

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Serving the elderly poor
in Kansas City since 1882.

Spring, 2018

JEANNE JUGAN CENTER

8745 James A. Reed Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64138
816-761-4744



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MISSION STATEMENT

Continuing the work of Saint 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.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Holy Thursday

4:30 PM

Good Friday

3:00 PM

Holy Saturday

7:30 PM

Easter Sunday

10:30 AM

Stations of the Cross

4:30 PM, Fridays of Lent

Easter Memories

Ah, Easter time. It brings back childhood memories. Just seeing a chocolate bunny or thinking about the different traditions that we had as kids, or things we did with our own children when they were young, can transport one back in time.

We asked a few of our Residents to share some of their memories of Lent and Easter and had a great time reminiscing with them at the coffee shop one afternoon.

Marie grew up on a large farm in Ireland, and recalls getting live baby chicks for Easter as a child. For Lent she would give up sweets, and her family attended Holy Week and Easter services every year without fail.

Mary agreed that chicks were a popular Easter gift in the United States as well. She was a farm girl too, and received baby chicks as well.

Continuing the live animal theme, Betty shared that when her children were young, their aunt would get them ducks, baby chicks, and sometimes rabbits for Easter. She told of one duck that got especially attached to her husband and would follow him everywhere around the yard. The duck would even sit on the shovel when he was trying to dig. Everyone thought that was very funny, except, of course, her husband. It made it very hard to get any work done!

**“Let us sing
the glory
of our risen
Jesus!”**

— Saint Jeanne Jugan

Betty and her family would go to Mass on Easter, and the kids would dress up—usually in something new that they had gotten just for the occasion.

Hildegard grew up in Germany, and many of her Easter—or *Ostern* as they say there—traditions were similar to those here in the

(continued on page 3)



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Resident Spotlight

In this edition of our newsletter, we are happy to introduce one of our newest Residents. We asked Shirley to tell a little about herself, and this is what she had to say:

I was born in a little town in Georgia. Our small farm was six miles from town. Relatives lived close by, and they grew peanuts, corn and tobacco for their main crops.

My dad and mom wanted a better life, so after much prayer, the Model A was packed and we moved to Winter Haven, Florida. I was hired at the local bank at 16 to do odds and ends jobs. After graduating from high school, I met a handsome jet pilot. A year later we were married.

My husband was assigned to be stationed in Italy. Our first son was born there. After the tour was over, we moved to a little town in Oregon to take over a wheat and barley ranch. I started working at the local bank as a teller. Later a daughter and two sons were added to our family.

Some of my other jobs throughout the years include working as a foster care parent, secretary, florist shop owner, house decorator, and house-parent for mentally challenged men.

My favorite interests were being a good mother, gardening vegetables and flowers, cooking, painting, canning, crafts, quilting, and having a lovely and welcoming home.

When my children were grown, I divorced and moved back to Georgia. After a serious illness, I moved to Missouri to be closer to my family. When I was in need of more assistance with my care, I applied at Little Sisters. I was accepted and I moved in on December 19th. I have been overwhelmed by the kindnesses shown me. What a wonderful blessing to live in this beautiful facility!



Shirley has decorated her room with lovely crafts and flower arrangements she made.



The intricate detailing of the quilt and pillows she made are just beautiful.

It's Never Too Late

Thanks to our friends at the Frank and Margaret G. McGee Fund, we have a new adaptive computer system called It's Never 2 Late.

This system is made especially with the needs of the elderly in mind, and allows users with different abilities and challenges to utilize the computer and Internet. We received two touch-screen monitors that sit on wheeled stands and can be taken to each Resident's room for use.

Our Residents are having fun getting familiar with the different games, puzzles, funny YouTube videos (laughing babies are very popular!), interactive art programs, and travel channels. Another favorite is watching the collection of old television commercials from various eras.

Soon to come is setting up Skype and email so Residents can stay in touch with family and friends around the country.

We are grateful to have supporters who help improve the quality of life for our Residents.



Resident Anna checks out one of the games on the It's Never 2 Late system.

Easter Memories *(continued from page 1)*

United States. Coloring Easter eggs, having egg hunts, and hearing tales of the Easter bunny were all things she did as a little girl. Her family also went to church in their new outfits.

Talk at the coffee shop then led to how certain traditions, like dyeing Easter eggs, were similar among different families. Many of the mothers of the group remembered coloring eggs with their children—cups lined up on the kitchen table, each fizzing as the rainbow colored tablets dissolved, and the strong smell of vinegar in the air. Easter just wouldn't be the same without the smell of hard-boiled eggs and vinegar. And, of course, ham! That was a universal ingredient of the Easter meal.

Margaret recalled how as a child, her family always went to church for every service of holy week. She attended St. Monica School during her grade-school years, and along with learning about the religious aspects of Easter, they would make crafts like paper Easter baskets to celebrate the season.

Jan did the standard things as a child—she attended Easter Sunday Mass in her new outfit, dyed eggs, and received a basket from the Easter bunny with candy and a stuffed baby chick. She has since started a nice tradition of her own. Instead of sending out a letter to family and friends at Christmas time, she sends one out at Easter. What a wonderful way to celebrate the season and stay in contact with loved ones.

We hope these recollections have reminded you of your own happy memories, or maybe even inspired you to start some new traditions of your own.



Celebrating Easter with a parade.



Everyone loves a treat from the Easter bunny!

Protecting God's Creation

Pope Francis has often spoken of the importance of nature and caring for the environment. We couldn't agree more. With 23 acres of beautiful nature on our grounds, we know first-hand how soothing and life-affirming the outdoors can be. We also know how important it is to be good stewards of the earth, and of the donations that our benefactors give to us.

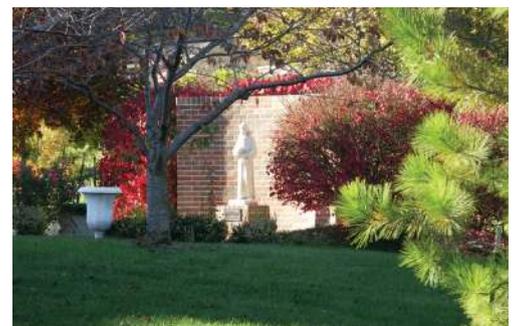
To this end, we have been making changes to our Home to save energy and precious resources. Over the last couple of years, we have replaced all of our lighting, inside and out, with LED lighting. These lights use far less energy than the old fluorescent bulbs, last much longer, and don't contain dangerous-to-dispose-of materials like mercury.

Additionally, we are nearing the end of our window project—replacing all of the old windows in the Home with energy efficient ones. Already we have noticed a reduction of drafts and lower heating and cooling bills. These things, along with a recycling program for paper and cans, are ways we strive to be mindful of our consumption and to lower our impact on the world around us.

Thank you to all who have supported these projects. We are committed to doing our part to keep God's great gift of the earth healthy for us and for future generations.

Let us be "protectors" of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and the environment.

— Pope Francis



Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi—patron saint of animals and the environment—on our grounds.

A Simple Note

from Mother Margaret

Looking Back on 2017



It seems like we just took the Christmas decorations down, and here we are beginning Lent already! Lent reminds me to take time to reflect not only on spiritual practices, but on all of the good things that have happened in our Home over the past year.

Many wonderful people helped bring happiness and friendship to our Residents in 2017. From New Year's Eve, to St. Patrick's Day, all the way through Christmas, there were parties and fellowship galore. Residents had a lovely time, and our Home looked beautiful.

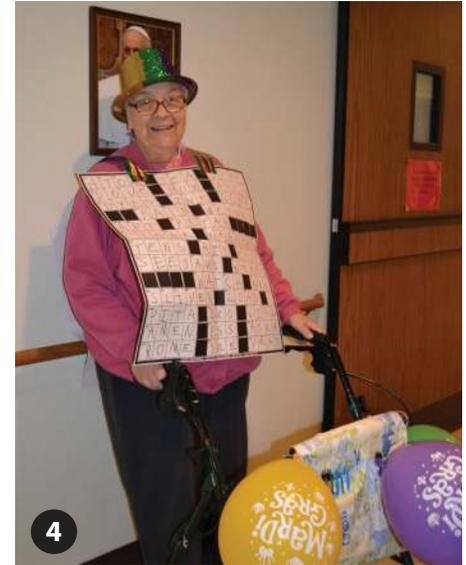
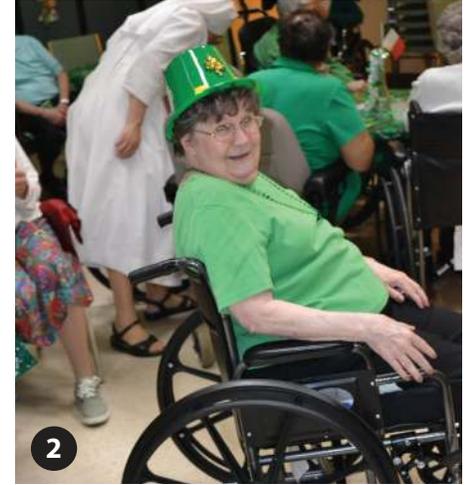
Now we enter a quieter time without all the parties, but which can be every bit as fulfilling. Lent reminds me of Advent — a season of waiting and anticipation for something amazing to come.

I invite you to join me this season in practicing the **three S's of Lent**:

- **Seeking** closer communion with God through the sacraments and prayer;
- **Serving** the poor and your fellow man;
- **Sacrificing** for the good of others and the growth of your spirit.

The Little Sisters and I sincerely promise you our prayers. May our Risen Lord fill your lives with beauty and grace.

Mother Margaret



1. The dragon dancers steal the show at the Chinese New Year celebration.

2. Resident Susan stops for a photo at the St. Patrick's Day Party.

3. Sister Chantal joins in the fun at the Summer Festival.

4. Resident Judy getting ready to join the Mardi Gras parade.

5. Apartment Resident CeCe and Santa at our first annual Breakfast with Santa.

We value your privacy. Please be assured that we do not sell, rent or share our mailing list or donors' personal information.

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