

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

*Serving the elderly poor
in Kansas City since 1882.*



JEANNE JUGAN CENTER

Fall, 2018

**JEANNE JUGAN
CENTER**

8745 James A. Reed Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64138
816-761-4744

**1868-2018
150 years in the
United States**

Father Ernest Lelièvre, Friend to the Poor

Jeanne Jugan, the first Little Sister of the Poor, believed in involving others in her care for the poor. She wasn't afraid to share the credit for "her" work, because she didn't see it as hers at all. It was God's work, and he provided a way for her to accomplish it through many benefactors and friends.

of many talents and connections, and he was eager to use them to help the Little Sisters of the Poor set up homes in the United States.

One such friend was Fr. Ernest Lelièvre. A pious French man with a special devotion to the poor, he gave up his life as a wealthy lawyer for the priesthood, and then joined the Little Sisters of the Poor as an auxiliary priest. An intelligent and driven man, Fr. Lelièvre was committed to the worldwide expansion of the Little Sisters and was the principal organizer for more than 200 foundations in numerous countries. He was a man

In May of 1868, Fr. Lelièvre and a group of Little Sisters said goodbye to Jeanne Jugan, left France, and set sail for the United States. Luckily for the Little Sisters, Father was fluent in English and helped introduce them to American priests and bishops, who were very welcoming. He was also invaluable in helping the Sisters find properties for their new homes. He worked tirelessly, and when he returned to France four years later, he had assisted the Little Sisters in establishing thirteen homes in the United States, setting the stage for many more to come.



**"Have the poor
ever had a
greater friend
than he?"**

SAVE THE DATE

**Jeanne Jugan's Birthday
150th Anniversary Mass**

October 25, 2018

Spaghetti Dinner

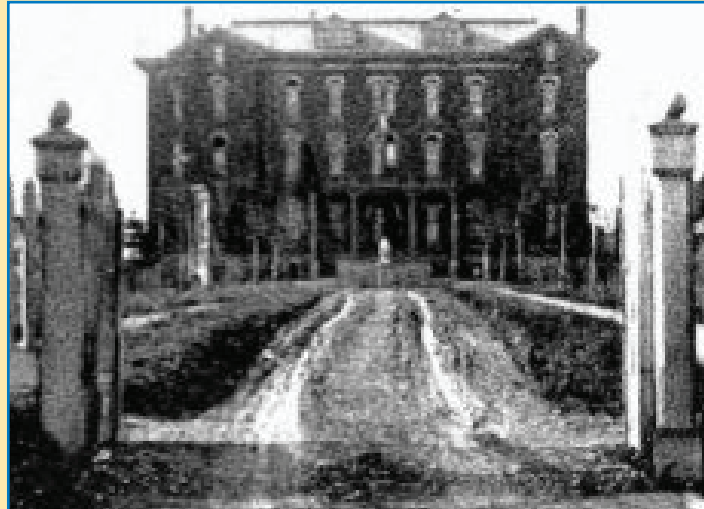
November 18, 2018

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

136 Years in Kansas City A Look to the Past

Fourteen years after arriving in Brooklyn and opening the first home in the United States, the Little Sisters of the Poor made their way west to Kansas City and, at the request of Bishop John J. Hogan of the diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, they opened the Congregation's 15th home in America. Since 1882, when the first Resident moved in, we Little Sisters have been blessed to care for more than 5,500 elderly Kansas Citians.

Over the years the faces of the Residents and Little Sisters have changed, but our mission remains the same: to offer the needy elderly a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.



Our first home in Kansas City, St. Alexis Home, was opened at 31st & Locust in a building that was originally built to house widows and orphans of the Civil War's Confederate soldiers. The Little Sisters were there from 1882-1923.



The second home, at 53rd & Highland, was built in 1923 and was home to hundreds of elderly until 1982, when our current home, the Jeanne Jugan Center, was built.



Female Residents in their Sunday best.



Residents enjoying the outdoors on the porch of the Highland Avenue home.



The dormitory-style rooms of the infirmary in this undated photo.

A Trip Across Missouri St. Louis Residents call KC home

Over the last month we have welcomed several new Residents to the Jeanne Jugan Center. Knowing that our St. Louis Home was in the final stages of closing, the Little Sisters wanted to make sure that the Residents who were still there had somewhere else to go. Some were helped to stay in St. Louis and relocate to other facilities, but everyone also had the option to transfer to one of our other homes in the U.S. and remain in the Little Sisters' family.

It wasn't an easy choice for them. Many had lived in St. Louis their whole lives, and had family and friends there. But a group of twelve Residents chose to remain with the Little Sisters and come to Kansas City to live. At least it was in the same state, and was a familiar environment living with the Little Sisters.

Luckily, most of the new arrivals have been a good fit for our assisted living floor, which is for those who



Apartment Resident Helen was the first to come from St. Louis in December of 2016, and has adjusted well to her new home. She likes to stay busy by volunteering in the Sweet Pea shop, and organizes a weekly happy hour for the Residents.

may need a little help with medicines or daily living, but not full-time nursing care. This floor has historically been slower to fill, so we had several openings for them.

When asked to name a favorite thing about their new home, the number one answer was definitely, "the grounds." While the St. Louis home was clean and comfortable, its more urban location couldn't provide the large outside area we are blessed with here in Kansas City. And

many of our new Residents are making the most of it by taking daily walks, feeding the fish and ducks, or just sitting and taking in the view of the beautiful flowers and birds.

We are happy to have these new members of our family here, and look forward to getting to know them better. It's touching to see our other Residents and employees help them settle in and get comfortable. Hopefully it won't be long before Kansas City feels like a second home!



Some of our new Residents from St. Louis stop for a quick picture after lunch.



Traveling Tapestry

During this jubilee year of celebration marking the 150th anniversary of the Little Sisters' arrival in the U.S., we will be joining other Little Sisters' homes around the country in hosting events to honor this important milestone.

A focal point of each celebration will be a traveling "pilgrim" tapestry of the Congregation's foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan. This tapestry was created in Belgium by Slabbinck, an internationally known designer of liturgical vestments. The tapestry portrays St. Jeanne Jugan on her collecting rounds in the Breton countryside, with the sea in the background, evoking the great wave of charity to which she gave birth.

Before coming to America, the tapestry was taken on pilgrimage to St. Jeanne Jugan's birthplace, the small apartment where she began the Congregation, and the Little Sisters' motherhouse, all in Brittany, France. It then made the journey to the United States, retracing the path of the first Little Sisters who came to America.

We will have the tapestry here in Kansas City from October 15 — November 30. If you're in the neighborhood, please stop by and see it. It's a beautiful symbol of the living presence of the foundress in each community of Little Sisters.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Visit us at www.littlesistersofthepoorkansascity.org

A Simple Note

From Mother Margaret



Our jubilee year of celebration is under way, and we are enjoying sharing the history of our Little Sisters since their arrival in the United States 150 years ago.

150 years! That's amazing when you think about it. Equally amazing is the fact that the Little Sisters of the Poor have been in Kansas City for 136 years! Looking through pictures from our archives we see horse-drawn wagons taking the Sisters on collecting rounds, women gathered around the fireplace sewing—scenes evoking much simpler times. How different things are now!

Through all those years we have been here, caring for the elderly, and adapting to the changing times as needed with the help of our many friends and benefactors. We couldn't begin to do what we do without you.

Thank you for sharing in our mission of hospitality to the elderly. We hope to be here for the next 150 years.

God bless you,
Mother Margaret

A Legacy of Love

Many families and friends choose to remember The Little Sisters of the Poor and the Jeanne Jugan Center in their estate plans. They realize that by investing in the Little Sisters of the Poor, they are investing in the future of our care for the most vulnerable elderly. The Jeanne Jugan Center is the recipient of bequests, trusts, and charitable gift annuities from individuals who recognize that the Little Sisters are making a difference in our community.



For more information contact the Development Department at 816-761-4744 or dvkansascity@littlesistersofthepoor.org.



Spaghetti Dinner and Fall Raffle

Join us on Sunday, November 18th, from noon - 5pm

Have some delicious spaghetti, browse the craft sale, take home some sweet bake-sale treats, and stay for the raffle drawing (tickets are enclosed).

All proceeds benefit our home for the elderly poor.



DINNER TICKETS:

\$8 [Dinner includes spaghetti and homemade meatballs, bread, salad, dessert, and water or tea]

In honor of our 150th Anniversary in the U.S., Kids 4 - 12 eat for \$1.50
Children 0 - 3 eat free.

CASH RAFFLE!

Tickets are \$3 each or 12 for \$30 [suggested donation]

1st PRIZE - \$2,500

2nd PRIZE - \$1,000

3rd PRIZE - \$500

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