

Little Sisters of the Poor

JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE



Serving the elderly
poor in Delaware
since 1903.

Jubilee Year of Mercy

"The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven, and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel."

-- Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel

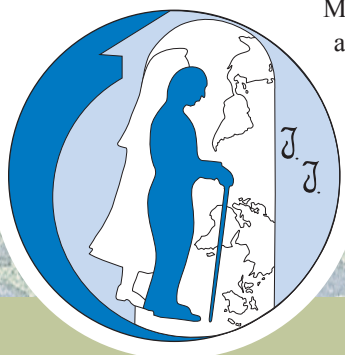
Both young and old are included in the message from Pope Francis as he encourages everyone to share in expressions and works of mercy with one another. Through his declaration dedicating 2016 as a Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has opened the Holy Door for us to apply the many facets of mercy to all of God's children. Although our Residents are often the recipients of many acts of mercy through the kindness of staff, volunteers, benefactors and Little Sisters, it is important that our elderly are included in this reawakening.

the Works of Mercy with our Residents through weekly group sessions during Lent. In these small group sessions, there were plenty of opportunities to share in the many expressions of mercy through both corporal and spiritual acts. Understanding the meaning of mercy and the concept of how the elderly can be messengers of mercy was discussed in detail. They learned that their past experiences raising their own families incorporated constant acts of mercy. This is an attitude and a way of life which continues with their new family members at Jeanne Jugan. Msgr. Lemon explained to the group that they indeed were a part of a unique group where no one was excluded. Each and every Resident was in God's grace

Msgr. Lemon agreed to share the vision and meaning of

when they applied their own actions and words through kindness and forgiveness of one another.

St. Jeanne Jugan understood the meaning of mercy when she opened her "door" to those who needed comfort and love in their darkest time. Our Residents are now the catalysts of this mercy and have dedicated their Lenten efforts to providing assistance to those less mobile, visiting those Residents who are more infirm, offering positive words of encouragement, complimenting someone and listening to their family of Residents through patience, hope and love.



Spring 2016

Little Sisters of the Poor

Nursing Notes

As our parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts age and require more care, we are reminded over and over again how difficult it was raising our own children. It's not just about quiet story time but dressing, undressing, cooking, shopping, entertaining, carpooling, playtime and listening. We needed the support of many individuals to nurture and care for our children. Life comes full circle as we live longer and become dependent on others.



"There is a huge amount of "peace of mind" that comes with knowing Lucy is lovingly cared for by her extended family." -- Lucy Casas' family



"We are forever grateful of the respectful care given to our Mom which supports her physical, cognitive and spiritual needs." -- Anna Dziubinsky's family

For our family of Residents, it is our role as caregivers to involve an interdisciplinary team of support staff comprised of nursing, dietary, social work, recreation/activities, physical and occupational therapy in our care conferences with our Residents and family members. These meetings play an important role in the care of our Residents, where everyone is actively involved in the individualized plan of care. It's wonderful to see how the attention provided by our internal "village" greatly improves our senior's quality of life.

St. Joseph Feast Day

Our St. Joseph Altar has become a focal point for our March 19 St. Joseph Feast Day. With the help of volunteers, Eileen Fox, our Housekeeping Supervisor, orchestrates the assembly of an elaborate altar decorated with an array of handmade breads, pastries, flowers and pasta. Alongside the table are a dish of dried fava beans and a small pamphlet explaining the history of the lavish altar celebration of St. Joseph, the Little Sisters patron saint. Every year we look forward to sharing in this annual tradition with our local community through Mass and prayer intentions.



Mardi Gras

Happenings in the Home



Spring Social

Easter Decorating

Volunteer Spotlight

This is a story of shared acts of mercy. Nancy and her daughter, Laura, knew they were on a spiritual journey long before they entered the doors of Jeanne Jugan Residence several years ago. Nancy was touched by the Holy Spirit when she shared Legion of Mary prayer discussions with other members of her Parish and Residents at the Little Sisters. Because of Laura's physical instability, she was unable to find a match for her skills in the business community and was yearning to become a contributing member of society. At Nancy's suggestion, they joined the cast of invaluable volunteers who play an immeasurable role in the support of our home.

And so the story begins! Team Nancy and Laura's earlier visits involved assisting the staff in the dining rooms and laundry and quickly gravitated toward one-one-visits with

several Residents throughout the day. The connection between Laura and our elderly family was immediate and enlightening. Both Nancy and Laura feel the presence of God's direction of mercy through their patience, active listening, encouragement and understanding of the special needs of Residents. "Volunteer" has been replaced with "Friend" when visiting.

*"We laugh
and smile a lot
and their faith
inspires me"*

Laura has learned to accept the friskiness of some of the Residents and often refers to some of her newfound family as a "hard cookie that has a soft and gooey inside." She has been drawn closer to each individual through their shared joyful memories. "We laugh and smile a lot and their faith inspires me," says Laura. She is delighted when she is greeted with "Where have you been?" if she is not seen for a few days. Laura and our Residents have learned much from each other through their own sacrifices and share in the joys of pain and struggle. It is truly amazing how a kind word and smile lightens up a room when shared. No act of mercy, no matter how small, is ever wasted... it is returned tenfold.

No story is complete without a happy ending! Thus, Nancy was offered a part-time position as an assistant working in the Activities Department. She is now able to work directly with our Residents on group activities while Laura continues her journey with personal visits as she accompanies her Mom to work every week. What a dream come true!

*"The quality of
mercy is not
strained. It drops
as the gentle
rain from heaven
upon the Earth
below, and is
twice blessed. It
blesses him that
gives and him
that takes."*

*— Shakespeare's
Merchant of Venice*



A Simple Note

By: Mother Superior



As I reflect on the past two years, my heart is heavy with gratitude for the support of a community who welcomed me with outstretched hands. Just as the Mother Superiors before me, I have been assigned to another home in Oregon, Ohio where I will assume my new duties. Although my tenure has been short-lived, I have been blessed to share tears of joy and tears of sadness with those Residents who are still members of our beautiful family and those whom have made their final journey to meet our Lord.

The gifts received from you as supporters and friends have been immeasurable. I believe this, my final, newsletter should be a tribute to your continued support of our mission through your continued Acts of Mercy to our home and to our elderly family! God has provided our community of Little Sisters the vocation to fulfill our journey of caring for the elderly and you are the appointed ones to share in this partnership.

Please welcome Sr. Margaret Regina with open hearts as she joins the Newark home as Mother Superior. My prayers will be with you and your families as I continue my journey westward!

Sister Jeanne Mary, Lsp

Chapel Renovations

Because of the age of our chapel, we face serious structural and accessibility issues which are causing safety concerns for our



Residents, clergy and visitors (flooring, carpentry/millwork, pews and HVAC upgrades). Plans are underway to renovate the chapel; work will begin mid-April and continue until the end of August. In the interim our auditorium will be converted into a temporary chapel where we will be holding daily Mass and prayer services. With these renovations and replacements included in this project, we are enhancing the spiritual values of our elderly family members who consider our residence their home.

We ask for patience during the renovation period and look forward to sharing our new chapel with the community with a special Mass celebration in the fall.

Upcoming Events



National Nurses Week
May 6-12, 2016



National Nursing Home Week
May 8-14, 2016

Annual 10-Week Club Raffle June 24 – August 26, 2016

Our 10-week raffle drawing allows you the opportunity to be a winner each week. Tickets will be mailed at the end of May. Call the Development Office at (302) 368-5886 for more information.

Annual "Swing Fore Little Sisters" Charity Golf Outing July 28, 2016

Please join us at the Cavaliers Country Club and golf for a good cause!

Nun Run September 17, 2016

The Little Sisters invite you to the 10th Annual 5k race/walk.

For more information, visit www.nunrun5k.org