



Little Sisters of the Poor
Jeanne Jugan Residence
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With Grateful Hearts We Begin Our Year



Sister Bernadette (L), along with Sister Rose Marie greet Colette Butler who is a volunteer at Jeanne Jugan Residence. Sister Rose Marie is the new Superior of our home having arrived in April, 2001.

"I have had a very warm welcome and am delighted to meet so many wonderful people," said Sister Rose Marie. "The generosity I've witnessed is marvelous, just marvelous."



Jeanne Jugan Residence is a very active place! Many contribute to the wonderful spirit that radiates from every corner: the staff, volunteers, auxiliary members, and our many benefactors. We offer tribute to you who share in our mission and thank you for collaborating in our work. Because of your loving commitment we are able to create a home for the elderly poor – not an institution – *a home*.

With profound gratitude for the gift of your friendship and support, we extend to you personally a sincere *thank you*. The Little Sisters and our dear Residents are witnesses each day of the year to the continued manifestation of God's Providence through you.

Through your prayers and gifts you are incorporated into our Christ-centered mission. We are here day and night offering our love, our compassion and our hands-on service to Christ in the person of our elderly. But you are the lifeline making it all possible. Thank you from the depth of our grateful hearts. ■

Sister Andrea and Resident Margaret Kramer visit as Residents gather to sing together.

Below Left: Sister Mary Augustine leads the singing as Resident Marie Olsen hums the familiar tune.

Sister Paul sits between Residents Mary Mayse and Katy Wade as they enjoy the sing-along.



Rummage Sale Volunteers Perform a Labor of Love



Rhoda Larquier, Bev Costley and Margaret Conklin volunteer regularly for the rummage sale. Margaret is the acknowledged expert based on her 20 years of experience.

"The monthly tradition of a rummage sale has been going on as long as I've been here," states Rhoda Larquier. "And I've been a volunteer for 12 years."

Over time, changes have occurred. The rummage sale has gotten much bigger with more goods, more customers and more volunteer help.

Sale items are donated from throughout the community. Goods are delivered in small quantities to the front desk and in large quantities to the garages behind the residence. These buildings long ago became the official Rummage Center.

Each day a volunteer crew of three or more comes to sort and organize the goods. Kitchenware is washed, electrical appliances are tested, and clothing is examined. Items not suitable for sale are set aside.

The Residents who are mobile enjoy coming to the monthly pre-sale. They get "first pick" and can safely shop at their own pace without the crowds.

The public sale is held on the 2nd Friday of every month from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Before the doors are even open, eager shoppers are lined up ready to find and seize the best buys. ■



Caroline DiMeglio and Carolyn Atmur are ready at the calculator to help shoppers check out quickly.



Lucille Flores, Grace Conger, and Lillie Nuno (L-R) are also regular volunteers at the Rummage Center.



No pink aprons for these guys! Their bright blue LSP caps are much easier to spot.

(L-R) Paul Larquier, Don DeKay, Bill Costley, Jack Holt, Don Atmur, Jerry Conger.

Two Jewels and their Jewelry Store

Resident Mary Mayse (middle) helps out in the volunteer Jewelry Store run by Ed and Kay Cushing.



Resident Nancy Oshita models a lovely necklace.

Marie Jazvic considers a new item on display.



It all started on one little card table over fifteen years ago. Kay and Ed Cushing who had been volunteering in the Ice Cream Store and Ceramics were asked to take over the jewelry table at the rummage sale.

"Neither of us were jewelers but I could see some of the items were valuable," said Kay. "I asked Sister if I could clean and repair pieces before sales day. It took off from there."

Contributions are received from jewelry stores, department stores and rummage donations. Items of significant value are appraised and held for sale at the annual Boutique.

Five years ago, Kay and Ed opened a small store in the home so Residents could have first chance to purchase new items. Since then they've added watches, better purses and religious items.

The store is open every Tuesday from 9:00 to 2:00. Other days, Mary Mayse, a Resident, who assists Kay and Ed opens the store upon request.

"Each month we move our inventory out to the rummage sale," said Kay. "We're now taking up 1/3 of the garage sales area. All our proceeds go to the rummage sale." ■

Volunteer Opportunities

The Little Sisters need help in every area: assisting with transportation, at the reception desk, in the kitchen and dining room, in the laundry, with decorations, with physical activities, in ceramics and art and with gardening to mention a few. Please call the Volunteer Office at 310-548-0625, Ext. 274

Students Learn Through Volunteering

There are many young people who volunteer at our home. Their energy and interest in the Residents is a joy to witness and is immensely appreciated.

In January two seniors from Loyola High School chose Jeanne Jugan Residence for their senior project. Both John Sliskovich and Andrew Poskaitis are contributing a minimum of 85 hours each to assist as needed.

At the same time, Matt Chaparro, a graduate of Mary Star of the Sea High School and a Freshman at the University of Redlands, is working a minimum of 80 hours for his community service credits.



Students Matt Chaparro, Andrew Poskaitis, and John Sliskovich (L-R) visit with Residents Margaret Gordon and Sr. Sheila Knowles, a Sister of St. Joseph of Cluny, while working on a craft project.s.

"It's really interesting work," said Chaparro. "I've done all kinds of things: gardening, lunch clean up, helping in crafts and even moving furniture."

"Visiting with the Residents is the best," adds Sliskovich who has made a special bond with Sparky, a Resident who is as vibrant as his name. ■

Auxiliary Works Fundraising Miracles



The new Co-Presidents Phyllis Trujillo (L) and Maj Vilicich (R) are joined by Wendy Trujillo of the Junior Auxiliary. This is the formation year for the Juniors who are primarily women raising families. New members are welcome.



Jan Borelli (L), the out going 1st V.P. and Carole Stutzke, the incoming 1st V.P. are complimented by Sr. Anthony on the wonderful "patriotic" decorations their committee provided.



Marie Karmelich, Mary Dzida and Ann Vlaic helped with reservations.



Betty Marinkovich and Jean Rados distributed new membership directories.



Josetta Spychaj, a recognized local caterer and daughter of Auxiliary member Josephine Nizetich, stands with Sr. Sharon as the membership enthusiastically applauds her for the delicious meal she prepared for the evening.

On January 16th the new officers for the Little Sisters of the Poor Auxiliary were installed. Mass and dinner preceded the business meeting which was attended by over 90 members.

This marks the fifth anniversary of the auxiliary, having been founded in 1997. The focus of the group is specifically on fundraising to help the Sisters with operating costs and special needs. Since their first event in 1998, the Auxiliary has raised \$550,000 for Jeanne Jugan Residence. This includes a \$50,000 check presented during the January meeting.

In accumulated gifts since 1995, the Auxiliary is the single largest donor to the residence excluding legacies. This is a remarkable accomplishment for such a short time. It makes a significant statement about the dedication and skill of these women and the generosity of their constituencies.

From the cluster of 22 founding women, there are now nearly 200 members. They meet three times a year on the third Wednesday in the months of January, April and October. Some of the members are also regular volunteers at the residence.

"I encourage you to join this wonderful group," said Phyllis Trujillo, co-president. "I have made many new friends who truly find great reward in assisting the Little Sisters in their ministry to the elderly poor." ■

Auxiliary Calendar

April 17th
Meeting
Mass, 6P.M.
followed by
dinner &
meeting.

March 12th
Day of
Recollection.
10A.M.-2P.M.
Fr. Christopher
Lawrence, an
expert in Biblical
studies.

June 1st & 2nd
Major Fundraiser
at the residence.
Day & evening
events.
Open to Public.
Bring the entire
family.
SAVE THE
DATE!

Jr. Auxiliary Calendar

Feb. 10th
Mass, 1P.M.
Followed by
Family Social
with Residents.

March 17th
Mass, 2P.M.
Followed by
St. Patrick's Day
Family Social
with Residents.

Nov. 3rd
Mass, 2P.M.
Followed by a
Family Harvest
Party with
Residents.

Capable Residents Are Active in Their Own Home



Resident Jackie Shannon stands with her daughter Mary Shannon in front of the Activities Calendar.



Resident Marie Olsen sits beside her cash box ready for the next customer in the Country Store.



Ramon Grijalva makes repairs to a Christmas stable just in time for the season.



Just like in any home, members at the Jeanne Jugan Residence pitch in to help in whatever way they can. On a typical day you'll find capable Residents busy in different corners of the home. Each brings a special skill or a favorite interest so everyone benefits. It's a great joy to witness the sharing and the fulfillment that come from their valuable participation.

Jackie Shannon likes to keep up with the variety of activities around the home. While these are posted on the Activities Board, it's easy to forget to check. Not any more! With the help of her daughter, Jackie has started a home Gazette which is a definite "must read and save."

Mary Olsen has taken responsibility to manage the Country Store where she sells a limited line of personal care items, office supplies and other general merchandise. She is open for business most days for a few hours around lunch time. The store is located next to the dining room, giving her a premier location and very good business.

Ramon Grijalva is very handy with fixing small wooden and electrical items. He often brings his projects to the ceramic room and quietly works away until he has it *just right*.

Jeanette Urbin and Mickey Buniel are sometimes referred to as the "Pony Express." Each day they gather the mail and get it delivered. Since Mickey has an electric scooter, Jeanette just grabs on and they're off in flash - come rain or shine. ■

Jeanette Urbin hitches a ride from Mickey Buniel as they complete the daily mail run.



Michael Ramirez, Collections Driver Since 1968



After returning from a long morning of collecting, Sister Christine and Michael Ramirez unload the van with the help of Sister Vincent who joins them on the collecting rounds each Wednesday.

To provide for the needs of her poor, Jeanne Jugan, foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor, traveled the roads of France on foot seeking alms. As she was recognized by the begging basket she carried, today's "collecting" Little Sisters are often known by their "begging van," in which they make their daily rounds to ask the help of the community in providing for the many needs of their Residents.

Helping out as the driver of the begging van since 1968 is Michael Rangel-Ramirez. Prior to being the driver Michael worked for the Little Sisters in other areas including maintenance, the kitchen and housekeeping. He started at St. Anne's in Boyle Heights and moved with the Sisters in 1979 when they relocated and opened the Jeanne Jugan Residence in San Pedro. Each day Michael drives 43 miles one way from his home in La Puente to help with collections.

"When I started working for the Little Sisters in the '60s, I had a feeling this was the place I wanted to be," said Ramirez. "Today I still have that feeling."

"I have worked with many Little Sisters through the years. We have a route for each day of the week except Monday when we try to introduce ourselves to new businesses. On Tuesday we go to the Los Angeles Market; Wednesday is for produce; Thursday is to the bakery and grocery stores; and Friday is to the Food Bank. Some of the businesses have been giving even before I started. The Little Sisters have many good friends."

Sister Christine adds, "I've just arrived in San Pedro this month. Michael is teaching me the collection route. I am so grateful for his knowledge and familiarity. The streets and freeways of Los Angeles are second nature to him. It is wonderful to be collecting for our dear Residents with someone as dedicated and humble as Mike."

Jeanne Jugan Residence would not be a home without the devotion, love and care of employees just like Mike Ramirez. They are an integral part of the team serving with the Little Sisters, the volunteers and the many benefactors.



In addition to continuing the tradition of our foundress, Jeanne Jugan, the begging helps to meet a real need. The actual monthly income of our home is less than half of the total cost of operations. Covering the monthly deficit is a continuous miracle of the providence of God for which the Little Sisters are most grateful.

(Icon By George Pinecross)

You Have Called Me. Here I Am, Lord!



Last October, these five young women began their postulancy in Palatine, Illinois. Later this year, they will enter the U.S. novitiate in Queens, N.Y. to continue their studies.

While visiting her aunt in L.A., Binh Minh Tran (Lower R) first met the Little Sisters. Later she returned to our home to discern her vocation.



During the ceremony of entrance held July 28, 2001, these four novices received their religious names and white veils.

Sr. Georgene Marie of the Eucharist (L) is the daughter of our Resident Sue Gruss. Sr. Anthony Maire of St. John (2nd from L) is also from So. CA.



The newly professed Little Sisters have now been missioned throughout the world in the service of God's elderly poor.

Sister Paul, Sister Anthony, Sister Sharon, Sister Rose Marie and Sister Mary Augustine outside our Chapel after renewal of vows on 12/8/01.



On September 2, 2001, a joyful and serious commitment was witnessed at La Tour St. Joseph, our motherhouse in St. Pern, France. Thirty-one Little Sisters from fourteen countries made their final professions. At the foot of the altar, these young Little Sisters pronounced their four vows of Chastity, Poverty, Obedience and Hospitality for life.

A total lifetime commitment in response to an invitation from God, "Come Follow Me." A response of compelling love. "Here I am Lord! Send me!" During the ceremony of entrance to the Novitiate, young women ask "to experience the humble and hidden life of a Little Sister of the Poor." They wholeheartedly commit to devote themselves "to the service of the aged poor, within the Church, seeing in them Christ Himself."

There are over 100 Novices and Postulants preparing to become Little Sisters in our 10 Novitiates throughout the world. We invite you to pray for the Novices, Postulants, and newly Professed who have generously responded to the call of Christ and for an increase in vocations to the Little Sisters and all ministries of the Church. ■

Serving the Elderly

The Little Sisters of the Poor are a Roman Catholic order of Religious Sisters who serve the elderly poor without regard to ethnic or religious background. They offer life long security and care for the elderly in a home-like setting, surrounding them with thoughtful attention, spiritual support and appropriate medical care. The Little Sisters uphold the dignity and value of each life, promote the well being of every needy elderly person and keep vigil with them when dying. The Sisters embrace poverty and depend on the generosity of others who are willing to share in their mission. ■

ADAY OF SHARING

Come share
a day
in the
community,
prayer,
and
apostolic life
of the
Little Sisters.

For single
women
interested in
the religious life.

(Ages 17-35 yrs)

Sunday,
April 21, 2002

A Commitment to Divine Providence

Therefore we affirm our absolute trust in **Divine Providence**, source and substance of our Mission and Institute as Little Sisters of the Poor.

Countless lay collaborators, intermediaries of this Providence, support our work through material assistance and voluntary service. By the ongoing practice of the "collecting" we express our reliance on Providence without, however, neglecting human means. We believe that through their selfless charity, a channel of grace is opened in the souls of our benefactors.

The Selfless Charity of Our Benefactors

Since the beginning, the Little Sisters' benefactors have been a vital part of their family. Residents of the Little Sisters of the Poor, for the most part, are recipients of public aid. The cost of their care is met by whatever pensions and Social Security benefits they may receive, supplemented by welfare allocations.

This method of reimbursement generates a constant deficit which

must be supplied by the Sisters' efforts, by legacies and by other gifts from foundations, corporations and individuals.

We welcome with grateful hearts the financial gifts received, small or large, which assist us in our mission of caring for the elderly poor. Without this generous collaboration and sharing, we would not be able to meet the operating costs of the home. ■

Matching Gifts

Many of our donors are encouraged to know that their contributions may be matched by their employer. This may even apply to those who are retired or to their spouses.

The Little Sisters are a 501(C)(3) organization and are eligible for such gifts. Check with your employer to see if your gift can be matched.



Remember
the aged poor
in your will.

With Grateful Hearts

Thank you to all our donors who generously have enabled us to continue our mission of bringing Christ's love to our elderly.



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