



Monica and Bill Dodds

Friends of St. John the Caregiver

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www.FSJC.org • www.YourAgingParent.com • www.CatholicCaregivers.com

Annual Appeal 2010-2011

Celebrating Five Years of Promoting Care for Family Caregivers!

A lot has changed since 2005 when we began the Friends of St. John the Caregiver.
And a lot hasn't.

What's changed?

--We now have members in Australia, Canada, China, England, Fiji, Ireland, Malaysia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Singapore, South Africa, Scotland, and forty states in the United States. (Each member has promised to pray for caregivers and those receiving care. And, we can tell you, their prayers are powerful and very much appreciated.*)

--We now have parishes and dioceses around the world who are using our material in their ministry to caregivers in their area.

--We now have thousands and thousands of visitors each month to our three Web sites: YourAgingParent.com, CatholicCaregivers.com, and FSJC.org.

What's remained the same?

--There are still caregivers who need this unique ministry.

--The Friends of St. John the Caregiver is still the only international Catholic organization whose primary focus is promoting care for family caregivers. (Caregiving is pro-life!)

--We're still a completely volunteer ministry that offers all its resources and material for free.

-- And we're still relying on our wonderful donors who make all this possible.

That's why we're asking you to please donate once again to the Friends of St. John the Caregiver.

Something else has remained the same: the heartfelt words of gratitude we receive from caregivers, from those who help caregivers, and from parishes and dioceses. Then, too, there's the joy and appreciation expressed by those who "discover" the Friends of St. John the Caregiver and what it alone provides.

"Thank you so much for your prayers. It helps so much when I am in the thick of things to know I AM NOT ALONE in all of this. Just knowing there are tons and tons of others out there doing exactly what I am doing helps a great deal (although many times I feel I am the only one when I am utterly exhausted)."

--C.W., Massachusetts

(over, please)

"I write to you from South Africa having seen the wonderful work your organization does in the United States. In South Africa—which is still a third world country with one of the highest number of HIV patients in the world—there is sadly a lack of facilities for caring for the aged. The hospital system is poorly run and overcrowded, and there are very few facilities for the aged, which means much of the caregiving has to be done at home. I am a Catholic and would like to start a 'Friends of St John the Caregiver' association in our parish. I would have the support of our priest. There would be volunteers from the other local Catholic parishes as well."

--J.O'B., South Africa

"The 'little blue prayer book' is a big hit with all of the caregivers who attend my caregiving seminars. I would appreciate it very much if you will send forty more copies. I have a big session coming up at a local parish."

--R.C., Tennessee

"Thank you for all you do. I was so happy when I found your Web site. Whenever I need a lift, I can go back to something I read in one of your brochures, newsletters, etc."

-- M.G., Wisconsin

"I came across your site in doing some research for a retreat that we are planning for caregivers. We have included copies of your pamphlet in their retreat folders. I am personally committed to praying for the needs of caregivers and those receiving care. I am most grateful for your prayers for my own personal requests and the collective needs of all the pastoral home-care visitors. I would be delighted to pass along pamphlets and prayer cards. I gather together with parish team leaders (about twenty of them) regularly and can begin letting them know about your ministry."

-- C.M., Canada

"Many thanks for your package of prayer books, etc. I have started to pray accordingly. As I previously mentioned, it is my pleasure to translate your little prayer book into Chinese and it is totally at no cost as I have promised."

--B.S.H.P., Singapore

You can see why we're celebrating and why . . .

**We're asking you now to please donate once again
and help support this one-of-a-kind Catholic ministry and resource.**

On behalf of countless families around the globe — names and faces and stories you'll never know, see or hear on this side of heaven — thank you! Please take a minute — right now — to fill out the enclosed donation form and to write that check. You can go online to FSJC.org and click "Donate" and give that way, too. (Your donation is tax deductible!)

God bless you!

Monica Dodds

Bill Dodds

PS – Your donation really does make a difference!

*** We invite you to become a member!** No meetings, no dues. All we ask is that you pray for caregivers and those receiving care. Go to www.FSJC.org and click the "Membership" link for more information.