

# *Martin de Porres House of Hospitality*

225 Potrero Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
Telephone (415) 552-0240

November 1993

"The indescribable glory of God, the depth of God's love and goodness present in all things, leads us to give praise and Thanksgiving."  
St. Francis

Dear Friends:

The glory of God, the depth of God's love present in all things . . . these words uttered some time ago by St. Francis are as relevant today as when St. Francis wrote them. Truly believing that God's Love and Goodness are in all things causes us to look at the world around us quite differently.

Rather than having a society where all things have their divine place, we try to fit people into certain molds of normal or sane while discarding all others. At Martin's we try to create a small world where all God's creatures can find a place where they fit. We hope to find the love and goodness of each person and know there is enough space for all of us to be together in peace and  
THANKSGIVING.

We try at Martin's to recognize there is more than one solution to each problem, to celebrate the differences we find in each other, creating in each other a place of goodness, love and  
THANKSGIVING.

I know sometimes these letters sound lofty and ethereal, but I truly mean it when I say we seek the love and goodness in all things and many many times we do find it. Starting with the rotting produce that comes in the door, we dig out the kernels of goodness still left to make our soup. Culling through the mountains of bread that have been thrown out, some days we discover as many as ten different varieties of bread to serve. There is the guest who continually gives us trouble suddenly keeping a whole table of angry men happy with his card tricks. And there is the gift of hearing a poem written by someone who has stayed up the whole night because he had no place to sleep.

The great creator made a miracle in nature giving each thing its own niche. Unique unto itself, and at the same time living amongst all others, we humans have somehow forgotten we are just part of this divine plan. The great creator could have made the world in black or white, or basic patterning over and over, but instead there is a myriad of things that we could never count or even fathom.

At this season of THANKSGIVING we ask of you to praise the differences in us, cherish the nuances of those differences, and join with us in celebrating the love and goodness in ALL.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

In God's Light,



Barbara Collier  
for the Martin de Porres Community