

# Little Sisters of the Poor

SACRED HEART RESIDENCE



Serving the elderly  
poor in Mobile  
since 1901.

*Our novices listen attentively as Pope Francis speaks to us during his surprise visit to our home in Washington, D.C., September 23.*

## What About You?

As we Little Sisters of the Poor celebrate with joy this Year of Consecrated Life proclaimed by Pope Francis, we are very mindful of all of you, our friends and benefactors, who support us in our beautiful vocation. You do this both through your prayers and financial support and also through the gift of the good will that you generate on our behalf among your local communities, churches, and workplaces—for which we are so very grateful!

This special year of rejoicing—which began on November 30, 2014 and will conclude on February 2, 2016—has been an occasion for us Little Sisters to deepen the joy of our own vocation, and also to share that joy with many young women who are seeking their calling in life. Discernment evenings and retreats, prayer and service live-in experiences, 1:1 vocation accompaniment, and visits to parishes, colleges, and universities are but a few of the many activities we've engaged in to help young women learn about our vocation and consider it as a possibility for their own lives.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis, during his homily at Mass for the World meeting of Families in Philadelphia on September 26th,

recounted a conversation long ago between St. Katharine Drexel and Pope Leo XIII, in which young Katharine was pleading that someone be sent to meet the needs of the neglected African-American and Indian peoples in her native Philadelphia. "What about you? What are you going to do?" Pope Leo had replied. And so it is that Pope Francis now echoes, "What about you?" to the young people of our time, who see so many needs among their brothers and sisters around the world and who seek a solution.

As we thank God for the beautiful young women whom He sends to our religious family, may we Little Sisters ask your help in spreading the word about our sacred vocation to even more of the young people around you? It's a great gift to us when you convey the awesome beauty of our life to those special young women whom you know or encounter, and when you propose to them the thought of a Little Sister vocation.

Please join us in saying to the young women of our time, "What about you?"

*For vocation inquiries, or for referrals of young women desiring 1:1 vocation accompaniment, contact Sr: Carolyn, lsp at vocmobile@littlesistersofthepoor.org or (251) 591-3700.*



## Save The Date

**GoDaddy Kickoff  
Event with TobyMac**  
December 19  
Mobile Civic Center

**Rock-A-Thon**  
February 27  
Sacred Heart Residence

**Blisters for Sisters**  
April 16  
Sacred Heart Residence

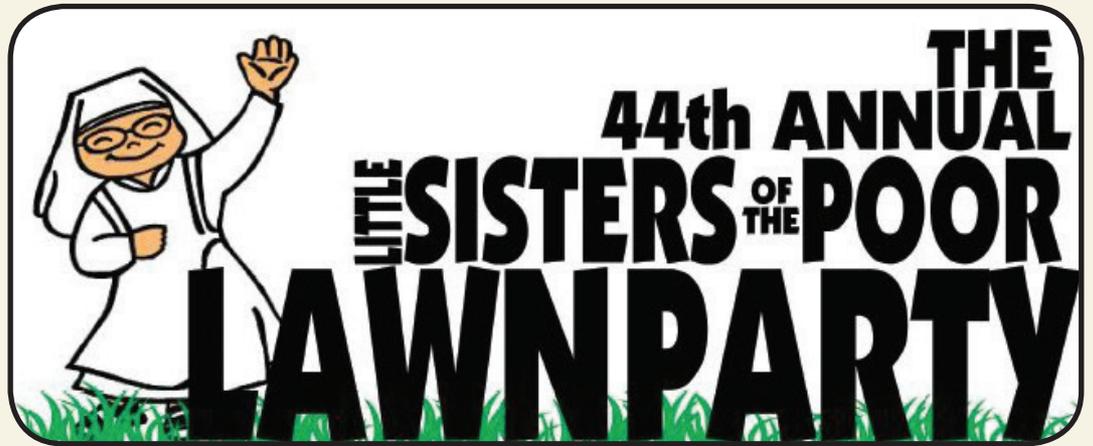
Printing Donated By Calagaz Printing

Winter, 2015

# Little Sisters of the Poor

## Another Successful Annual Lawn Party

What an amazing day! One for the record books! We thank God for providing the most beautiful day imaginable for our annual Lawn Party. Our volunteers, our staff, our benefactors, and most importantly, our Residents put their hearts and minds together for the most successful event ever. There were smiles everywhere, and kids of all ages loved the food, the music, the arts and crafts, and the rides. We can't wait until next year. Our prayers of thanksgiving go out to everyone involved — God Bless You!



## Thank You to Our Little Sisters!

By **Anna B. Crow**

The occasion of the Year of Consecrated Life provides a wonderful opportunity to express gratitude to all the Little Sisters of the Poor for serving the elderly in Mobile since 1901. Just think, more than 100 years of extending hospitality to many Residents, in a family oriented atmosphere. What an accomplishment!

My first encounter with the Little Sisters came when I was a young child observing the arrival of a pretty black carriage pulled by two horses with several of the Sisters aboard. They came to visit the neighborhood in search of supplies and funds to provide for the Residents.

The month after I celebrated my 90th birthday, I contracted a serious illness that required hospitalization. According to my family members, it was determined to be incurable. An angel all dressed in white, by the name of Sister Carolyn, appeared in the hospital room and asked if I would like to live at Sacred Heart Residence. Suddenly I sat up in bed and answered, "I would love to live with the Sisters of the Poor."

I thank God daily for giving me the chance to be a part of the Little Sisters' family, where all share much love and respect as we continue on our journey towards eternal life.



*Resident and author, Anna Crow*

## In Their Words...

Recently, we had the opportunity to interview two of our wonderful volunteers. Each of them spent at least three months in our activities area with our Residents. Imani Jones volunteered before she became an intern, and Jacqueline Naro is currently volunteering.

Jacqueline said that her favorite part of being here is the smiles she receives from our Residents. She said that no matter what her day is like, it turns to "happy" when she arrives. The one-on-one conversations and shared personal stories have been rewarding. As far as her expectations when she started, she thought there would be more sadness, but Jacqueline says it has been the happiness that is displayed by the Residents that has surprised her.

Imani was always excited to see the Residents as she walked the hallways. That excitement goes both ways. She especially enjoyed spending time with some of the Residents who might not get as many visitors as others. Imani said that she heard a new story each time, and she was as thrilled to hear them as they were to tell them. One of her biggest surprises came in the discovery of the Sisters. While she was raised Christian, she had very little exposure to Catholic nuns. She found



*Volunteer, Imani Jones*

them to be very caring and joyful, as she also found the many Catholic volunteers.

When it comes to the best memory and lesson learned during her time here, Jacqueline feels that the "family" she gained here helps compensate for not being with her family in Birmingham. Evidence of the bond formed here is reinforced by one of the Residents who tells her every day, "I love you." She is learning the lesson that all of us have the capacity for happiness, even in the midst of difficulties.

Imani's best memories came from the field trips with the Residents. She remembers the genuine kindness of their hosts at Dauphin Island for a day at the beach. Even the other volunteers shared the excitement of the trip to

New Orleans. Her favorite phrase came from a Resident who told her, "You need to be pretty every day!" Imani's take on her experience is summed up this way, "I never thought as much about life until talking to those who have lived most of theirs."

Their advice to other potential volunteers...? Come with an open mind, a positive attitude and new ideas!

### SAVE THE DATE!

**Discernment Retreat  
with Pope Francis**

Feb. 5-7, 2016

## A Message from Mother



The General Chapter of the Little Sisters is an international meeting that takes place every six years. It is always held at La Tour St. Joseph, our motherhouse in France. It allows all the members of the Congregation to participate in its government. In fact, elected delegates come from all of the 20 provinces of the Congregation, and I was one of those delegates.

Sister María del Monte Auxiliadora was elected as our new Mother General. She is our first Spanish Mother General. Mother María succeeds Mother Celine de la Visitation. Many of you may have met Mother Celine when she visited Mobile a few years ago. She will remain in the General Council, assuming the role of Vicar General.

During this time we had the joy of making a pilgrimage to the "cradle of the Congregation" — Cancale and Saint Servan. Visiting these special places reminds us of our beginnings and the many sacrifices made by our first Little Sisters. One thing that remains constant is the special place our friends and benefactors hold as we could not continue to care for the elderly without your support. Please be assured of my grateful prayers for all of you; I confided your intentions to our Mother St. Jeanne Jugan while visiting these sacred places. Following in her footsteps and echoing her sentiments we say: "Thank you God! Glory be to God! Blessed be God!"

– Mother Mary Sylvia

## Look at what we got!

We asked for your help to raise \$120,000.00 for our new chiller, and you delivered! From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for giving from the bottom of your heart. You are truly a blessing to us ... isn't she beautiful!

While we are expressing our gratitude, your previous generosity provided the funding to convert our shared bathroom facilities to private status. This means so much to our Residents for their comfort. Please know that you remain in our prayers always. The Little Sisters of the Poor are so blessed by God to have our benefactors!



## Happy Halloween

You just have to love the smiles on our young visitors and the young-at-heart Residents as they enjoyed trick-or-treat. These young visitors from Kindergarten at Little Flower Catholic School helped make memories, which was the real treat!

## GoDaddy Bowl Kickoff Event

Thank you Coca-Cola! The Little Sisters of the Poor were privileged to be chosen as one of three charities to receive proceeds from the GoDaddy Bowl Kickoff event. Please take the opportunity to attend this great concert to benefit the Little Sisters, Wilmer Hall and the Baptist Children's Home.

**Where:** Mobile, AL - Mobile Civic Center  
**When:** Saturday, Dec. 19  
**Starts:** 7 p.m.  
**Doors Open:** 6 p.m.

