



Serving the elderly
poor in Los Angeles
since 1905

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Reflections on Lent

Our Mission

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.

Our VALUES

- Reverence
- Family Spirit
- Humble Service
- Compassion
- Stewardship



The Lenten Season is upon us and with it comes a multitude of traditions and practices. Some are personal practices like deeper prayer, self denial and almsgiving and others are parish practices like removing flowers from the altar, putting sand in the holy water fountain and omitting the Gloria from Mass. All of these practices work together to help us reflect on the life of Jesus: his sacrifices, his suffering, his death and his Resurrection.

What traditions we find most meaningful during Lent are greatly influenced by what we learned growing up. Those experiences become the foundation of how we value and celebrate Lent.

To learn more about some of the traditions our Residents value, we asked several to share their reflections on Lent. We chose Residents raised in other countries to add appreciation for the universal nature of the Catholic church. We hope their thoughts will inspire you to reflect on your favorite practices of Lent and how you become closer to God through them.

(Additional Stories on Page 3)



Rose Chai with Sr. John Elise

Sixty years ago there were very few Catholics in Taiwan. My parents were not Catholic. However, my father encouraged a group of recently arrived Hungarian Jesuit priests who had been expelled from mainland China to build a church and school in our area. This would be a way for children to learn English. The priests wanted young people to help teach the Gospel. I was in high school and agreed to join the ten month program. In the end, I became Catholic. During Lent, I followed the rules of abstinence from meat on Fridays. I would walk by myself to church and participated in the Palm Sunday and Holy Week services. I had a picture of Jesus and Mary in my room at home and today I have that same picture in my room here at the Little Sisters.

Little Sisters of the Poor

Mothers of the Province Meet in San Pedro



Recently we hosted Mother Provincial Maria Christine and all the Mothers from our province for their annual meeting. It was wonderful to have them enjoying the newly renovated Meeting Center. Everyone was comfortable and the opportunity to gather for prayer and work was appreciated. Culminating the week was the celebration of Mother Provincial's Feast Day. For this special occasion, many Residents, employees and volunteers prepared a play about the life of Jeanne Jugan which was enjoyed by everyone.

New Officers & New Event



A PRESIDENTS' LINEUP (R to L) Jan Werneid, Past President and installation coordinator; Ida Mavar, President Elect; Marie Tracy, newly installed President; Dottie Good, outgoing President.

On Wednesday, January 15, 2014, the Auxiliary of the Little Sisters of the Poor held its annual officers' installation dinner and meeting.

Fr. Sebastian Vettickal of Holy Trinity Parish celebrated Mass before the meeting. Sister Caroline gave a special "Thank You" to the Auxiliary officers and members for their continued enthusiasm, hard work and financial support of the Home.

Jan Werneid officiated at the installation and presented the 2014 officers with red roses.
President Marie Treacy
President-elect..... Ida Mavar
1st VP Sylvia Kostyo
2nd VP Carol Rugnetta

2nd VP Rita Swartz
Rec. Sec.....Dottie Mezin
Corresp. Sec. Mary DiLeva
Treas..... Mary Jean Salcido
Plans for the annual fund-raiser were announced for Saturday, Sept. 20th at the Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion for the Performing Arts in Rolling Hills Estates.

The theme is ***Lyrics and Laughter*** featuring a Broadway musical backdrop. Table Captains to sponsor seating for ten are being sought, as well as auction items including vacation & condos, weekend getaways, spa days, restaurants, sports & theme parks, air & water rides and more. Please call the Development Office.



Reflections on Lent (Continued from page 1)



Bosa Marinov



Ruth Taylor



Letticia D'Mello

My most vivid memories of Lent growing up in Croatia revolve around Good Friday. During the day we would make a visit to the church where a large cross was set up on the altar. Each person would kneel at the door of the church and walk on their knees to the altar and kiss the cross. There was also a basket there so you could leave money for the poor. In the evening, after the sun went down, people placed petroleum and ash lamps along their walks and walls. A very long procession made its way through the town. It began with banners showing the life of Christ and ended with men carrying a huge cross. The whole day was focused on the suffering and death of Christ. Another part of Lent I liked was the Stations of the Cross each Friday. I remember singing, praying, standing, kneeling, genuflecting, incense, bells and Benediction. It was always so reverent and moving. After the forty days of Lent, there was nothing better than the sweet taste of traditional Easter bread warmed from the stove.

I remember Palm Sunday in Querétaro, Mexico when I was a child. We all gathered in the atrium of the church for the blessing and distribution of the palms. As we processed into the church, there was such loud and enthusiastic singing and music that I have never forgotten it. During Lent, which we call "Cuaresma" meaning forty days, the emphasis was on prayer and devotion and not so much on penance. This was especially true every Friday when we recognized the pain and sacrifice of Mary. The last Friday was called Virgen de los Dolores, or the feast of the Virgin of Sorrows, which was a very prayerful event. As a teenager, I lived in Mexico City. The tradition on Holy Thursday was to meditate on the passion of Christ while making a visit to seven different churches in our area called "Seven Houses". On Good Friday at 3:00 the bells would peal calling us to process through the streets in silence keeping step to the beat of tambourines. On Easter Sunday the church was filled with flowers and joy. We brought fruit to the altar which was later given to orphanages and the poor.

I grew up in the city of Bandra, a suburb west of Bombay (Mumbai). Our community was mostly Catholics whose ancestors were converted by the early Portuguese. I attended the Catholic school there. Each year, shortly after Lent began, the Redemptorist priests would arrive and preach our parish mission. This gave us a chance to deepen our faith while building our sense of community. During Holy Week from Wednesday through Friday, we went to church every day to pray the Stations of the Cross. We said the stations three times in the three languages: Hindi, Marathi and English. On Good Friday, those over 18 years fasted from dawn to dusk. There was no music and no cooking.

Dear Heavenly Father,
During this Season of Lent, help me to discipline my body and to renew my spirit. Teach me to find new life through penance. Send your Spirit to make me strong in faith and active in good works. Nourish me with your Word and fill my heart with your love. Prepare me for the glory of your Resurrection. Through Christ our Lord,
Amen

A Simple Note

By: Mother Paul



Resident Lorraine Seigner
and Mother Paul

Dear Friends,

February has been such a joyful time. A number of our Little Sisters and Residents attended World Day of the Sick at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. We also celebrated Chinese New Year with the help of USC students whose authenticity and skill truly captivated the Residents. Our Valentine Ball was hosted by StoneFire Grill and included the crowning of our King and Queen of Hearts. Thank you to all who bring such happiness to our Residents.

As Lent begins, my prayer for you is that this will be a blessed season, a time of genuine and significant spiritual growth for you and for your family. May God grant you a truly holy Lent.

Mother Paul, L.S.P.

JOIN OUR E-COMMUNITY

Please share your e-mail so we can send you periodic updates on important events here at our Home.

Visit our website

www.littlesistersofthepoorsanpedro.org
and click on "REGISTER HERE".

You can also make donations by credit card, have a memorial/in honor card sent and even set up regular donations. Simply click on "DONATIONS".

Ways to Help

We are grateful to the many benefactors who support our Home. Through your generosity, important needs have been met including three new washers and dryers and new mattresses for the skilled nursing Residents.

As we plan ahead, we request your continued support for our operating budget which addresses our greatest need – to provide for the care and comfort of our Residents.

While we are raising capital funds to replace our Fire Alarm and Nurse Call Systems, we must continue to pay our daily bills. Your support is a most welcomed gift.

Thank you so much.



Our nursing staff receives training on the use of the new mattresses for skilled nursing. We are grateful to all the benefactors who "raised their paddles" during the Auxiliary's auction to fund the replacement of our old mattresses.

Upcoming Events

Auxiliary Day of Recollection

Wed., March 26, 2014 (8:30 to 2:00)

Fr. Sebastian Vettickal of Holy Trinity will conduct the sessions and celebrate Mass. Non-members welcome. Reservations are \$20. Mail checks payable to LSP Auxiliary to the Home.

Good Friday Passion Play

Fri., April 18, 2014

Join us for a live enactment of the Stations of the Cross. Held in the auditorium starting at 11:00 am. Call to verify time.

Volunteer Recognition Day

Tues., April 22, 2014

Mass is at 11:00 followed by Order of Malta award presentations and luncheon. RSVP in the Volunteer Office.

Auxiliary General Meeting

Wed., April 30, 2014

Mass is celebrated at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner and a program. Reservations are \$20. Payable to the LSP Auxiliary. Mail to the Home. Prospective new member are welcome. Call 310-548-0625.



Sixth Station: A woman named Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.



Fifteenth Station: Jesus is raised from the dead. Jesus is alive!