



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.



Mother Margaret with Residents, Helen, Rose and Noel, welcome the Infant of Prague home.

Bringing the Infant Back Home

The 58 Year Journey

One afternoon, a man named Joseph came in looking for our Mother Superior. Mother Margaret greeted Joseph, an older gentleman carrying a beautiful three foot statue of the Infant of Prague.

Joseph told Mother that he grew up near the Little Sister's Sacred Heart Home on Harrison St. in Chicago. Sacred Heart was a staple there from 1880-1959. The age and costly repairs of the building required the Residents and Little Sisters to move in with the Residents at St. Augustine Home on Sheffield Ave. St. Augustine had been there since 1886. Storage was limited, so before the move to St. Augustine's a yard sale was held at Sacred Heart Home.

Joseph's mother bought the Infant of Prague statue and brought it into their home. Joseph said that his family prayed many prayers in front of that statue. It remained with his mother until her death

in 2003. His sister took the statue into her home, where it was venerated until her death in 2016.

Mother couldn't help but be touched by Joseph's story. When she asked him his last name, he replied, "It doesn't matter; I'm just bringing the statue back home to you where it belongs."

The beautiful statue is a little worn. The crown needs to be polished and a couple cracks have formed. But, the loving gaze of the Infant can still pierce your heart. Looking at His gentle face, it almost takes your breath away to think of all the prayers of Residents, Little Sisters and members of Joseph's family, that were offered in front of Him for well over 60 years.

After a sponge bath and some touch-ups, we hope to once again give our precious Infant, His rightful place of honor at our Home.

Save the Dates:

- September 18, 2017
***Swing and a Prayer
Golf Outing***
- November 9, 2017
***St. Joseph's Home for
the Holidays Wine
Tasting***

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

Spring/Summer 2017

Little Sisters of the Poor



Mother Maria Christine (1st row right standing) and the Mother Superiors of the Chicago Province present Sr. Lorraine (back row second from left) with cases of crocheted socks.

Blessings are for Sharing 'Water with Blessings' Grow

Every eight seconds a child dies of a preventable disease caused by dirty water. 70% of the beds in hospitals around the world are filled because of dirty water. During years of mission trips to Honduras, Sr. Lorraine Lauter, co-founder of Water with Blessings, helped treat repeated illnesses caused by unsanitary water. This inspired her and some friends to start the Water with Blessings Program which provides water filters to impoverished communities with undrinkable water.

A chance meeting with one of our volunteers led us to participate, both as a recipient in our Homes in Africa, India, South America, Sri Lanka and the

Philippines, and as partners in providing crocheted sock covers for the filters.

During a recent visit, Sr. Lorraine spoke to Residents, volunteers, and Little Sisters from the Chicago Province. She explained how her team designed a small filter used with a simple bucket, to clean water, making it safe to drink. Knowing that mothers would always take care of the children, she enlisted mothers (affectionately calling them "water women"), to use, distribute and share the filters. Larger filters were designed for use in hospitals and larger buildings, like our Homes.

Sister used a bucket of very dirty water (with visible debris), to show how fast

and simple the filtering process worked. Amazingly, the brown liquid transformed to crystal clear drinkable water after it passed through the filter. Many of the people present tried the filtered water, giving it a resounding "thumbs up"!

Since 2015, Little Sisters, Residents, Staff and volunteers have helped by crocheting thousands of socks to place over the small water filters, protecting them from breakage. After her talk, we presented Sr. Lorraine with several cases overflowing with socks that we had crocheted.

Rem Reyes, a volunteer at our Home, offered to take a large filter to our San Lorenzo Home in his native Philippines. While there, he planned to also distribute small filters and socks in the needy communities. So moved by the experience, Rem decided to stay in the Philippines, dedicating his life to help the Water With Blessings Program provide clean water to the impoverished communities.



Rem Reyes with Mother Therese and Sr. Rosario, at San Lorenzo Ruiz Home in Manila, Philippines.



Sr. Lorraine demonstrates the filtering process.

AMAZING GRACE GALA 2017

On Sunday, April 23rd a crowd of over 300 guests welcomed Mr. Bill Mumma, President and CEO of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, to the 2017 Amazing Grace Gala at Stonegate Banquet Centre.

Mr. Mumma gave an insightful, thought provoking talk about the Little Sister's struggle for Religious Liberty. You can view his talk on our blog at LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org

Thanks to our generous guests we raised enough money to purchase three new Vital Sign Medical Devices.



Around Our Home



His Eminence Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle (back row center), greeted our Residents, Little Sisters and volunteers during his visit to see his Aunt Ellen (center front with hat).

A Surprise Visitor!

On any given Sunday, we have a host of visitors, attending Mass and visiting Resident family and friends. Frequently you will see a priest and an occasional bishop among our guests. But on this Sunday, we were honored to welcome a surprise visitor: His Eminence Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle, D.D. Archbishop of Manila. He was visiting Notre Dame University and he wanted to stop by and surprise his Aunt Ellen (one of our Residents). His family was traveling with him and also came; including his brother who lives in Richmond, VA and remembers Sr. Genevieve from her time there!

Pope Benedict XVI named Luis Tagle, cardinal in 2012. At that time, he was the second youngest cardinal at age 55. In 2013, Cardinal Tagle led the National Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the Philippines.

During his visit, Ellen brought out a book that she received from her family for her birthday. It was filled with photos of her life. In her wedding picture was the future cardinal, a handsome ring bearer, carefully holding a pillow.

Ellen told us that the Cardinal grew up in a very devout family, attending

parochial schools his entire life. He had wanted to be a priest since he was a young child. In a prophetic defining moment in the Cardinal's life, Ellen recalls a man approaching the family and telling young Luis that he would become a great priest when he grew up.

Cardinal Tagle is beloved in his Archdiocese and around the world. It's easy to see why. His warm smile and welcoming personality naturally draws you to him. During his short visit (on his way to the airport to catch a flight to Rome) he also spoke to as many Residents and Little Sisters as he could.

Before leaving Cardinal Tagle gave us his blessing. In return, Teresita (a Resident and fellow native Filipino) led us in a "Hail Mary" for him. We said our good-byes and asked the Cardinal to invite Pope Francis to come and visit us anytime!



Nine year old Luis Antonio Tagle (front right) was a ring bearer in his Aunt Ellen's wedding in 1965.



Residents, Little Sisters and guests at a candlelight rosary service by the statue of Our Lady of Fatima outside our Home.

"The Hail Mary Will Take Us to Heaven"

These words of St. Jeanne Jugan illustrate her deep devotion to Mary. Jeanne trusted that Mary knew all of her needs and as a true Mother, Mary saw to it that all would be provided for the elderly in Jeanne's care. The rosary was St. Jeanne Jugan's powerful prayer.

You can see this devotion continuing in our Home today. Statues of Our Lady are prominent on each floor and Our Lady of Fatima surrounded by Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, are nestled in a serene prayer corner outside of our building.

Our Residents lead the rosary, joined by Little Sisters, and staff, several times throughout each day. They are a powerhouse of prayer. It is so inspiring to us to watch them live out their faith.

During this year of the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions at Fatima, we pray the novena to Our Lady of Fatima on the first Saturday of each month in our Chapel.

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.

We have witnessed many Residents close to death, unable to speak or open their eyes, but faithfully clasped in their hand is a rosary. Surrounding them are often family, Little Sisters, friends and staff praying the rosary, entrusting Mary to take the Resident home to Our Lord in heaven.

A Moment With Mother



Dear Friends,

Happy Spring and season of New Life! As we welcome the beautiful weather and lovely flowers, I am reminded even more of the beauty of our vocation as a Little Sisters of the Poor. Our Mother Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, always marveled in the beauty of nature, but she would use it to elevate the minds and hearts of her followers to God by saying things like: "Do you know who made this lovely flower? It is Jesus, our Spouse!" Or, while looking at wild roses she would remind the young Little Sisters to cultivate goodness in their lives: "Try to become a beautiful rose of charity".

The beauty of nature, the joy of caring for our elderly Residents, the kindness of our benefactors, all of these things give us cause to thank God. Your support and friendship enhance the beauty of life for our elderly Residents and we hope you know how deeply we appreciate that.

St. Jeanne Jugan also ingrained in her followers their responsibility to pray for their benefactors, reminding them that they could never do this work alone, and to be so very grateful for the sacrifices people made on their behalf. We continue to take this very seriously. The Little Sisters gather several times each day for prayer, and you, our benefactors are always remembered in those prayers.

St. Joseph's Home is a happy one, a secure one. But it is also a very large building that needs to be maintained, upgraded and supplied in order to keep our Residents safe, comfortable and well cared for.

Thank you for everything you do. God bless you. The Sisters all sincerely promise you their prayers. May our Risen Lord fill your lives with beauty and grace.

Gratefully,

Sr. Margaret Charles



We send our love, prayers and deepest gratitude with Sr. Diane, as she leaves for her new assignment at St. Anne's Home in San Francisco.

SWING AND A PRAYER GOLF OUTING

Mark your calendars for Monday, September 18th for our annual Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing at Wynstone Golf Club in N. Barrington, IL.

Golf legend Jack Nicklaus designed this beautiful and challenging golf course. His vision and respect for the topography generated a championship golf course that was immediately recognized among the "top one hundred" golf courses in the U.S.

We have complete confidence that St. Joseph will help to provide beautiful weather for this fun-filled day that includes a four-person scramble.

Registration begins at 10:30. Enjoy a fresh-off-the grill-lunch, before the noon, shot gun start. After golf, cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres will be served on the beautiful patio overlooking the course. The popular helicopter ball drop will be back again this year! A delicious multi-station dinner, and an awards reception round out the day.

Your support for this event will help us to provide a loving home and care for our elderly Residents. For more information on registration, sponsorship or advertisement, visit our website www.LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org or call Diana Olson at 847-358-5700.



Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing is Monday, September 18th, at Wynstone Golf Club in North Barrington.