

 **VILLA SCALABRINI**
Retirement Center & Special Care Unit
www.villascalabrini.com
10631 Vinedale St. Sun Valley, CA 91352 818-768-6500 818-768-0684
RCFE Lic. #1991201168 – SCU Lic. #920000120

Villa Scalabrini Newsletter A quarterly publication for families and friends
Laura Mesrobian, Editor • Graphic design by Jesterlabs • Printed and mailed by Meyer & Son, Pasadena, CA
Also available at www.villascalabrini.com

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
VAN NUYS, CA
PERMIT NO. 155



VILLA SCALABRINI
Retirement Center & Special Care Unit

NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 2015 – Volume LII



A Time for Exchange

Dear Friends,

Time flies and we are closing this year 2015 and preparing to receive 2016, that I hope will be coming with Good News and full of blessings for everyone. We are also close to celebrating Christmas and enjoying this time of the year, a time to exchange things and gifts with our beloved ones.

Christmas is a time for exchange because we know that Jesus Christ exchanged his Divine Nature for our Human Nature and came to dwell among us to teach us how we can live according to the will of God.

It is a time of Thanksgiving when we recognize the many blessings we have received from God. I saw a sign that I immediately loved and it says: "It is not enough to count your blessings, it is more important to share them." When we acknowledge the blessings God has given us, we are able to share with others.

And it is not necessary to make big sacrifices in order to do that. It is enough to share what we are in order to make people feel the presence of God in their lives. When Jesus came 2015 years ago, Joseph and Mary were looking for an Inn in order to have their baby but there was not a place for him to be born. Today, Jesus is still looking for an Inn in the millions of people that do not have a place to stay, a place to live, a place to sleep.

We are called to share our blessings with a hospitable attitude towards all these people, in order for them to feel accepted. This hospitable attitude comes from the deepest knowledge that we have been accepted by God and loved by God who makes his presence available for all in the attitude of Jesus to the people he encountered.

It is important to exchange gifts, but it is more important to share what we are. Our vocation is precisely the exchange of the Love of God and the marvelous deeds God has done for us. In turn that makes us exchange these deeds in the love we show to the people, in the way we behave, in the smile we put on our faces, in the care we provide. These are the important things in Christmas. These are the gifts that remain forever.

May the Lord continue blessing you and your loved ones. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a 2016 with plenty of love and blessings to be shared!

Fr. Ramiro Sánchez Chan, c.s.
Executive Director

The Missionaries of St. Charles-Scalabrinians offer Perpetual Masses through the Scalabrini Mass League. Please ask the Front Desk at Villa Scalabrini or call 818-768-6500.

Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center



villascalabrini.com

VILLA'S ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

In spite of the unexpected rain that caused us to cancel the original date of our annual family picnic, the rescheduled event did not fail to meet the expectations.

With a crowd of 300 people, Villa Scalabrini annual family picnic took stage in the spacious and welcoming Garden Pavilion on Sunday October 12.

Everyone had a great time: food, fun, music and the joy of seeing our residents' families, including many children, joining their loved ones to share a "Taste of La Dolce Vita". The theme this year was an Italian Festa, celebrating the "sweet life."

Our deepest thanks to all the attendees and to our loyal sponsoring businesses: Pontrelli and Laricchia, D'Aquino Imports, Claro's Italian Markets, Mario's Deli, Pinocchio's Restaurant, Mission Linens, Waxie, Omni Health.)

And well deserved kudos to Dan Olivo for the wonderful musical entertainment.

Villa Scalabrini family spirit is alive and well!



"It is not enough to count your blessings, it is more important to share them."

We are grateful for the many gifts of financial support we receive throughout the year. These gifts help us meet the needs of our Retirement Center and the senior residents it serves.

Unrestricted donations will be used toward general facility improvements. Restricted donations will be used for the purpose designated by the donor. We appreciate your generous support.

Benevolence Fund - The Benevolence Fund supports one of our missions - to provide comfortable and dignified living choices to under-served or otherwise compromised seniors, whose income and assets are insufficient.

Special Projects - Funds donated towards special projects will be allocated for facility improvements.

Where Most Needed - We always appreciate unrestricted funding, which is directed to general operating costs. In the end, all our resources enable us to provide the best care and services to our residents that we possibly can.

Ways to Give: Cash, Check, Credit Card Gift or Online Donation - The easiest, most direct way to support Villa Scalabrini.

Make a Donation to Villa Scalabrini

To make a donation to Villa Scalabrini you can access our website www.villascalabrini.com/waystogive and donate using your credit card via Paypal, or you may print a donation form and mail with your check.

Through the philanthropic support of donors, Villa Scalabrini will be able to enhance its services and impact the lives of its senior residents.

Your generosity is vital and allows us to provide the excellent care and services you have come to expect from Villa Scalabrini.

Fathers of Saint Charles (Villa Scalabrini) is a not-for-profit, tax exempt organization as described in section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code.



What if Villa Scalabrini earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Well, now we can!

GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates ad revenue, about a penny per search, to the charity its users designate. Use it just like any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get the same great results.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and enter Villa Scalabrini as the organization you want to support. Just 500 of us searching four times a day will raise about \$7300 in a year without anyone spending a dime! Please spread the word!

Welcome New Residents!

- Maurine Backus
- Hugo and Susann Braden
- Richard Bruckner
- Fr. Gus Carter
- Doris Friend
- Rosemary Granger
- Margaret Hamm
- Brian La Bonge
- Minas Minassian

Joe and Amelia Armendariz
65th Wedding Anniversary



Congratulations!

Honoring our Veterans



La Piazza AT VILLA SCALABRINI

The Best in Retirement Living

An exceptional living experience at an affordable price!

Individual homes make our community exclusive and special.

- Enjoy your own beautifully appointed home with more than 1200 square feet
- 2 bedrooms, 1 bath all on ground level
- Soaring 10' ceilings
- Full gourmet kitchen
- Attached carports
- Private patios
- Utilities included
- Pet friendly
- Complete maintenance, including weekly housekeeping and linen service
- Two gourmet meals a day, 5 days a week
- Landscaped grounds, walking paths
- Putting green, gym facilities, library, Club house
- Weekly wellness program, movie nights, games and more
- Secure premises, 24 hours a day

La Piazza Residents enjoy a day at the Race Track



Check us out!

To check for residence availability, to take a tour or to request a brochure please contact Laura Mesrobian, Admissions Director, at (818)768-6500 ext. 228 or Laura@villascalabrini.com

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us at La Piazza



From the Special Care Unit

We have been blessed and inspired to continue God's Mission here on earth to be His hands to those in need as Jesus said, *....I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me....*

Mt.25-35-36

Like our Lord, we must help the poor and the oppressed, and must exert great effort to alleviate their burdens. As followers of Christ, we now ask ourselves: how far we have really identified ourselves with our suffering brothers and sisters? How far are we willing to go to do good works for them and serve them?

Devoting ourselves to the service of our Special Care Unit residents is an offering. We start our day with Holy Mass, the interchange of love; it is the peace of the heart, it is an infinite good. The greatest treasure on earth, the golden key to Paradise. As one of our residents, Sister Christine, commented, *"How blessed we are in here, we have Mass and Holy Rosary every day. I like it being in here."* Jesus had a strong sense of solidarity with His suffering people. By our baptism, we become members of God's chosen people. In a way, Jesus is calling our attention to what we must do to live a meaningful life in this world and to leave it a better place. Villa Scalabrini Special Care Unit is one whole family. The Holy Eucharist that we celebrate every day is an opportunity to deepen our union with Him and to our brothers and sisters – our residents, and to prepare ourselves for a happy death, to gain eternal life. We thank God for the help of the Augustinian Recollect Sisters who assist the Fathers of St. Charles in every Pastoral Ministry for the residents.

October was the month of the Holy Rosary. The Staff helped us to organize the Residents and the dining hall for the Culmination of the Holy Rosary. We hope and pray that as we celebrate this special month we also rediscover its true meaning. First and foremost, the rosary is a devotional prayer, an aid to a deeper understanding and knowledge of the life of Jesus through the intercession of His mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. In other words "we should try to enter and look at the life of Jesus through the eyes of Mary."



Culmination of the Rosary

THEATER OUTING FUN

Once a month the residents go for an outing. We had different itineraries and one of those is the movie theater. This is one the most enjoyable activities for our residents, having lunch while watching a movie on a big screen. The residents are looking forward to the next movie outing, for this lively activity reinvigorates them.

"We know that all things work for good for those who love God." (Romans 8,28)

As always God is extending compassion toward us, loving us through the many ups and downs of our journey. And the divine gifts of love that we receive are meant to be shared. For His love for us is unconditional; hence, nobody should be excluded. Keep up the good work! Continue to be a blessing to everyone!

As we look forward to the upcoming Holiday Season we thank you and wish you all the best.

Sr. Mavieve Joy G. Bernaldez, AR
Maria Bedoya, SSD

From the Retirement Center

Here are some events and activities that made summer and fall memorable this year at Villa Scalabrini:

June: A trip to Casino Morongo, a Variety Show by the Grandsons of Italy and the celebration of Flag Day and Father's Day with a BBQ.

July: We celebrated Independence Day with a BBQ, live music, a parade and patriotic decorations all around.

August: The highlight of the month was the Hawaiian Luau lunch with the participation of residents, staff and dancers from the Jocelyn Center of Burbank.

September: A Grandparents celebration with a virtuoso mandolin player: Miguel Abreu; the casino trip to San Manuel and the Villa's horse races.

October: The Annual Family Picnic was held in our Garden Pavilion; also celebrated were Columbus Day and Halloween; this last event gathered together all residents from the Retirement Center, the Special Care Unit and La Piazza with a fun filled costume contest.

Many thanks to all the volunteers for their time and dedication! **Ricardo Alas, Programs Director/Social Services**

Dear families & friends,



I will start by giving you good news about the completion of our Meditation Garden. Many thanks to all the donors for their generosity and support towards this project.

We are planning to use this beautiful area for our residents. We envision our residents gathered around together, enjoying the outdoors, surrounded by beautiful flowers, trees, and fountains in tranquility.

As you all know, we are reaching a beautiful time of the year, Thanksgiving and Christmas. During these special times most families and friends get together and celebrate the holiday spirit and the joys of togetherness.

Please do not forget to visit your mother, father, grandparents, and friends. They will greatly need your love and attention during the holiday time. Come visit and share the holiday cheer with us.

During this season, we welcome volunteers to help us with the different activities and functions. If you or anyone you know is interested in doing some volunteer work, please contact Maria Bedoya in our Special Care Unit or Ricardo Alas in the Retirement Center.

Lastly, in addition to welcoming new residents, we would also like to welcome new staff members who have recently become a part of our team.

Glenda Valenzuela, - LVN

Marcelina Williams - CNA

Susan Manzano - CNA

Cecilia De Guzman – CNA/Health Services

Maria Hortencia Huanca – CNA/Health Services

Celia Salonga – CNA/Health Services

Christina Calderoni – Cook, La Piazza

Maria Yolanda Merino - Housekeeping

Arthur Salonga – Housekeeping

Marco Alvarez - Dietary

Osabella Cervantes - Dietary

Blessings to you all,
Ardy Afshar
Administrator/CFO



Hawaiian Luau



Outdoors exercises



Halloween fun



Resident of the Month