



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:

- September 21
KDKA Spaghetti Breakfast
5:00am-9:00am
- October 11-13
Christmas Boutique
10:00am-4:00pm
- December 1
Turkey Drop
9:00am-2:00pm

Little Sisters of the Poor
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Vol. XXVI No. 3
Fall 2018



Resident Ruth Blaney, volunteer Rosie Sipe (back row) and Residents Lorna Colosimo and Doris Wehrlin (front row) wait to board the Gateway Clipper.

Summertime Adventures!

Our home is a place to live and not a place to merely wait until God calls you to Heaven. The Sisters, their staff and volunteers strive to make their Residents happy by providing a variety of activities. This summer, although slightly hindered by the inclement weather, was full of special outings, picnics and adventures for our Residents.

A few years ago a wonderful summer tradition began when a donor asked if she could do something special for the Sisters and Residents. It was decided that an excellent gift would be sponsoring a Gateway Clipper cruise. This outing has become a favorite for many. Recently about 90 participants including Residents, Sisters, staff and volunteers were transported to Station Square and escorted onto the "Princess" river boat. On board a delicious meal was served and wonderful entertainment provided by *Jimmy Sapienza and 3 Guys Named Moe* allowed for dancing. The highlight for many Residents

was enjoying the sights of the city and feeling the wonderful breeze while sitting on the boat's outer decks.

Another notable adventure this summer was a trip to PNC Park, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates, to watch an afternoon baseball game. We received complimentary wheelchair seating for the game and had an excellent view of the action from just beyond right field. Thanks to our fellow North Side neighbors, the Pirates organization, for providing us with tickets to the game. The Residents' presence must have been good luck for the Pirates as they "*raised the Jolly Roger*" after a Buccos win!

"We are so thankful that our Residents have opportunities like these. Time away from the home helps them to forget their physical limitations and enjoy all that the city around them has to offer," remarked Sister Mary Vincent, Mother Superior and Administrator.

Little Sisters of the Poor



Resident Machiko Seto is serenaded by "Elvis" performer Don Obusek at the June Rock-A-Thon.

A Rocking Good Time!

Saturday June 9th was the return of the Rock-A-Thon. Residents, Sisters and friends were asked to secure sponsors for their time spent rocking in rocking chairs. The goal for this event was to raise funds for new kitchen equipment to help keep Resident meals warm during transport to the dining rooms.

With gratitude to our sponsors, including Event Sponsor,UPMC Health

Plan, we exceeded our goal, raising over \$25,000! The bake sale, the delicious food for purchase, 50/50 and basket raffles all contributed funds to the bottom line. In addition to the event sponsors, the Little Sisters of the Poor are grateful to ProKnitware for the discounted t-shirts for the event as well as many other friends and businesses who donated gift certificates for our balloon raffle. The

entertainment for the day included *Jimmy Sapienza and 3 Guys Named Moe*, followed by Pittsburgh's premier Elvis impersonator Don Obusek. Even Steelers mascot *Steely McBeam* made an appearance to dance with Residents and Rockers!

Special recognition was made to Resident Machiko Seto who once again raised more than any other participating Resident and turned in \$2,000 in collected donations. Seven year old Matthew Armstrong, great grandson of Resident Charlene McQuillan, asked every person he encountered leading up to the event to sponsor his rocking and raised nearly \$1,500. Matthew carefully tracked each donation received on his behalf and personally thanked every donor. Way to go Matthew!

"This was my first Rock-A-Thon and I really wasn't sure what to expect, but the happiness this event brings to our Residents while raising much needed funds for our home is remarkable! We are grateful for all the hard work of volunteers and the generosity of donors who made this a success!" said Sister Mary Vincent.

Spaghetti Breakfast, Christmas Boutique and Turkey Drop

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events: the KDKA Radio sponsored "**Spaghetti Breakfast**" will be Friday September 21st from 5:00am-9:00am. Enjoy free pasta at Heinz Hall Plaza downtown Pittsburgh while the Little Sisters collect canned goods and monetary gifts. Please stop by and say hello.

Our annual **Christmas Boutique** will be October 11th-13th from 10:00am-4:00pm. Fall and Christmas crafts, house decorations, wreaths, ceramics,

and jewelry will be on sale. Much of the items available were handcrafted at the home by Residents and volunteers and are truly one of kind.

Save the date for our annual **Turkey, Ham and Roast Drop** which is planned for Saturday December 1st from 9:00am-2:00pm at our home. Sister Margaret, our collecting Sister, will be here to graciously accept your meat donations to fill our freezer.

Please consider attending any of these great events.



Seven year old rocker Matthew Armstrong congratulated by Sister Mary Vincent.

Around Our Home



Sister Gemma lsp accompanied by her sisters Mary and Gemma present the gifts to Bishop William Waltersheid during her jubilee Mass.

60 Years of Service

In August, Sister Gemma lsp, a native of Pittsburgh, was joined by her family including her sisters, nieces and nephews and her Little Sisters family of Residents, volunteers and staff to celebrate her 60th anniversary as a Little Sister. Sister sees herself serving God in the same mission as she did when she entered 60 years ago. While times have changed her work as a Little Sisters of the Poor has not. Every day she works tirelessly in service of the elderly Residents, doing God's will. The little things that happen daily at our home are the most rewarding for Sister especially seeing a smiling face of an elderly Resident.

Resident Baptism

Resident Connie Eich made it known to Sister Marguerite, the Little Sister responsible for her household, that 80 plus years ago she was born in the countryside, far away from any church and therefore was never baptized. Upon hearing this Sister consulted with the



Resident Connie Eich surrounded by family members and Little Sisters after her baptism.

home's chaplain and Connie's family to make arrangements this summer for a ceremony to welcome her into the church. During a Sunday in July her daughter Emma Glassbrenner along with relatives Jessica and Ted Miller, who were her sponsors, (joined by their children Paige & Grace) attended Mass to witness Connie receive her baptism, communion and confirmation. Each sacrament was explained to all in attendance in a reverent and understandable way. It was a joyous day for her, her family and everyone here at the Little Sisters.



Jack and Marlene Loebig in the Gift Shop.

A Dynamic Duo

Jack and Marlene Loebig have been "North Siders" for all of their lives, but it wasn't until twenty years ago while attending Mass at Holy Wisdom that they heard what the Little Sisters were all about. Marlene had just finished working for Horne's department store and was looking to volunteer somewhere. Her husband Jack and their parish priest encouraged her to see what the Little Sisters was all about. When she first walked through the doors years ago she knew she had found the right place.

Marlene, a member of the Association Jeanne Jugan who also clocked over 1,000 volunteer hours last year, organizes the Gift Shop, helps with rummage sales, decorates for events, and truly does anything the Sisters ask of her. Upon retiring from his career five years ago, Jack was certain he was ready to join his wife by becoming more involved at the home. He works in the Development office, helps with special events and rummage sales and loves to sort canned goods. Both Jack and Marlene find personal fulfillment from volunteering here and feel a deeper understanding of the challenges facing the elderly.

The dedication of this couple knows no bounds. Their 50th wedding anniversary was recently celebrated with a Mass here at the home during a much needed break from the August rummage sale. The Sisters and Residents made the day so special with their well wishes and cards. The Loebig's commitment to this home is only surpassed by their commitment to one another. We are so grateful for all that they do for our home and Residents!

If you would like to become a volunteer 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,

This year of 2018 is a very special year for our congregation of Little Sisters of the Poor. August 30th 2018 marked the beginning of a jubilee year celebrating the 150th anniversary of our community's arrival in the United States. In 1868 a small group of seven Little Sisters left their native France to accept the challenge of helping the aged poor in the United States. Like all American pioneers, the Sisters faced many challenges on their journey across the vast ocean. Through God's will and the determination of the first Little Sisters to arrive in America a wave of compassionate care was started that has served for over a century and half!

Three homes were almost simultaneously founded in 1868 in Brooklyn, NY, Cincinnati, OH and New Orleans, LA and within four years of arriving on American soil, 13 Little Sisters homes were established including our Pittsburgh home in 1872. Our mission of caring, founded by St. Jeanne Jugan, is still alive and well in the hearts and minds of thousands of Sisters, volunteers, staff members and benefactors across America and the world who collaborate together to serve the elderly poor.

Today our work is more needed than ever before as our population ages and respect for the dignity of human life continues to be challenged. Thank you for helping us to carry the message of St. Jeanne Jugan to new generations as we ask friends new and old to participate in our work! Join us as we embark on our next 150 years of serving the poor. You will be remembered in our prayers for your kindness.

Gratefully in prayer,

S. Mary Vincent LSP



Ways to Help

How has the Little Sisters of the Poor's mission continued for nearly a century and a half here in Pittsburgh? The simplest answer is Divine Providence. Every day the Sisters reach out to friends and benefactors asking them to participate in their work with contributions to help this home here in Pittsburgh operate. This is how St. Jeanne Jugan envisioned the work she founded: "It is so beautiful to be poor, to have nothing, to depend on God for everything!"

You are an integral partner in our work and a representation of Divine Providence in action. Although you may not be physically here to work with us every day, you are at our side caring for each Resident through your financial support.

Here are some ways you can help: each Fall the United Way and employee giving campaigns are launched. Our Contributor Choice code for the

United Way of Southwestern PA is **244**, Combined Federal Campaign Code for federal employees is **47173** and State Employee Combined Appeal number is **4601-0017**. Check with your Human Resources department to determine if you can support our home in this way.

Don't forget that if you are 70 ½ or older and able to share a portion of your annual required distribution from your IRA, the Little Sisters is a qualified charity and is able to accept your donation. Gifts directly from IRA accounts allow donors to make nontaxable withdrawals to charities. See your financial advisor for more information.

Contact Kathleen Bowser in the Development Office if you have any questions on ways to support the Little Sisters at (412) 307-1268 or adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org. Thank you!



Sister Margaret with volunteers at the Kuhn's on Banksville Road collecting non perishable food and selling hot dogs to benefit our home.

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

Visit us at www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org