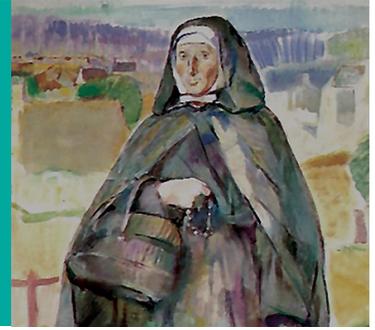




Sacred Heart Residence

Little Sisters of the Poor

Serving the elderly poor in Mobile since 1901



A Teacher Forever!

Bernadette Mathews grew up in Dundalk, Ireland. She graduated from St. Vincent High School and afterwards began her journey as a Sister of Mercy in 1959.

Ms. Mathews received her Bachelor's Degree in Education at St. Bernard in Cullman, Alabama.

She soon moved to Mobile, and in 1964 began teaching 4th grade at Holy Family Elementary School. In order to teach in Alabama, she was required to be certified.

Sister Anne Brady, who came to Mobile at the same time, and is a close friend of Ms. Mathews said that they attended St. Bernard College in Cullman along with about seventy other nuns striving to be accredited to teach in Alabama.

This period was before Vatican II, and Sisters at that time did not use their own names. Many of her students knew her as Sister DeMontford.

In 1977, Ms. Mathews moved over to St. Dominic Catholic School and taught 5th grade as a lay teacher. As was the case with most teachers at that time, she taught all of the subjects to her students. This was certainly one reason teachers got to know their students so much better than today's more "specialized" classes.

I asked her what changes she saw over those 27 years as a teacher.

"The parents were so much more involved in my students education early on. Over the years, the testing and the homework became much more intense. It seems that children now are much more in charge of their education."

Ms. Mathews said that one of the things she enjoyed most in her career was attending the school's athletic events and cheering on the students.

She retired from teaching in 1992. She began working with Archbishop Oscar Lipscomb at the Cathedral

Rectory Archives. She was fascinated with the history that she dealt with on a daily basis.

For ten years, Ms. Mathews researched records for people from all over the country. Much of that research helped them locate records of their sacraments as well as those of their family members.

Ms. Mathews became famous for one of her many loves...knitting. She was especially known for her skill knitting famous "Aran" Irish sweaters for other teachers and friends. She taught dozens of folks to knit.

One of her other well-known attributes is her love of Irish dancing. From time to time, she can still be seen demonstrating her skill at various Sacred Heart festivities.

We are truly blessed to see this beautiful lady in our halls. She still has many lessons to teach!



Our “Senior” senior!

Sarah Wilder has been a Resident at Sacred Heart for 25 years! Not only that...she was a volunteer for many years prior to living here. Sarah will be celebrating her 105th birthday in April.



Big bucks

*“Big Bucks” Bingo time again!
With generous donations from donors,
Margaret Smith and Sister Marie Cecilia
enjoy a winning card!*

Christmas is Real at Sacred Heart!

In 2018, we started the “Shoppes at Sacred Heart.” It was a huge success again as the Activities Department and generous volunteers stocked the stores with goods from places such as Belk’s, Dollar Tree and a new “Men’s” department.

Many of the Residents were able to purchase gifts for their family and friends. Mother Judith helped at the free gift wrap table.

It didn’t stop there. Our Residents enjoyed Christmas dinners, festive parties and wonderful gifts chosen especially for each of them.





Future Fathers

Service in Action!

Each year, the Little Sisters of the Poor are honored to have the seminarians from St. John Vianney College Seminary in Minnesota. Their annual visit to Mobile includes dozens of projects throughout our community. Most of those are outdoors. During inclement weather, these young men serve our Residents at Sacred Heart.

This is their first year in the Seminary. If their

enthusiasm is any indication of their future, the priesthood is in excellent hands. Four of the seminarians are from the Mobile area. It's a special feeling for those particular gentlemen to work in their home community.

One of the more "fun" events is the talent show put on at our Home. The guys use humor, music and magic to entertain, all useful attributes for their ultimate mission!



Volunteers!

Our Heartbeat!

Our volunteers here at Sacred Heart Residence come from all walks of life. Some are young, some older, some will help for a short period of time and others will dedicate a lifetime to our mission. All of them are important to our Residents and the Little Sisters of the Poor.

The effect those visits have on the Residents is

substantial, but there is something that happens to our volunteers that might be even more important. You see, their lives are affected forever.

On the surface, our Residents appear to be the beneficiaries. However, the opportunity to see the face of Jesus in them is a true blessing for our volunteers!

MOTHER'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

All of God's seasons are special at Sacred Heart Residence, just as they are in your home. For many of us, though, Lent represents a time for us to ponder the sacrifice of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and what that means in our lives. May this solemn time be, for you and your families, a grace-filled preparation for the beautiful feast of Easter!

Here at Sacred Heart Residence, there is nothing more beautiful than a smile from our elderly. This is the blessing we Little Sisters of the Poor are given on a daily basis. It's a reciprocal gift...they often see a smile on the faces of those who are trying to bring joy into their lives!

Our home in Mobile, Alabama is unique in many ways. Since our last newsletter, we've celebrated Mardi Gras with visits from parading revelers and our own Mardi Gras Coronation Ball with Queen Anne and King Melvin presiding over all the festivities.

Our foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan must be pleased at her legacy. Her principal preoccupation and concern was that of "making the Residents happy." One can be assured that she always gave the glory to God, not herself.

Jeanne Jugan had a great devotion to the rosary and constantly leaned on the intercession of our patron, St. Joseph for the needs of her elderly. In a 1944 solicitation written by Jeanne's friends and supporters on her behalf, she was described this way:

"In pleading (the cause of the poor) she is truly eloquent; she has often been known to burst into tears when explaining their needs. And so it is hard to refuse her, and she has nearly always succeeded in melting even the hardest of hearts..."

We are truly grateful, here at Sacred Heart, for our benefactors, volunteers and friends who are such an integral part of our Home's family. Each of you help to carry on the legacy of Saint Jeanne Jugan and collaborate with our present Sisters to carry out her mission of loving care to our Residents.

Gratefully in prayer,
Sister Judith, lsp

{ Save the Dates }

6th Annual Blisters for Sisters 5K & Fun Run April 25, 2020



Sponsored by Association of Jeanne Jugan

Italian Game Night

Saturday, March 21st - 6pm - 9pm Cost
\$25.00

LEFT, CENTER, RIGHT

**EMPLOYEES, FAMILIES & FRIENDS
ARE INVITED!!**

JOIN US FOR NIGHT OF FOOD, GAMES, DOOR PRIZES, MUSIC
& FUN TO BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS!

Wish List

Many of our benefactors ask if there is anything we need for our Residents...here are some of those items...

Thanks for asking!

- Dinner Napkins
- Individually wrapped soft snacks
- Individual cups of pudding, fruit and applesauce
- Liquid body wash
- Mouthwash
- Boxed tissues
- Clorox Wipes
- Liquid laundry soap
- Denture tablets
- Body lotion
- Adult wipes