

Little Sisters of the Poor

JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE



Serving the elderly poor in Delaware since 1903.

Welcoming the Season of Advent

With Thanksgiving Day just a few days before the beginning of Advent, it is appropriate to start preparing for Christmas with a thankful heart. Being grateful for God's blessings allows us to practice the virtues of patience, hope and joy by sharing what we have with those who are less fortunate. Our community of Residents, staff, volunteers and Little Sisters looks forward to the season of Advent as it provides us a wonderful opportunity to express our gratitude to the many individuals who support us.

The beginning of Advent also allows us the time to slow down and appreciate the small things, the warmth and light of a candle flame, the gentle smile of elderly family members, the quiet stillness of silent prayer and the kindness of an unexpected deed or gift. All of this allows each of us to prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus and the beginning of a new liturgical year in the Church.

As the Jeanne Jugan Residence family, we learn much from our elderly Residents, especially during the

Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. They ask for so little, and in return they give back to all who visit our home through their touching recollections of past Christmases with their families. Their stories of hope for a better life in their twilight years reflect the meaning of Advent as their faith in God's promise of hope, peace, joy and love is renewed each year.

Please join us in this spiritual journey as we make a home in our thankful hearts for the birth of Christ Our Savior!



Winter, 2015

Little Sisters of the Poor

Your Gift to Us

St. Jeanne Jugan always thanked her benefactors by praying for them — and she thanked God at the same time. “God has blessed me,” she said, “because I always thanked his Providence... What gratitude we owe our benefactors ... What could we do for the elderly without them?”

Like Saint Jeanne Jugan, we recognize that YOU are indispensable partners in our mission. And like her, we pray for YOU every day!

As we reflect on the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, it is important to be grateful to the community of friends, neighbors and foundations who have shared their monetary support and talents with our home throughout the year. Throughout the month of November, a Thankful Tree was displayed in our mall area to enable us to share our thoughts of gratitude. YOU have allowed us to live out our lives filled with meaning, respect and love. Please enjoy reading and sharing our feelings for your past and continued support of Jeanne Jugan Residence, Our Home! Thank you from all of us from Angela ... to Winnie!



Reflections on Gratitude

BETTY

In simple terms, I am blessed to have the joys of everyday life ... no more worries! My children are free to enjoy raising their own families knowing that I am in a safe environment where no harm will come my way, from well-lit parking lots to safety cameras throughout the external parameters of our home. We are one united family here, where everyone — from maintenance, housekeeping, activities,

dietary and nursing to our Little Sisters — shares in making this house a home. The spiritual component of the home is constant, consistent and unwavering as we reap the love and sincere affection from all who call Jeanne Jugan Residence our home. Your contributions have enabled the staff to meet our needs and through the charism of St. Jeanne Jugan provided them with the kindness to care for us.



PAT

At this time in my life, I can honestly say, “I have a wonderful life!” Your gift to me is an environment for spiritual growth, which has allowed me the courage to let go of past mental anguish and enjoy the treasure of peace of mind. Being part of the community is not only a privilege and benefit, it is golden! Although I live independently, I have many choices that afford me the opportunity to participate in the activities of the home, visit my family and friends outside the home or

remain quietly in my own quarters. What is unique about our home is the subtle watchful eye of my fellow Residents, staff and Little Sisters in case I am in need of special care and attention. This special living environment is priceless and would not be possible without your assistance. As I age and transition to nursing care, I find great satisfaction in knowing I will not die alone, but will be accompanied by my family here at Jeanne Jugan Residence ... what a glorious gift!



JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE

MONICA

When I told my four daughters that I was moving to the Jeanne Jugan Residence, their immediate response was: “WHY?” My answer was because this is a place where I can enjoy the care provided by the Little Sisters and not burden my own family. Knowing my children do not have to worry about me makes this a very special place to live. I am free to spend quality

time with my children and grandchildren knowing I will be returning to my home. I understand your donations help support the many needs of the home and I am especially thankful for the confidence to stay as active and mobile through the daily activities and interaction with my friends/neighbors/fellow Residents. You help me keep my mind and body alert.



RUDY

When I was asked to share my feelings about life at Jeanne Jugan Residence, the word “wonderful” kept flowing from my heart. This is a wonderful place to live. The staff is wonderful; the Little Sisters are special and wonderful. I am in a home where I can visit the chapel daily with other Residents and

enjoy three wonderful meals a day. I could not have picked a better place to be happy until the end of my life. I also learned how special our benefactors are with their donations in support of our home. My reply was “Oh my God, you are wonderful people who could not be doing it for a better cause!”



FRANK

As one of the newest members of the Jeanne Jugan family, I cannot express my deepest gratitude enough for the care given to me. My prior residence was infected with black mold which made me very, very sick and a neighbor was instrumental in finding a place for me here. Quickly I regained my health and began my new life where I feel loved, something I have not felt in a long

time. I often share a special prayer with others because it allows me to give back. I know about benefactors, even though I have never met one in person, but I would like to share a portion of this prayer with you: “Hope is the prayer that’s answered one step at a time.” Thank you for making my life at Little Sisters brighter, happier and fulfilled!



ANNAMAE

Although I have only been a Resident at Jeanne Jugan Residence for two years, my life spans a period of over fifteen years sharing a home with the Little Sisters in both Latham, New York and Newark. With the death of my husband and the closing of the home in Latham, I was provided an opportunity to move closer to my son and I chose Newark. What blessings abound to share my new home with a wonderful new family where I can continue to receive the care and security with a community of kind, loving and spiritual individuals. As a long-term member of this unique family,

I truly understand the importance of our donors’ contributions to the welfare of our home. I was taught early on about how St. Jeanne Jugan knew she could not care for her small (and growing) family of elderly without the support of benefactors. You have carried on her legacy through your ongoing and consistent sharing of her vision through your donations. Without your caring and support, my life would not be complete. Thank you so much for allowing me to continue my journey in the warm embrace of the Little Sisters and their extended hands.



Mother Jeanne's Greeting



In several of our past newsletters, we have highlighted our community as a family from our Little Sisters, Residents and staff to our volunteers and family members. But in our past stories we forgot to mention YOU! As passionate supporters of the needs of Jeanne Jugan Residence, YOU are especially important to us as a family. Without your daily, monthly and annual donations and intentions, we would struggle to meet our home's essential expenses.

As caregivers to our family of elderly, we understand the immense responsibility of ensuring an environment — both physical and emotional — where older persons can enjoy freedom of life without the stresses they endured caring for their own families. Testimonials from our Residents often reflect on the ability to live “carefree, safe and secure.” This is a special gift given to us by YOU through your constant support.

Because of YOU, relationships between Residents, families and staff continuously grow as we share our lives together. Your involvement in our annual raffle fundraisers, special events, newsletter mailings, calendar and parish donations provides our 78 Residents with secure, comfortable and active lives. Your generosity and belief in our mission throughout the year is our blessing and the warmth of your sharing in the lives of our Residents (your family and ours) is greatly appreciated.

Sister Jeanne Mary, Lsp



Teens Working Their Hearts Out!

A couple from Orlando, Florida, Lisa and Steve Walker, established the Catholic HEART Work Camp (CHWC) to engage young people in the fruits of “giving back to the community. What started in 1933 with 100 participants has grown to over 11,000 serving in 2011.

The Little Sisters were fortunate to have a group of 10 youth members assist us this summer with our annual flowerbeds and landscaping around the perimeter of the building. They worked diligently to remove the overgrown weeds surrounding the rose bushes donated and planted by Bank of America volunteers last year. They finished up the borders with a heaping pile of mulch to set the background for the blooming roses and view of the pond. Another group spent time indoors repairing doors and organizing the activity room storeroom.

After working all day, participants in



CHWC gather in the evening for prayer, as well as fellowship time to high-spirited music and games. This time allows the students to share their personal experiences with each other and form bonds of friendship, which often turn into continued involvement throughout their high school years.

We are truly blessed to have a group of teenagers visit our home and share in their energetic talents to provide a beautiful outdoor setting for our Residents to enjoy throughout the year. In addition, we are grateful for the team who organized our activities department storeroom and repaired broken doors throughout the home. Thanks “Campers” for caring and sharing with our Residents and Little Sisters!

Nun Run 2015

The Little Sisters and our race committee thank all participants, sponsors and volunteers who helped make our 2015 Nun Run 5K & Walk successful and fun. We were blessed with good weather and a great turnout of 470 participants!

