



A warm San Francisco welcome

Every few years the Little Sisters are assigned to new Homes, going where they are most needed. This summer brought about a lot of the reassignments that for obvious reasons were not able to take place last year. We now have a new Provincial Superior,

Mother Julie, who was a Provincial Assistant for three years before her most recent position as Mother Superior of our Home in Chicago. We were delighted to welcome Mother Provincial Julie on her first trip to San Francisco early this summer, when



Mother Provincial Julie

we also welcomed Mother Marguerite, our new superior. We are happy to also welcome Sr. Diane back as our new administrator.

Mother Marguerite is not new to California, as she was the superior in our San Pedro Home for a number of years prior to joining us, but she is new to the cooler climate and summer fog of San Francisco. She is a native of Philadelphia, with most of her family still living there. As a child she lived in the same neighborhood as the Little Sisters' Home in Philadelphia and volunteered at the Home after school hours, along with many other young girls in the neighborhood. She shares, "Then as now, I felt that the elderly were God's instruments of enlightenment for young teenagers." It was there that she received the inspiration and grace to become a Little Sister. She made her profession in the Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor in 1960 and professed her final vows at the Motherhouse in France in 1964. Since then, she has served in the Little Sisters' Homes from coast to coast, but has spent most of her time in the Midwest. She started with direct care of the elderly, but steadily moved into administration now having served as Mother Superior in different Homes for several decades. "Despite my number of years in administration, I try to continue being involved with the Residents because I find the greatest joy in Resident care and bringing happiness into the lives of the elderly. It is what I know best, and it reaffirms my call to being a Little Sister," she explains.

Sr. Diane is back at St. Anne's Home for her third time since becoming a Little Sister 35 years ago. This time she returns in a new role to work closely with Mother Marguerite on the administrative operations of the Home. Additionally, she is in charge of our skilled nursing unit and will remain actively involved in Resident care, which she admits is a



Mother Marguerite and Sr. Diane

source of great joy for her. Everyone who knows Sr. Diane recognizes her by her happy and hearty laugh, which is often heard throughout our halls, and she readily acknowledges that it is the Residents who are at the root of it. She cheerfully says, "I feel blessed to be a Little Sister. I am deeply touched when Residents identify me as their Little Sister and share their stories with me, and I am genuinely amused by the reflections they make at times. I feel it's important to be able to have fun and find the joy in life no matter what age you are. Like any life, being a Little Sister has its ups and downs. It can be challenging at times, but we get through it with our family community, through prayer, and through the light that radiates from our Residents."

We are delighted to welcome Mother Marguerite and Sr. Diane to their new family at St. Anne's, thankful for their guidance and leadership, and look forward to working with them to help fill the lives of our Residents with joy and comfort.

Physically Distant but Socially Connected



By Maria Cunningham

In the era of ever-evolving protocols and directives of what is safely allowed and what is not on any given day can certainly be dizzying, but our Residents' acceptance of life as it presents itself is beyond admirable. We continually learn from their wisdom to accept what cannot be changed and we move forward inspired to grow wings that will help us soar

over the difficult times with all the power within us. We are happy to take advantage of the windows of time that allow us to promote the enjoyment of the social connections that are safely available. There is true joy in seeing our Residents embrace the activities that have resumed and witnessing the positive impact generated from simple acts shared with others.

A basic game of bingo, shopping at the Knick Knack Residents' Store,

or baking cookies are all ordinary activities that yield heartwarming smiles and enough shared laughter to nourish the spirit. Through the ebbs and flows of the times we are living, we will continue following all necessary precautions to keep our community safe while remaining physically distant but socially connected and enjoying the gifts of each day.

Three cheers to our Residents, our catalysts of inspiration!

Craft Room
ABSTRACT PAINTING

COME TO THE CRAFTROOM FOR:
THE ARTIST IS PRESENT
TIME WITH
M.F.A. TIM LOBACZ

THERAPEUTIC VAN RIDES

Small groups ... Cruising around the Bay Area...
Listening to your favorite music ... Sharing stories

Blue Hall Lounge

Strike or Spare, Wii Don't Care... Just as long as you are there!

THURSDAY AT 2:30
JOIN US FOR Wii VIDEO BOWLING

A Jubilee Celebration

Twenty-five years ago, Sr. John Elise chose John as her religious name in honor of St. John, who at the foot of the cross was entrusted with the care of Christ's aging mother. Combined with her own name, Elise Anne, her abbreviated name came to spell, JEANNE for St. Jeanne Jugan, Foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor. All quite fitting for a Little Sister whose journey of discernment to religious life was awash with validation of a true "calling" and which she readily acknowledges, "I did not choose, I was chosen."

Sr. John was born in Singapore where she attended a secular school and learned about different religions. She was raised Buddhist and had many friends who tried to convince her to become protestant, but even at a young age she had more interest in Catholicism. However, it was not until after college that she looked into becoming Catholic, and she enrolled in an RCIA program – twice. She recalls, "It was the second time when it felt like a veil had been lifted, and the thought of becoming a nun first manifested itself as a possibility." She had a good job and friends trying to marry her off, but the thought of entering religious life was something she felt compelled to explore.

One weekend she discovered that the building with the beautiful arch that had always captivated her was a Home run by the Little Sisters of the Poor and the site for a retreat that she was attending. After the retreat, and to her own surprise, she told the Mother Superior, "I want to be like you! I will be baptized soon." The Little Sisters accompanied her at her baptism, but told her, "You must practice your Christian faith for three years before you can become a Little Sister." After one year of volunteering for the Little Sisters, she became disillusioned with the waiting period and signed up for



“Rainbows are always a sign from God for her. The night before taking her vows, she saw a rainbow that no one else saw. When she first arrived in America a rainbow was one of the first things that she saw.

a Saturday class that would limit her volunteer hours with the Little Sisters. She wanted to make sure she was pursuing the right thing and asked God for a sign. While waiting for the bus to get to her new class one day, the bus to the Little Sisters showed up first and she instinctively took that instead. She arrived at the Little Sisters Home as they were celebrating the first profession of two new Little Sisters. She was deeply moved by the ceremony and took it as a sign that she was where God intended her to be. She knew this was what she was called to do. After two years of volunteering with the Little Sisters, she entered the Noviate of the Little Sisters of the Poor and started her work as a missionary caring for the elderly in the Homes in Taiwan, Malaysia and Hong Kong. Sr. John went on to serve in several Homes in France before coming to the United States, but has been here since



taking her final vows in 2001.

Sr. John believes that rainbows are always a sign from God for her. The night before taking her vows, she saw a rainbow that no one else saw. When she first arrived in America a rainbow was one of the first things that she saw. Today, rainbows continue to represent faith and hope in her life, especially as she thankfully celebrates 25 years since she was chosen to be a Little Sister. On August 14th, a Mass to celebrate Sr. John's Silver Jubilee was celebrated in the chapel of St. Anne's Home, followed by a small meaningful gathering attended by her St. Anne's family, who recognize her as a rainbow in our community.

Congratulations on your Silver Jubilee, Sr. John Elise Anne!

MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

It has been only two months since I arrived here and I am still getting acquainted, but I am very happy to be at this beautiful Home and to be a part of the wonderful St. Anne's community. I look forward to getting to know many more of you who complete the St. Anne's family and are so kind to join us in our mission of caring for the elderly.

We continue to have our hands full actively doing everything we can to keep the virus out of our Home and continuing to look forward with positivity and gratitude for the safety with which this Home has been blessed so far. As the health and safety of our Residents is paramount to everything we do, we are also focused on the mental and spiritual health of each, introducing as much "fun and games" along with contemplative time into their daily lives as we can.

We are happy to welcome four new Residents who have joined our St. Anne's family from Jeanne Jugan Residence in San Pedro. With the Little Sisters withdrawing from that location, several of the Residents there have expressed an interest in coming to St. Anne's Home. Taking into account the lingering state of the pandemic, we hope to be able to accommodate more Residents from our San Pedro Home at some point in the future.

With hope and prayers, we look toward joyous celebrations this fall which will allow for family gatherings, with the blessing of freely celebrating together. Until then stay safe, be well, and know that you remain in the prayers of the Little Sisters.

May God bless you always,
Mother Marguerite

Did you know . . .

- That from the start of the pandemic in 2020, we have had multiple empty rooms either from set-asides for COVID isolation or because of COVID imposed safety restrictions, and our total loss to date is approximately **\$1.1 million**;
- That as required by the department of public health we continue to have two rooms designated as COVID isolation rooms in the event that they are needed, and our monthly loss is approximately **\$20,000**;
- That any help you can give makes a difference.

Ways to help . . .

- **Recurring Gifts:** You can donate on-line to give a recurring gift at a frequency that works best for you.
- **Matching Gifts:** You can make your donation go even further through an employer matching gift program. Check to see if your employer has a matching gift program.
- **Amazon Smile:** You can sign up for AmazonSmile and designate the Little Sisters of the Poor Home for the Aged, St. Anne's Home San Francisco as your charity and a portion of your purchases will be donated to us at no cost to you.
- **Planned Giving:** You can leave a legacy of providing for the elderly by choosing the Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Anne's Home as a beneficiary of your will or trust.
- **Honorariums or Memorials:** You can give a donation to honor a special person in your life or in memory of a loved one.
- **Vehicle Donations:** You can donate a vehicle of any kind, running or not, by calling **1-844-422-4483**.

"If God is with us, it will be accomplished. . .
God will help us; the work is his."
St. Jeanne Jugan

Thank you for helping us do God's work.