Spotlight on Prayer Tree Ministry Honoring Service by Marion Jehle & Suzanne Schaffner

Marion Jehle and Suzanne Schaffner were honored recently for their 20+ years of faithfully guiding our Prayer Tree Ministry. Congratulations for a job well done! Although they have turned over the leadership, they both plan to remain active.

Marion Jehle has been a parishioner since St. Matthias started in the local hardware store in 1959. She was born in Montreal, Canada and raised on her family's Dairy Ranch with 12 brothers. They all lived and worked together, sharing family chores, traditions and celebrations. One of their traditions was the Family Rosary.

She recalls, "My father loved saying the Rosary. Every evening after dinner, we all would kneel down and say the Rosary." She continues this love of the Rosary by often participating in the Friday morning Rosary Group.

Marion has 2 daughters, a son and 8 grandchildren. She is looking forward to making her traditional annual visit to the family dairy in Canada with one of her grandsons in September.

Suzanne and Marion were friends long before they worked together on the Prayer Tree. Suzanne was born in Paris and raised with a family of 9. She earned a Law Degree...and was about to accept her first job when she met and married an American Army Officer. Her late husband earned a CPA degree and went to work for a large national firm that liked to move their employees around. His company transferred them from Ohio to New Jersey and then to San Francisco. Suzanne says, "When we got to California, we decided we did not want to leave; so he refused any more transfers and went to work for Lockheed."

Suzanne completed her teaching credential and taught French and Latin in a Portola Valley middle school for 20 years. She returns to Paris to visit her family every year. Suzanne has 2 children and a grandchild.

Marion and Suzanne were active with the Altar Society for many years. Currently, in addition to participation in a Renew Group and their work with the Prayer Ministry, they serve as Eucharistic Ministers and are active in visiting the sick and infirm. Marion says, "We bring them Holy Communion and often read to them from the Gospel for the day or other religious story. They are always happy to see us."

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The Prayer Tree Ministry is now under the leadership of Connie Deeney (592-8756) and Carol McAdams (369-4365). Parishioners can request prayers by calling Carol or Connie or by posting on the Prayer Board on the parish web site (<u>www.stmatthiasparish.org</u>). The web connection will be monitored by Liz Vugrinecz.