

Little Sisters of the Poor

SACRED HEART RESIDENCE



Serving the elderly
poor in Mobile
since 1901.

Comings and Goings Among our Little Sisters

Mother Judith returns to the Sacred Heart Residence in Mobile after serving here from 1994-2000. Sarah Wilder and Masae Neel were chosen by the Sisters to give words of welcome and a presentation of flowers, respectively. Sarah, at the age of 102, is the oldest Resident, and Masae was honored for her many years of service to Sacred Heart. This initial welcome included "When the Saints Go Marching In."

The Residents, Sisters, families and friends welcomed Mother in a wonderful reception held the next day. In a traditional Mobile scene, she was greeted with a Mardi Gras theme organized by the Activity staff, Tanya Haynes, Courtney Leon and Brian Fulmer. We were pleased to have Sr. Christian and Sr. Robert in attendance, representing Mother Provincial. The program began with greetings from Gloria Whitfield, representing the Residents, Ginger Lyndall for the employees, and a musical tribute on

behalf of the AJJ, which was performed by Velma Nystrom.

Residents Martha White and Brother Matthias Amos presented a bouquet of flowers, and a painting of the Sacred Heart. Shaloundra Holmes then read a dissertation of welcome, followed by a challenge to Mother Judith to choose between the Alabama Crimson Tide and the Auburn Tigers by selecting the appropriate hat. In a very diplomatic and forthright manner, she chose to reserve judgment until further discernment.

After a wonderful saxophone performance by Brian Fulmer, our music therapist, a PowerPoint presentation entitled Welcome Back, Mother Judith! entertained the gathering. Finally, everyone joined in the traditional Mardi Gras parade known as the Second Line, accompanied by music and joined enthusiastically by Mother Judith and her umbrella. Once she regained her breath, Mother had some moving remarks for all of us!

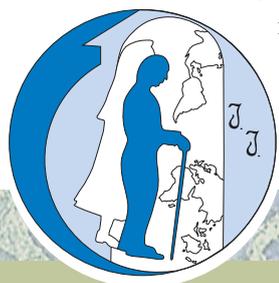
Sister Anne Joseph joined us shortly thereafter and will serve as Mother's



**Sister
Anne
Joseph.**

assistant. Sister came to us from Chicago and this is her first time in Mobile.

While it was a time to say hello to Mother Judith and Sister Anne Joseph, we had to say goodbye to Mother Mary Sylvia, who is now serving in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Sister Carolyn, our administrator, who replaced Sister Anne Joseph in Chicago. The Residents, staff and guests gathered in Holy Family lounge to celebrate their time in Mobile, and to wish both of them heartfelt thanks for their time here!



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Little Sisters of the Poor

I Need a Hug!

There are so many special people here at Sacred Heart Residence! Each one has their own personality and way of expressing themselves. One very special person is Laura Cox. If she ever has a down day, it certainly doesn't show. She always has a smile for anyone she sees in the hall and at any of the functions that take place at the Home.

Her favorite two phrases are "Can I have a hug?" and "I love you!"

Laura brings joy to family, Residents, the Sisters, staff and visitors in so many ways.

A perfect example happened as some young students were visiting the Home to distribute Valentine's Day cards to the Residents. There were about fifteen of them who were greeted by Laura as they rounded the corner. As they handed her a valentine, she asked very nicely if she could have a hug... from each of them. The first one or two were a little tentative, but as the hugs continued, the young folks warmed up to the idea. It was obvious that each one appreciated their own special moment. They walked away smiling. Everyone who meets Laura knows that moment.

In the picture at the top of this page, many of us witnessed a truly beautiful scene. This photograph was taken just after this year's Blisters for Sisters 5k. It was not a quick momentary hug ... it lasted for at least 10 to 15 minutes. Laura and the young boy had just met, but it was obvious that a warm embrace was just the right thing for each of them.

Laura brings joy to family, Residents, the Sisters, staff and visitors in so many ways. She will look you straight in the eye and say, "I love you!" There is much sincerity in her proclamation. For that, and all of the joy she exudes, we are grateful to know her!



Third Time's a Charm!

The 3rd Annual Blisters for Sisters 5k and Fun Run was huge! Perfect weather, great sponsors and a record number of runners/walkers combined to provide a wonderful day for families and friends. Along with the Annual Lawn Party, this event brings together a wonderful combination of runners, Residents and supporters to spend time together.

While this event is competitive, the camaraderie is evident in support of the Little Sisters. The race course surrounds Sacred Heart, so the Residents are present to cheer, and the volunteers were all over the course to provide water and encouragement.

Included in the refreshments for the after-race party is a favorite... Cammie's Old Fashioned Ice Cream! What a great way to cool down!



Baby, It's Cold Inside



New kitchen refrigerator and freezers.

Several months ago it became obvious that our vintage refrigeration systems in the kitchen were reaching the end of their lifespan. After all, these very units were originally installed when this Home was dedicated in 1976. They were designed to last 20 years, not the 41 years of service provided to us.

We were blessed with the generosity of a special benefactor for the replacement. This

gentleman has stepped up many times in the past to help the Little Sisters of the Poor. Once again, our prayers are answered!

The new system is a state-of-the-art unit that includes five walk-in refrigerators and two walk-in freezers. No more transferring items from one unit to the next, trying to maintain the proper temperature for food.

This is a wonderful addition to help us with food preparation for our Residents.



Split Decision!

Sometimes we can't replace things. Our Lawn Party this year will feature some new open space, but we will truly miss the shade from this wonderful oak. We can't seem to determine how long it has been here, but it will take many years for a new one to give us the beauty and pleasure we've enjoyed in the past. For safety's sake...it's got to go!



Time For a "Cool Ride"



Not only did we need and receive the refrigeration for the kitchen, we were able to replace our begging van with an upgraded vehicle, more suitable for today's requirements. Our old van had served the begging Sisters well, but after 240,000 miles traveling all along the Gulf Coast, it was time for a change. Also, many of our food donors were limited to more non-perishable items because of new requirements. In the past, the Sisters would carry ice chests to accommodate donations of seafood, meat and dairy products. This practice was no longer feasible.

Now, we needed a begging van with refrigeration capability. To begin the funding process, the Knights of Columbus #666 donated \$15,000. Dozens of our benefactors stepped forward to raise the rest of the funds. Also, the net proceeds from the Blisters for Sisters 5K and Fun Run wrapped up the necessary funding to make collecting safer and more efficient.



A Message from Mother



Although I had been away from Sacred Heart for more than seventeen years, the wonderful people here made me feel as though I had just returned to my home. From the moment I arrived through the front lobby doors, to the celebration in the auditorium on the following day, I knew how blessed I was to come back to Mobile. Apparently, you can come home again.

I really enjoyed seeing some of the employees with whom I had served from 1994-2000. I can't wait to get to know our Residents, volunteers and benefactors who comprise our family here. I do miss all of those wonderful people in Pittsburgh I had the privilege and pleasure of knowing. The good side of this move is that I already have experienced the wonderful and unique hospitality of the

South. I was reminded again of the "real" home of Mardi Gras with "2nd Line" dancing, in which I enthusiastically joined.

Over the next few months, I am looking forward to visiting with the Residents, the staff and especially those wonderful volunteers and benefactors who make this Home so special. We have had so many great improvements recently in our kitchen as well as the acquisition of our new begging van. This is just the beginning, and I know that we will be asking our patron, St. Joseph, to help us continue with needed upgrades.

Please know that I am here to serve, so don't hesitate to call on me and keep me in your prayers!

May God Bless,
Mother Judith

Heads Up—Coming Soon!

Sometime during the last two weeks of August, we will be mailing out the request forms for our Mega Raffle and the Regular Raffle tickets. Last year, the Mega Raffle sold out more than two weeks before the Lawn Party. Those tickets are \$500 each, and we only sell 100 of them. The winner gets \$10,000. There is no limit to the Regular Raffle tickets. There are three winners for \$2,000, \$1,000 and \$500.

We had the largest crowds ever last year, and we expect even more this year. Pelican212 returns as our main entertainment, by popular demand. They have had an amazing year and we are so excited to have them back! As always, we are looking for sponsors, so if you have any questions, please call Tommy Fulton at 251-476-6335, x102, or email him at devmobile@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

Save the Date

46th Annual Little Sisters of the Poor Lawn Party

October 15, 2017

