

SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Family of Friends

AUGUST 2012

*To seek out
and
advocate
for the poor
and needy,
especially
families,*



*for the
Kingdom
of God.*



**A Ginkgo in Autumn...
One of the Glorious Trees in Our Care**

President's Message

August 2012



Dear Friends,

In past issues, the *"Family of Friends"* has focused on a variety of Sisters and their ministries in California and elsewhere, as well as special activities in which we are engaged. In this issue we want to focus on our presence in the Oakland Diocese, especially at the Motherhouse in Mission San Jose. The Sisters actually bought the "Palmdale" property in 1948 and took up residence in 1949 when the territory was officially under the Archdiocese of San Francisco. When boundary lines were drawn for the "new" Oakland Diocese in 1962, our Motherhouse Sisters were already here ministering to the people in neighboring parishes.

We hope you will enjoy the chronicle provided by our archivist, Sister Michaela O'Connor, SHF, which articulates our varied presence in the Oakland Diocese. You will also meet some of our Sisters who, although "retired" from full-time ministry, are very active at the Motherhouse and the civic community.

Life at our Motherhouse is multi-dimensional. It is the administrative headquarters for our religious community, a place out of which our active and retired Sisters minister, the home to Sisters who need care, and a place of worship. The Motherhouse is nestled in an ecological environment, which gives praise to the restorative aspects of God's creation. Reminiscent of the St. Francis of Assisi famous "Brother Sun, Sister Moon" creation-oriented poem, we will be enriching our regular liturgical prayer with quarterly "Spirituality of the Seasons Celebrations." They will be open to the public. The schedule is as follows:

January 26, 2013 – Winter: Celebrate Life – Giving Water

April 20, 2013 – Spring: Celebrate the Beauty of the Earth

June 22, 2013 – Summer: Celebrate the Amazing Diversity of Life

October 19, 2013 – Fall: Celebrate the Sun and the Moon and the Stars

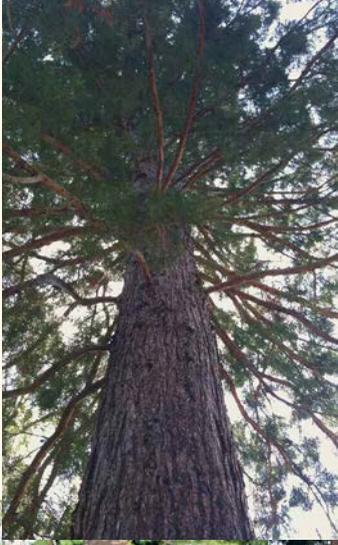
We have enjoyed the rhythm of our summer activities and pray that your summer has also been restorative. We look forward to sharing with you in the fall.

Sincerely in the Holy Family,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sr. Gladys Guenther". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sister M. Gladys Guenther, SHF
Congregational President

T R E E S



“Perhaps you have noticed that even in the very lightest breeze you can hear the voice of the cottonwood tree; this we understand is its prayer to the Great Spirit, for not only men but all things and all beings pray to Him continually in differing ways.” Black Elk



THE LONGEST RESIDENTS OF THE MOTHERHOUSE PROPERTY are not the Sisters, but the trees. They are our old and dear friends, and co-dwellers on our land. Our Monterey Cypress, although not indigenous to this area, is estimated to be more than 300 years old and was probably planted by the Franciscan Missionaries.

The trees help form the character of our land. Our trees are good for the environment. They help reduce carbon monoxide and bring us clean air and shade. According to U.S. Forest Service research, through photosynthesis the average tree in a residential neighborhood will annually clean about 330 pounds of carbon dioxide from the air, as well as provide enough oxygen for a family of four. We have more than 470 trees providing oxygen for 1,880 individuals!

Our trees are also home to an amazing array of tenants: birds, insects, squirrels, and even wild turkeys, to name just a few. Trees reduce flooding by helping to reduce runoff. Did you know that studies have shown that five minutes of looking at a tree reduces your blood pressure and muscle tension? They bring peace, nourishment and safety. Trees improve the quality of life for our Sisters, families and friends, and our guests and neighbors, by creating a peaceful and relaxing healthy space reducing traffic noises.

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TREES

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Consistent with all of nature, our trees do not have an infinite lifespan. They, too, age, get sick and die. Because of safety concerns we periodically prune and maintain our trees. After last winter when some trees fell, the Sisters consulted an arborist to help determine the number of dead trees in our forest. We were astonished to learn that 41 of our 470 trees were dead, and in need of removal.

Two grand old dames, the Bay Laurel and the California Sycamore, were at the top of this list. Our beautiful and ancient Bay Laurel suffered and fought through a long, hard life because it was planted in a poor place for its nature (a wet area for a dry-loving tree) and was completely rotten and decayed on the inside and

could have failed at any time. A California Sycamore looks like a thriving tree and has a full lush canopy; yet inside is a cavity that extends over 10 feet diagonally through the trunk of the tree and below ground. The Bay Laurel has been removed (see pictures) and the California Sycamore is scheduled to be removed. All the trees scheduled for removal are in a similar condition and must be done to keep our Sisters, their families and friends and all our guests safe.

Consistent with the regulations of the City of Fremont, we filed our arborist's tree removal recommendations, and received a permit to remove 41 dead trees in two phases over the next two calendar years. The City also advised us that we replace 20 trees of significant stature; e.g., 24" box size or larger, over the same course of time.

In keeping with our dedication to the earth and our recognition that we are connected to the web of life, we will be replacing the trees. In addition to preserving the historical beauty of our property, we are motivated to maintain our park-like setting as we become aware of the climate change problem. While its effects are still unknown, potentially many life forms and species on our planet are threatened. The importance of planting trees is high priority.

We will seek locations where the trees will not be competing for the same canopy. We will consider the water resources of the property, and choose trees that will also be appropriate for the space available. Considerations will be made for proximity to our historic buildings and aesthetics.



Removal of trees on the Motherhouse property has begun.



TREES

WE ARE ASKING FOR HELP

We have begun contracting for the removal, purchasing, and planting of the trees. The total estimated cost is \$65,000.

We are asking our friends, families and benefactors to help us defray some of this cost. A donation of \$400 could go towards the expense of replacing one tree. A donation of \$40 will help with the cost for the removal of trees.

Few of us will be remembered, beyond our families and communities, years after we are gone. We invite you to join us to maintain something that future generations can cherish. By planting a tree, anyone can make an enduring mark. We ask for your support in sustaining the integrity of our land for our tree restoration project by making a donation within your budget. We would be very grateful.

The Sisters of the Holy Family in the Oakland Diocese

HISTORICALLY

In May of 1911 the then Archbishop Patrick William Riordan of the Archdiocese of San Francisco sent two Sisters of the Holy Family into the city of Oakland. The Sisters were instructed to find a suitable place for establishing their work “in the East Bay.” This religious community, founded in 1872 in San Francisco, had expanded from that city to San Jose in 1907, and now the Archbishop was hoping that the Sisters and their work would take root in Alameda County.

The Archdiocese, through the sacrifices and energy of many religious communities of men and women, had established fine schools, colleges, hospitals, orphanages and charitable works throughout the enormous region encompassing what are now the Dioceses of Stockton, San Jose, Oakland and Santa Rosa, as well as the three counties of the present Archdiocese. The work of the Holy Family Sisters was not present in any of the well-known institutions. Their specialty was the work of catechesis by reaching the families of public school children through catechism, home visiting and catechetical teacher training, as well as conducting day care for the pre-school children of poor and working families, and the care for school age children after school hours while their parents or guardians were at work.



Bishop Begin Pro Ecclesia (Pro Ecclesia medal 1964, left to right):

- Mother Mary Dominic, Prioress General, Dominicans;
- Bishop Floyd Begin;
- Sr. Perpetua McCarthy, Superior General, Sisters of the Holy Family;
- Brother Timothy Jerome, Provincial, Christian Brothers)

The Sisters, after a number of visits to the Oakland area, eventually found the perfect site – a 14 room Victorian home on the corner of 8th and Chestnut Streets. Purchased, renovated and dedicated on October 2, 1911, the new Holy Family Convent and Saint Vincent’s Day Home (named by Archbishop Riordan) opened under the same roof.

It was from this site that the work of the Sisters began in Alameda County. This remained the Community’s very busy home and Day Home until 1922 when the Sisters purchased a large house in Piedmont for the use of the Sisters. The 8th and Chestnut property became entirely the Day Home affording much greater space and expanded services for many more children.

The Sisters’ catechetical work began immediately. The first parishes were St. Louis Bertrand, St. Bernard and St. Joseph. The Sisters drove their cars to the more distant areas and organized classes after school or on weekend days for public school children, taught classes, prepared youngsters for the sacraments, invited and trained lay people to teach, visited homes, took children on

picnics, gave parties and prizes for their parish charges, worked very hard, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In the summers the Sisters conducted “vacation schools” in the areas where there was not systematic catechesis offered during the year. St. Mary’s in Walnut Creek was the 1929 site of the first Vacation School established by the Sisters in what is now the Oakland Diocese.

In February of 1915 the Sisters traveled to East Oakland where the Salesian Fathers had opened a Mission Chapel. On the first day the Sisters offered catechetical classes, 160 children appeared. At the same time classes were begun in St. Ambrose in west Berkeley. The work continued to grow until the 12 Sisters stationed in Oakland and their lay associates were conducting catechetical ministry in nearly every area parish where there was no Catholic school. The Sisters expanded into Contra Costa County to St. Paul’s in San Pablo and to St. Mark’s in Richmond. In 1933 the Sisters opened a convent in Martinez to care for the parishes in the northern parts of Contra Costa County.

In 1948 the Sisters, looking for a place where a new Novitiate might be established in a peaceful atmosphere beyond bustling San Francisco, purchased a small estate in Mission San Jose - now Fremont, California. The truly majestic grounds had once been the working gardens of Mission San Jose de Guadalupe. The Bests and the Starrs who owned the site had built two beautiful Tudor style country homes on the property. After the purchase of this property, one home became the house of the professed Sisters working in the area, and the second one became the Novitiate. At this place, future Sisters were trained, and areas in Southern Alameda County were serviced, enabling the house in San Jose to relinquish some of its distant parish work and take up the ministry in other areas in Santa Clara County. This, of course, happened when all was still the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

In 1958 a larger mission style building was erected on the property in Mission San Jose. This became the Motherhouse of the Sisters of the Holy Family, the working offices of the Order’s administration, the Novitiate and a site for Sisters doing local ministry. In 1962 the Sisters built a new convent at Pleasant Hill, which replaced the Martinez location. Also, without moving an inch, the Motherhouse and the Holy Family convents of the East Bay became part of the newly formed Diocese of Oakland with Bishop Floyd Begin as its first bishop.

Among the offices created in the new Diocese was the Office of Catechetical Ministries, known as the CCD in those days. Almost immediately the dynamic and creative director of the office, Father Michael J. Lucid, wrote to the Superior General of the Sisters of the Holy Family: “I would... like to discuss with you the possibility of having one Holy Family Sister responsible to the CCD Office for training courses and workshops for adults throughout the Diocese. I feel to a large extent this would



Sister Dolores Molina doing teacher training in the early 1960s.

Sisters in the Oakland Diocese

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Sister Adrienne
Andreani at Saint
Vincent's Day
Home, 1986

solve some of the problems of asking Sisters already heavily engaged in catechetical work in the parishes to devote extra time to the preparation and instruction involved in teacher training courses."

Sister Esther Bazzano was the first Holy Family Sister to serve the Diocese of Oakland as Catechetical Supervisor. She was followed, through subsequent years, by Sisters who were responsible for the training of lay and religious catechists in the Diocese. The Sisters were involved in many other aspects of the CCD Office, such as parent, pre-school and adult religious education. The Sisters also served the Diocese in catechetical leadership under the Office Directorship of Father Paul Schmidt, as well as filling the position of Director of the

Diocesan Office after Father Lucid and Father Schmidt moved on to devote their services to other diocesan needs and take up duties as the pastors of busy parishes.

Today, the SPRED program, introduced through and conducted by Sister Aurora Perez, SHF for the developmentally disabled, is another ministry which the Sisters initially undertook long ago and of which Sister Aurora is the present and outstanding representative.

Other Holy Family Sisters presently work in the Oakland Diocese with great dedication and enthusiasm, being aware that they are planting seeds that will be harvested long after their personal ministries are completed. Read about their varied ministries on the next page.



Sister Aurora Perez, Director
of SPRED program for
exceptional children, 1997

SISTERS' CURRENT MINISTRIES IN OAKLAND DIOCESE

THEY SERVE FAMILIES. At St. Lawrence O'Toole-St. Cyril of Jerusalem Church in Oakland, Sister Sharon Flannigan, Director of Religious Education, and Sister Mario Raffaelli, Minister to the Sick and Homebound, continue to serve families in catechetical ministry and pastoral care to frail parishioners. Sister Ann Maureen Murphy volunteers with the staff at Saint Vincent's Day Home, which is celebrating 100 years of service in Oakland this year. Sister and the Day Home are still doing extensive work with families of pre-school children on the same corner and in the same building as dedicated in 1911.

THEY SERVE THE POOR. Sister Elaine Marie Sanchez, after completing her term as a Board member of Catholic Charities East Bay and as Social Worker at St. Martin de Porres School, in Oakland, made a transition into a ministry that recognizes poverty as one of the root causes of Human Trafficking. Sister Elaine is part of Cross Bay Collaborative, a program that received a Federal Grant, which includes Service Providers, Law Enforcement (Alameda County District Attorney) and Sisters of the Holy Family. Sister's role is to do outreach to faith-based communities and service groups in the Bay Area by providing awareness and education around the issue of Human Trafficking.

THEY SERVE THE IMMIGRANTS. Sister Michaela O'Connor works with Reverend Don MacKinnon, a Redemptorist, in ministering to the Kmhmu people of Laos, a large number of whom live in the Richmond, El Cerrito and San Pablo areas. Integrating the new Catholic Kmhmu into the more urban experience of U.S. Catholics in California, and the wider group into the mainstream of the American experience, is a complicated but satisfying ministry.

THEY WORK WITH JUSTICE ISSUES. Sister Caritas Foster has educated herself and has been sponsored by the Community in learning about the complex issue of Human Trafficking. Sister gives practical workshops on the subject and collaborates with many organizations, civic workers and inter-denominational groups.

THEY SERVE THOSE SEARCHING FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT. Sister Marietta Fahey offers spiritual direction and works in PRH, Personality and Human Relationships, and one-on-one personal growth assistance. Sister conducts her sessions in various locations in the Diocese including Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek and Fremont.

THEY WORK WITH PERSONS MARGINALIZED BY CIRCUMSTANCES. Sister Ann Marie Gelles, who is blind, is an instructor at the School for the Blind in Fremont. She teaches Braille and works with families to help them cope with their child's blindness and assists them to realize that the blind, with some necessary adjustments, can live a full and rich life.

Beginning our second century of service in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, the Sisters of the Holy Family look forward to what awaits them in the Diocese of Oakland.

In Recognition

**As the Oakland Diocese celebrates their 50th Anniversary,
we honor the following living Sisters of the Holy Family
who served in the Diocese during the last 50 years.**

Adrienne Andreani	Geraldine Garbarino	Michaela O'Connor
Jo Marie Arredondo	Kathleen Ann Garcia	Aurora Perez
Marian Arroyo	Ann Marie Gelles	Angela Persano
Carmen Baca	Gladys Guenther	Carole Pesce
Suzanne Bart	Margaret Hakeem	Mario Raffaelli
Josepha Baumann	Alana Hartman	Andrea Rangel
Carol Bettencourt	Lucille Hintze	Carol Reichert
Mercedes Braga	Mary Helen Jathas	Eleanor Rizzi
Cabrini Catania	Mary Lange	Georgette Roeder
Joanna Connolly	Mary Noel Lehmann	Laetitia Rossi
Carol Crater	Joan Litch	Elaine Marie Sanchez
Jeanne Creager	Kathleen Littrell	Anne Schaeffer
Timothy Cronin	Joanne Logan	Dorothy Schmedinghoff
Assumption Cueva	Concetta Lombardo	Barbara Sheahan
Judeana Davidson	Diane Maguire	Sandra Ann Silva
Marie Deering	Loretta Marie Marbach	Marianne Smith
Ancila DeLaO	Therese Martinez	Marie Stafford
Joan Marie Derry	Jane Mast	Karen Stern
Marietta Fahey	Sharon Mello	Teresa Marie Stiegler
Mary Ruth Faisca	Martin Moran	Paulina Villa
Jacinta Fiebig	Camilla Morris	Marjorie Wakelin
Sharon Flannigan	Kathryn Morrow	Diana White
Caritas Foster	Ann Maureen Murphy	Carolyn Whited
Dolores Freitas	Victor Negrete	Patricia Wittman
	Charleen O'Brien	

CONTINUING OUR MISSION BEGUN IN 1872 ...

*"To seek out and advocate for the poor and needy,
especially families, for the Kingdom of God."*

Inside the Motherhouse Walls

by Sister Gladys Guenther, President, Sisters of the Holy Family

MANY TIMES VISITORS TELL US THAT WE LIVE IN A VERY TRANQUIL SETTING, AND WE DO! However, there is much that goes on inside the Motherhouse walls that needs Sisters with special hospitality gifts.



Sister Ruth Faisca is the Community Life Director and she and **Sister Laetitia Rossi** coordinate the needs of visitors and friends in our home. Their talents range from juggling schedules, bedroom assignments, providing support materials, coordinating receptionists, greeting workmen, and keeping open the lines of communication between the Sisters and Staff. Many times they offer a ministry of listening and accompaniment.

Seeking out is one of the hallmarks of our Community. In the past, most of the Sisters left the Motherhouse early each day and returned in the evening. Over the years we have also developed a ministry within the walls. Here is a small sampling of how our building supports apostolic activities for the religious and civic community.

SPIRITUALITY HUB: We are fortunate to have a chaplain who offers daily Mass in our chapel, which is open to the public. Father John is from Nigeria and is studying at the University of Santa Clara. Our grounds, chapel and auditorium are often used for RCIA, and weeklong Hispanic leadership training retreats, as well as seasonal days of reflection. Our fireside room is a favorite gathering spot for small groups such as Pax Christi, St. Joseph Parish Scripture evenings, an exercise class, yoga, and anti-trafficking speakers. And several of our Sisters are dedicated to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament responding to the many prayer requests we receive.

HEALTHCARE: Our campus is home to On Lok Lifeways, a PACE program for eligible seniors which includes the Sisters of the Holy Family, the Dominican Sisters and lay people in the surrounding area. In our “early days” we operated day homes for children. This ministry to the elderly, which includes an adult day care

component, seems to be an appropriate extension of our ministry to families. We co-sponsored a Memorial Day BBQ with On Lok and BAC’s participants to commemorate Older Americans Month, the theme for this year being: “You’re Never too Old to Play.” We have also been grateful to host a “falls” prevention program sponsored by Life Eldercare Services, and the Arthritis Foundation’s “Walk with Ease” program.

ENGAGEMENT WITH OROYSOM AND AVELINA HOUSING:

For several years we have participated in National Night Out – an annual event designed to strengthen our communities by encouraging neighborhoods to engage in stronger relationships with each other and with their local law enforcement partners. Over the years we have had Fremont Police and Firefighters drop by for presentations, learned about “going green” and watched our neighborhood children grow up. The event has enriched the Sisters’ lives and exposed us to the multi-ethnic families who



adjoin our property. We hope our conversation, food and games enrich the lives of the attendees; always a certain hit is Sister Ann Gelles and her guide dog Noelani.

SPACE FOR MINISTRIES: Many anti-human trafficking activities take place on our Motherhouse Property, from office space for Sister Elaine Marie Sanchez and Sister Caritas Foster to our annual Labor Day Walk-a-thon which supports anti-trafficking measures. Also housed on the property are the extensive archives of the Sisters of the Holy Family rich in California history dating from 1872 to the present. The archives are of interest to students of California history, individuals researching family genealogy, and parishes who are celebrating significant anniversaries. Sister Michaela O’Connor supervises the archival activities. Sister is an enthusiastic storyteller and speaker and often receives requests for interviews on historical topics. Recently she appeared on the television program, Bay Area Focus, sharing information about “Women and Spirit, the California Story.” Sister Michaela is assisted by Sisters Loretta Marie Marbach, Victor Negrete, Marian Arroyo and Jacinta Fiebig.

SISTERS AT THE MOTHERHOUSE

Ministries in Retirement



Sister Alana Hartman

Each day when we pray the Office we use the Psalms to praise and petition God. An original Greek translation of Psalm was "music of the lyre" or "songs sung to a harp" and then began to be applied to "make music in any fashion."

Sister Alana experiences firsthand the extended nature of the psalms as she teaches beginning children and adults to play piano, violin, guitar, flute, clarinet and a variety of musical instruments. Having received a BA in Instrumental Music from Holy Names College and attended numerous Flute Workshops, she had a calendar full of students for many years. Currently, Sister has a more limited schedule but includes music education in her itinerary three days a week. Her ministry continues to give praise to the Lord.



Sister Joanna Connolly

Back in 1934 Sister Joanna entered the Sisters of the Holy Family to engage in much activity for others. Rising at 4:45 a.m., she hurried to the chapel to begin a day of nonstop services and activities - to Sisters, children, and families -

peppered with common prayers. Now in 2012 she rises at 7:00 a.m. to be cared for by her kind and helpful "nurses" who are always at her call - no children, no families, only Sisters and employees who serve her. Life has taken a full turn.

Now she ponders how she can be of service. As she turns on her TV, she hears the cry of children and families outside her window, as well as thousands of miles away. She often took food and clothing to the children and families of the 1930s. Now she is able to send the fruit of her prayers and sacrifices to alleviate the sufferings of another generation. By her continued readings and

studying, she has more to share — most of these ministries may be a smile here, an understanding ear there, a word of thanks and encouragement, a cheerful presence, a sharing in prayer. It's all so different but whether it's in the restriction of physical diminishment today or the constant activity of those long ago days she is grateful to the Eternal Compassionate Source of all beings who wraps her in Love in this Eternal Now.



Sister Marie Julie Casattas

Sister Marie Julie has been at Mission San Jose for one year and she is happy to be back in California. Las Vegas was her home for 19 years. Sister was very much involved with Variety Day Home, which is now known as Variety

Early Learning Center. Since coming to the Motherhouse, Sister Marie Julie has begun volunteering in San Jose one day a week with the Ladies of Charity, St. Elizabeth's Day Home and also our Santa Clara County Holy Family Guild members. Her newest volunteer job is at Saint Vincent's Day Home in Oakland where she is helping two days a week in the classroom with the four year old children.



Sister Geraldine Garbarino

Sister Geraldine's ministry is now at the Ardenwood Historic Farm of the East Bay Regional Park District. Sister began gardening at Ardenwood in 1998. No longer does she do gardening, but she does keep in contact with the

volunteers and staff by socializing and attending the events held at Ardenwood. She also checks out her plants and annuals, and the sheep and goats. A monthly potluck lunch is held at the Farm where she enjoys the food and her friends. It is a rewarding experience for Sister Geraldine.



Sister Lucille Hintze

Sister Lucille does home visiting, not by hopping into a car and driving to someone's home, but by the use of technology. She writes, telephones, and sends e-mails to about 124 names on her ministry list so she sends over a thousand caring cards, such as birthday cards, get-well cards and fun cards every year. E-mail makes it possible to go anywhere in the world and talk immediately – Spain, Guatemala, Namibia, to name a few. Sister says we all need to listen at times and that is her ministry - to listen, to reaffirm, to sympathize, to comfort, to love, and to confirm God's love for each and every one of us. Friendship can exist over the Internet and in letters – and it does! She does other things as well – pray!



Sister Diane Maguire

Sister Diane has devoted her life asking God to bless the work of her hands that she may labor so that every person has enabling work and a decent living. Moving to the Motherhouse last year, after many years of ministering in Las Vegas, primarily in Day Homes, opened

many new avenues of opportunity for Sister Diane to serve the people of God. The Motherhouse Guild is one of her main responsibilities, allowing her to work with the Bingo/Luncheons, the Guild Prayer Days, and beginning in September the Motherhouse Guild Rosary Makers.

Sister Diane is involved in the "Awakening the Dreamer" program which focuses on creation of an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, and socially just and human presence on this planet. Sister also tutors students at Abode Services homeless shelter and helps the Tri-City Free Breakfast Program. She participates in the Engaging Spirituality program, and the Fremont Interfaith Women of Peace which brings together women of many faiths for prayer meetings and social events.



Sister Charleen O'Brien

Sister Charleen has participated in many ministries during her years as a Sister of the Holy Family. She started out in the Day Homes, and has served in parishes in catechetical ministry. Currently Sister represents our Community

on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Ministry Project (LAMP). South Central LAMP's mission is to provide a supportive, nurturing environment for economically poor women and their families. They do this by offering educational programs that empower women and their families to reach full potential, build self-esteem, and strengthen mutual interdependent relations. Having lived in Los Angeles for many years, Sister Charleen is pleased to be of service in Southern California.

In addition, Sister has enjoyed being able to assist our senior Sisters in our Holy Family Care Center by praying with them, playing with them, and laughing and crying with them. Sister also learns from them - their wisdom, and the many years they have served each other and the people of God. Sister enjoys being able to create an atmosphere of sharing at the table by having a setup for fine dining where the Sisters will feel comfortable while eating. She is available to any of the Sisters in the Motherhouse to take them shopping, to the park, to the movies, and any other fun adventure. To quote Sister Charleen, "What a joyful ministry I have!"



Sister Eleanor Rizzi

After many years of working with children and adults in Religious Education, Sister Eleanor became a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in 1984. In this capacity she was a counselor with the Santa Clara Unified School District until her retirement about two years ago.

Now that she is retired, her ministry continues by volunteering her services counseling homeless children at Abode Services in Fremont.



Sister Stephen Smario

Sister Stephen served the Church for 40 years in Religious Education for children and adults, which included home and hospital visits. The next 15 years she ministered to the sick at O'Connor Hospital in San Jose and also to the hospital

employees. Now that she is retired from these ministries, she serves as Community Sacristan for our Sisters and friends. Sister has found great joy in serving God's people by appointing the altar for memorial services for our benefactors, welcoming the celebrant for the day, who is currently a Nigerian priest studying at Santa Clara University, and attending to the needs of retreat groups who use the chapel.

DON'T MISS THIS EXHIBIT!

WOMEN & spirit

CATHOLIC SISTERS IN AMERICA
The California Story



After a very successful four-month run, the national exhibit of *Women & Spirit* at the California Museum in Sacramento ended in early June, but the California portion of the exhibit is still on display, and definitely worth taking a drive to Sacramento to see.

Where: The California Museum

1020 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

When: Tues-Sat 10:00am - 5:00pm. Sundays noon - 5:00pm.
Through September 30, 2012.

More Info: CaliforniaMuseum.org

Where Can You Find Unusual & Interesting Items for Sale . . . Have Fun . . . And Help Support Sisters of the Holy Family? At Our Annual On-Line Auction

The Sisters invite you to participate in our 2012 Mission Campaign. We expect this to be our most successful fundraiser to date and we need your support. From October 10-24, the Sisters of the Holy Family will be offering an On-line Auction to raise funds for the Mission Fund, which assists the works of the Sisters in ministries which support children and their families in times of great need. **YOU CAN HELP!**

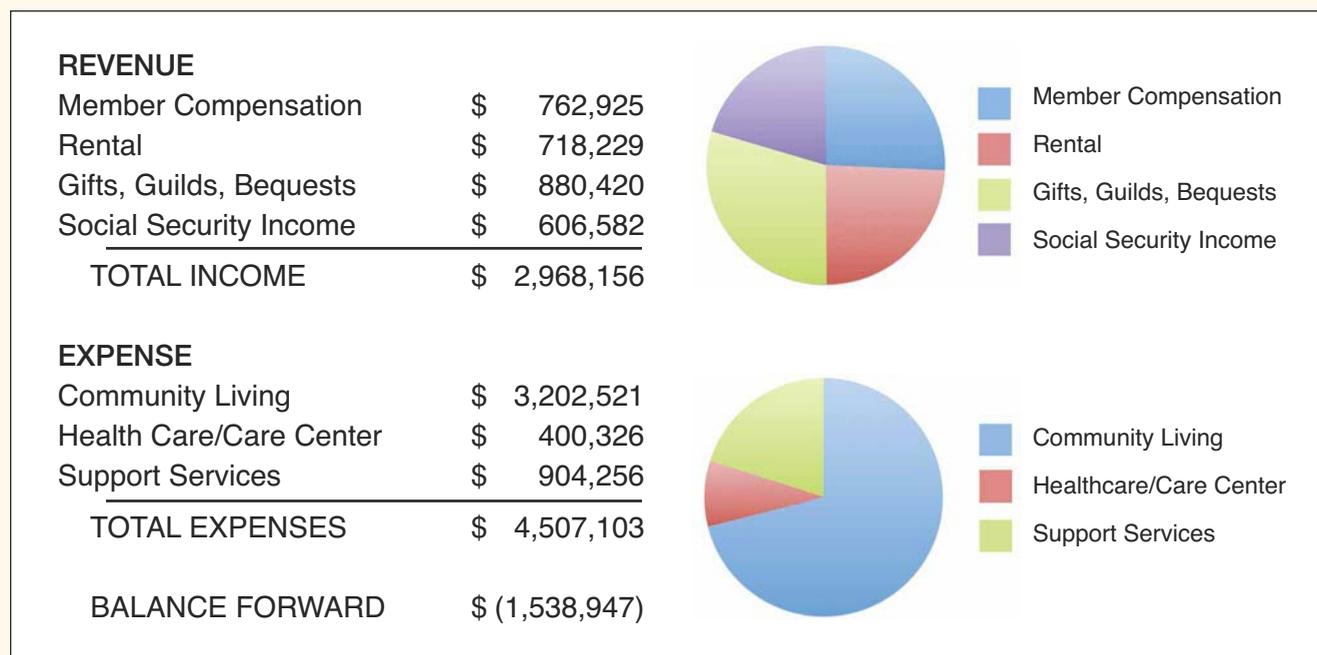
There are several ways you can participate

- Make a one-time donation.
- Make a small monthly contribution spreading out your commitment over the course of a year.
- Bid on items in our On-line Auction. Bid often. Bid last, so you can win!

See the auction link on the Sisters' Website
www.holyfamysisters.org

SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY FINANCIAL REPORT

Current Fund Revenue and Expenses as of September 30, 2011



Note: In addition to the expenses above, SHF contributed \$1,733,871 in 2010-2011 to ministries and other needs consistent with our mission.

Revenue does not include realized/unrealized capital gains/losses in our investment portfolio. An independent audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2011 is on file in our Finance Office.

OUR WARMEST AND DEEP FELT GRATITUDE FOR THESE BEQUESTS AND GRANTS

Received October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011

BEQUESTS

Estate of Marjorie C. Crater
Estate of Paul E. Duarte
Estate of Patricia M. Kelly
Estate of Mary D. Orsetti

GRANTS

Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation
Robert S. and Helen P. Odell Fund
Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation

Family of Friends

Published by Sisters of the Holy Family
of Fremont, California to inform our friends of
the activities of the Congregation
and to thank our generous donors.

SHF President

Sister Gladys Guenther

SHF Vice President

Sister Judeana Davidson

SHF Congregational Councilors

Sister Marietta Fahey

Sister Mary Lange

Sister Carolyn Whited

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printed on recycled stock using environmentally-friendly inks.**

Visit our website: holyfamilysisters.org



*A few of the over 400 trees that
grace the Motherhouse property.
We are blessed to be stewards of
these magnificent life forces.
Will you join us in caring for them?*

