

Little Sisters of the Poor

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FOR THE ELDERLY



Serving the elderly
poor in Totowa
since 1879.

Photo: John Feenan

Our Vocation to Love and Serve

This photo says it all. It shows Sister Lillian and Nancy, but it could be any Little Sister and any Resident. It bespeaks the spirit of our vocation. Looking at it, one can imagine the Sister saying: "I appreciate and love you and I'm here to accompany you on the journey of aging." And the Resident saying, "I feel better because you're with me, stay with me." And we do stay. We stay and we strive each and every day to let our

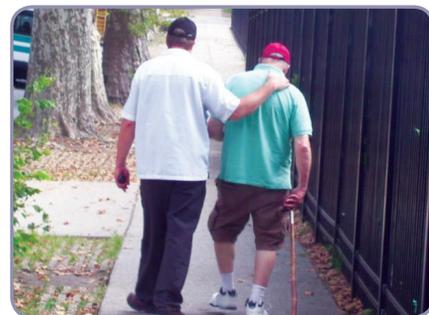
elderly Residents know that they can count on us.

Thank you for standing by our elderly residents as well. Thank you for helping us to provide a happy and loving home for them.

In the pages of this newsletter, we hope you can see the contentment and the joy that prevails in St. Joseph's Home ... And the gratitude that we have for all who are a part of it.

"Help one another. This is what Jesus teaches us. This is what I do. And I do it with my heart. I do this with my heart because it is my duty, as a priest and bishop I must be at your service. But it is a duty that comes from my heart and a duty I love. I love doing it because this is what the Lord has taught me. But you too must help us and help each other, always. And thus in helping each other we will do good for each other."

- Pope Francis



Each of our Residents feels loved, respected and supported. We accompany each one on their particular journey of aging.

Photo: Irene O'Connor



Pope Francis, Holy Thursday 2013.



Little Sisters of the Poor



Mother Margaret reads the 50/50 Winner on St. Patrick's Day with Sister Julienne and Sister Rose at her side.

Luck of the Irish Mega 50/50 a \$41,155 success!

We wish to thank everyone who supported our recent Luck of the Irish Mega 50/50 raffle. Everyone on our mailing list was sent 10 tickets that cost \$10 each. We had an exceptional response! We are pleased to report that 50/50 ticket sales were \$82,310 giving our winner a \$41,155 cash prize. Mother Margaret Charles pulled

the winning ticket shortly after noon in the main dining room during our Residents mid-day meal. The winning ticket was purchased by a constituent living in a neighboring town, proving once again that "you have to be in it to win it." We plan to hold another 50/50 later this year. Thank you again for your generous support!



The dance floor was filled all night long at the Rockin' with the Oldies Dance.

Rockin' with the Oldies

By Mark Barbone

On Saturday, March 2, St. Joseph's Home hosted a dance party at the St. Gerard Majella Community Center in nearby Paterson, NJ. The event was named Rockin' with the Oldies and it had a 1950's and 1960's rock and roll theme. The hall was beautifully adorned in red and black with jukebox and vinyl record decorations on the walls. It helped transform an ordinary gymnasium into a colorful balloon filled room that made you feel you were back in time at a high school dance.

Entertainment was supplied by Joe Caroselli and his band Masterpiece. Joe was a member of the band Looking Glass that recorded the '70s gold record. "Brandy" Joe also performed with Dion & the Belmont's and the legendary Chuck Berry during his career making him an excellent choice to musically recreate the '50s and '60s.

The food selections included delicious Rockin' Sub Sandwiches and Salads,

homemade desserts, all sorts of beverages and Mother Margaret's famous hurricane punch!

Sister Bernice, from our Flemington Vacation House, ran a Lady Bug Basket raffle and Easter Basket sale. Pre-numbered lady bug dolls were sold that entered the buyer into a drawing for a number of beautifully decorated gift baskets. Within 30 minutes all 150 lady bugs were sold making Sister Bernice wish she had prepared more.

About 250 people came out to "dance to the oldies" with the Oldies. Those in attendance included the Little Sisters, some of our Residents, their families, staff, volunteers and a group of our constituents. In addition, a group from our Queen of Peace Residence came from Long Island to support us and join in the fun.

The night was a complete success with everyone having a wonderful time. Plans for a Rockin' with the Oldies II Dance are being discussed for early 2014.



Sister Amy poses with Resident Pat Milligan along with Activities Director Irene Ten Hoeve and Cathy Dewar.

St. Joseph's Day

Since the early days of our Congregation, Saint Joseph has been recognized as our Patron and Protector. And each day the Little Sisters turn to him and ask for blessings upon our friends and benefactors.

It is a custom for the Little Sisters to express our gratitude for our bishops and priest friends on this feast day – and we do so wholeheartedly – not only for their support, but for their example and spiritual guidance.

This year Bishop Arthur Serratelli, of the Diocese of Paterson, visited our Home as celebrant of our St. Joseph's Day Mass. Many priests from the diocese and beyond

were concelebrants including retired Auxiliary Bishop Charles McDonnell of Newark, retired Archbishop Harry Flynn of St. Paul, Minnesota, and retired Archbishop Peter Gerety of Newark. The choir from Our Lady of the Holy Angels from nearby Little Falls greatly enhanced our celebration with their music and song.

After Mass, the bishops, priests and many friends joined our Residents for a special luncheon with many assorted desserts from our customary Saint Joseph's Table.

This prayerful and joyful celebration always provides a wonderful experience for all those in attendance.



*After St. Joseph's Day Mass, Little Sisters and the bishops pose. From left, Sister Julienne, Sister Margaret Charles Superior, Sister Anne Clare, Auxiliary Bishop Charles McDonnell of Newark, retired Archbishop Peter Gerety of Newark (seated), Bishop Arthur Serratelli of Paterson, retired Archbishop Harry Flynn of St. Paul, MN, Sister Rose, Sister Bernice and Sister Grace.
Photo from The Beacon/ Joe Gigli.*

St. Joseph's Residents attend Queen of Peace Junior-Senior Prom

On Saturday, Feb. 2, a group of our Residents travelled to the Queen of Peace Residence in Queens Village, NY, to attend their annual Junior-Senior Prom. The prom was hosted by the Marianist Brothers and students of nearby Kellenberg Memorial and Chaminade High Schools, giving once again a wonderful party for the Residents.

The theme of this year's prom was "Walt Disney." Following tradition, one or two students were paired with each Resident. Along the way each Resident received a corsage with a red, black and white polka-dot ribbon and then posed

with their "dates" for their official prom photo, complete with stuffed animals of Mickey and Minnie. A live band provided lively party favorites and "golden oldies." The Residents, even the most infirm, came alive when they heard the music! The dance floor was filled with students dancing with the Residents.

These young men and women were so attentive to the Residents, talking with them and dancing with them throughout the evening. The thoughtfulness of the Brothers and young people, down to the smallest details, made for a memorable evening for both old and young.



Ellie Marmo poses with her date.



Mary Murray is escorted to the dance floor by her dates.

A Simple Note

By: Mother Margaret Charles



Dear Friends,

Happy Spring! A time of light and promise. Our Easter celebrations remind us that there is always hope, that more awaits us. Our Residents, too, remind us of this. At St. Joseph's Home they know that the best is yet to come and their days are filled with a certain peace and contentment.

Excitement abounded as we all watched, waited and finally welcomed our New Holy Father! What a gift he is to the Church and the world. In his Easter message, he tells us all:

"Let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life! If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won't be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don't be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do.

The love of God can transform our lives and let those desert places in our hearts bloom. The love of God can do this!

Let us accept the grace of Christ's Resurrection! Let us be renewed by God's mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth, protect all creation and make justice and peace flourish." – Pope Francis

Thank you for all that you do to help us! Our grateful prayers are with you.

Our Needs

HVAC Project Started – Emergency Generator needed

Our HVAC project is now underway. We are completing installation of new energy efficient hot water boilers and storage tanks that will save the home \$4,500 per month. Next we will replace the main boiler system along with replacing the old room heating and cooling units with new energy efficient units. However, we still require an additional \$300,000 to convert all of our 258 rooms.

Another urgent need is upgrading our old emergency generator which only supplies enough power for partial home lighting and refrigeration. We learned from Hurricane Sandy that an extended power outage would cause many problems in supplying proper care to our Residents.

We ask that you consider making a pledge or a one-time donation for one or both of these critical

campaigns. Pledges can be spread out over time if necessary. Please contact our Development Office at 973-942-0300 ext. 316 or by e-mailing us at twdevelopment@littlesistersofthepoor.org



One of two Energy efficient Hot water boilers and storage tanks being installed.

Upcoming Events

Annual Beefsteak Dinner

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

6:30 p.m.

Please join us for "The Ultimate Beefsteak Dinner" at The Brownstone House - Paterson, NJ.

Last year this event, organized by a group of volunteers and staff from St. Joseph's Home, raised \$15,500 which was donated to our Heating and Air Conditioning Project.

Come join us for the best beefsteak dinner in Northern New Jersey. Dance to the deejay's from DTM Productions. Take a chance on a 50/50 ticket. Last year's winner received \$1,575!

Seating is limited. For reservations call 973-942-0300 ext. 316

For information and details about these and all St. Joseph's Home events call the Development Office at 973-942-0300 ext. 316 or email twdevelopment@littlesistersofthepoor.org

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"

Donor Notice

Your tax deductible charitable gifts to St. Joseph's Home provide you valuable tax savings and help us to provide loving care for our neediest elderly.

Remember us in your Estate Planning. The most common way is to include us in your will, but first contact your legal advisor or financial planner. Our legal name is: St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Many employers offer Matching Gifts Programs. Please inquire with your employer.

For more information please call the Development Office at 973-942-0300 ext. 316 or e-mail twdevelopment@littlesistersofthepoor.org