

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

*Serving the elderly poor
in Kansas City since 1882*

Summer, 2013

JEANNE JUGAN CENTER
8745 James A. Reed Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64138

816-761-4744



JEANNE JUGAN CENTER



SAVE THE DATE

Tax Reduction Seminar

October 16, 2013

Fall Festival

November 10, 2013

A Life of Ministry

Walking in Jeanne Jugan's Footsteps

"The more things change, the more they stay the same." As we celebrate the feast day of our foundress this month, we are reminded of this proverb as we look back on Jeanne Jugan's life and her ministry to God's eldest children. Although she lived in the 1800s and in another country, many of the elderly's needs, and the ways to meet them, are the same here today as they were back then.

Jeanne Jugan had many roles of ministry that changed throughout her life. She ministered hands-on to the sick and dying during the early part of her life. Later, to members of the community through begging. She did this by including donors in her mission and allowing them to serve the poor through their donations. Later in her life, Saint Jeanne ministered to postulants and novices - the young

*"He is so good ... love God very much. All for him, do everything through love."
- Jeanne Jugan*

women in formation - by gently guiding them on their way to becoming Little Sisters.

The Little Sisters here at our home play many roles as well. Although they are often changing locations (they go wherever needed) and responsibilities, the new faces we welcome all have one thing in common

- they are continuing the same work started by Jeanne Jugan so many years ago. This important work of serving the elderly poor has always been needed, and always will be.



Resident Spotlight A New Beginning

Recently, we welcomed another new face here at the Jeanne Jugan Center. Resident Jacqueline McCoy joined us in June, and couldn't be happier with her new home.

Sitting in her room overlooking the beautiful grounds, Jacqueline talks of how fortunate she feels to wake up each morning to see the sunrise through her window, and to see the view of the nearby pond and gazebo. Asked to describe her new home, she said, "It's wonderful!"

"I'm really spoiled here," she added. "After taking care of a home for so many years, it's nice to have my meals prepared and things cleaned up afterwards."

When asked if she knew about Jeanne Jugan, Jacqueline admitted not much, but she is learning more about her through her interactions with the Sisters. Saint Jeanne's legacy is carried on through the caring atmosphere of the home.

"Everyone here just bends over backwards for the Residents," she said. "They really try hard to please everyone."

"Even if I could choose to live anywhere in the world, I would still want to live here."

"It's like a new beginning...a new life," she added.

We're happy that Jacqueline chose to spend this new phase of her life with us, and how she reminds us that every age can be a blessing.



Resident Jacqueline McCoy relaxing in her new home.

60 Years of Service

"What joy for us to be a Little Sister of the Poor!" These words spoken by Saint Jeanne Jugan are still evident today in Sister Emmanuel Joseph as she speaks about her 60 years as a Little Sister.

Smiling, Sister tells of how happy she is to be a part of what Jeanne Jugan started, and how from such humble beginnings, Jeanne created what is now a worldwide order. "The work was pleasing to God, and that's why it grew," she said.

Sr. Emmanuel Joseph answered God's call and made her first vows in 1953 at the novitiate in Queens, New York. Over the span of the last 60 years, she has served in several homes including Chicago, Palatine, St. Paul, and Denver.

Not one to sit still, Sr. Emmanuel goes out each day with the Begging Sister here at the Jeanne Jugan Center, and works in the laundry.

We are grateful for Sister's service, and for the joy she brings to us every day.



Sr. Emmanuel Joseph celebrates 60 years as a Little Sister.

Tax Reduction Seminar

Many of you should have received invitations in the mail from us for financial seminars we offered over the past few months. The responses to the seminars have been so positive that we are offering two more sessions.

We have invited financial educator Bill Eckert to speak about reducing income taxes, eliminating estate and capital gains taxes, and leaving a lasting legacy for family and favorite charities. He has volunteered to offer this informative seminar for us at various locations in the area.

The first two have gone well with attendees very pleased with the presentations. Reviews include comments such as, "Informative presentation" and "Excellent, and made me start to think."

Even those with financial advisors have benefited from the programs, as they were encouraged to share the information with their advisors.

We hope you will be able to attend the next seminar in October. Stay tuned for information to follow in the mail soon, or call 816.761.4744.



Mother Dora is welcomed by apartment resident and AJJ member MeMe Stempleman.



Sr. Mary Veronica with Resident Earsielean Anderson.

New Arrivals Continue Tradition

They may be new to Kansas City, but their work here is the same as in every Little Sisters home around the world; the work that Jeanne Jugan started many years ago. And we don't have to look far to see similarities between these new arrivals and Jeanne Jugan.

Mother Dora came to our home earlier this summer. As Superior, Mother oversees the practical aspects of running our home. However, like Jeanne Jugan, her role also involves a spiritual aspect as she ministers to the needs of the Little Sisters, Residents, and their families.

When asked to name something she admires about Jeanne Jugan, Mother said it would be Saint Jeanne's ability (or choice) to see God in everything and everyone; to truly see Jesus in the people she served, and to hear God speaking to her through her daily happenings, encounters, and even through nature.

Sister Mary Veronica also recently joined us. She is responsible for the skilled nursing floor of our home, working with the Residents who need

the most medical care. Much like Jeanne Jugan did in her early days, Sister not only sees to their physical care, but also their spiritual well being and happiness.

Something she admires about Jeanne Jugan is how she did little things with love. Sister works to incorporate those personal touches into her daily interactions with the Residents - whether it's giving a flower from our garden or a piece of candy, she puts thought into the little things that will bring happiness. Isn't that, after all, what life is all about?

"Making the elderly happy – that is what counts!"
- Jeanne Jugan

Lastly, we have Father Jim Hart, our home's new Chaplain. While not a Little Sister, he still helps make possible Jeanne Jugan's mission. He ministers to the spiritual needs of the house by celebrating Mass, hearing confessions, and anointing the sick and dying.

We are happy to welcome these new faces, and grateful to Mother Rose Marie, Sr. Amy, and Fr. McCormack, who have moved on to other assignments and work. We wish them well as they too, carry on St. Jeanne's timeless tradition.

Urban Rangers

Summertime is always beautiful here at the Jeanne Jugan Center. We are blessed to have large grounds with lovely flowers, a pond, and accessible pathways so our Residents can enjoy the outdoors.

However, 23 acres is a lot to take care of! Lucky for us, we have good friends who help our grounds keeper with this big job. This summer we have had a group of hardworking young men called the Urban Rangers come and help out. They have pulled weeds, planted, trimmed bushes ... basically anything that was needed.

The Urban Ranger Corps is a non-profit group that gives junior high and high school aged young men a chance to gain work experience while giving back to their community. They do this by making improvements to homes of the poor and elderly and working in green spaces to help revitalize deteriorating neighborhoods.

Their work helps make Kansas City a more beautiful place, and the program is also a great learning experience for those involved, with many lessons beyond the actual physical work. In keeping with their mission, "the Urban Ranger Corps is to help prepare at-risk inner city youth for a responsible and productive future through a program of disciplined work experience and service in their community; leadership development; and individualized planning for post-high school careers."

We are grateful for the help, and are very happy to partner with this positive and uplifting program. It was so nice to have the young people around. Their vibrant energy and laughter were contagious!



Youth from the Urban Rangers Corps work with grounds keeper Tammy Johnson on the home's grounds.

A Simple Note

By: Mother Dora



During this month dedicated to our beloved foundress, we strive to better know the person of Saint Jeanne Jugan, and incorporate her virtues into our daily living. One thing that is especially meaningful to me is her joy.

Jeanne Jugan's joy came from within. It was the product of the presence and the love of Jesus. Her joy was to find Jesus in herself, in others and in the events of her daily life. Jeanne gave of herself unreservedly through love, in the service of the poor.

"Little ones," she often said to the novices, "you must always be cheerful. Our old folk do not like long faces." She wanted to see the novices with radiant, happy faces, shedding light on the elderly whom aging disposed to sorrow, fear, loneliness and helplessness. Joy is one of the obligations of being a Little Sister. They are to sow joy around them.

Joy for Jeanne also came from prayer. Day-by-day the Lord gave her the joy that is born of love. Nothing disturbed her trust in the providence of God. Difficulties nourished and reinforced her joy of being the instrument of God.

Her message of "joy" is very relevant for our society today where prestige, power and wealth become the center of our lives. We are blinded to the needs of our neighbor, the elderly. St. Paul counsels us, "There is more joy in giving than in receiving," and says, "Rejoice in the Lord always! And again I say, Rejoice!"

Smile! We are children of a loving Father who watches over us always. Let us spread his love to those around us with radiant smiles that shed light and dispel darkness.

Did You Know?

IRA Charitable Rollover

Thanks to the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, the IRA Charitable Rollover has been extended for 2013.

If you own an IRA and are age 70 ½ or older, this act permits you to make a direct transfer (up to \$100,000 per year) to the Little Sisters of the Poor. This could result in significant income tax savings for you.

For more information, please contact your financial advisor or our Development Department at dvkansascity@littlesistersofthepoor.org



Your gifts help make our house a home.

United Way Heartland Combined Federal Campaign

At your employer's next United Way campaign, you can write in "Little Sisters of the Poor" as a donor's choice charity. We would be extremely grateful for the support!

And for federal employees, we are a Heartland Combined Federal Campaign charity. **Our 5 digit CFC code is 58922.**



Thank you for your support!

Upcoming Events

Tax Reduction Seminar

October 16, 2013

Stay tuned for your personal invitation in the mail.

Fall Festival, Spaghetti Dinner

November 10, 2013

Join us for an afternoon of fun. Browse through homemade crafts and baked goods, eat some of the area's best tasting spaghetti, visit with friends and Little Sisters, and enter for a chance to win great prizes in our cash raffle. Look for raffle tickets in the mail.



Family fun at last year's Spaghetti Dinner.