SERVANT OF GOD

SISTER MARIE
de MANDAT-GRANCEY

September 13th, 1837 -
May 31st, 1915

We thank God
for giving us the privilege of
Sister Marie de Mandat-Grancey.

Through her great generosity
she acquired the property at Ephesus,
The Home of Mary and
Saint John the Evangelist.

We ask God and Sister Marie
to continue to bless the cornerstone
given to her, “Around this Cornerstone
we build our faith and the powers of
darkness will not prevail.”

We pray for God’s will to be
completely fulfilled through the
Intercession of Sister Marie.

Amen
Sister Marie de Mandat-Grancey, Daughter of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul was born of a noble and holy family in the Diocese of Dijon, France, Sept. 13th, 1837. She desired from a young age to serve God with all her heart and answered her vocation. (Postulant, May 27, 1857, First Vows, Sept. 27, 1862.) At the end of her second assignment in France she was inspired to find the House of Mary in Ephesus, Turkey. At that time Pope Leo XIII requested missionary assistance in Asia Minor. Sr. Marie responded, in 1886 she served at the French Naval Hospital in Smyrna, Turkey, appointed superior in 1890. While in Smyrna she encouraged an expedition to find the House of Mary, Mother of Jesus, headed by Vincentian Priests. July 29, 1891 Mary’s House, built by St. John the Apostle, was discovered. Archeologists identified the ruins of a 1st century. A.D. house with a Church from the 4th century A.D. having been built over it. On October 21, 1891, Sr. Marie received permission from Fr. Fiat (Superior of Vincentians) to purchase the property in her name which occurred on Nov. 15, 1892. Sr. Marie restored the House making it a place of pilgrimage for all people, especially Christians and Muslims. During restoration three stones from the hearth, built by the Apostles, were found. One of these stones (cornerstone) was given to the de Mandat-Grancey Family Chapel in France to confirm her holy life, work and devotion to God and the Blessed Virgin Mary, uniquely identifying Sr. Marie with this primitive Apostolic community. All of our recent Popes have visited the House. Pope Paul VI on July 26, 1967, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass Nov. 30, 1979 and Pope Benedict XVI celebrated Mass on Nov. 29, 2006. Sr. Marie lived a life of detachment, dedication, virtue, obedience and charity; she died on May 31, 1915. Her Cause of Beatification was opened on January 21, 2011.

Carl Schulte, C.M.