

# *Our Lady of Fatima Villa*

## The Gazette — Holiday Issue

December 2012

*Assisted Living, Short-Term Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing*

*Based on the Dominican Tradition of Compassionate Care*



**It's the time of year when many of us reflect on life and look ahead to the New Year.**

**As we welcome 2013, all of us at Our Lady of Fatima Villa can be very proud of over 60 years of extraordinary growth and accomplishment.**



**We are reminded how critically important the core principles of our Mission statement are to our success. We are devoted to the health of our community and we serve individuals and their families with innovative, compassionate care grounded in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.**

**These values established by our Dominican Sisters have set Our Lady of Fatima Villa apart and today remain the foundation of our five-star rating.**

**Personally I feel very blessed. I am fortunate to be a part of this community and to be your Administrator.**

**We conduct our business in a manner we all can be proud of. These practices have become an integral part of the Our Lady of Fatima Villa brand promise. It is not only the right thing to do; it is the smart thing to do. We have been rewarded with a five-star rating by State and Federal surveyors. It distinguishes us from our competitors. Our values of honesty, integrity, teamwork, community involvement, empathy, personal growth, responsiveness, quality, and communication set us apart. I am proud to be surrounded by so many good people.**

**Our employees have a combined total of hundreds of years of knowledge and experience in senior health care. This knowledge and experience combined with our values and commitment is truly what allows us to serve our residents exceptionally well and continue to improve and prosper.**

**My New Year message to all of you: *Renew your faith, Love your family, rise above simple disagreements, cherish your time and your life.***

**In closing I want to welcome the Sisters of the Holy Names. We are happy to have you join us. May you all have a Happy and Healthy New Year!**

**Bella Mahoney**

**President and CEO, Our Lady of Fatima Villa**

# Christmas Message



**Fr. Adel Ghali in our  
Pastoral Care  
Department can be  
reached at 408.741.2967.**

**Christmas celebrates the mystery of the Incarnation. In the plan of salvation the virgin birth of Jesus is the sign of the grace filled action of God for us. It is a free gift of God. It is the ultimate gift. Jesus is the gift of the Father's love to us all. No human being can have power over it. *We can only receive it.***

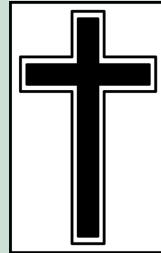
**Each one of us is called to make Christmas real and dynamic; to allow Christ to be born in our own hearts. To imitate a well-known song: "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me", "I welcome Christ the Savior born in Bethlehem! I give Him birth and make Him really live in me! The incarnation, once begun, has never ceased and never will. The humanity Christ claims today is ours. The flesh and blood, the heart and mind He claims as His are our own. We must be Christ incarnate, Christ in the flesh, for every other human being.**

**Christmas also celebrates the mystery of the light that God has sent into the world. "I am the light of the world" says the Lord. We are called to bear the light of Christ everywhere. We are called to proclaim the "Good News" of the coming of Christ everywhere. How great is the need in our modern world for the truth of the Gospel as witnessed to by our words, but more importantly by our works. We are the only Gospel many people will ever read. This is a challenge we have assumed at our baptism. "We who were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:27).**

***May the grace of the Son of God born in Bethlehem come upon you and your families and all those dear to you. May it fill your lives with peace, joy and hope for many years.***

**Father Adel  
Chaplain**

# We Welcome the Sisters of the Holy Names to Our Lady of Fatima Villa



THE VALLEY CATHOLIC

IN OUR COMMUNITY

December 11, 2012

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## Holy Names Sisters plan for future; to relinquish Los Gatos convent

Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary are engaged in long-range planning with a focus on their Los Gatos property, purchased in 1945, and their convent on Prospect Ave. which opened in 1952.

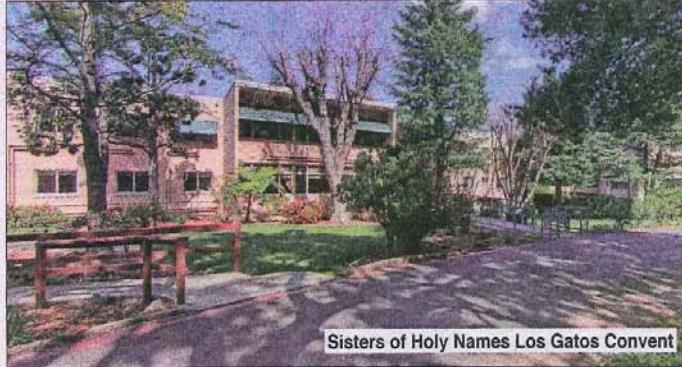
The Los Gatos campus includes 11.8 acres on multiple parcels, 13 buildings including the three-story convent buildings and other facilities which total some 95,000 square feet. There are 10 residences which house Sisters and also are used for retreat guests and administrative offices.

The campus can accommodate more than 120 Sisters; currently 66 Sisters live there, most retired and needing either skilled care or some assistance.

Given the increasing age of the Sisters, changes and advances in health and eldercare, age and condition of the Los Gatos buildings, the Sisters have spent two and a half years looking at future care and housing and evaluating options on the property.

According to Sister Mary Pat LeRoy, SNJM, who has chaired the long-range planning effort, "Because our expertise has been focused on our mission of education, we are looking to others to manage the increasing long-term health care needs and housing of our elder Sisters."

She explained the goal is quality care of the Sisters as well as "continuation of our mission, ministry and service to the community. Our original hope was to remain on the property at Los Gatos and either remodel existing buildings or partner with other organizations to build a full service continuing care retirement community and moderately priced housing for seniors."



Sisters of Holy Names Los Gatos Convent

She said that after "analysis of opportunities and constraints," those plans were not feasible. So, beginning in 2013, Sisters will be transitioning to two retirement communities for skilled care and assisted living – Our Lady of Fatima Villa (Dominican-sponsored) in Saratoga and Merrill Gardens in Campbell.

Sister Mary Pat said, "In each of the new locations we will ensure pastoral and community support from Holy Names Sisters. We will continue to operate the Convent and Villa Holy Names Retreat. We will also continue our relationship with St. Mary Parish and the Los Gatos community through our

ministry, mission and pastoral work."

She added, "We plan to work with the Town of Los Gatos and our neighbors over the next couple of years on the transition of the Convent property as well. Because of the residential character of the neighborhood, we are planning to return the property to its traditional lotting pattern, consistent with the surrounding neighborhood, existing zoning, and the town's general plan."

Sisters of the Holy Names came to California in 1868 when they established their first convent and school on the shores of Lake Merritt in Oakland. By 1890, they were established throughout California. They operate Holy Names High School and College of the Holy Names in Oakland.

In downtown Los Gatos, they helped found St. Mary School in 1954 and for nearly 30 years they also sponsored Casa Maria Montessori School at the Los Gatos convent.

**We are pleased that the Sisters of the Holy Names will be joining us as residents of Our Lady of Fatima Villa.**

**Wondering who was responsible for our fabulous holiday lights ?**

**Roslan, Conrad and Dave rolled up their sleeves, pulled lights out of boxes and decorated the outside of Our Lady of Fatima Villa. We looked fabulous!**



# ***Our Lady of Fatima Villa Sponsors Popular Carriage Rides as Saratoga Village welcomes the Holidays***

Our Lady of Fatima Villa sponsored the Saratoga Village Christmas Carriage Rides at the annual Saratoga Village Holiday Open House.

We believe in supporting our community, so Our Lady of Fatima Villa sponsored the very popular horse-drawn rides for the third year in a row!

***Here is a thank you message from Debra Cummins, President of the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce:***



With the Village ablaze with holiday lights and decorated with flair, two beautiful carriages ferried Saratoga Annual Holiday event attendees up and down Big Basin Way.

Both carriages were drawn by beautiful horses whose livery sported sleigh bells and polished leather; the carriages themselves featured holiday lights to add an air of fun to the very classic form of the carriages. Drivers and their assistants wore formal attire including top hats.

The carriage rides, always a favorite at the event, were generously sponsored by Our Lady of Fatima Villa, Alain Pinel Realtors and Tiger and Cindy Teerlink. Without this sponsorship, the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce would have had to charge for the carriage rides, as other venues do during the holiday season. Community members look forward to these rides every year.

Thank you Our Lady of Fatima Villa!

Debra Cummins  
President, Saratoga Chamber of Commerce

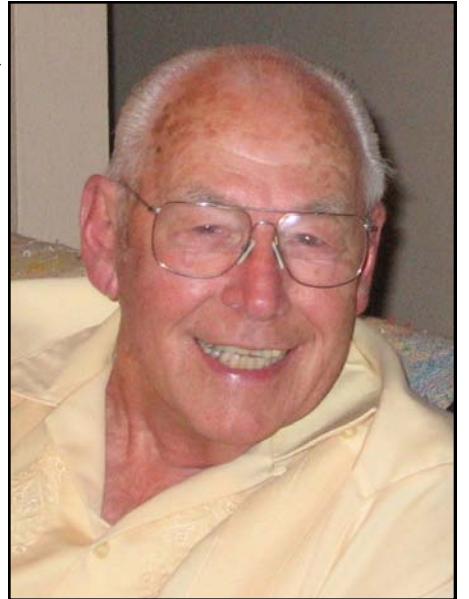
***Thanks to Julie Stavros for sending us  
this photo collage!!***

***Our Staff has a good time preparing holiday dinners!***



## ***Obituary for Martin E. Schibler written by son Jim Schibler –***

**Martin E. Schibler -- A resident of Saratoga, past member of the Board of Directors, Our Lady of Fatima Villa, a great Eucharistic minister, and an active member with HELPS, a non-denominational organization serving the poorest of the poor in Guatemala.**



**The long, full life of our beloved patriarch ended on June 2 after a brief illness. Healthy and active at age 92, Marty was still gardening, serving at Mass, and always helping people in need. Liked by everyone he met, he provided a positive role model for his family and the community at large.**

Marty grew up in Springfield, MO, sixth of ten children. He served in the Coast Guard in the Pacific during WWII, then earned a business degree in transportation at Northwestern University. He worked for Swift and Co. in Cambridge, MA where he met Joan, the love of his life. They wed just a few weeks later. After their 5th child was born, Marty then took a job with Westinghouse in Pittsburgh, PA, and transferred to Sunnyvale, CA in 1958 where he was promoted to supervisor then transportation manager. Marty and Joan enjoyed over 52 years together, weathering the tragic death of daughter Mary in 1966. After Joan was severely disabled by two strokes in 1996, Marty visited her three times daily at the nursing home a few miles away, until her death 5 years later. He continued to deliver homemade bread and Communion to infirmed people in the community. At age 86, he began volunteering for HELPS International serving the people of Guatemala. He cooked for over 100 people on each of 6 medical missions and also went on 3 stove trips (and planned 2 of them), just concluding his 9th trip on a medical mission in April 2012. When he wasn't in Guatemala, he was promoting and fundraising for HELPS. He truly reveled in the joy of being able to do so much good for the less fortunate, and served humbly and selflessly.

Marty is survived by his sister Anna and brother Ken; by his children Matt, Dan, Jeannie, Michael, Joseph, Jim, and Laura; and by his grandchildren Catherine, Marty, David, Jessica, Jeanine, Jonathan, Christina, Jennifer, Darren, Becca, Sarabeth, Ben, and Zoe.

# We Wish You a Grateful Thanksgiving-



Thank you for trusting us  
to provide excellent care for you  
and your loved ones.



In the Dominican Tradition  
RCFE License #435201683

Assisted Living, Rehabilitation, and Skilled Nursing Entrance

Here's to a Great  
We Care for our  
Community!



Assisted Living, Rehabilitation, and Skilled Nursing Entrance

*Did you notice our  
banners wishing  
our neighbors  
happy holidays?*



Wishing you and your family  
**Happy Holidays!**  
We Care for our Community!



Assisted Living, Rehabilitation, and Skilled Nursing Entrance



# **Happy Birthday to our Residents!**

We try to make everyone feel special at Our Lady of Fatima Villa,  
especially on their birthday.

Birthday celebrants this season include the following  
Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing residents.

We wish you the very best during the next year.  
We hope you have a great year!

Residents with birthdays in January, February and March are:

**January**

2 Sr. Patricia  
6 Pauline N.  
16 Geraldine  
"Gerri" L.  
22 Ann S.  
Marian F.  
24 Bessie W.

**February**

8 Patrick M.  
Margaret W.  
14 Fortunata L.  
17 Anna O.  
18 Ana M.  
19 Nellie Y.  
23 Julia P.  
23 Sr. Cor Marie

**March**

4 Nordis W.  
Helen A.  
11 Margret S.  
12 Pearl W.  
13 Leona M.  
13 Gloria O.  
22 Nancy B.  
29 Trudy V.



## **Jack and Norma - 69 years! Happy Anniversary**



### **A wonderful 69th Wedding Celebration for Norma and Jack Kettman**

Congratulations to Jack and Norma Kettman!

On October 24th, they celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary here at Our Lady of Fatima Villa, with a small private celebration with family and staff. Jack is a resident of Our Lady of Fatima Villa.

The first photo above is from their wedding, The second is Jack and Norma with some of our staff (Neil, Bella, Audrey and Troy). The third was taken at their anniversary celebration at Our Lady of Fatima Villa.

The Kettmans love Hawaii. They lived on Maui for over 20 years before returning to the mainland to live. In 1977, they opened Kettmann's Mens' Wear on Santa Clara Street in downtown San Jose. In their many years together, they've especially enjoyed travelling, sailing and golf.

## ***Thanksgiving Mass Kicked Off a Busy Holiday Season at Our Lady of Fatima Villa***

**A traditional Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated on Thanksgiving Thursday here at Our Lady of Fatima Villa. Father Adel and Father Shay conducted the Mass, held in St. Catherine's. It was a wonderful way to remember that we should be grateful for the many blessings God has bestowed on us.**



### ***Robert Van Horne Returned for Another Popular Thanksgiving Musical Feast***

**One of our most popular visiting performers is Pianist Robert Van Horne. He has entertained Our Lady of Fatima Villa residents and families for several Thanksgivings!**



***Our Annual Thanksgiving Lunch  
For Residents and Their Families was a Wonderful Event!***



**It was a traditional Thanksgiving  
Feast complete with Turkey,  
Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy,  
Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans and  
more! Residents and their families  
gathered to celebrate in St. Anne's.**

**Reports are that this was one of the  
best attended holiday events in years!  
One family had 10 members attend!  
We were proud to have all the  
families join us.**



***"A fabulous evening" — "this is delicious" — "wow!"***

***Those are some of the comments overheard at the Annual Board of Directors Recognition Party and Dinner held December 6th to honor Past and Current Board of Directors and Our Lady of Fatima Villa Managers.***



Chef Jose and his crew once again out did themselves much to the delight of the past and current members of Our Lady of Fatima's Board of Directors. It was a wonderful opportunity for Board members to mingle with Managers and significant others. The group left happy and full!





**The annual Board  
Dinner honors those  
who serve and have  
served in the past on  
our Board of Directors.  
We appreciate their  
time and dedication to  
Fatima Villa!**



# ***Christmas Tea was replaced with Christmas Hot Chocolate***



*There were new decorations on the Activity Room Christmas tree, thanks to Christina!*

Our monthly Tea with Bella had a special Christmas flavor this month! Our traditional tea was replaced with festive hot chocolate!

Christina played the piano by popular demand so Christmas songs could be sung. Thanks Christina!

Barbara and Bella had special hats — Barbara Yore made her top hat with the help of her family.



Bella's was a sparkly Mrs. Claus hat!



There was sharing a favorite Christmas memories—here are a few:

Katherine remembered horse-drawn carriage rides at snowy Lake Arrowhead. Flora Cox Pinschmidt remembers the Big Snow of 1976 here in Saratoga and what fun it was to build snowmen! Angel loved decorating Christmas cookies and many loved “A Charlie Brown Christmas”.



Christina revived advent calendar wreath tradition in her family. She said it well, “Christmas is my favorite holiday. It’s more an attitude than a day and it’s a spirit to carry with you through the year.”

**Our annual Tree Decorating Contest is one that is not taken lightly!**

Trees are decorated by the responsible stations and here is a look at this years entries!



The tree in the Main Lobby (above) was decorated by the Office Staff!

The courtyard tree (below) was done by the Activity Staff.



St. Catherine's tree was decorated by Ina and Trung.



Father Adel and Troy decorated St. Dominic's beautiful tree.



St. Joseph's Tree was lovely thanks to Pam and Audrey



The Assisted Living Dining Room Tree was the top winner this year and was done by the Assisted Living Nurses!



The beautiful tree in Assisted Living Activity Room was decorated by Christina and Bella.



St. Rose's tree was the work of Bella and Neil.

St. Anne's beautiful tree was decorated by Tommy and Josie in Skilled Nursing!

## ***Our Lady of Fatima Villa Resident's Christmas Party!***

**The Holiday Season is a busy one at Our Lady of Fatima Villa. We celebrate the season with two weeks of Holiday Movies — some of the favorites being “It’s a Wonderful Life” and “White Christmas”. Girl Scouts and church choirs come to entertain and share the holiday spirit. A favorite is our special Resident’s Party. This year Johnny Fabulous performed once again and Santa made a surprise visit! There was caroling, and a wonderful sharing of family and friends.**



## **Many Community Groups Came to Entertain and Visit Our Lady of Fatima Villa Over the Holidays!**



**Girl Scouts from  
Saratoga  
Elementary  
School sang for  
us.**

**Santa Clara University Mission  
Choir sang beautifully.**



**On the left — Greg  
Gease Church Choir.**

**Ken Sosa on the  
right really lit up our  
night!**



**On the left  
the Lian  
Welch  
Violin Group.**



**Johnny  
Fabulous on  
the right.**



**Santa and Mrs. Claus  
even stopped by!**



**Both above and to the left —  
are the ISL Singing Group made  
up of all volunteers.**

## ***Christmas Outings***



**There is much to see and do around our community. Our Activities Directors make sure that our residents get a chance to see the local holiday decorations and share in events.**

**A popular outing was visiting San Jose's "Christmas in the Park" with lunch at the Fairmont Fountain!**



## ***Vasona Park Festival of Christmas Lights***



**Our Lady of Fatima Villa had two outings so residents could join the thousands who love to see the Los Gatos Festival of Lights at Vasona Park. Cars (and our bus!) can drive through a magical display of dinosaurs, candy canes, toy soldiers—it's an entire park full of Christmas lights. It is guaranteed to put you in the Christmas mood.**

**We are told that Sister Patricia liked the lights at Vasona Park , especially the light tunnels (photo below).**



***Our Lady of Fatima Staff Christmas Party Honors  
Those Who Have Given  
Exceptional Service Over the Years***



***ADON Troy and AL CNA Blanca***



***Troy and SNF RN Marina***



***SNF CNA Mary***



***SNF Charge  
Nurse Son***



***ADON Troy and AL LVN Stella***



***SNF Charge Nurse  
Xiamara and Troy***



***SNF CNA Esther  
and Troy***

## ***Our Lady of Fatima Villa Honors Staff with a Holiday Party***

***Our staff is largely responsible for our recent five-star rating by State and Federal Surveyors. They celebrated a wonderful year at their annual party!***



**You can do a lot to help us**  
**Welcome New Residents!**

**It is important to remember our manners when welcoming new members. You may not realize it, cliques exist in senior communities just like any other. It is important that we remember that new residents are facing:**

- ◆ **Disrupting familiar routines**
- ◆ **Giving up their own home**
- ◆ **Having to make new friends**
- ◆ **Severance of attachments to friends and community**

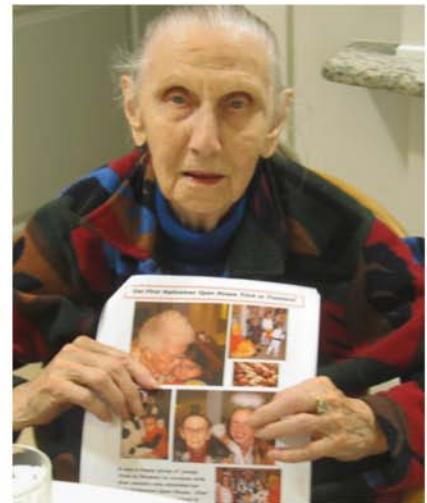
**Little things can make a big difference and make newcomers feel welcome:**

- ◆ **Call them by their name.**
- ◆ **Be kind, answer questions, be considerate, offer reassurance, and be attentive to their needs.**
- ◆ **Reassure them that the facility is their home.**
- ◆ **Introduce them to other residents.**
- ◆ **Escort them to the dining room.**
- ◆ **Place welcome signs on doors.**
- ◆ **Introduce new residents when entering the dining room or make a special seat for them in the dining room.**
- ◆ **Escort new residents around the facility during the first few days.**

**We are all part of a family here at Our Lady of Fatima Villa !**

# ***Thanksgiving Tea with Bella***

**November's Tea with Bella celebrated Thanksgiving and we got a chance to hear what we are thankful for! Barbara Yore wore a custom-made sweatshirt with grandchildren's handprints on the front...and footprints on the back! Jan had a special autumn sweatshirt as well. Angel was thankful for our newsletter! — thanks Angel!**



# **A New Year's Prayer**

Holy Father,

God of our yesterdays, our today, and our tomorrows.

We praise You for Your unequaled greatness.

Thank You for the year behind us and for the year ahead.

Help us in Your new year, Father, to fret less and laugh more.

To teach our children to laugh by laughing with them.

To teach others to love by loving them.

Knowing, when Love came to the stable in Bethlehem, He came for us.

So that Love could be with us, and we could know You.

That we could share Love with others.

Help us, Father, to hear Your love song in every sunrise,  
in the chirping of sparrows in our backyards,  
in the stories of our old folks, and the fantasies of our children.

Help us to stop and listen to Your love songs,  
so that we may know You better and better.

We rejoice in the world You loved into being.

Thank You for another new year and for new chances every day.

We pray for peace, for light, and for hope, that we might spread them to others.

Forgive us for falling short this past year.

We leave the irreparable past in your hands, and step out into the unknown  
new year knowing You will go with us.

We accept Your gift of a new year and we rejoice in what's ahead,  
depending on You to help us do exactly what You want..

I say it again, we rejoice!

In Jesus name,

Amen.



***All of us at Our Lady of  
Fatima Villa wish you  
and your family a happy  
and joyful New Year!***

Your parents wanted  
the best for you...



They made sure you  
always had the best care.



Now it's your turn to make sure  
they have the best health care.

We Care



RCFE license #435201683

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Given a  
prestigious  
5-star rating  
by State  
and Federal  
Surveyors.

Assisted Living • Rehabilitation  
Skilled Nursing • Respite Care  
Short or Long Term Care



OUR LADY OF  
*Fatima*  
Villa

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