

Little Sisters of the Poor

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FOR THE ELDERLY



Our Little Sisters

Providing loving
care to the neediest
elderly in New Jersey
since 1879.

A Great Wave of Charity Comes to New Jersey

"From Jeanne Jugan's humble heart flowed a great wave of charity..." Seven Little Sisters arrived in Brooklyn, New York on September 13, 1868 and in four short years, established 13 Homes in the United States. However, none of them were in New Jersey.

The Right Reverend James R. Bayley, first Bishop of Newark, asked the Little Sisters to come to Newark in 1858, a decade before they even came to America! It wasn't until ten years after the Little Sisters arrived on these shores, that on June 17, 1878, the Sisters opened a house on the corner of Broad and Murray Streets in Newark, with accommodations for 40 elderly poor. After purchasing property on Warren Street, construction began and a new building opened in 1888 with rooms for 220 residents with the chapel being built in 1896.

Bishop Bayley appointed a new pastor to St. John's in Paterson in 1863, a man who became instrumental in shaping the history of the city. When Reverend William "Dean" McNulty arrived in Paterson, he found a city growing rapidly with immigrants arriving to work in the silk mills and to build locomotives. He initiated the building of churches, hospitals, schools, orphanages and a home for the aged poor.

The number of elderly persons without family was growing along with the city, and the Little Sisters responded to Dean McNulty's

request to come to Paterson. The Pope homestead, a three story building, was purchased and on November 15, 1901, opened as St. Joseph's Home. Four years later a larger building was rented on Union Avenue until a new facility could be built. Land was purchased on Dey Street and St. Theresa's opened on March 25, 1906, with the chapel being added in 1910. In order to care for more people, a new wing was built in 1914. Now there was room for 300 residents!

Thousands of New Jersey's elderly poor were cared for in these two wonderful homes. Over time, repairs and maintenance of the aging buildings were becoming a burden. A decision was made to open up a new, modern facility in Totowa, combining the two older homes and taking in the aged poor from both the Newark and Paterson dioceses. It was named St. Joseph's Home, recalling the name of the original home in Paterson, and opened in 1976.

The Little Sisters of the Poor continue in their mission to the elderly in 27 homes around the country, all built on the foundation that those seven courageous Little Sisters began 150 years ago.



St. Rose of Lima, Newark - 1915



St. Theresa's, Paterson - 1914



Little Sisters of the Poor

Our 150th Anniversary Logo

The figures at the center of the logo represent our mission of hospitality to the needy elderly. Weighted down by the burdens of old age, an elderly woman finds love and understanding. The flame at the heart of this embrace represents the founding charism of Saint Jeanne Jugan, which we wish to keep alive and to pass on to future generations. The circular shapes represent the great wave of charity launched by our foundress and the universal mission of the Congregation.

A SPECIAL INVITATION TO YOUNG PEOPLE

During their sesquicentennial year, the Little Sisters around the country invite young people to come and talk to the elderly. Come and listen: learn from the elderly. Let them dream and draw from their dreams a new vision of a more humane, loving society.

And especially to young women the Little Sisters say, "Come and discover the joy of serving the elderly as we have! Come and see how you too can make a difference! Come and discover the beauty of belonging to the Lord and following him along the way of the Beatitudes! Come, join us and you will experience the happiness we have found in being Little Sisters of the Poor!"



Circus Fun!

What better way to celebrate April Fool's Day than to spend it with a bunch of clowns! It was a carnival like atmosphere as our Residents enjoyed playing games for fun and prizes during the Circus Party on April 1st. Hot dogs, pizza, French fries, onion rings, popcorn and other fair type foods were served during the noon meal. There were many Little Sisters, Volunteers and staff to lend a hand with serving and with the games. Everyone went home a winner!



Jean Walsh and Volunteer Carol Rose



Carol Rose, Joanne Monaco, Rose Marie Ingersoll
and Yolanda Mercado



Sister Mary Raymond with Carlota Delgado and
Volunteer Rose Marie Ingersoll

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FOR THE ELDERLY

Welcoming Our New Chaplin

Cead Mile Failte to Father Sean Mc Donnell. Father Sean has been with us since September 2018 as our Chaplin. Father comes from a small village in County Mayo, Ireland. His parents are deceased, he has 3 sisters, Kathleen, Bridie and Peggy and 2 brothers, Martin and Paddy, along with 33 nieces and nephews, 72 grand nieces and nephews and 15 great grand nieces and nephews.

Father was ordained on June 12, 1988 and has served as Priest in Ireland for 7 years and here in the Paterson Diocese for almost 24

years. He has many talents which he shares with all the Sisters, Residents and staff of St. Joseph's Home. He brings a breath of fresh air to all who have come to know and love him. Father Sean is very happy here with us as our Chaplin and regards it as a great honor to serve the Lord and the people of St. Joseph's. We are blessed to have Father as part of our family here in Totowa.

From Father Sean - Dia Linn agus Muire (God and Mary be with you all)



Rockin' Thru The Years Dinner Dance

Rock Around The Clock! Everyone had their dancing shoes on at our annual Rockin' Thru The Years Dinner Dance. DJ John Diaz played all of the hits from the Fabulous Fifties and rock and roll music from the Sixties, filling the dance floor with happy, energetic people. There were even a few who came dressed in 1950's outfits.

After doing the Twist, the Stroll, the Bop, the Cha Cha and plain old rockin' and rollin', DJ John had the whole gang up for the Electric Slide and a few other large group dances. This is just a real fun event and many of our guests remarked that it's the only time when they can go out, have a good meal and dance to the music of their teenage years.



Residents Pat Milligan and Janet Van Winkle



DJ John Diaz



Barbara Osborne, Cathy Ann and Faye Kennedy

A Simple Note

By Mother Mary Thomas



Dear Friends,

Once again we rejoice that Spring is here. Soon we will be able to enjoy the beauty of God's creation - the budding of flowers, sprouts of new grass and trees full of green leaves and blossoms. As the earth renews itself after a long winter, so too were we renewed when we celebrated the Risen Lord on Easter. We hope that your Easter was filled with joy and time spent with family and friends.

This year we will be marking two very special occasions. The first comes on May 22nd when we will celebrate 150 years of the Little Sisters presence in America and 140 years that we have been in New Jersey with the establishment of the Newark home.

We will have to wait until July 2nd for the next event when Sister Cecilia of St. Michael will celebrate her Golden Jubilee of her first profession. We thank the Lord for all of the blessings that He has given her in her religious life. As one of our collecting Sisters, St. Joseph's Home would be lost without her!

As you have seen in this newsletter, we have a new Chaplin, Father Sean Mc Donnell. We are blessed to have the assistance of such a devoted Chaplin whose liturgy homilies, singing lessons and attention to the Residents is a great help in our apostate of caring for them.

We are so grateful to all of you for your generosity and commitment to St. Joseph's Home. St. Jeanne Jugan taught us to thank our benefactors through prayer. During Mass we remember all of you and your special intentions for all of the good that you do for us and our Residents.

Gratefully in prayer,
Sister Mary Thomas

Current Projects

- New flooring on each unit and common areas, beginning with the skilled nursing unit - 2nd floor.
- Air conditioning for the kitchen and laundry which are unbearably hot in the summer.

If you are interested in helping with these projects, please make a notation with your contribution stating which project you are sponsoring and your gift will be automatically restricted for that purpose.

"You've Got Mail!"

As you all know, this past January, mail costs went up. For us that means not only the price of a stamp, but bulk mail prices too. We would like to reduce our mailing costs, paper, envelopes, postage and labor, freeing up funds that can be used to care for our Residents instead. Please help us by **checking the box that says "no acknowledgment"** on the pledge card and waiving your need for a thank you letter. Your bank statement can then be used as proof of your donation. We record each of your generous donations should any questions arise about your gifts. Another way that you can help us is to let us know of any change of address. We thank you for your assistance. Please know that you are remembered each day during Mass in sincere gratitude for your support of our mission to the elderly.

For questions about appeals, donations, mailings, events or website, please contact the Development Office at 973-942-0300 ext. 316 or at twdevelopment@littlesistersofthepoor.org. Please address all mailed correspondence to Development Office, St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly, 140 Shepherd Lane, Totowa NJ 07512.

Upcoming Events

St. Jeanne Jugan 50/50 Raffle

Drawn on August 30, 2019

*Tickets are \$10.00 each
and will be available late June.*

*For tickets: Please email your name
and address to Cathy Ann at:
twdevelopment@littlesistersofthepoor.org*

*and they will be mailed to you. Last year's
winner received \$30,325.00.*

Christmas Craft & Bake Sale - Ham & Turkey Drop

Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019

*10am - 4pm at St. Joseph's Home
Free Admission - Parking & entrance
on Cumberland Ave.*

Our Auxiliary's Christmas Boutique and Luncheon

Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2019 11am - 3pm

*at Indian Trail Club, Franklin Lakes
Tickets are \$55 per person and
must be purchased in advance.*

To Make A Donation

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

To donate on-line visit our web site:
www.littlesistersofthepoortotowa.org
and click on "DONATIONS"

Remember us in your Estate Planing. The most common way is to include us in your will, but first contact your legal advisor or financial planner. Gifts of life insurance are also appreciated.

Our legal name is: St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Many employers offer Matching Gift 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

*Please visit us at
www.littlesistersofthepoortotowa.org
and check out our News & Events
area for more details about
scheduled events.*