

Society

A community making a difference in the lives of others

Angels raise funds for San Pedro's Little Sisters of the Poor



Frank Brown, Peninsula News

Black Seems de Rigueur Shown above, from left, are the pastor of Holy Trinity Parish, Msgr. Joe Brennan, Little Sisters of the Poor Auxiliary President Marie Treacy and Rev. Jim Bevacqua, former associate pastor of Holy Trinity Parish.

By Frank Brown
Peninsula News

On Saturday, Sept. 19, Marie Treacy of Rancho Palos Verdes, president of the Little Sisters of the Poor Auxiliary, said there was stressful planning that went into the group's annual fundraiser for nuns who nurse the elderly poor.

"We worried about Terranea opening — in faith, it opened. Then we worried about Terranea closing — in faith, it didn't," she said.

"But how could it have turned out any other way, with our precious Little Sisters storming heaven with their prayers for us? ... We've learned much from the Sisters and their foundress, Jeanne Jugan, about what it means to have simple

faith and full trust in God."

An audience of 330 supporters from San Pedro and the Peninsula was there to give an earthly helping hand to God's work with a live auction. The Women's Auxiliary board and event committee was headed by Lynn Andries and Maria Smith.

Little Sisters' Mother Marguerite spoke about Jugan. The French-born Jugan founded what became known as Little Sisters of the Poor in the 19th century. She will be honored on Sunday, Oct. 11 when Pope Benedict XVI canonizes her as a saint.

"There is a delegation from the area going to Rome for the event," said Mother Marguerite.

"You may watch the ceremony on the Eternal

Word Television Network and you are welcome to join us in our chapel on Oct. 11 for a 10:30 a.m. Mass, to be celebrated by Bishop Joseph Sartoris."

Auxiliary member Kathy Gordon said, "Now we have a saint for the elderly, an important thing for a rapidly aging population."

Development Director Rita Swartz said, "The best part of an Auxiliary event is seeing the Little Sisters who are always amazed and grateful for the fun and generosity that surrounds the auction."

To contribute to the Little Sisters, visit www.lpsocal.org or call (310) 548-0625.

— Pat Brown contributed to this article.



Frank Brown, Peninsula News

The Long and the Short of It From left are Mickey Rodich, Sister Caroline, David Shirley, and Traci and John Mastandrea, who were at Terranea to support the nuns.



Pat Brown, Peninsula News

Quick-change Artists Fresh from the soccer field and among the younger crowd are, from left, Darren and Mary Ellen Haworth, Suzie Wolfrum and Damir Kucar.



Photo courtesy of Little Sisters of the Poor Auxiliary

Little Sisters of the Poor Seated in the front row are Srs. Genevieve, Winefrid and Anthony. Standing in the back row are Sr. Clotilde, Mother Marguerite and Srs. Maria Guadalupe, Caroline, Maureen and Michael. These women are among 2,700 Little Sisters who serve the elderly poor in more than 200 homes in 32 countries.



Pat Brown, Peninsula News

Getting the Word Out Sister Maria helps the fundraiser's auctioneer get bids on a Disneyland adventure.



Pat Brown, Peninsula News

Dinner for Eight A live-auction item, billed as a "value priceless" dinner party, will be prepared by three priests and served in their rectory. The winning bidder is promised "excellent food, beverages and entertainment." Msgr. Joe said he will sing.