Plant a Little Love, Watch it Grow

Jeanne Jugan’s 175 year old “business plan”

The seed of hospitality, planted by Jeanne Jugan in the winter of 1839, took root and blossomed into a work for all times and places. From the start, it was destined to be a work of solidarity in sharing and caring. The study of Jeanne Jugan’s life shows her as one who brought to our world an overflow of God’s love, the beauty of which would not only touch the elderly, but also countless volunteers and benefactors.

The life of faith of Jeanne Jugan enabled her to see sharing as a normal gesture in the family of God. To her all were brothers and sisters and as a begging sister, she brought to her benefactors the blessing of giving to those in need. When a certain benefactor asked her one day why she had burdened herself with all these old people, Jeanne replied, “Sir, we shall share with them. You will provide for them and I will take care for them.”

Like our Mother Foundress, we Little Sisters today carry on the tradition of begging. Our benefactors are the greatly treasured but the most hidden part of our family. They are indispensable partners in our mission of hospitality. Everyday, God’s caring Providence comes to us through their kindness, which to all Little Sisters is viewed as a miracle. It is their generosity that enables us to give our elderly the care and comfort they deserve. Grateful prayers are offered daily for the intentions of our benefactors.
Honors Bestowed...

Jeanne Jugan Award

Ours is a true Home, not just a place to live, work, or volunteer. Our staff and volunteers are an extension of the Little Sisters’ hands and hearts. The gifts and services they bring our home help us maintain our family spirit.

One of the most challenging positions in our Home is that of building maintenance supervisor. The position requires knowledge and skill, in addition to being prepared to address any emergency – day or night. For 33 years, first as assistant and then supervisor, Neal Hafertepe has met the challenge, so the Little Sisters were delighted when learning he had won the Jeanne Jugan Award for 2013.

As a new employee in 1981, Neal said his greatest challenge was “to learn the mechanical systems in the eight-story building.” His greatest challenge now is “to keep everything going within the budget and to make sure money is not wasted.” When asked to identify the most rewarding aspect of his job, without hesitation, he responded, “Making the Residents happy and keeping them comfortable.” Adaptability and Availability are his middle names, and his response to receiving a call for an emergency in the middle of the night is always, “I’m on my way.” To Neal, his job is not a job, as he says, “it is taking care of my family” and his Jeanne Jugan family is very grateful!

The Jeanne Jugan Award is presented each year to an employee who exemplifies the vision of St. Jeanne and demonstrates our core values – compassion, reverence, humble service, family spirit and stewardship. Nominations for this award come from co-workers and selection is made by a committee that reviews all the nominations.

Raffles Support Real Needs

Dining area food warmers

Sr. Mary Imelda, dietary manager, is joined by dietary staff members Jessica Zaccagnini, food service supervisor, Linda Calhoun and Melvin Lawrence, cooks with nine and thirty years of service, to bid a cheerful farewell to the 25 year-old food warmer and welcome the new smaller more efficient model with digital temperature controls.
Parking Lot Repair

The first phase of our parking lot repair has been completed to the delight of all in our Home. The concrete drive by receiving dock and the crumbling curbing have been replaced. The tarmac patching was completed before winter arrived. The final phase, consisting of sealing and painting stripes on the entire parking lot, will be completed in the spring.

Outstanding Caregivers

A white rose and a white sash identified the honorees at the 9th annual Caregiver Recognition program held at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral in downtown Cincinnati on November 3rd. The regal entrance of the Knights and Dames of Malta and the message of gratitude by Archbishop Dennis Schnurr set the tone for this special celebration. After communion, the Archbishop personally greeted each of the honorees. The celebration continued at the reception that followed Mass.

All healthcare facilities in the Greater Cincinnati area are invited to participate by nominating an employee and a volunteer who exemplifies the mission of compassionate caring. Individuals of all beliefs were welcomed as honorees. Our social worker, Mary Vangeloff, and volunteer, Bill Krallman, were among the caregivers honored.

In her position as social worker, Mary has contact with every Resident in our Home. In spite of her numerous duties and the required admission documentation, Mary is never too busy to be of service, to offer advice, to comfort and console or just visit for a little while. Every encounter is welcomed with compassion and attentive listening. Mary personifies the values of St. Jeanne Jugan and enlivens the family spirit in our Home.

While receiving therapy for his shoulder, small talk with the therapist prompted Bill Krallman to apply for our volunteer program. Although Bill volunteers in the Residents’ Store every Monday, most of his time is spent driving Residents and Little Sisters for appointments and outings and running errands for them. Bill has even driven the Little Sisters to a church collection, and helped them by holding a basket at one of the doors. Every request for service is received with affability. Bill says that “visiting with the Residents, helping them, and making them happy” is his reward.

Our deep gratitude goes to all who assisted us in our need!

Mary Vangeloff, social worker, and Bill Krallman, volunteer, received a well-deserved recognition as Outstanding Caregivers for their compassionate service to all in our Home.
A Simple Note
By: Mother Francis Gabriel

The feast of St Joseph, celebrated each March, is an occasion to praise and offer thanks. The advice of Jeanne Jugan to her companions, “Go to Joseph,” is history and reality. Beginning with Jeanne Jugan, up until the present day, his intercession is well documented. To Joseph, the provider of the Holy Family, we continue to have recourse with our needs.

Simplistic as it may seem, when facing serious financial difficulties, along with persistent daily prayer, a note requesting a sum of money is placed under the statue of St. Joseph. This occurred last year in our Home. After some time a gift was received that nearly doubled the amount requested. Grateful prayers were offered to St. Joseph and for our benefactor. We lift up in daily prayer all who support us and all who continually provide miracles of providence for us.

Through St. Joseph, our first Little Sisters received the resources needed to provide for the homeless elderly they welcomed. Through St. Joseph, we continue to receive the resources needed to provide for our elderly. We thank our benefactors and friends who are our “intermediaries” of St. Joseph – remembering us in so many ways, and walking with us as we care for his children.

May the Lord bless you with his peace and love!

Sr. Francis Gabriel, lsp

Ways to Help Us

• **Donate!**
  On the home page of our website, www.littlesistersofthepoorcincinnati.org, click the “Donations” tab for a list of ways to share and our wish list – our needs might match your giving possibilities.

• **Kroger Community Rewards®**
  Visit the donation page of our website for more details.

• **Consider becoming a volunteer!**
  Call Jerri (513)281-8001 ext. 131

• **Join our email community.**
  Receive periodic information on our Home and events. Click “Register Here” on our website.

Donor Notification

Our donor information is strictly confidential and private. Our mailing list is not shared or sold to third parties. In addition, every effort is made to protect the information disclosed on our website and to prevent unauthorized access.

Mission and Vision Statement

The Little Sisters of the Poor are an international congregation of Roman Catholic women religious founded in 1839 by St. 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 St. 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 a 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.