# Little Fisters of the Poor



# Serving the elderly poor in Cincinnati since 1868.

"It's great serving Residents like Bernard when I come to work!" Kathleen Ruggard shown at supper with Bernard Moellencamp.

### Joyful Hospitality Fosters Family Spirit at St. Paul's Home

St. Paul's Home is a loving place where Sisters, Residents, staff and all who share in the mission of the Little Sisters of the Poor form a close-knit family. The family spirit exists from a "joyful hospitality" embracing all with open arms, hearts and minds, and encouraging all to participate in the home's activities.

Maintenance staff member Joe Riesenberg

helps men and women move into the home and in many other ways throughout their residency. He knows sometimes the transition can be difficult. "I say 'Why don't you go down to the coffee shop, or play cards, or go to 'dinner and a movie'?" It is up to Residents how involved they want to be; whatever their choice, Sisters, staff, and other family members will always be available. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 

#### **OUR MISSION**

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 family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.

#### **OUR VALUES**

- REVERENCE
- FAMILY SPIRIT
- HUMBLE SERVICE
- COMPASSION
- STEWARDSHIP

"Joe and I have been friends a long time — five years to be exact," explains Kitty Stickley. "I love it here. My favorite part is that I get to be around good people all the time."

For more pictures of our St. Paul's Home family, visit our website's blog at littlesistersofthepoorcincinnati.org.



# **Current Events, Book Club, Crafts and Competitions**

St. Paul's Home Activities Department Strives to Meet a Range of Interests

Little Sisters of the Poor

St. Paul's Home's activities department creates a calendar of events to encourage the development of friends and support systems among Residents, as well as their physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being. Whether facilitating conversations around current events, scripture studies, book groups, trivia games, craft projects, or Wii bowling tournaments; the purpose is to increase social interactions as well as help Residents achieve maximum vitality.

Activities Director Mandy Thomas shares Wii Bowling tips with Evelyn Hamlin.



### **Gratitude Inspires Community Involvement** Residents Seek Opportunities for Engagement and Giving Back

Community involvement helps St. Paul's Residents maintain an active lifestyle while providing them with opportunities to show gratitude for the life and gifts they have been given by using them to help others.

Whether staying engaged through events at their alma maters or churches, maintaining memberships in civic and social groups like the Knights of Columbus and Red Hat Society, or volunteering for organizations ranging from the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra to Working in Neighborhoods to the LifeCenter Organ Donor Network; Residents value the opportunity to interact with others and help create a caring, vibrant community.

Support for the region is also encouraged through the facilitation of outings to stores, restaurants, attractions and events; and by bringing special celebrations and guests into the home. Most recently St. Paul's Home welcomed Councilmember Anne Hübner from Munich who was in the Queen City to attend Oktoberfest Zinzinnati. The visit was coordinated with the Munich Sister City Association.

Councilmember Anne Hübner (standing left) from Munich, Sr. Agatha, Ute Papke from the Munich Sister City Association, and St. Paul's Home Resident Gisela Talbott (seated.)



To receive this newsletter by email as well as information regarding events and activities at St. Paul's Home, volunteer opportunities, and more go to our website and click on "Register Here" or email Christina Waddle, Director of Development at devcincinnati@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

### Immaculate Conception Unites Little Sisters to Their Foundress

### Sisters Renew Profession of Vows on Feast Day

On December 8 the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It marks the day when Mary, from the moment of her conception, was chosen by God to be the Mother of His Son. For each Little Sister of the Poor, Mary is the model of consecrated life.

St. Jeanne Jugan, Foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor, and her early companions professed their vows of consecrated life on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Today in every home around the world Little Sisters continue the tradition by renewing their vows of chastity, poverty, obedience, and hospitality, and their commitment to give their life to the elderly poor.



On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception Little Sisters around the world renew their vows.

### Family Spirit at St. Paul's Home

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Staff to Resident ratios are lower at St. Paul's Home than the state average, enabling medical and non-medical staff to know and care for Residents as family – not as room numbers.

Lay staff members provide much of the direct medical care on the nursing floors, and staff from all departments provide additional supports on the nursing floors as well as independent apartments. But the Sisters' presence is unmistakable.

"I love working here!" explains registered nurse Anna Ramos, shown with Margaret Geiser. "It's important we make this a home for our Residents and provide the best possible care. I commend the Little Sisters for what they do to make this a warm and loving place."



#### **VOW OF HOSPITALITY**

Through the vow of hospitality, Little Sisters of the Poor consecrate themselves to the elderly poor. They welcome them into their homes, form one family with them, accompany them from day to day, and care for them with love and respect until God calls them home.

"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me...sick and you visited me ...Truly I say to you, as you did it for one of the least of these brethren, you did it for me." (Matthew 25:35:40)

#### VISIT US AT WWW.LITTLESISTERSOFTHEPOORCINCINNATI.ORG

# A Simple Note

By: Mother Francis Gabriel



As I reflect on the topics in this newsletter, three sayings of St. Jeanne Jugan come to mind:

"See how Jesus, Mary and Joseph loved one another, all three, how happy they looked, with what kindness they spoke to each other. In our little family, it must be the same." In the first homes established by St. Jeanne the term "little family" indicated the relationship of Little Sisters, Residents and collaborators. Today, as we are ten Little Sisters in Cincinnati. Our numerous collaborators are our extended hands and hearts. It is edifying to witness the bonds of friendship and caring that unite all in our home.

"Knock, knock at the door of heaven for souls." At the heart of our mission of hospitality is the tradition of praying with our Residents on their final journey from this life. Day and night the Little Sisters take turns accompanying them with their prayer and presence, and assisting with any need as death draws near. For the Little Sisters this is not a duty but a sublime privilege, a holy moment that defies words.

"Blessed be God! Thank you my God!" With St. Jeanne we say blessed be God and thank you for all who continue to help us provide a happy home for our elderly. Please know that our "little family" prays daily for you and your intentions.

Sr. Francis Datriel, l.o.p.

Sr. Francis Gabriel, lsp Mother Superior

### **Contributions Ensure Quality Care**

Contributions help St. Paul's Home maintain low staff-to-Resident ratios. In addition, your gift could provide:

- \$250 Food for ten Residents for one month
- \$100 Medication expenses not covered by reimbursements for one Resident for one month
- \$50 Personal care items and incontinence products for one month for Residents who cannot afford them
- \$20 Bedding and linens for one Resident

Give a gift in honor of someone and they – or the person you specify – will receive a card informing them of your thoughtfulness and generosity. They will also receive future editions of this newsletter to see how your support is making a difference in the lives of elderly in our community.



"Working with the Residents is so rewarding - they bring so much joy to the Home and staff. It's great to see them thrive here." Housekeeping staff member Janis Myers shown with Rita Smith.

### **Mark your Calendar!**

#### **Grand Finale Fundraiser**

Thursday, October 30 4 p.m. - 9 p.m. Grand Finale Restaurant, 3 E Sharon Rd, Glendale, OH 45246 513-771-5925

Enjoy dinner at Grand Finale and St. Paul's Home will receive 20% of all food purchased. Reservations required – when making reservations don't forget to say you're with Little Sisters of the Poor!

#### St. Paul's Home Christmas Boutique

Friday & Saturday, November 7 & 8 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day St. Paul's Home, 476 Riddle Road, Cincinnati, OH 45220

Hand-crafted items, baked goods, and frozen soups. Proceeds benefit St. Paul's Home Activities Department. Donate hand-crafted items or baked goods - contact Mandy at 513-281-8001 or actcincinnati@littlesistersofthepoor.org

### ST. PAUL'S HOME | 476 Riddle Road | Cincinnati, Ohio 45220