



Serving the elderly
poor in San Francisco
since 1901.

Our New Leader



Resident Elizabeth Herrera, one of the many Residents to present Mother with welcome flowers upon her arrival to St. Anne's Home.

By: Maria Cunningham

(With excerpts from Welcome Speech by Barbara Anderson, May 30, 2014)

Recently, we bid farewell to Mother Margaret, who served as our Mother Superior for the last six years and has now moved on to our home in San Pedro to serve as superior at the Jeanne Jugan Residence. We also welcomed our new leader, Mother Theresa Gertrude, who has returned home after 47 years. Mother Theresa is not just a native of San Francisco; she is a native

of the Richmond District! Much to the delight of her family, coming home to San Francisco and to St. Anne's also brings her home to her family.

Mother Theresa comes to us from St. Mary's Home in Chicago, but not unlike many of our Little Sisters her life of service has taken her from across the United States to the peaceful countryside of France. She has witnessed the majesty of the Rocky Mountains, the beauty of the Great Lakes, and the power of the Mississippi. She has encouraged, comforted, celebrated, and prayed with members of the greatest generation from the shores of the Atlantic to the Pacific.

On May 30th, Mother Theresa walked through the doors of 300 Lake Street to be greeted by Sisters, staff and friends, as well as the smiling faces, twinkling eyes, and sharp wit of Residents who call St. Anne's, home. She was eloquently welcomed by her sister and Association Jeanne Jugan member, Barbara Anderson, who stood before the button mosaic of the Golden Gate Bridge created by 96 year-old Resident,

Peg Webber. Clearly, each person had a story to tell, and it did not take long for her to see that the heart of San Francisco is truly celebrated in this Home.

Mother Theresa left San Francisco when St. Anne's was a four-story red brick building gracing Lake Street, the 49ers played at Kezar Stadium and the Giants played at Candlestick Park. Although a lot has changed since then, it is still the same spirit of family that prevails at St. Anne's Home. Kindness of heart and generosity of spirit are still the common denominators among the loyal and faithful supporters of the Little Sisters of the Poor, who with great pleasure say, "Welcome home, Mother Theresa!"

Upcoming Events

Fall Rummage Sale

Friday, Sept. 12 & Saturday, Sept 13
St. Anne's Home

Auxiliary Fall Luncheon

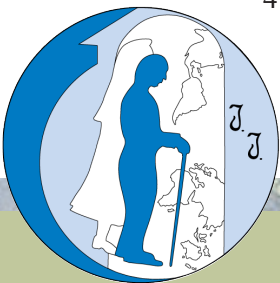
Tuesday, September 23
Lake Merced Golf Club

Invitations to follow this summer

Celebrate HeART

An Evening of Fine Art & Festivities
Thursday, November 20
St. Anne's Home

Invitations to follow in early October



Following the Path of St. Jeanne Jugan

By: Maria Cunningham

The region of Brittany in Northwestern France is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the West, the English Channel to the North, and the Bay of Biscayne to the South. It is home to picturesque beach communities with breathtaking coastal views and fishing ports, as well as inland woods and towns preserving their Celtic roots and traditional 15th century architecture. Importantly, it is also the birthplace of St. Jeanne Jugan and home to the Motherhouse for the Little Sisters of the Poor. This Spring, my husband and I had the pleasure of visiting this wonderful part of the world and sharing time with the Little Sisters that was rich in



Sisters at prayer in the chapel at La Tour

their history and distinguished with visits to sacred spaces that memorialize the very beginnings of their congregation.

La Tour St. Joseph, the Little Sisters' Motherhouse, is located in the countryside community of St. Pern that tops off with a population of about 1000 residents. La Tour is the burial site of St. Jeanne Jugan, the center of operations for the Little Sisters, and a working farm, replete with blond cows, that peacefully graze on the grounds. It is home to Mother General

Celine, the first American to serve as Superior General, and with whom we had the delight to share conversation about life at St. Anne's Home and her native San Francisco. It is also home to Little Sisters in formation. Before taking final vows all Little Sisters spend one year at the Motherhouse and are immersed in the French language, the common language spoken among them.

We were immediately absorbed in the tranquil beauty of La Tour and transported to another time. We walked the halls that Jeanne Jugan walked, prayed in the chapel where she prayed, and visited the room where she uttered her last words. We stood by a building that now serves as administrative offices, but was once the spot where Little Sisters were held captive during World War II. Mother Assistant Gerard quietly explained, "We had captives during that time, but no Little Sister martyrs." There was so much depth to that statement, and so much about this region that makes that time in history come alive.

From St. Pern, we traveled to Cancale, the birthplace of St. Jeanne Jugan and to St. Servan, the site of the first Home for the Little Sisters of the Poor. Cancale is a quaint beach community also famous for large flavorful oysters enjoyed throughout France and for expansive oyster beds visible to visitors from the shore, during low tide. A short distance from the beach sits a small 18th century house complete with thatched roof and period furniture – the birthplace of St. Jeanne Jugan. A humble home, where animals were kept on the lower level, the family lived on the upper level, and the spot from where Jeanne Jugan's father, a fisherman, left for the sea, never to return again.

St. Servan today is known to travelers



Entrance to La Tour St. Joseph, Motherhouse of the Little Sisters of the Poor in St. Pern, France

as the site where St. Jeanne Jugan performed her charitable works and for its lovely shops and restaurants. The first Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor sits



The peaceful path to the chapel on the grounds of the Motherhouse

on a cobblestoned street named after Pope John XXIII. A short distance from there is Ma Maison St. Servan, the current Little Sisters Home for the Aged, where 47 residents are charged to their care. Beside Ma Maison is the convent which was abandoned during the French Revolution and which St. Jeanne Jugan acquired and transformed into the larger home needed for the elderly at the time.

Visiting the home in St. Servan, one immediately gets the same feeling one gets when

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Celebrate HeART

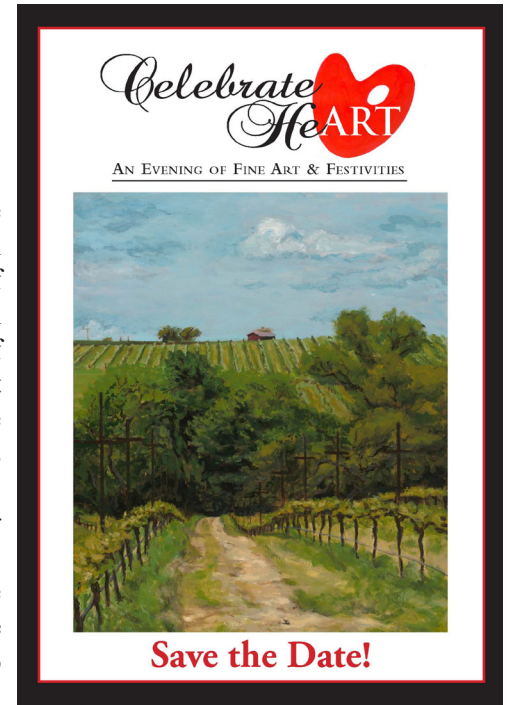
AN EVENING OF FINE ART & FESTIVITIES

Celebrate HeART 2014, a Fine Art Exhibit, Sale and Cocktail Reception will be held at St. Anne's Home on Thursday, November 20. Our Auxiliary and Advisory Council have partnered on behalf of St. Anne's Home to present this special encore event that will feature Bay Area Passages, the works of artist Susan Schneider.

Schneider, a native Californian who finds herself captivated by the natural beauty that surrounds us in the Bay Area and beyond explains, "I am moved by the emotions and beauty of the people I meet. My artistic antennae react to the light I see

in landscapes and the light I see in people. When I see a special moment of light, I use my camera to capture it. I then work from the photograph to reinterpret the feeling of that moment. My joy is in translating with paint the visual and emotional content of that point in time. I am honored to be a part of Celebrate HeART 2014 and to share the work that I love for a cause that supports such a vital need in our society."

Celebrate HeART, back by popular demand, will be an event to remember. Mark your calendars and come kick-off the holiday season with us. Don't miss these one of a kind festivities, which are sure to delight one and all.



A Great Honor in my Life

By Paul Chu – Resident St. Anne's Home

This past March, my dreams were fulfilled by being able to visit Rome and the Vatican in the company of Fr. Bu and my brother, Lide, who is also a priest. My heart cherishes many special memories from this trip, including the meeting with Archbishop Han Dahui, the Secretary General of the Congregation

for Evangelization of Peoples, and our meeting with the Chinese Church Affairs Commission. It was a great honor for me to meet Archbishop Han and to have the opportunity to discuss the present situation of the Chinese Church.

Through him, God also provided us with the great blessing to attend a private Mass celebrated by Pope Francis. After Mass, the Holy Father gave the participants interviews and blessings one by one. When he came to me, I knelt down and kissed his ring. Pope Francis helped me up with both hands. I then took out a paper with some brief English that I learned to be able to talk with him. I said, "Papa, Holy Father, we love you!" I asked him to bless our Chinese Church, all the religious, and all of

the Catholics in China. I also asked for a special prayer for Bishop Fan of the Shanghai Diocese, a Jesuit priest who had just passed away. Pope Francis' blessing was also extended to St. Anne's Home for the Aged, my home in San Francisco.

The following day, the feast of St. Joseph, marked the Pope's first anniversary of his assumption of duties and we received tickets to his public audience. I was, again, fortunate enough to meet a German priest who brought me to the patients' area where people gathered to receive special blessings from the Pope. Pope Francis smiled as he came to me – he remembered me from the previous day! He laid his hands on my head and made the sign of the cross on my forehead. I took out a pen and his photograph, purchased from one of the Vatican shops, and he kindly signed it for me. It has given me great happiness to now have met three Popes in my lifetime and to have received blessings from them.



Mother's Message



I joined the St. Anne's family just a few short weeks ago, and it has been wonderful to meet the team that forms this community, everyone from the remarkable Residents to the dedicated staff, who are an extension of our hands in so many different areas — everything from day-to-day loving care of the Residents to building maintenance, from laundry and housekeeping to nutrition, from activities to administration and development. It has been a pleasure to meet all the members of our team, including members of our Advisory Council who generously share their professional expertise and lend support to our fundraising efforts; our Association Jeanne Jugan members who are always ready to lend a hand or an ear to Residents in need; and our Auxiliary members who volunteer their time in a variety of areas, including the coordination of special events.

I am very excited about getting to know everyone a little better and look forward to working with each of you.

Many thanks to all for making me feel so welcome on my return home.

Mother Theresa

Following the Path *continued...*

Continued from page 2 walking into any of the Homes run by the Little Sisters. People are happy, secure and well cared for. The Little Sisters provide a safe haven for the elderly throughout the world. Hospitality - the fourth vow taken by the Little Sisters is what sets them apart, what makes their Homes such a gift, and why they are one of the most inspirational religious orders in the world, carrying out their mission without an endowment and primarily from donations.

There were many memorable moments during our visit, but it was especially

significant at the end of our time in St. Servan to be introduced to a volunteer arriving for her duties, who bore a striking resemblance to St. Jeanne Jugan. A coincidence we thought, but no, this dedicated volunteer was working in the "family business" - one of the last living descendants of St. Jeanne Jugan.

Merci beaucoup to Mother General Celine, Mother Assistant Gerard, Sr. Rosemary, Sr. Agnes and to all of the Little Sisters in St. Pern and St. Servan for your warmth, hospitality, and an extraordinary visit with you.

Ways to Help

Mobility lifts assist us in safely and comfortably moving our Residents in and out of bed, in and out of wheelchairs, from sitting to standing positions, as well as with repositioning in bed. This is a much needed aid in the care of our most frail Residents with restricted mobility. Our current lifts are well used and in need of replacement. Thank you for considering helping us fund this important life safety need. Donations in any amount meaningful to you will directly enhance the quality of life of our Residents with the most need.

Auxiliary Corner

By: Marisa Mizono

The Auxiliary kicked off the month of April with the Spring Rummage Sale. Twice a year, St. Anne's Home turns into a virtual Bazaar bringing together the entire St. Anne's community to work tirelessly on what has become legendary as one of the best rummage sales in the Bay Area. The sale netted over \$25,000!

We closed the month of April with our 5th Annual Swing and A Prayer Golf Tournament at the Presidio Golf Course. Emceed by local golf celebrity and St. Anne's supporter, John Abendroth, and co-Chaired by Pete Crudo, Dan Burke and Bill Terheyden, this event has become a yearly tradition looked forward to by many friends and supporters. A fun-filled day of golf

was capped by a reception and dinner honoring Dee Dee and George Bovone with the 2014 Catholic Service Award for their work on behalf of St. Anne's Home and the community at large. The tournament raised \$50,000, but more importantly continues to bring in new friends for the Little Sisters of the Poor.



Awardees DeeDee and George Bovone are presented with the 2014 Catholic Service Award by Msgr. John Talesfore.

Do you know how to use a sewing machine? Would you like to be a part of our Craft Ladies Group? If so, please contact Auxiliary Member Paula Podesta at 415-456-8686.