

# *Saint Julie – 50 years of Sainthood*

## *October Theme – Illness, Cure and Healing*

In the seasons of life, there is a time for everything. As we know, in Julie's life, she had times of health and times of illness. In both illness and health Julie's love for our Good God gave her every moment purpose and hope, and she lived her life with charity simplicity, and joy.

The heart of the Japanese people has a special sensitivity to the changes in the seasons -- blessed with extraordinarily beautiful seasons in the year, the Japanese have gone deeper and are aware of 72 micro-seasons! So also in the seasons of our life, it is important to be aware, and to live them fully centered in our love of the Good God.

So as our contribution to this year of celebration we offer this video:

[Click here](#) or on the picture.



[SEE VIDEO](#)

The Sister featured in the first part of the video is Sister Marianna Kunimasa who is now 92 years old. She has been suffering for over 30 years from rare diseases 'Vascular erythema' and Lymphatic edema,' especially in her legs. These diseases caused her pain and high fever. But she never stopped her hard work as a mistress of finance for 22 years in our school offices. She also served as Province Treasurer and secretary for 16 years. Besides these ministries, she also enjoyed cooking (and baking!) for her community.

Since her retirement in 2007, she started making a handwritten copy of the Bible. This is to follow one of traditional customs among Buddhists. The writer sits still before a roll of a sutra and copies the words one by one while reciting vocal prayers. Sister Marianna finished copying the Old Testament in five years, after which she, along with others following the same discipline, offered her work at the Cathedral altar at a Mass in which the bishop presided. She is now enjoying her daily writing of the Gospel of St. John.



She always keeps her warm smiles in every situation. She reminds us of St. Julie all the time.

In 2017 her physical condition necessitated more care than she could be given at home, so she moved to an elder care center. The closest one that could care for her special condition was located 40 minutes' drive away from her community. Even there she keeps her smile shining and teaches knitting and sewing to her fellow residents.

Whenever we visit her, we feel graced and consoled. Sister's presence itself has been a witness for all the members of our Unit. Her example tells us: Accept what is given to you and cheer yourself up by giving what you can do.

There are three more Sisters, Sister Baba, Sister Maekawa and Sister Izumi who stay in elder care centers. Probably in a few years, there will be more sisters who will likewise need to live outside of their community to receive these services. We all pray we stay together in our prayers and live through this life with joy and peace as daughters of St. Julie.



### **English translation of the lyrics of the song used in the video**

The one who loves spring is a person with a pure heart  
And just like the precious violet

The one who love summer  
has a brave heart  
is strong and sure like a rock  
And can be like a father to me

The one who loves autumn is a deep soul  
and can speak of love like one of the great poets.  
Such a one is my sweetheart.

And the one who loves winter is warm hearted  
And can warm the coldest places in my heart  
just like my own mother.