

A Simple Note



Dear Friends,

In this season, when many people are returning to school or work, we are reminded of Pope Francis' encouragement that we 'return and deepen' our devotion to our Blessed Mother by dedicating 2017 as a Marion Year.

In preparation for our Mother Provincial's feast day, the Little Sisters, many of the Residents and Associate members renewed their devotion to Mary by reciting the Act of Consecration. This act was preceded by reading *33 Days to Morning Glory* by Fr. Michael Gaitley, where our beloved Pope St. John Paul II stated, "We would do well to entrust all our cares and our very lives to Mary, for she is the safest, easiest, shortest and most perfect way to Jesus and to sanctity!"

In our prayers we ask that, like our Blessed Mother, we may trust completely in Divine Providence, and that hope includes all of you, our dear friends and benefactors!

Our meditative prayer life is truly what sustains us all. Thank you all for your many prayers. Let us continue to pray daily for each other.

God bless you all,
Mother Marie Edward

UPCOMING EVENTS



- **Dominion Energy Charity Classics Birdies for Charity**
Pledge a lump sum or per birdie in the PGA tournament to support the Little Sisters of the

Poor. Pledges made to LSP will be received along with a 10% matched donation from Dominion Energy Charity Classic! Go to www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org and click on this logo to find out more.

- **43rd Annual Benefit Dinner**

Thursday, February 8th, 2018

If you're interested in receiving an invitation, please contact Corinne Waldrop at ecrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

- **10th Annual RVA French Food Festival**

Returning the last weekend in April!

*Sponsorship opportunities are available, please contact Corinne Waldrop at ecrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

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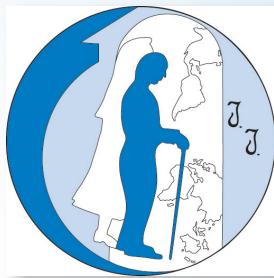
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LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

St. Joseph's Home

Serving the elderly poor in Virginia since 1874

Mission Statement

As Little Sisters of the Poor, 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.



Left: Little Sisters pictured in the 1940's. Right: Sisters Lily, Agathe, and Frances Catherine share a sweet moment with Residents Khieu Dinh, Pat Wilhite, and Cuong Nguyen.

Little Sisters Then & Now

Celebrating 143 years with a peek at the past

As we welcome the season of cooler days, falling leaves, and pumpkin-flavored everything, here at the Home fall brings another meaning. The peak of fall, October, is a month of historical significance to the Little Sisters of the Poor, particularly for this Home. It brings the 225th anniversary of the birth of our foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, her canonization in 2009, as well as the establishment of our Home here in Virginia. This fall, in celebrating our foundress, we want to take a look back at all that has changed over the years, and the woman who is at the heart of our mission.

On October 13th, 1874, "a little band of six ladies" stepped off a train to meet Bishop Gibbons and be escorted to their first home in

Richmond. This moment marked the beginning of 143 years of partnership with the community, caring for Virginia's elderly poor. We are forever in prayerful gratitude to the people of Virginia who have made a commitment of generosity to our Residents, year after year.

Over the years, much has changed here in our Home, from the horse and buggy that once took to the unpaved streets in search of donations for the poor to the white cargo van that drives around the city today. Our physical Home has also changed, as we moved from Harvey Street to Michaels Rd in 1976, to the addition of the Jeanne Jugan pavilion in 2002, offering Residents yet another level of care to meet the

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St. Joseph's Home for the Aged
1503 Michaels Road
Henrico, VA 23229

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Little Sisters of the Poor

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ever-changing needs of the elderly.

As our services and our facility have grown, so too has the community of support that sustains us. With donors and volunteers who have been a part of our story since the beginning to those who have only recently discovered the mission and joined our family, we are blessed by unwavering support. Generations of families throughout the state have dedicated their hearts to the care of the many Residents who come through these doors, and we cannot help but smile to see the legacy of generosity and compassion grow.

Still, with all that has changed over these many years, one thing has remained the same: the spirit of St. Jeanne Jugan that can be felt everywhere in our Home. This fall we celebrate our dear foundress, for everything the Little Sisters do today can be traced back to her. Her dedication, compassionate care, and humble service to the elderly poor is the foundation upon which our Home was built, and guides us each and every day.

As we look back at these 143 years, we cannot help but to look forward, too. Your contributions and prayers bring the light and joy of God's love to our Residents each and every day, and your support ensures a future for Virginia's elderly.

Eyes to the Sky: A Glimpse at Solar History



Left: Sr. Majella helps Resident Jean Robison make sure her eclipse glasses are in place before checking out the sky. Right: Resident Marlies Childs takes a peek at the eclipse while Lou Hopkins awaits her turn.

On Monday, August 21st, people all over the continental United States were able to view a total solar eclipse for the first time since 1979. From total space buffs to curious onlookers, everyone was preparing to check out this rare solar event, and our Residents were excited to get in on the action. With the coveted 'eclipse glasses' selling out fast and only being able to get ahold of one pair, Activities staff planned a special watch party in the auditorium with live coverage, ice cream and refreshments.

Set to begin in Richmond roughly around 1:00pm and conclude around 4:00pm, Residents camped out to watch for the peak moment of eclipse around 2:40pm. While some were content watching the tv coverage from the comfort of their seats, others headed to the patio to take a peek at the real thing.

It was such fun to watch the awed smiles on their faces as they experienced this unique moment of astronomical history.

Clearing Clutter? Let Thrifty Sisters Help!

THRIFTY SISTERS

As you're gearing up for a new season, maybe packing away shorts in favor of jeans and sweaters, do you find yourself thinking of simplifying? Let Thrifty Sisters be your one-stop-shop to find a new 'home' for some old treasures you no longer need, or pick up some new clothes for a great deal!

Items may be donated to the store at 8911 Patterson Ave, in the Maybeury South shopping center. They're open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm. If you have questions about donations email donate@thriftysistersrva.org. Remember, proceeds from the sales of donated items at Thrifty Sisters come to our Home to support the care of our Residents.

Around Our Home



Residents Leona Lewis and Peggy Harris work on their masterpieces, painting a beautiful sunset. On the right, other creative pieces by Resident artists.



Wine and Paint Night

Recently, Residents had a chance to flex their creative muscles for Wine and Paint night, enjoying an evening with friends sipping wine, laughing, and creating a piece of their very own art. Association Jeanne Jugan members provided refreshments, serving glasses of wine, plates of cheese and crackers, and even fresh dipped fruits from the chocolate fountain.

After Paint Night, the canvases were set up on display in the Home outside the chapel and in a sunny hallway for other Residents, visitors, families, and friends to admire. Who knew we had such talented artists right here in our Home!

Leading Age Virginia and Senator Dance Visit



In her mission to learn more about staffing levels and how residents are cared for in assisted living, Senator Rosalyn Dance recently toured our Home. During the 2017 General Assembly, she sponsored legislation requesting the study of staffing levels and ratios

in the assisted living level of care throughout Virginia.

LeadingAge Virginia is working with the Joint Commission on Health Care to study the issue and developed a tour of members assisted living providers to educate the Senator and Commission about the assisted living level of care in various settings. We were so fortunate to have Advisory Board member, Peter Farrell, and leaders from the Department of Social Services and Commission join in the visit.

Welcome to Our Home

This spring and summer have been seasons of change around our Home. As we bid a fond farewell to Sr. Amy, Sr. Kathleen Francis, and Sr. Rosemarie, we welcomed three new smiling faces.

First to arrive was Sr. Lily, who was most recently at the Delaware home. Sr. Lily jumped right in to take over the second floor assisted living. If you have had a chance to meet her, you probably noticed the infectious smile and bubbly personality she brings to everything she does, sharing a little sunshine with our Residents each day.

Next came Sr. Frances Catherine, now our new Begging Sister, who joined us from the Brooklyn Province where she served as the assistant to the Provincial for many years. You may see Sr. Frances Catherine visiting your parish, or out and about in the town begging for the needs of our Residents.

When Sr. Majella's arrival was announced, there was a flurry of excited chatter as employees, Residents, and volunteers alike found out she was the sister of an old friend, Sr. Mary Chantal, who served in our Home previously. Sr. Majella, most recently from the Rhode Island home, has taken over running the Jeanne Jugan Pavilion independent living apartments, and has already begun forming lasting relationships with the Residents.



We are so pleased to welcome Sr. Majella, Sr. Lily, and Sr. Frances Catherine to our family.