



About Sr. Clara Watts

Sister Clara Watts, a fellow Franciscan Sister, lived with me at St. Francis Hospital in Lynwood, California during my years of service there as a chaplain and administrator. During this time, I learned much from Sister Clara about love and service. She made daily visits to my dad who was a patient many times at the hospital and would daily visit other patients praying with them and encouraging them. For Clara lived out the thought, "love gives it does not measure."

Although Sister Clara did not have good health herself, she would take time for visiting and praying with patients and their loved ones, bringing unconditional love and supportive assistance. For example, if a patient or family member was struggling with the ability to pay their hospital bill, Sister would go to the business office and advocate for financial assistance. Sister was a compassionate presence to and for all, regardless of her own failing health. The memory of Sister lives on in my heart forever.

I believe that the clinic called Clara's House is named after a follower of Mother Teresa in action. Sister Clara was a Franciscan Sister with great heart-titude for all of creation. Her heart was like a loving living room which welcomed all, leaving no one excluded. Sister Clara will, from her eternal home, ensure that the motto of Magdalen Damen, our foundress, "God will provide," will live on by providing for the fiscal and human needs of this important medical clinic, which is named in honor of her. Sister's legacy of loving service will live on through others at Clara's House.

Sr. Janet Corcoran, OSF

Sister Clara, a Franciscan Sister, was a shining example of her namesake, Saint Clare, whose name means "light". S. Clara had a gift of connecting with people, and a gift of teaching. Her family taught her the positive attributes of humor and geniality. Her hospitable approach to people, especially the children she taught, made people feel comfortable and at ease. One of her greatest joys in life was that her brother Jimmy became a Franciscan Friar, Padre Mariano. As a Nurse Practitioner Clinic, we are grateful to the example S Clara left for us, as we seek to connect with many people, provide health education and healthcare in a way that makes people who have few resources feel at home.

Sr. Rosemary Lynch, OSF