



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Serving the elderly poor in Pittsburgh since 1872

Mission Statement

Continuing the work of Saint Jeanne Jugan, our MISSION is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.

Save the Dates:

- July 28
Motorcycle Ride
- August 9-11
Rummage Sale
10:00am-4:00pm
- September 15
Spaghetti Dinner
4:00pm-7:00pm

Little Sisters of the Poor
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Most Reverend Bishop David A. Zubik blesses the kitchen and dining room of the newly renovated Holy Family Guest House.

Holy Family Guest House Blessed

The Little Sisters welcomed guests to the *First Friday Mass* on April 6th 2018 with the Order of Malta. Bishop David Zubik celebrated the Mass in the Gloria Chapel prior to blessing the newly renovated "Holy Family Guest House." The five bedroom house is now offered to out-of-town guests visiting family and friends living at the Little Sisters of the Poor.

The Order of Malta organized the renovations of the home, which was originally built in the 1940s as the chaplain's house on the Sisters' property. After some significant water damage from multiple harsh winters, the Sisters decided to move forward with renovations so that guests can be welcomed and stay very close to their loved ones living at the home. With the structural renovations complete, members of the Order of Malta and many friends of the Little Sisters donated funds to furnish the entire house as well.

During the Mass, Bishop Zubik thanked

the Knights and Dames for their loving care of the sick and poor and encouraged them to "keep it up." Beautiful music, provided by conductor Thomas Octave and the Maestri Singers, filled the chapel. Following Mass guests walked to the guest house where the Bishop blessed each room. Attendees were then invited for a reception in the main home's auditorium.

Sister Mary Vincent, Administrator, said, "I truly consider this a miracle, we were able to turn 'The Little House' from a liability into an asset. Prior to my arrival last year the Sisters had contemplated tearing down the structure. We are so blessed that the Order of Malta stepped forward and offered their financial assistance and construction expertise to see this project through to the end. Many thanks to the Order of Malta and to our friends and benefactors who contributed to the renovating, furnishing and decorating of this extension of our hospitality."

Little Sisters of the Poor



Newly Inducted Association Members top row L-R Steve Barker, Bernie Stecik, bottom row L-R Elaine Christopher, Sister Augustine, Linda Novak and Arlene Petrosky.

Association Jeanne Jugan

After a year of spiritual preparation on May 1st, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker the patron of the Little Sisters of the Poor, five new members made their promises to serve the Pittsburgh home. Four of them are volunteers and one is a current employee. They joined the existing members who were on hand to renew their annual promises at the Mass.

The Association Jeanne Jugan (AJJ) offers Catholic men and women aged 18

years or older the opportunity of sharing in the spirituality of the Little Sisters of the Poor, by participating in their mission of hospitality, and helping to spread the charism of Saint Jeanne Jugan where they live and work. The AJJ is an extension of the Little Sisters' hands and hearts. Some of the activities the AJJ assist with include: serving as lectors and Eucharistic ministers, visiting Residents who are hospitalized, and helping with the meal

service, transporting Sisters to church collections, praying with bed ridden Residents, helping with activities and fund raisers for the home.

Members are retirees, professionals, staff members, and faithful volunteers who wish to share in the spirituality of the Congregation and to participate in the Sisters' mission of hospitality to the needy elderly. Established by the Vatican in 1998, there are now over 2,000 members worldwide and 42 members here in Pittsburgh who participate in the Sisters' apostolate in many ways, each one according to his or her talents, interests and family/professional obligations.

"We are grateful to have a vibrant Association here in Pittsburgh. The AJJ group helps our home in so many ways. It is a privilege to be able to share the spirit of our mission with the laity," said Sister Augustine, Little Sister's moderator.

If you would like to learn more about the charism of the Little Sisters and have an interest to join the Association Jeanne Jugan, email Coordinator Valerie Beam at volpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org or call (412) 307-1139.

Motorcycle Ride, Rummage Sale, & Spaghetti Dinner

Save the Dates for Summer Events to support the home: **Saturday July 28th** is the annual Teamsters Motorcycle Ride. Participants meet at the Teamster Temple in Lawrenceville with registration beginning at 9:00am. The ride lasts a few hours and ends at the Sisters front parking lot with Residents and Sisters welcoming the riders for a picnic lunch.

The second and final rummage sale of the year is scheduled for **August 9-11 from 10:00am-4:00pm** daily with Saturday being the "Bag Sale."

Come and search for treasures. If you have household items or clothing that you'd like to contribute prior to our sale please call the home and ask for Sister Gemma.

Saturday September 15th from 4:00-7:00pm is our annual Spaghetti Dinner. Join us for a delicious homemade meal and an enjoyable evening. There will be a gift basket auction, bake sale and fresh produce sale as well. Save the date for all of these events & call us at (412) 307-1268 for more information.



Shoppers at the April Rummage Sale searching through jewelry.

Around Our Home



Resident Mary Donahue places a rose before the Blessed Mother statue in the Chapel.

May is for Mary

The Little Sisters follow the Catholic tradition of crowning the statue of the Blessed Mother each May. Like their Mother Foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan, the Little Sisters say a daily rosary and confide the intentions of friends and their families to her maternal care. Often their Residents join them for the daily prayer. In this spirit, we pray for the renewed inner peace, joy and hope of all our friends and benefactors. This May Residents were asked to place a rose before the statue of Mary in the chapel and the Sisters and Residents gathered to pray for Mary's intercession prior to placing a crown upon the statue.

Chair Yoga For Residents

Pam Jackson, the daughter of therapy aide Bobbie Jackson, is working toward receiving her certification as a licensed yoga instructor. Pam, needing volunteer hours to complete her studies, asked if she could begin a weekly program here for our Residents. For two months a group of Residents gathered in the Physical Therapy room to "work out."

Pam modified the yoga routine so that it could be done sitting in a chair or a even a wheelchair. Every Saturday morning a group of dedicated Residents gathered ready to learn new stretches and poses. Thank you Pam for leading these sessions! Namaste.



Resident Roberta Miller stretches her arm during "Chair Yoga."



Tom Kennedy with grandson Kieren Kennedy planting in the courtyard. Tom has organized the Notre Dame Alumni day of service for years.

Helping Hands

When St. Jeanne Jugan founded the congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor, she envisioned a home where everyone worked together to care for the elderly in need. One of the best examples of working together for the betterment of the elderly is our committed group of volunteers. Here in Pittsburgh we have a wonderful group of 150 plus volunteers who are here weekly to lend a hand. In addition to these dedicated individuals we are also lucky to host volunteer groups throughout the year for special projects.

This Spring was abuzz with activity of this sort. The Notre Dame Alumni group of Pittsburgh recently offered a day of service to beautify our grounds. From moving mountains of mulch to planting hundreds of donated flowers around the various gardens, their work helped to brighten up our surroundings. Now, Residents can walk around our gardens and see nature in full bloom.

"The Alumni group has been helping us in this way for nearly a decade. In fact, this annual day started when I was previously assigned here. It is truly a family affair with children and grandchildren joining in the fun of planting. Thank you for making the outside of the home a beautiful place for Residents to enjoy this summer! Without our regular volunteers and these special groups, we would have a difficult time accomplishing all that we do for our home and Residents," shared Sister Mary Vincent.

If you would like to be a weekly volunteer or if your workplace or service group is interested in helping us for a one-time service project please contact Volunteer Coordinator Valerie Beam at (412) 307-1139 or volpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

A Note From Mother



Sister Mary Vincent Mannion, Lsp, Administrator and Mother Superior of our home.

Dear Friends,

Saint Jeanne Jugan, our Mother Foundress, wanted all of our homes to be modeled after the Holy Family! "See how Jesus, Mary and Joseph loved one another," she would tell the novices. "In our family it must be the same." It is a place where all are loved, accepted, esteemed, and cared for.

Our newsletter captures some of the many events that take place in our life together. While we savor each event, and live it to the full, we also recognize how large our family really is. Each of you, who reads this newsletter, or helps us in any way, comprises our extended family. Together, you help us make our house a HOME. Thank you for being "One of Us." Whether you live, work, volunteer or visit here it is good to have you as part of our home!

Currently, we have a need to expand our family through additional lay staff to work hand in hand with our Sisters and nursing department. If you are a certified nursing assistant or know of someone looking for work in this field please visit our website at www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org to see our most pressing employment needs. Please consider joining our extended family of Sisters, volunteers and staff who work together to provide for the needs of our elderly Residents. As always please join us in prayer for the needs of our home including this special request for staff.

Gratefully in prayer,

S. Mary Vincent LSP

How You Can Help

When St. Jeanne Jugan began her work in France nearly 180 years ago, she knew she must rely on the generosity of people in the local community in order to care for the elderly living with her. When her "daughters" arrived in America 150 years ago they, too, carried on this tradition of begging to start the first foundations in the United States.

Today here in Pittsburgh we ask support from others to help us in the care of our Residents. Please consider sending a gift of cash, check, or stock to help us. Tribute gifts in memory of or in honor of loved ones or friends are also appreciated. For your convenience donations can be made at www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org.

One of the simplest and often most impactful ways to give is in the form of an estate gift naming the Little

Sisters of the Poor of Pittsburgh in your Will. Other options include creating a Charitable Remainder Trust, Charitable Gift Annuity or naming the Little Sisters as beneficiary of your Life Insurance or your Retirement Account.

Remember, if you are 70 ½ or older please consider sharing a portion of your required minimum IRA distribution for 2018 with the Little Sisters. Check with your financial advisor for details. All of these gifts make a significant difference in the care we give to our dear elderly Residents.

Please contact Kathleen Bowser in the Development Office at (412) 307-1268 or adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org if you have any questions about how you can help.



Collecting Sister, Sister Margaret Mary, with her companion Sister Monique unloading donated produce from the begging van.

You can help keep us going by remembering our home in your will.

Visit us at www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org