



## "Good Tidings We Bring"

It is that beautiful season of the year once again, when hearts are aglow with the anticipation of Christ's birth! The Peace and Joy of the newborn King express the true spirit of Christmas.

Can you imagine Mary's love and amazement as she first held her newborn son, the Savior of the world? Surely, she was overcome with joy and awe as she gazed upon her child. The mystery of our Lord's coming to earth in the form of a tiny baby is beyond our poor human imagination.

Advent and Christmastime are always joyous seasons in our Home. We come together as a family to exchange gifts and praise the gift of Jesus. We touch Love incarnate every day in our elderly Residents, as Jesus said, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." And as Saint Jeanne Jugan so often said, "Never forget that the



The Manger fully decorated at Christmas in the Gloria Chapel.

Poor are Our Lord." Each Resident brings joy to our Home and leaves an indelible mark in our hearts. They are the true heart of our mission.

Each year, we not only celebrate the birth of Christ; we rejoice in the gifts of each person living in our Home. As you anticipate the birth of

Jesus, may you stop and reflect on the gift we are to one another, each person made in the image of God Himself.

From our family of Little Sisters and Residents to yours, we wish you Glad Tidings of Great Joy this Christmas!



## IN MEMORIAM



August with his parents Cary and Amy & dear friend Sister Augustine.

In early October Sister Augustine of St. Chantal passed away following a long illness. Sister had lived at the Pittsburgh Home since 2016. She had many roles here including the Jeanne Jugan Association facilitator. In this role she worked with lay people to support the Sisters efforts and their mission.

Over the years, Sister made many connections with the people of Pittsburgh. Whether it was calling donors to thank them for donations or being a witness of her faith in the community, Sister impacted many lives. One unique relationship began when Sister was at a local hospital for an appointment. A man approached her asking for prayers for his young son, who was born prematurely in that same hospital. He was in the NICU and the family needed prayers. Sister graciously offered to pray, but asked the son's name to make her prayers more personal. To her delight the father told her that the baby's name was August. Sister Augustine's face lit up as she pointed to her own name label on her walker. From then on Gus's family and Sister stayed connected and united in prayer. August "Gus" even came to visit with his parents Cary and Amy last December.

Sister will be missed by all here in Pittsburgh and her two surviving brothers, Brian and John, along with nieces and nephews.

## Vocation Fair

On October 13th, 2023 Sister Georgia, Sister Jessica (from the Philadelphia home) and Mother Loraine Marie Clare, participated in the Religious Vocations Fair at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. Sixty-five religious communities of men and women filled the large gymnasium on campus. Father David Pivonka started the fair in the morning with a blessing. A continuous stream of young people came by the booths all morning. The noon Mass celebrated in the Christ the King Chapel was overflowing.

After lunch the Sisters were again stationed at their table distributing literature about the Little Sisters' mission. Many of the students they met were majoring in theology and nursing. The students were drawn by the large displays of sisters with Residents and expressed particular interest in our apostolate with the elderly. Others were happy to learn about our charism and asked questions such as "what is your

favorite part of being a consecrated religious?" and "how did you know you were called to your order?" Multiple young women expressed an interest in our Congregation's *Spring into Service* opportunity offered at our Homes every year.

We were grateful for this opportunity to interact with young people whose faith and fervor are so encouraging, and for the chance to share with them more about St. Jeanne Jugan and the Little Sisters.

!! Opportunities like these to connect with Catholic young people are essential to our work. Thank you Franciscan University! !!  
—Mother Loraine Marie Clare, lsp



Three Students from Franciscan University in Steubenville with Mother Loraine and Sister Jessica.

## Cruising the Three Rivers



Sister Georgia with Resident Joe Kosarik await to board the Clipper.



Residents Ursula Bautista Yauri and Dolly Panucci with volunteer Bridget McDaniel.



Residents Kathy and Jim LeBlanc enjoy a dance aboard the ship.

This Summer we had fun setting sail once again on the Gateway Clipper. This year was one of the best attended cruises ever as families of the Residents were invited to join Residents, Sisters, volunteers and staff for a luncheon cruise along the three rivers. A generous benefactor

living in Florida with childhood ties to Pittsburgh sponsors the annual trip to bring the Residents great joy!

Following the lunch service, musical entertainment was provided by *The Doo Wop Doctors*. Everyone was smiling as the Sisters requested the

dance floor favorite the "Chicken Dance." The song brought many of the Residents, even those in wheelchairs to the dance floor. Each Resident received a souvenir photograph as well. A great time was had by all!

Thanks for the great memories!

## Lights, Camera, Paint!

Sister Josephine made her debut on Bethel Park TV this fall. She was the invited guest of Maria Prascak (the volunteer monthly art class instructor at the Little Sisters). The show entitled "Maria's Ideas Teaches you to Paint" was recorded at Maria and John's studio on the South Side and aired on BPTV. A link to the show can also be found on Maria's Youtube page and our website. The monthly series was recently recognized by the Greater Pittsburgh Community Media Awards.

Sister Josephine was amazed that she was able to paint a beautiful pumpkin alongside co-host Al Levine. Sister shared an interesting story about how the elderly Navajo living at the Little Sisters Gallup, NM Home handled pumpkins. Tune in and watch the show on our website. We hope this recording helps the Sisters connect to a new audience.



L-R Maria Prascak, Al Levine, and Sister Josephine film their Pumpkin Painting Class for BPTV.



## MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

Our wonderful Mother Foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan always reminded us to never take kindness for granted. So together with our dear Residents, we Little Sisters in Pittsburgh offer you our gratitude once again for all you do to help us.

We recently celebrated Saint Jeanne Jugan's birthday with a wonderful original play about her life performed by Residents and staff. With the growth of the elderly population her work is just as relevant today as it was centuries ago in France. We, Little Sisters, strive to carry on her legacy through our vocation of service and hospitality to the elderly poor.

We gratefully acknowledge the role of Divine Providence. Through support from our many friends and benefactors we are able to continue our mission as Saint Jeanne Jugan's daughters. This Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas Seasons, we praise God for His Divine Providence which is manifested through your support. Each gift given ensures that Jeanne's humble work continues. Thank you and may you receive many graces and blessings this beautiful time of year!

*Sr. Lorraine Maria Chase, Lsp*



Doo Wop Doctors: Dr. John Pastin and Dr. Al Condeluci present Sister Josephine a check for \$3,733 from their September Benefit Concert. Thank you!

## Wish List & End of Year Giving Ideas

You can help our Home in a variety of ways. Our *Amazon Wishlist* of much needed items is linked on our website  
[www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org).

Monetary donations must be postmarked by **December 31, 2023** or made online that day to receive tax credit for this year. Gifts of stock and donations directly from your IRA are also appreciated.

Scan the QR code to visit our website or call (412) 307-1268 or for more ways you can help our Home!



## SAVE THE DATES

- **Shop at our Online Crafts & Ceramics Store** through 12/31/2023 Shop for unique homeade gifts at our online store
- **December 9th 10am-2pm Toiletries Collection**  
Our Meat Drop is taking a year off and instead we will be collecting much needed toiletry items for our Residents. Any of the following can be delivered on the 9th: **Dove body wash** and **Dove bar soap**, **unscented lotions** like *Lubriderm* or *Cerave*, andy brand of **face and baby wipes**, **tissues**, **toothpaste**, **small bottles of mouthwash**

Please remember the Little Sisters 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.

