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August 30, 2010

Feast of St. Jeanne Jugan

Dear Friends & Future Friends of the Little Sisters,

Today, I am pleased to share special news on the Feast Day of St. Jeanne Jugan, the holy woman who founded the Little Sisters of the Poor. Last year, I was honored to have witnessed the Canonization of Jeanne Jugan by Pope Benedict XVI. **One year later, this moment deserves celebration again.**

For the past few years, I have served as the Advisory Board Chair. I have witnessed the Sisters' lovingly dedicated to the care of the elderly poor started by St. Jeanne Jugan over 170 years ago.

To celebrate this love and respect for the elderly poor, and the newly Canonized St. Jeanne Jugan, we have launched the first annual "**St. Jeanne Jugan Days**." These days coincide with her Feast Day, August 30th and continue through October 30th, St. Jeanne Jugan's birthday.

St. Jeanne Jugan devotedly cared for the elderly poor by begging for their daily needs including food, clothing, medical care, and shelter. *Today, the Sisters sustain day-to-day operations through the begging tradition begun by her.*

We are asking you...no, we are 'begging' you...to help us continue this devotion to the 100 elderly poor in the Sisters' care. Sisters and staff fulfill that mission 365 days each year, and have been doing so in Cincinnati for over 140 years. **100% of your donations go directly to help the Residents.**

Testimonies from friends... I'd like to share stories from two dear friends who graciously donate to the Little Sisters' mission. One shared that through his visits he is reminded of, *"the daily, hourly work which these religious women perform, all the while fulfilling their "begging" philosophy."* He appreciates the arduous, but highly personal tasks they perform. *"Taking care of the intimate needs of the infirm elderly is quite an undertaking."*

Another friend says that after contributing to the Little Sisters for several years, he believes **the Little Sisters, through their care of the elderly, are providing "the best non-profit return to the community available for his donation dollar."**

An opportunity to help... Please, help the Little Sisters of the Poor by making a contribution towards their care of the elderly poor. We have attached information describing the needs and how you can help. During these "**St. Jeanne Jugan Days**" help us continue her mission by *Living the Vision of St. Jeanne Jugan*. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Board Chair