

# Little Sisters of the Poor

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME



Serving the elderly  
poor in Louisville  
since 1869.

*Mother Chantal presenting a pin to Donald Wright for 5 years of service.*

## SAVE THE DATES

23rd Annual  
**Dessert & Card Party**  
August 1st

23rd Annual  
**LSP Golf Scramble**  
September 14th

24th Annual  
**Holiday Festival**  
November 22nd

## It takes a village

A common phrase used when raising a child is that “it takes a village.” No one person can do it alone. The same holds true today with caring for the Residents at St. Joseph’s Home. There was a time in the history of the Little Sisters of the Poor that the Sisters did every task surrounding the care of their precious Residents; whether it was to cook the meals, wash the clothes, or feed and care for the infirm. Today, you will find lay staff working alongside the Little Sisters in almost every aspect of the home.

Recently, the Little Sisters brought the staff together for an appreciation reception where numerous employees were acknowledged for their loyalty and longevity. Many of the staff received recognition for 10 and 20 years of service.

When asked how she feels about working at St. Joseph’s, Mary Amback responded, “Watching the love and devotion of the Little Sisters with the

Residents as they make their journey ‘Home’ has strengthened my faith, and I am no longer afraid when I think of making the journey ‘home’ myself.”

Mary’s husband Charles also works at St. Joseph’s. “When my father died, the Little Sisters and staff of the home treated me like family,” he reflected. “It made losing my Dad so much easier.”

Maria Bertrand, who has been associated with the home since childhood, appreciates the Little Sisters’ values. “I grew up volunteering with my family at St. Joseph’s Home. Now, as a married mother of two, working for the Little Sisters gives me an opportunity to share their values with my boys and continue the tradition my parents started with me,” she said. “The Residents have watched me grow up, get married and have children. It is wonderful for my kids to have so many adopted grandparents who love them.”



# Little Sisters of the Poor

## Young At Art!

*Young At Art* is what artist Ben Reynolds calls his LSP Resident art class, which meets once a month. Participants learn to paint free-handed with acrylic paints. “You are never too old to learn” may sound like a cliché, but to the students in this class, ages 65 to 102, it is a real experience. Ben started volunteering his time to teach our eager artists this past January. The class is made possible by donated art supplies. With its meager beginning of four students, it has grown to more than 15 eager artists in only four months! We predict that Ben will have the whole Home whirling paint brushes by fall!

KET’s Bob Shrader brought the

show, *Bluegrass and Backroads*, to St. Joseph’s Home as part of their story about Ben and his work as an artist. *Bluegrass and Backroads* is a long-running series from the Kentucky Farm Bureau that highlights the places and people that make Kentucky special. We already knew Ben was special and are delighted that KET included a segment with him teaching at St. Joseph’s as part of their program. We are looking forward to viewing ourselves on *Bluegrass and Backroads* in September when the episode airs. Thank you, Ben, for making the Residents a special part of your life’s journey.



*With a steady hand, Ben helps our Residents bring their canvases to life*



*The Syl Nitzken Group performs annually at the Turtle Derby!*

## It's Turtle Derby Time!

Not to be outdone by the pageantry and beauty of the Kentucky Derby, “the fastest two minutes in sports,” the young and young at heart were treated to a festive day of heart-pounding racing action, as the red-veined turtles took the track for the “slowest two minutes in sports,” or the 23rd Annual Turtle Derby and Chicken Dinner.

Thanks to the wonderful support of the local community and the hard work of our volunteers and staff, this year’s Turtle Derby will go into the Little Sisters’ history book as a great success! The day was filled with sunshine and happy faces as participants strolled through Grandma’s Attic, shopped a plethora crafts, listened to live music, ate delicious fried chicken, and, of course, cheered on their favorite turtle! The Little Sisters hope you will join us again next year when the turtles once again take the track for the 24th running of the Turtle Derby as we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Little Sisters’ return to Louisville!



## A Little Sister's "To Do" list

If you ask a Little Sister, "What is the most important thing you will do today?" her answer may surprise you. You might think it would be to take a Resident to the doctor, or help a Resident with a bath or a meal. As important and as big a part of a Little Sister's day all of those things are, at the top of the list is prayer. Prayer is the lifeblood of being a Little Sister of the Poor. Through the strength and guidance received in prayer, a Little Sister goes forth to serve in direct care of the sick, do the laundry, cook or simply hold the hand of a frail and dying Resident. St. Jeanne Jugan once told the novices when they were struggling, "Jesus is waiting for you in the chapel. Go and find him when your strength and patience are giving out, when you feel lonely and helpless. Say to him: You know well what is happening, my



dear Jesus. I have only you. Come to my aid ... And then go your way. And don't worry about knowing how you are going to manage. It is enough to have told Our good Lord. He has an

excellent memory."

Through prayer we find peace, strength and guidance. The Little Sisters pray for your needs and intentions each and every day. May you be blessed!

## Resident's Week!

### Every day is a holiday

When you live or work at St. Joseph's Home, you quickly learn that every week is "Resident's Week." The Little Sisters and staff work diligently to make sure that each day offers plenty of social activities, spiritual enrichment and exercise for the mind and body. So, why have a week called "Resident's Week?" Why not? When you love those you care for and you enjoy what you do it is a perfect reason to celebrate.

This year the Activities staff decided on a theme of "Mexican Fiesta!" Ole'!! The week was filled with Mexican food, a scavenger hunt, carnival games, a speaker from Mexico, a chance at the Piñata and Flamenco Dancers. It was a week of food, fun and loads of laughter! As our foundress St. Jeanne Jugan would say,

*"Making the elderly happy – that is what counts!"*





## Mother's Musings

by Mother Chantal



Spring has come, sprinkled with some very hot 90 days reminding us of what is soon to come. After the harsh winter we Little Sisters and the Residents were happy to once more hear the birds, see the greening trees and enjoy some fresh air. A generous benefactor has given us some plantings so soon there will be a greater array of colors to brighten our yard and spirits.

Activities abound, but none can elicit the excitement of the annual Turtle Derby, the visit of the Derby Princesses, the Downtown Parade and then the Derby itself. The big event was viewed in the auditorium on our big screen TV while enjoying our own homemade mint juleps and a chicken dinner.

With gratitude we recognized our devoted volunteers with Mass and a dinner on April 21st and then rejoiced with our Association Jeanne Jugan Members as they renewed their promises for another year on the feast of St Joseph the Worker, May 1st. All are the extension of our hands and hearts, bringing an invaluable presence to our Residents.

We are indeed grateful for your continued support of our home, which allows us to surround our Residents with some "extras" to make their lives more comfortable. May God's abundant blessings be with you and your family.

*Mother Chantal Mary, L.S.P.*

## "I shall begin with you"

In 1839, St. Jeanne Jugan went to her long-time employer and said, "I am not leaving you to take another job. I intend to devote myself to charitable work. Every day when I go to the market, I see poor destitute old women." When he asked how she intended to provide for them she replied, "I shall go collecting, and I shall begin with you. I know you won't refuse me!" He gave her three hundred francs and the ministry of the Little Sisters of the Poor was born.

St. Joseph's Home is the product of many who said "yes" to the Little Sisters when they came begging for their precious elderly. Today, after nearly 25 years at their current location, the Little Sisters are coming to you to ask for your help in caring



for the elderly poor of this community. St. Joseph's Home currently has two (2) whirlpool tubs in need of replacement, each are 24 years old, used for the 50 Residents in the nursing home. The current models have a lift that raises the Resident over four feet into the air before lowering them into the tub. The newer models have doors that allow for less stressful means of entering the bathing and therapeutic tubs.

Will you say yes?

## Our Needs

2 Whirlpool Tubs

@ \$21,000 each

2 High Speed Burnishers

@ \$825.00 each

1 Floor Scrubber/Washer

@ \$5,439.00

Activities Supplies

Large Print Books

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Little Sisters of the Poor  
St. Joseph's Home**



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\*\*For more information on how to participate  
contact: 502-636-2300 ext. 217\*\*

*"It is a great grace that God has given you in calling you to serve the poor." J.J.*