



A Legacy of Love: Celebrating 150 Years in Chicago

On July 11, 2026, the Little Sisters of the Poor from Chicago and Palatine gathered at the Felician Sisters Convent to joyfully celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Little Sisters' arrival in Chicago. This remarkable milestone was made possible through God's Providence and the steadfast generosity of so many faithful friends.

The celebration began with a beautiful Mass celebrated by the Bishop Lawrence J. Sullivan and concelebrated by our Home's chaplain, Father Donald Craig.

More than 250 family members, benefactors, volunteers, friends of the Home and supporters joined together in thanksgiving for 150 years of caring for the elderly poor.

A beautiful statue of our foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, stood at the front of the chapel, reminding us of our humble beginnings.

During the Mass, Mother Provincial Julie shared a heartfelt letter from our Mother General, Mother María, in France, congratulating the Little Sisters on this meaningful anniversary and encouraging us to remain faithful to St.

Jeanne Jugan's mission while continuing to pray for vocations.

Bishop Sullivan also recognized the many people who have helped sustain this mission through the years, including the Little Sisters, the Association Jeanne Jugan, those discerning religious life, our devoted staff and volunteers and, most especially, our cherished Residents.

Following Mass, guests gathered for

refreshments, fellowship and joyful conversation as local musician Matt Griffo continued to set the mood by providing beautiful background music.

As guests dined on delicious appetizers, handcrafted cocktails, and tasty desserts, they were able to admire historic photographs, and a slideshow celebrating generations of Residents invited everyone to reflect on the rich history of our Homes.



A Legacy of Love (continued)

Each guest received a prayer card of St. Jeanne Jugan and homemade fudge prepared by Sisters Cecilia and Christine, as a small token of our appreciation.

During the reception, Mother Provincial Julie expressed heartfelt gratitude for the generations of Little Sisters who faithfully served the elderly poor as well as for the benefactors whose unwavering generosity has sustained our Homes for 150 years.

As we celebrate this historic anniversary, we give thanks to everyone who has been part of our journey.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your generosity and friendship.

Your faithful support enables us to continue caring for our most precious gift – our Residents – and for that, we remain deeply grateful.



“A Picture-Perfect Day!”



There's no better way to enjoy the summer than spending time outdoors!

This July, our Residents and Sisters traveled downtown for one of Chicago's signature attractions – a river architecture cruise with Shoreline Sightseeing.

As they glided along the Chicago River, they admired the city's iconic skyline while learning fascinating facts about its remarkable architecture.

Laughter, conversation, and breathtaking views made the outing especially memorable, creating wonderful moments to share together.

After the cruise, everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch at Navy Pier before heading home.

Reflecting on the day, Sister Ann described it as “a picture-perfect day.” With beautiful weather, stunning scenery and smiles all around, everyone agreed it truly was.



Serving Up Smiles

St. Mary's Home is blessed with volunteers from all walks of life, united by one important thing: a passion for bringing joy to our Residents.

As our patron saint, St. Jeanne Jugan, said, "Making the elderly happy – that is what counts."

Volunteer Lauren O'Neill and her family truly take those words to heart.

After a Little Sister spoke at their church, Immaculate Conception Parish, they felt inspired to serve at our Home in any way they could.

For the past three years, the O'Neill family has volunteered in our dining room, serving lunch and, more importantly, building friendships with our Residents.

Their service goes beyond serving meals. Each member

of the family makes an effort to get to know our Residents personally.

"Just talking to them – getting to know them," Owen O'Neill shared when asked about the best part of volunteering. "It's always great to talk with them about our lives and what's new."

His mother, Lauren, added, "It's especially great getting to know them over several years."

We are grateful for the O'Neill family and all our dedicated volunteers who go the extra mile to bring smiles to our Residents' faces.

Interested in making a difference? Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at volchicago@littlesistersofthepoor.org or (773) 935-9600.

St. Mary's Home Wish List

Help us provide for our Residents by donating much needed items such as:

- Liquid fabric softener
- Liquid laundry soap
- White paper napkins
- Baby wipes
- Dishwashing liquid detergent
- Ground coffee
- Apple juice
- Regular flavor K-Cups
- Cereal (plain Cheerios, Rice Krispies, Corn Flakes, or Raisin Bran)
- Chicken base/broth
- Orange juice

Scan the QR code to shop our Target registry, or drop off supplies at St. Mary's Home:

2325 N. Lakewood Ave., Chicago, IL 60614



A NOTE FROM MOTHER

Dear Friends,

Our 150th anniversary Celebration was permeated, saturated and rooted in gratitude.

In all our preparations, thoughts of all who have gone before us – the Little Sisters, Residents and the multitude of good people who have helped us – flooded our minds and hearts.

Many of you were able to join us. We were so happy to be able to celebrate this milestone with you and to thank you for enabling us to continue our mission.

Seeing old friends with so many varied connections to us was wonderful and helped us to truly relish our family spirit.

Thanks to all of you, we can go forward in our mission, continuing to serve God and our elderly Residents with joyful faith and confidence.

St. Jeanne Jugan, our Mother Foundress, beautifully embodied the message: “Nothing is impossible with God.”

Wishing you and your families renewed hope, and reassurance that the Lord is in your midst.

God bless you!

Mother Margaret Charles, lsp



In Honor. In Memory. In Celebration.

Celebrate our 150 years serving
Chicago's elderly poor with a
commemorative bench dedicated to
someone you love.

**Limited benches available.
Call 773-935-9600 for details.**

JOIN THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR
FOR OUR ANNUAL

CHEZ STE. MARIE

WINE TASTING

SEPT. 17 | 6-8 PM | ST. MARY'S HOME

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

Email Address

☐ **Yes, I'd like to attend!**

Write how many tickets you would like

☐ **I cannot attend, but I want to support your event
with a donation of**



Buy Your Tickets



Sponsor Our Event

Or, scan the QRs to
buy your ticket or
sponsor our event!

All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.