



150 Years in Pittsburgh!

As we have mentioned in previous newsletters, 2022 is our sesquicentennial anniversary—150 years of serving the elderly poor of Pittsburgh! This milestone has only been made possible through Divine Providence and the strong support of the Pittsburgh community. When seven Little Sisters first arrived in Pittsburgh in 1872, they had nothing. In fact, two of those young sisters would die within the first few months of arriving from typhoid because of their first home's proximity to the Allegheny river.

Over time our Pittsburgh foundation grew from a small house in Allegheny City “North Side” to two large homes on Penn Avenue and present-day Benton Avenue. While the Residents, Sisters, staff, and buildings have changed over the years, the guiding light of this work has never faltered. The mission remains the same today as it did 150 years ago—to serve the neediest elderly of every race and religion a



Mother Mary Vincent and Mother Provincial Loraine process down the aisle of the Gloria Chapel to applause after the April 25th "in-house" Mass.

home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to Himself.

Since arriving, we have welcomed more than 12,000 Pittsburghers regardless of race or religion. The legacy of our Mother foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, continues as elderly

Residents are cared for with love and compassion in their final years.

To mark this anniversary, Bishop David Zubik celebrated an "in-house" Mass on April 25th, the actual anniversary date of the first seven Little Sisters arriving from overseas. Residents, Sisters, staff and volunteers attended the Mass which

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THIRD FLOOR BLESSING



Bishop Zubik blessing the third floor convent extension.

Following the April 25th Mass, Bishop Zubik accompanied the Little Sisters, including three postulants from Baltimore, to the newly renovated third floor of the Jeanne Jugan Pavilion to bless this space. The Bishop proceeded to bless the six new rooms including the crucifixes and icons.

As many Little Sisters continue to age, there is a greater need to plan for the future. With this in mind the Pittsburgh home recently completed renovations to a space adjacent to the current convent. This private hallway is physically connected to the footprint of the home, but will offer the aging Sisters a space of their own separate from the nursing home and independent living apartments. The space is completely furnished with new hospital beds and lift chairs. There is a dedicated bathing room, community space and a large dining area.

Soon the Pittsburgh home will welcome up to six Little Sisters in need of long term or temporary nursing care. Their prayers and presence will be a blessing for all who live, work or volunteer here. Thank you to all the partners who assisted us with this special project!

150 Years Cont'd

was blessed with beautiful music by organist Tom Octave and his talented musicians. A catered meal followed.

Mother Provincial Loraine was in attendance and shared this message from Mother General Maria del Monte Auxilidora. "It is an occasion for all of us to give thanks to God—and to your Holy Patrons, Saints Peter & Paul!—for their constant protection of our work in Pittsburgh, enabling us to welcome and care for so many needy elderly over the decades....I also seize this opportunity to assure each and every one of our close collaborators and friends, living and deceased, of our grateful prayers for such wonderful support over the years; without you, we would not still be here today!"

To continue the celebrations of this most special year the public is invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Paul's Cathedral in honor of the Little Sisters 150th Anniversary in Pittsburgh on

Wednesday, June 29th at 4:00pm on the Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul (the home's patron Saints), followed by refreshments in the Cathedral Social Hall. Please RSVP by June 27th by calling (412) 307-1100 or visiting www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org.

“While we enjoyed celebrating our 150th at our home, we look forward to gathering with the people of Pittsburgh on June 29th to commemorate this milestone together! ”

*—Sister Mary Vincent, lsp,
Mother Superior &
Administrator*



Sister Rosana prepares three Little Sisters Postulants for the *Presentation of Gifts* at the April 25th Mass of Thanksgiving.

Highmark Walk



Employees and Volunteers brave the rainy weather the morning of the 5K walk.



Resident Joseph Bethoski with nurse Dawn Weigand enjoy the campus walk.



Residents Marion Roach and Margaret Mitchell head outside to walk!

The annual “Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community” returned as an in-person 5K this spring. This was our first year participating at the Heinz Field event.

Prior to the 5K walk, our Residents, staff and volunteers joined our “on-campus” walk.

We were blessed with a beautiful afternoon and many Residents were escorted around the building smelling flowers and taking in the sights of blooming springtime. Everyone then retreated inside to enjoy snow cones and ice cream.

The weather for the in-person 5K at Heinz Field was not as

pleasant, but impressively all our registered walkers braved the elements and completed the course. Many thanks to all who participated during our on campus walk and the in-person 5K. Be on the lookout for next year’s walk date, as we would love to make this an annual tradition!

Association Jeanne Jugan

On May 1st, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, Jeanne Jugan Associates renewed their annual promises. Each year on this date Associates are asked to pledge their commitment for one additional year. There are currently 34 active Associates with four new candidates beginning their formation year this spring.

The Association Jeanne Jugan offers Catholic men and women aged 18 years or older the opportunity of sharing in the spirituality of the Little Sisters of the Poor, by participating in their mission of hospitality, and helping to spread the charism of Saint Jeanne Jugan where they live and work. The Association Jeanne Jugan is an extension of the Little Sisters’ hands and hearts and includes current volunteers, staff, Resident family members and those with a connection to the mission.

“We are grateful to have a vibrant Association here at our home in Pittsburgh. Everyone involved



Sister Augustine with Associate and volunteer Bill Vogtsberger prior to the May 1st renewal Mass.

helps our mission in so many ways,” said Sister Augustine, AJJ Coordinator. If you would like to learn more about joining the Association Jeanne Jugan, please reach out to Sister Augustine at (412) 307-1100.

MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe it is the middle of 2022! Our 150th celebrations will last all year long! As mentioned throughout this newsletter, our Home would not be reaching this milestone without the efforts of so many. I'd like to thank each and every one of you personally for your role in our mission!

To our staff, for the countless hours of hard work—thank you! To our volunteers, who dedicate so much time and effort to this home—thank you! To the benefactors & friends, for your selfless generosity to help continue our mission—thank you! To the Residents' families past and present, for entrusting the care of your loved ones to us—thank you! To my fellow Little Sisters for answering God's call to dedicate your life to this congregation—thank you! To our dear elderly Residents, for helping us to serve God by serving you—thank you! It is a privilege to have you as part of our family. Finally, to God the Almighty for continuing to bless our home. As our Mother Foundress St. Jeanne Jugan wisely said "If God is with us, it will be accomplished!"

S. Mary Vincent SSP



Resident Roxanne Haines enjoys a Tea & Hat Party on the porch.

You Can Help

August 9th, 2022 is The Pittsburgh Foundation's *Critical Needs Alert Day*. The Foundation is providing an incentive pool of funds to increase gifts made on that day for the Little Sisters through pittsburghgives.org.

Remember the Little Sisters of the Poor are an eligible charity to accept your Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA. Distributions made directly from an IRA to us will reduce your 2022 taxable income. Visit www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org or call (412) 307-1268 for more details on any of these ways to help.

SAVE THE DATES

- June 29th **150th Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving St. Paul's Cathedral**
- July 15-16th **Rummage Sale 10:00am-3:00pm**
- July 30th **Teamsters Motorcycle Ride**
- July 31st **Doo Wop Benefit Concert (see insert)**
- Aug. 9th **The Pittsburgh Foundation Critical Needs Match Day**

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.

