

## **Summer in Palos Verdes, 2001**

Summer of 2001 was memorable for several reasons. Most of the CA Province had gone to a Plenary in Ushaw, Durham, England where the congregation gathered to contemplate and present the Gospel of the Woman at the Well. Much preparation had gone into this plenary. The CA Plenary group presented the Gospel at our October Assembly. I thought that we too at Marian could present our Summer Gospel Reflection, so I penned a song to the tune of the Title – We Come to Share our Story.

That Summer was my first one being director of Marian Residence. Two very generous sisters assisted me since we were still very much an Infirmary at the time, with a full house of 12 Residents. Anatolia was spending the summer with us and volunteered to help. Catherine Sullivan came from Santa Maria.

Some annotation might help to understand the song. Anatolia's main task was to be receptionist. She loved to feel the sun, so she carried the cordless phone and followed the rays of the sun around the house. Her first day of work was cut short by her burning her 10 finger tips taking a dish out of the oven. I took her to ER and she had to go every day to have the dressing changed. We had 3 drivers at Marian – Catherine Sullivan, Anna Mary and I.

Ines Baranyanka was very ill. She arrived home from UCLA with a feeding tube and breathing treatment machine. We kept a baby monitor in the Atrium to be aware of her needs. I took care of her "meal" every 2 hours and breathing treatment likewise.

Eileen 1 is Eileen Cronin, Eileen 2 is Eileen Cotter. Both required caregiving. Anna Mary Reilly was caregiver and driver.

Bridget Johnson was a resident and was recuperating from hip surgery.

Johanna, shaky on her feet.

"Queenie" – Sr. Mary Aquinas, patient at the Pavilion Nursing Home. She died during the summer.

Skinner's – pharmacy, Phoebe, our dog

**(Nuala Briody)**

**WE COME TO SHARE OUR STORY**

**WE COME TO SHARE OUR STORY OF A SUMMER LONG GONE BY  
WE PROCLAIM THE LOVE OF JESUS IN OUR LIVES.**

**ANATOLIA'S FINGERS BURNING, WHILE HER HEART WAS FIRM AND STRONG  
SHE RESUMED HER PLACE IN SUNSHINE ANSWERING PHONES.**

**OUR DEAR INES CAME TO OUR HOUSE FROM THE HALLS OF UCLA  
SHE CHALLENGED EACH ONE'S FAITH LIFE COME WHAT MAY.**

**ONE MORNING IN THE KITCHEN, EILEEN 1 - SHE SLIPPED AND FELL  
WITH THE HELP OF 911, ALL WAS WELL.**

**COMING DOWN THE STREET FROM SKINNER'S, ANNA MARY SLIPPED AND  
FELL  
SHE IS BARRED FROM DRIVING SISTERS UP AND DOWN THE HILL.**

**EILEEN 2 WAS READING NOVELS WHEN SHE TOO SLIPPED AND FELL,  
"NOT TO WORRY!" SHE'S ANNOUNCING, "I'LL BE WELL!"**

**BRIDGET TOO PROGRESSING NICELY HAD A SETBACK ON THE WAY  
WITH THE HELP OF FRIENDS AND DOCTOR, SHE SINGS "OLE!"**

**THREE STAFF MEMBERS AILING WITH US, WAS IT SOLIDARITY?  
IS IT POSSIBLE TO HOPE, WITH SUCH FRAGILITY?**

**DEAR CATHERINE TOPPLED OVER THE STAIRS THEY SEEMED NOT THERE  
HER POOR ANKLE FELT THE ANGUISH, SHE NEEDS CARE.**

**EVEN PHOEBE ITCHED AND ADDLED, THE FLEAS HAD COME TO STAY  
SHE TOO BECAME A PATIENT ALONG THE WAY.**

**OUR JOHANNA TRIPPED THE LIGHT FANTASTIC ON HER KNEES SHE  
GROANED AND PRAYED  
WILL THIS SUMMER EVER FINISH, I'M DISMAYED**

**OUR DEAR "QUEENIE" SPOKE OF HEAVEN, SHE SERENELY SAID HER "YES"  
HER PARENTS CAME TO TAKE HER HOME TO REST**

**WE COME TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS, WE ARE ALL ALIVE AND WELL,  
WE ARE BLESSED TO KNOW WHERE GOD LIVES, LET'S RING A BELL!**



**Photo, Oct. 2001**

Back Row: L-R: Nuala Briody, Johanna Leahy, Anna Mary Reilly, Catherine Sullivan, "Ben" Day, Eileen Cronin

Front Row – wheelchairs - Anne Margaret Butler, Eileen Cotter  
Facing the "choir" and holding mic: Linda Webb