



Feast of St. Jeanne Jugan

August 30th is the Feast of the Little Sisters' Mother Foundress St. Jeanne Jugan. Each day in the week leading up to the Feast Day a set of two Sisters collaborated to present about an aspect of St. Jeanne Jugan's life and spirituality. These daily 3pm "news breaks" were live streamed through the home's newly installed auditorium audio and video system.

One day involved a virtual tour of our home, another was a rosary with specific meditations about St. Jeanne Jugan. There were also skits portraying the early days of begging, information about the international homes, a visit from Heaven of three Sisters who had lived with St. Jeanne Jugan at the motherhouse and a focus on Father Lelievre for his role in spreading the mission to America and beyond.

During her presentation Sister Amy beautifully summarized the example of St. Jeanne Jugan. "The real miracle of God's Divine Providence is the fact that God chose a poor, simple, uneducated, unknown woman to begin this beautiful mission of caring for the elderly throughout the world. When you consider that St. Jeanne Jugan never wrote any books or writings, and left



Sister Amy and Resident Jeanne Mannella with St. Jeanne Jugan (statue on left) and Father Ernest Lelievre (portrait on right).

only one signature, yet her magnanimous personality and holiness radiated from her very being....Jesus gave the example and Jeanne followed it. The same way that our love should lead us little by little to a conversion that transforms us, renders our heart more like that of our Lord and makes us embrace His Feelings, and His Desires. With serene confidence in God's will St. Jeanne Jugan reminded us that 'If God is with us, it will be accomplished.'"

Welcome Back Sister Rosemarie

Part of the life of being a Little Sister and taking the vow of obedience is that one never knows your next assignment. Occasionally a Sister's obedience returns her to a home where she previously served. This summer that very situation happened for Sister Rosemarie Thomas. In the mid-2000s she was first assigned to the Pittsburgh home as the Collecting Sister. She spent over five years going out on the daily collection rounds to the markets and local businesses, making countless friends along the way.

After her time here in Pittsburgh she was assigned to various homes throughout the United States. This summer she made her return to this home and it has



Sister Rosemarie and Sister Margaret Angeline with kneeling Father Tom Burke Pastor of Sts. Joachim and Anne Parish.

truly felt like a homecoming. Although she has lived all over the world, Sister Rosemarie remembers many of the Pittsburgh friends and benefactors from before. In fact, there are even multiple Residents still living at the home from the last time Sister was assigned here.

"It is a joy to return to Pittsburgh. While I may have spent time away, I never forgot the good people of this beautiful Black and Gold city!" shared Sister Rosemarie.

You might have the opportunity to meet Sister during a weekend church collection within this Diocese. She, along with Sister Margaret Angeline and their volunteers, visit a different Parish nearly every weekend. Please stop by and welcome her back to the Burgh!

Christmas In July

July 25th was our *Christmas in July* celebration. This year it was also Residents' Day! In the week leading up to the 25th the nursing households were decorated with red and green. Activities all week long had a Christmas theme including baking and decorating



Resident Judy Watts making cookies in her Christmas flare.

Christmas cookies and the chime choir performing a sing-a-long of Christmas carols.

Residents' Day included Christmas Bingo in the morning and in the afternoon a household-wide celebration. Residents were paired with a volunteer or staff



Resident Mary Jeanne Miller with volunteers Carol Burns, Diana Rockey and Darla McCarthy.

member to visit each household where they played holiday themed games or activities. Along the way they collected "nice list tokens" that were exchangeable for prizes in "Santa's workshop." The day was complete with an appearance by Santa!



Resident Florence Sullivan with Mother Loraine & volunteer Judy Bendtsen fishing for candy canes.

Gateway Clipper Outing

"So many people were happy on August 14, 2025. It will always be a special day in our hearts. Thank you,"
-Resident Cathy Vonderau.

"This was my first time going to the Clipper and I had a wonderful time. The food was great and the dancing



Resident Joael Altdorfer dancing with her son.

was a lot of fun. I hope to go again next year." - Resident Jeanne Mannella.

"The Gateway Clipper is one of our home's biggest highlights. I try not to ever miss it!"-Resident Maureen Deringer

As you can read from the quotes above the annual summer cruise on the Gateway Clipper was once again a huge success!

Through the help of a benefactor, the Sisters chartered an entire boat for a luncheon cruise. Over 90 Residents with family, Sisters, volunteers and staff boarded the Empress river boat to cruise Pittsburgh's scenic three rivers. Following a delicious buffet luncheon, the Doo Wop Doctors provided musical entertainment. The favorite song that filled the dance floor was the Chicken Dance! Everyone, including those in wheelchairs joined in the fun! The terrific outing put a smile on everyone's faces! Thank you to the benefactor who donated the funds to make this day possible and to everyone who helped to ensure a perfect trip!



Resident Antonette Natto with her niece Toni Schipani waiting to board the boat.

Spotlight on Volunteers

Volunteers truly help our home run on a daily basis. From helping in the kitchen to planting in the garden and spending time with Residents; our volunteers go above and beyond to make a difference in this home. During the summer we were blessed by numerous visits from eager volunteer youth organizations ready to offer their time to help the Residents.

A dedicated youth hockey team visited multiple times to volunteer in the yard moving stones and weeding the gardens. Their youthful energy was appreciated and helped to keep the grounds looking vibrant!

We were also lucky to have



Christ the King Youth Group with Sisters and Residents following their bowling activity.

both high school and middle school groups from Christ the King Parish visit several times this summer to play bingo with the Residents, go bowling and attend Mass. The interactions of the aged with the young is a wonderful addition to our working days!

If you know a group interested in volunteering, contact Volunteer Coordinator Valerie Beam at volpittsburgh@littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org.

A NOTE FROM MOTHER

As our Mother Foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan, often noted, this mission of caring for the elderly poor was hers, but could only be



accomplished with the help of many others. When we celebrated her Feast Day on August 30th at our home, we prayed for our mission and in doing so prayed for each and every one who has stepped up to help our Residents in large and small ways!

Here is one example of the many ways we are blessed by your support. Recently a man came to our front desk with a full small plastic bag. It was filled with a generous donation—the remainder from his deceased mother's bank account. He asked for nothing more than prayers for his mother, Marian, and shared that she was always fond of the Little Sisters.

Moments of Divine Providence like this occur often at our home. We are grateful for the support from so many and are honored to continue our care of our elderly Residents with the same compassion and respect set forth by the examples of St. Jeanne Jugan. Thank you for your role in helping us to carry out this mission! As we continue through this Jubilee Year of Hope we will continue to pray for all our friends and benefactors!

Mother Loraine Marie Clare

Summertime Fun!

Each month the Residents of the Pavilion compose a poem capturing the season or holiday. This July they created this lovely piece of work entitled "Good Old Summertime":

"Under a canopy of leaves, listening to Frank Sinatra's Summer Breeze, that's when life was simpler, people were happy with simple things, you could pack a basket with a jug of lemonade and go to the beach or the park, kids ran around with nothing playing kick-the-can watching local musicians at the bandstand free to the public because we love our community"

-Jeanne Jugan Pavilion Residents.

What a wonderful summer! We even had a visit from Millie's Ice Cream Truck one evening sponsored by a former Resident's family! All the activities, outings and joy are because so many of you support the Little Sisters' mission.



Resident Anne Brennen enjoys her ice cream sundae from the Millie's Ice Cream Truck.

If you would like more information on how to support our work including giving a QCD through your IRA or workplace giving please visit our website www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org, call us at (412) 307-1268 or scan the QR code below. Thank you!

Save the Date

■ Following our September 19th & 20th **Holiday Boutique 9am-3pm** Unique & beautiful items made at the home will be posted online for purchase

■ November 11th **Big Cash Raffle** (*tickets were mailed in August. Contact us if you'd like more.*)

■ December 2nd **Giving Tuesday**

Please remember the Little Sisters in your will or estate plans.



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.