

It takes hands to build a house,  
but only hearts can build a home.

-Author Unknown



## Home for the Holidays

When 18-year old Matthew Munro first came to St. Joseph's Villa in early December last year, he thought he might never celebrate Christmas at home again. He was unable to walk and was using a wheelchair to get around because he was weak from chemotherapy treatment for leukemia, which he developed just after his 18th birthday. It was also just after his mother died from cancer, leaving Matthew and his father Keith on their own to face an uncertain future.

Matthew chose to come to St. Joseph's Villa for his rehabilitation because he wanted to be closer to his father and the family home in Dundas. With the help of staff in the Villa's Therapy Department, Matthew underwent intensive physical therapy to build up his leg strength. It took some time but eventually Matthew progressed from using a wheelchair to a walker to a cane to nothing at all.

*continued on back*

### St. Joseph's Villa Foundation *Home for the Holidays*

Method of Payment:  Cheque  VISA  Mastercard  AMEX

Card#: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Yes! I wish to donate...*

\$500  \$250  \$100  \$75  \$50

Other amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Designate my gift to:

Building Fund  Research  General

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honour of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to:

**ST. JOSEPH'S VILLA FOUNDATION**

56 Governor's Road, Dundas, Ontario L9H 5G7

905-627-9011 Fax: 905-627-8978

www.sjv.on.ca

*See reverse for monthly giving option*



“I thought it would take longer,” said Matthew in June as he prepared to leave the Villa. “I liked it here. I met a lot of friends who want me to come back.”

He has returned to high school and is working to complete his grade 12 studies. Matthew hopes to return to St. Joseph’s Villa as a volunteer and help staff that work in Therapeutic Recreation coordinating the daily activity programs for residents.

Caring for a loved one inflicted with an illness such as this can be overwhelming. Matthew’s father needed some time to make the appropriate arrangements to meet his son’s needs while coping with the devastating loss of his wife. Meanwhile his son was able to recuperate in a supportive environment at St. Joseph’s Villa.

Matthew’s story highlights the diversity of the programs being offered at St. Joseph’s Villa. Not only do we provide specialized care and services for each of our residents but we offer these same services to individuals on a short-term basis. People like Matthew recovering from treatment, illness or surgery can benefit from this type of program.

Matthew was unable to go home last Christmas but through sheer determination and maybe even a miracle or two, he is home for the holidays this year. We need your help to keep these special services in place and to continue to develop new programs to meet the changing health care needs of those living in our community.

Unlike Matthew, most of our residents are already home. Our staff and volunteers are honored to provide the kind of care, warmth and love that they would have experienced before becoming a part of our family.

May you and your family enjoy the warmth and love of this special holiday season.

Sincerely,

*Sister Anne McLoughlin*  
Sister Anne McLoughlin, CSJ

### Monthly Gifts

- I have enclosed a blank cheque marked “VOID.” Please deduct my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ from my bank account on the 15th of each month.
  - Please charge my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card each month.
- Please charge my  Mastercard  Visa  Amex

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (for credit validation): \_\_\_\_\_

- I have made provision in my will for St. Joseph’s Villa Foundation
- Please send your Planned Giving Brochure: *The Cornerstone of Our Future*
- Please send me a copy of your Annual Report

### Your privacy is important to us.

St. Joseph’s Villa Foundation contacts its friends periodically to share news and information concerning the Villa’s progress and needs by mail, phone or e-mail.

Please check this box if you prefer not to be contacted.

Please exclude my name from lists celebrating donors by gift level.

**SJ** ST. JOSEPH’S VILLA FOUNDATION C.A.R.E.  
*Committed to Activities that Raise funds to Enhance the quality of life for seniors.*

Charitable Registration #11918 4430 RR0001. Receipts issued for donations of \$10 and over unless otherwise requested. Christmas 2006.

Be sure to visit our website at [www.sjv.on.ca](http://www.sjv.on.ca) regularly for updates on various activities.