



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly

Serving the elderly poor in Palatine since 1965

Mission Statement

As Little Sisters of the Poor, we care for the elderly poor in the spirit of humble service which we have received from Jeanne Jugan.

We welcome the elderly as we would Jesus Christ himself and serve them with love and respect until death.

Save the Dates:

- Sept. 10, 2012
Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing
- Nov. 8, 2012
St. Joseph's Home for the Holidays Wine Tasting

St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly
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Pictured from left to right: Sr. Mary Paschal and Sr. Andrew, Brother Augustine, OFM Conv.; Daughters of the Immaculata: Sr. Bernadette, Mother Mary Patrick, and Sr. John Marie.

In the Steps of Jeanne Jugan

Standing Up for Religious Freedom

by Diana Olson

“There is an appointed time for everything....a time to be silent, and a time to speak.” Ecc 3:1,7

In the midst of religious intolerance after the French Revolution, St. Jeanne Jugan stood up in the face of adversity and established the Little Sisters of the Poor. Her dedication to the protection of human life continues on in the lives of the Little Sisters of the Poor more than 170 years later.

On March 23rd, in pouring rain, 2,500 people emerged upon Chicago's Federal Plaza to Stand-Up for Religious Freedom. Sr. Andrew, Sr. Mary Paschal, Maya Alba and Margaret Schinka (two of our nurses) and I joined them and 60,000 others nationwide. The Little Sisters and Residents who were unable to make the

trip, held a day-long rosary rally at St. Joseph's Home in prayerful support.

Working for the Little Sisters, I know them to quietly care for the elderly, usually hidden from the public's eye. But, they have been compelled to speak out. (Read their official statement in response to the HHS Mandate on the national website, www.littlesistersofthepoor.org).

People surrounded the Little Sisters as we entered the Plaza. It was an unusual sight to find the Little Sisters at this place and to be at the center of attention. It was clear that their presence brought a sense of hope and commitment. Many were eager to learn more about the Little Sister's great respect for life.

I was proud to stand with the Little Sisters and all those across the country. Now is our time to speak.

Little Sisters of the Poor



Marcia Rau (far left) leads a discussion with Residents in the St. Joseph's Home Book Club.

Association Jeanne Jugan

How God Called Me

by Marcia Rau

Hospitality, humility, happiness, and holiness – these are the words that for me, capture the essence of St. Jeanne Jugan's life and spirituality.

I had been asked to read the biography of then Blessed Jeanne Jugan to the Residents over a period of weeks in 2009 as part of the Home's celebratory preparation for her canonization. In doing so, I felt myself drawn not only to her life story but even more deeply to her fundamental beliefs and approach to living out her Christian witness hidden in Christ. I began to understand there was a beautiful and profoundly rich spiritual foundation which animated St. Jeanne's work both then and now.

It was her vision and realization of the Holy Spirit's inspiration which lay at the heart of the mission and apostolate of the Little Sisters.

At that time, I felt the Lord calling me to a deeper relationship with Him and, through the intercession of St. Jeanne and Mother Mary, to serve Him in the elderly poor. Through the grace of God, I firmly believe that every life matters at every stage of life from conception to natural death. It is important to me to stand as a witness for life in a culture that marginalizes and destroys the vulnerable and weaker among us. Time is a gift from God. Every minute of life has its purpose and is precious regardless of what human society deems valuable.

YOU ARE OUR AMAZING GRACE

It was an evening filled with excitement, fellowship and generosity. Our Amazing Grace Gala was a success. Thanks to your help, we were able to raise money to support our operating expenses. In addition, we also were able to raise 90% of the money we need to buy 100 new chairs for our Resident's dining rooms.

You are our Amazing Grace. You are an answer to our prayers asking God to provide for our needs. Our Residents, along with all the Little Sisters at St. Joseph's Home, express our deepest gratitude for your support in making the Amazing Grace Gala, our major fundraising event a success!

St. Jeanne knew this. What a blessing to follow this pro-life Saint!

What had begun for me as an opportunity to volunteer became over time a call to become a member of the Association Jeanne Jugan(AJJ). By following the example of St. Jeanne and through her intercession, I am just beginning to understand and experience her spirituality which lives out the Beatitudes one day at a time with joy through prayer, service, and humble trust in God.

Over the past years, I have experienced a number of painful trials and losses which, at times, seemed overwhelming. Yet, as I reflected on all that has transpired, I realized the Lord was there through it all. Although loss is an inevitable part of life especially as we age, I know God works everything to the good. I look forward to serving the elderly poor with a deeper sensitivity and compassion for the losses and suffering they have endured. Through my losses, I have gained because with God's grace I can love them even more.



Mother Marguerite presented Ron Caminiti, the St. Jeanne Jugan Award at the Amazing Grace Gala

Around Our Home



Eva Kicanas (shown above center), surrounded by daughter Cathy Kerwin (left) and granddaughters Teresa Fleischman and Amy Jacquat, will celebrate her 100th birthday on June 27th.

Happy Birthday Eva!

100 candles can certainly brighten up a room, but they can't hold a light to our Resident, Eva Kicanas. Whether it is playing a game of bingo or singing a golden oldie, her big smile brings joy to the many people she encounters during the course of a day. A special Mass of thanksgiving will be offered in our Chapel by her son, Bishop Gerald Kicanas of the Diocese of Tucson, AZ, for Eva's milestone birthday.

Roof Finale

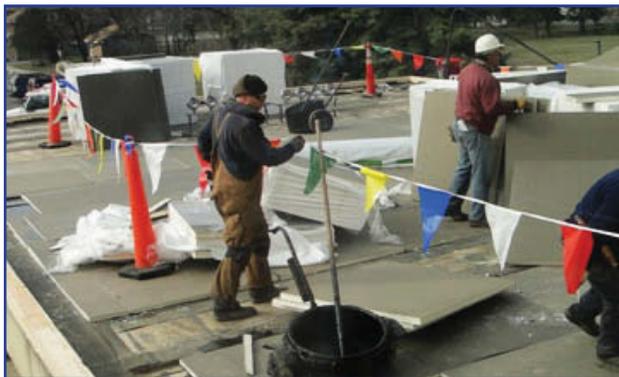
Like a marathon runner pulling his last bit of strength sprinting towards the finish, we hope to raise the final money to complete the roof project.

We are so grateful to our many friends who have helped us raise money for this important project. However, there is one more section of the roof to complete on the north side of the building.

On this section of our roof is the air conditioning and heating systems along with their associated mechanical equipment. All of this equipment is obsolete and in need of replacement. In addition, the craft and activity area which our Residents use on

a daily basis is presently without air conditioning. This equipment is from the original installation (over 46 years ago) and is no longer operating. The cost of this remaining roof and equipment work is close to \$400,000.

The finish line is in sight. This is our final sprint. Are you ready to take the baton? Is the Lord calling you to help us? We would be so grateful for any contribution you can give.



The final portion of our roof replacement project requires that the air conditioner and heating systems be replaced.



From left to right, Teresita Endencia, Sr. Mary Timothy, Gayle Atkinson, Joann Sergott and Ed Sims meet for the Cenacle Rosary Devotion.

"The Hail Mary Will Take Us to Heaven"

St. Jeanne Jugan

by Sr. Mary William

These words of St. Jeanne Jugan illustrate her deep devotion to Mary. The rosary was her great method of prayer. Jeanne trusted that Mary knew all her needs and as a true Mother, Mary saw to it that all is provided for the happiness of her dear children, the elderly poor.

St. Jeanne Jugan was nearly blind in her final years. She needed to be led wherever she went. She was unable to read or do much by herself. But, she always held her rosary clasped tightly in her hand. She would often say, "Let us say a Hail Mary together" as a gesture of thanksgiving.

The rosary devotion continues here. Residents, Little Sisters, staff and guests join together at several times and places. Everyone is welcome to join us.

- 9:45 AM - Monday in the library for vocations.
- 2:30 PM - Tuesday in the Apartment Lounge for the Cenacle Marian Movement for Priests.
- 4:00 PM - daily in the 2nd floor Lounge.
- 4:30 PM - daily in the chapel.

Traditionally, we honor Our Blessed Mother in a very special way during May. Throughout the month, we are confiding your intentions, as well as all the needs of our home to Mary. In good times and in more difficult times, we are comforted to know that She is with us every moment. Through Her motherly intercession, she carries all our intentions to Her Son, Jesus.

A Simple Note



Mother Marguerite Marie

by Mother Marguerite

The season of spring is one of the most wonderful times of the year. The cold of winter has come to an end and blades of green grass have appeared on our lawn. The trees have come back to life. It is exciting to see that our donation of shrubs and bushes from last year have survived the winter. Tiny white blossoms have emerged on the lilac bushes and our Knock Out rose bushes appear healthy and eager to bloom. Squawking sounds of Canadian Geese are gradually softened by newly arrived songbirds. How sweet the sound!

Spring is definitely a time of change. What a great time to start thinking about the Year of Faith, which Pope Benedict XVI has announced will begin October 11, 2012. If we take the Pope's message seriously, the Year of Faith will be a challenge for all of us. We are called to deepen our faith. We are called to look inside ourselves and clean out those things that make our faith weak. Hopefully, by the Feast of Christ the King in November 2013, our faith life will be stronger and we will have changed for the better.

Perhaps you have noticed the different format that has taken place with our St. Joseph's Journal. With this change we hope that we will better communicate our mission in the spirit of St. Jeanne Jugan. We look forward to keeping you up to date on all that is happening in St. Joseph's Home and we thank you for your generosity and support.

Sr. Marguerite
Sr. Marguerite Marie

Swing and A Prayer Golf Outing

Polish your clubs and arrange your foursomes. It's time again for the Little Sisters of the Poor 7th Annual "Swing and A Prayer" Golf Outing on Monday, September 10, 2012.

This outing began seven years ago as source of funds for our ever increasing operating expenses. Additionally, we are faced with cash flow challenges as the State of Illinois has been consistently late with our monthly Medicaid reimbursements.

Your donations are vital in supporting our mission of providing a loving home and care for our elderly Residents.

Why don't you join us for a great day of golf, delicious food and fun. The beautiful Makray Memorial Golf Club in Barrington, IL is a premier 18-hole championship caliber course. The event will include a 4-person scramble, box lunch, dinner and an awards reception.

For registration, sponsorship or advertisement information, call Diana Olson at 847-358-5700 or go to www.LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org.



Save the Date!!! A Swing and A Prayer Golf Outing is Monday, September 10, 2012 at Makray Memorial Golf Club in Barrington, IL