



# 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:

- December 1  
**Turkey Drop**  
**9:00am-2:00pm**
  
- December 24  
**Christmas Eve**  
**Carols at 7:00pm,**  
**Mass at 7:30pm**

**Little Sisters of the Poor**  
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Resident Kay Canyock proudly sits in front of her section of the art display board as does Resident Machiko Seto.

## Hidden Talents On Display

Every month in 2018 the activities department has been hosting a painting class. The scenes often align with the season and the classes are taught by volunteer artists Maria Prascak or Tammy Tobac. Thanks to the generosity of a group of friends calling themselves “The Need Knots” late last year our home received a large donation toward art supplies. Paint, canvases, and brushes were purchased on our behalf. The results of each class have been beyond expectations.

With such a wonderful growing collection of art pieces, each Resident was invited to participate in our home’s first ever Resident Art Show. Every artist was interviewed for a small biography that hung by their work and family, friends, staff and volunteers were invited to browse their creations on display in the auditorium. Hors d’oeuvres and beverages were served as well.

The participating Residents were proudly stationed by their display and interacted with the guests in attendance. The oldest Resident at 103, Anna Maria Roman, had three paintings on display and Resident Kay Canyock, who had never painted before, has unlocked a secret talent at the young age of 98. Who knew such talented individuals were living at the Little Sisters. The Residents are looking forward to painting more pieces for another show in the future.

“This monthly art program is just one of many creative outlets our activities department provides for our Residents. Everyone who participates enjoys sharing their talents with others. We appreciate all the volunteers and donors who have helped us to unlock these hidden talents in our Residents,” shared Sister Mary Vincent, Mother Superior and Administrator.

# Little Sisters of the Poor



Resident Clyde Hill is given a turn to play the parachute toss game with the help of Volunteer Judy McConnell.

## Return to West View Park!

Beyond the parties and celebrations that happen on a regular basis at the home, each year the Sisters designate one day to celebrate the Residents and appropriately call it “Residents’ Day.” The kitchen prepares a special menu and the entire day’s activities revolve around honoring each of the elderly Residents living at the home.

While our Residents come to us from all over the Western Pennsylvania region,

a large majority of them were born and raised right here on the North Side or in the neighboring North Hills of Pittsburgh. They know that Kennywood wasn’t the only amusement park around and visited the closer to home West View Park as a summer outing. Many Residents remember attending dances at the Danceland, riding the “Dips” roller coaster, and playing carnival games with their families at the park. West View

Park was a fixture in the North Hills for decades. The park closed in the 1970s.

The activities department decided it would be a wonderful opportunity to take a trip down memory lane for the Residents by converting the auditorium into West View Park for the afternoon as part of Residents’ Day.

Staff members and volunteers were paired with Residents to escort them through the “park” where they had the chance to play carnival games. There was the parachute toss, the milk jug toss, the matchbox car race track that represented the parks “dips”, mini golf, a computerized bumper car simulation, and even a recreation of Boot Hill fun house. After collecting tickets at each game station Residents were able to cash them in for prizes. Popcorn and cotton candy completed the celebration.

“This day was so special for all. While my family lived closer to Kennywood, many of our Residents clearly remember the fun that West View Park meant to them. It was a joy for us to celebrate Residents day by looking back at a happy time in their lives,” remarked Sister Mary Vincent.



Resident Florence Poprocky is escorted by nurse Joy Evans throughout the recreation of West View Park.

### Turkey Drop and Giving Tuesday

This year’s Turkey, Ham and Roast Drop will be **Saturday, December 1st from 9:00am-2:00pm**. Collecting Sister--Sister Margaret Mary and her volunteers will be in the home’s auditorium graciously accepting any meat donations. WTAE news anchor Mike Clark will be on hand as a “turkey taker.” Santa Claus is also planning a visit. Come and drop off your contribution and enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies with the Little Sisters. If you are unable to

make it that day please know we still welcome your donations of meat any time at our front desk.

**Giving Tuesday** will be **November 27th**. On this day more online donations are given than any other day throughout the year. We encourage gifts made through our website at [www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org). If you miss this opportunity on November 27th, please know we appreciate your support year round.

# Around Our Home



Sister Marcella collecting funds years ago at the Pittsburgh International Airport.

## Remembering Sister Marcella, Isp

Sister Marcella de Notre Dame, died on September 8, 2018. She was born in Philadelphia, PA the daughter of the late George J. and Mary McCloskey and is survived by her beloved sister Sister Ann McCloskey of Philadelphia, PA. Sister Marcella professed her first vows as a Little Sister on December 10, 1959 and her perpetual vows on October 15, 1964 and came to Pittsburgh in 1979. She lived here for 39 years and often accompanied the various Collecting Sisters over the years on her rounds to the food markets and church collections. She was well known and well loved throughout the city and her powerful prayers helped many. Heaven has gained an intercessor for us all! Sister Marcella will be greatly missed.

## Halloween Dog Party

Dogs and costumes are a perfect combination. Staff, volunteers, and relatives were invited to bring their dogs dressed up in costume on Halloween day. This fun event has become an annual tradition. The Residents loved seeing the pooches strut across the stage with their owner (some of whom were also in costume).



Director of Nursing Kathy Butchko leads her grandpup Murray dressed as an Angel to Resident Dorothy Rolek to say hello.

After the introductions the leashed dogs walked through the audience to visit the Residents. Following the dog parade, the Residents had a Halloween sing-a-long, enjoyed refreshments and handed out treats for the four legged friends. It was a ter-ruff-ic way to spend Halloween.



Sister Mary Vincent, Father Bill Feeney and Resident Anne Brennen.

## Welcome Father Bill

The Little Sisters home recently welcomed a new chaplain: Father William Feeney. Father Bill, as he prefers to be called, came to us from Immaculate Conception Parish in Washington, PA where he was the pastor for the last 17 years. He had originally contemplated retirement, but was asked to step into this role as the home's chaplain. Father Bill has known the Little Sisters for years as he regularly welcomed them to collect at his last two parish assignments in Washington, but once he had the opportunity to visit after being offered this new job, he knew God had different plans for him other than retirement.

In addition to daily Mass, Father Bill will be available to all of the Residents of the home for spiritual guidance, whether they are Catholic or not. He will be living on site and will be a welcome addition to the mission. In order to properly introduce Father Bill, the Sisters planned a "Big Bucks Bingo" for the Residents. These Bingos occur quarterly and no one misses them. With a full auditorium the Sisters took advantage of the captive audience and introduced Father Bill. Resident Anne Brennen made a few remarks about the hospitality of the Sisters and welcomed Father to the home by presenting a beautiful fall wreath for his apartment door.

"The Little Sisters fourth vow of hospitality was evident to me the moment I walked through the doors. Not only do they welcome the elderly poor as family, they welcome everyone who comes here to visit as well. The spirit of St. Jeanne Jugan and her mission of hospitality emanates throughout the home. I am very happy to be here and look forward to building relationships with the Residents," shared Father Bill.

# A Note From Mother



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



The baby Jesus that will be in our indoor Nativity scene.

Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas are wonderful times for our Residents. They often reflect on the years they spent celebrating these holidays with their own families. We, Little Sisters, strive to continue to make memories with them this time of year. Each Resident receives multiple presents and we come together as a family here on Benton Avenue to celebrate together. This year we have a wonderful milestone to commemorate—it is the 150th anniversary of the Little Sisters arrival in America.

St. Jeanne Jugan's mission reached America in 1868. She was still living in France at the time and was able to witness the growth of her work throughout the world. Here in Pittsburgh our first home was established in 1872. Since that time we have relied on friends and benefactors to step forward and support our work. Pittsburgh has never failed us and we pray that your generosity will continue into this season of giving and beyond. We have celebrated 150 years of Christmases in our homes in America because of kind people who have helped the Sisters' work.

This Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas Seasons, we remember each of you in prayer for your generosity. Each gift given ensures that St. Jeanne Jugan's humble legacy continues. Please know you are most welcome to visit our home this time of year and see how your donations have an impact. Christmas Eve Mass begins with carols in the Chapel at 7:00pm followed by Mass at 7:30pm and Christmas Day Mass is at 11:00am. It would be an honor to have you visit. Thank you for being an integral part of our work!

Gratefully in prayer,

*Sr. Mary Vincens LSP*

## How You Can Help

St. Jeanne Jugan carried out her work by engaging others to help her in caring for the elderly poor who made a home with her. We continue this tradition by asking friends to participate in our work through their support. Sometimes it is easier for you to help by purchasing an item to directly benefit our mission. Below is our wish list of commonly requested items that will greatly assist us in our work:

- XL Twin sized cotton or flannel sheets with prints or solid colors
- A coffee grinder
- Cases of bottled water
- Electric Razors for men
- Cooking spatulas
- Medicated powder
- Body lotion (Jergens or Lubriderm)
- 8 ½ by 11 or 11 by 14 copy paper
- Postage stamps
- Gift cards to Giant Eagle, Kuhns, Sam's Club

Specific items can be found at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). Search wish lists by using this email address [adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org). Wishes can be sent directly to us addressed to "Donations" or "Wishlist." Remember .05% of your [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) purchases can be directed back to the Little Sisters by selecting Little Sisters of the Poor of Pennsylvania as your designated charity.

As always we appreciate your gifts of cash, check, stock, IRA distributions, gifts made in memory or in honor of someone and matching gifts. **Donations must be postmarked by December 31, 2018 to receive tax credit for this year.** Please visit [www.littlesistersofthepooppittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepooppittsburgh.org) to give online. If you'd like more information on any of these ways to help please contact Kathleen Bowser in the Development Office at (412) 307-1268 or [adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org).



Sister Margaret Mary and Sister Monique returning from a collecting trip in the home's begging van.

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

Visit us at [www.littlesistersofthepooppittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepooppittsburgh.org)