

A Simple Note

Dear Friends,

As I pondered what message the good Lord wanted me to convey to you, I came across the following quote by St. Thomas of Villanova.

“If you want God to hear your prayers, hear the voice of the poor. If you wish God to anticipate your wants, provide those of the needy without waiting for them to ask you”



So many of you thanked us for caring for Fr. Robert Lange, who spent his religious life serving in the Diocese of Arlington. It was an honor to be able to help a priest at the hour of his death, that last earthly encounter with the Lord. It was Father's final desire to die at the Little Sisters of the Poor. Many graces were bestowed upon us through his presence here with us.

Sr. Ophelia and I recently took advantage of a great opportunity to visit the College of William and Mary. One of the students is contemplating a religious vocation so we ask you to join us to ask the “Lord of the Harvest” to send workers into His vineyard. We pray more young women will hear the “call” to follow in the footsteps of our foundress St. Jeanne Jugan. With God, all things are possible.

As always, we assure you of our daily prayers and those of our dear Residents for strength to continue your “Journey” in the Lord's embrace. God bless your faithful support of the Elderly Poor.

Yours in Christ,
Mother Marie Edward,lsp

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Jeanne Jugan's Feast Day**
Sunday, August 30, 2015
- **International Festival**
Saturday, September 26, 2015
Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
Monroe Park
- **38th Annual Christmas Bazaar**
Saturday, November 14, 2015
9:00am-2:00pm
1503 Michaels Rd
- **42nd Annual Benefit Dinner**
Thursday, February 11, 2016
The Commonwealth Club
- **8th Annual French Food Festival**
Friday April 29 - Saturday 30, 2016
1503 Michaels Rd

We are blessed with the generous support of Printing Services Inc., who helped us with the printing of this newsletter; xpedx, 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 23229-4899



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 137 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 Consumer Affairs.



Walkways were a sea of umbrellas as the rain fell, but spirits were high, the bread was hot, and the bands were playing some toe-tapping tunes! Visit our blog at www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org/index/blog for more!

Rain Can't Dampen the Fun at the French Food Festival

Thousands show up in cold and rainy weather to show their support and savor tasty French dishes

Despite persistent rain and cooler than average temperatures, crowds huddled under umbrellas meandered through the grounds during this year's RVA French Food Festival. In its seventh year, the festival underwent tremendous expansion in food offerings, with the addition of six fantastic new chefs from local restaurants who, along with returning Chef Sean from The Savory Grain, donated their talents to create unique, French-inspired dishes.

Of course, devoted festivalgoers were quick to snag their favorites from Master Chef Paul Elbling, whose delicious regional entrees have delighted the masses for years. Sister Teresa prepared two thousand of her famous cream puffs this year, doubling last year's numbers, and still sold out!

We were humbled and honored by all

of the hard work of everyone involved in making this event such a success and by the thousands of loyal attendees who showed up in the rain to support the care of our wonderful Residents.

We are thankful for the support of all of our sponsors, especially Grand Event Sponsors Bon Secours and Page Auto Group, as their contributions provide for the foundations of this great festival. If you missed it this year, mark your calendar for the last Saturday in April next year when we will be back with even more fun!

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

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Little Sisters of the Poor



In her time at our home, Sister Teresa has touched the lives of many Residents and created lasting relationships. Above, she shares a moment of conversation in a busy day with Residents Irene Ramsey and Rosemary Miserendino.

A Shining Diamond: Celebrating Sister Teresa's 60th Jubilee

This June we are happy to recognize Sister Teresa's Diamond Jubilee of Religious Profession, signifying her commitment of 60 years of service to the Little Sisters of the Poor. It is a joyous time around our home as we celebrate Sister Teresa's countless contributions to the Elderly Poor and the spirit of generosity which she brings to us all.

Sister Teresa was born in Segovia, Spain, a city that is home to one of the last Gothic cathedrals built in Spain and Europe, the gorgeous Segovia Cathedral. In 1955, Sister began her spiritual journey with her first profession of vows. Only one year later, she came to America to begin her work as a

Little Sister at the Jeanne Jugan Residence in Somerville, Massachusetts. Upon her arrival, Sister set to work learning a new language, as she knew not even a word of English. She went on to make her final profession in 1959.

Through the years, Sister Teresa has served in numerous homes in America, including New York, Connecticut, and even the opening of the home in Gallup, New Mexico, as well as in France. She arrived here at our home in 2004, and has continued to be a great blessing to our Residents these last eleven years.

The true embodiment of humility, when told we were writing an article for the newsletter on the occasion, Sister Teresa

kindly asked that we not make a fuss over her. This is a true representation of her kindhearted nature, always helping and serving the needs of others quietly and without desire for recognition. When asked what she has enjoyed most about her time as a Little Sister, she didn't hesitate to say that it was her conversations with the Residents, though in true Sister Teresa style she laughed and added, "And cooking!" If you have had the pleasure of enjoying one of her signature cream puffs at our RVA French Food Festival, you have surely tasted the love she puts into her cooking. We are truly blessed by her kindness and commitment to living the mission of our foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan.

Please pray for vocations so that we may continue to care for the Elderly Poor throughout the world. We would like to encourage any young woman interested in discerning her call to spiritual life to contact Sr. Ophelia at 804-248-0101.



Sister's Cream Puffs have quickly become a favorite, with scores of people waiting all year to grab one at the French Food Festival before they sell out. Above, she shows off a delicious batch fresh from the kitchen.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE!

Enjoy catching up with all the exciting things happening around our home? Don't want to wait for the next newsletter to get your dose of Little Sisters cheer? Well, then head on over to our website at www.littlesistersofthepoorVirginia.org to see fun new content on our blog!

In past years we have not truly taken advantage of the opportunity the

blog allows us to help our friends and benefactors to stay connected with our home, but we are reinvigorating our efforts and we hope you will join us in this journey.

Bookmark our page and check back weekly for pictures, stories, and updates of what is happening at the Little Sisters.

Around Our Home



Penelope brought her signature brand of puppet cheer to our home for Mother's Day. Here, Residents Grace Brooks and Edith Hendrickson light up as they appreciate the gift of a pretty pink rose from their puppet friend.

Sundaes on Sunday: A Mother's Day Sensation

Mother's Day was a day filled with laughter, joy, puppetry, and ice cream here in our home—a beautiful celebration of the lovely women who give so generously and lovingly to their children and families. Caroline Hendrix, a hospice aid and volunteer, provided the entertainment for the party with a visit from the fun and quirky puppet Penelope.

Residents filled their bowls with their favorite ice cream concoctions from a variety of fun toppings and settled in to catch the show. Penelope recounted a tale that was at times solemn, but with the thread of an

important moral running through it, centering on the struggles of a young woman who faces obstacles that are all too relatable. The show reminded all of an important message that is so simple that we are apt to forget in our lives: "Stay true to yourself." Laughter was in no short supply during the story, however, as Penelope provided Residents with quick quips and humorous commentary.

At the conclusion of the story, Residents grinned appreciatively as Penelope made her way around the room, handing out lovely pink roses accompanied by a signed note from the puppet herself. It was a beautiful afternoon for all, reminding us to take a moment to celebrate the blessing that is a mother.

Writing a Will? Please Remember the Little Sisters

As many of you know, we do not have an endowment, and instead choose to rely on the miracle of Divine Providence and the generous charity of others to provide for the needs of the Residents. With necessary expenses continually rising, it is your legacy gifts that allow us to make renovations to our aging building and replace outdated equipment. If you would like information about including the Little Sisters of the Poor in your will, please contact Christy Heinen at 804-377-4627 or by email at devrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org.



Up, up, and away! A crane lifts the new HVAC unit to place it in the chapel. Costly renovation projects such as this one are made possible by the generous legacy gifts we receive from donors like you.

Paving the Way at LSP

Exciting changes are coming to our home this summer! As many of you may know, the Mother's Challenge for this year's Annual Dinner raised \$119,000 toward the resurfacing of the entire blacktop around the Little Sisters' property. This includes the entirety of the parking lot as well as the walkway behind the building, both areas desperately in need of repair. Construction on the project is set to begin late this summer.

In addition to the new blacktop, we are still in the midst of our project to replace the HVAC system in the chapel, funded in part by last year's Mother's Challenge. After the chapel was moved to its temporary location in the auditorium, workers began their task of completely removing and replacing the old system. We were even lucky enough to snap a few pictures of our shiny new HVAC unit being lowered into place by a crane, and we anxiously await the first test drive!

We are so grateful to all the generous donors, including those who remembered us in their wills, whose gifts enabled us to have the remaining funds needed to proceed with these ventures. It is an important step in our continual journey to provide our Residents with a safe, comfortable, and happy environment, and we are blessed with the support of our community to make the necessary renovations.