

Little Sisters of the Poor

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FOR THE ELDERLY



Serving the elderly poor
of New Jersey since 1879.

Surrounded by her loving family, Resident Mary O'Shea proudly wears a custom made "balloon bonnet" at the Resident & Family BBQ.



Sister Mary Alka joins Residents Sophie Zielinski and Lucille Pitt as they enjoy a delicious meal at the Resident & Family BBQ.

"We are Family"

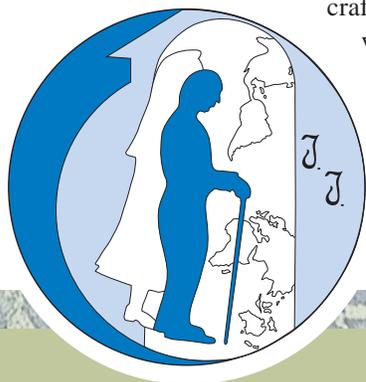
Resident & Family BBQ June 28th

On the evening of June 28th the Little Sisters shared an outdoor summertime celebration with the Residents and their families here on the grounds of St. Joseph's Home. All were treated to a warm, pleasant summer evening with delicious BBQ prepared on our outdoor grills and a fantastic DJ whose music catered to children both young and old. Balloons were crafted into crazy hats. A 50/50 drawing was held and our winner graciously donated their prize of \$530.00 back to St. Joseph's Home.

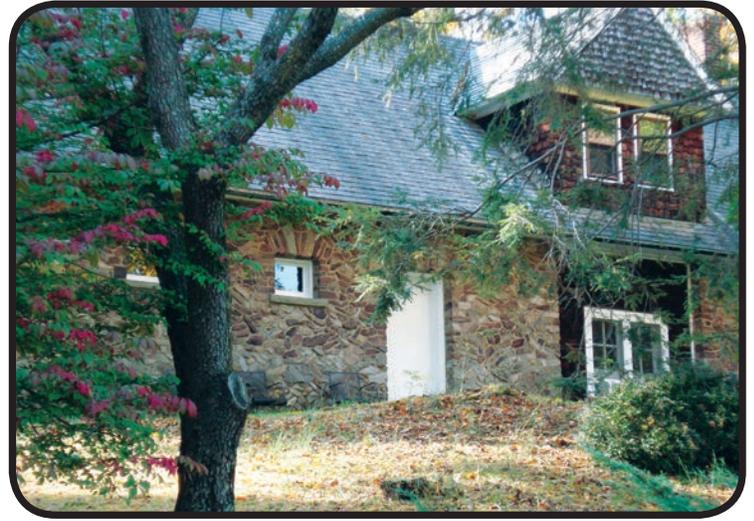
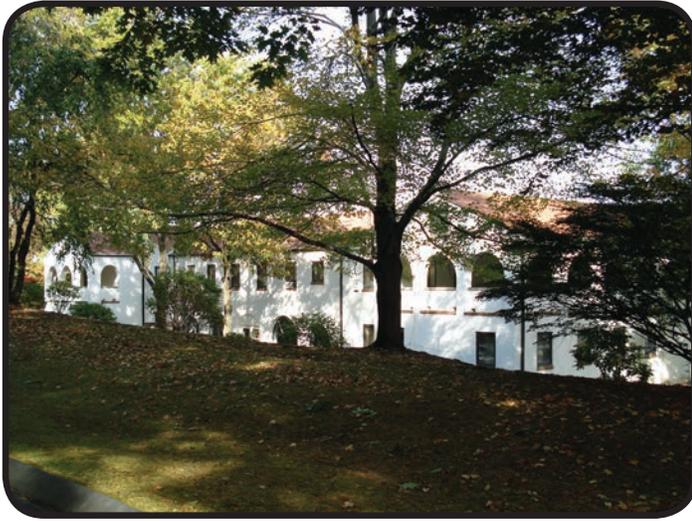
Many families came with their young children so all could be together. The children ran

free and played games on our beautiful lawns not worrying about the need to be quiet. Family fun plain and simple!

In 1979, the band "Sister Sledge" had a huge dance hit called "We are Family" that is still played at weddings and other family celebrations. The lyrics proclaim "All the people around us they say — Can they be that close? — Just let me state for the record... We're giving Love in a Family Dose" The Little Sisters of the Poor indeed give our Residents a huge family sized dose of love. They are a shining example to all of how truly beautiful family life can be if we start by loving, respecting and cheerfully caring for the elderly. This spirit inspired by St. Jeanne Jugan is contagious, heartwarming and fulfilling and it's what makes St. Joseph's a loving home. We are Family !



Little Sisters of the Poor



Our Lady of Providence, Flemington NJ — affectionately called the “Vacation House.”

Our Vacation Home away from Home

Impressions of the Little Sisters Vacation Home in Flemington, NJ

By Mark Barbone with contributions from Eleanor Marmo, Mary Murray & Naomi Levine

Residents have shared that living at St. Joseph’s Home is wonderful beyond words; especially with all the loving care they receive from the good Little Sisters of the Poor. But like most of us, our Residents always looked forward to taking an annual vacation whether it be for a week or just as a few long weekends. Luckily some Residents at St. Joseph’s are invited once or twice a year to visit the Little Sisters beautiful and peaceful vacation home in Flemington. Technically, its name is Our Lady of Providence and it is a retreat house for the Little Sisters. However it operates mostly as a means for Residents coming from regional Little Sisters homes to spend a week away.

What makes this vacation home special? I met with Ellie, Mary and Naomi, who are Residents at St. Joseph’s, to get a first-hand account. They couldn’t wait to share their joy in vacationing in Flemington. Random comments followed. The ladies spoke so fast and with such enthusiasm I couldn’t keep track of who said what.

“It sits on this lovely location on a hill. The building is fashioned after an old Carmelite monastery and its

inside walls. There is a beautiful replica of the St. Jeanne Jugan House. A priest visits every day for daily Mass. The food is incredible! It’s not a 4 star hotel mind you. But the rooms are simple yet elegant. There are only 10 guests at a time and we stay for a week. We get to meet people from other Little Sister homes too. There is a community room for us to play games, watch TV, or play a movie, or just rest. Did we tell you that the food is amazing!

The grounds are beautiful with a pond stocked with a hundred goldfish. Deer and wild turkeys wander the property. The food is fantastic! Chef Paul Bergeron serves gourmet meals and we are never disappointed. Sr. Bernice is in charge and her staff is friendly warm and accommodating. They fold our dinner napkins in unique ways to surprise and impress us.

There is so much to do — they take us on day trips to the Amish country and lunch at Shady Maple Buffet. They take us to the Flemington outlet stores for shopping. We need a day or two to rest too.”

I think their account says it all. What a special place to spend a vacation.

Feast of St. Jeanne Jugan - August 30, 2012

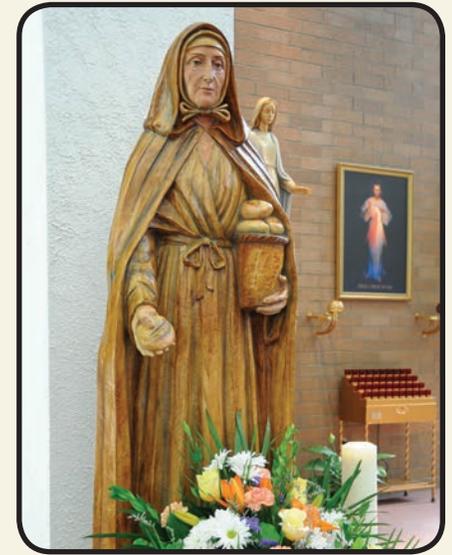
Answer the call of her Little Sisters of the Poor

Why do we feel inspired to answer the call for help from the Little Sisters of the Poor? Visit St. Joseph's and you will see and feel the Sisters loving vocation to serve the needs of our RESIDENTS. This caring spirit comes directly from their devotion to their foundress St. Jeanne Jugan whose feast we celebrate on August 30th.

St. Jeanne Jugan speaks not only to the Little Sisters but US as well whether we are friends, family, volunteers or benefactors. Our Lord Jesus Christ commanded us to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and Love your neighbor as yourself." But how can we accomplish this?

Listen to the simple yet profound words of St. Jeanne Jugan. "Be kind, especially with the infirm. Love them well. ... Oh yes! Be kind. It is a great grace that God is giving you. In serving the aged, it is He Himself whom you are serving." St. Jeanne Jugan understood that we find our Lord Jesus Christ by helping our fellow man, especially those who are poor and elderly.

This Feast allows us celebrate the on-going spirit of St. Jeanne Jugan. The devoted Little Sisters of the Poor continue her vocation of serving the elderly poor - providing food, shelter and medical attention but most importantly giving them loving companionship. They humbly beg us to help them. May we cheerfully answer their call!



Statue of St. Jeanne Jugan in our beautiful St. Joseph's Home chapel.

In Memory of the Reverend Robert T. Scott

The "Good Stop" Priest

Fr. Bob Scott passed away peacefully here at St. Joseph's Home on Monday July 16th.



Fr. Bob Scott playing guitar as Captain Von Trapp with volunteer Edith Leonhard as Maria from The Sound of Music at our 2012 Mardi Gras Party.

He was affectionately known as The "Good Stop" Priest since it was his belief that our journey through life is filled with "good stops" that welcomed us to a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. He was born in East Orange, New Jersey in 1921 and served as a Paulist Father for 62 years. As a campus minister Fr. Bob was credited with offering comfort to the Marshall University community after their entire football team, coaching staff, and supporters were killed in a tragic plane crash. Fr. Bob was chaplain for the football team but had stayed behind to work with other students on the Marshall campus.

Fr. Bob spent 30 years at St. Austin Parish where he had a knack for making the Catholic faith accessible to the students at the University of Texas. He loved playing golf along with tennis and did so late into his life of 90 years. In 2007 Fr. Bob was called to be with Lady

Bird Johnson and was with the former first lady when she died. He was quoted as saying that "She ended (her life) beautifully, in a very spiritual way."

In 2011 he returned to New Jersey to be close to his niece Mary Scott who shared that "Uncle Bob knew a special place in Totowa — The Little Sisters of the Poor" Mary said "God is good and Uncle Bob spent his final year here at St. Joseph's Home still ministering, still brightening people's days. We will be forever grateful to the good Sisters and to all the staff who took such loving care of him especially in his final weeks."

Fr. Bob's final stop was with the Little Sisters of the Poor at St. Joseph's, but he has now passed on to his "Best Stop." He will be truly missed. Donations made in his name will help us continue providing loving care to the Residents of St. Joseph's Home.

A Simple Note

By: Mother Margaret Charles



On July 21nd at a beautiful Liturgical Celebration in our Novitiate in Queens Village, we received four new Little Sisters into our religious family. As you can see by the photo, they are a happy group!

The Profession ceremony, at which these young Little Sisters profess their first vows of poverty, chastity, obedience and hospitality is always moving. And it always brings me back to the joy of my own Profession day. The bishop asks: "Sisters, what do you ask of God and the Church?" and they respond "His grace and the happiness of becoming a Little Sister of the Poor." There is great happiness in being a Little Sister! Our life has a beautiful blend of prayer and service to the elderly. Our community life is solid; crossing cultural and generational boundaries, we form one family in the Lord.

By our profession of the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience we offer God our heart and affections, our personal talents and gifts, our possessions and our will—all that we are and have.

Our fourth vow of hospitality brings our religious consecration into the concrete realities of everyday life. It gives a spiritual value to the many humble tasks of hospitality performed throughout the day, and enables us to communicate to our elderly Residents God's compassion and merciful love.

As we thank God for these new Little Sisters, would you join me in praying for more? Wouldn't it be wonderful to have just one young woman answer that call, from each of the areas where we have homes? It sounds doable to me! We could have 25 new Little Sisters! Do you know anyone who may be searching for their vocation? ... Anyone who might have the courage to follow in the footsteps of St. Jeanne Jugan and join us in serving the elderly? I can assure you, without hesitation, that there is great happiness in being a Little Sister of the Poor!

Thank you for your prayers and for all that you do for us!

Gratefully,

Mother Margaret Charles, lsp

Our Needs

Heating & Cooling a Costly Necessity

Periodically we must address necessary extraordinary major projects. Presently, we must replace our main boiler system, along with all the individual room HVAC units at St. Joseph's. This is an urgent necessity since these inefficient units are significantly driving up our energy costs, while needing costly hours of maintenance and repair. In addition, there is always the potential inconvenience of rooms not being adequately cooled or heated, along with periods of time without hot water. By replacing all of our units we estimate annual savings of \$300,000 per year! We are actively contacting foundations for grants to help to fund this project. However, many foundations

require that alternate financial sources be established before considering our plea. Some stipulate that as much as 50% of the project cost be committed either in cash or in pledges. Therefore, we prayerfully beg that you consider making a pledge or a one-time donation for this critical campaign. Pledges can be spread out over 24 months if necessary.

Please contact our Development Office at 973-942-0300 or by e-mailing us at twdevelopment@littlesistersofthepoor.org Pledge/Donation forms are available at our website. Donations to this campaign will be greatly appreciated since it will directly benefit all of our Residents.



Congratulations to our newly professed Little Sisters!

Newly professed Little Sisters pose before cutting their celebratory cake at a picnic the evening following their profession. Pictured L/R are Sister Selina Camille of the Passion, Sister Mary of the Passion, Sister Chiara Therese and Sister Andrea Rose.

Upcoming Event

Christmas Craft & Bake Sale – Ham & Turkey Drop

Saturday, November 17, 2012

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Auditorium

Beautiful hand-crafted gifts made by our Residents and Little Sisters along with fresh delicious home-baked items for sale.

Admission is free.

A Turkey & Ham Drop will be held this day. Your thoughtful donations of turkeys and hams will help provide future meals for our Residents. The Little Sisters and volunteers will greet you at your car in our parking lot to accept your donation.

Join our E-Community

Please share your e-mail so we can send you periodic important updates on events here at St Joseph's.

Visit our website
www.littlesistersofthepoortotowa.org
and click on **"REGISTER HERE"**

For your convenience you can make donations by credit card, e-check or direct deposit.
Simply click on **"DONATIONS"**