



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly

Serving the elderly poor in Palatine since 1966

Mission Statement

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.

Save the Dates:

- April 23, 2017
Amazing Grace Gala
(Guest Speaker:
Mr. William
Mumma, President
& Chairman of the
Board, Becket Fund)

St. Joseph's Home Holiday Mass Schedule

Dec. 24th - 7:30 PM
Dec. 25th - 10:30 AM
Jan. 1st - 10:30 AM

St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly
80 W. Northwest Highway
Palatine, IL 60067
847-358-5700
www.LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org

Fall/Winter 2016



100 year old, Veronica is escorted to our annual Gourmet Christmas Dinner by one of our many volunteers.

The Night Before Christmas

There are Smiles Throughout our House

"See how Jesus, Mary and Joseph loved one another, all three, how happy they looked, with what kindness and gentleness they spoke to each other. In our little family, it must be the same."
St. Jeanne Jugan

St. Jeanne Jugan looked at the Holy Family as an example of how the loving atmosphere should be in each Little Sister's Home. As the earthly head of the Holy Family, Jeanne unceasingly depended on St. Joseph to provide for all of her needs. An example of this is when shortly after opening a Home in France, Jeanne Jugan saw that the elderly Residents were eating dry bread. "But this is the land of butter!" she exclaimed. She lit a candle in front of St. Joseph's statue and put a sign reading: "Good St. Joseph, send us butter for our old people." A few days later an anonymous donor sent butter for everyone.

Since the beginning St. Jeanne Jugan relied on St. Joseph to inspire others to

help us. We see no greater evidence of this than during the Christmas Season.

As the Christmas spirit fans the fire in the hearts and hands of our friends, the joy of Christmas and the love of Christ fills the hearts of our Residents. The holidays can sometimes be hard for our Residents without family or friends, or when their ailments limit what their minds and spirit hope to experience. But, the sparkling Christmas trees decorated by volunteers, the smiles and joyful sounds of children caroling, the beautifully wrapped gifts from surrounding parishes and organizations, and the gourmet dinner expertly prepared by volunteer chefs can't help but lift their spirits and fill them with Christmas love.

It fills our hearts with thanksgiving the way that you assist us in bringing the love of Christ to the elderly. Our grateful prayers ask for special Christmas blessings to you and your family, as we entrust all of your special intentions to Good St. Joseph.

Little Sisters of the Poor



Beverly celebrated her 100th birthday with her friends and family. With a twinkle in her eye, wearing a tiara, and sipping on her favorite drink- a White Russian, she told us "I don't feel old!"

The Gold of Sunset Happy 100th Birthday, Bev

"It is not enough to say 'yes' once. Nor even for a year, or ten or twenty. You have to say it throughout your life, to the end and in spite of everything. Day after day, on foggy days as well as sunny ones; in illness as in full health." Excerpts from the *"Desert and the Rose"* by Eloi Leclerc.

Anyone who is lucky enough to know Beverly DiPasquale, knows what a treasure she is to our family. Not only does she brighten up your day with her joyful disposition, her unwavering faith is an inspiration to all of us. Beverly got a chance to talk to a group of students from St. Viator's High School when they visited. One student wrote about the encounter.

"It is not that often when we as humans, especially as teenagers, receive the opportunity to communicate and hold intelligent discussions with people separated from us by almost a century of time... In a world ruled by technological interactions, face to face communication is slowly becoming a lost art....This is just one of the topics I discussed with Beverly, who wants nothing more for the world then for everyone to live in peace....Even at an age closing in on one hundred years, she is able to give herself purpose. I cannot describe in words how inspiring this was to me. Many people of today's world, including my generation, live life as if they have no drive or purpose, but our

lives are easy in comparison. Beverly is a woman who cannot walk and has limited access to the technology that makes all of our lives easier and yet she has more self-worth than 98% of all the people I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. Though we may be separated by almost a century of age, Beverly's and my life are surprisingly similar, or at least when she was my age. Perhaps time doesn't make a huge difference after all, perhaps we are all more similar than we first thought, perhaps we all have the same basic human dignities. The Catholic Social Teachings tell us that not only does every person hold the same dignity and value as the next, which is enormous, but it also tells us that we all have the responsibility as humans to participate in our society, share our valuable insights, and work to create a better world. We can't forget that this applies to every single person in society, this includes our elders."

In the footsteps of St. Jeanne Jugan, Beverly has given a lifetime of "yeses" to our Lord, touching many hearts by her example.

SWING AND A PRAYER SUCCESS!



The forecast for rain at our Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing on September 19th was cast away by prayers to St. Joseph. Our Golfers enjoyed a picture perfect 85° sunny day while playing on the challenging course at Wynstone Golf Club.

The excitement of the day was a Helicopter Golf Ball Drop when Mother Margaret dumped a bucket of numbered golf balls while hovering above a large red bullseye.

In addition to the great golf, delicious food and fellowship, our generous guests donated over \$30,000 towards the purchase of a new refrigerated begging van.



Beverly, a life-long Cubs fan, gives this advice: "Enjoy life because it is a gift from God. Don't worry about what you can't control. Above all, be kind to each other."

Around Our Home



Fr. Francis "Rocky" Hoffman, Executive Director of Relevant Radio presents the 2016 Christ Brings Hope Award to the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Christ Brings Hope Award

The Little Sisters were honored on October 13th at the Relevant Radio 2016 Christ Brings Hope Award Dinner in Chicago. The Christ Brings Hope Award is presented to an American Catholic who has worked with extraordinary dedication to bring the good news and hope of Christ to all souls, exemplifying the virtues of charity, generosity, hope, apostolic zeal and love for the Truth. Past honorees are Francis Cardinal George, Bishop Robert Barron and Scott and Kimberly Hahn.

"We accept the award tonight in the name of our Mother Foundress St. Jeanne Jugan" said Mother Maria Christine. "We are humbled and realize that it is not about us. We would like to thank our elderly Residents who put flesh on this award and teach us by their lives that CHRIST BRINGS HOPE!"

You Can Help



Did you know that you can help us by just shopping on Amazon? Amazon will donate .05% of your purchase to us. Here's how to do it.

1. Visit smile.amazon.com or click on the Amazon Smile Logo on the Donation Page of our website.

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3. In the 'Choose Your Charity' option, select **"Little Sisters of the Poor at St. Joseph's Home."**

4. Begin shopping as usual on Amazon.

5. Pass the word to your friends by sharing on Facebook, Twitter or via email.

On November 29th, people around the world will join together to celebrate **#GIVINGTUESDAY**. This day is based on a simple idea - for people to come together and give back. It is an opportunity for families, businesses or organizations to spread the spirit of Thanksgiving and Christmas and help create a new tradition of generosity.

You can help by donating online at LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org or mailing in the enclosed envelope with your donation.



After shopping on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, make your "UNSelfie" gift to us on #GivingTuesday, November 29th.



Dr. Roger Weise and Ruby Rilloraza talk with Beverly.

Our Favorite Doctor

Dr. Roger Weise is an expert in medical issues of the aging. He believes that each human being is made in God's image with a unique potential. He approaches the treatment of the elderly from a profoundly spiritual prospective.

We strive to provide the best medical care possible to our Residents and Dr. Weise has been helping us do that since 1994.

Dr. Weise says he loves working with the Little Sisters because they are focused on compassion and mercy (most nursing homes are not that way). He also loves working with Ruby Rilloraza, our Director of Nursing, who has been a nurse here for 32 years. He says they are like minded and that she is the smartest Director of Nursing he has ever worked with. He relies on Ruby, who knows all the Residents and the care that each need. He says that you don't find that in a typical nursing home environment.

Dr. Weise says that he continues to help the Little Sisters because they put Christ at the center of their care of the elderly. That inspires him. He feels that the high standard of care we provide is due to the Little Sisters, the staff and volunteers.

"We are intended to grow and learn throughout our lives." He explains, "We are designed to be a better person at the end of our life than at the beginning. Although dementia and other aged-related infirmities may ravage our bodies and our minds, none of these forces can reach our spirit. Individuals with dementia are very human, because their spirits are unaffected by the disease process. Our job is to understand that elders are people of worth, of value and of spiritual potential."

St. Jeanne Jugan, who taught us to "make the elderly happy", must be so pleased that Dr. Weise is an integral part of our St. Joseph Home Family.

A Moment with Mother Margaret



Mother Margaret Charles
with Resident, Jeannette

Dear Friends,

The holiday season is upon us, and while many must compile long to-do lists, ours is rather simple: find ways to make Christmas special for our elderly Residents, and ways to express our sincere gratitude to all of our benefactors. Both of these things we do wholeheartedly. We offer to our Residents the gifts of love, peace, and security. We offer to you our sincere promise of daily prayer.

Our Home will be filled with Christmas joy and festivities, but the underlying sense of knowing one is loved and cared for is what brings the greatest joy to our elders.

Christmas is a time to remember that everyone is someone for whom the Son of God entered the world. Thank you for helping us to keep that message alive; thank you for supporting our work and enabling us to care for the elderly with dignity.

We owe you a great debt of gratitude. And we offer you the finest gift we can give, our prayers.

May the Lord Jesus, whose coming among us brought light and grace to people of all ages, fill you and your loved ones with these gifts this Christmas.

The Little Sisters and the Residents of St. Joseph's Home join me in wishing you a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Gratefully,

M. Margaret Charles

Save the Date



Our 2017 Amazing Grace Gala will be held on Sunday, April 23rd. We are honored to have Mr. William Mumma, President and Chairman of the Board for the Becket Fund as our Guest Speaker. The Becket Fund has been a tremendous friend of the Little Sisters in our fight for religious liberty.

Mr. Mumma has served as a full-time volunteer in his role as President and Chairman of the Board since 2011, when he ended a 30 year career on Wall Street as CEO of Mitsubishi UFJ Securities (USA). He also serves as Trustee at the Witherspoon Institute, Board member of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students and Vice Chairman of the NY Men's Leadership Forum.

He will speak about the "Struggle for Religious Liberty in this Country".

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

The word Advent is from the Latin adventus which means "coming" and is a time set aside for us to prepare for the coming of our Lord on Christmas. It is our prayer that hope, peace, joy and love will fill your hearts and your homes this Christmas Season.

We are very aware how our busy lives and commitments make it increasingly difficult to spiritually prepare for Christmas. We want to help!

Here's how. Beginning November 26th, click on the Advent Calendar

icon in the lower right hand side of our Home Page on our website at LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org. Each day, click on the date to open a window and a prayer, meditation, scripture and/or song will pop up for you to enjoy.

During the hustle and bustle in the weeks leading to Christmas, we hope that you can find quiet moments to walk with us on the road to Bethlehem. Together let us prepare to sing with the angels as we celebrate the birth of our Lord on Christmas Day!

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME ADVENT CALENDAR

27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24

25

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making an end-of-year gift today!
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