

Community of St. Francis Report

The Sisters of the Community of St. Francis live at St. Francis House in the Mission District of San Francisco. The chapel at St. Francis House is the center of their worship life, which includes the Daily Office (Morning Prayer, Noonday Prayer, Evening Prayer and Compline), Eucharist Tuesday through Friday, and times of private prayer and meditation. Guests are welcome to join the Sisters for morning Eucharist (7:45-8:15 am) and breakfast. St. Francis House has a guest apartment available for people looking for a place of retreat and quiet, or in need of accommodations for a time of rest, recreation or education in the San Francisco area. Beginning in 2015 the Sisters will be offering a program called

“Companions in Franciscan Spirituality.” This structured program of 3-4 weeks involves guests living at St. Francis House, studying Franciscan spirituality and living out that spirituality by sharing in our community life, worship and ministry.

The Sisters go out from St. Francis House into the city of San Francisco where they have engaged in many types of ministries over the years, but with special concern for the poor, the marginalized and the sick. Currently the Sisters are involved with ministry at Holy Innocents Church and St. Francis Church in San Francisco, as well as Open Cathedral, the Night Ministry’s outdoor Sunday Eucharist at Civic Center. In addition to congregational involvements, Sr. Pamela Clare serves on the Diocesan Commission on Ministry, the Diocesan Board of Examining Chaplains, and teaches at the School for Deacons. Srs. Maggie and Pamela Clare are co-facilitators for the annual Advent Quiet Days at the Bishop’s Ranch. Sr. Ruth is the founder and resident director of The Family Link, a hospitality ministry which provides affordable accommodations and support for families visiting loved ones with life-threatening medical conditions. The work began during the AIDS crisis of the 1980s and now welcomes families of people with AIDS and cancer, people in need of organ transplants, as well as those who have suffered serious injuries from accidents. The Sisters are also engaged in ministry with Martin de Porres House of Hospitality (a Catholic Worker soup kitchen) and the Care Through Touch Institute (which offers free healing massage for homeless and marginalized people) and participate regularly in peace and justice work.

This year, 2014, is the 40th anniversary of the presence of the Community of St. Francis in the Diocese of California.

Website: <http://www.communitystfrancis.org>

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