



203 Years of Life!

Milestone Birthdays Celebrated

These last few months have certainly been challenging for our home and Residents. Fortunately in the middle of June we were able to take our minds off the pandemic and host a wonderful “vehicle Birthday Parade” for two Residents who share a birthday.

Resident Kay Canyock turned 100 and Resident Mary Sahayda turned 103! Six Pittsburgh Police officers on motorcycles and five police cars escorted a parade of 23 decorated vehicles and one golf cart driven by volunteers, friends and family members as it passed by the main entrance of the home. The "Birthday Girls" were front & center while other Residents held birthday signs and lined up six feet apart along the front sidewalk. There was even a bagpiper dressed in a kilt performing! The parade piqued



Left: 100 year old Residents Kay Canyock in her birthday hat is greeted by Sister Gemma. Right: 103 year old Resident Mary Sahayda is surrounded by Sisters and Staff.

the interest of our neighbors across the street who were holding *Happy Birthday* signs as well.

Kay was born in Bristol, England. Her mother delivered Kay at home. During World War II, Kay had various jobs in the Land Army. She recalls the green jumpsuit she wore

while working. She met Joseph Canyock, an American motorcycle escort to General Patton at a Tea Dance. He was recuperating in England after being wounded in France. They were married in the Church of England. Joseph went

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VIRTUAL ROCK & ROLL-A-THON



In our Spring Newsletter we informed you of our plans to host a Rock-A-Thon in June. Obviously, the event had to be postponed for safety reasons. We would like to announce that the Rock-A-Thon has become the *Virtual Rock & Roll-A-Thon*. Those interested in participating can join us on Thursday, October 22nd at 2:00pm-3:30pm for a virtual zoom celebration.

With the help of the iPads throughout the home, participating Residents will either rock in rocking chairs or roll in wheelchairs as they connect with volunteers, family and friends over zoom. There will even be a special entertainment broadcast at 2:30pm. All registered rockers will be eligible for prizes.

Here at the home we hope to have Residents rocking socially distanced on each floor or household. If you'd like to join the virtual event or want more information on how to sponsor our Rockers or Rollers, please contact Kathleen Bowser at (412) 307-1268 or adevpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org. Those who contributed in the spring to "rock from home" and requested a t-shirt will be receiving them in the mail prior to October 22nd. All funds raised will help to continue the care of the elderly Residents.

Doorway Rosaries

In our last newsletter we told you about the global initiative by the Little Sisters of the Poor to say one million rosaries. Our dear Residents have taken this call to action very seriously. St. Michael's household, in particular, has made saying the rosary together a daily activity.

They pray daily for "our Lady to put her rosary around our home, each Resident, their family, loved ones and their homes, for the family & loved ones of all staff, Jeanne Jugan Association members, Benefactors, volunteers, Little Sisters & Residents in Pittsburgh and all over the world and anyone who is diagnosed with or dies from Covid-19 on that day." Since beginning this quest in March they have collectively said over 2000 rosaries.

As you can see in the photo below, the rosaries can be said while socially distancing. The Residents gather in their doorways and recite the prayers together with the help of Sister Marcel Joseph. Cathy Budkey, a certified nursing aide on the household, asked if her mother

Connie, who has been socially distancing herself at her home, could join the rosary via facetime. Using one of the home's iPad's Connie and her two pet parakeets, who only make noise when saying

"It is so beautiful to witness the faith of the Residents and the fervor in which they pray. It brings a tear to my eye."

—Sister Mary Vincent, lsp,
Mother Superior

the rosary, join the daily prayer.

Please continue your personal rosary as often as you can and sign up at our website www.littlesistersofthepoor.org/a-million-families-a-million-rosaries/.



Sister Marcel leads the hallway Rosary in St. Michael's Household with Residents: (l-r) Anne Raskosky, Dorothy Scheletsky, Mary Ann Whalen.

Birthday Celebrations Cont'd



Pittsburgh Motorcycle Police lead the parade.



Benton Avenue Neighbors holding a Birthday sign across the street.



Volunteer Darla McCarthy drives the home's decorated golf cart in the parade.

back to the US after the war and Kay joined him three years later in Pittsburgh. They raised three daughters, three grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. For the last seven years as a Resident of the home, Kay has enjoyed a proper English tea every afternoon in her room.

Mary was born on June 17, 1917 and grew up in the Woods Run

area of the North Side. Mary has always been a hard worker and worked as a private housekeeper. She has twin boys, Michael and Jamie, and a daughter Mimi. She also has four grandchildren. Mary attended St. George Parish where she was known for her famous pierogis! At age 95, with poor eyesight, she helped to make the pierogis by pinching them shut. It has been claimed that she made

the best cabbage and cottage cheese pierogis at the parish. Mary also loves to play bingo and even has her bingo card memorized! She has been a Resident for two years.

Kay and Mary can't wait to celebrate again next year! It was a special day for all. Please visit our website to see a video of the parade and media coverage at: www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org!

Picnics on the Porch

Summer at the Little Sisters often means outings to local favorites like Kennywood, the Pirates game or a cruise on the Gateway Clipper. This summer has been very different. Knowing that the Residents needed some fresh air and a change of pace, the Activities Department decided to start picnics on the porch.

Separately, each of the four nursing households "go out" to lunch on the home's spacious side porch. The *al fresco* dining allows the Residents to enjoy the summer warmth and have lunch with a wonderful view of the grounds including the grotto and the walkway to the Calvary statue. The porch allows for plenty of room to socially distance as all the Residents dine at their own table. As long as the weather cooperates, the picnics on the porch will continue for the nursing home Residents.



Resident Marion Roach is greeted by Sister Marguerite at St. Anne household's porch picnic.

MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

As we move through 2020 with uncertainty we continue to be grateful for all that our dear friends have done for our mission. Thanks to you we have been able to care for our elderly Residents without disruption.

Every August we take time to reflect on the life of our Mother Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan. Her Feast Day was celebrated on August 30th. Jeanne Jugan, a daughter of the French Revolution, lived through very difficult times, but she persevered and created a legacy of caring for the elderly poor that continues today. One of her most frequently quoted sayings is "Blessed be God, thank you my God, Glory be to God." Her perseverance reminds us all that God is in control and He will carry us through these challenging times.

During this pandemic, along with all the struggles of life, we hold your heartfelt petitions in our prayers. We pray everyday for you. Thank you for all you have done for us and for your support of our mission!

United in Prayer,

S. Mary Vincent SSP



Sister Josephine receives a flatbed full of donated food from Divine Redeemer Parish in Sewickley. The food was unused and leftover from their cancelled Lenten Fish Fry this Spring. Thank you for sharing!

Fall is typically the time for workplace giving campaigns. Our United Way of Southwestern PA Designation number is **244** and our Combined Federal Campaign Code is **47173**.

Call us at (412) 307-1100 or visit www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org to find out more ways to help.

SAVE THE DATES

- October 7th
Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary
- October 22nd
Virtual Rock N Roll A Thon
- October 25th
St. Jeanne Jugan's Birthday

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

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.

