



**YMI ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL # 613  
JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER**

**Next Meeting: Feb 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. (St. Cecilia's Collins Center)**

**Please remember to wear your YMI Shirt & bring a buddy!**

**Dinner: Meal organized by Br. George Totah (\$10 per YMI Brother)**

**Council News & Activities:**

**Jim Calabretta YMI #613 Essay Contest:** The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Jim Calabretta Essay Contest received 77 essay submissions from students attending middle school (35 received for 25 prizes), high school (25 received for 15 prizes) and college (17 received for 10 prizes). The essays have been distributed to the judges to be scored and we expect to be inviting high-scoring contestants to an awards ceremony in February. This year's essay contest boasts a combined **prize fund of \$21,000 for 50 talented students** and the award ceremony is scheduled for **Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup> in St. Cecilia's Lower Church**. For any questions about the essay contest or awards ceremony, please contact Br. John Kavanagh at [jkavesq@gmail.com](mailto:jkavesq@gmail.com).

**Dues:** Notices for **2024 YMI Dues** were e-mailed/mailed in mid-December 2023. We have maintained the Dues at just \$65, despite rising costs. **We kindly request you submit the \$65 payment ASAP and no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>**. At last report, dues were coming in rather slowly. Dues not paid before January 31<sup>st</sup> are subject to a \$15 late fees. If you did not receive your dues notice, **please contact our Treasurer Br. John Kavanagh by phone at 415-735-8430 or by e-mail at [jkavesq@gmail.com](mailto:jkavesq@gmail.com)**.

**YMI Grand Council News:**

- The deadline for the YMI Grand Council Pro Patria Essay Contest has now passed. This YMI Grand Council Essay Contest will provide \$10,400 in prizes to 30 students from Grade 7 to High School Senior. Over 300 students nationwide submitted essays in the YMI Contest, including many students sponsored by YMI #613 from Archbishop Riordan High School.
- The **YMI Pro Patria Raffle** is underway . This raffle is a worthwhile cause, because it supports the \$10,400 prize fund for the YMI Pro Patria Essay Contest. To date, YMI #613 has a participation rate of **29%**, which is among the best of the YMI Councils! Many thanks to those that bought tickets already! However, we would like to reach a **50%** participation rate, so for those who have not bought raffle tickets yet, please consider buying some today! Please contact **Br. Mike Dimech (650-922-2667)** or **Br. Mike Amato (650-296-6297)** if you need raffle tickets.
- The Red & White Mass scheduled for **Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** and it will be held in Atwater CA. The Red & White is our anniversary event celebrating 151 years (we began in 1883)! The event begins with a YMI banner procession at 4:30 p.m, then a Mass at 5:00 p.m. and ending with a dinner The YMI is arranging for a charter bus to take YMI Brothers from the Bay Area to Atwater. More details to follow. All YMI #613 Brothers are welcome to attend. **An event flyer is attached to make your reservations.**
- With Br. Tom Fourie (Business Manager) cruising the seven seas, **Br. Bob Bartoli** has become the Acting YMI Business Manager until he returns. Br. Bob is being

assisted by our own **Br. Mike Amato**, who is handling the Pro Patria Essay Contest and Raffle, which are discussed above.

**Family Mass:** The YLI has been assigned the Family Mass duties for Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup>. The rectory office has requested we assist them with the event. If any YMI #613 Brothers are available that morning, please let **Br. Mike Amato (650-296-6297)** know. You can let me know at our February meeting. The YMI's turn is expected to happen on March 10<sup>th</sup>, but the rectory office may change that assignment date so stay tuned.

**Council Elections:** YMI #613 officer terms are ending in mid-2024. Nominations for officers for the next term (July 2024-June 2026) will be accepted at the April 2024 YMI Meeting. Please consider serving as a YMI #613 officer. If any questions about the duties of an officer, please contact **Br. Mike Amato (650-296-6297)** to discuss.

### Membership News:

- **Meal Coordinators- Line-Up:** Here is the line-up of YMI #613 Brothers volunteering to serve as meal coordinators for 2024:
  - March: Br. Mike Amato (Corned Beef & Cabbage)
  - April: Br. Rod Ordon
  - May: Br. John Kavanagh (Mexican)
  - June: Br. Art Jimenez
  - July: Br. Mike Baglin
  - August: Br. Dom Bordachar
  - September: Br. Dom Panina
  - October: Br. Mike Dimech
  - November: Br. Stephen Goulding (Turkey)
  - December: Br. John Bower
- **Congratulations & Salutes:**
  - Congratulations to the following Brothers on the arrival of new grandchildren.
    - **Br. Bob Fiorito** (birth of Magnolia, grandchild #4)
    - **Br. Bill Pallas** (birth of Thomas, grandchild #2)
    - **Br. Mike Amato** (birth of Enzo, grandchild #2.)
  - Congratulations to **Br. Mike Cooley** on the engagement of his daughter Sarah.
  - Sending out best wishes to **Br. Dick Pisciotta**. Br. Dick is one of our valued 50<sup>th</sup> year YMI members and a former YMI Man of the Year! **Br. Cosmo Amato** recently chatted with Br. Dick by phone and we hear that he is doing well and is enjoying his living arrangements with his wife Connie at a Concord assisted living facility. With all the activities there for the residents, Br. Dick compared it to being on a cruise ship.
  - If anyone has a personal/family milestone, event, or accomplishment to share, please send info to **Br. Mike Amato (text to 650-296-6297 or e-mail to [mamato871@aol.com](mailto:mamato871@aol.com))**
- **Birthdays:** Happy Birthday to the following YMI #613 Brothers who will be celebrating birthdays in February:
  - Br. Bryan Blake
  - Br. Grant Young
  - Br. Mario Balistreri
  - Br. Cameron Sellers (Sem)
  - Br. Thomas Hayes
  - Br. Kevin Soracco
  - By Chase Parker
  - Br. John Smith
  - Br. Nick Goultas