



# LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

*Serving the elderly poor in Pittsburgh since 1872*

## Mission Statement

*As Little Sisters of the Poor, we care for the elderly poor in the spirit of humble service which we have received from Jeanne Jugan.*

*We welcome the elderly as we would Jesus Christ himself and serve them with love and respect until death.*

## Save the Dates:

- Sept. 13-15th  
**Christmas  
Boutique Sale**  
10:00am-5:00pm
- Oct. 18-20th  
**Rummage Sale**  
10:00am-5:00pm
- October 25th  
**Heavenly Feast**  
6:00pm

**Little Sisters of the Poor**  
1028 Benton Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
(412) 307-1100

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Left: Father Sam Esposito and Father Jay Donahue sample some of their own recipes that will be used during the Heavenly Feast dinner. Right John Barsotti and Father Joe Sioli proudly show off Father's Bacala recipe.

## A Heavenly Feast

### October 25, 2012

On October 25, 2012 we will continue our celebration of 140 years of caring for the elderly poor in Pittsburgh by serving up "A Heavenly Feast" Celebrity Chef fund raiser. Eight fabulous chef priests from the Diocese of Pittsburgh will be preparing a variety of tasty temptations for our guests.

The evening, hosted by Honorary Chair Bishop David Zubik, will take place at the newly renovated Cardinals' Great Hall at the St. Paul Seminary. Tickets for this dine around event are \$150.00 per person and include wines and beverages, special recipes from our chefs' own collections, a unique assortment of live auction items, and the presentation of the St. Jeanne Jugan Medal to our long time board chair and friend, James F. Will.

Our Heavenly Feast is being prepared by Fr. Brian Welding of Ascension Parish, Fr. Larry DiNardo of Holy Wisdom Parish, Fr. Joe Sioli of St. Raphael Parish, Fr. Jim Farnan of Divine Mercy Parish, Fr. Tom Sparacino of St. Richard Parish, Fr. Nick Vaskov of St. Vitus Parish and St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fr. Jay Donahue of

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish and Fr. Sam Esposito of St. John the Baptist Parish.

John Barsotti, owner of The Common Plea, will lend his expertise from over 30 years as a restaurateur and provide support to our "celebrity chefs" as they offer their splendors to over 300 guests.

One of the highlights for the evening will be a one-of-a-kind Live Auction including a day trip to Washington, DC with Bishop Zubik via a private plane for lunch and a tour of the National Shrine, tickets to see the Colbert Report in NYC, a private wine tasting presented by Fr. John Sawicki of Duquesne University, a tour of Pittsburgh from an angels view with Fr. Joe McCaffrey of Sts. John and Paul Parish, a unique Pittsburgh Penguins experience, and private dinner for 8 at the Phipps Conservatory.

Sponsorship opportunities for the event are available. For more information on reserving a sponsorship or purchasing tickets contact the Development Office at (412) 307-1100. We look forward to welcoming you on October 25!

# Little Sisters of the Poor



L-R: Resident Margaret Harvey, Activities Director Cathy Jo McConnell, Resident Marge Macel, Volunteer Emily Graham, and Resident Jean Rectenwald listen to an explanation from one of the volunteer docents at the Biblical Botanical Gardens.

## Residents Find Inspiration in Biblical Gardens

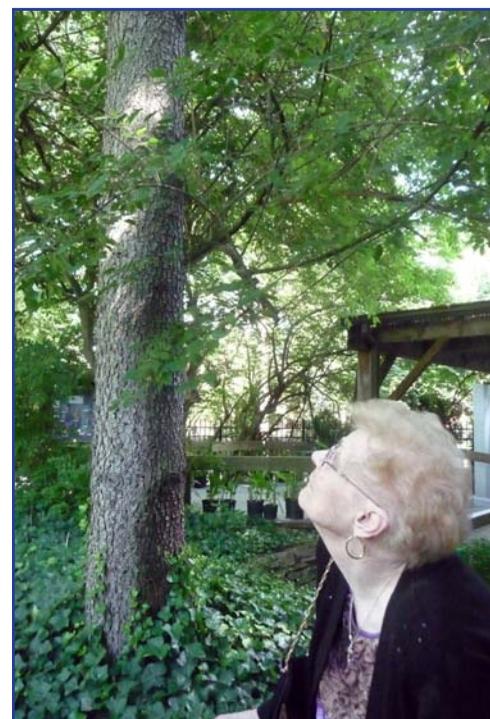
The Rodef Shalom Biblical Botanical Garden impressed the group of Residents that made the trip to Pittsburgh's Oakland neighborhood on a beautiful summer day. To find such a well-planned garden with streams, bridges and a waterfall tucked behind a wall along busy Fifth Avenue, and hidden from view was a true surprise! The Garden focuses on the agriculture, horticulture and archeology of the Ancient Near East. Each year a different theme from nature is featured. Wood is this year's choice.

Primitive farming tools and equipment are on display among over 100 temperate and tropical plants. All plants are identified by the common name and the official botanical names. Explicit Biblical passages that refer to each plant are also included on the name plate. For example, cinnamon is named in Exodus 30:23; chamomile, "Flower of the Field" in Isaiah 40:6-8; and wheat, in Deuteronomy 8:8.

Residents including Marge Macel, Jean Rectenwald, Margaret Harvey and

Henry Adams, along with volunteers and staff from the home also had the opportunity to tour the Rodef Shalom Synagogue. For many it was their first time being in a temple and was a completely new experience. The hand-carved Star of David on each pew and the chandelier comprised of several menorahs were most impressive. A stained glass window called "The Eye of God" overlooks all from the ceiling. Prominently displayed on one of the many detailed stained glass windows inside the synagogue is the translation of Rodef Shalom "Seek peace and pursue it". All agreed that the Biblical Botanical Garden is a good place to start the search!

"Even though our Residents are older, it is never too late to learn about new cultures and religions. This trip to the Biblical Botanical Gardens was a wonderful opportunity for all involved," commented Sister Judith, Administrator.



Resident Margaret Harvey admires a tree in the Biblical Botanical Gardens.

### SAINT JEANNE JUGAN'S FEAST DAY

On August 30th the Feast of St. Jeanne Jugan was celebrated. As the foundress of the Little Sisters she has inspired many blessings to our home. On her feast day we thanked God for her vision which all the Little Sisters continue to follow today, "Making the elderly happy, that is what counts." Our home's blessings include our volunteers who give their time and talent

to make our house a home, our staff who care for our Residents with kindness and compassion, our Residents who share their lives and stories with us, and our benefactors who generously support our work. In gratitude, the Little Sisters held a special Mass in our home's chapel on August 30th to celebrate St. Jeanne Jugan's legacy, charm and inspiration.

# Around Our Home



(Left) Volunteer Carmella Zielinski helps Resident Rose Kietter complete a craft. (Right) Resident Mary Slepski and Carmella show off the finished etched coaster.

## Crafts with Carmella

By etching stencils to mirrors of various shapes, the Residents attending the crafts program designed coasters they can use or give as gifts. This is just one of the many creative projects led by volunteer, Carmella Zielinski, during crafts time at the home. Each month, Carmella brings her bag of materials and gathers with the Residents and her assistants, volunteers Ann and Andy Zahren, around a large table where they all work on the project for the day. Sometimes the activity involves ceramic tile, trivets, markers or note cards. "The Residents especially like to paint," says Carmella, who enjoys watching their enthusiasm as they make clothespin crosses for Easter, decorate styrofoam trees for Christmas, or work on some other creative item.

After retiring from her position as a secretary at Macy's furniture three years ago, and following the tragic loss of her nephew, Pittsburgh police officer, Paul Sciuillo, this mother and grandmother began taking art classes at the local community college and an art center. She likes to share what she learns and enjoys the interaction with the Residents. Carmella says, "The Residents are so excited when they come. Finishing a craft gives them a sense of accomplishment."

## A Guest from Harrisburg

The Little Sisters were honored to welcome Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett recently for a tour of their home. Governor Corbett was greeted by Residents, Sisters, Board Members, volunteers and staff upon arrival. From there he was treated to a warm welcome in the auditorium. The Governor had heard about our recent recognition of being

the Governor was no exception. Mother Judith gave him books about St. Jeanne Jugan and a Little Sisters t-shirt with instructions that he only needed to wear the shirt to half of his social engagements! To cap off the afternoon visit the Resident Schola and bell choir performed two patriotic songs for the Governor and his staff.

named one of the top 39 nursing homes in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* and also came to congratulate the Sisters for their 140 years of service to the elderly poor of Pittsburgh.

All new visitors to the home never leave empty-handed and



Mother Judith and Resident Dorothy Fairley visit with Governor Tom Corbett.



Above: Residents Flo Glongoff, Jean Cook, and Marion Roach rock the afternoon away while listening to a live performance by "Elvis."

## Rock-A-Thon Success

On Saturday July 28th the Little Sisters' auditorium was filled to the brim with rocking chairs and excitement. It was the home's second annual Rock-A-Thon. Rockers were tasked with raising pledges for their rocking. The goal this year was to raise enough funds to purchase a handicapped accessible van for Resident transportation to doctor's appointments and social outings.

It was a tall task as a van with specific features like a hydraulic lift and room for two wheelchairs will need to be custom ordered. The Sisters are pleased to report that their goal was met and over \$40,000 was raised to help the home purchase the much needed van.

Beyond the fund raising success, the event turned out to be an all around fun afternoon. Residents, volunteers, employees, and many friends participated as rockers this year. A DJ played some good tunes to entertain the crowd. "Elvis," aka Don Obusek, took the stage in the middle of the Rock-A-Thon and was a perfect motivator for all to keep rocking. Cake walks and prizes for those who raised the most in sponsorships added additional excitement to the afternoon.

"Our Residents are so happy that a new handicapped accessible van will soon be available to them. We are very grateful to all who contributed to the success of this event," remarked Sister Judith, lsp.

Many thanks to our participant rockers, volunteers and our generous sponsors! Without you this event would not have been such a success! We look forward to next year's Rock-A-Thon.

# A Note From Mother



Sister Judith Meredith, Isp,  
Administrator and Mother  
Superior of our Home.

Dear Friends,

In his Apostolic letter last October, Pope Benedict XVI declared that the “Year of Faith” will commence on October 11, 2012. This date holds significant meaning to the Little Sisters because it is not only the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the second Vatican Council, but it is also the third anniversary of the canonization of our foundress Saint Jeanne Jugan. During this year Catholics are asked to re-open the “door of faith” that was opened during our baptism by reconnecting to Jesus in hopes of deepening the personal relationship with Him and with His church.

Each one’s personal journey during this special year will ultimately vary, but here at the Little Sisters we are planning to initiate opportunities for Residents to share in strengthening their faith and union with Jesus. While many Residents here at the home are Catholic, some belong to other faith denominations. Regardless of a Resident’s personal belief, our home will continue to allow for growth and nurturing of all religions and spirituality by recalling the actions of our very own saint, St. Jeanne Jugan. Without her open “door of faith” our home would not exist.

During this year long journey, we are encouraged to take a personal step to live our faith more deeply through works of charity. We need to look for opportunities here at our home or in our local community where we can positively impact the lives of others. Whether you are helping us financially or offering volunteer time, we welcome your active participation in the happenings of our home during this “Year of Faith.”

Thank you for your continued support and let us pray for one another that we may grow together in our faith and love of Jesus and share this love generously with those in need.

Sincerely,

*Sister Judith, Isp*

## HOW YOU CAN HELP THE LITTLE SISTERS

The Little Sisters mission of caring for the elderly poor of Pittsburgh would not continue as it has over the last 140 years without your support. You are an integral partner in our work. Although you may not be physically here to work with us, you are at our side caring for each Resident through your financial support. Here’s how you can help:

Each Fall the United Way and employee giving campaigns begin. Our Contributor choice code for the United Way is **244**, Combined Federal Campaign Code for federal employees is **47173** and State Employee Combined Appeal number is **4601-0088**. Check with your Human Resources department to determine if you can support our home in this way.

Another unique option for your support of the Sisters in 2012 is to give through the Pittsburgh Gives program supported by The Pittsburgh Foundation.

On **Wednesday, October 3rd**, all credit card donations directed to the Little Sisters through [www.pittsburghgives.org](http://www.pittsburghgives.org) during that 24 hour period will be matched by a prorated amount from The Foundation. So mark your calendar for October 3rd, 2012 and remember to give via [www.pittsburghgives.org](http://www.pittsburghgives.org)!

A charitable gift annuity established through the Diocese of Pittsburgh can take your commitment to our mission one step further. Those aged 59 1/2 or older may consider gifting a minimum of \$5,000 to establish an annuity that provides you with a guaranteed rate of return, dependent on your age, for the rest of your life. At that time the Sisters would then receive your original investment for immediate use to continue their mission. For more information on any of these options please contact the Development Office at (412) 307-1268.



Help Sister Margaret, Isp and driver Tom Hamilton fill our begging van and continue our mission of caring for the elderly poor.

***Help keep us going.  
Remember us in your will.***

Vist us at [www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org)



**Little Sisters of the Poor**  
 Caring for the Elderly Poor throughout the World  
[www.littlesistersofthepoor-pittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoor-pittsburgh.org)

1028 Benton Avenue  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
 Phone: 412/307-1100  
 Fax: 412/307-0074

Dear Friends,

Our **Big Cash Raffle** is back! It's a *win win* situation as all proceeds from the raffle will help us care for our elderly Residents. You could be the top winner of **\$5,000** or one of 4 randomly selected winners of **\$1,000!** The winning tickets will be drawn Monday, November 12, 2012.

Fill out the ticket(s) or pass it along to a friend or family member you think may want to play. Separate the stubs, return the ticket(s) by mailing them back in the enclosed envelope with your contribution of **\$25.00 per ticket\***. Winners will be notified by telephone on the day of the raffle. It's that simple!

You may not realize this, but you are a partner in our mission of caring for the elderly poor. It is only through your help that our mission of compassionately caring for the elderly Residents in our Home has lasted 140 years in Pittsburgh. The more tickets returned the more we will raise to care for our Residents. If you'd like additional tickets please call (412) 307-1100. May God reward you abundantly for your generosity. Good luck!

Sincerely,

Administrator

**HURRY AS ONLY THE FIRST 5,000 TICKETS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE DRAWING MAKING YOUR ODDS OF WINNING 1 IN 1,000. IF YOUR TICKET IS RECEIVED AFTER WE REACH OUR QUOTA OF 5,000 TICKETS, YOUR DONATION WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY RETURNED.**

\*No purchase necessary to participate. Per IRS rules, raffle sales are not tax deductible but donations over the suggested ticket sale price are deductible.  
 Donor names and addresses are never shared or sold.

Ticket	Ticket
<b>To benefit the Little Sisters of the Poor</b> Drawing: November 12, 2012 License #15370 Permit #1255 Winner need not be present and will be notified by telephone on the day of the drawing. Return this stub with suggested minimum donation of <b>\$25.00 per ticket.</b>	<b>To benefit the Little Sisters of the Poor</b> Drawing: November 12, 2012 License #15370 Permit # 1255 Winner need not be present and will be notified by telephone on the day of the drawing. Return this stub with suggested minimum donation of <b>\$25.00 per ticket.</b>
Phone _____	Phone _____
Email _____	Email _____
Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____

