



# 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 27**  
**Motorcycle Ride**
- **August 11**  
**150th Mass**
- **Sept. 12-14**  
**Rummage Sale**
- **Sept. 28**  
**Spaghetti Dinner**

**Little Sisters of the Poor**  
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Resident Dean Moriarity is helped in the dining room of Sacred Heart Household by Sister Jean.

## 5 Star Rating

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services recently released their latest ratings for all 15,000 nursing homes across the nation. The ratings scale ranges from 1 star to a high of 5 stars. Our home was rated as a top 5 Star facility—one of only 8 nursing homes in Allegheny County to achieve such a level.

While these rankings and ratings help to validate our mission to the public, we have always striven to be a top tier nursing home long before these evaluation methods began. In the smiles of our Residents, in the joyful moments that occur here every day, and even in the final moments of a Resident's life we do our best to carry out a 5 star mission.

In our continual efforts to improve operations we recently decided to survey the families of current Residents to gauge their satisfaction with our home. 100% of those who responded rated us as either very good or excellent in caring for their loved ones. Additional comments included the following: "This facility exceeds all expectations. It is a wonderful environment. Everyone from staff

to volunteer is friendly and sincerely caring." "I feel like a family member rather than a visitor." "Thank you for caring and loving my grandmother and giving us the best experience of what a true nursing home should be!"

Even after Residents pass away many families still stay connected. Diane Flamos Young's parents first moved into our apartments years ago, then transitioned to the nursing home when in need of more care. Both went to Heaven last year. Diane recently wrote "Sisters, I have thought of you often and thanked God for your constant, unwavering love for Him, as shown through your love to my parents. I truly thank you with my whole heart. I will cherish the days I was able to stay in your guest room and be part of your beautiful community in Pittsburgh." All of these kudos and positive reviews are only possible through the efforts of the Sisters, our staff, volunteers, extended family and our benefactors who work together to care for our Residents. Thank you for helping us to achieve this rating!

# Little Sisters of the Poor



Volunteers Helen Lorinc, Julie Interval and Mary Ann Kaylor at the Volunteer Luncheon.

## Volunteer Center Blessed

Saint Jeanne Jugan always had a vision of how the mission of the Little Sisters of the Poor would continue: she and her fellow Sisters would do the work to care for the elderly Residents, but each home would need support from the community to continue their mission. Today that support is manifested through benefactors who give monetary or in-kind donations and through volunteers who sacrifice their time and talents to improve the lives of our elderly Residents.

On April 25th, we honored the nearly 180 volunteers who work side by side with the Little Sisters and lay staff to make our house a home. The 11:00 am Mass was dedicated to all of the volunteers. After Mass a special luncheon was held in the auditorium as a thank you for all of the volunteers' efforts. Making the day extra special was the blessing and dedication of the newly established "Volunteer Center."

In this space is the Volunteer Coordinator's office, a lounge area and a

dining room for meals while volunteering. Nearly 70 volunteers, all of the Little Sisters and Residents Father Jerome Dixon and Father Garry Patriquin were on hand to bless the new center. Now the volunteers will have a space to catch up on the latest news of the home, have a delicious meal and interact with one another.

"We are always so pleased to be the recipients of such generosity. In total 28,506 hours were contributed by volunteers in 2018. The estimated hourly volunteer rate is \$25.00, according to the Independent Sector, which means their contribution could be valued at over \$700,000-- although their love and service are truly priceless! I am certain St. Jeanne Jugan would be proud of their efforts to work together as family to support our home, and happy that we now have a space in our home just for volunteers," remarked Sister Mary Vincent.

If you would like to join our efforts as a volunteer, please contact Valerie Beam at (412) 307-1139 or [volpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:volpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org). We would love to expand our family of volunteers and find the perfect volunteer position for you!

### Save the Dates for Summer/Fall Events

**Saturday July 20th** Shepherd's Gift Shop in Wexford will host its annual customer appreciation day and raffle. A portion of the sales from that day and all the proceeds from the raffle will benefit our mission. Come shop at 100 VIP Drive in Wexford Pa.

**Saturday July 27th** is the annual Teamsters Motorcycle Ride. Participants meet at the Teamster Temple in Lawrenceville with registration beginning at 9:00am. The ride ends at the home's front parking lot with Residents and Sisters welcoming the riders for a picnic lunch.

The final rummage sale of the year is scheduled for **September 12-14th** from 10:00am-4:00pm daily with Saturday being the "Bag Sale." 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 28th** from 4:00-7:00pm is our annual Spaghetti Dinner. Join us for a delicious homemade meal and an enjoyable evening. Contact us at (412) 307-1100 for more information on any of these events.



Sister Grace assists Father Jerome Dixon and Father Garry Patriquin in blessing the newly dedicated space.

# Around Our Home



Residents Donald Mulvanity and Mary Lindsey work to prepare the plastic bags for crocheting.

## Blanket Making

A new activity was recently launched that is productive, kindhearted, and environmentally conscious. With the help of many volunteers the Residents have begun to make blankets from recycled plastic shopping bags. This multiple step process involves the hands of many to fold each bag, cut them into strips of plastic, and tie them together to create the “yarn” to be crocheted into a weather resistant blanket. Twice a month the team gathers in the activities room to work on their part of the assembly line. Soon they hope to have multiple blankets completed to donate to a local homeless shelter. What a beautiful way to give back and recycle plastic bags for a good cause.

## Chime Choir Concert

We are blessed with a thriving music therapy program as part of our activities department. For years our activities director has been a certified music therapist and now her assistant director is also certified in music therapy. Since joining the staff this winter, Rhiannon Rieger has been working closely with the Resident and Volunteer Chime Choir.



Activities Staff Rhiannon Rieger directs part of the Resident and Volunteer Chime Choir during their recent concert in our Gloria Chapel.

To share their talents the Chime Choir recently held an Easter Concert in the home’s Gloria Chapel. Eleven hymns about Easter and the Blessed Mother were performed accompanied by Activities Director Karen Jasko on guitar and her assistant Rhiannon playing flute to the delight of the audience. Apartment Resident Gloria McNabb provided narration before each song and encouraged all in attendance to sing-a-long.



L-R Laundry Employees Carol Jo Stenson, Katelyn Burns, Kathy Palmer, and Donna Smola in front of the two industrial dryers.

## Department Spotlight

There is so much that goes into making the Little Sisters home operate on a day to day basis. One area of the home that is essential to the operations, but is often overlooked, is the hard working Laundry Department. Each day the staff picks up bins of bedding, clothing, towels, etc. from each of the nursing households. They then sort all of the items and begin to wash them in one of two industrial washing machines. From there everything is loaded in the industrial dryers, then resorted, and folded or placed on hanging racks to go back to the nursing households upstairs.

The work, as you can imagine, is truly never ending. Six out of seven days, laundry is being done at the home. Each week 4,440 lbs of laundry passes through their hands! Today we say thank you to the four women pictured above for their combined 93 years of service to the Little Sisters. Donna Smola, who handles all of the ironing, has worked at the home since 1976. Kathy Palmer matches Donna in longevity. Carol Jo Stenson and Katelyn Burns are the “newer employees” at four and three years of service respectively. All of their efforts are appreciated and add to the family spirit of our home.

If you would like to join our family of employees or want to learn more about the current positions available, please visit our website at [www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org/employment-3/](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org/employment-3/) or contact Human Resources Director Stephen E. Jumba Jr. at (412) 307-1100.

# A Note From Mother



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

Dear Friends,

150 years! How different life must have been so long ago when the first Little Sisters of the Poor departed from Europe on their way to America. What courage and absolute belief in God's plan for each of the first Sisters who left their country of birth to travel across the ocean to spread the mission of hospitality founded by Saint Jeanne Jugan in 1839. We will be forever grateful to the Sisters who gave up so much in those early days to establish the first 13 homes in America within the first four years of arriving in 1868.

In Pittsburgh our home was founded in 1872 with the help of Father Ernest Lelievre, our Congregations' ambassador to America. Every home of the Little Sisters has a unique story about its establishment. The common thread amongst these early homes that continues through to present day is the ongoing reliance on Divine Providence, which is manifested through our friends and benefactors who help us to make our house a home for all of our elderly Residents.

In appreciation of the last 150 years in America, please join us **August 11th at 11:00am** for Mass in our home's Gloria Chapel with main celebrant Bishop David A. Zubik. A Reception and Open House will follow from 12:00-4:00pm. If you plan to attend please RSVP by August 5th to (412) 307-1100 or [adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org). We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you and praising God for all He has done for the Little Sisters of the Poor and our dear Residents.

Gratefully in prayer,

*S. Mary Vincent LSP*



## Sister, How Can I Help?

Many times we hear, "how can I help?" We respond "in any way you can" and we honestly mean that. Operating a nursing home for the elderly poor requires the help of many. Whether you give a monetary gift, a donation of food or supplies, or the donation of your time through volunteering, the Little Sisters and our elderly Residents are ready to accept your kindness.

Here are some specific ways you can help the Little Sisters further their mission to the elderly poor. Monetary gifts are a blessing and help the home operate as over 50% of the operating budget is raised from donations. Gifts can be made in honor of a milestone like a birthday or anniversary or to memorialize a deceased friend or loved one. Either use the enclosed return envelope and gift slip or visit our website [www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org).

Perhaps you would like to plan for our future by planning yours. Gifts made through Estate plans are a wonderful way to help keep our mission going. In fact there are some ways to give that benefit you now while providing for our future. A Charitable Gift Annuity can be established so that you may receive tax benefits and income now while naming the Little Sisters as the beneficiary of the "charitable remainder" upon your passing.

Don't forget that if you are 70 ½ or older and able to share a portion of your annual withdrawal from your IRA, the Little Sisters is a qualified charity able to accept it. See your financial advisor for more information.

Contact Kathleen Bowser if you have any questions at (412) 307-1268 or [adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org). Thank you!



Little Sisters from decades ago collecting produce for the home in Pittsburgh's Strip District.

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

Did you know that you could receive ONE receipt for all of your donations for the year? You can request a year-end receipt only by checking the box on the enclosed gift slip or by contacting the Development Office at (412) 307-1100. Year-end receipts are mailed each January for the previous year.

Give Online at [www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org)