



Time and Life

St. Mary's Home

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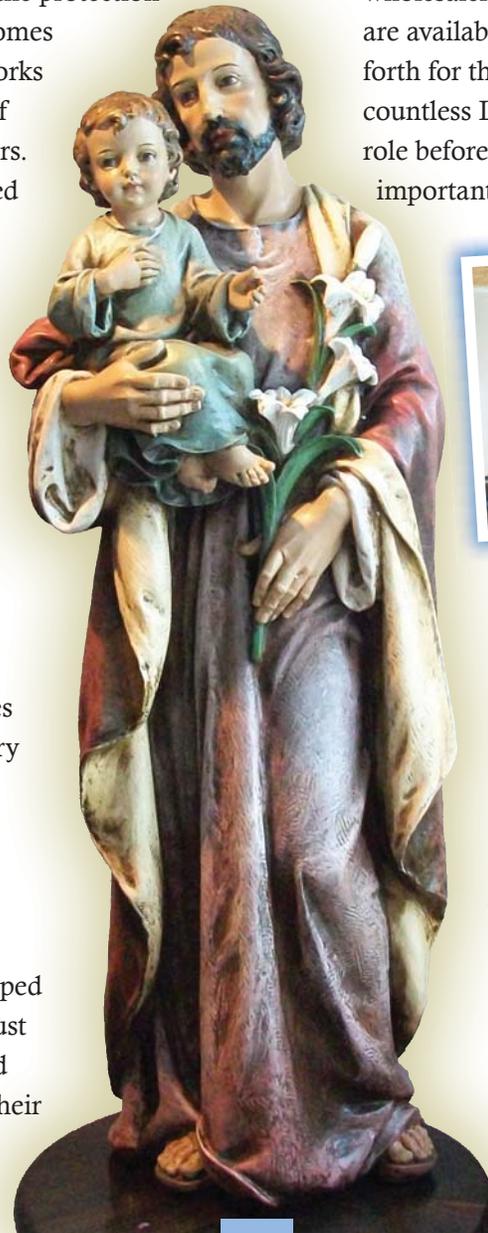
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Good and Kind Provider

St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church!

Since the founding of the congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Jeanne Jugan and all of the Little Sisters have prayed to St. Joseph for the protection and the needs of their homes around the world. He works through the generosity of magnanimous benefactors. His goodness is illustrated in a delightful story of a Sister placing a slightly damaged potato in front of a statue of St. Joseph. Alas! Shortly thereafter bushels of slightly damaged potatoes were donated to the home to feed the elderly in the care of the Little Sisters. Throughout our history, there are countless stories like this one from the very early days all the way to present day.

The Little Sisters of the Poor and the entire universal Church are helped by his silent influence. Just as he protected Jesus and Mary and provided for their needs, we know that St. Joseph will never let us down.



Our New Begging Van is Here!

Each week, our Begging Sisters, Sr. Michael Teresa and Sr. Caroline Joan, travel to many of the produce and meat wholesalers to collect whatever donations are available. Following the tradition set forth for them by St. Jeanne Jugan and countless Little Sisters who filled this role before them, they continue this most important mission.



Sr. Michael Teresa, Jose Ambrosio, and Sr. Caroline Joan with the new begging van.

With the help of our wonderful benefactors, we have purchased a refrigerated van to transport the food. Thanks to these generous donations the Little Sisters are able to save thousands of dollars a month in food costs. Once again we say, "Thank you and God bless you!"



A Life of Service and Adventure

Zita J. Asay (1923-2011)

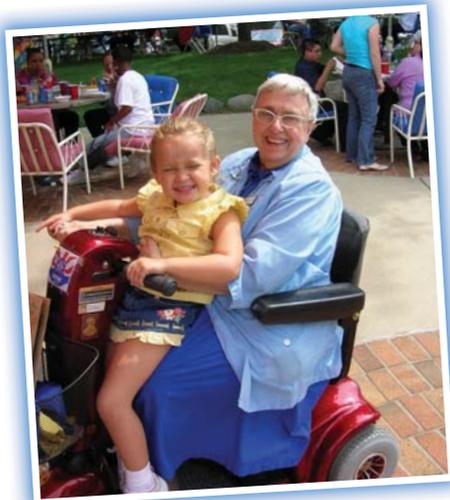
Zita Asay, who passed away on February 12, 2011, was well known to anyone involved with the Little Sisters of the Poor here in Chicago. She worked here as a nurse from 1982 until 1990 and lived in our Jugan Terrace apartments before becoming a Resident of St. Mary's Home in 1996. Although she had slowed down a bit and needed her motorized scooter to get around, Zita was still leading new volunteers on tours of the home and introducing them to the spirit of hospitality that is so essential to the Little Sisters' mission.

Born Zita Ierino in Duluth, Minnesota in 1923 her family moved to Chicago when she was four years old. She attended St. Mary's High School on the west side of the city where a fateful trip to St. Anne's Hospital inspired her to become a nurse. After earning her nursing degree from Loyola University in 1945, Zita was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps in 1947. She would go on to serve in the Philippines and Japan before an assignment with the 8063 M.A.S.H. (Mobile Army Surgical Hospital) in North Korea where she cared for hundreds of wounded soldiers.

Zita returned to the U.S. and served as a nurse recruiter based out of the 5th Army Headquarters in Chicago. She toured high schools and colleges in the Midwest and inspired many young women to enter nursing. Her final assignment with the Army was a post in Germany before she resigned her commission in 1958. Her travelling days were not over, however. Zita served for five years as a nurse-midwife in the West African nation of Ghana with the Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries.

Upon her return to Chicago, Zita worked as a nurse at two V.A. Hospitals and for the International Seafarer's Clinic and also completed a master's degree in education from Loyola. In 1972, at the tender age of 49, she married her husband Edward. She joined the St. Mary's Home nursing staff in 1982 until her "retirement" in 1990.

Zita was a remarkable person and a true gift to the Little Sisters during the many years she spent working, living, and serving among us. She summed up her life, filled with so much adventure and spent serving others, with a this sentiment: "I liked people and I wanted to take care of them." We can all be inspired by these simple, yet powerful words. She will be missed.



Captain Zita Ierino interviews student nurses interested in military nursing in 1953



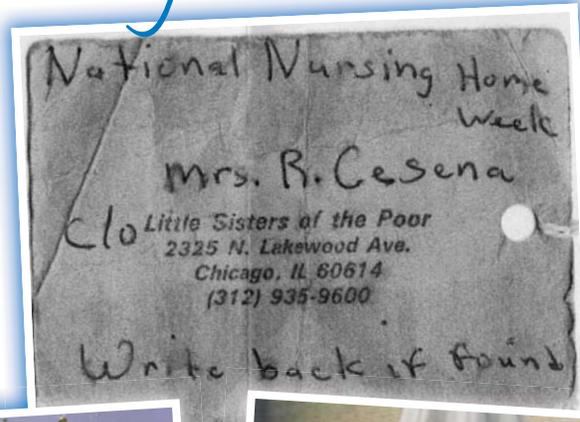
"It is so good to be poor, to have nothing, to depend on God for everything."

Saint Jeanne Jugan

Drifting into the 21st Century

Back in May of 1998, the Residents of St. Mary's Home released dozens of balloons. They were celebrating Nursing Home Week! Each Resident carefully wrote their name on a small card and attached it to a balloon. The card instructed whoever found it to write back.

Twelve years passed before someone finally did. Carol C. of Willard, Ohio was tilling her soil in the summer 2010 when she found the remnants of two balloons with their cards still attached! She followed the instructions and sent a note with a picture of the cards to St. Mary's Home. Several Sisters and staff remember the occasion of the balloon release as well as the deceased Resident, Rose Cesena, whose name was on one of the cards. She was a charming and fun-loving resident who brought smiles to so many faces. And we all smiled again at the memory of Rose and the balloons. What a joy for Rose's family and all of us here at St. Mary's!



Top: Photo of the card that Rose Cesena had written her name and instructions on sent back to us by Carol.

Bottom Left: The balloons are released into the air as part of the Nursing Home Week activities in 1998.

Bottom Right: Rose with Activities Director Helen Miner.

Honoring 50 Years of Service



Brother Regis, O.F.M. Conv.

It was a privilege for the Residents and Staff of St. Mary's Home to commemorate the Golden Anniversary of Religious Profession of Brother Regis on February 9, 2011. The son of Francis and Mary Wojciak, Francis (Frank) Wojciak was born in Detroit, Michigan on October 3, 1938. He made his profession as a Conventual Franciscan on December 10, 1960 and took the name Brother Regis. He has fulfilled many roles in his time as a Friar, including serving as part of a "troupe" of clowns who gave much pleasure to many persons. He joined our family as a Resident of St. Mary's Home in March 2007. What a pleasure it was for all of us to have a special day in his honor to thank Almighty God for his years of Consecrated Life.



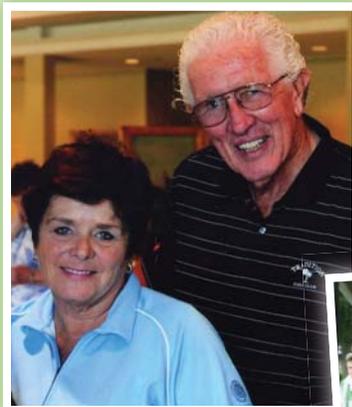
Habits on the Green Golf Outing and Dinner

On June 13, the Little Sisters and our supporters will once again take to the fairways of the Midlothian Country Club to raise funds for St. Mary's Home. If you golf, we would love to have you join us for the day. But even if you don't golf, please consider joining us for cocktails, music, silent and live auctions, and dinner.

As Little Sisters of the Poor, we care for the needy elderly in the spirit of humble service that we have received from Jeanne Jugan. We welcome the elderly as we would Jesus Christ himself and serve them with love and respect until death.

The Little Sisters of the Poor do not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, religion, age or gender.

The Little Sisters of the Poor do not share or sell donor information. Our mailing list is strictly private and confidential.



Dr. James & Sheila Burden

This year's event will honor Dr. James and Sheila Burden, who have been longtime supporters of the Little Sisters and our mission of caring for the elderly poor. It is with great pleasure that we recognize their enthusiastic involvement at St. Mary's Home.



Jim and Eunie Nondorf with two of their kids get ready for the shotgun start.

Donna McKay took her shot at "Beat the Sister" on the putting green with Sr. Mildred.



Habits on the Green

Benefiting the Little Sisters of the Poor of Chicago



Return portion below with your donation

*June 13, 2011 Midlothian Country Club
Sister, I'd like to support Habits on the Green*

Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

___ Dinner Tickets @ \$125 before May 1, \$150 after May 1

Individual Golfer including Lunch & Dinner \$500 before May 1, \$550 after May 1

I cannot attend, but I am enclosing a donation of \$ _____