

# LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

*Serving the elderly poor in San Francisco since 1901.*



ST. ANNE'S HOME

Winter, 2012

ST. ANNE'S HOME  
300 Lake Street  
San Francisco, CA

## A Very Special Visitor

BY: MARIA CUNNINGHAM

A schoolgirl from St. Anne's of the Sunset and a graduate of Presentation High School, answered a call to volunteer at St. Anne's Home a few decades ago. No one knew then that call would flourish into a lifelong calling to care for the aged and that Joan Raber would return to visit us as Sister Celine de la Visitation, Mother General of the Little Sisters of the Poor, the first non-French Superior General of the Congregation.

The spirit of joyful anticipation was evident at St. Anne's for days prior to the arrival of Mother General Celine and Mother Assistant Gerard Patricia. Residents, staff and Little Sisters alike worked diligently on the welcome scene from Abraham's Hospitality (Genesis 18). Fittingly, during this the Year of Faith, the welcome scene incorporated angels and Abraham, the Father of Faith. Integral to the greeting also were San Francisco, co-patron's St. Francis and St. Patrick, but also St. Therese as the festivities were taking place on her feast day, and of course, our very own heroine, St. Jeanne Jugan.

Costumes were made, lines were rehearsed, props were set, and our Residents played their roles masterfully. Mother Celine and Mother

Gerard were clearly touched and entertained by the most creative reception – smiles and laughter abounded.

There was no coincidence that Mother's greeting revolved around hospitality, as hospitality is at the core of what the Little Sisters live and breathe. It is the extra vow taken by the Little Sisters in addition to chastity, poverty and obedience. It is the vow that defines them: to welcome, love and serve the elderly and prepare them for their heavenly journey.

Mother's visit was short, but significant to both those who had met her before as well as to those who were meeting her for the first time. Her warmth was unmistakable as she made her way through the halls to personally meet the members of St. Anne's family.



**Mother General Celine and Resident Yolanda Bove share a special moment**



**An all saints welcome for Mother General Celine from Residents Edith Hartnett as St. Jeanne Jugan, Bob Steyer as St. Francis, John Foley as St. Patrick and Yolanda Bove as St. Therese**



**Mother Margaret, Mother General Celine, Mother Maria Christine and Mother Assistant Gerard Patricia**

# LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

## Auxiliary Corner



**John Foley, one of our new Residents is always ready to share his Irish humor and good wit**

**BY: MARISA MIZONO**

For over 31 years, the Little Sisters of the Poor St. Anne's Home Auxiliary has worked hard to fulfill their commitment to the Little Sisters to assist them in their mission of taking care of the elderly and to further a program of social welfare and philanthropy. The Auxiliary has hosted countless fund raising events, from the Christmas Boutique and Red Tie Gala to Golf Tournaments and Rummage Sales and has raised significant funds to

help with operating costs and capital improvements. But more importantly, it supports the work of the Little Sisters by assisting the Residents on an ongoing basis.

Members, Judi Hurabiell, Margaret O'Driscoll, Jean Terheyden and Ann Marie Miller are at the Home on a regular basis helping with the making of Residents' beds. The ladies particularly enjoy interacting with the Residents, getting to know them, and providing support as needed. Soni Mares maintains the Residents' Library. She and a group of ten Auxiliary members inventory and shelve books and each month decorate according to a theme. They engage the Residents' help to keep the library neat and to make suggestions for books they would like in the library.

Several times a year Andrea Rago and Maureen O'Shea organize Resident outings, which could include lunch at a nice restaurant, a sightseeing tour or a trip to a museum. The Auxiliary also hosts special Resident events for holidays like St. Patrick's Day, Halloween or Valentines Day, and on Sunday evening's there is happy hour at the Home.

The Auxiliary gift program insures that each Resident is remembered at Christmas and on their birthday. Linda Grimes is responsible for the buying of Residents' gifts so that each Resident receives a personalized gift for their birthday as well as for Christmas. The Little Sisters and the Auxiliary members personally distribute gifts on Christmas Eve.

St. Anne's is a happy and caring place and the work of the Auxiliary is a large part of that. As one Resident, Johnny Foley, says, "St. Anne's Home is next door to Heaven."

We all enjoy the proximity to such a good neighbor!

## Employee Spotlight - Director of Nursing



**Esther Laguda, Director of Nursing**

One big happy family, that is how Esther Laguda, Director of Nursing, reminisces about her years at St. Anne's Home. As an employee of 44 years, she has seen many changes. She has cared for many Residents and worked with many Sisters. She has seen the evolution from paper to computers, and even worked through the demolition of the original Home and the building of the present Home.

Esther arrived in the United States from the Philippines ready to start teaching, her given profession. However, the jobs offered to her would have taken her away from the Bay Area, and she knew she did not want to venture away from her new home. Her first employer in the United States then became the Little Sisters of the Poor at St. Anne's Home. She started as a Certified Nurses Assistant, worked and went to school to become a Licensed Vocational Nurse, and later went on to become a Registered Nurse.

Esther remembers the early days at St. Anne's when there were more Sisters and fewer employees. She recalls helping with housekeeping because being part of the family meant taking care of the house. Everyone worked hard, in community with each other, and just did what needed to be done. The introduction of more regulations changed that dynamic and positions became more well-defined. The decline in vocations, as well as the increased needs of Residents, who come to the Home at more advanced ages, brought about the increase in staff, but the hospitality of the Home has never wavered. "I have worked two jobs since I was an LVN, explains Esther. I've worked as an on call nurse at a local hospital and found it very helpful to my work with Little Sisters, but I've never considered leaving St. Anne's because the work we do with the Residents is very special to me. There is great fulfillment for me in making our Residents happy."

Esther credits the Little Sisters of the Poor in helping her to become who she is today. "They mentored me in a new country and guided me through a new career," she shares.

We wish Esther only the best on her upcoming retirement and thank her for all the history that she has shared with us.



## Art Meets Heart



AN EVENING OF FINE ART & FESTIVITIES

**BY: MARIA CUNNINGHAM**

Celebrate HeART, a Fine Art Exhibit, Sale and Cocktail Reception will be held at St. Anne's Home on March 14, 2013. While our Red Tie Gala is on hiatus this year, Celebrate HeART will be an event to remember. Our event will feature paintings from the Brown and Campbell Collection, along with the works of other notable San Francisco talent.

The Brown and Campbell Collection consists of the works of Frank Julian Brown and Frank Addison Campbell, two prolific San Francisco artists, who created over 800 paintings spanning 70 years (1930 – 2000) and whose story leading to the presentation of their work at St. Anne's Home is as interesting as their talent. Through the work of these two artists, which ranges from abstract expressionism, modernist figurative, structural abstracts to landscapes and even some cubism, we get a glimpse into not only the Bay Area art movement during their lives, but also a view into post World War II art through their travels throughout Mexico, Europe and North Africa.

Although Campbell exhibited at the San Francisco Museum of Art (now the SF MOMA) at least eight times before World War II, post-war, both he and Brown devoted the majority of their lives to creating art in obscurity. Few knew of their talent and even fewer knew of their collection, which was not discovered until the death of Brown in 2000.

Our Auxiliary has partnered with the Trustee of the Brown and Campbell Collection, to bring you Celebrate HeART, the first of its kind for the Little Sisters and what we expect to be a very special evening. The collection Trustee couldn't have said it any better, "Just as art is timeless and fills the heart with joy, so too does the work of the Little Sisters of the Poor – it's a good match."

For more information on the Brown and Campbell Collection, visit [www.browncampbellcollection.com](http://www.browncampbellcollection.com)

Stay tuned for more information on Celebrate HeART in the coming weeks.



"I am delighted to be a part of this event and support work that much like art itself uplifts human conditions and enriches the human spirit."

- Diane B. Wilsey, Honorary Chair, Celebrate HeART



## SAVE THE DATE

**Games Day**

Thursday, February 7, 2013  
St. Anne's Home

**Celebrate HeART**

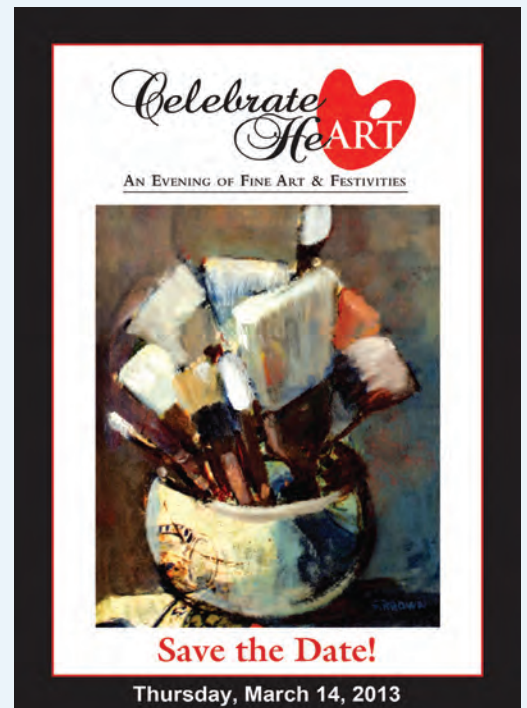
Thursday, March 14, 2013  
St. Anne's Home

**A Swing and a Prayer  
4th Annual Golf Tournament**

Friday, April 26, 2013  
Presidio Golf Course

**Auxilliary Spring Luncheon**

Monday, May 6, 2013  
Details Forthcoming



## A Simple Note

By: Mother Superior



*Christmas Greetings from Annabelle Carberry and Mother Margaret*

Dear Friends,

It is with grateful hearts that we approach the season of Advent and the gift of the birth of Jesus. On behalf of the Residents and Little Sisters at St. Anne's Home, we wish you and your families a very blessed Christmas Season. We thank you for your continued love and support and for joining us in the journey of care for our elderly. Our work would not be possible without the blessing of your gifts. Please be assured of the gift of our daily prayers for your intentions.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." Colossians 3:15

*Gratefully yours in Christ*  
*- Mother Margaret*



*A very Merry Christmas from Sr. Maria and Sr. Geraldine on behalf of all of the Little Sisters and Residents at St. Anne's Home*

## Seeking Christmas Angels



Over the years our Christmas Angels have helped us fund many needs, everything from replacement bedding to wheelchair vans. Our Residents have benefitted greatly from your support and we are eternally grateful for the blessing of your generosity. In the words, of one of our Residents, "Our benefactors, fill our souls with joy and give us fuel for the journey."

As our Home ages, we find it increasingly necessary to tend to the many needs of a 31-year facility that runs 24 hours a day. Among one of our most critical needs today is the need to replace our Nurse Call System.

The system is vital to the care, safety and security of our Residents. Our existing system is no longer manufactured, the company has announced it will not be providing technical support for it, and they are discontinuing the required annual tests.

Our need is urgent, and we are in dire need of many Angels who can help support us this Christmas Season with a donation of any amount to help sponsor the replacement of this essential life safety system. Your help will bring immediate comfort and peace of mind to those who need it most, our frail elderly.

**"At our age . . . we often experience the need for the assistance of others. . . I would like to invite you to see this too as a gift from the Lord. It is a grace to be supported and accompanied, to receive the affection of others! This is important in every phase of life: no one can live alone and without help; humans are relational beings . . . Never be discouraged: you are valuable to society, even in suffering and sickness. And this phase of life is a gift that also allows us to deepen our relationship with God."**

**- Pope Benedict XVI**

**Nurse Call System Approximate Cost: \$350,000**

Donations can be made by mail in the enclosed envelope or online through our donations link at [www.littlesistersofthepoorsf.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorsf.org)

***Don't' forget to check in with your employer for matching gift contributions.***