



# A LIFETIME OF LOVE IN ACTION

Mother Celine de la Visitation was a member of our Congregation's General Council since 1976. Elected to the position of Superior General for the first time in 1996, she was the first American to serve in that post and remained in the position of Mother General for 19 years. As a woman of duty, she had a charism of simplicity and kindness. Always positive and smiling, she knew how to listen and welcome anyone.

A native San Franciscan, from our very own Sunset District, Mother Celine was born Joan Elizabeth Raber and first discovered her vocation as a young girl volunteering at St. Anne's Home. She entered the Congregation and pronounced her first vows in 1958 at St. Ann's Novitiate in New York. After completing her nursing studies in Baltimore, she made her final profession at La Tour St. Joseph, the Little Sisters' motherhouse in



France, in 1963. Before settling in France permanently in 1976 when elected Assistant General, she served as Mother Superior at our Homes in Baltimore, St. Louis, and Denver.

Although she left the United States 46 years ago, Mother Celine loved her homeland, always remaining close to all of us in America, and her visits to our Homes were treated as full-blown homecomings. In 2012, she was

welcomed home to not only the place of her birth, but also to St. Anne's Home, the place that inspired her lifelong calling to care for the aged. The spirit of joyful anticipation was evident for days prior to her arrival and culminated with her humble and captivating presence. Her warmth was unmistakable as she made her way through the halls of our Home to personally meet all of the members of the St. Anne's family.

She will forever be remembered for her welcoming, warm, and smiling face and for her humility, which seemed to be the essence of her being. In her words, "In order to bear witness in today's world, there is no other way than that of humility. A witness, a life totally given to others, is not obvious. It is only in humility that we can live our vocation with gratefulness for this call."

*Mother Celine de la Visitation  
1938 – 2022*

## 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Scan here to visit our website

### Auxiliary Spring Luncheon

St. Francis Yacht Club  
Thursday, April 27  
11 a.m.  
Hosted Champagne Hour  
Noon Luncheon  
Invitations mailed in March

### Auxiliary Fall Luncheon

Olympic Club Lakeside  
Thursday, September 28  
Details forthcoming

### Carriage House Sale

St. Anne's Home  
Friday, October 20 and  
Saturday, October 21  
Details forthcoming

### Home for the Holidays Christmas Boutique Luncheon and Shopping

St. Anne's Home  
Saturday, November 18 and  
Sunday, November 19  
Details forthcoming

# RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT – Nadine Caliguri

By Maria Cunningham

Although born in Minnesota, Nadine came here with her parents when she was three years old, so she feels she is a native San Franciscan. Notably, they arrived on December 7, 1941, and although the details about her arrival in San Francisco on that day are vague, she distinctly remembers being surrounded by family and wondering why it was so dark. She later learned that the West Coast was on high alert and San Francisco was in almost total darkness for many days due to a complete blackout initiated in response to the attack on Pearl Harbor.

She attended St. Peter and Paul Grammar School and Presentation High School, where challenges did not evade her as a child living with cerebral palsy, but where she remembers ultimately making friends with whom she to this day stays in contact. Her mother instilled in her the belief that she could do anything she set her mind to doing, and it was that outlook that carried her through the difficulties and drove her to the achievements that many hold only in their dreams. She says, "I persevered because I had to and because of the belief my mother had in me." Living with cerebral palsy made Nadine keenly aware of the needs of the handicapped. Blessed with a family that saw her as capable and gifted gave her a richer understanding for the importance of integration into



society. It was from there that her idea was born. She simply wanted to give the handicapped and homebound the opportunity to have a social life and make friends.

With the help of her friend and advisor, Fr. George Trigg-Porter, S.J., and many other people whose introductions he facilitated, California Handicapables, Inc. became a reality. "On January 30, 1965," shares Nadine, "I started the Handicapables for the honor and glory of God." Volunteers were enlisted, a San Francisco venue was secured and meetings were scheduled to start with Mass, followed by lunch and activities. Her hard work led to press coverage, appearances on television, and more support than she ever expected.

In 1974, she was honored beyond any expectation. She was nominated for the National Individual Volunteer Award in recognition of her work. She flew to the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing

Arts to accept her award with a video of her work in San Francisco as the backdrop. The marvel of the experience culminated with an invitation to the White House and a meeting with the first lady, Mrs. Pat Nixon, in the East Wing. After that, the seed of her idea was in full bloom and on its way to maturity. She received mail from all over the country – Handicapables had national recognition! She traveled to Southern California to help set up Handicapable Chapters in Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara, and consulted with many others. In honor of her work for the handicapped, she went on to receive the Assumpta Award. She accepted this, the highest award bestowed by St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, with humility and on behalf of the beneficiaries of Handicapables.

After 50 years of working to promote the importance of socialization for the handicapped and coordinating those efforts, Nadine retired, turning the responsibility over to Catholic Charities. She still serves as an advisor and accepts speaking engagements when she can, but now finds happiness in her life at St. Anne's, and the providence of living in the same room that was occupied by her mother when she was in residence at St. Anne's.

Thank you for inspiring all of us, Nadine!

## New Friends Valentine Lunch

What a lovely day for everyone who as able to join us! There were many familiar faces as well many new friends for our first in-person event since 2019. We had a full house at the Metropolitan Club, where friends reunited in celebration of friendship and service in support of the work of the Little Sisters. It was a great come-back event, we gained new members for our Auxiliary and raised money for the Home. We are ready to resume our roles, in-person, and help the Little Sisters in whatever way we can, whether it be through hands-on service or through the exciting events we have planned for 2023.

*If camaraderie through service and fun and friendship help define you, please contact us for more information on becoming a member of our Auxiliary at [LSPAuxiliaryMembership@gmail.com](mailto:LSPAuxiliaryMembership@gmail.com)*



# Youth for Elders

By Barbara Anderson

Supporting the mission of the Little Sisters of the Poor has been part of St. Thomas the Apostle's community outreach commitment for decades. The Parent-Teacher Group recently chose to support St. Anne's Home with the proceeds from the cash raffle and food sales held at their 75th Anniversary/Farewell event.

The sixth-grade students sold succulents and sunflower seeds from the school garden as a service project to raise money for St. Anne's Home. The sales took place during the week of the school's 75th Anniversary celebration in January and proceeds from all sales were presented to Sr. John Elise and Sr. Mary William at a morning assembly on February 16.



We are so grateful to the students and their teachers, Mrs. Alicia Cabe-Reyes and Mrs. Helen Gong, for sponsoring this special project for the benefit of our Residents!

We thank the students, faculty, and parent community of St. Thomas the Apostle for being partners with us in the mission of care of the elderly for so many years. They have faithfully held Thanksgiving food drives and Christmas Giving Tree gift drives for us for nearly forty years. The students have created greeting cards for our elderly, for each of the six holidays

during the school year, for twenty years. The school also held special events during the year for which St. Anne's Home has benefitted.

As St. Thomas the Apostle closes its doors at the end of this current school year, we wish the students, faculty and parents many blessings as they move on to new schools. We pray that God will bless them for the generosity and kindness they have extended to their elderly friends here on Lake Street. They have truly touched the hearts of those who live at St. Anne's Home!

# A Life Well-Lived

By Maria Cunningham

Fr. Phillip D'Auby played bingo religiously each week, learned how to play chess at age 98, and played the violin into his 99th birthday. A true example of living life to the fullest, he started violin lessons at age 75 and traveled to Italy and Carnegie Hall to perform with the Villa Sinfonia Orchestra. This past Christmas, just shy of his 99th birthday, as a part of the same orchestra, he played at a Christmas Concert for his friends at St. Anne's Home. He was accompanied by the full orchestra, which ranged in ages from 6 to almost 99. Their musical talents filled our Home's promenade with melodies that engulfed the senses with joy, but the best part was seeing Fr. Auby immersed in the pleasure he gained by playing the violin and so skillfully performing for his fellow Residents.

Fr. D'Auby was loved and respected by the communities he served. Clear endorsement of that was when he was leaving Notre Dame des Victoires School in San Francisco and parents and children alike came together in petition to

keep him there, obtaining over 1000 signatures in the effort. His kind, accepting, and soft-spoken demeanor was a welcome asset to all communities of which he was a part. There is a void at St. Anne's without him, but there is fulfillment in knowing that he lived his life fully until the last moment.



Regrettably, an interview with Fr. D'Auby that would have given us deeper insights into the incredible life that spanned his time from conversion to Catholicism as a teenager, to military chaplain, and his parish and campus ministries from Massachusetts to Hawaii was deferred from its original date, and he passed away before the interview could take place.

A reminder that, as the principal of my children's school would always say, "God does not promise us tomorrow, and we should not

put off to tomorrow what can be done today."

*Don't put off the hugs you can share with the elders in your life.*



## MOTHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Happy Spring! We hope that you are enjoying the intermittent bursts of sunshine as much as we are. It is wonderful to see our Residents strolling our grounds and welcoming the warmth after such a severe rainy season. Despite losing many trees on our property, we are happy to see a few beautiful blooms in recognition of Spring.

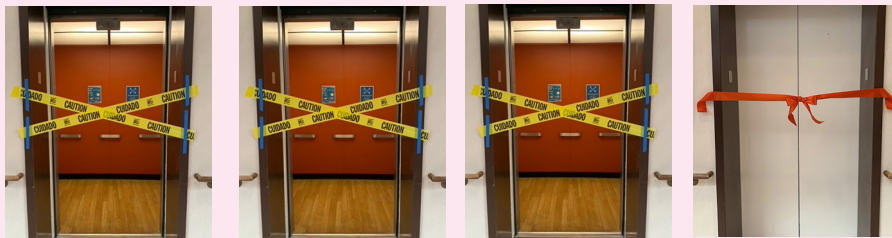
We are filled with gratitude for the new life represented by Spring just as we are for your dedication to our Home and for helping us in so many ways. We once again held an Easter Food Drive and your generosity was humbling. We were able to treat our Residents to a lovely Easter Supper and beyond, thanks to your kindness. Our wonderful Auxiliary has been hard at work treating our Residents to bingo and mid-afternoon soirees, as well planning a few events for later this year. Our Residents have certainly welcomed them with open arms.

As you know, our needs to provide the best possible care for our Residents are ongoing, but we now face a huge undertaking – the repair and modernization of our elevators. We are off to a good start, but we are not underestimating the challenge. We are praying to St. Joseph to guide and help us through the process of raising the needed funds. Our deepest thanks to those who have already helped get us started – we couldn't do this without you.

May God bless you,  
*Mother Marguerite*

## RAISE US UP

Elevator Modernization Campaign



### THANK YOU!

You have raised us up to the next level.  
We have enough funds to move ONE elevator from caution tape to red bow!

Through the Raise Us Up Elevator Modernization Campaign, we must raise a total of \$2.5 million. Our path is steep, but your support has raised us up to keep us strong in our quest to continue our call for help. We carry on gratefully in the warm glow of your generosity with faith in the partnerships that have enabled us to provide loving care to the elderly in need at St. Anne's Home since 1901.

Our elevators are 40 years old and in urgent need of repair and modernization to continue providing our Home with the required indispensable service. All four elevators are at the end of their serviceable lifespan. Planning and critical repairs have begun. With confidence in Divine Providence that the needed funds will have been raised, the full scope of the project is expected to start in early 2024.

#### OTHER WAYS OF HELPING INCLUDE:

- **Stock Transfers** – Please contact the St. Anne's Development Office for further information.
- **Matching Gifts and Workplace Giving** – Find out if your company has a matching gift program.
- **Vehicle Donations** – Cars, boats, RV's and other vehicles, running or not are accepted. Please visit our website for more information or call 844-422-4483 to donate a vehicle.

Thank you for helping us, for spreading the word of our need, and for your continued support to **RAISE US UP** and help keep us and our elevators running.

## Carriage House Sale Donation Information

We are once again accepting donations!

Donations are accepted on Tuesdays between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Donation Guidelines: We accept high quality new and gently used (clean) merchandise

Men's and women's coats, sweaters, jackets, shirts/blouses, pants skirts, dresses

Couture and Ready-to-Wear designer clothing, fur coats and vests

Leather goods including purses, belts, wallets, gently worn shoes, accessories

Fine, costume and vintage jewelry

Collective vintage items for the 50's, 60's, 70's and 80's

Vintage denim and kimonos

Art and China, vintage glassware, NEW kitchen and household items

WE DO NOT ACCEPT: Bedding, bric-a-brac, books, undergarments, soiled goods, furniture, electronics, DVDs, VHS tapes, CDs or broken items