

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Serving the elderly poor in Washington, D.C. since 1871.



Campaign Progress

MORE THAN THREE QUARTERS OF THE WAY TO \$12 MILLION GOAL!

During the campaign, the Little Sisters raised more than 75% of the funds needed to reach our goal for this capital campaign.



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JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE

4200 Harewood Road, NE
Washington, D.C. 20017

JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE

Growing In Their Love Of Jesus and Church Residents' Summer Adventures are Prayerful and Fun

This summer marks our 143rd year in this city and our little family is delighting in the long sunshine-filled days, outings, enriching activities, and for some, vacation time with loved ones.

Many Residents even accepted this year's "Faith Quest" invitation to explore their Catholic heritage amidst celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Washington. Faith Quest encourages Catholics to visit 25 designated pilgrimage sites, each having special historical and spiritual significance. Residents, Little Sisters and staff formed a team to visit as many sites as possible.

"It was simply beautiful," says Resident Maria Ruhland describing their visit to Holy Trinity Church on N Street in the city. "I'm participating in Faith Quest," she explains "because I want to learn more about my faith and the history of the area I live in. Even if I had a car, I'd have never ventured down to the southern part of Maryland. What I found out is how little I know about the history of the Catholic Church in this area. I have been to the Basilica and the Cathedral of St. Mathews where I was confirmed, but the rest of the places we visited were

all totally new to me."

"Though their average age is more than 78 years, these Residents were on a mission to make as many of the pilgrimages as they could," said Sr. Constance. She added that the site the Residents were most interested in visiting was the Carmel of Port Tobacco. In each place, they learned about the treasures of our local Catholic heritage, had the chance to pray, complete an educational activity, and received a special stamp in their Faith Quest Passports. Residents happily reported that yummy lunches and an occasional side trip for ice cream – sponsored by Mother Mary Michael – were also part of these fun summer adventures.

Our team was thrilled that they'd earned an invitation to the "Faith Quest" closing party held at the Franciscan Monastery on September 8. They earned their invitation by collecting eight or more passport stamps, though several participated in all ten of "Team Jeanne Jugan's" pilgrimages. At the closing party our team was awarded the prize for being the most "Intrepid Questers," since we were the oldest team participating.



SAVE THE DATE

Fall Sweepstakes
October 27 – January 26

Thanksgiving
November 27



Our pilgrimages are not all serious! Resident Philomena Hsieh greets Pope Francis, "live and in person" in a cardboard cutout at the National Shrine of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception July 3. While Residents Leonard Donatelli, Martha DeFilippi and Maria Noronha enjoy a beautiful day at the Carmel of Port Tobacco July 17. They are standing in front of the replica of the house that served as the first monastery. Resident Robin Sand enjoys the beautiful weather and a reflective moment during a visit to Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Solomons August 5, while Resident Msgr. Joaquin Bazan introduces staff member Joyce Miles to the sanctuary in his old parish Shrine of the Sacred Heart July 7. Top, Residents explore the beautiful Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle.



Our three new Little Sisters take a photo with Most Rev. David Zubik just moments after making their first profession of vows at St. Ann's Novitiate in Queens Village, NY. "What happiness for us, to be a Little Sister of the Poor!"

- Saint Jeanne Jugan



The day before Profession, Megan Spelic was received into the novitiate to begin two years of formation in Queens. She took the religious name Sr. Bernadette Rose.

Little Sisters Community News

- The Little Sisters, Residents and staff will gather at the front door soon to welcome a new Sister joining our community. Sr. Mary Jamina comes to us from La Tour St. Joseph, France. She will attend to the Residents on one of our nursing units. "We welcome her with great joy to our home and to Washington, D.C., and are blessed to have her as part of our family," says Mother Mary Michael.
- Our Little Sister Centenarian, Sr Marie Mathilde de la Croix, celebrated 80 years of religious profession June 20. From Mother General we learned that Sr Marie Mathilde is the only Little Sister in our entire congregation with so many years of vows! Sr. Marie Mathilde celebrated her 101st birthday earlier this year, is quite active, attends daily Mass, participates in community life and always greets the Residents and staff with a smile. It is a joy and honor to have her here in our community!

With A Great Love For the Elderly Poor

"New" Little Sisters Pronounce Vows

We welcome with great happiness three new Little Sisters into our Congregation!

Sr. Amy, Sr. Elisabeth and Sr. Maria Carmen Therese made their first profession of vows on July 19, at St. Ann's Novitiate in Queens Village, NY. Profession of the vows of chastity, poverty, obedience and hospitality for two years is preceded by a two-year novitiate. Most Rev. David Zubik of Pittsburgh, PA was the main celebrant and homilist for the Mass.

Sr. Amy Catherine Joseph (Hagedorn), a native of Indiana first met the Little Sisters while a nursing student in Evansville. She received her first obedience for our home in Philadelphia.

Sr. Elisabeth de l'Eucharistie (Dugré) is from Québec, Canada. Sr. Elisabeth met the Little Sisters while working as a baker in Montréal. In addition

to her culinary skills, she is an accomplished flutist. Sr. Elisabeth has been assigned to our home in Dinan, France, the third home of the Congregation and the site where Saint Jeanne Jugan worked with the Brothers of St. John of God to draft the original Constitutions of our Congregation.

Wake up the world!

Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living!

- Pope Francis

Sr. Maria Carmen Therese (Ozuna) was born in Mexico, migrated to the U.S., and settled near Philadelphia. She worked as a childcare provider before entering our congregation. Sister is headed to the Jeanne Jugan Residence in the Bronx. **Please keep them in your prayers!**

Mass of Thanksgiving for Our Foundress

Little Sisters Honored by the Archdiocese of Washington with "75th Anniversary Cardinal's Award"

In joyous gratitude, we joined Little Sisters of the Poor around the world in celebrating our Mother Foundress' feast day at a Mass of Thanksgiving offered by a good friend of our home, Bishop Barry C. Knestout, August 30.

As Foundress of The Little Sisters of the Poor, Jeanne Jugan witnessed the miraculous growth of her "little family," as homes for the aged poor spread throughout the world. "Look upon the poor with compassion, and Jesus will look kindly upon you on your last day," she said. Saint Jeanne Jugan lived according to this ideal, serving the elderly with gentleness and humility of heart while peacefully accepting a life of poverty and humility until her

death. She was canonized October 11, 2009.

In honor of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the archdiocese of Washington, at the end of Mass, Bishop Knestout presented the Cardinal's Award to the community for "promoting the Gospel, upholding the faith and manifesting the Kingdom of God." Mother Mary Michael accepted the Award on behalf of all the Little Sisters.

It was touching to see how excited and proud the Residents were as they admired the Cardinal's Award after Mass. "After all," one of them said, "we helped the Sisters earn this award, didn't we?!" Indeed, they did, because the elderly are the *raison d'être* of our lives as Little Sisters of the Poor!



Asked the secret of her long life, Sister Marie Mathilde - here with Mother Mary Michael - invariably replies that God has been very good to her.





Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, and Mother Mary Michael cut the ribbon at the entrance of our newly renovated chapel just prior to the blessing ceremony. Right: After the ceremony, he greets Residents and staff gathered to see him.



St. Jeanne Jugans' Feast Day

Inspires Month of Resident Activities
Honoring Her Life

The smile on Resident Mary Nathan's face is striking — as she follows Sr. Constance's direction and manipulates a handful of lavender stalks into a heavenly scented and ribboned sachet. Concentrating, Mary lines up the buds, tightly ties a string just below the flowers, wraps a thread around and around the flowers, then bends the stalks back over the threaded buds, and lastly wraps the stem in ribbon. Admiring her work, she and several other Residents decide to make another, which they happily create and then take to their rooms to place among linens and clothing to give a fresh fragrance.

This is just one of several creative activities — coordinated by our activities team and Sr. Constance for our Residents — to honor Jeanne Jugan's life in the weeks leading up to her feast day. Other activities include everything from creating stained glass artwork of Saint Jeanne, to baking Breton cookies, enjoying a virtual Breton dance festival, and participating in a scavenger hunt seeking information about Jeanne's life. "This year we decided to take a multi-faceted approach to the feast of Saint Jeanne Jugan," said Sr. Constance. So we did a combination of craft projects, culinary activities and educational/cultural presentations to explore Jeanne's life and times. I think the Residents really enjoyed the variety of activities!"

On a cold winter's day in 1839, Jeanne Jugan welcomed an elderly, destitute, blind woman into her home. Jeanne gave Anne Chauvin her bed, and a "home," where meals were shared, joys multiplied and sorrows divided. Today the Little Sisters of the Poor 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.

Phase I Complete, Resolve Strengthens to Begin Phase II of Capital Campaign

Amidst Great Joy Cardinal Wuerl Blesses Our Chapel

Residents, staff and Little Sisters from nearby homes joined Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, and Mother Mary Michael, for the blessing of our newly renovated chapel June 13. We are elated that work to restore and bring our chapel up to current safety standards — Phase I of our Building Together on Sacred Ground Capital Campaign — is complete. Gone are leaky-windows and asbestos, and added are a fire suppression system, new windows, and insulated walls to help keep us comfortable during extreme hot and cold temperatures and save on utilities.

In his remarks, Cardinal Wuerl emphasized how the simple yet reverent style of the new chapel mirrors the simplicity of the Little Sisters' life. He also thanked the numerous benefactors without whom the renovation project would not have been possible. "We are so very humbled by the outpouring of support from the community," said Mother Mary Michael. "As we look to the future, we are committed to caring for this city's elders for many years to come. To continue our mission, and as good stewards of what God has given us through your generosity, we must tend to our aging buildings' infrastructures to accommodate present and future needs."

Several years ago, we initiated a study to identify and prioritize projects necessary

to continue our mission by sustaining our Home. The resulting plan encompasses urgently needed repairs to the residence, the convent and the chapel. Earlier this year we announced our campaign to raise more than \$12 million for this work. Now, with the chapel complete, we must focus our energy on fundraising for Phase Two — repairs to the residence and the convent.

Phase II projects will focus on repairing brick and replacing out-of code HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) systems and the 300 leaky-windows original to the 1964 and 1982 buildings, as well as renovation of the 2nd and 3rd floors of the convent. It is the desire of Mother General to house the young Sisters here in Washington for their continuing formation as junior Sisters. In addition to creating space for them, this phase will address safety issues like black mold, asbestos, and upgrading the fire alarm system. Though we have been successful in our fundraising efforts, we are still short by several million dollars.

We witness the hand of Divine Providence in the everyday life of our home. The words of our Foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan, always confirm our confidence: **"Give, give us this house, if God fills it with the poor, God will not abandon it."** With the continuing help of our friends, we know that God will always provide.



Mother's Corner

By: Mother Mary Michael



It is a delight to report that Phase I of our Capital Campaign — bringing our chapel up to the current safety standards — is complete!

We began by replacing the chapel's single-pane windows, removing asbestos, lowering ceilings, and installing new interior walls and a fire suppression system mandated by the City.

As you might know, we embarked on our Building Together on Sacred Ground Capital Campaign to raise more than \$12 million for urgently needed repairs to our home.

Though we have been successful in our fundraising efforts, we are still shy by several million dollars.

Our resolve to begin Phase II strengthened during the last big rain storm, as we again found ourselves using towels and buckets to clean-up water seeping around and through the windows and into the convent and Jeanne Jugan Residence. This type of makeshift relief is no longer enough.

In his recent remarks — made during the blessing of our newly renovated chapel — Cardinal Donald Wuerl reflected that faith is always a work in progress, and that for the Little Sisters, there is always another act of charity to do in caring for the needy elderly.

Indeed, we are committed to our mission of caring for this city's elders for many years to come, and as good stewards of what God has given us through our benefactors' generosity; we must tend to our aging buildings' infrastructures to accommodate both our present and future needs.

We are deeply grateful for your donations and I hope we can count on you for your continuing support. Please be assured of a daily remembrance in the prayers of the Little Sisters and our Residents for you and your intentions.

Like our Mother Foundress, the Little Sisters and I believe that if we are faithful to our mission of caring for the poor, God will provide. Divine providence is a miracle that happens every day!

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Visit us at www.littlesistersofthepoorwashingtondc.org

Prayers to St. Joseph Bear...

Stock Gifts and Benefactors

"Our Residents and the Little Sisters have been praying to St. Joseph, that people are good to us, and inspired to give what is needed to complete urgently needed repairs to our home," says Mother Mary Michael.

St. Jeanne Jugan had a special devotion to St. Joseph; it was to his powerful protection that she confided all her undertakings and all her cares, considering him the great provider of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

In answer to our prayers, three individual donors were inspired to help, and transferred stock worth more than \$126,700 into our account this summer!

So far, 5,066 donors have invested in our campaign with gifts ranging from \$2 to \$2 million dollars. Every donation counts — and each dollar helps to ensure the success of our campaign.

There are many ways you can help: make a stock donation, give online or by mail, and join us in praying to St. Joseph.

Here at the Jeanne Jugan Residence we offer

a home to 100 low-income seniors in three levels of care, including nursing, boarding care and independent living apartments. You stand alongside us by providing the means to care for our Residents who depend on us for everything... nutritious food, medical care, love and a safe and comfortable home.

Our Development staff is always ready to help you understand your giving options and support your giving preferences.

For details, please contact Heather Cave, our director of development at 202-269-1831 or devwashington@littlesistersofthepoor.org.



Upcoming Events

Congratulations to Our "Selfie" Contest Winner

Katie Riggs

Katie Riggs, seen here with Mother Mary Michael, AJJ member Ann Murray (her Auntie) and Sr. Celestine, is the winner of our "selfie" contest and a \$200 gift card. There were many wonderful entries and it was hard to choose a winner, but she earned extra credit for including a Sister.



Fall Sweepstakes

October 27 - January 26

Watch for Sweepstakes tickets due in mailboxes this October! Money raised goes toward replacing two 50 year-old Kewanee boilers with energy-efficient, and low-maintenance boilers.



Thanksgiving

November 28

We have a delightful celebration planned for Residents complete with traditional foods. Thanksgiving Day Mass at 11 a.m.

Each year, we are blessed by the generosity of the local schools and businesses that run food drives and donate everything from canned goods and pies, to turkey and ham, making our Thanksgiving and Christmas Feasts joyous!

