

Celebrating 150 Years in Baltimore A Remarkable Journey

The Little Sisters of the Poor arrived in Baltimore in April 1869 – the fourth Home of the Little Sisters in America. Brooklyn, NY, was first in September 1868, followed by Cincinnati in October 1868 and New Orleans in December, 1868. What followed is a remarkable journey.

Today the Little Sisters of the Poor have a flourishing ministry that has developed right along with the young and growing nation. It is a mission of pioneering Sisters, founded in France by St. Jeanne Jugan in 1839 and led by the Holy Spirit, with a desire to help the aged poor.

The story of our early Sisters is amazing. In fact, what they achieved over the years could be described as miraculous. Who would imagine that after 150 years, the mission begun by St. Jeanne Jugan would continue to develop and that the Little Sisters of the Poor would still be caring for the elderly? What began in a tiny house in Baltimore city with a handful of Residents has reached this point in history because of the hard work of the Sisters and the generosity of their donors.

In the beginning the Sisters did everything themselves to make the first St. Martin's run smoothly — nursing, cooking, cleaning and laundry, as well as the sewing, the mending and taking care of the property and a host of other responsibilities. And at times, the more able Residents helped

with light duties such as setting the tables and peeling vegetables — but otherwise the Sisters did it all, relying on the help of a host of volunteers and benefactors.

During this celebration year, which ends August 30, 2019, check our website for monthly happenings. We hope you will rejoice with us as we gratefully trust in Divine Providence, joyfully remember the past, enthusiastically celebrate the present, and confidently embrace the future.



Serving the elderly
poor in Baltimore
since 1869.



Our Mission

*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.*

Reverence for Life

Family Spirit

Humble Service

Compassion

Stewardship

Little Sisters of the Poor

Our (New) Doors Are Open!

On September 11, 2018 the Little Sisters and Residents at St. Martin's Home celebrated another milestone in our ongoing renovation project. That morning we replaced and blessed the original cornerstone of the Home, cut the ribbon and walked through the doors of the renovated entrance to St. Martin's.

This newly-renovated exterior includes a pergola where Residents and visitors can enter and exit vehicles under cover, two outdoor visiting areas, and a beautifully landscaped lawn. Inside visitors will be warmly welcomed into a spacious and beautifully appointed lobby and reception desk.

Mother Provincial Loraine cut the ribbon and led the Sisters, Residents and guests

through the modern electronic sliding glass doors into the new lobby where chaplain, Fr. Stan, blessed the new space.

During the ceremony the congregation sang "All Are Welcome," recalling St.



Mother Provincial Loraine and Mother Joseph Caroline cut the ribbon to open the new front entrance while Residents, Sisters and friends enjoy the beautiful new seating area.

Jeanne Jugan's mission to provide a loving home for the elderly poor. A few days later, the Sisters commemorated the one-hundred and fiftieth anniversary of their arrival in America.



Through The Eyes of The Photographer

All volunteers at St. Martin's Home bring special gifts to their service, and we recognize two volunteers who offer unique services. Aster Evenson and George Sass are the faces *behind* the camera, and they volunteer to take photos used on our website and in our local publications.

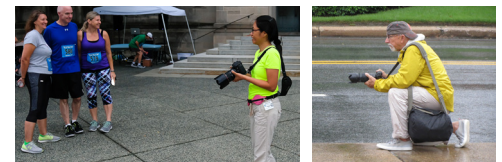
By day, Aster Evenson is a software testing engineer. She is also a hobbyist photographer who volunteers for charitable organizations' fund raising projects and events by taking photographs including the Little Sisters' Handbag Auction, Nun Run and Gala – always with a gentle smile and a way to get others to smile! In addition to sharing her photographic skills, Aster has served dinner to our Residents in Lourdes cottage for four years. Aster said, "There's a sense of fulfillment in doing something for other people without a tangible return." Sister Maria Lourdes says, "Aster exemplifies the spirit of St. Jeanne Jugan – she is soft-spoken, humble and attentive to the needs of our Residents. It is impressive that Aster volunteers through her lunch hour, selflessly serves and puts others before her needs."

After 25-years of running Sass



Msgr. James Barker and Sister Lawrence Mary with Rosina, our oldest Nun Run participant – 98 years old! Photo courtesy of Aster Evenson

Communications, an advertising firm with offices in New York, Maryland and Europe, George Sass started a new career as a freelance photojournalist for the marine industry. During the past several years he traveled the world on magazine assignments, winning a number of international awards for his photojournalism. His fine art photography is regularly featured in art exhibits throughout the state of Maryland. While attending Mass a couple years ago, George was inspired by the homily that preached the importance of sharing one's God-given gifts with others, and he contacted



George Sass captures the start of our 5th annual Nun Run.

Sister Lawrence Mary to volunteer at St. Martin's. "It is an absolute joy for me to work with Sister Lawrence and the entire staff at St. Martin's. Seeing how they care for the elderly, I feel like I'm in the presence of angels." George can be seen shooting our fundraising events and also photographing special occasions for the Sisters and Residents. George's dedication and kindness to us is appreciated, and we are blessed he shares his immeasurable talents with St. Martin's!



Residents and staff enjoy listening to the history of the Little Sisters!

Mission Improbable

In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Little Sisters of the Poor in America, our Communications Office created a historical podcast series entitled “Mission Improbable.” We are offering the series to our Residents, staff and volunteers. Each episode depicts one of the first Homes of the Little Sisters in America, beginning with Brooklyn, NY in September 1868 and ending with Pittsburgh, PA in April 1872. With the invaluable help of Rev. Ernest

Lelievre, a French priest who dedicated his life to the congregation, the constant intervention of Divine Providence and the generosity of countless benefactors, in less than five years the Sisters were able to erect thirteen Homes for the needy elderly.

A small poster for each Home was placed on a table and the Residents were able to use headsets to listen to the history of those first 13 Homes through small

MP3 players. Soon they were enthralled with the stories and couldn't wait to listen to the next one. Several Residents commented that they would like to listen to them again.

Originally the podcast series was set to end on October 25th, St. Jeanne Jugan's 226th birthday, but the excitement and enjoyment of the Residents could not be denied. They will be available throughout 2019 – our jubilee year.

CELEBRATING THE GIFT – 2018 GALA, LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

The Little Sisters of the Poor hosted their 14th Annual Gala “Celebrating the Gift” Saturday, November 10, 2018 at Sheraton Baltimore North.

The 2018 event culminated our popular Celebrity Chef events which started in 2014. This year's Celebrity Chef Cook-Off featured recipes of our four past winners (Fr. Patrick Carrion, Msgr. Rick Hilgartner, Friar Matt Foley, and Fr. Michael Carrion). Fr. Jerry Francik and Fr. Carlos Osorio joined us as guest chefs this year filling in for Msgr. Rick and Friar Matt.



Fr. Patrick, Fr. Michael, Fr. Jerry and Fr. Carlos wait to hear the results of the Celebrity Chef Champion!

Guests determined the “winner” and recipient of the coveted 2018 winner's

trophy by tipping the chefs! Fr. Jerry Francik (substituting for Friar Matt Foley, 2016 winner) received the most tips along with the Celebrity Chef Champion trophy!

Our 320 guests enjoyed spirited bidding on silent and live auction items and enthusiastically purchased Wine & Dine bags. The 50/50 raffle winner receives approximately \$15,000.

Proceeds from the event go directly to pay the winter fuel costs at St. Martin's Home which in 2016 and 2017 averaged \$30,000 a month.

A Simple Note

By: Mother Superior



Mother Joseph along with Cathleen and Gerry Keefe at the 2018 Nun Run

Dear Friends,

The traditions you remember and enjoy are also in the minds and the hearts of the needy elderly in our care. They treasure the memories of singing carols around the piano, Mass on Christmas Eve, and the gathering of their family and friends around the fireplace. They don't remember the Christmas gifts they received in the 1950's but I imagine they remember where they were and who they were with.

This Christmas, would you consider starting a new tradition? Take a moment to treasure what is going on around you and ponder it all in your heart. Treasure the gathering of everyone around the fireplace, treasure going to church on Christmas Eve, treasure singing carols, and treasure being with those you love.

And treasure the elderly at St. Martin's as we do. There are a number of ways to give them gifts this Christmas through your generous donations and sharing. But the best way is to give them the gift of friendship and caring. As people age, they treasure time and memories – nothing bought or wrapped, but a beautiful gift none-the-less.

You and all you hold dear will be remembered in the Holy Mass on Christmas and throughout the Christmas season. We ask that you, in return, remember to pray for us.

Sister Joseph Caroline

Sister Joseph Caroline, I.s.p.

SO MANY WAYS TO HELP!

We continue to welcome your gifts in kind for our Residents. We are always grateful to receive donations of non-perishable food, bottled water, soft drinks, personal care items such as Dove body wash, Dove soap, paper supplies, etc. Please contact Sister Lawrence Mary (410) 744-9367 ext 120 if you have questions.



SAVE THE DATE

3rd Annual "It's In The Bag" Handbag Auction

Sunday, April 7, 2019
Rolling Road Golf Club

Details on all events found on our website!
www.littlesistersofthepoorbaltimore.org



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Designate Little Sisters of the Poor as the recipient.