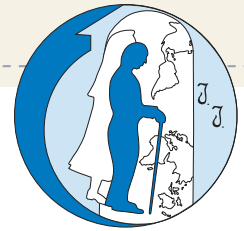




Serving the elderly poor in San Francisco since 1901.



## Spring Into Service

Spring into Service is a unique volunteer program for young women interested in consecrated life. It is an opportunity to experience service to the elderly poor, prayer and community life in a vibrant community of Catholic women religious. The program is open to single, Catholic, college-age women from anywhere in the United States.

We were recently very happy to have Abby and Jessica spend six weeks with us at St. Anne's Home and to watch them immerse themselves in our community.

### Reflections by Jessica Trevail

At St. Anne's if someone speaks a different language, is non-verbal or simply has nothing to say, it is ok! Communication does not always come in the form of words. Words are only meant to help convey the love and care which is already in the heart. Love works, helps, gives, and does. What happens, though, when we humanly cannot do anything more for the individual we are loving? We just have to "be there." I have found that the Little Sisters are very good at this – they are there all the time as they share their lives with the Residents. The Residents share beautiful friendships with one another and the staff takes the time to not only

serve, but to also love the Residents. I have heard it called the gift of presence which seems highly appropriate. The experience of just being with someone and the gift of love it conveys is a powerful lesson I have learned over and over again in my life, but at St. Anne's it took on dimensions I had not encountered before.

As I was visiting one of our Residents, I offered her my hand just to hold on to. She was not doing well and responding very briefly with slight nods. Although she was very weak, she was still able to grip my hand so hard that I think the ends of my fingers began to turn strange colors. There was nothing I could do for her and I don't think she really wanted anything except for me to stay – to be present and to love. I realized so many things sitting with her and with other Residents. Mainly, I realized how little I had to offer aside from the gift of presence, because I am not capable of stopping pain. I can't make panic or anxiety go away. No one can reverse the cycle of life. As I come to understand how little and helpless I am in the grand scheme of things, I realize the only worthwhile thing that I can offer anyone is to give God everything and let Him do the loving through me. I just have to be present



**Abby Santora, Jessica Trevail, Resident Fr. Labib and Lucky taking pleasure in a sunny day at our Grotto.**

and attentive. Whether the person beside me is healthy or on the doorway of heaven, expressing love by a simple touch, a smile or by mere presence and full attention, the message of love is conveyed.

*Continued on next page*



# Little Sisters of the Poor



**Jessica Trevail sharing a musical moment with Resident Bob Morrison.**

*Continued from previous page*

The Sisters and all the Residents at St. Anne's have helped me grow in this beautiful expression of love that simply requires a loving presence. In fact, it is not only a gift I learned to give while seeing the Sisters, Residents and staff give it. I also received it from so many people at St. Anne's. If God wanted to hide in the people

at this Home, He isn't doing a very good job!

## **Impressions by Abby Santora**

Although I was worried and nervous about coming all the way to San Francisco, I know now that God guided me here, and that he had a plan for my time at St. Anne's Home. In the short time that I was at St. Anne's, I was struck by the overwhelming presence of God. It seems so easy to find Him in the shortest of conversations and in all the joys and sorrows of daily life.

At St. Anne's, St. Jeanne Jugan's ideal of caring for the poor is realized. The elderly here are well-dressed and well-cared for – one would not guess that they are poor. Their dignity and independence are protected and respected by all. They are welcomed and encouraged to participate in daily Mass and other activities such as bingo and karaoke. Friendships between the Residents are very common. St. Anne's becomes a home for a very large, very diverse and yet very close family. Each Resident has the opportunity to form relationships with the Sisters, staff, and other Residents as they eat together, pray together, and play games together. This feeling of having friends and being at home helps the

Residents age gracefully and comfortably without fear of the future. They know they will be cared for and loved until the very end.

The more I learned about St. Jeanne Jugan, the more I saw how much her work influences life at St. Anne's. She said, "Making the elderly happy – that is what counts." This maxim is lived out here as the staff and Sisters strive to help the elderly. It is beautiful to see how God has used St. Jeanne Jugan and the Little Sisters of the Poor to bring joy to the lives of so many elderly – even over 175 years later in San Francisco.

*For more information on our Spring into Service program visit [www.littlesisterofthepoor.org](http://www.littlesisterofthepoor.org)*



**Abby Santora and Recreational Therapist, Santana Thienviwat enjoying the "Summer of Love" celebration in honor of Mother Provincial Maria Christine.**

## Resident Spotlight: Marietta Tassos

**BY MARIA CUNNINGHAM**



Marietta, our very own classically trained singer with a doctorate in music from Northwestern University, joined us about one year ago. She is originally from the East Coast and first came to California on tour with the St. Olaf College Choir. It was her first time seeing the Pacific Ocean, and she was awed by the difference in the size of the waves as compared to the Atlantic Ocean. Right then and there she decided that

San Francisco was where she was going to live, but it was not until after she obtained her advanced degrees in music at Northwestern and served as a Professor of Music at Northern Illinois University that she moved West. Once she moved here, her mother joined her on the West Coast and they spent quality time traveling together.

Her musical career has been varied and colorful, including several professional music posts as a choir director and president of national music associations. While in Illinois, in addition to teaching, she

performed as a mezzo-soprano soloist with the Chicago Chamber Orchestra and the Rockford Symphony Orchestra. In the Bay Area, while teaching voice and music, she has additionally performed as a mezzo-soprano soloist with the San Francisco Bach Choir and at numerous recitals of classical and sacred vocal music.

In 1969, Marietta married Christopher Tassos, who became her biggest musical fan and supporter. Although he was a chef and restaurateur, when Marietta became Director of the San Mateo Choir Choral Society he joined her as manager. "It was a lot of work coordinating programs, concerts and fundraisers, but it was fun, and we did it together," explains Marietta nostalgically. "I was also privileged to enjoy 43 years of his wonderful cooking and companionship," she adds.

One of Marietta's favorite activities is enjoying opera performances when they are run at the movie theater. At St. Anne's, she is happy for the new friends she has made, she enjoys the food, and the beautiful grounds. She is thankful for her music students with whom she remains in contact, and although she no longer sings, she likes being available to give them musical assistance when they ask.

## Angels in our Midst

We are deeply thankful for the angels among us and particularly so for our Christmas Angels who come to our aid every year to help us make ends meet, to improve comfort for our Residents, or to upgrade our safety systems. As we continue our campaign to raise funds for the replacement of our emergency generator, we must recognize the kindness of our generous donors who have gotten us very close to the half-way mark. We thank all of you for supporting our appeals, events, and drives, or for simply sending in a check. Every gesture of support makes it possible for us to continue our mission of caring for the elderly.

As we previously shared, the replacement of our emergency generator is not one that we can undertake without help from our community and extended family. The campaign for the replacement of an aging 35-year emergency generator is considerable with estimates in the range of approximately \$1.5 million. As we all know, the sick and elderly require special assistance in the best of times. A crisis situation deepens the significance of this need and the necessity of being able to call on reliable systems to protect and preserve their health and safety. We thank you again for considering a donation to this endeavor that will help us to provide the protection required for the safety of our Residents in the event of an emergency.

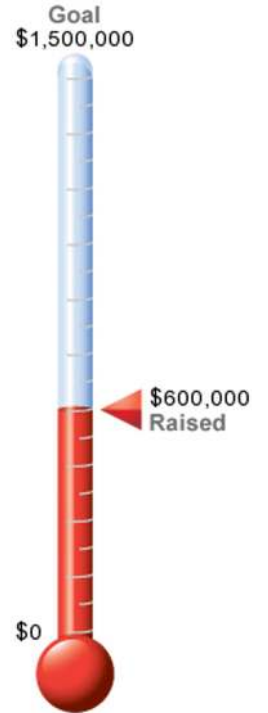
*Angels have been described as messengers sent to link heaven to earth.*

*Thank you for being our angels!*



**Our 35-year old generator has served us well, but is in need of retirement in 2018.**

**Thank you  
for your  
support in  
helping us  
reach our  
goal!**



## Upcoming Events

### Spring Carriage House Sale

Friday, April 20, 2018

Saturday, April 21, 2018

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

St. Anne's Home

San Francisco

### 9th Annual Swing and a Prayer Golf Tournament

Friday, April 27, 2018

10:00 AM

Peacock Gap Golf Course

San Rafael

For further information  
contact: Celia Barbaccia at  
cicibarbaccia@gmail.com

### Auxiliary "Aloha" Spring Luncheon

Thursday, May 3, 2018

11:00 AM

St. Francis Yacht Club

San Francisco

Hawaiian Wear Optional



## A Simple Note

By: Mother Superior



Dear Friends,

We have entered 2018 with deep gratitude in our hearts - thankful for the blessings of 2017. We welcomed many new Residents to our St. Anne's Family. Our talented Auxiliary ladies presented us with a beautiful Holiday Boutique under the capable and creative direction of Co-Chairs, Susan Mallen, Jeannie Sangiacomo, and Debi Spiers. Our Residents enjoyed the beautiful annual Christmas Luncheon hosted by the Order of Malta, as well as activities hosted by our Association Jeanne Jugan, who continually serve as an extension of our hands and bring the gift of their presence to our Home. The San Francisco Fire Department continued their tradition of ringing in the New Year with our Residents, and our Christmas Angels continue to lend their loyal support each year. We are very grateful to all of you for your devoted support, and we are thankful to be able to share our mission with you.

This year we will present our 9th Annual Swing and a Prayer Golf Tournament at the Peacock Gap Golf Course on April 27th. We will also host our second St. Jeanne Jugan Award Dinner honoring the Sanchez-Corea Family on September 28th. We are happy to recognize the generations of support from the Sanchez-Corea Family that started with Tony and Lucille and through the years has included their children and grandchildren. We hope to see you at these special and fun-filled events.

May your Easter Season be filled with peace and joy and remembering the words of Pope Francis, I hope “. . . that by listening to God's word and drawing nourishment from the table of the Eucharist, our hearts may be ever more ardent in faith, hope and love.”

May God bless you,

*Mother Theresa*

## Save The Date



Art: *Charles Édouard Delort (French, 1841–1895)*  
Title Unknown; Depicts Little Sisters of the Poor on collecting rounds

**Little Sisters of the Poor – St. Anne's Home  
present the  
St. Jeanne Jugan Award Dinner  
honoring**

**The Sanchez-Corea Family**  
*Lucille Sanchez-Corea  
Laura and Douglas Hosking  
Lisa and Justin Simpson  
Karen and Antonio Sanchez-Corea III*

and celebrating the memory of  
*Antonio Sanchez-Corea II*

**Friday, September 28, 2018  
The Event Center at St. Mary's Cathedral  
San Francisco**