

MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

We, at the Little Sisters, are grateful for all of the good things that have come our way during 2019 here in Pittsburgh. You have been a major part of that blessing and we wish to thank you for all that you have done for our family of Residents and Sisters. Each Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas Seasons your support helps us to provide peaceful and joyful holidays for our elderly Residents.

Your contributions allow us to make not only these holidays special, but also help us to make each day they spend here in our home rich in tranquility, security, purpose and happiness. Thank you!

As always we appreciate your gifts of cash, check, stock, IRA distributions, gifts made in memory or in honor of someone and matching gifts, sent through the mail or given online. Donations must be postmarked by **December 31, 2019** to receive tax credit for this year. Thank you and may you receive many graces and blessings this beautiful time of year for being an integral part of our work!

Gratefully in prayer,

S. Mary Vincent SSP



Sister Josephine & Driver Tom Hamilton unload the begging van. She will be collecting meat donations at the December 14th Turkey, Ham or Roast Drop.

Wish List Items

Unscented body wash, Dove bar soap, mouth wash, Efferdent, Fixodent, Men's and Women's deodorant, disposable razors, clorox wipes, Gift Cards to Giant Eagle, Kuhn's or Walmart, XL twin sheet sets, post-it notes.

Additional items can be viewed at our Amazon Smile charity list. Visit smile.amazon.com to make the Little Sisters of the Poor of Pennsylvania your designated charity and see our current list.

SAVE THE DATES

- December 14th
Turkey, Ham or Roast Drop 9:00am-2:00pm
- December 24th
Christmas Eve Mass 7:00pm

Day of Giving
December 3rd, 2019 visit
www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org

#GIVING
TUESDAY

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



IRA News--*Qualified Charitable Distribution*

If you are 70 ½ or older and have an IRA, you can direct all or part of your *Required Minimum Distribution* for 2019 or 2020 to the Little Sisters of the Poor as a qualified charity. Contact your IRA company to initiate the process.



Christmas Celebrations

A Time to Reflect on Blessings

The final few weeks of the year at the Little Sisters of the Poor is usually jam packed with excitement. There is so much going on that sometimes Advent passes in a blink! So as we prepare for the birth of Jesus and all of the celebrations that will accompany His arrival, we are taking time to slow down and remember the true reason for the season!

There is so much to be grateful for here at our home and the giving seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas remind us of all the wonderful people who contribute to our mission in both large and small ways! Each year many parishes adopt our Residents as part of their giving trees and some even deliver the presents and stay for a visit. The Residents have smaller parties on the households and then one large party with all



Resident Leo Wehrlin visits with Santa at the annual Christmas party.

of the Sisters in the auditorium. There is also a wonderful Christmas program performed every year by Residents, staff and volunteers. This year's performance is scheduled for December 23rd and all are invited to join us.

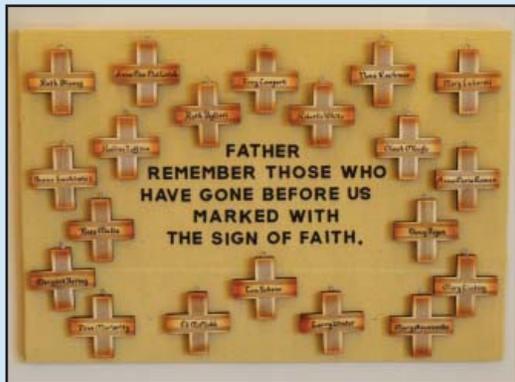
It truly is the most wonderful



Resident Stella Oleska with daughter Patricia Oleska-George practicing ukeleles.

time of the year as Residents, Sisters, staff, volunteers, and friends come together to celebrate the joyous occasion of the birth of Jesus! Thank you for your role in helping to make all of this possible. Please consider visiting us to see the lovely decorations throughout our home.

RESIDENTS REMEMBERED



The memorial board in the Gloria Chapel prior to the annual memorial mass.

The first Saturday of November is always a day of remembrance in our home. We honor all of the Residents who have passed away during the previous year. Family members and those who gave a gift in their memory were invited to join us at the Resident Memorial Mass.

This year it was on All Souls Day and 20 Residents were remembered. Family members in attendance were asked to bring forward a rose for their loved one to present it to chaplain Father Bill Feeney. Each Resident's family was given a memorial cross with their loved one's name written on it, which had been placed on their loved ones casket during the Resident's funeral mass earlier in the year. These crosses remain on the memorial board in the chapel all year prior to the Mass, so all who pray or worship in the chapel can remember our Residents. A candle was lit in front of the altar for each departed soul and all guests were invited to stay for refreshments in the Meet-n-Treat.

"The annual Resident memorial mass is a wonderful time to reflect on the honor we have as Little Sisters to care for the elderly in their final years. Every Resident is always considered part of our family," shared Sister Mary Vincent, Mother Superior & Administrator.

Employee Appreciation

What a week the employees recently had at the Little Sisters. Five days were devoted to employee appreciation. From Bingo to the Kona Ice Truck to a wonderfully catered meal, there was something for everyone and also lots of smiles and laughter throughout the week. Fun and games in the auditorium had staff challenging each other to mini golf, indoor corn hole or ladder ball. There was even a "photo booth" with dress up items from the activities supply.

The Little Sisters are grateful to the staff of the home who are an extension of their hands carrying out their mission. This year there was a display board acknowledging every employees' years of service, which ranged from less than a year to over 48 years!

All in all this week emphasized the spirit of camaraderie of this diverse group of employees, from supporting each other through competition to enjoying meals

together. This assembly of people helps the Sisters accomplish their work day in and day out.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining our extended family of collaborators by sharing your abilities with the Little Sisters please contact our Human Resources Director Stephen E. Jumba, Jr. at hrpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org

"Our staff is truly appreciated everyday, but this week was a special time to say thank you for all they do."
—Sister Mary Vincent, lsp

littlesistersofthepoor.org, (412) 307-1100. For a list of current job opportunities check out our website at littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org.



Assistant Director of Nursing Chris Costa and RNAC Debbie Smith dress up in the "photo booth" with HR Director Steve Jumba.

Residents' Artist Showcase



L-R Activities Director Karen Jasko with Resident Joe Wach in front of his artwork, ceramic creations painted by Resident Charlene McQuillan, and Resident Herman Norris, in an art smock, prepares to paint in art class.

The monthly art class has grown into multiple artistic avenues for the Residents to express their creative sides. In addition to the art classes taught by professional artist Maria Prascak, the home has an ongoing ceramics program where decorative pieces are painted, a collage making activity with volunteer Mary Doplar, and a monthly greeting card

making session with stamps led by volunteer Patricia DeMarrais.

In September the Activities Department hosted the second annual Artist showcase to display all of the artwork, painted ceramics and anything creative made by our talented Residents. Professional displays filled the auditorium and Residents proudly stood by their work during the showcase that was

held over two afternoons. A brief biographical write up was included on each Resident participating, many of whom never had the opportunity to explore art prior to moving into the home.

“It is amazing to see how the Residents' talents shine through with some encouragement!” remarked Sister Mary Vincent.

Residents Pray for Pope Francis

December 13, 2019 is the 50th anniversary of Pope Francis's ordination as a priest. Mother General, in France, requested that each Little Sisters' home internationally mark the occasion with something meaningful for the Pope.

After discussion among the Residents and Sisters, our home decided to recite a special rosary along with the Divine Mercy Chaplet daily for 50 days in our Gloria Chapel. Residents pledged to make personal sacrifices to raise funds to purchase a Chalice from each of the 18 Little Sisters' provinces around the world to be presented

to the Pope by Mother General in December. For example, one Resident was very willing to save up her weekly Bingo winnings to contribute to the collection. One mass a month for three months was said for the Holy Father's intentions. Residents and Sisters agreed to offer small prayers daily for Pope Francis and total these cumulatively for one month.

We pray that all of these good deeds and well wishes will help the Holy Father continue to faithfully lead the Catholic Church.



Resident Mary Ann Whalen takes time to pray for Pope Francis in the home's Gloria Chapel.