



150 Years in America

Mass and Open House Celebration

Sunday August 11th the Little Sisters opened their home on Benton Avenue to guests for a Mass of Thanksgiving. The Gloria Chapel was filled with Residents, Sisters, friends, benefactors, employees, volunteers and relatives of the home.

Following a beautiful Mass, celebrated by Bishop William Winter and many priest friends, guests were welcomed to join the reception graciously catered by Common Plea Catering in the auditorium and adjoining porch. For those new to the home, tours were offered to see the nursing home households and the independent living apartments.

150 years ago the first Little Sisters came from Europe at the request of numerous dioceses in America. Within four years the thirteen homes were established including Pittsburgh in 1872. Lining the main hall of the home



Sister Mary Ellen with commemorative give aways from the celebration.

were posters and podcasts telling the story of each of the original thirteen homes through images and imaginary interviews. If you were not able to join us on the 11th or didn't have time to listen that day, the podcasts are available at the national website www.littlesistersofthepoor.org along with slideshows for the first 13 homes.



Photos courtesy of the Pittsburgh Catholic
The Gloria Chapel during Mass.

Thank you to all who helped the Little Sisters celebrate this significant milestone of serving the needy elderly in America. With your help Saint Jeanne Jugan's mission of hospitality toward our elderly Residents will continue for another 150 years!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Volunteer Darla McCarthy weeds the garden in front of the main entrance.

To say that volunteering at the Little Sisters is a family affair for Darla McCarthy is an understatement. Darla, her mother Donna Hay, her daughter Molly Bolton, her two grandchildren Brooks (age 5) and Kerrigan (age 3), and her sister Diana are all volunteers at the home. Darla's countless hours of work maintaining the home's gardens this summer has truly made a difference.

For over five years now, Darla has been an almost daily presence in the home's ceramics room, helping to pour molds, paint, and assist the Residents with making masterpieces. It wasn't until recently that her love of gardening merged with her drive to volunteer and help the Sisters keep their property looking its best this summer.

Although Darla has Multiple Sclerosis, she does not let her diagnosis slow her down. She knows that she must stay active to keep her body functioning the best it can. "I don't do this for me. I do it for the Residents and Sisters to enjoy. That makes me happy," Darla shared. On average she spends about 25 hours a week here and loves to include her grandchildren in all that she does. Darla notes that losing the Residents is hard, but she feels it is worth developing these relationships for herself and her grandkids. Thank you Darla for all you do!

For more information on volunteering, contact Valerie Beam at (412) 307-1139 or volpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

New Collecting Sister

We recently welcomed a new collecting Little Sister to Pittsburgh. Sister Josephine brings an abundance of experience, compassion and energy to our home. The role of collecting Sister requires a great deal of traveling throughout the Greater Pittsburgh area, and getting to know the generous benefactors who play a big part in caring for our Residents.

This isn't Sister's first time serving as a collecting Sister. Throughout 54 years as a Little Sister she has traveled around the country and fulfilled over twenty different assignments. "Whatever is asked of me is God's will, and answering His call to serve the elderly poor in different ways brings so much gratification," she said. Finding her way to businesses and churches throughout the several counties could have been a challenge for Sister Josephine, but she has had the help of many. She added, "The people of Pittsburgh are so compassionate and generous. My transition would have been much more difficult if our volunteers and Jeanne Jugan Associates had not been so willing to help our apostolate of collecting."

In addition to collecting, Sister Josephine is passionate about

gardening. She graciously began helping volunteers maintain the beautiful flower beds surrounding our home. One of her most unique experiences as a Little Sister was in Gallup, New Mexico, where vegetable gardens were built for the elderly Navajo Residents, and a building was assembled for their small farm animals that they didn't want to leave behind.

Whether Sister Josephine is out collecting food for the home, rounding up volunteers to help with a church collection, or planting in the gardens,

“The people of Pittsburgh are so compassionate and generous.”
—Sister Josephine

she is always striving to fulfill the mission of the Little Sisters. These are the types of service and hospitality that were the vision of St. Jeanne Jugan, and that enrich and enhance our Resident's lives.



Sister Josephine stands in the home's Grotto. Just one of many beautiful gardens surrounding the Little Sisters' property.

Celebrating America on Residents Day



L-R Resident Maureen Deringer with employee Megan McMinn, employee Jonathan Znamenak with Resident Farley Ridout shooting a basketball in "Indiana," Resident Pat Lewis escorted by employee Cheryl Roach.

Following the theme of this 150th jubilee year of the anniversary of the Little Sisters' arrival in America, our Residents Day was titled "Celebrate America." Each household selected a different state where a home of the Little Sisters is located: Maryland, Indiana, Ohio, Rhode Island and Pennsylvania — of course — were represented.

The households were decorated

with the state's well-known attributes. Maryland was brimming with artificial crabs while Ohio was all about Rock N Roll (for the Hall of Fame). In addition to the decorations, games that connected back to each state were set up for the Residents to play. Every household also had food representing their chosen state.

Each Resident was paired with an employee or volunteer escort for

the afternoon. They visited each household, sampled food, played games and won tickets that were then redeemed for some fun prizes. Employees from Duquesne Light volunteered to run the games for the day.

"It was a fun way to travel across America without leaving our building! The day was a joy for all!" remarked Sister Mary Vincent, Mother Superior.

Sister Marguerite celebrates 60th Jubilee

Sister Marguerite recently celebrated her 60th Jubilee as a Little Sister of the Poor. Two of her three sisters travelled from her home city of Baltimore, Maryland for the anniversary. Sister Marguerite invited Father Michael Joyce, O.F.M. Cap, son of former Resident Mary Joyce who lived on Sister's St. Anne household, to celebrate the Mass. Father gave a beautiful homily which highlighted Sister Marguerite's devotion to her vows while drawing comparisons between Sister's fidelity to her vows and the vows of matrimony for lay people. During the Mass Sister Marguerite, accompanied by Mother Provincial Loraine Marie Claire and Mother Superior Mary Vincent, renewed her vows before God and all present in the chapel.

Following Mass, guests were invited to the auditorium for a delicious meal and a slide show of photographs from Sister's early days as a child in Baltimore and her years of service as a Little Sister. Over the years she has served in twenty different homes across the United States as a nurse and has loved her time in



Photo courtesy Madia Photography

Sister Marguerite surrounded by family and friends. all of the various cities she has been assigned.

"No matter where our vocation takes us, the mission remains the same — caring for the elderly poor as we would care for Jesus Himself. I feel blessed to continue my vows as a Little Sister," shared Sister Marguerite.

MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

The recent celebrations of our history in America leads me to reflect on the true meaning of our mission—serving our elderly Residents. I know my Sisters in community join me in saying that our daily interactions with them are some of the most rewarding parts of our work.

Our dear Residents do not stay idle themselves. They have a group called the “Prayer Warriors.” First established in 2007, the group’s membership numbers have grown overtime, but its mission remains the same—to pray for anyone needing prayers. Each week a list is created from requests received and is then distributed throughout the home.

The “Prayer Warriors” are always willing to accept new requests and feel honored to pray for those in need of prayers because they believe that anything is possible through prayer. If you have a special intention that you would like them to hear please include it in the enclosed envelope. Of course all of the Little Sisters will remember you in their prayers as well.

Thank you and may God bless you.

Sister Mary Vincent S.P.



Residents Anceda Dugan and Rosemary Merriman on July 4th at the Patriotic prayer service and flag raising.

Please help keep the Little Sisters going by remembering us in your will.

SAVE THE DATES

- September 20
KDKA Spaghetti Breakfast
5:00am-9:00am
- September 28
Spaghetti Dinner
4:00pm-7:00pm
- October 10-12
Christmas Boutique
10:00am-4:00pm
- December 14th
Turkey Drop
9:00am-2:00pm

OUR MISSION

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.





2019

Ticket

Little Sisters of the Poor Cash Raffle
Drawing: November 11, 2019

License #20283 Permit #2329

Return this stub with suggested minimum donation
of
\$20 per ticket or \$50 for 3 tickets

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

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Dear Friends,

In case you missed our July mailing, our **Big Cash Raffle** is back! A total of **\$10,000** will be given away. There will be *six* randomly selected winners: **\$5,000** to the top winner, and five additional winners of **\$1,000 each!** The drawing will be November 11, 2019. All of the proceeds from this raffle will help us care for our elderly poor Residents.

Fill out the ticket(s), separate them, and return the ticket(s) by mailing them back in the enclosed envelope with **\$20.00 per ticket or \$50.00 for all three tickets***. The first 6,000 tickets returned will be entered. Hurry as our raffle sold out last year in late October! Winners need not be present on November 11th, but will be notified by telephone and/or email on that day. It's that simple!

We thank you in advance for being a partner in our mission of caring for the elderly poor. The more tickets returned the more funds that are raised to care for our Residents.

If you'd like additional tickets,
please call (412)-307-1100.

May God reward you greatly for your generosity.
Good luck!

Sincerely,

Administrator

Remember, only the first 6,000 tickets returned will be included in the drawing, so send yours in soon! Our raffle sold out last year in late October!

Your odds of winning = 1 in 1,000!
If your envelope is received after we reach our quota, it will be immediately returned.

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