



Learning to Dance in the Rain

The worldwide pandemic changed our lives in many ways, with the restrictions placed on what we could or could not do. Lives were also forever changed by the goodness of others who demonstrated random acts of kindness. During the past two years, many challenges have been faced, met and conquered. Resilience has been demonstrated as the elderly of Holy Family Residence have made the most of each day, and are thankful for the love and care received.

Now we are resuming many activities and gatherings that were enjoyed in previous years. We were honored to have Most Rev. Joseph Williams, auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, celebrate an inspiring liturgy with six priest friends of the Home, along with our four Resident priests, on March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph. A professional organist and cantor added solemnity to the celebration in honor of the patron and protector of the Little Sisters of the Poor on that day.

Our Resident store, La Boutique, had its grand reopening and ribbon cutting ceremony in May. Volunteer and Resident shopkeepers assume the responsibilities of selling assorted toiletries and snacks during the week. Friends gather in anticipation of the opening hour in order to purchase the items or treats they require or desire.

The volunteer bus driver for the Home is looking forward to our summer outings, which are expected to resume in June. About a dozen Residents at a time will be able to see the sights of St. Paul and enjoy the company of friends. Other volunteers are coming back to the Home to sponsor events or assist with activities such as Bingo games that spark laughter and cheers in the hallway, to help out with food prep in the kitchen, or to visit with Residents. The Gift Shop for friends, family, Residents and volunteers reopened to sell special gifts in time for Easter and Mother's Day. The Jeanne Jugan Foyer is once again bustling with motion, music, and munching.

The past two plus years awakened creative spirits in some of us who discovered a hidden talent, began a new hobby, perfected a skill in game playing, or rekindled a love of reading. We are so grateful for the Sisters and staff of Holy Family Residence who supported, cared for, and loved us during this unprecedented journey. Rather than dwelling on what couldn't be done, they helped and encouraged us to embrace the hope each new day brought. We tried to follow the advice of artist and author Vivian Greene, who said, "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It is about learning to how to dance in the rain."

The men and women of Holy Family Residence happily anticipate the picnics and celebrations with family and friends that have been on hold and now will finally take place this summer. We look forward to hugging great-grandbabies, sharing laughter and stories, and creating new memories. Three cheers to those who inspire others to dance in the rain!

-A Resident Dancer



We've resumed some normal activities such as Mass with the Bishop, the reopening of the store, bingo and other events.





The Association of Jeanne Jugan has been able to return to the Home, starting with lively events for the Triple Crown races.

Welcome Back and Triple Crown Celebrations

The Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker was celebrated on May 1. The Association Jeanne Jugan was welcomed back to Holy Family Residence on that day to renew their promise to serve the elderly of our Home. They have been absent due to COVID restrictions for over two years and it was a delight to see the ten associates who were present for the Sunday liturgy and renewal.

The Association Jeanne Jugan (AJJ) is comprised of women and men from all walks of life that have been drawn to follow the footsteps of St. Jeanne Jugan by actively participating in the life of the Home by collaborating with the Sisters in the care of the elderly. Serving meals, feeding those who struggle on their own, accompanying Residents on medical appointments, listening to stories, or helping out with various activities in the Home are some of the ways in which they serve.

The Association Jeanne Jugan has the spiritual focus of continued prayer for the needs of the Home and the Little Sisters. They are a group with talents and gifts to

share, and have a strong “family connection,” as they join in the spirit of St. Jeanne Jugan, to serve with joy and humility alongside the Little Sisters.

The first occasion hosted by the Association this year took place on a sunny first Saturday afternoon in May as the Residents gathered in the Jeanne Jugan Foyer for Mint Juleps and tasty snacks in anticipation of the big event — the Kentucky Derby! Associates organized the set-up, escorted the elderly to their tables, facilitated the placement of bets, and served the evening meal. All attention was focused on the large screen as the start time drew near. The words “...and they’re off!” began the most exciting two minutes of sports history of the year.

All eyes in the room were drawn to the screen showing the strength and speed of the twenty horses darting for the finish line. The cheering grew louder as the unbelievable event unfolded before their eyes. The long shot Rich Strike, with 80-1 odds, came from out of nowhere in the final stretch

to hug the rail and go on to win with a stunning upset!

Three victors in the Home shared the winning pot of \$100 by placing their bets on the long shot. Everyone present had a great story to tell of the captivating minutes of the 148th running of the Derby, and the astonishing ending of the one and a quarter mile race. Tablemates were engaged in lively conversations as the evening progressed, supper was enjoyed, and all left the venue anticipating the next view party.

Black-Eyed Susan cocktails were sipped as the Preakness Stakes view party took place on May 21. Sixteen winners shared the \$100 pot for that race as Early Voter crossed the finish line first.

The third race of the Triple Crown, the Belmont Stakes, was viewed while sipping White Carnation cocktails.

The view parties, a long-standing fun tradition at Holy Family Residence, have returned, and special thanks are extended to the Association Jeanne Jugan for hosting them!



World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly

You've probably heard of Christmas in July, a fun way to escape the heat of summer, at least in our imagination. Last year Pope Francis gave us another reason for a mid-summer celebration when he created the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, which is to be observed annually on the fourth Sunday of July, near the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

Our Holy Father established this event honoring seniors within the context of the "Year of Amoris Laetitia Family," which began on the feast of St. Joseph in 2021, and will conclude at the World Meeting of Families in Rome this June. It is a testimony to his esteem and pastoral concern for older people, and his desire that their invaluable role at the heart of the family and society be recognized.

This year's World Day for Grandparents and Elderly will be celebrated Sunday, July 24, with the theme, "In Old Age They Will Still Bear Fruit" (Ps. 92:15). The theme is meant to emphasize how seniors still have much to contribute to the Church and society.

In his message in anticipation of July 24, Pope Francis wrote, "The World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to proclaim once more, with joy, that the Church wants to celebrate together with all those whom the Lord – in the words of the Bible – has "filled with days." Let us celebrate it together! I ask you to make this Day known in your parishes and communities; to seek out those elderly persons who feel most alone, at home or in residences where they live. Let us make sure that no one feels alone on this day...."

As we firm up our plans for the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly here at Holy Family



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2022

Residence we encourage you to find a way to celebrate the Day with the elders in your own family or neighborhood

Let's make sure that no senior we know feels alone on July 24!

SAVE THE DATE

ST. JEANNE JUGAN GOLF CLASSIC

Monday, August 22
At Indian Hills Golf Club
Stillwater, MN
10 a.m. Shotgun Start



MOTHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

We are very grateful for the wonderful generosity of so many who have chosen to support us despite these difficult economic times. Our first drop-off meat drive in April was a marvelous success due to the kindness of friends and family near and far. We appreciate those who assist us in providing a Home that serves to nurture the faith, uplift the spirits and tend to the aging bodies of the elderly in our care. Our Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, believed that we should "Love God very much, so that you can look after the aged well, for it is Jesus whom you care for in them."

Each day, our Residents join the Little Sisters in prayer for you, our big-hearted benefactors. They recognize the need for prayer for the many intentions of our Home, city, country, and the world. They are fervent in their efforts to storm heaven for the needs of all who are impacted by the war in Ukraine, the COVID pandemic, and the unrest in our country.

We are now in the process of putting the finishing touches on the renovation of the Jeanne Jugan Apartments and look forward to welcoming new admissions in the coming months. Our garden transformation began with a major clean up prior to the commencement of landscaping and paving of the walkways, which will take place in the summer months. The proceeds from this newsletter will go towards the repaving of the pathways in front and in back of the Home. As always, your kindness is appreciated very much.

While we are ever mindful of the health and safety of our dear elderly, we look forward to gradually incorporating additional activities and events and being able to welcome more visitors back into our Home. We wish you and your family happy and healthy summer gatherings.

God bless you!

Mother Theresa



Diamond Jubilarians

Sr. Mary Alphonsus du St. Esprit and Sr. Mary Francis du St. Esprit have much to celebrate as they commemorate their 60th jubilee as Little Sisters of the Poor.

Since first making her vows of chastity, poverty, obedience, and hospitality in 1962, Sr. Mary Alphonsus' ministry to the elderly has been mostly spent in the Homes in Italy and France.

Sr. Mary Francis ministered to the elderly in the United States, delighting them with her culinary skills as the food service director or cook in many Homes for over 31 years.

The Sisters asked that their special celebration begin with the May Crowning of the Blessed Mother.

This was followed by a joyful liturgy, then congratulations



and well wishes from those who live and work at Holy Family Residence.

No doubt, Mary, the Queen of Heaven and Earth, is smiling along with our Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, with love and appreciation for the dedication and service to the elderly of these two Sisters.

Congratulations, and may God bless you!