



Eucharistic Revival

Our Source and Summit

Jeanne Jugan once told a Little Sister who found herself in a difficult situation, "Jesus is waiting for you in the chapel. Go and find him when your strength and patience are giving out, when you feel lonely and helpless. Say to him: 'You know well what is happening, my dear Jesus. I have only you. Come to my aid ...' And then go your way. And don't worry about knowing how you are going to manage. It is enough to have told our good Lord. He has an excellent memory."

Jeanne knew that the source and summit of our lives lays within the Eucharist. It gave her strength when she began the Little Sisters in 1839. It gave the Little Sisters strength through two world wars, rampant disease, hostile governments and most recently through the COVID pandemic. When everything was shutting down around us, the Eucharist gave us strength to go on.

We are looking forward with great anticipation to the United States



Council of Catholic Bishop's plan for a Eucharistic Revival. As Bishop Andrew Cozzens, chairman of the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis said, this plan is to "renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the holy Eucharist."

Jeanne Jugan saw Jesus in the face of the elderly. Each day as we serve our Residents, we do so as if we are serving Our Lord – which we are. He in turn



gives us an amazing gift with the graces we receive each day in the Eucharist.

We pray faithfully each day for all of you, our dear friends. It is with great excitement and anticipation that we pray for a deeper understanding of the Real Presence, and in turn for each of us to experience the beauty, the joy, the peace and the fullness that a renewal of devotion to the Eucharist is sure to bring.

IT WAS MEANT TO BE



Have you ever been unsure about a big decision, like a new home, not knowing for sure it's the right choice for you? Well Pat Mason, a Resident of 9 years, was blessed enough to receive sign after sign that St. Joseph's was meant to be her Home.

On Pat's move in day, she was greeted by our previous Mother Provincial Maria Christine, who mysteriously knew exactly who Pat was before any introductions. Mother Maria Christine said, "You need to talk to my father, John Lynch, a Resident here." Without receiving any clue as to why, Pat went to visit John. When she told him who she was, his face lit up. "I knew your father very well."

John Lynch was Fire Captain of the Chicago Fire Department, and Pat's father, Tony, was the Secretary to the Commissioner, as well as a well-known Irish tenor who sang for Chicago weddings, funerals, and even the National Anthem at Soldier Field. John had many stories of Pat's father. "It was a message to me that told me I was going to be ok; I knew that I was at the right place," said Pat about her conversations with John.

And that is not the only sign Pat received. When Pat was a child, she and her father would frequently visit injured firemen at the old Alexian Brothers Hospital in Chicago. That old hospital had been relocated, and in its place? Our beloved St. Mary's Home.

Over the past 9 years, Pat has discovered many other coincidences that she could probably fill a book with, and she takes all of them as a sign from God that there is no other place that she's meant to be, more than here with the Little Sisters.

Celebrating Grandparents

by Sr. Constance Veit, L.S.P.

Christmas in July was created during the Great Depression for children at a summer camp to be able to celebrate Christmas. The idea not only became a tradition at the camp each July 25, but spread around the world. This year, the Church gave us the opportunity to make July 25 special in an entirely new way as we celebrate the first-ever World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. Just as our annual observance of Christmas focuses our attention on Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the choice of date for this this new celebration leads us to reflect on the Holy Family as an "extended," multigenerational reality — for Pope Francis has chosen the Sunday closest to the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus, to honor our own grandparents and the other elders in our communities.

"Tradition has it that Saint Joachim, the grandfather of Jesus, felt estranged from those around him because he had no children," the Pope wrote. "His life, like that of his wife Anne, was considered useless." How sad!

"So the Lord sent an angel to console him," the Pope continued. "While he mused sadly outside the city gates, a

messenger from the Lord appeared to him and said, 'Joachim, Joachim! The Lord has heard your insistent prayer.' According to the tradition, the angel assured Joachim that his wife would bear him a daughter, to be called Mary, who would miraculously bear the Son of the Most High.

"May every grandfather, every grandmother, every older person, especially those among us who are most alone, receive the visit of an angel!"

The Church recognizes the difficult circumstances in which we are living due to the pandemic. She is suggesting a simple way of nurturing intergenerational solidarity with this July celebration. "May every grandfather, every grandmother, every older person, especially those among us who are most alone, receive the visit of an angel!"



"Even at the darkest moments," Pope Francis wrote, "the Lord continues to send angels to console our loneliness and to remind us: 'I am with you always.' He says this to you, and he says it to me. That is the meaning of this Day."

Activities are Back in Action!



Buscia is holding up her winnings from Bingo sponsored by our Association Jeanne Jugan



The interactive Sistine Chapel Exhibit was just what we needed after a long year



Vivian admires her fresh and stylish hairdo in the mirror in our Beauty Shop

Over the past year and a half, our Activity Director, Gaby Cordova, Activity Assistant, Br. Tom Hercegovics OSF Conv., the Little Sisters, and all of our staff, have worked tirelessly to plan socially distant entertainment for our Residents. This meant something along the lines of playing bingo from Resident doorways, or singing along with Br. Tom from across the hall. Well, we are happy to report, we can now gather in groups (following the current guidelines) again to enjoy parties, group bingo, the beauty shop, mini music concerts, and even outings outside the home!

One of the big excitements of July was a visit to the Sistine Chapel Exhibit in Oakbrook. It had been

since early 2020 that we last took a field trip outside the Home, and what better first excursion than traveling to "Rome" for the day? Not only did we get to learn about the work of Michelangelo on audio, but also see his work so close up, we could see each brush stroke of his 34 frescoes.

Our volunteers have been eager to come back, and it makes a world of difference seeing their (masked) faces around here again. Rick, one of our favorite performers, is back putting on throwback concerts on the patio, Association Jeanne Jugan volunteers set up weekly bingo in the auditorium with cash prizes, and our Beauty Shop ladies are back to make our Residents feel like their beautiful selves again.

In case you hadn't already known, partying has always been a big deal around here. The Sisters take advantage to celebrate whatever they can, whether it be a birthday, a big event like the Olympics, or just because the weather is beautiful. Our latest celebration was Grandparent's Day, where Residents and Employees alike paired up as "buddies" for the day to sing and dance, play games like ring toss, and enjoy ice cream sundaes in the auditorium.

Needless to say, we are back in the business of fun, and we are ecstatic to share all about it! God is good, allowing everything to start feeling a little more normal, happy, and light in this place many call Home.

Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing

Spots are still available at our Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing, but don't wait too long as they are filling up fast. Last year's event was a sell out! We expect that this year will be the same.

A Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing will be held on Monday, September 13, 2021 at The Club at Wynstone in North Barrington, IL. You can find information and/or register online on our website at LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org.

The Club at Wynstone does a fabulous job in keeping us safe and making our day of golf very enjoyable. Reserve your spot early so you won't miss this great event.



MOTHER MERCY'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

Thank you for the warm welcome that you have given to me. I am so happy to be here. A lot of good things are happening all around us. After more than a year of difficulties, it is so inspiring to see the workings of the Holy Spirit in and outside of our Home! I hope that you can join us in looking ahead with joyful anticipation.

We know what precious gifts that our dear elderly are to the world. We are honored to experience each day, their wisdom, love and deep faith. It was such a joy for us when Pope Francis instituted the fourth Sunday of July as World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. As Little Sisters, we celebrate our elderly every day, but when the Holy Father proclaimed, "The whole Church is close to you – to us – and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone!" We thankfully praised God with a resounding AMEN!

It is our privilege to participate in the celebration of Mass and receive the Eucharist each day. As you read in our front-page article, it truly is the source and summit of our lives. The Holy Spirit is truly working through our Bishops and our Church to bring us closer to Our Lord through the Eucharistic Revival.

August 30th is the Feast of St. Jeanne Jugan. As Little Sisters, she is our mother. With her 'yes' to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to serve the elderly, the Little Sisters of the Poor were born. We are eternally grateful for her legacy. Each day we strive to continue to say yes to the Holy Spirit, serving our elderly brothers and sisters as if we were serving Jesus Himself

May you be filled with the Holy Spirit and may God's blessings overflow to you and your loved ones.



Holy Family Catholic Community gave us a warm welcome during a 2019 visit, when we brought our 150th Anniversary Banner.

Holy Family Catholic Community in Inverness, IL promotes Catholic social teaching in a tangible way every Lent. This past Lent, the teaching of Solidarity was highlighted and because of their shared values of respecting all human life and caring for our brothers and sisters everywhere, especially the elderly, we were chosen to benefit from their Lenten Project for 2021.

Carloads of much needed goods and supplies were delivered to us over many weeks as well as very generous financial gifts. Gift cards were also presented to each Resident as an Easter gift. It has truly been a great blessing that Holy Family Catholic Community has had a long and ongoing partnership with us. We are very grateful for their prayers, troupe of volunteers, generous donations and financial support!

Protocols require that we keep an isolated wing of rooms in the event of a COVID outbreak. While these rooms are essential when they are needed, Medicaid will not reimburse us for empty rooms. We have lost over \$660,000 in Medicaid revenue since this began. Any help you can give us would be greatly appreciated.

SAVE THE DATE

- **Ten Week Sweepstakes**
Tickets Enclosed
Sept. 3 - Nov. 6, 2021
\$500 Weekly Prizes
\$5,000 Grand Prize
- **Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing**
Monday, Sept. 13, 2021
The Club at Wynstone
North Barrington, IL

MISSION

Continuing the work of St. 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 a family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.