



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

St. Joseph's Home

Serving the elderly poor in Palatine since 1965

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.



Eva bikes for 90 minutes a day, and then does arm and leg resistance exercises. Many health experts and studies acclaim the benefits of daily exercise. But, if Eva's dedication and longevity can't convince us, then nothing can!

Save the Dates:

- September 21, 2015
Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing
- November 5, 2015
St. Joseph's Home for the Holidays Wine Tasting
- April 24, 2016
Amazing Grace Gala

A Century Plus Three

Happy 103rd Birthday Eva

The year was 1912, Woodrow Wilson was President, the unsinkable Titanic sank, Federal income tax (1%) was signed into law, Charlie Chaplin began his film career, and Eva Abdella was born to Syrian immigrants on June 27 in St. Paul, MN.

The 7th of 9 children, she wanted to go to college, but her father would only allow her five brothers to go. None of her brothers wanted to go.

Eva married Frederick Kicanas on August 22, 1937 at the Cathedral of St. Paul in St. Paul, MN. She moved to Chicago and her family grew, with daughters Cathy (Kerwin), Barbara (Yarbrough), and son Gerald (His Excellency Bishop Gerald Kicanas of the Diocese of Tucson).

She was Greek Orthodox and remained so until her father died (so as not to hurt his feelings) and then converted to Catholicism. Fr. Norbert Zawistanowicz

at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, was instrumental in her conversion and subsequently in Bishop Kicanas' vocation.

Eva was always (and still is) dedicated in everything she pursued. In addition to being a good wife and mother, she was very involved in her parishes. For many years, she was a member and then president of the Legion of Mary. She also worked many years at Born's Florist in Chicago.

In 2006 after a fall which resulted in a broken elbow, Eva moved to our Home. When asked the secret of her long life, she said, "I guess the Lord isn't done with me yet!" We think her faith, her wonderful outlook on life, and daily exercise are certainly helping her.

Happy birthday Eva! May God continue to bless you with good health, happiness and endless Dairy Queen (her favorite dessert) treats!

Little Sisters of the Poor



Residents Helen and Monnie help out in the kitchen each morning by prepping the food that was donated from vendors at the Chicago wholesale markets and local grocers.

God's Divine Providence State of Illinois Budget Cuts

The financial situation of the State of Illinois is dire. In an effort to come up with an acceptable budget, hard funding cuts were made. Already, Illinois' Medicaid reimbursement rate is one of the lowest in the US. Because of these current financial problems, the State has further reduced our Medicaid reimbursements by \$50,000 this year. They did this by deducting \$25,000 from our May and June reimbursement checks.

At the printing of this newsletter, a state budget has not yet been approved. We have been notified by the state that we will not receive any more payments until further notice.

Less than half the costs of caring for

our Residents are covered by Social Security and Medicaid. Even so, we desperately depend on that money. Although we get a substantial portion of our food donated to us, we still spend \$350 a day to feed our 90 Residents. Our electric bill runs \$436 per day and medical and incontinence supplies are about \$247 per day. We need to raise through donations, more than \$100 per day, per Resident, to cover our expenses.

All this can be quite overwhelming. It would be tempting to throw up our arms in frustration and give up. But, we are reminded that St. Jeanne Jugan had barely anything at all when she took in a poor homeless elderly blind woman and cared for her. St. Jeanne Jugan trusted in

St. Joseph and many benefactors to help her. More than 176 years later, we are still trusting that God will inspire others to assist us with generous donations.

Is God calling you to help us? Here are some ways you can.

- Pray for us. We count on your prayers to help us persevere in all the challenges that we face everyday. Likewise, you can count on our daily prayers for you.

- Give a donation, any amount would be greatly appreciated.

- Become a recurring donor. With your regular weekly, monthly or quarterly donations, we can better budget our expenses.

- Give a gift of stock. We gratefully accept stock transfers that we can liquidate and use the funds for expenses.

- Remember us in your will, IRA or 401(k).

- Organize a food and supplies drive at your parish, school or business. Our Wish List of much needed items can be found on the Donation page of our website.

- GFS gift cards. Besides the food donations and food that we purchase from the Northern IL Food Bank, GFS is a major supplier of our food.

"If God is with us, it will be accomplished" St. Jeanne Jugan



It is such a joy to watch our elderly Residents take pleasure in their days and not have to worry about financial hardships.

ENTER THE TEN WEEK CLUB AND WIN \$5,000

It's time again for the Ten Week Club and your chance to win \$500 or \$5,000.

We will be giving away \$500 each week for nine weeks and a Grand Prize of \$5,000 on the tenth week.

Fill out your contact information on the enclosed Ten Week Club tickets

and return them to us for your chance to win! Your ticket(s) will remain in all ten drawings. This will give you a total of TEN OPPORTUNITIES TO WIN!

The \$500 weekly drawings will begin on Friday, September 4, 2015. The lucky winner of the \$5,000 Grand Prize will be drawn on Friday, November 6, 2015.

Around Our Home



We celebrated the Fourth of July with a classic summertime cookout featuring hamburgers, hot dogs potato salad and watermelon on festively decorated tables on the patio.

Good Ole Summertime

June marks the start of some favorite summertime rituals. Windows open and the outdoors are filled with people enjoying the fresh air and warm weather activities. Despite the unusually wet summer, we are doing the same. As soon as the sun darts out of the clouds, we dash outdoors. Summer is a cherished season here and we are not going to let the rain spoil it.

You can find us spending tranquil afternoons by the pond, listening to the water and watching the birds. We love to stroll around the flower and rose gardens, or sit on a park bench near one of our many statues. If the rain does threaten to fall, we can retreat to a covered patio and enjoy a book or work a crossword puzzle.

We also enjoy visiting the sites and sounds of our culturally rich Chicago metropolitan area. Whether it be sight-seeing, visiting nearby historical sites, museums or entertainment venues, physical limitations are not a problem. Thanks to generous benefactors, we are blessed to have a 16 passenger handicap accessible bus. Everyone can enjoy the benefits of what Chicago has to offer.

Some of our adventures took us to

St. James Parish in Arlington Heights to see their production of 'Peter Pan'. Dodging the raindrops we were able to cheer on the ponies at Arlington Park Racetrack and to root for the Schaumburg Boomers at a baseball game.

We have been praying hard for our dear Franciscan Brothers, Luke, Dale and Chris who spent their year of service with us in 2013-2014. On July 24th, we traveled to Mishawaka, IN to show them our love and support as they professed their first vows.

Highlighting our summer will be a special outdoor picnic on Friday, August 14th, as we celebrate Mother Provincial Maria Christine's feast day. Joining us on our beautiful grounds will be the Residents and Little Sisters from St. Mary's Home in Chicago.

We are so grateful that through your kindness and generosity, we are able to enjoy these fun-filled days of summer.



In June our monthly pilgrimage was to Holy Hill Basilica in Hubertus, Wisconsin



Our Dietary staff lovingly prepares home cooked and special diet meals, along with delicious pastries, cakes and desserts.

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

In caring for the elderly, St. Jeanne Jugan and her companions considered the 'whole person', attending to the physical and medical needs of the aged, making them happy and nurturing them spiritually. Jeanne fed the aged well, for she knew that good food made them happy. She would say that 'there is much good you can accomplish by preparing their meals well'.

If you ever walked by our kitchen or dining room at meal time, you would know that Sr. Grace and our dietary staff work very hard to make our Residents happy. The delicious aromas of homemade soups, breads, cookies and stews make many a mouth water. Sr. Grace expertly manages the donated fruits, vegetables and meats and with her staff, turning them into scrumptious meals.

Along with the dietary staff, a group of volunteers, which include several of our Residents, help to provide three meals a day, seven days a week to over 100 people. Special occasions are made even more special with beautiful cakes and cookies that are lovingly baked and decorated by our expert bakers.

Every morning, Sr. Mary Timothy leads the dietary staff and volunteers in prayer. Statues of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Divine Mercy, St. Joseph and St. Patrick are prominently displayed in the kitchen. This simple practice represents the sacramental focus of the staff and volunteers, and is a constant reminder of the deep devotion that they strive to live out daily, in their service to our Residents.

As Sr. Mary Timothy explains, "Every day we pray for the benefactors who support us with financial and food donations. We also pray for our Residents, employees and volunteers who prepare and eat the meals at our Home today."

A Moment with Mother



Mother Marguerite with Hospitality Interns, Jenny, Courtney and Emma.

This summer we were delighted to have the bright smiling faces of three young women, Jenny, Courtney and Emma who spent six weeks with us in the “Spring into Service” Hospitality Program. This was an opportunity for them to experience service to the elderly as well as, prayer and community life in our faith filled environment. They were a tremendous help and a joy to have with us.

As the end of summer approaches, we look forward to four exciting events. The first is our Holy Father’s visit to the United States. We are excited that our Little Sisters on the East Coast will have the opportunity to welcome Pope Francis. As a native Philadelphian, I am personally gratified that our Holy Father will bless the ‘City of Brother Love’ with his presence.

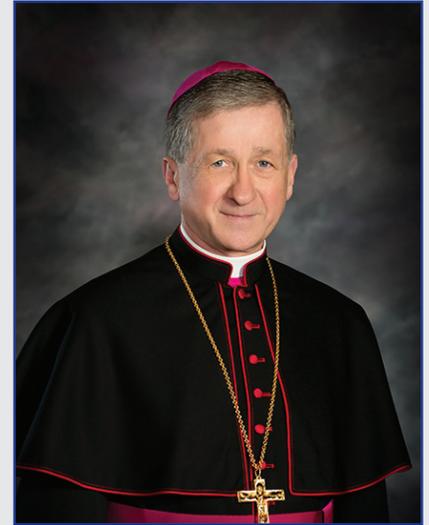
The second event is our Congregation’s General Chapter that will be held in early September at our Motherhouse in France. We ask for your special prayers for this international meeting of the Little Sisters of the Poor which takes place every 6 years. During this meeting, we will elect our Mother General and her council and discuss the concerns and needs of the Little Sisters of the Poor worldwide.

Third, is the commencement of the Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the Family in October. We pray with expectant faith that this Synod will help manifest the unity that is so necessary to strengthen family bonds and relationships.

Finally, please join us for the tenth anniversary of our Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing. Wynstone is a beautiful course and it will be a fun-filled day. I hope to see you at the Rubber Duck Drive.

On August 30th, we will celebrate the Feast of our Mother Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan. In our Masses and prayers, we confide to her intercession all of your special intentions.

Sr. Marguerite



50 AMAZING YEARS!

Be sure to mark your calendars for Sunday, April 24, 2016, as we celebrate our Golden Jubilee at the Amazing Grace Gala. Our special guest speaker, His Excellency Archbishop Blase Joseph Cupich, will help us to commemorate our 50 years at St. Joseph’s Home in Palatine and 140 years in the Chicago Area. The Gala will be held at the Stonegate Banquet Centre in Hoffman Estates, IL.

Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing

You won’t want to miss the Tenth Anniversary of our Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing. It will be held on Monday, September 21st at Wynstone Golf Club.

Enjoy this special opportunity to golf at the newly renovated Jack Nicklaus designed golf course. Wynstone is located in North Barrington, IL, expertly woven into the rolling hills and beautiful wetlands.

Wynstone Golf Club is an exclusive private club that is recognized in the Top 100 Championship Golf Courses in the United States.

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



Sr. Pauline with former Chicago Bear Running Back, Roland Harper at the 2014 Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing.