



Home for the Holidays

Western Pennsylvania's very own Perry Como's Christmas Carol reminded us that "There's No Place like Home for the Holidays." This sentiment rings especially true again this year. Another Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas Season impacted by the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Amidst this turmoil, our elderly Residents inspire us each and every day. Their positivity, faithfulness and acceptance during this difficult time is remarkable. While it has been challenging to go through periods of "lockdown" and "quarantine," the Residents rarely complained and have always made the best of this situation. All the Sisters, staff and volunteers work hard to make each day, including these special holidays, brighter for the Residents. Despite the challenges, we will continue to do all we can to make our Residents feel at home and loved. Last year the Residents participated in tree



Independent Living Residents (l-r): Pat Hartung, Carol Massucci, Judy Watts (seated), Margaret Mitchell, Gloria McNabb with Sister Mary Ellen and Apartment Manager Veronica Bryan around their decorated tree last year.

decorating contests, were served delicious homecooked holiday meals, enjoyed Christmas activities, and most importantly, had the opportunity to attend Mass and give thanks for all that God has provided.

We will continue these traditions

this year and remain thankful that although the situation is not ideal, we are grateful to be home and together for this Holiday Season. May God bless your home as well with an abundance of joy and happiness.

**IN MEMORIAM
SISTER GEMMA, LSP**



Sister Gemma at her 60th Jubilee.

On October 11th, 2021, the twelfth anniversary of St. Jeanne Jugan's canonization, Sister Gemma de la Passion passed away. Sister had been a fixture here in the Pittsburgh home for many years, having first entered from this home in the 1950s. A Pittsburgh native, Sister was one of six "Garrity Girls" born to her parents and grew up on the South Side Slopes.

After making perpetual vows Sister Gemma spent ten years in France at various homes. Her vocation led her to homes throughout the United States and Canada until returning home to Pittsburgh some 30 years ago. You may recognize Sister from the many years she collected at churches across the diocese or from one of our numerous summage or craft sales she orchestrated. Sister worked hard to do all that she could for this mission. She was also instrumental during the multiple construction projects involving moves of Residents and offices. Her energy was boundless and she always sincerely remembered those who helped this mission in her prayers—the benefactors, volunteers and staff.

"Sister was a wonderful Little Sister who devoted most of her life to serving God in this mission." shared Sister Mary Vincent, Administrator.

150 Years in Pittsburgh

Next year we will celebrate our sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary of the Little Sisters' presence in Pittsburgh. It is a truly remarkable milestone.

At the request of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in April 1872, the first seven Sisters arrived from France and were warmly welcomed by Pittsburgh's Bishop Domenec. A small home was established for their use in what was called Allegheny City (now known as Pittsburgh's North Side).

Sadly within months of welcoming their first Residents, three of the Little Sisters died of typhoid. The Sisters persevered. As the number of elderly in their care grew, an additional home was erected in 1885 along Penn Avenue in the Garfield neighborhood. The Little Sisters were recognized throughout the City as they went about in their horse and buggy begging for food and essentials for their Residents.

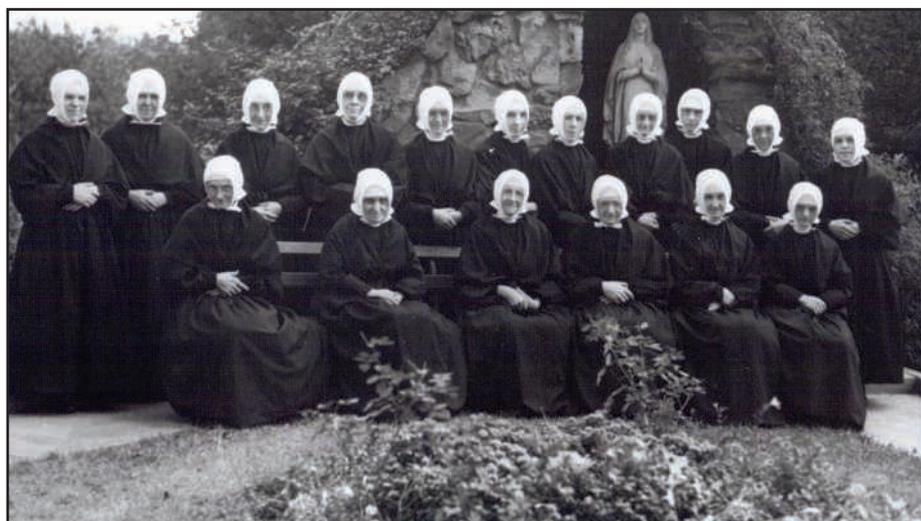
As we prepare to celebrate this significant anniversary, we are requesting your stories,

photographs, or history that you may have to share from our 150-year history in the 'Burgh. Details can be sent to the Development Office 1028 Benton Avenue, Pgh, PA 15212 or via email to devpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org

Without the generous and welcoming people of Pittsburgh we would not be celebrating this milestone! ♪

—Sister Mary Vincent, lsp,
Mother Superior & Administrator

littlesistersofthepoor.org We look forward to sharing our celebration plans for 2022 in future communications.



Little Sisters pose in front of the Grotto on the grounds of the 1923 James P. Wall Building (circa 1930).

Halloween Adventures



Resident Clyde Hill dressed as a Pirate.

Although we could not open our home to visitors again this year at Halloween, we were able to bring Fall fun to the Residents. We held an outdoor car parade with friends and volunteers. The local city fire truck made an appearance along with motorcycle police and decorated vehicles of volunteers



Perpetual Help household's pumpkin scarecrow.

and friends. Residents, who were also in costume, lined the front sidewalk to join in the festivities.

Activities challenged each household and department to create its own scarecrow. The "contest" was judged by the Sisters. An interesting mix of funny, cute and gory were represented



Residents lining the sidewalk during the Halloween parade.

throughout the departments. Congrats to all the participants. Each scarecrow was awarded a certificate of recognition by the Sisters. The *Dancing Scarecrow* from Sacred Heart household won overall best. To see all the other creations and the categories won visit our website blog.

Meat Drop December 11, 2021

Mark your calendars once again for our 9th annual "Meat Drop" on **Saturday December 11, 2021**.

Following the success of last year's outdoor drive up and drop off style, Sister Josephine invites you to deliver meat to help fill our home's freezer. Volunteers will be in the half circle on the 11th from 10:00am-2:00pm to accept donations of fresh or frozen **turkey, ham, chicken and especially roasts of beef or pork.**

All donations are graciously accepted and will help our home to feed our nearly 100 Residents with delicious homecooked meals. The drop will take place rain or shine. If you are unable to make that date or time, please call our main number at (412) 307-1100 to arrange a more suitable time to deliver your donation.

Thank you for helping collecting sister—Sister Josephine to fill our freezer on December 11th!



Sister Mary Ellen poses with a "turkey" during last year's outdoor Meat Drop.

MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

As we are preparing to finish out this "Year of St. Joseph", I thought it would be appropriate to write about St. Joseph's role in the Holy Family. Often during Advent as we prepare for the celebration of Jesus's birth, we reflect on the baby's arrival as well as the Blessed Mother's journey, but we rarely consider St. Joseph.

Through Divine Providence, God gifted St. Joseph with such faith as he patiently cared for Mary throughout her pregnancy and especially during the birth of Jesus. He was the loving earthly father to Jesus, raising him with dignity and humility, while fulfilling his role as protector of the Holy Family. As Little Sisters we strive to imitate this loving care St. Joseph exemplified when we welcome our elderly Residents. His faithful example as the "Protector" of the Holy Family, even prior to Jesus's birth, is one reason our Mother Foundress always confidently confided our congregations' needs to him.

May St. Joseph continue to inspire you this Advent Season and throughout the year.

S. Mary Vincent LSP



Sister Marguerite with Resident Anne Dolansky.

Wish List & End of Year Giving

Floral print polycotton XL Twin sheet sets, *Buck & Buck* open back gowns or knit wraps sizes M-2X, *SoClean* Cpap Cleaner, *Olive Garden* or *Eat N Park* Gift cards for Resident "Dining In", 12ft. Pre-lit Christmas Tree (white lights), Funds for Special Wheelchairs, 18 by 18 polyester table napkins in gold or tan.

Additional items can be viewed at our Amazon Smile charity list on our website www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org.

Donations must be postmarked by December 31, 2021 to receive tax credit for this year. Give online or call us at (412) 307-1268 to find out more ways to help our home.

SAVE THE DATES

■ November 22-
December 10th
**Christmas Online Crafts &
Ceramics Sale**

■ November 30th
Help us reach 
our Match
Goal of \$15,000 (generously
provided by a Family
Foundation)

■ December 11th **Meat Drop**

Visit littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org
for details on any of the above.

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.



Little Sisters of the Poor

Christmas Cards Order Form

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
<p>A</p> 	_____	_____
<p>B</p> 	_____	_____
<p>C</p> 	_____	_____

Cost

7 for \$10
(add \$2.00 mailing cost)

12 for \$15
(add \$3.00 mailing cost)

30 for \$25
(add \$8.00 for priority shipping)

(Descriptions on reverse side)

Total No. of Cards _____ \$ Enclosed _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Method of Payment: _____ Cash _____ Check (payable to: Little Sisters of the Poor)
 _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Little Sisters of the Poor
 1028 Benton Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15212
 412-307-1100

Orders may be placed online at:
www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org
 Click on the Christmas Card Link to order
 Questions? Email: devspittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org

Thank you for your order!

Little Sisters of the Poor Christmas Cards

Card A Green Sketch on Cream

Card B Blue Sketch on White

Card C Maroon Sketch on Cream



And she gave birth to her firstborn Son
and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths
Luke 2:7

Inside Left Panel

He shall stand firm and shepherd
his flock by
the strength of the Lord ... his
greatness shall reach
the ends of the earth, he shall be
peace.

Micah 5:2

Inside Right Panel

May the wonder of
Christmas
bring you
peace.



O Zion, be not discouraged! The
Lord your God, is in your midst...

Inside Left Panel

He will rejoice over you with
gladness and renew you in His
love.

Zephaniah 3:17

Inside Right Panel

May love fill your heart
this Christmas and
bring you joy,
happiness and peace
throughout the
New Year!



Inside Left Panel

“A Child is born to us,
a Son is given us;
upon His shoulder
dominion rests.
They Name Him
Wonder-Counselor,
God Hero,
Father-Forever,
Prince of Peace.”
Isaiah 9:6

Inside Right Panel

“Come, let us adore Him.”

7 cards for \$10

12 cards for \$15

30 cards for \$25

Sketches by
Sister Martha, lsp