathan Cleary** and wife **Quinci** on the **birth of his daughter Naomi** in January.
 - We congratulate **Br. John Cleary** and **Br. Mike Cooley** on becoming **1st time grandfathers** in January.
 - We congratulate **Br. Rich Rosemont** on his adoption of a new pet dog, **Buddy**.
 - We send a **“Bon Voyage”** wish to **Br. Jeff Morrow** as he travels with his wife to Antarctica to be among the penguins! Also visiting Argentina and Chile too!
 - We welcome back **Br. Jimmy Daly** from his recent travels to Australia and New Zealand. Heard he had a great time!
- **YMI Anniversaries:** We congratulate the following YMI Brothers on attaining the following membership milestones in 2026:
 - **40 years: Br. William Welch**
 - **20 years: Br. Mike Dimech & Br. John Cleary**
 - **10 years: Br. Mario Balistreri, Br. Liam Reidy & Br. Michael White**
- If anyone has a personal/family milestone or event to share with your YMI Brothers or are seeking prayers for a loved one from the YMI network, please send info to **Br. Mike Amato** (text to 650-296-6297 or e-mail to mamato871@aol.com)

Birthdays: Happy Birthday to the following YMI #613 Brothers who will be celebrating birthdays in February:

Br. Bryan Blake	2/2
Br. Grant Young	2/2
Br. Mario Balistreri	2/9
Br. Cameron Sellers	2/11
Br. Thomas Hayes - Age 95	2/14
Br. Scott Hernandez	2/14
Br. Kevin Soracco	2/16
Br. John Smith	2/27
Br. Nick Goultas	2/28