

A Simple Note



“Good people will be remembered as a blessing...” This quote from Proverbs 10-7 has a very special message from me to all of you.

As I continue my “Journey in Life,” I am transferring to our Home in Cincinnati, Ohio. Very often, the question is proposed, “What do you mean when you say you have received your ‘Obedience?’ We, as Little Sisters

of the Poor, pronounce the Vows of Poverty, Chastity, Obedience and Hospitality. So when the Lord calls, we follow. As St. Ignatius once said, “Lord, give me your love and grace, that is enough for me.”

It surely was a blessing to have spent a total of 11 years in our Home nestled in the forest, surrounded by nature...so uplifting.

Truly, all of you have been a blessing to me and I hope I have lived up to all your expectations. Let us continue to pray for one another until we meet again!

Allow me to end with these parting words.:

“Happy moments, praise God.
Difficult moments, seek God.
Quiet moments, worship God.
Painful moments, trust God.
Every moment, thank God.”

Mother Marie Edwards

Welcome Sr. Joseph Miriam!



As Little Sisters, we are accustomed to the season’s of change, the comings and goings, the blessing of getting to know new faces and friends and the sorrow of leaving others behind. As our Home enters another season of change and we bid a fond farewell to Mother Marie, we also joyfully welcome new Sisters to our family here. Sr. Joseph Miriam arrived back in early April, and has taken over responsibility for the Jeanne Jugan Pavilion. She is already a wonderful addition to our community. In our next issue, we will introduce our new Mother (arriving in mid-June) and other new Sisters.

We are blessed with the generous support of Allegra Marketing, Print, Mail, who helped us with the printing of this newsletter; Veritiv, who donated the paper; and ColorTree Inc., who donated the printed envelopes. This newsletter would not be possible without them!

Vist us at www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org

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Little Sisters of the Poor
St. Joseph's Home for the Aged
1503 Michaels Road
Henrico, Virginia 23229-4822



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.

Our Home in Virginia

Following St. Jeanne Jugan's example throughout our 144 years in Virginia, the Little Sisters of the Poor have relied on God's Providence, manifested through the kindness of benefactors, to continue our work of caring for the elderly poor. A financial statement is available upon request from the Commonwealth of Virginia Office of Charitable and Regularoty Programs.

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

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Volunteer Mary Freundt takes a break from preparing some delicious crepes to snap a picture with Sister Jeanne Emmanuel.

Cooking Up Awareness

A little rain couldn't come between festivalgoers and their French favorites at this year's 11th Annual RVA French Food Festival. Though Friday night was a bit soggy, Saturday seemed to offer an apology in the form of bright blue skies, sunshine, and perfect spring temperatures.

In the past few years, the theme of the festival has been all about growth—bringing our little event from a simple fundraiser to the major leagues of the Richmond food festival scene. As talk around town has picked up and our marketing efforts increased, the festival has quickly risen in the ranks to be recognized as one of the best in Richmond! With a newfound reputation to maintain, we're consistently looking for new ways to raise the bar, and as a food festival what better way than to add a big cast of talented local chefs to

the mix? This year's line-up featured more chefs than ever (10 total!), and each one brought a unique spin on French culinary tradition. We are incredibly grateful for the gift of their time and expertise, and the new dimension their dishes brought to the festival!

Though it can sometimes be easy to get caught up in the excitement of a 'take home' figure (and believe us, every dollar counts when it comes to caring for our Residents), the festival is so much more than the money it raises. It is about the young woman snacking on a baguette and remarking to her friend, "I had no idea it was this big, I thought the Little Sisters was that little house on the corner." It is about the high schooler who comes to fulfill their volunteer hours and stumbles into a conversation with a Sister, leaving with

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Little Sisters of the Poor



Resident Barbara Johnson enjoys a special delivery of steaming hot shrimp and grits from Chef Sean Murphy himself while sitting with friends in the dining tent.

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a new understanding of religious life. For every person who reads a newspaper article about the festival, thinks, “Just who are these Little Sisters of the Poor, anyway?” and pulls up our website to find out more. Even new councils of the Knights of Columbus who, after investing their time to volunteer for the festival, feel a stronger connection to the Home, and begin to contribute in other ways too, like bringing roses for Residents for Mother’s Day. These opportunities to connect with the community, to share the message of Jeanne Jugan and how we are living her mission here in Virginia, are truly priceless.

As always, we would be remiss if we did not thank our faithful Grand Event

Sponsor Page Auto Group, who has so generously supported the festival for many years. You may see the flashy display cars that are always crowd favorites or their name on our sponsor banner and think that is the extent of their presence at the festival, but their impact is much larger. What you will not see their name on is the truckloads of ingredients for the food, the paper products, the advertising, or countless other things that their sponsorship dollars help to pay for. We are blessed with the support of so many others in our community as well, from monetary sponsorships to in kind donations. Without the support of each and every one, this festival would truly not be what is today, and we are so grateful. Until next year, merci mes amis!

FRENCH FOOD FESTIVAL

Connecting All Things French in Richmond

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Our Apologies...

As you read this newsletter, you may have been wondering if you missed our late winter/spring newsletter, so we wanted to take a moment to offer our apologies and explanation. In February, our Development Secretary accepted an offer for a position outside of the Little Sisters, and unfortunately, at the same time our Development Director had to take an unexpected absence due to a family medical emergency. Having been very short staffed (we are only a three person office!), and with the French Food Festival approaching, we were not able to get a spring newsletter out as we usually do. Similarly, the staffing shortage did cause some delays in our

standard gift processing procedure, and we were unable to give the prompt attention and quick turnaround our donors deserve. For this we wish to offer our sincerest apologies, and assure you that our tardiness in acknowledging gifts was not a reflection on the level of our gratitude. We remain exceedingly grateful for your kindness and generosity, and know that we could not provide for our dear Residents without you. Thank you for your continued support and patience as we have navigated a difficult situation, and please be assured we have worked very hard to get back to our normal procedures and timelines going forward.

Around Our Home



Left: Activities Director Brenda Hooker shares a sunny afternoon in Deltaville with Resident Ruth Anne Blakely. Right: Resident Julia Foster proudly shows off a batch of vibrant, freshly dyed Easter eggs.

Fun-Filled Days

When Residents come to live here at our Home, they're not just getting a warm bed and three meals a day—life here at the Little Sisters of the Poor means nurturing each person's physical, spiritual, and mental health. This comes in many forms, but when it comes to socializing, engaging, and having fun, our Activities team is on the job! It's no easy task developing a program that works for nearly 100 people of different abilities and interests, but they're always up for the challenge, with each month filled with recurring favorites as well as new and exciting opportunities.

Since our last newsletter Residents have done everything from playing Pokemo and Bingo, to making stained glass jars, painted hearts, and dyed Easter eggs, to even going out for a gorgeous late spring trip to Deltaville or a more laid back day at the movies and out to lunch at Joe's Inn. When you make a donation, we hope the joy our Residents experience through these activities bounces back to you—without you, none of this would be possible!

THRIFTY SISTERS

If you haven't already had the pleasure, be sure to visit our friends at Thrifty Sisters. The volunteer-run thrift shop that benefits our elderly residents has expanded, offering more unique finds than ever! Since December of 2012 Thrifty Sisters has been steadily climbing the ranks to become one of Richmond's BEST thrift stores, and one peek inside will show that reputation is well deserved.

To keep inventory fresh and interesting, the shop is always looking for donations of lovingly kept furniture, clothing, jewelry, and decor. Finished spring cleaning? Bring the very best from your 'giveaway' pile to Thrifty Sisters and let your gently used items find a fresh life and new home!

Thrifty Sisters
8911 Patterson Avenue
Henrico, VA 23229

Open Tue - Sat, 10am to 4pm
804-658-4153
www.thriftysistersrva.org



Ways To Give



Recurring donation - If you donate online, you can choose to schedule donations to automatically repeat at a frequency of your choosing.



Matching gifts - Check with your employer to see if they offer a matching gift program to increase the impact of your gift.



AmazonSmile - Sign up for AmazonSmile and designate LSP as your charity, and a portion of every purchase will be donated to us!



Gifts of stock - Yes, we do accept gifts of stock! Contact devrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org for more information on how to make a transfer.



Memorials or honorariums - Gifts may be made in memory of a loved one, to honor a special person in your life, or to recognize a significant anniversary or achievement.



Gifts in Kind - Interested in donating goods or services? Contact Sr. Rose Marie at 804-248-0101 to find out more about our needs and limitations on what we can accept.