

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Time & Life

Jeanne Jugan Residence, San Pedro, CA

SEPTEMBER
2011



Residents Ramon and Dolores Grijalva never miss an activity. They live life to the fullest and continue to share their gifts. They recently enjoyed their 69th wedding anniversary. On September 1, 2011, Ramon will celebrate his 100th birthday.



Flora Peralta remains active by caring for her beautiful begonias growing on her patio. She also enjoys making rosaries which she gladly gives away. She will celebrate her 100th birthday on 11/11/11.

THE EXAMPLE OF ST. JEANNE JUGAN

On August 30th, we celebrated the Feast Day of St. Jeanne Jugan, recognizing her as the “saint for old age and every age.”

Her apostolate of service to the elderly and trust in God is just as relevant today as it was in her time. Jeanne gave herself entirely to the elderly poor, and lived out her belief that every life has value, regardless of age or financial status. She encouraged her aged brothers and sisters to live life to the fullest and to use their gifts as long as possible.

As the elderly population continues to grow and dignity at the end of life is increasingly threatened, Jeanne Jugan’s message of respect for life is more important today than ever. In confirmation of her message, one need only read the recent statement by the US bishops entitled “To Live Each Day with Dignity.”*



Henrietta Gomes turned 97 on June 16, 2011. She enjoys reading the newspaper everyday and is pleased to be living at the Little Sisters of the Poor. “It’s just a wonderful place for me. I could not be happier,” she states.

The statement affirms that “a caring community devotes more attention, not less, to members facing the most vulnerable times in their lives. When people are tempted to see their own lives as diminished in value or meaning, they most need the love and assistance of others to assure them of their inherent worth.”

“When we grow old or sick and we are tempted to lose heart, we should be surrounded by people who ask ‘How can we help?’. We deserve to grow old in a society that views our cares and needs with a compassion grounded in respect, offering genuine support in our final days,” the bishops conclude.

According to Mother Paul, “We are blessed to have St. Jeanne Jugan as an example of compassion and love for the elderly. It is a privilege to give witness to her legacy in our own Home by giving our Residents the comfort, safety, and care they so rightly deserve.”

St. Jeanne Jugan is a shining example of faith, kindness, and humility to everyone. We are grateful for her wisdom and simple goodness. Let us rejoice, especially on her feast day, that we all, along with the elderly, have a faithful friend and intercessor for our many petitions.

Saint Jeanne Jugan
Foundress of the
Little Sisters of the Poor
1792-1879

Canonized on October 11, 2009

*The full statement can be seen at: www.usccb.org/toliveeachday/bishops-statement-physician-assisted-suicide.pdf

THE AUXILIARY EVENT

A TRIBUTE TO OUR HERITAGE OF HOSPITALITY

The Auxiliary of the Little Sisters of the Poor hosted their 14th annual fundraising event on Saturday, June 25, 2011 at the Virginia Country Club in Long Beach. "The Virginia Country Club proudly features its founding year of 1909 and it was only a few years before that, in 1905, that the Little Sisters of the Poor arrived in Los Angeles," explained Maria Smith, Auxiliary President in her opening remarks.

The event theme of *Heritage of Hospitality* gave special recognition to the Little Sisters of the Poor who each consecrates her life exclusively to the service of the elderly poor by taking the special vow of hospitality. According to Rita Swartz, Event Co-chair, "As Auxiliary members, we witness how the

Sisters welcome the elderly into their home and form one family with them. We see the Sisters accompany the elderly day to day and care for them with love and respect until God calls them home."

To support the work of the Little Sisters, the event included the *Choir of Angels* appeal, a silent and live auction and an opportunity drawing. Through these options, benefactors joined the Auxiliary in giving \$260,000 to the Little Sisters for their work.

Thank you to the Auxiliary for enthusiastically organizing this wonderful event and to our benefactors for generously supporting our work. The Little Sisters & Residents assure you of our prayers of gratitude.

Captions

1. Rita Swartz & Dawn Sliskovich, Event co-chairs.
2. Sr. Paul with Dr. Carl Mossberg & Msgr. Joe Brennan, pastor of Holy Trinity.
3. Donald and Georgette Mareina with Sr. Maureen.
4. Auction Co-chair Peggy DiLeva with Fr. John Provenza, pastor of Mary Star of the Sea.
5. President Maria Smith with Sr. Caroline & Sr. John Elise.
6. Auction Co-chair Marie Treacy with Fr. Frank Hicks, administrator of St. Basil.
7. The Trujillo table.
8. Kathy Mallano & Marie Poole.
9. The O'Brien table.

With gratitude to David Nicholson Photography for the event photos!



“WHAT HAPPINESS FOR US, TO BE A LITTLE SISTER OF THE POOR!”

ST. JEANNE JUGAN

CONGRATULATIONS TO SR. CLOTILDE ON HER GOLDEN JUBILEE

Sr. Clotilde de la Passion celebrated her 50th anniversary of profession as a Little Sister of the Poor on July 23. Bishop Edward Clark celebrated Mass which included the renewal of vows. (#1)

Sr. Clotilde chose to dedicate her jubilee to Our Lady of Fatima. Both of her parents were from the Madeira Islands of Portugal. From them she learned a special devotion to Our Lady of Fatima which she and her family holds very dear to their hearts. Her brothers George and Philip and sister Judy along with other family members joined the celebration. (#3)

Mass was followed by a delicious dinner including jubilee cake (#4).

“The entertainment theme for her party was Disneyland,” explains Bing Vargas, Activities Director. “It is her favorite place to visit. We had the full cast – Pirates of the Caribbean (#5), the Seven Dwarfs, the Mickey Mouse Club, and more (#6).” The Residents, Volunteers, Association Jeanne Jugan members, and Auxiliary all participated in the production which concluded with “It’s a Small World” featuring the cast wearing traditional ethnic fashions. (#7)

Sr. Clotilde was born the first of four children in Newark, New Jersey. The family soon moved to Oakland, CA, joined St. Lawrence O’Toole Parish and became active in the local Portuguese Lodge. Sr. Clotilde was educated and guided in her faith by the Adrian Dominican Sisters. During high school, she became a Marian Aid volunteering at the home of the Little Sisters of the Poor in Oakland. Over the ensuing months, she became more and more attracted to the community and prayer life of the Little Sisters and decided to join the order. She was professed on June 13, 1961. Since then, she has served in 23 Homes.

Congratulations, Sr. Clotilde. We thank you for your friendship and many years of service as a Little Sister of the Poor.



THE BLESSING OF NEW VOCATIONS

After an eight day retreat to prepare for a joyful and serious commitment in their lives, on Friday July 15th, seven young women from three countries entered our novitiate in Queens Village. They received their white veils and religious names. The Sisters chose their own names, which often reflect their personal devotions or may be related to a beloved family member. As novices they will complete a two-year period of prayer and study, culminating in temporary profession of vows.

As exciting as Friday was, Saturday brought more joy when four novices made their first profession of vows. The ceremony was presided by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput O.F.M., Cap, Administrator of the Archdiocese of Denver, who will be installed as the 9th Archbishop of Philadelphia on September 8th.

Archbishop Chaput was delighted to witness this special day for one of his own, Sister Mary Alexandra, who is from Colorado.

The profession Mass was especially beautiful with accents from different cultures. Readings and songs in Tongan and Korean were included, and our Korean Little

Sister pronounced her vows in her native language so that her mother would understand. In a first-ever, Archbishop Chaput initiated applause after each Little Sister pronounced her vows.

Picture left to right with Archbishop Chaput are Sister Mary Alexandra, from the Rocky Mountain Stat who will serve in Newark, Delaware.

Sister Gemma de la Croix, a native of Evansville Indiana, will begin her life as a Little Sister in San Pedro, California. We look forward to welcoming her and supporting her as she begins her service with us.

Sister Marie Agnes de la Croix, Korean, will also return to her home province, as well as her native country. She will serve in Suwon, South Korea.

Sister Ana Malia Benedict, a native of Tonga, will be returning to her home province, where she will be assigned to our home in Sydney, Australia.

Blessed be God for these new novices and Little Sisters! Please keep up your prayers for many fervent and generous vocations to our community!

For more information about vocations to the Little Sisters of the Poor, please contact Sr. Caroline.

www.vcsanpedro@littlesistersofthepoor.org



Little Sisters of the Poor
Holiday Boutique
Shopping Plaza
& Food Court

Saturday
October 22, 2011
10:00am - 5:00pm
Italian Bistro 11:00 to 6:00 pm

Don't miss our annual Holiday Boutique. See the enclosed flyer for details and for a list of our sponsors and in-kind donations.



Visit www.littlesistersofthepoorsanpedro.org