



# Happy 100 Years Anne!

Anne Dolansky was born in 1923 in Allison, PA near Uniontown. She was the middle child in a family of seven children. Both her mother and father came to the United States by boat from Europe, hoping for a better life.

After Anne finished high school she went to work in Pittsburgh and lived with her mother. At one point she contemplated joining a convent, but did not follow through. During World War II Anne got a job as a riveter as in Rosie the Riveter, from the famous poster. She worked in a war plant in Cleveland. She enjoyed working and felt good about receiving a paycheck while contributing to the war effort. After the war Anne was able to return home to Pittsburgh to be closer to family.

Anne moved a number of times throughout her life living in the West End, Sheraden, and eventually the North Side. While she never married



Anne Dolansky with her 100th Birthday cake.

she was blessed with many wonderful nieces and nephews. As she aged, she realized she needed more help and moved into the Little Sisters a decade ago. She has truly made the most of her time here by involving herself with many activities, most especially attending daily Mass in the Gloria Chapel.

To celebrate this milestone 100th birthday the Sisters and Anne's family planned a party which included Slovak dancers in the auditorium for all to enjoy. Anne received a Papal Blessing and a proclamation from the Mayor's Office. May God continue to bless Anne Dolansky!



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Brian George escorting Resident Toni Natto.

Brian George was recruited by fellow volunteer Jack Stockman. A retired corrections officer and US Veteran of Desert Storm and Desert Shield, Brian had free time to volunteer and instantly felt at home when he first visited the Little Sisters.

Brian helps with Resident outings, plays cards with Residents, and even sorts canned goods. On a recent Resident shopping outing at a local shopping plaza, the home's bus didn't start so it was Brian to the rescue. He came and helped jump the bus battery and made sure that the Residents arrived home safely.

Along with Brian comes his helpful trailer that hitches to the back of his truck. The trailer is used to transport wheelchairs and walkers on outings and haul donated items when needed. Brian's wife Joanna also volunteers to serve dinner to the Residents in a nursing household. Brian describes volunteering as "feeding the soul" and his favorite part is being with the Residents. We are so grateful to Brian and his wife Joanna for all they do to help our Residents.

If you would like to join Brian and our other faithful volunteers please contact Volunteer Coordinator Valerie Beam at (412) 307-1139 or [volpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:volpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoor.org).

## Boy Scouts Food Drive

Each fall, the Little Sisters work with various schools, parishes, and faith formation organizations for their annual canned goods collection. There was a tremendous response in November and December that helped to fill the kitchen pantry. This year Father Bob Miller suggested that Boy Scout Troop 1313 at St. John XXIII conduct their annual food drive to benefit the Little Sisters of the Poor mission.

*Scouting for Food* is a national program of the Boy Scouts. One weekend at Mass the Scouts passed out flyers with the needed items to parishioners. Then the next weekend the Scouts greeted parishioners and helped receive the boxes of donated food. Following Mass, the Scouts stood at the exits to collect monetary donations and gift cards. Scout Henry "Harry" Gibson coordinated the food collection as the Scout-in-Charge of this activity this year. Harry coordinated 20 youth and 12 adult volunteers to make sure there was adequate coverage at all of the

Masses.

The dozens of boxes of food were then picked up by the Little Sisters begging van. Volunteers at the home unpacked and sorted the collection for our kitchen pantry. What an amazing effort by Harry and Boy Scout Troop 1313 which augmented the collections completed by our many partner organizations last fall. Together we can make a difference in the lives of our elderly Residents!

“ Involving youth in our mission is essential! We are in awe of these efforts of the Boy Scouts and so many youth who contributed to our canned goods drive. ”

—Mother Loraine Marie Clare, lsp



Scouts Henry "Harry" Gibson and Quentin Butler in front of just some of the multiple boxes of food collected during their troop's food drive.

# Mardi Gras Celebrations



Royal Court: Residents Helen and Woody Frazier.



King Resident Joe Kosarik and Queen Resident Maggie McKissick.



Volunteers Pat Johnson and Judy Bendtsen with Resident Dolores McShea enjoying beignets.

Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Fat Tuesday—however you refer to it—at the Little Sisters the day is synonymous with a party. This year’s celebrations did not disappoint. The morning started with freshly made beignets (a French donut) and coffee in the Meet N Treat. Residents selected gold, green or purple beads to

wear for the day.

The fun continued in the afternoon with a parade through the first floor hallway to the auditorium. Residents were dressed up and wearing beads or masks. In the auditorium the Royal Court was announced along with the King and Queen Joe Kosarik and Maggie McKissick.

Mother Loraine read a declaration announcing the court and even handed over a ceremonial key to the home to the King and Queen.

There were king cakes to enjoy and musical entertainment. King and Queen proclaimed “Laissez le bon temps rouler!” which translates to “Let the good times roll!”

## One of a Kind Symphony Visit

A group of Residents, Sisters, volunteers and staff were invited to watch a Pittsburgh Symphony rehearsal at the invitation of Maestro Manfred Honeck and first violinist Christopher Wu. The rehearsal was in Heinz Hall downtown Pittsburgh.

Brahm’s Requiem was one of two pieces rehearsed. It was fascinating to witness the rehearsal process. In between songs, Maestro Honeck exited the stage to visit with the Sisters and Residents in the audience. Sister Veronica gave him a gift of chocolates made at the home. He spoke of his gratitude for the Sisters’ mission and even mentioned that when he first visited Pittsburgh decades ago he was fortunate to meet the Little Sisters while they were collecting at the airport.



Maestro Honeck greets Sister Veronica and Residents at Heinz Hall.

The Sisters and Residents promised to remember him and his family in their prayers. It was an exciting outing for all involved!



### MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

Our hearts are full of joy as we await the celebration of our risen Lord and accept His invitation to live in Him, to pray in Him, and to rise again in Him. Our community of Little Sisters will journey through Holy Week hand in hand with our extended family—our dear Residents, their families and friends, our dedicated lay staff, our volunteers, and our many benefactors and supporters.

We pray that your Easter will be filled with joys and blessings in an abundance of love and graces bestowed by our risen Jesus. We are grateful for all that you add to our home as a faithful collaborator.

It is a privilege to pray for you and your loved ones. Please continue to share your special intentions with us and join us in prayer this Lenten season as we ask God to inspire young women to be open to a religious vocation with our congregation. Together, we can continue to provide for the needs of our elderly Residents. May God bless you this upcoming Easter!

*M. Loraine Maria Class, CSP*



Mother Loraine with volunteers at our December Toiletries collection! Thank you for the wonderful response!

### How to Help

Please visit our website at

[www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org) or use the QR code below for more information on how to make a gift online or to view our current Amazon *Wishlist*.

The Little Sisters of the Poor are an eligible charity to accept your *Qualified Charitable Distribution* directly from your IRA. For those who meet the age requirement, distributions made from your IRA to Little Sisters will reduce your 2024 taxable income. Call our Development Office at (412) 307-1268 for more details on how you can help!



### SAVE THE DATES

- May 3rd & 4th **Rummage Sale** 9:00am-3:00pm
- **Spring Online Ceramic Flower Sale** Ongoing through June 2024
- June 22nd **Highmark Walk** (see insert for details)



- September 15<sup>th</sup> **Doo Wop Doctors Concert**

Visit [littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org](http://littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org) or call (412)307-1100 for details on any of the above.

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.

