



“So that you can tell your children and grandchildren. (Ex 10:2) Life creates history.”

With these simple but powerful words, our Holy Father spoke to the young people of the world about the importance of gaining wisdom from those who go before us in life. As always, focusing on the importance of ‘family’, his message above addresses the role of parents and grandparents in sharing their stories of God’s presence and action in their lives.

Here at our home, we have been blessed with the love and devotion of many families who embody this message.

The Detwiler family (Thera, John and their children, Johnny, Margaret, Mary and Josephine) have become a special part of our extended family, fostering within their lives, and ours, a deep and heart felt connection of love between the old and the young. It is impossible to describe the love and joy they brought into our home, lifting our spirits and filling our hearts with hope.

A familiar sight at the Sunday Masses in our chapel over the years, always in the front pew, we have watched this young family, grow and thrive. We have prayed with them and for them. We have giggled with their little ones, listened to their concerns, and watched over them as they watched over us. And, most recently, we have grieved with them at the loss of Thera, the wise and courageous heart of this jubilant family.

John and Thera wanted their children to experience the wisdom and love which comes from a fruitful connection with the elderly – to hear the stories of God’s presence and comfort in their lives, and to become a part of that. This little family has become a part of our stories, and we have become a part of theirs.

You see, they shared with us a most integral part of their lives. We knew for the last few years that Thera had been diagnosed with aggressive cancer when she was carrying their youngest daughter, Josephine. As we continue to watch and pray with them, our own yokes seem easy, and our burdens as light as air. Life becomes urgent, and dignified and meaningful and worth preserving.

How can we ever thank this beautiful family for taking us into their hearts, for allowing us to share their stories, and for the great blessing of sharing our stories with them.

It seems only fitting to include here another Scripture quoted by our Holy Father as he addressed the young people of the world. “You” – Saint Paul wrote—“are a letter from Christ, delivered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts” (2 Cor 3:3).



We know it has not been easy – and it has not been perfect – but together, we have kept our Residents safe and engaged, even while separated from their families.



Curlers On Point

Despite hairdressers and barbers unable to return to Jeanne Jugan Residence, our beautiful Resident, Eileen is still getting the job done.



People Are Missing Their Hugs

Ne Ne is just one of many at Jeanne Jugan Residence who have been missing the comfort and embrace of a hug.



Still Smiling

Activities Director, Raj, keeps Tom smiling and laughing with her "Joke of the Day".



Joys of Baking

Each week, our Residents enjoy the aroma and tastes of home that come from baking various breads and desserts. This week, with the help of Gina, Victoria is sharing her culinary skills by baking batches of snickerdoodle cookies.



Shopping Fun

Peggy enjoys a little retail therapy as she shops with Sandy in the Residents' Country Store located inside our home during a time when shopping trips outside the home haven't started back up yet.



Keeping In Touch

Even when family visits are limited, Marion enjoys having daily conversations with her family via phone calls, texts and video chats.



Virtual Nun Run

Our 14th Annual Nun Run 5k was held off-site, to protect Residents and staff. We were so grateful to "Move 2 IncluDE" and its founder Steve Sinko for bringing their inclusion chairs to the Residents so that they and the Sisters could find a way to participate!



Working Out

Sister Teresa works with the occupational therapist, Stephanie, to regain strength and stay active during confinement.

MOTHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As we prepare for the Birthday of Jesus Christ, we are all thankful for so many blessings! This year of 2020 forced us to acknowledge our vulnerability, but also forced

us to realize we have this anchor of HOPE in us, that is "OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST"! We received this Hope as well from you our Friends, through your kindnesses that reveal His Presence! We are grateful!

The Residents who went ahead of us to the "Father's House" are still missed by all of us. We hold them in our daily prayers, and their families.

Perhaps this coming year of grace, 2021 will give us the Joy and Hope of seeing all our friends! We ask you to join us in prayer for our Residents that they will have the possibility of living a more normal life!

The Little Sisters, Residents and Staff join me in these wishes for a beautiful Christmas Day and a "Year of Hope," blessed by the awareness of Emmanuel, God with us, within us and within you!

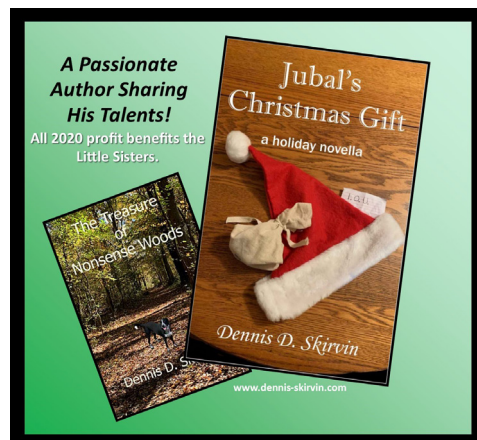


A Passionate Author Sharing His Talents

Dennis and Flossie Skirvin have been one of our many blessings during our quarantined time over the past eight months by quietly dropping off the needed supplies to our Home. During one of their frequent visits, we learned Dennis (Denny) was an accomplished author. Denny was finishing his second novel and graciously offered to assist the Little Sisters with a fundraiser to supplement the lost revenue as a result of the restrictions of COVID-19.

Denny will donate all the 2020 profits from the sale of his two novels, Jubal's Christmas Gift and The Treasure of Nonsense Woods, to the Little Sisters of the Poor. These novels can be purchased through Angel Crossing Catholic Books and Gift Store, 550 Colonial Avenue, Elsmere, DE and online at www.amazon.com. Both novels have received great reviews and would make wonderful Christmas gifts.

Many thanks to Denny for his creative fundraising initiative. You can learn more about Denny and his two novels by visiting his



website at www.dennis-skirvin.com.

Two local testimonials:

- Jubal's Christmas Gift: "Loved it! Well crafted, and emotionally and spiritually uplifting!" ...Francis D. Valala, Major General USA (Ret.)
- The Treasure of Nonsense Woods: "I fell in love with those ornery kids. I got mad at them for getting into so much trouble. I hated to put it down." Rev. William Keech, OSFS, Salesianum High School

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