Serving the elderly poor in Cincinnati since 1868.

Residents, Staff, and Sisters in costume for the story of Jesus in the Temple.

We are One Family

The World Meeting of Families and the Papal Visit

Recently, the United States was blessed with a visit from Pope Francis. He came to show his support and love for families around the world at the World Meeting of Families. This international event is a conference that was first created by Saint John Paul II in 1994, in order to promote the important role that families have in society. Families gather every three years to discuss the struggles and successes they all encounter. This year the gathering was in Philadelphia. It was the first time the conference was held in the United States.

As families around the world share in the celebration, we at St. Paul's Home have realized the blessing of the term family throughout the year. Most recently Residents, staff, Sisters, and volunteers joined together to produce presentations on St. Jeanne Jugan in the week leading to her feast day. The house was divided into five groups each presenting an aspect of the life of St. Jeanne Jugan. Topics included her love of God, her love for Mary, and her trust in God. For more detail on each presentation, visit our blog at littlesistersofthepoorcincinnati.org/index.php/blog-sp-484. It was the first time we had done something like it, and it really brought everyone in the home closer together.

Residents were impressed and as the week continued the auditorium became more crowded as word started to spread about the presentations. They became the topic of the dinner table. Resident, Flo Wade said "[she] was going to miss them." Other Residents discussed how the presentations brought them closer to St. Jeanne Jugan.

With the importance of family being showcased internationally, we have been participating in the movement locally. Many definitions come to mind when thinking of family. Family can refer to blood relatives, adopted relatives, or in our case those who are loved dearly in one's life. Residents, staff, Sisters, and even volunteers all love and care for one another like family. The term family resonates with us through our choice to be as one, not because we were born as family already. Here, at St. Paul's Home, Residents, staff, Sisters, and volunteers are one family.

The **MISSION** of the Little Sisters of the Poor 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.

Residents, Ruth and Janet, during their group presentation.

St. Paul's Home Open House

In Celebration for the Year of Consecrated Life

Pope Francis declared 2015 as a Year of Consecrated Life and challenged those in religious life to share their experience with the public. In response to this request, the Sisters shared the history of the Little Sisters of the Poor and opened the doors to their living quarters for the first time on August 30th. The event's focus was three-fold: on the life of St. Jeanne Jugan, our foundress, how the Little Sisters started through her work, and the stages of formation in becoming a Little Sister. The Open House was a great success, drawing more than fifty people to our home. Residents were able to enjoy the tours as well, many seeing the convent for the first time. The Little Sisters would like to thank those in attendance and hope that the small glimpse into their life will spark more interest for those who wish to follow in the path of a Little Sister.

"Recounting our history is essential for preserving our identity, for strengthening our unity as a family and our common sense of belonging." (Pope Francis in his letter declaring 2015 the Year of Consecrated Life)

Top: Sr. George with volunteers dressed in the Little Sisters' original habit. Bottom: Sr. Rosario speaks to tour guests about stages of formation of the Little Sisters.

Resident JoAnn Zurlindan with volunteer Nancy Bolander.

Residents Get Crafty

Residents make Crafts for Christmas Boutique, November 6th & 7th

Preparation for the annual Christmas Boutique starts as soon as the previous year's boutique ends. Residents and volunteers have been working diligently since November of last year to make this year's boutique bigger and better than ever. This year's Christmas Boutique will be held November 6th and 7th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This past year we gained a new volunteer, Barry, who has blessed us with his bow making and flower arranging skills. The sister duo of Katy Riehle and Nancy Bolander have been in charge of the projects for this year. We want to thank them for all their hard work!

Residents have been painting, sewing, and building Christmas-themed items such as ornaments, cards, bookmarks, centerpieces, door hangers, snowmen, angels, and many other festive items. Visit our home in November for an opportunity to buy Christmas gifts for your loved ones. Baked goods and soup will also be available for purchase. Spread the word and bring your friends to share in the spirit of the season with us!

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.

Left: Resident Alma Grimes with her daughter. Middle: Resident Bonnie Greene with Sr. Emmanuel. Right: Resident Flo Wade with staff member Maggie and her son.

Staff, Residents, and their Families Gather Together

St. Paul's Home Annual Family Picnic

Every year staff and residents invite their families to come together for entertainment and socialization. We welcomed more than 300 family members even with the downpour that was occurring outside. Spirits remained high through the weather. The family picnic is a great way for staff to share their home family with their work family. The Residents truly enjoy meeting the family members of their caregivers. This is a way for all of us to come together as one family and share our commitment to one another with others. Rain or shine, we will continue to celebrate together!

Significance and Wisdom of Grandparents

Residents and Families Share Stories of Love

Grandparents Day is celebrated each year on the first Sunday of September. Many Residents of the home spend time or keep in touch with their grandchildren regularly. The intergenerational relationship between grandparents and grandchildren is very important. Grandparents are able to share their wisdom through the many years of experience they contain. Grandchildren are able to bring a fresh light with a new take on life and insight on the latest new trends. When the two experiences come together, a beautiful relationship grows to keep the elderly young and to develop the maturity of the youths. Some of these relationships are seen from our own Residents and their grandchildren.

Therese A. Froehle keeps in touch with her nine grandchildren from states away. She describes how she appreciates them saying they have "a fresh take on life that keeps me young!" Her grandson Eric said, " I am so grateful to have [Therese] as my grandma. I still remember going to see the Matrix and a lot of other awesome movies that no other grandma would have gone too. I am blesse to have her as my grandma. She has been a guiding light and a moral compass for me."

Resident Betty Ferone has five grandchildren and many come to visit her weekly. She says she is amazed "that they all look forward to family dinner on Sundays" and that they are "fun to be with." Her granddaughter, Megan, comes to visit often and takes Betty out shopping or to dinner almost every weekend. Megan says her grandma "always lends great advice and is a great person to turn to for counsel."

Many Residents of the home enjoy time with their family, especially their grandchildren. Intergenerational relationships bloom within our walls, Betty and Therese are just a few examples of the joy that comes from these relationships. And for those who live apart from relatives, the Little Sisters, volunteers, and staff provide love and support. The importance of family is not lost here for our Residents.

Therese and Betty enjoy the grotto outside of our home.

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 Gabriel, lsp

Sr. Francis Gabriel, l.s.p.

Mother Superior

Our Needs

Without your support the Little Sisters would not be able to carry on their mission. There are many ways you can help us continue to care for the Residents of St. Paul's Home. Gifts of cash, check, stock, or donated items are welcome. Your gift can be stretched through corporate matching. Contact your HR department to see if your company will match donation gifts. Choose the Little Sisters as the organization for Amazon Smile or link our Home to you Kroger Plus card. You can do so online or use our Kroger code, 83842, to help support the Home.

Memorial gifts, gifts in honor of birthdays or wedding anniversaries are also welcome. Another way to give is to name the Little Sisters of the Poor of Cincinnati in your will. Consider naming the Little Sisters as beneficiary of your Life Insurance or your Retirement Plan.

In order to continue the work started by St. Jeanne Jugan, we rely on the generosity of individuals, businesses, and churches. You are able to donate online through our website at littlesistersofthepoorcincinnati.org. Or you can send donations in attention to the Development Department at 476 Riddle Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45220. We are always grateful for your support.

Join us in Recognition

Staff member Jerri Szlizewski, our Administrative Assistant, and volunteer Sandy Arszman won the Outstanding Caregiver Award for 2015 from the Caregiver Assistance Network of Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio. There will be a special White Mass on Sunday, November 8th at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral honoring all those who received recognition this year.

Jerri and Sandy respectively.

SAVE THE DATE

Christmas Boutique
Friday & Saturday, November 6 & 7
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 itemsor baked goods - contact Mandy at 513-281-8001 or actcincinnati@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

Charitable Night at Dewey's Pizza
Monday or Tuesday, November 16 or 17
265 Hosea Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45220

Eat dinner and bring flyer or show flyer on phone. 10% of your bill will be donated to the Little Sisters of the Poor. Watch our website for updates and full details or contact Sarah at 513-281-8001 or prcincinnati@littlesistersofthepoor.org.