Little Sisters of the Poor
Jeanne Jugan Center
Spring 2025

New Beginnings

By this time of the year many New Year's resolutions have faded into distant memories. But the Lenten and Easter seasons remind us that it's never too late in the year, or too late in life, to start something new. In fact, Lent is a good time to re-start those New Year's resolutions that have run out of steam.

Shortly after the new year we asked some of our Residents if they had made any resolutions. Several of them had, and there was a good mix of limiting unhelpful habits and adding in helpful ones.

Marie wanted to pray more, while Delores resolved to eat fewer snacks. Frances wanted to limit the negative news she took in by watching less television, and Mary vowed to try to move more and get more exercise. Marianna wanted to color and draw more. She really enjoys being creative and wanted to bring more of that into her days.

And Barb chose to have a more upbeat and positive demeanor when interacting with others, even on days when she didn't feel so well. She shared a great tip for resolutions - make a new one each day. She said that each morning she says to herself, "today I will do this." It's less overwhelming than committing to a whole year or all of Lent. We think that's a great idea!

By the beginning of Lent, some of our Residents had slowed down on their resolutions, but shared that Lent has given them the motivation to start again. Any day is a good day to start something that helps bring happiness or peace. Springtime and the Easter season are perfect times for new beginnings.

"Every day can be a fresh start"

Serving Kansas City's Elderly Since 1882

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.

Upcoming Events

Lent and Holy Week Services in our Chapel

Stations of the Cross: 4:30 p.m.
Fridays of Lent

Holy Thursday: 4:30 p.m.

Good Friday: 3 p.m.

Holy Saturday: 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Start a Year of Generosity

If you would like to make your own "New Year" resolution for Lent, we have opportunities for you to start a "Year of Generosity" and show your love for the elderly.

Here are some ways you can help:

- Sign up on our website to be an Angel of Care and give monthly to support our mission
- Volunteer - we have many opportunities to help
- Attend an event at our Home
- Donate items from our wish list (found on our website's donation page), or organize a collection of items for us
- Help us get the word out and share the story of the Little Sisters of the Poor with others
- Pray for vocations
- Organize a fund-raiser and donate the proceeds to us
- Join our mailing list to stay connected
- Visit an elderly family member or neighbor

Welcome, Mother Mary Thomas

Right before Christmas we had the pleasure of welcoming a new Mother Superior to our Home, Mother Mary Thomas. She joins us from our home in Totowa, New Jersey.

The mall area was full of smiles and hugs as we greeted her on the day of her arrival. She settled in, and the following day we had a proper party, including a puppet show, songs by the Residents' Choir, and plenty of ice cream and snacks.

We are enjoying getting to know Mother Mary Thomas very much. She's fitting right in. In fact, she already feels like part of the family.

Mother Mary Thomas replaces Mother Margaret, who has moved to our home in Mobile, Alabama. We are grateful for Mother Margaret's leadership and presence over the past 7 years, and wish her well at her new home.

Happiness Blooms Here

Top left: Resident Marie in her Easter hat

Top right: Resident Irene shares the beautiful quilt she made. She hand-stitched all 50 squares which feature the states of the USA and their flowers.

Middle left: Resident Billie gets into the spirit at the sock hop

Middle right: The choir sings at the welcome party for Mother Mary Thomas

Bottom left: Sr. Francis John admires the costume of a Lion dancer at the Lunar New Year party

A Note from Mother

Greetings and happy Spring!

I just want to tell you how happy I am to serve here in Kansas City. When I arrived at the Jeanne Jugan Center in December, I was immediately impressed by the family spirit that I encountered among the employees, Residents, volunteers, and Little Sisters. Everyone works together in such a lovely way. It truly is a Home where the spirit of Jeanne Jugan is present.

This Home wouldn't be possible without our supporters, and I'm looking forward to meeting more of you in person in the future. I am very touched by the kind people of Kansas City. This is my first time here, and everyone I have met has been so warm and welcoming. I was also overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone who helped us at Christmas. It was beautiful! Thank you each and every one.

As you may know, 2025 is the Jubilee Year of Hope. As the year progresses, I invite you to join us in being "Pilgrims of Hope" in a world that sorely needs it now.

All the Little Sisters and I wish you a fruitful Lent and a blessed Easter. Be assured of our prayers for you during this holy season and throughout the year.

God bless you!

Mother Mary Thomas

New Look, Same Mission

We're excited to share our newly re-designed logo – one we believe conveys our mission very well. It will be coming out soon, so keep an eye out on future mailings from us. Below are a few details of the symbolism.

Little Sisters of the Poor
Hospitality at Heart

The text: Little Sisters of the Poor, Hospitality at Heart. Hospitality, the 4th vow of the Little Sisters of the Poor; at the heart of our mission, our Homes and our life.

The Home: Jeanne Jugan welcomed the Elderly into her own home and this is what we continue to do today in different ways.

The hands: The mission of the Little Sisters of the Poor is symbolized by an outstretched hand, which can represent welcome, assistance, support, accompaniment and openness. This hand may be the hand of a Little Sister or of a lay person working or volunteering alongside us. It is a natural gesture that perfectly expresses the spirit of the Congregation: simplicity and universality. The hand holding a walking stick illustrates the Little Sisters' commitment to the Elderly.

The dove: It symbolizes the Holy Spirit and the charism received by our Mother, St. Jeanne Jugan, for welcoming the Elderly Poor. The dove, which is both present in the Home and flying out of the Home, evokes openness to the outside world. The dove also symbolizes peace: the peace that the Residents should find in our Homes and the peace that should radiate within our Homes and to the outside.

The choice of primary colors – orangey red and golden yellow – is based on their warm embracing nature, in resonance with our mission, characterized by the welcome and kindness it offers to the most fragile. These colors also express the vitality of the Congregation.

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of Trabon Group for donating the printing for this mailing.