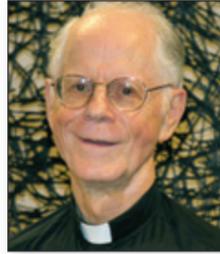


Father Thomas Dubay In Memoriam

In September, the Lord welcomed into His Kingdom Father Thomas Edward Dubay, S.M. after a gradual failing of the kidneys. A Resident of our Home, he was 88 years old. Despite his frail and declining health, Father Dubay was just as witty as ever.

Although he suffered from his loss of independence, he was happy to celebrate Mass almost every day in the chapel of the Little Sisters' Home in the shadow of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in our nation's capital.

The Marist priests and brothers visited him almost daily, and Father depended very much



on his superior, Fr. Bruce, who was always there for him. In a few words, Fr. Dubay literally practiced what he preached! Father was happy to give weekly classes to the Little Sister postulants – classes which he enjoyed as much as they did. From his room, Father continued his spiritual direction with the many persons who called on him – this extended to his letter writing.

Many of our Residents recognized Fr. Dubay from his many appearances on the Eternal World Television Network and welcomed him into our Home as a Resident Priest with joy and awe. Initially our Residents treated Fr. Dubay like a star – with several asking him to autograph books. However, it was not long before everyone realized and appreciated what a model of kindness, humility, and – let us not forget – great humor had come to dwell in our midst.

May he rest in peace after leading so many souls to true spiritual peace during his lifetime! The following prayer says it all: "Help us hurry toward the Eternal Life you promise and come to share in the joys of your kingdom!"



Little Sister Pauline honored by the Archdiocese of Washington with an individual "Manifesting the Kingdom Award" for Dedicated Service presented by Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington.

Our beloved Sister Marie Mathilde de la Croix – 77 Years a Little Sister – celebrates her 98th Birthday!



CALENDAR

Join Us For Holy Week

April 18, Monday

Dress Rehearsal "Way to Calvary"
Passion Play 3:30 pm

April 20, Wednesday

"Way to Calvary" Passion Play 7:00 pm, Auditorium

April 21, Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lords Supper 5:00 pm

April 22, Good Friday

Stations of the Cross 11:00 am and
Veneration of the Cross 3:00 pm

April 23, Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil Mass 7:30 pm
followed by refreshments in the Breezeway

April 24, Easter Sunday

Mass 10:30 am

Combined Federal Campaign

If you are a federal employee, you can now donate to the Little Sisters of the Poor through the CFC.

Our designation number is 53116.

Did you know that with one simple click of the mouse at www.littlesistersofthepoorwashingtondc.org you can donate now to help the Little Sisters of the Poor make repairs to our aging building in order to sustain a safe and comfortable home for our 100 residents? For more information on contributions, bequests, memorials and in-kind donations, please call our Director of Development, Heather Cave, at 202-269-1831, or email devwashington@littlesistersofthepoor.org.



Little Sisters of the Poor Sharing Family News

Jeanne Jugan Residence • 4200 Harewood Rd., NE • Washington, DC 20017
Phone 202-269-1831 • Fax 202-269-1134 • www.littlesistersofthepoorwashingtondc.org



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As Little Sisters of the Poor we care for the needy elderly in the spirit of humble service that we have received from Jeanne Jugan. We welcome the elderly as we would Jesus Christ himself and serve them with love and respect until death.

Six Year Old Blessed Sacrament Student Skips Getting Birthday Gifts To Help Little Sisters

Megan Pfohl, currently a first-grader at Blessed Sacrament, became so inspired after participating with her schoolmates in a walk-a-thon for the homeless that she came home from school and told her mom, Maura Reidy, "I need to give everything I have away to the poor."

"So," said Reidy, "I took the opportunity to sit down with her and talk about her resources and the types of things that a six-year old girl could do to help the poor."

"We did a bit of research," Reidy continued, "and after looking at a brochure about the Little Sisters of the Poor and their mission, Megan decided to celebrate her 7th birthday not with gifts but by having family and friends give money to help the Little Sisters!"

"Megan has a generous spirit," Reidy said. She believes Megan learned about helping others through a variety of events held at her school including the Fannie Mae Walk-a-Thon for the homeless and "Pennies for Patients." Megan also was inspired by Sister Pauline, "the begging nun" she heard during collections at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Reidy said.

Megan collected \$450 for her seventh birthday. At Christmas, with her mother, father Peter Pfohl and siblings Kathryn and Patrick in tow, Megan came to the Jeanne Jugan Residence to present her donation. She had tucked it into a beautiful handmade card – complete with a drawing of her, standing alongside a Little Sister – for Mother Benedict and Sr. Pauline. Sister took Megan and her family on a tour of our Home and a visit to our Chapel, where a choir was singing Christmas Carols. Afterward, Megan told her family "I want to do this every year for my birthday!"



This young girl, putting the needs of those less fortunate ahead of her own wants, inspires us. Thank you Megan from our "little family" of Little Sisters and our Residents. Please know that the money you donated will help the Little Sisters of the Poor continue their mission to care for Washington's elderly poor.

SPOTLIGHT on a Music-Lover — Joseph Dignazio, Resident



Whenever Resident Joseph ("Joe") Dignazio's door is open, you can hear the sweet sounds of music. It might be the radio or TV, or it might be Joe himself, playing his beloved accordion or singing with his beautiful voice.

Joe was born in Martinsburg, WV, and lived there for 65 years. The accordion was a gift from his father and "came all the way from Italy," he'll tell you. Joe learned to play during his 13 years of schooling with the Daughters of Charity. It was Sister Suzanne from that order who first introduced Joe to the Little Sisters of the Poor and suggested he come to the Jeanne Jugan Residence to live.

As a member of our "little family" of Little Sisters and Residents for more than ten years, Joe has had the opportunity and honor of playing his accordion for Mother General Celine de la Visitation and President George Walker Bush.

Today, Joe still loves to play his accordion, but can't do so as often as he would like because of back pain. However, he still takes frequent requests from the other Residents to sing tunes from the 50's and 60's – Joe's favorites.

"I love music," said Joe, "back in Martinsburg, I even had a radio program for several months called Town and Country Time on WEPM - I'd sing and also talk about music."

Joe's other love is simply hitting the road for a long drive. If you need a navigator, he's up for it. The destination doesn't matter to Joe, as long as the radio is on.

His passion for music, the open road and his native state are captured in Country Roads, one of Joe's favorite songs: "Almost Heaven, West Virginia, Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah River... I hear her voice, in the morning hours she calls me, The radio reminds me of my home far away, And driving' down the road I get the feeling, That I should have been home yesterday, yesterday..."

Each elderly person while a member of the human community is a magnificent soloist playing out a unique melody that we won't hear again. The melody is woven of a multitude of life's experiences, joys, sufferings and spiritual insights.

Winter 2010 Sweepstakes Winners

1st Prize – \$2,500.00 — Michael Varron
2nd Prize – \$1,000.00 — Laurence Hanrahan
3rd Prize – \$ 500.00 — Ikechukwu Nweke
4th Prize – \$250.00 — Margaret M. Healy

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR ONLINE: Sisters' Blog, news and events, volunteer and employment opportunities and other information available at the Little Sisters of the Poor, www.littlesistersofthepoorwashingtondc.org. To receive news and other communication about our Home by e-mail, visit our web site and register.

Happenings Around Our Home

Art Class with Elizabeth Seton Church and other favorite activities continue in our very busy Café including Sing-Along with Bill "The Piano Man" Morris, Men's Club Coffee and Pastries with Knights of Columbus, Open Mic & Karaoke Fun with the AJJ, Violin performances by Gretchen Rydin, and Blessed Sacrament of Sodality Cafe Social and Bingo. In addition, Residents celebrated Black History month with a Martin Luther King, Jr. Book Drive and Musical Tribute in our Café, and guest lecturers on topics like The Quander-Coaling African-American Legacy, which discussed the triumphs and challenges of the African-American community in St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Some new and exciting programs on our activity calendar have quickly become favorites among our Residents. During Music Together – a parent child music and movement classes – Residents get a chance to befriend toddlers and preschoolers, and often sing and dance along with the little ones. For many Residents, the little students, participating in this class is the highlight of their week.

In addition to visits with the already beloved bunnies, Residents are enjoying visits from PALS like Ava – a dog volunteer – and her human. You can often spot Ava sitting in the lap of a Resident pet-lover getting a belly rub. Ava evokes laughter and smiles wherever she goes as well as conversation and reminiscences about other beloved pets.



During the last weeks of winter, Residents were able to capture a little bit of summer at the Winter Beach Dance Party hosted by Catholic University of America (CUA) students. Everyone wore brightly colored Hawaiian leis and a few even wore grass skirts as they enjoyed the festivities and dancing. The confirmation students from The Avalon School and The Brookewood School gave a special assist by decorating the auditorium with everything "Aloha!"



Twelve young women participated in our "Built up and planted in the Faith" discernment retreat weekend February 25-27. The weekend included an introduction to Lectio Divina by Fr. Philip Simo, OSB, opportunity for silence, prayer and encounters with the Little Sisters and Postulants. The Residents prayed very hard for each retreatant and were thrilled to finally get to know them on Sunday



Bryant University students take pleasure in time spent with Giovanna Bello and Garland Avent during our Mardi Gras Carnival.

The burden of age is lighter for those who feel respected and loved by the young. — Cicero



Antoinette Cienski, other Residents and volunteers enjoy the masks, beads and dancing at the Mardi Gras Dance Party.



The young people from the Culkin School of Irish Dance delight Residents with their St. Patrick's Day performance.



On the Feast of St. Joseph, the Hospitality Club helped us celebrate our friendship with the seven Postulants at a teary but fun filled goodbye party. Father Green said they were "going to make wonderful sisters," and read us an Irish Blessing. The Residents offered gifts of tissues for tears, mints for the train ride and red roses symbolizing their love for the Postulants. Finally, knowing that the Residents love to dance we put on the music and danced the tears away to our favorite tunes while playing balloon bop and enjoying old-fashioned root beer floats and popcorn.



Ada Spriggs enjoys watching other Residents' light-hearted participation in the magic of Michael Chamberlain.



On the first Monday in spring, our "family" of Residents, Little Sisters and employees gathered at the front door to wave their goodbyes to the Postulants, who had come to find a place in the hearts of all. As is traditional here at Jeanne Jugan Residence we had the ringing of the outdoor bells to announce a departure. The next stage of their journey is a two-year formation period at St Ann's Novitiate in Queens Village New York.

As spring begins, there is a mounting excitement among the Residents and Little Sisters about our upcoming Passion play performed by the Residents and all are looking forward to spring, which brings with it warmer weather, beautiful flowers and the great feast of Easter!

"SAY OUI" A Successful Soiree

The second annual "Say Oui!" benefit in Washington last November raised more than \$85,000 to support the mission of the Little Sisters. More than 130 friends of the order attended the event, held at the French Ambassador's residence.

The evening featured an "All Things French" silent auction in which guests could bid on items ranging from a several-nights stay at a hotel on the Champs-Elysee and bottles of Moët & Chandon champagne, to a fine leather handbag and a beautiful silk scarf.



Auction items were generously donated by such providers as Louis Vuitton, Hermes, Marriott Corporation, MacArthur Beverages, Wide World of Wines, Yves Delorme, Marcel's Restaurant, Pierre Deux, Washington Wholesale, Dessange Paris Salon, Aveda Salon and Spa Bethesda, and others.

During the evening, Sister Pauline and the French Embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission, Francois Rivasseau, spoke to the supporters about our work and the gift and

privilege of helping the elderly poor. Madame Elizabeth Rivasseau wife of the Deputy Chief of Mission also welcomed guests and our Residents to France's home in the Nation's Capital.

Guests sipped champagne and sampled hors d'oeuvres, courtesy of the French Ambassador, while being serenaded by live accordion music. As the Little Sisters presented tokens of appreciation for the departing guests, they overheard many say they hoped to return next year.

Event chair Genevieve Murphy "just outdid herself," said Sr. Celestine, with special help and contributions from A. Dominick Events and photographer David Hickson.

In addition, special thanks is due to Computech, Inc., of Bethesda and Mr. and Mrs. B. Francis Saul II for making the event a social and financial success.



Many thanks to our wonderful employees for helping us through flu season!

Mission Statement of Collaborators with the Little Sisters of the Poor

We assist the Little Sisters of the Poor in their mission of hospitality by welcoming the elderly poor, making them happy and caring for them until death. In our varied roles, we contribute to the family spirit and the daily life of the Home, following the example of Saint Jeanne Jugan.