

Spring 2019



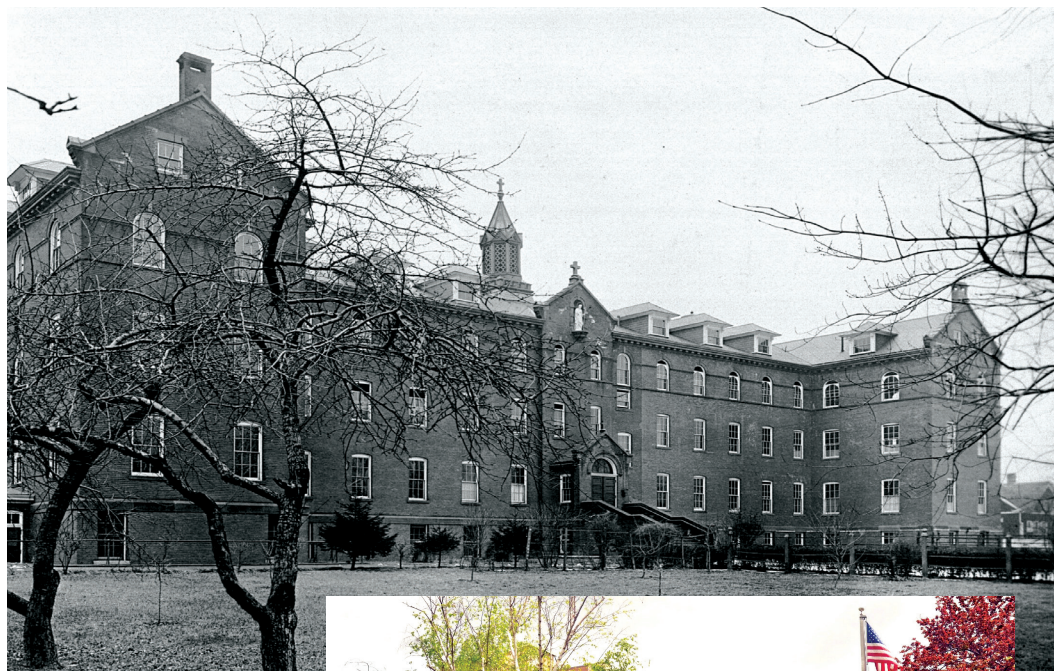
# LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR ST. JOSEPH'S RESIDENCE

*Serving the elderly poor in Enfield, Connecticut since 1972.*

## OUR MISSION

The Little Sisters of the Poor are an international congregation of Roman Catholic Women religious founded in 1839 by Saint Jeanne Jugan. Together with a diverse network of collaborators, we serve the elderly poor in over 30 countries around the world.

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.



▲ Old Home in New Haven  
Home in Enfield Today ▶



## SAVE THE DATES

150th Celebration  
Saturday, May 4

Art Show  
Friday, May 17

Car Show  
Friday, June 28

Golf Tournament  
Monday, September 9

Spaghetti Dinner  
Friday, October 11

Craft Vendor Sale  
Saturday, October 19

## Celebrating 150 Years in America

*Come young & old to our party.  
We fête one-hundred-fifty years  
in the USA. We smite fears & tears  
with the language of charity  
for the neediest elderly.  
All our "Quickening Flame" bearers  
mingle gaily at our party  
to fête one-hundred-fifty years.  
We start with holy Mass at St. Thomas More;  
then, with drinks and bites we'll cheer  
our Little Sisters and all who hear  
God's call at this fine jubilee.  
Come young and old to our party.*

— Connie Albrizio (Resident)

**150th Celebration**  
**Saturday, May 4**  
**Mass at 4 p.m.**  
**Celebrated by:**  
**Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair**

**St. Thomas More Chapel**  
**268 Park Street**  
**New Haven, CT 06511**

**Followed by Reception at:**  
**Knights of Columbus Museum**  
**1 State Street**  
**New Haven, CT 06511**

# LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

## Little Sisters 2019 Jubilees

### Sister Emilie, our golden jubilarian

Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Sister Emilie, one of two girls in her family, was drawn to the Little Sisters of the Poor during her high school years.

A Catholic school student, she was always devoted to the nuns at school, enjoyed going to church and was also active in Legion of Mary and Sodality of Mary activities.

When these activities called for the performance of a corporal work of mercy, she, along with a friend whose mother was a Resident at a nearby Little Sisters Home, volunteered there for several years. She says she was soon attracted to the Little Sisters and their mission of service to the elderly poor.

In 1966 she entered St. Augustine's Home, the first foundation of the Little Sisters of the Poor in the United States.

In the intervening years since her profession of vows in Queens, New York, Sister Emilie has spent most of her time on the East Coast, venturing as far west as Cleveland during breaks from college and for apostolic experience.

Her interest in food and dietetic services became keen during her studies in the juniorate in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Since that time most of Sister's work has been in the area of food services, at some homes having considerable hands-on kitchen management duties.

Sister Emilie oversees the Hospitality Club and its student members who perform various services at the Home.

The students, ages 13-18, include youth from the St. Jeanne Jugan Parish as well as children and grandchildren of staff members. They work on group or individual projects throughout the year, including serving in the dining rooms and engaging in one-on-one interactions

with Residents.

Sister Emilie is always eager to share her love of the consecrated life with the volunteers, referring to her own vocation, which was inspired by working directly with the

Little Sisters of the Poor in a similar way. "You never know where a vocation might begin," she says.

Asked to look back at what the 50-year milestone means, Sister Emilie said her years in consecrated life have gone very, very fast. In her decidedly New York fashion, she says, "I'm not ready to stop!" Sister defines consecrated life as a blend of community life, apostolic life, and prayer life in support of the Little Sisters' mission of accompanying the elderly poor. "Accompanying the Residents on their journey. That's why we're here, to accompany them," she says. "I hope I've done a good job."

When time permits Sr. Emilie can still be found in the kitchen, experimenting with "whatever happens to be on hand in the house at the time."

She also enjoys knitting and reading, citing among her favorites the works of Father Walter Ciszek, S.J., who died in 1984 after being a prisoner in Siberia. Sister Emilie often reflects on his words, "Between God and man there are no insignificant moments; every single moment counts, God is there."



## Sister Alodie celebrates 60 years as a Little Sister

Sister Alodie de Notre Dame, celebrating her 60th Jubilee, reflected back on what she calls the "best years" with the Little Sisters of the Poor. She said her life is a simple and happy one as a Little Sister of the Poor. The realization of her vocation is fixed in her earliest memories, evident in conversation about her childhood years as a Catholic school student. Following in the footsteps of her aunt, Sr. Alodie de Ste Anne, who died at age 102, she was raised living a holy life in her family of six siblings. Her cousin is also a Little Sister of the Poor, now in Queens. Sister Alodie grew up in Philadelphia, where

she entered the novitiate there in the month of June and made her vows two years later in November.

Sister Alodie has been at Saint Joseph's Residence for 20 years. During much of that time she ventured out on her daily collecting rounds. Gradually she began to experience diminishing vision, a cross she bears with grace and some humor, admitting that she gets annoyed when she bumps into things. However, she navigates well through the familiar halls and now receives much assistance as she goes about her days.

She enjoys visiting with Residents on the floors, engaging in conversations in which her natural curiosity and compassion for people make a large contribution in the lives of the Residents. Because of her limited vision, Sister says she tries to go by the voice to know who she's talking with.

Sister Alodie also spends a lot of time in the chapel, where she has a favorite and comfortable spot. When asked about her spiritual life as a Little Sister of the Poor looking back now on 60 years, she says it has always been her desire to "accept God's will each day."



## Annual Mardi Gras Parade and Carnival Celebrate Our History

It was a fun-filled afternoon on Tuesday, March 5, when the annual Mardi Gras Parade and Carnival stepped off at Saint Joseph's Residence. Revelers from every floor, many brightly masked and costumed, cheered for their float teams as they exited the staging area in Saint Joseph's Hall. From there, the route took several passes through the lobby, turning the reception area into a temporary "Bourbon Street" scene.

When the Residents' parade of floats ended at the Coffee Shop, a feast of goodies was served while the judges tallied votes for float prizes and the fully regaled King and Queen of Mardi Gras were crowned.

Weeks of mystery and excitement preceded this annual celebration when the theme, "The Little Sisters of the Poor Celebrate 150 Years in America," was chosen. The concept served as a focus for the design and crafting of about a dozen unique floats, all incorporating different aspects to mark the historical milestone. Lots of love and thought poured into each float design. Ingenious use of craft materials made float construction fun for all, some residents providing ideas, some sewing, some designing costumes, and some serving as parade and event coordinators.

Every floor and administrative and staff department put their heads together as committees formed to depict the history of the Little Sisters of the Poor. The history was recounted many times as plans were made, recalling the tiny group's humble arrival so long ago, their first steps onto American soil, the unfamiliar language and terrain.

All this came to life in a fun way during our Mardi Gras event. On parade day, tension and excitement mounted in Saint Joseph's Hall as the floats, shrouded in secrecy and good humor during the preceding weeks, were carefully navigated to the staging area. There, instructions were given for the parade lineup, costumes checked and adjusted, masks distributed, and lots of sparkling purple, green, and gold plastic beads handed out.

The resulting floats made for a very impressive parade indeed. The little ship Napoleon III had been artfully rendered and adorned with the faces of the home's Little Sisters; a very clever horse-drawn



carriage elicited the sense of those early days when the sisters would have been so drawn through the streets of New York City; a crowd pleaser float depicted a rowdy group of bandits from the then-wild-west days, with the likes of Jesse James, bank robbers with a galloping get-away horse; and such a cultural icon as Jelly Belly candy and its founding contributed to a creative float idea, the company having been around now for 150 years! Prize selection was difficult, and the winners equally cheered when announced. The Residents, through their study and work on this parade, offered a glimpse into early conditions here in the United States. They created a deeper appreciation among all participants about how that small group of Sisters continues to set the example of trusting in the future in the spirit of Saint Jeanne Jugan, here in the United States and around the world.

This year's celebration is sure to linger because the Little Sisters' arrival in America 150 years ago has been a large part of many special events throughout this past year.

The anniversary will culminate in May with a special Mass celebrated by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair and attended by busloads of Little Sisters of the Poor and families and friends from Saint Joseph's Residence.



# A Simple Note

By: Mother Genevieve



Lately, one of our Residents was particularly happy with a decision that had been made. And he made the comment that he couldn't have been any happier if I had given him "two lamb chops."

All of us try to make others happy and we are pleased when we succeed, but it is not always easy to know how to truly please others. I do think it takes a certain discernment and the help of the Holy Spirit.

Certainly, it takes LISTENING... with our ears, and with our heart. It surely is not easy in this fast paced, noisy world in which we live.

Lent offered us a good opportunity to practice intentional listening to those who make up our little personal universe.

Maybe you gave up candy or other sweets for Lent; hopefully whatever you sacrificed helped you to be more available to others ... to listen to them attentively, compassionately and smilingly.

Even though Lent is over, take time to listen to the Lord in moments of peace as well as those of uncertainty. His responses will always bring you more joy than you can give to others.

Happy and Blessed Easter!

**Mother Genevieve**  
Mother Superior

## Our Needs

Saint Jeanne Jugan often repeated to the first Little Sisters of the poor "If God fills the house, he will never abandon it." Since the day Jeanne Jugan opened her heart and home to God in the person of the first elderly Resident, God has continued to provide for the needs of our Residents through the generosity of many benefactors.

Current needs include:

Dental Cleaner	White Wash Cloths
Mouth Wash	Sugar Free Cookies
Body Wash	Crackers
Hand Sanitizer	K-Cups (Reg & Decaf)
Lysol Spray	AA & AAA Batteries
Wild Bird Seed	Gift Cards

Gift Certificates for Walmart, Target, Kohl's, CVS, and Dollar Store Etc.

## Ways to Donate




- On our website at [www.littlesistersofthepoorconnecticut.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorconnecticut.org)
- Monthly – Request a free calendar of gift envelopes 860-265-1872
- Matching gifts at your Company – See list on our website
- Ask for envelopes when the Sisters visit your local Church
- Wills & Bequests, Stock Transfers, Charitable Gift Annuities
- Amazon Smile – Connect your Amazon account to our nonprofit.

**Share your email with us – we have eBlasts that go out often with upcoming events.**

## Ways to Help

Ways for you to help our Home:

You can easily donate online at any time by visiting our website. Simply click on the TO DONATE button and follow the step-by-step prompts. (Please be assured that the Little Sisters of the Poor do not share any of your private information with anyone)

#1 Heat Pumps	#2 Boiler Controls	#3 Cogens
3 Water Pumps	2 Units with Controls	2 Units to be replaced
\$100,000.00 (est. cost to replace)	\$62,000.00 (est. cost to replace)	\$473,000.00 (est. cost to replace)
Heat Pumps circulate hot water throughout the entire Main building and Convent building.	Installed 1972 Boiler Controls These are used to control the efficiency of the boilers and regulate the boilers.	Installed 2001 Cogens - Generate 1/3 of our electricity and domestic hot water through the entire Main building and Convent building.
		
Main Building Heat Pump		

**crowdrise**  
by gofundme

<https://www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/boilers-and-heating>

Visit us at [www.littlesistersofthepoorconnecticut.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorconnecticut.org)