



St. Joseph, Our Patron

Pray for us who are your children

St. Jeanne Jugan's devotion to St. Joseph was so great that she chose him as patron of our Congregation. She carried a tiny statue of him in her pocket at all times. The Little Sisters continue that tradition. A large statue of St. Joseph is on top of the steeple at our motherhouse in France, as well as on the front of our Home, here in Palatine.

St. Jeanne Jugan trusted completely that St. Joseph would take care of all her needs. If you think about it, their lives were quite similarly 'hidden' while watching over God's most precious gifts. St. Joseph was entrusted to care for God's beloved Son and St. Jeanne Jugan was entrusted to care for God's beloved elderly. Both lived their lives with tremendous humility.

From her early years, Jeanne Jugan had a devotion to St. Joseph. Jeanne was a toddler, when her father was lost at sea. St. Joseph became a father figure that she would rely on for her entire life.

There are many stories of Jeanne receiving assistance from St. Joseph.



Once, Jeanne saw that her elderly were eating dry bread because they were low on butter. She lit a candle in front of a statue of St. Joseph and placed next to it all the empty butter dishes. Days later a donation of butter arrived, filling all the butter dishes.

Today, we also depend on the intercession of St. Joseph for all of our needs. We see miracles every day, when we ask for St. Joseph's help through the generosity of our friends, like you.

St. Joseph statues are plentiful around our Home. Most of the statues sit on top of a pile of intentions, placed there by



Little Sisters, Residents and staff. In the lobby, a life-size St. Joseph statue often has prayer requests taped to his hands. More times than not, the prayers are quickly answered.

This favorite prayer to St. Joseph is often recited by the Little Sisters.

Hail Joseph, son of David, most chaste spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, good foster father of our Lord Jesus Christ! St. Joseph, pray for us who are your children. Pray for this little family whom you have deigned to take under your special care and powerful protection. Amen.

100 YEARS YOUNG



Margaret Mary Iosso (maiden name Daniele) was born on December 27, 1923 in Chicago. She was born to Italian immigrant parents and was the youngest of four children — two brothers and one sister. Margaret's parents didn't speak English, so she is fluent in Italian.

She was raised on Taylor Street in Chicago's historic Little Italy neighborhood. She married Joseph Iosso on November 14, 1942, who served in WWII. Together they had one daughter, two grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Margaret, known as Nani to most, enjoyed cooking, gardening, dancing, traveling, and hosting family gatherings. She worked for Illinois Bell Credit Union until she retired at 55. Margaret's priority has always been her family and friends (and cleaning!)

She spent many hours volunteering and was always eager to help others. She is the heart of her family.

One of Margaret's fondest memories is when she was able to visit Italy and met her mother's family.

When asked what is the secret is to her long life, Margaret replied (with her wonderful big smile), "Being healthy, happy and living right — every single day!"

Margaret loves to play bingo, especially when she wins! She also enjoys singing along when our volunteer musician, Rick, or when Br. Tom in our activity department, plays his keyboard.

Happy 100th birthday, Margaret. *May you have many more, with the Little Sisters of the Poor!*

Join With Us This Lent

The holy season of Lent is upon us. This is the time we think about our future — our future in heaven with our Heavenly Father, His Son, and Spirit. This Lent, is your path to heaven leading you share in our mission? Will you consider offering your Lenten prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for us?

Please pray for us. We have a beautiful chapel that you are welcome to visit. At supper, you could remember us in prayer along with your meal prayer. All of us are busy with our lives, but why not try to find a moment to take a deep breath and say the name of Jesus. Raise your heart and mind to Him.

The discipline of fasting has a much deeper meaning than what meets the eye. Fasting helps us identify with the poor. An explanation can be found in Isaiah 58. "This is the fasting that I wish...sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless, clothing the naked when you see them and not turning your back on your own." (58:7).

As you fast this Lent, try to identify with our Residents. Many have lost things that were important to them such as their spouse, their home, a means to provide for themselves, their independence, and good health.

This Lent also gives you an opportunity to financially support our elderly Residents through almsgiving. Why not keep a box on the kitchen table or in your car. Each time you pass a Starbucks and decide "not today", put the \$5.00 bill in the box that you would have spent on that latte. When your

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family decides to do a soup and salad Friday night, put the money that you would have spent on the rest of the meal in the almsgiving box.

A benefactor once asked St. Jeanne Jugan why she burdened herself with all those old people. She replied, "We share them. You will provide for them while I will care for their needs." This Lent, won't you share in the ministry of St. Jeanne Jugan and the Little Sisters of the Poor by providing for the elderly, while we take care of their needs?



In My Father's House Are Many Rooms



"In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."
John 14:2-3

Jesus has prepared an ultimate place for us where we will be loved and wanted. In Him, we find the path to our final destination. As our Residents prepare for the final leg of their journey, we are blessed to accompany them.

As Little Sisters, we prepare a place for

the needy elderly in their final years. Our mission is clear and simple: make the elderly happy, care for them well, create a happy Home where all feel esteemed and loved, until God calls them home.

We call this the 'Art of Accompaniment' — to accompany the elderly, from the moment of a first encounter, until the moment of their death. We walk alongside them in their journey, offering emotional, spiritual, and physical support; fostering a sense of community, compassion, and understanding. We strive to create a

family atmosphere for our Residents, ensuring they feel valued and loved. This gives our Residents the peace of mind knowing that once they are with us, they will be taken care of the rest of their lives.

Our Residents are true heroes as they persevere through the many diseases and conditions that are often associated with aging. While we are honored to lovingly care for them and bring Christ's message that they are loved, so often it is their strength, their faith, and their words of comfort that inspire us.



Scenes from an Italian Restaurant Amazing Grace Gala 2024



"A bottle of white, a bottle of red. Perhaps a bottle of rosé instead."

Please join us at our Amazing Grace Gala 2024 on Sunday, April 14th. We'll meet 'at our old familiar place' — Stonegate Banquet Centre in Hoffman Estates, IL, where we will recreate 'Scenes from an Italian Restaurant'.

The Billy Elton Band will entertain us with the music of Billy Joel and Elton John. See the enclosed flyer for details on registration, sponsorships and advertising opportunities.



The Amazing Grace Gala is our largest fundraiser and we depend on the money raised to help us cover the costs in caring for our elderly Residents.

Tickets for the Amazing Grace Sweepstakes are also enclosed. The drawing will be held on April 14th at the Gala. You do not need to be present to win. Don't miss your chance to win \$500, \$1,000 or \$5,000.

More information can be found at LittleSistersofthePoorPalatine.org or by calling 847-358-5700.

MOTHER MERCY'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

It seems that we were just celebrating Christmas and now Lent is upon us. In this newsletter you can read some suggestions on journeying through Lent with us.

Along with Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Season, we will also soon celebrate the Feast Day of our Patron, dear St. Joseph on March 19th. Jeanne Jugan's great devotion to St. Joseph has been handed down from generation to generation to every Little Sister. Along with St. Joseph, St. Patrick is also a favorite patron saint of many of our Residents and Little Sisters of Irish (and all other) descent. We joyfully celebrate the feasts of both of these great saints. On St. Patrick's Day, corned beef and cabbage, and Irish music and song fill our Home. St. Joseph's Day begins with a special Mass devoted to our great patron. After a delicious dinner, delectable pastries and desserts are served on the beautifully decorated sweets' tables in our dining rooms.

Please consider joining us for our Amazing Grace Gala. This is our largest fundraiser and we depend on the money raised to help with our ever-increasing operating expenses. It is always a fun event. Our Residents and Little Sisters enjoy meeting you, enjoying good food and entertainment.

As we prepare with prayerful anticipation for the Easter promise of a new springtime, through the intercession of St. Joseph, we pray that your Lenten journey will lead you closer to our Lord. Thank you for letting Him work through you to bring comfort to those in need.

M. Mercy



"Go raibh maith agat — Thank you". Whether its Gaelic or English, our heartfelt gratitude is the same! We are very grateful 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.

Needed Items

- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Canned Tuna
- Nutritional Supplements (Boost or Ensure)
- Cooking Oil
- Kleenex
- Lotion - Sensitive Skin
- Cough Drops (regular and sugar free)
- Surgical Masks

SAVE THE DATE

■ Amazing Grace Gala

*Sunday, April 14, 2024
Stonegate Banquets,
Hoffman Estates, IL*

■ Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing

*Monday, Sept. 16, 2024
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.