

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

*Serving the elderly poor
in Los Angeles since 1905*

September, 2012
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SAN PEDRO, CA
2100 S. Western Ave.
San Pedro, CA 90732



SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA

USCCB Congressional Reception

Includes a Presentation by the Little Sisters of the Poor



*Residents Patricia Freed
and Mary Holleman share a
special friendship.*

**"This is our mission
— to offer the
neediest elderly a
home where they
will be welcomed
as Christ..."**

On June 28th the Little Sisters in Washington DC were asked to speak at a reception at Congress sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Sister Constance Veit, communications director, spoke on behalf of over 300 Little Sisters, 2,500 Residents and countless collaborators in our 30 homes around the country. A portion of her talk follows.

"I come before you on behalf of over 300 Little Sisters of the Poor, 2,500 elderly Residents and countless collaborators in our 30 homes in the United States.

"This is our mission — to offer the neediest elderly a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as members of our own

family and accompanied with compassion and dignity until God calls them to himself. We share the conviction of our foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan, "Never forget that the poor are Our Lord."

"Because we care for the poor, most of our Residents are Medicaid recipients. Yet Medicaid covers only about half of our operating expenses. We rely heavily on private and corporate philanthropy to make ends meet. Obtaining adequate funding is a constant struggle. The proposed fines for non-compliance with the HHS Mandate represent for us an unsustainable financial burden.

"Beyond the HHS Mandate, we Little Sisters of the Poor have serious concerns related

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Helen Ash, like all Residents, is cared for as a member of our own family. She expresses her appreciation to Sr. Caroline.



Resident Henrietta Gomes and Sr. John Elise are all smiles during the dinner celebrated on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR



cial intentions. In the afternoon, the Little Sisters and employees hosted an old fashion midway carnival in our beautiful garden. The various employee departments decorated and staffed game booths which included baseball, football, ping-pong ball, bean bag, penny and ring toss challenges. Winners received tickets to be redeemed for fun prizes. The kitchen staff served up a summer menu of hot dogs, nachos, chips, popsicles and more.

"The beauty of it is the family spirit that the employees have," said Mother Paul. "They really care about the Residents. It's more than just a job. It's family."

Celebrating Residents' Feast Day

For the Residents and Little Sisters, July 26th, the feast day of St. Ann and St. Joachim, is very special. Not only is it a day to honor the parents of Mary for their good example in raising a faith filled and holy child but it is also a time to celebrate our special connection to St. Ann. Many remember our first home in Los Angeles which was dedicated as St. Ann's Home for the

Aged and served the elderly in LA for 71 years. Today's home in San Pedro has a beautiful statue of St. Ann in the lobby and our convent wing is dedicated to St. Ann to continue her legacy as our local patroness. It is no wonder that we also celebrate July 26th as our Residents' Feast Day.

This year's feast day began with Mass for our Residents and their spe-

cial intentions. In the afternoon, the Little Sisters and employees hosted an old fashion midway carnival in our beautiful garden. The various employee departments decorated and staffed game booths which included baseball, football, ping-pong ball, bean bag, penny and ring toss challenges. Winners received tickets to be redeemed for fun prizes. The kitchen staff served up a summer menu of hot dogs, nachos, chips, popsicles and more.

BJ, the DJ, rocked the event with his music. This was his 100th time to volunteer at the Little Sisters. Mother Paul presented BJ with a special gift for his generosity and devotion while everyone loudly applauded. BJ said he plans to be back one-hundred more times which brought another huge round of cheers. *Thank you, BJ, for your love and music.*

Auxiliary Event is a Big Success!

The Little Sisters' Auxiliary hosted their 15th annual event on June 23rd at the Toyota USA Automobile Museum in Torrance. The theme of **Winners Route LSP** was combined with the Route 66 symbol to build upon the backdrop of the auto museum.

According to Jan Werneid, Auxiliary President, "Everyone enjoyed viewing the older model cars. There was a great space for our auction and the dinner was outstanding. This will be an evening hard to top."

Bishop Joseph Sartoris was honored during the event for his long time friendship and support for the Little

Sisters of the Poor (photo on right).

"We are extremely grateful to our supporters who were so generous in their bidding and contributions," said Mother Paul. "We keep you all in our prayers."





USCCB Presentation

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to health care and religious liberty. If the federal government succeeds in enforcing this Mandate, we worry that there is nothing to stop it from rationing health care to seniors, or in legalize physician assisted suicide, we fear that someday we may be required to offer it as an alternative to palliative care. Assisted suicide and euthanasia are morally reprehensible to us. Being forced to participate in them would mean the end of our mission in this country.

“We have been caring for the elderly poor here in the U.S. since 1868. The first Little Sisters to arrive on American soil were amazed at the warm welcome and generosity of the people of this country. Here in Washington, Congress provided much-needed funding on three separate occasions in the 1870’s and 80’s, helping us build and expand our first home on H Street. This financial support enabled us to care for native Washingtonians, European immigrants and newly emancipated African Americans alike. The Little Sisters of the Poor came to America — and we have stayed here — to care for the neediest elderly of all faiths and cultures. Not because they are Catholic, but because we are.

“We have never faced religious persecution in this great nation. But as Little Sisters of the Poor we are not strangers to religious intolerance. We were founded in the aftermath of the French Revolution and our Sisters have been forced to leave several countries, including China, Myanmar and Hungary, because of religious intolerance. We pray that the United States will not be added to this list. During this Fortnight of Freedom we pray that God will continue to bless America and our mission to the poorest elderly for many years to come. Thank you.”

Sr. Maureen’s Silver Jubilee

On August 6th Sr. Maureen Theresa Ann commemorated her 25th anniversary of profession as a Little Sister of the Poor. Msgr. Joseph Brennan, Moderator of the Curia, celebrated Mass which included the renewal of vows. (Top photo on left). Her mother, two brothers and two sisters along with other family members were a joyful addition to all who joined Sr. Maureen for the day.

Sr. Maureen dedicated her jubilee to Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland. After her final vows, she served in multiple homes in Ireland and spent time with her mother’s family who live near Dublin. From these experiences she grew in her special devotion to Our Lady of Knock. A beautiful portrait of Our Lady of Knock was presented to her during the afternoon’s program (Photo on above right).

“The entertainment theme for her party was *Sr. Maureen’s Favorite Things*,” explains Bing Vargas, Activities Director. “We had songs by John Denver, Irish Dancers, a sign language performance, animals from Old McDonalds farm and more.” The Residents, Volunteers, Association Jeanne Jugan members, and talented community members all partici-

pated in the production which concluded with a song to our Lady of Knock.

Sr. Maureen was born the third of eight children in New York. The family soon moved to Maryland, joined the Shrine of St. Jude Parish and became active in the local community. After high school, she volunteered at the Home of the Little Sisters in Washington DC. Over the months, she became more and more attracted to the community and serving the elderly and decided to join the congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor. She was professed on August 29, 1987. Since then, she has served in 15 Homes.

**Congratulations,
Sr. Maureen. Thank you for
your friendship and service
as a Little Sister of the Poor.**

**Sr. Maureen with her family
and Little Sisters during her Jubilee.**



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Visit us at www.littlesistersofthepoorsanpedro.org

A Simple Note

By: Mother Paul



**Resident Mary Castro
and Mother Paul**

Dear Friends,

I am very happy to share the good news with you that in July four young women entered our novitiate in Queens Village, NY. After a prayerful retreat, they joyfully received their white veils and religious names. As novices they will complete a two-year period of prayer and study, culminating in temporary profession of vows.

We experienced another great blessing July 21st as four novices made their first profession of vows. The ceremony was presided by the Most Rev. Raymond F. Chappetto, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn.

Blessed be God for these new novices and Little Sisters! Please keep up your prayers for many fervent and generous vocations to our congregation, as well pray for the needs of the whole Church.

For more information about vocations to the Little Sisters of the Poor, contact Sr. Caroline at www.vcsanpedro@littlesistersofthepoor.org

Blessings in Christ,

Mother Paul Magyer, L.S.P.



Our Current Capital Need

“Our fire alarm system has been in service for 32 years. Manufacturer support is no longer available and replacement parts are becoming impossible to locate,” said Mike Barron, director of maintenance. “Plus, the government standards have become more rigorous over the years.”

As an important first step we have engaged a fire alarm consultant experienced in fire safety systems in healthcare facilities to develop a system specification and plan. After this initial study, we will understand the options available and the costs involved.

We place before St. Joseph our petition to intercede on our behalf for the funding of this study and the eventual fire alarm system upgrade.



We are taking very prudent steps to minimize potential risk exposure due to antiquated fire safety equipment.

Upcoming Events

The Holiday Boutique

Saturday, October 20, 2012

We need your help with our annual Holiday Boutique which will be held Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012. We need: COLLECTIBLES: China, silver, glassware, decorator items, lamps, vases, sets of dishes and wine glasses (even partial sets) etc. JEWELRY: Earrings, necklaces, bracelets, pins, beaded purses, and more. Call 310-548-0625.

The Auxiliary General Meeting

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Mass is celebrated at 5:30 PM followed by dinner and a program. A fashion show produced and modeled by Auxiliary members will be hosted by CJ Fashion Store based in Torrance. Reservations are \$20. Mail checks payable to the LSP Auxiliary to Jeanne Jugan Residence, Auxiliary Meeting, 2100 S. Western Ave. San Pedro, CA 90732. Prospective new member are welcome at no charge. Call 310-548-0625 to make a reservation.



Contributions of collectables and jewelry are needed for the boutique.