



Christmas Blessings



“Christmas invites us to reflect on the one hand, on the drama of history . . . on the other hand, on the goodness of God . . . to make us sharers in His friendship and His life.”

– Pope Francis

May the spirit of Christmas reign in your lives and fill your hearts with peace and joy shared with the love of family and friends.

Merry Christmas from our Home to yours!

Maintenance Department Spotlight

By Maria Cunningham

There are many treasures at St. Anne's Home. The first is the gift of loving care that the Little Sisters provide to our Residents. The next is our amazing group of Residents who teach us about resilience and perseverance, most especially during the past few years.

Then there are our employees, who complete the treasure trove of devotion and dedication.

This month, we highlight three people whose contributions to St. Anne's Home are worthy not just of note but also of gratitude and admiration.

The three members of the



Angel Gumari – Over 20 years of service



Bob Polkinghorn – Over 15 years of service



Robert Azcona – Over 15 years of service

maintenance and facilities team cover an array of responsibilities central to our operations.

They monitor life safety components on a daily basis, coordinate and facilitate maintenance and repair of everything from air handlers to laundry equipment.

But, at any given time they could also be helping a Resident set up a telephone, moving their furniture to better accommodate their needs or repairing a wobbly wheelchair.

When asked about what they like most about work at St. Anne's, Bob Polkinghorn summed it up for the

team by saying, "The Little Sisters are doing big things that need to be done. We assist in accomplishing their very worthwhile mission and that is very worthwhile employment."

The maintenance team's wide-ranging facilities experience, including backgrounds in electrical engineering, and "can do" attitudes, coupled with consistently amiable dispositions, make for a St. Anne's Maintenance Dream Team.

Thank you to all of you for your many years of devoted service and for helping to keep us running safely and efficiently with generosity of heart!

Halloween St. Anne's Style

How thankful were we to be able to return to celebrating Halloween together again this year!

We resumed our traditional pumpkin carving contest where Residents, Sisters and Staff participated in constructing competition worthy creations.

Creativity abounded this year with everything from a COVID pumpkin to a pumpkin representing The Chosen.

The laughter and joy of the shared camaraderie was infectious as costumes surprised and entertained one and all.

Voting for the winning pumpkin creation was open all day and the winners were declared following festivities which included a costume parade, Halloween bingo and refreshments.

As activities return to St. Anne's, we unite with a deepened appreciation for the value of time shared with one another and the pleasure that brings into our lives.

Looking toward the holiday season, the lively Halloween celebration was the perfect lead-in to November, the month of gratitude.



Award Raises Awareness of the Dignity of the Elderly

This past summer the International Institute for Promotion and Prestige, founded in Geneva in 1963, presented the institute's World Consecration Award to Mother General, Maria del Monte Auxiliadora at the Little Sisters' motherhouse in Brittany, France.

The Institute is comprised of members drawn from political, diplomatic, scientific, cultural and economic circles.

Their mission is to recognize people or institutions from around the world whose activities and work deserve to be brought to the attention of a wide audience through the award of international distinction.

In accepting the award, Mother General emphasized her conviction that this honor was intended for the entire Congregation "in recognition of the commitment of all the Little Sisters of the whole world."

She was joined in accepting the award by five Little Sisters who represented each continent where the Congregation serves.

Mother General used the occasion to express the Little Sisters' profound gratitude toward all who collaborate in their mission, lay associates, staff members, volunteers and benefactors – evoking the words of St. Jeanne Jugan, "Our benefactors, where would we be without them?"

She also sought to raise awareness of the dignity and the



needs of the elderly in today's society.

"At this moment in history," she explained, "old age is sometimes seen as a failure – on the contrary, old age is a privilege and the culmination of a whole life. We should count on the elderly who are a source of experience and wisdom that should not be lost. The needs of the elderly all over the world have a special place in our hearts and we desire to go everywhere with the flame of charity that St. Jeanne Jugan passed on to us. This award compels us to work with greater enthusiasm in our beautiful vocation."

The Miracle of Christmas Lives

After three years of adhering to quarantine protocols to keep our Home safe, we remain so very grateful for the good health we have been able to maintain. But our gratitude now extends beyond the safety we have been blessed with and on to gratitude for the ability to welcome special people back into our Home who go above and beyond to bring joy into the lives of our Residents.

We are still limited in the number of people that can gather with us at one time, but our loyal community of volunteers and supporters – Association Jeanne, St. Anne's Auxiliary, and Order of Malta – have embraced our needs and supported us within our required protocols. They have hosted Residents to monthly games of "Everyone's a Winner" bingo, holiday cookie socials complete with themed musical accompaniment,

and brought the wonder of Christmas into our Home with full fervor. Christmas lights adorn our gates, our Christmas trees are beautifully trimmed, our Resident dining rooms sparkle with the colors of the season, and the miracle of Christmas lives in every corner of our Home through the kindness of these wonderful volunteers who so freely share of themselves with us.

We thank you all for not giving up on us when we couldn't welcome you through our doors and for understanding the depth of the void your absence represented for us.

We are thankful to have your kind hearts and joyful spirits among us once again.

Thank you for being angels in our midst and for helping bring cheer to the hearts of our Residents.



RAISE US UP

Elevator Modernization Campaign



Dear Friends,

Can you help take us from caution tape to a red bow this Christmas?

Our elevators are 40 years old and in need of modernization to continue providing our Home with the required indispensable service.

All four elevators are near the end of their serviceable lifespan. This has called for immediate upgrades to keep them running and to extend their life and serviceability.

The needed parts for repair are rare and increasingly unavailable, thus keeping some of the elevators out of service for extended periods of time.

Our elevators are an important means of transport for everyone in our Home, but essential for our elderly Residents with limited mobility.

The modernization involves a variety of repairs and upgrades, including ADA and seismic improvements to keep our elevators running safely and in serviceable condition.

We are looking at a very big job and we cannot do it alone. The cost of modernization is approximately \$675,000 for each elevator!

As Little Sisters, we dedicate our lives to the care of the elderly in need, but “it takes a village,” and it is the dedication of this “village” supporting our work that keeps our mission alive.

You raise us up and help us keep going!

We know first-hand that we are living through difficult times but if you can support our RAISE US UP Elevator Modernization Campaign this Christmas with a donation of any amount, you will be helping get us from caution tape to red bow!

With my most sincere gratitude,
Mother Marguerite

Use the QR codes or visit us at www.littlesistersofthepoorsf.org to make donations online.



Scan here to donate
to St. Anne's Home



Scan here to visit
our website



Scan here to
Shop For A Cause

*The Little Sisters of the Poor
invite you to*

SHOP FOR A CAUSE

Keep it simple this holiday season: shop and support our work. From Minted stationery, and Lynch Creek Farms fresh evergreen gifts, to Boon Supply eco-friendly shopping, there is something for everyone. All items are delivered directly to you.

Visit minted.com for holiday cards and gifts. Use FUNDRAISELITTLESISTERS at checkout. You'll receive a 20% discount on all stationery and gifts, and **Minted** will donate 15% of all purchases to St. Anne's Home.

Order holiday wreaths, centerpieces, table-top trees, garlands, and swags from **Lynch Creek Farm**. Ordering will be open until December 11. Lynch Creek Farm will donate 15% of all purchases to St. Anne's Home. Place your order at www.lynchcreekfundraising.com/c/299698 or by phone: 1-888-426-0781 and use our fundraising code: 299698

Shop for eco-friendly products, everyday essentials, delicious food products or best-selling magazines at **Boon Supply** now until January 7, 2023. Boon Supply will donate 40% of all purchases to St. Anne's Home. Place your online order at www.boonsupply.com/1285301.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We look forward to resuming in-person events and being able to celebrate with you. Stay tuned for details.

VALENTINE BRUNCH

Saturday, February 11, 2023

AUXILIARY SPRING LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 27, 2023

ANNUAL GALA EVENT

Fall 2023

CARRIAGE HOUSE SALE

Fall 2023

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE

November 2023