



Serving the elderly
poor in San Francisco
since 1901.

OUR MISSION

Continuing the work of Saint Jeanne Jugan, our MISSION is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.



The Year of Consecrated Life began on November 30, 2014, and will conclude with the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple February 2, 2016.



WAKE UP THE WORLD!

— 2015 Year of Consecrated Life —

By: Sr. Elizabeth Mary & Maria Cunningham

The Vatican has asked that the Year of Consecrated Life be a time of grateful remembrance of the recent past, while embracing the future with hope. In the words of Saint John Paul II, “there is a glorious history to remember and to recount, but also a great history still to be accomplished!” As Little Sisters of the Poor, we look to the legacy inherited from our Mother Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, in whose footsteps we follow and from whom we derive our purpose and our vision. As Pope Francis asks us to wake up the world and to illuminate it with our prophetic and countercultural

witness, we look to the prophetic vision of St. Jeanne Jugan whose values for us have not only remained alive and relevant, but also countercultural for over a century throughout the world. Caring for the elderly in humility and dependence on Divine Providence has worked for us, even if it is difficult for people to understand us. Pope Francis

tells us that as consecrated persons, we are “living icons of the motherhood and of the closeness of the Church, we go out to those who are waiting for the Word of consolation and we bend down with motherly love and fatherly spirit towards the poor and the weak.” Sharing motherly love and the Word of consolation with our elderly is the foundation of our charism. Today, much like when St. Jeanne Jugan cared for the elderly during the French Revolution, we are witness to the blessing of human life, and we are blessed each day as we care for our elderly family. One of our newest Little Sisters, Sr. Elizabeth Mary, who cares for the Residents in one of our *Continued on page 3*



Little Sisters of the Poor

Celebrate HeART – A Heartwarming Success!

By: Maria Cunningham

On March 5, 2015, we celebrated our second Celebrate HeART. St. Anne's Home was transformed into an inviting premier art gallery showcasing the work of Bay Area artist, Susan Schneider, as well as the work of other notable artists, including the photographic work of our very own greatly talented resident, Jonathan Murillo Curtis.

Our heartwarming fundraiser began with a kick-off event hosted by a gracious benefactor, who generously sponsored our Artist Preview Reception for a small group of loyal supporters. The beautiful panoramic view of San Francisco from atop Millennium Tower was the perfect backdrop for the evening to begin the sale of the impressive landscape collection of our featured artist, Susan Schneider, and to spend time with our long-time supporters. Our main event followed a few short weeks later, where we



Jonathan Curtis

were happy to host our guests at St. Anne's Home for a lovely evening that brought together not only our loyal patrons, but also art collectors and connoisseurs from the Bay Area and beyond. Our guests enjoyed a creative array of food and beverages and lovely music that even inspired some to share a bit of their dancing talents, despite the absence of a dance floor, all while feeding their visual senses on the inspiring collection of artwork.

We are very grateful to our Honorary Chair, Dede Wilsey, for her kind and ongoing support of our work, for the generosity and talents of our artists, and for the hard work and dedication our Event Committee, which brought together the remarkable gifts of members of both our Board of Advisors and our Auxiliary. We are, of course, deeply grateful to all of our supporters, for joining us in our cause, for helping to raise awareness of the work of the Little Sisters of the Poor, and for contributing to the success of this event.



Jonathan's beautiful photographic pieces enjoyed a prominent space among the many other extraordinary pieces of art, and had quite a following, being sold to the highest bidders of our evening's silent auction.

Association Jeanne Jugan

By: Barbara Anderson

The members of the Association Jeanne Jugan (AJJ) work in close collaboration with the Little Sisters of the Poor throughout the world. We are men and women who are the extension of the hands and hearts of the Sisters in their mission to serve the elderly poor. We are lay volunteers who come from various occupations, life experiences, and with a willingness to give of our talents and abilities, to assist the residents and Sisters. We have been drawn to share in the spirituality and the mission of hospitality that was begun in France by St. Jeanne Jugan, and is continued today in each of the Homes established by the congregation.

At St. Anne's Home, AJJ members are the hands that move wheelchairs, capture a snapshot, wrap gifts, assist in feeding, decorate for holidays, polish shoes, reach out in comfort, and come together in

prayer. We are the ears that hear stories while making beds, walking with a resident friend or sharing a cup of tea. We are the arms that lend support, drive for errands, bake surprises, shop for special occasions, or are wrapped in a hug. We are also the voices that rise in song to entertain, create a memory, remember an era, or give praise at a liturgy.

AJJ members choose to make an annual commitment to the work of the Sisters. We are friends, employees, or family members of those who calls St. Anne's, home. We share in festive moments, are touched by the life-stories of those we meet, and as "family members of the Home", we miss and remember those who have been called home by God. We are blessed with the privilege of praying at the bedside of one who is in need of our prayers.

The St. Anne's Home AJJ will welcome

three new members this year. Marisa Mizono, Brenda Veraja, and Jerry Lynn Sullivan will make their formal commitment on May 3rd, as 30 other members renew their promise on that day. Together, we take small steps under the guidance of St. Jeanne Jugan, and extend our hands and hearts in service.



Long-time AJJ members at service: Barbara Anderson, Kim Bemis, and Judy Hurabiell ready to hand out treats to the residents for one of the holiday socials.

Wake Up the World continued...

Continued from page 1 skilled nursing units tells her story of following in the footsteps of Jeanne Jugan and finding the joy inherent in serving and caring for the elderly.

God's Precious Rose

As I combed Rose's hair one morning, a picture on her wall caught my eye. In the black and white shot there was a newly married couple in their early twenties. The young man was tall and slender with dark hair and a look of sheer joy on his face. His young bride was caught up in his arms with a contented smile. It seemed as if they would be happy to stay in that moment forever. As I turned back to Rose I began to wonder about her life's journey up until this moment. If she could tell me her story, what would she say? Would she tell me about her marriage and how she faithfully loved and cared for her husband until the moment that God called him home? Would she tenderly speak about her children and all of the motherly love she lavished on them day after day? Or would she remember with gratitude the times that her family was able to overcome challenging situations and thus became stronger in the end? Now in her advanced age and declining health, she can no longer walk, speak or care for her personal needs. How easily the rest of us can communicate our deepest desires and dreams, meanwhile she has lost even

the ability to say a simple "good morning."

This encounter led me to ponder God's great gift of human life, which we can take for granted so easily. What is it that definitively gives life value and meaning? The answer is LOVE. In society today, we tend to place a great deal of emphasis on what people do rather than who they are. That is why many people have lost sight of the value of the unborn baby and the elderly grandmother. Well, now may be the time to wake up the world! Looking from a fresh perspective, we can see the dependency of the tiny unborn baby and the infirm grandmother as an opportunity for greater love. You see, Rose is unable to care for herself and this is certainly a great suffering for her. However, when I care for her she elicits love out of my very being. In her dependency, she leads others to love without conditions. Rose is unable to say "thank you" or to return a favor, but she has the power to draw love out of others. There is certainly a great power in dependency (or a great power in "littleness" as our Foundress St. Jeanne Jugan would say). This realization gives me the conviction that she is precious in God's eyes because



Sr. Elizabeth and Francis Watkins pose together.

He created her out of love and for love.

Truly, Rose herself is a gift; she is precious in God's eyes even in the midst of her infirmity and dependency. From the moment she was conceived in her mother's womb, to that cherished moment in her husband's arms, and to the day when God will call her back home to Himself she will be God's precious Rose. We have much yet to accomplish, but we pray that the witness of our lives and our beliefs will begin to soften hearts so that they may realize that God's greatest gift is human life.

In honor of the Year of Consecrated Life the Little Sisters of the Poor have produced a video called "Love Serves." It celebrates our calling to religious life and is a vocation medium for young women. View the video at www.littlesistersofthepoor.org.

World Day of Prayer for the Sick

The World Day of the Sick was introduced by Pope John Paul II twenty-three years ago as a special day of observance to offer prayers for the ill and their caregivers. On February 11th, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Anne's Home celebrated the World Day of the Sick in a most meaningful way.

The celebration began with Mass for all at St. Anne's Home: Residents, caregivers and staff from every department, as well as friends and volunteers. The Mass, celebrated by Fr. Michael Strange, included the litany of compassion, beautiful hymns, and concluded with a

very special blessing of the hands. The hands of all caregivers were blessed so that they might continue to bring love and light to the lives of the residents for whom they care. The observance culminated with a rosary procession to the Grotto that was graced with meditations of Pope Francis and accompanied by Marian hymns. The exceptionally beautiful, warm day allowed a large number of Residents to partake in community celebrations with the extended St. Anne's family. It was a simple and serene day of prayer that provided spiritual nourishment equally shared by all.



Resident Nick Bregante enjoying a time of peaceful prayer at the Grotto

Mother's Message



Mother Theresa with Association Jeanne Jugan members, Maria Gomes and Gretchen McDowell

Dear Friends,

I want to thank all the members of our extended family who support our work in so many different ways. We are blessed to have each of you in our midst as together we are able to accept the invitation of Pope Francis to overcome a "globalization of indifference" that threatens to close "the door through which God comes into the world and the world comes to him". We are thankful to have been able to share with you the Lenten journey of grace that brings us the beauty of Spring and leads us to the joy of the Resurrection.

As we look toward renewal through the gift of the risen Christ, we are reminded that anything is possible in faith and love. We wish you faith, love and hope and your kindnesses are richly rewarded with blessings for you and your family this Easter Season.

May God bless you,

Mother Theresa

Let us sing the glory of our risen Jesus!

-St. Jeanne Jugan

Ways to Help

We are very grateful to all of our loyal benefactors who help us keep our mission alive. Many of our benefactors say they get great satisfaction from their generosity and would like to do more. Here are a few creative and simple ways that you might not have considered.

- **Bequests:** You can make provisions to have the Little Sisters of the Poor included in your will.
- **Life Insurance:** The Little Sisters of the Poor can be named as beneficiaries in your policy.
- **Securities:** Stocks and publicly traded securities are easy to donate.

As you look ahead, please consider the variety of gift-giving options and the ways that you can easily incorporate them into your estate plans. For additional information, please contact our Development Office at 415-751-6510 or dvsanfran@littlesistersofthepoor.org. You can also easily donate on-line at any time by visiting www.littlesistersofthepoorsf.org. Simply click on the **TO DONATE** button and follow the step-by-step prompts.

Please be assured that the Little Sisters of the Poor do not share any of your private information with anyone.

Donate Your Vehicle

ALL CARS ARE ACCEPTED – RUNNING OR NOT - FREE PICK UP 7 DAYS A WEEK!

BOATS AND RV'S ALSO ACCEPTED



**800-937-7837 or
www.yes-svdp.com**

All DMV and IRS paperwork is done for you.

Designate the *Little Sisters of the Poor* as the recipient of your donation, receive a tax deduction, and help support our mission.

Upcoming Events

A Swing and a Prayer Golf Tournament

April 24, 2015
Presidio Golf Course

Golden Jubilee Celebration of Religious Profession

Sr. Anna Marie of the Precious Blood
Monday, May 3, 2015
St. Anne's Home

The Joy of Spring Auxiliary Luncheon

Tuesday, May 12, 2015
Olympic Club – Lakeside
San Francisco

Christmas in the City – Home for the Holidays Christmas Boutique

Thursday, November 19, 2015
Saturday, November 21, 2015
St. Anne's Home