



# Well Done Faithful Servants

## *Rest in Peace Pope Benedict & Mother Celine*

At the end of last year, the Lord called two holy, beloved leaders home — Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who guided the Catholic Church as our Holy Father for eight years, and Mother Celine de la Visitation, who guided the Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor as Superior General for 19 years.

Mother Celine dedicated her life to serving the needy elderly for 65 years. She also worked tirelessly to advance the cause of Jeanne Jugan's Canonization. She had the joy of being present when Pope Benedict canonized our Mother Foundress. In 2012, we happily welcomed her to our Home. As was her nature, she greeted every Resident and presented each with a gift. We will always remember her infectious smile. She made everyone feel like she was their dear friend — which in spirit, she was.

Pope Benedict presided at the Canonization of Jeanne Jugan in 2009. In his homily, He spoke of the charism of Jeanne Jugan and the Little Sisters of



the Poor, "Her charism is always relevant, while so many aged persons suffer different types of poverty and solitude, sometimes even abandoned by their families. The spirit of hospitality and fraternal love, founded on limitless trust in Providence, ... illuminated her whole existence. The evangelical impulse is followed today throughout the world in the Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor, which she founded and which bears witness to her following the mercy of God and the compassionate love of the Heart of Jesus for the littlest ones."



In 2010 during a visit to the UK, Pope Benedict stopped at our Home in London. He spoke from his heart identifying with our Residents as an aged person. He evoked the memory of John Paul II, whom he said "suffered very publicly during the last years of his life." The Pope reaffirmed the dignity of the elderly and our duty to care for them—not as an act of generosity, but as a debt of gratitude.

Two lives well lived. Pope Benedict XVI and Mother Celine, may they rest in peace in the arms of Our Lord. Well done good and faithful servants!



## MEET BETTY



Betty moved into our Home 28 years ago. Now 97 years old, she is the longest residing Resident at St. Joseph's Home.

Betty remembers that her childhood was joyfully filled with family, sports, travel and Catholic schools. In 1950, she married a WWII veteran whose leg was amputated from his war wounds. They had two sons. After a tragic accident, her husband passed away suddenly in 1971.

It was a whirlwind raising the boys and keeping her family afloat. Betty initially took her husband's job at the family auto parts business. When she remarried in 1975, the family left Chicago for Arkansas to work on a cattle ranch. Following the job trail, they moved again to Texas, where she worked various jobs. Her biggest challenge was managing a county jail kitchen, serving 120 meals a day. After retiring due to health problems, Betty trained dogs.

Financial and other personal hardships brought Betty back to Chicago in 1991 to live with her youngest son and his new wife. Childhood diabetes had left her daughter-in-law blind. Betty did her best to help them.

In 1995, another daughter-in-law saw in the newspaper that St. Joseph's Home had converted a three-story wing to apartments. Betty applied and was accepted.

Betty tells us that the challenges and struggles which she faced most of her life lifted when she moved here. Over the years, she has made many dear friends. "We look out for each other. The Little Sisters and staff are here to help us. There is always somebody to help, always somebody who cares. The Little Sisters make this such a happy place. I have all I need. It is truly heaven on earth."

## Miracle or Coincidence?

Miracles or coincidences? It all depends on how you look at what is going on around us in the world. It is amazing the ways the Lord performs miracles. It's easy to dismiss random happenings as coincidences, but we have just seen too many and know that they are 'God-incidences'. These miracles come at our time in need, confirming to us that God is indeed listening, watching and manifesting His love for us through your generosity.

Recently, one of these 'God-incidences' unfolded in our lobby. Last year when Ryan Loftus was in 8th grade and preparing for his Confirmation, he was asked to perform an act of kindness. His family have been long-time parishioners of St. Thomas of Villanova Parish. Knowing that his former pastor, Fr. Tom Rzepiela is a Resident at our Home, Ryan decided to help us. He collected boxes of facial tissues for us from his hockey teammates, family and friends.

A few weeks ago, during a wake of a St. Thomas Parishioner, Ryan now a freshman at St. Viator High School, saw Fr. Tom and asked how everything was going at our Home. Father jokingly

answered, "Great, but we have one big problem, we're out of facial tissues." Ryan responded, "Well, we need to do something about that!" Determined to help, Ryan rallied his family and friends asking for their assistance.

Three days later Joanne, one of our Residents, had run out of facial tissues and was in search of a new box. After

**“It's easy to dismiss random happenings as coincidences, but we have just seen too many and know that they are 'God-incidences'.**

morning Mass, she was riding down to the first floor with Fr. Tom in the elevator. She was in tears because her facial tissues box was empty and she was unable to find a new box.

Facial tissues may seem like a trivial convenience, but to us it is a cherished commodity! It is a small comfort that we can offer to our Residents. Especially in the winter months, we go through cases and cases of facial tissues.

Joanne was on her way to the lobby to ask the receptionist for help in finding a new box. As the elevator doors opened, Ryan was walking in the front door with 127 boxes of facial tissues that he had collected in just three days. Fr. Tom smiled and said, "Joanne take a seat on the chair in the lobby. I know exactly where I can get you a new box of facial tissues."

We can't help but smile at the expert orchestration of God's timing. The Lord planned this perfectly and it couldn't have come together any better. Sometimes He quickly answers prayers, even in the time that it takes for an elevator to travel between floors.



Ryan Loftus delivering Kleenex in the nick of time to Joanne.

## The Association Jeanne Jugan



*"Be kind, especially with the infirm. Love them well ... Oh yes! Be kind. It is a great grace God is giving you. In serving the aged, it is he himself whom you are serving." – St. Jeanne Jugan*

Are you interested in becoming an active partner with the Little Sisters? The Association Jeanne Jugan offers Catholic men and women (married and single) the opportunity of sharing in the spirituality of the Little Sisters of the Poor, of participating in our mission of hospitality, and of helping to spread the charism of Jeanne Jugan in social and professional settings.



After a yearlong program of spiritual formation, membership is formalized by a promise, which the Association Jeanne Jugan Associates renew together annually near May 1, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. Associates then live out their promise through ongoing spiritual formation and by sharing in the ministry of the Little Sisters.

Associates participate in our mission in many ways, each according to his or her talents, interests and family/professional obligations. You can find our Association Jeanne Jugan Associates around our Home reaching out their



hands and hearts in service to lighten the Sisters' tasks in meeting the many needs of our Residents. Whether it be organizing a 'Sweet Table' for the Feast of St. Joseph, lending a helping hand in the dining room or wherever is needed, organizing bingo, or just spending time visiting with Residents, they imitate the example of St. Jeanne Jugan by serving Christ through service to our Residents.

Do you want to join us in making a difference in the lives of the elderly? To find out more about the Association Jeanne Jugan, contact Sr. Juliana at [compalatine@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:compalatine@littlesistersofthepoor.org).

## Amazing Grace Gala 2023



Put on your dancing shoes to "Twist and Shout" at our Amazing Grace Gala, Sunday, April 23rd at Stonegate Banquet Centre in Hoffman Estates, IL.

Plan to join us as we welcome our special guests Beatles tribute band, American English. See the enclosed flyer for details on registration, sponsorships and advertising opportunities.



Amazing Grace Gala is our largest fundraiser and we depend on the money raised to help us care for our elderly Residents.

Tickets for the Amazing Grace Sweepstakes are also enclosed. The drawing will be held on April 23rd at the Gala. Don't miss your chance to win \$500, \$1,000 or \$5,000.



## MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

As we entrust the souls of our dear Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI and Mother Celine de la Visitation to the Lord, we are encouraged that the fruits of their faithfulness, hard work and dedication will continue to spread the love of Christ through the many people that they have touched in their lifetime. Both of these faithful servants saw the elderly as precious sons and daughters of Christ. Encouraged by their example, we strive to lovingly care for the needy elderly, walking in faith with the words of St. Jeanne Jugan, "If God is with us, it will be accomplished."

The Lenten Season is upon us and this is an ideal time for us to stop and reflect on the way we live our lives. Are we spreading the love of Christ through our words and actions? What can we change? How can we grow in our faith?

The faithfulness of our Residents inspire us to grow spiritually. Our Residents seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture in prayer groups. Even in their humble living circumstances, they are often first to jump at the chance to give of their time and treasures. The hidden power of the kindness that they show to each other is contagious. The simplicity of their lives, contrasted by the depth of their faith, encourages all of us to follow Christ.

May you also be inspired this Lenten Season. Our prayer for you is that you may grow closer to the Lord, and in turn continue to spread the love of Christ to all that you meet.

*St. mercy*



Thank you for your prayers and support. With your help, we are able to provide a loving Home and quality care for our Residents. Be assured of our daily prayers of gratitude.

## Needed Items

- Paper Towels
- Dryer Sheets
- Shelf-stable Juices:
  - Cranberry
  - Apple
  - Orange
- Tea Bags
- Quick Cook Oatmeal
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Rotini Pasta
- Penne Pasta

## SAVE THE DATE

### ■ Amazing Grace Gala

*Sunday, April 23, 2023  
Stonegate Banquets,  
Hoffman Estates, IL*

### ■ Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing

*Monday, Sept. 18, 2023  
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.



# AMAZING GRACE GALA 2023



## JOIN US AT THE GALA

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023

STONEGATE BANQUET CENTRE, 2401 W. HIGGINS RD, HOFFMAN ESTATES

RESERVATIONS ARE \$150 PER PERSON OR \$1,400 FOR A TABLE OF 10.\*

4:00 PM COCKTAILS

5:30 PM DINNER

7:00 PM AMERICAN ENGLISH PERFORMANCE

FEATURING  
**AMERICAN  
ENGLISH**  
Beatles Tribute

## BE A SPONSOR

CONSIDER A DONATION TO ASSIST IN THE UNDERWRITING OF OUR EVENT BY BECOMING GOD'S INSTRUMENT AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT LEVELS:\*

GOD'S PROVIDENTIAL CARE - \$10,000 (INCLUDES A TABLE OF 10 RESERVATIONS)

MARY'S GIFT OF LOVE - \$5,000 (INCLUDES 4 RESERVATIONS)

ST. JOSEPH'S BOUNTY - \$2,500 (INCLUDES 2 RESERVATIONS)

ST. JEANNE JUGAN'S LOVE FOR THE POOR - \$1,000

POPE FRANCIS' BEACON OF HOPE - UP TO \$1,000

~~SEE OPPOSITE SIDE FOR ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES IN GALA PROGRAM~~

## PARTICIPATE IN OUR SWEEPSTAKES

1ST PRIZE - \$5,000 • 2ND PRIZE - \$1,000 • 3RD PRIZE - \$500

TICKETS ENCLOSED. WINNERS DRAWN AT THE GALA. NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.

\*THE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE PORTION OF EACH TICKET IS \$25 AND EACH TABLE IS \$250

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE PORTION OF GOD'S PROV. CARE - \$8,500, MARY'S GIFT OF LOVE - \$4,400, & ST. JOSEPH'S BOUNTY - \$2,200.

MORE INFORMATION AT [LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR PALATINE.ORG](http://LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR PALATINE.ORG) OR CALL 847-358-5700

# Advertise in our Program

Please help us by placing an ad in our Program Book.

Deadline for advertisements is April 7th.



- ☐ Inside Cover - \$500 (5" W x 8" H)
- ☐ Full Page AD - \$250 (5" W x 8" H)
- ☐ Half Page AD - \$150 (5" W x 4" H)
- ☐ Business Card - \$50 (3" W x 2" H)  
*(can be mailed with payment)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with payment in the enclosed envelope  
Or go to online to Amazing Grace Sponsorships at [LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org](http://LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org)

Please email a jpg or pdf file to [dvpalatine@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:dvpalatine@littlesistersofthepoor.org)

Call Diana Olson at (847) 358-5700 or email - [dvpalatine@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:dvpalatine@littlesistersofthepoor.org) with any questions.



***For over 57 years, the Little Sisters of the Poor have cared for hundreds of elderly Residents at St. Joseph's Home in Palatine. The Amazing Grace Gala is our largest annual fund raiser. We depend on the money raised at this event to help us with our increasing expenses. Thank you for your support!***

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR • ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FOR THE ELDERLY  
80 W. NORTHWEST HIGHWAY • PALATINE, IL 60067 • [LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR PALATINE.ORG](http://LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR PALATINE.ORG)

Little Sisters of the Poor

# Amazing Grace Sweepstakes

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

**1ST PRIZE - \$5,000 • 2ND PRIZE - \$1,000 • 3RD PRIZE - \$500**

Drawing will take place at the  
Amazing Grace Gala on Sunday, April 23, 2023.  
Winner need not be present to win.  
Winner is responsible for all taxes on the prizes.

*Suggested Donation:*  
*One Ticket: \$5.00 or Six Ticket Column: \$25.00*

Please fill out your name, address and phone number.  
Return the tickets in the envelope provided.  
No donation is necessary to enter the drawing,  
but we depend on your support!

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