



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Holy Family Residence

Serving the elderly poor in St. Paul, Minnesota since 1883

Mission Statement

*Continuing the work of St. Jeanne Jugan, our **MISSION** is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they are welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.*



Little Sisters of the Poor

Mission, Vision and Values

Our first mission statement was written in 1996. After 16 years we felt the time had come to look at the way we communicate our mission and spirit to all those who work with us. The new mission statement is meant to inspire us in our daily tasks, to motivate us in how we care for the Residents and treat each other, and to guide us in making decisions. It sets the standard for us as Little Sisters, in translating the ideals left us by St. Jeanne Jugan.

The Little Sisters of the Poor are an international congregation of Roman Catholic women religious founded in 1839 by Saint Jeanne Jugan. Together with a diverse network of collaborators, we serve the elderly poor in over 30 countries around the world.

Continuing the work of Saint Jeanne Jugan, our **MISSION** is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.

Our **VISION** is to contribute to the Culture of Life by nurturing communities where each person is valued, the solidarity of the human family and the wisdom of age are celebrated, and the compassionate love of Christ is shared with all.

Our **VALUES** direct how each Resident is treated:

- **Reverence** for the sacredness of life and each person's uniqueness;
- **Family Spirit** shared in joyful hospitality;
- **Humble Service** in helping others;
- **Compassion** in accompanying the elderly with dignity until the end;
- **Stewardship** of the material and spiritual blessings received from Divine Providence.

Save the Dates:

- Sept. 17
**St. Jeanne Jugan
Golf Tournament**
- Nov. 23 & 24
**Christmas
Boutique**

Holy Family Residence
330 Exchange Street South
St. Paul, MN 55102

Spring 2013

Little Sisters of the Poor



Residents Gertrude Blair and Ann Mahowald recall memories of family baptisms

The Year of Faith

By: Dorothy Salesses and Mary Roberts

We, at Holy Family Residence, began our celebration of the “Year of Faith” by focusing on the Seven Sacraments of the Church. Baptism, considered the “door of the church,” was our entryway to become stronger witnesses of faith. Residents, volunteers and staff proudly contributed baptismal documents, photographs and garments to a meaningful exhibit which enhanced the entrance to the Chapel and bore witness to our communal initiation as members of the Church.

As they enter the Home, visitors admire a display of sacramental symbols initiating conversation during their visits. An informative bulletin board

is displayed on each floor to educate and to encourage discussion about the importance of the Sacraments.

Symbols, prayers and narratives aid activity staff as they help residents recall sacramental events and memories from years past, bringing the Sacraments alive in a new way for today. Each month, speakers spotlight the particular Sacrament to deepen the understanding and importance of it in our daily lives.

Copies of *Rediscover Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly, offered by the Archdiocese of St. Paul, are available for personal and small group discussions as we “rediscover the journey of faith to shed ever clearer light on the joy and

renewed enthusiasm of the encounter with Christ.” (*Porta Fidei*)

Lent brought us to the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Once again, displays, activities, sharing and discussion helped us rediscover the depth and the beauty of these two Sacraments and to guide us through our Lenten journey toward this joyful celebration of Easter.

As we anticipate the remaining months of the “Year of Faith,” we look forward to continuing an in-depth focus on the remaining Sacraments, the Beatitudes and our models of witness, the Saints. Warmer weather will allow us to make pilgrimages to local parishes to visit Residents’ places of Baptism.

Saint Jeanne Jugan, Foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor, often said, “If God is with us, it will be accomplished.” May the movement of her faith, strong and joyful, active and humble, that led her simultaneously to God and to the people of her time, do the same for us in this “Year of Faith.” Saint Jeanne Jugan, disciple of living faith, pray for us!



Many different baptismal items were shared by Residents, volunteers and staff.



YEAR OF FAITH 2013

Through faith, we can recognize the face of the risen Lord in those who ask for our love. “As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.” (Mt 25:40) It is faith that enables us to recognize Christ and it is his love that impels us to assist him whenever he becomes our neighbor along the journey of life.

– Pope Benedict XVI, *Porta Fidei*, 14

Saint Jeanne Jugan, disciple of living faith, pray for us!

Around Our Home

A Look Back...



From left, Leonard Jagoe, Sr. Augustine, John Howell and Andrew Sullivan.

A bunch of “cook-out regulars” get together often and whomp up a variety of first-class culinary delights on the grill behind the Home. The park-like setting overlooks the Mississippi, which meanders by at the bottom of a steep bank.

Bill Nelson, Faithful Visitor

By: Cindy Staggs

Like clock work each Tuesday and Friday morning, Bill Nelson has arrived at Holy Family Residence to share coffee, conversation and talents with our Residents. He even recalls the exact date, January 14th, twenty-eight years, ago when he began his visits.

Retiring from his work as a graphic artist, Bill found himself a little bored, wondering how to spend his time. First his wife suggested he volunteer somewhere, but he didn't give this much thought until a friend also made the same suggestion. Following a meeting with the RSVP program, Bill was given two places in need of a volunteer. After one quick interview and tour, “I just knew this was the place for me.”

he was asked to be a companion for our male Residents helping them with some simple daily needs and providing conversation on an individual basis. Soon he was taking wheelchair-bound Residents for trips out to the beautiful backyard gardens and helping to write letters. We all admire his artistic talents each month; Bill creates a new seasonally themed poster to display our Residents birthdays.

He reflects that he has many interesting and happy memories of time spent here at Holy Family Residence, “so many, I could write a book!”



Residents Doris Carlson and Florence Reynolds listen intently as Bill Nelson reads from the daily paper.

... and a Look Ahead to summer!

From Time and Life September, 1978.

As you can see cook-outs have long been a part of our summer past-times here at Holy Family Residence.



Our International Little Sisters: Sr. Mary Thomas and Sr. Emmanuel from India, Sr. Christina Maria from China, St. Peter Mary from Canada and Sr. Maria Frances from Samoa.

Celebrating our Diversity

By: Dorothy Salesses

St. Jeanne Jugan, the first Little Sister of the Poor, founded the Congregation in 1839 in France. Today, through her example, an international religious community of sisters dedicated solely to providing homes for the elderly in need, serve in two hundred homes in thirty countries around the world.

Our Little Sisters at Holy Family Residence come from Canada, India, Samoa, China and the United States. Staff, Residents and volunteers add more to our “United Nations” with Germany, Poland, Belgium, France, Africa, Mexico and Viet Nam. We value and celebrate these unique heritages.

A “Year of Faith” is in response to Pope Benedict XVI's appeal to address the need to pursue a renewed conversion to our Lord. We have the opportunity to connect spiritually not only with our global Catholic brothers and sisters, but with members of our own family here at our Home who represent the many various cultures.

In our festivities, we observed the customs and traditions of countries during late winter and early spring. We joined in activities before Lent related to Mardi Gras which is commemorated internationally. Residents gathered together for an authentic Chinese New Year Celebration complete with Chinese lanterns, Zodiac placemats, chopsticks and bona fide Chinese food. St. Patrick's Day brought Irish singers, corned beef and cabbage and the annual bus ride in the St. Paul Grande Parade. No matter what our country of origin happens to be, we come together to commit to our faith and to become fully the persons God created us to be.

A Simple Note



“And this is the promise He Himself made to us: eternal life.” John 3:16-17

As we finalize our journey through Lent and celebrate the glorious Easter Resurrection, we give thanks to our Lord for the many blessings Holy Family Residence has received this past year. We thank you, our faithful benefactors, who continue to support our care for the elderly.

We are happy to welcome several new Residents who have joined us recently. A number of our dear Residents have gone to be with our Heavenly Father including two of our priests, Msgr. James Lavin and Fr. James Holl, our former Chaplain. We thank God for their dedicated service over the years and the gift of their presence here at Holy Family.

Our plan for the near future is to upgrade the thirty-six-year-old Medical Suite which we shall name our Wellness Center. The goal is to make it more functional, private and comfortable for not only our Residents but our attending physicians and health staff as well.

On September 26, we will observe the anniversary of the arrival of the first Little Sisters of the Poor in St. Paul 130 years ago. How fortunate we have been to receive the welcome, support and generosity of so many devoted benefactors for so many years. In the words of our Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, “Blessed be God!”

May the Risen Christ fill you and your families with grace and Easter blessings. You are remembered in our daily prayers and masses.

God Bless You!

Mother Thuen

Resident Myrtle Trembley Wins Little Sisters' Photo Contest

As a way to encourage reflection on the parable of the Good Samaritan, this year's theme for World Day of the Sick, the Little Sisters recently sponsored an in-house photo contest. Knowing that the Good Samaritan is alive in all our Homes, Residents, staff and volunteers were encouraged to “get out your cameras and snap away!”

Holy Family Resident, Myrtle Trembley was the winner in the Resident category. Here is her story and winning photo. Congratulations Myrtle!

“Hi my name is Myrtle Trembley, I am almost 95 years old. I was given a camera for Christmas a year ago and since then I have enjoyed snapping photos. As I've snapped pictures throughout the year, I see scenes like the Good Samaritan every day. It makes me feel very happy and blessed that we live with people who care so much about us.”



Myrtle's Photo Description: “In this picture we see Alvina Bessette getting a manicure from Marion, a long time volunteer here at Little Sisters. It is hard to see to paint our own nails and so it is so nice to be able to have Marion do this for us.”