



Sacred Heart Residence

Little Sisters of the Poor
Serving the elderly poor in Mobile since 1901



Our Home's Upgrade Begins!

We Little Sisters of the Poor in Mobile are upgrading our Home to meet the needs of our elderly for generations to come. We will remodel one wing of our Home to accommodate seventeen apartments for elderly persons able to benefit of independent living space. Following our longstanding tradition of caring for the neediest elderly, we will offer these apartments to older women and men with limited assets.

We will need to raise approximately \$3,000,000 to accomplish this project. Why are we making these changes now? There is a strong demand for housing for independent older adults with limited financial means. In addition, for years we have been challenged by a shortage of nursing staff at Sacred Heart. This nursing shortage is a national problem and affects our ability to continue providing our more frail Residents with the standard of care they deserve.

We will maintain two nursing units and replace the third with these independent living apartments. Once we've completed the renovation of our building, we will be able to better serve those who don't yet require nursing care. Then, as their health changes, these Residents will be able to transition to full nursing care in one of our two nursing units.

We remain committed to serving our Residents and believe that the new apartment wing will maximize quality of life for the elderly who reside in our



Home. The Residents of these new apartments will be a part of the Little Sisters' family, integrated fully into the life of the Home. They will benefit of the same love, respect, and security that characterizes the spirit of the Little Sisters' mission.

In addition to the seventeen apartments, this wing will include a dining area and a coffee shop/ice cream

parlor, which will be open to Residents of our Home and their families.

We have prayed over the decision to add these apartments and we believe they are a real need at this time. With your help, we will continue to carry on the tradition of care that began with our foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan, in 1839. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

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Laissez les Bons Temps Rouler!



Grand Marshall Jack Roach, Lady-In-Waiting Vivian Clark, Queen Delphine Crawford, Mother Provincial Julie, King Frank Alack, Lady-In-Waiting Irma "Weezie" Guillot, Jester John Simmance.



Sister Ellen Anne directing the Second Line Parade!



Mardi Gras celebrants preparing for Carnival Festivities and the Presentation of the Court. Visiting Sisters from Provincial Headquarters getting a taste of the merriment.



Anne Tucker and Sister Mary Imelda displaying festive smiles!



Conde Cavalier presenting Angele Nagle and Frieda Soeherman with traditional Mardi Gras beads!



Mother Judith receives roses after blessing the Conde Cavaliers during their annual visit to Sacred Heart Residence!

Just a Part of the Family

Carrie Allen has been a fixture here at Sacred Heart Residence longer than anyone. She was a nurse at another nursing home for nine months before she came to Little Sisters of the Poor. That was more than forty-four years ago!

Her sister-in-law was here before Carrie. She was the one who encouraged Carrie to come. Once she started working here, she was committed!

“This place felt like a real home to me. That’s what made me want to stay.”

Carrie has been on the 3-11 shift almost from the beginning. She loves the flexibility that allowed her to raise two kids and take care of her mother, who passed away three years ago.

She fondly remembers her first Mother Superior. “Mother Agatha was so sweet to us. She was always helping the employees here and treated us like family.”

“Sr. Celestine was my first supervisor. I got to know so many Sisters and Mothers during my time here,” she says. She remembers when there were two Residents in



each room.

Carrie says that she has especially enjoyed getting to know the Residents. “More than one Resident thought that they owned the Home. They didn’t hesitate to let you know that,” she laughed.

One of her favorites was a Resident named Margaret Blow. “She could make the most delicious lemon meringue pie you’ve ever eaten!”

Another favorite was Hattie Saucier. Carrie remembers that Hattie loved dressing up. “She wouldn’t leave her room without wearing her red lipstick!”

She recalls at least one couple who met here and eventually got married.

Carrie also remembers many of the priests who lived at the Home. “They all had their own personalities.”

Carrie says that in the past, Residents did many tasks such as laundry, working at the front desk, and greeting visitors at the front door.

She says, “I’ve loved getting to know the Little Sisters, the Residents, and my co-workers. We are all one big family!”

Dream Come True

Pat Forrest has been trying to get into Sacred Heart Residence since 2014. Finally, she’s home!

“My best friend, Mary Trigg, has been praying for me to get here. Prayers work!”

Pat attended high school at the Convent of Mercy in Mobile. She said she had so much fun at the all-girls school. She spent two years in college at South Alabama before deciding to attend Loyola University in Chicago. That’s where one of Pat’s many life adventures began.

Pat spent six months studying in Rome, Italy, as part of Loyola’s international studies program.

She loved visiting the many small churches in the area, not just the most famous ones.

Her memories include the marble steps, called the “steps of Jesus.” Another little church displayed St. Peter’s chains.

But, she remembers most vividly the side trip she took



with Mary and two new friends to Prague, Czechoslovakia. This was a year after the Russian invasion. Her dad was very concerned about the trip and had asked advice from Congressman Jack Edward’s office about traveling there.

When her dad received the “don’t go” advice, Pat and her friends had already concluded the visit.

“We stood out among the locals. The Czech government constantly followed us. One “civilian” followed them until he felt safe enough to make contact. He was very pro-United States and showed them a U. S. map. He wanted to hear as much as possible about life in America.

They decided to leave the country by train. “Four different communists told

us that the authorities would arrest us if we boarded the wrong train.” No pressure!

In retrospect, Pat says they were stupid college kids, but she doesn’t regret the trip.

A MESSAGE FROM MOTHER

Dear Friends,

We are having exciting times at Sacred Heart Residence. On April 1, we began construction on our new seventeen independent apartments. This addition to our Home will help us better serve the needs of our community.

As we mention on the front page of this newsletter, we are challenged by a nationwide shortage of qualified nursing personnel. These apartments will allow us to serve the elderly poor community who don't yet need full nursing care, but do have other needs such as economic, social, dietary and other types of resources.

We appreciate your help as we raise \$3,000,000 to complete this project.

When you receive this newsletter, we will be celebrating the Easter Season, where we are once again reminded of how much Jesus loves us and how He sacrificed His life for our eternal salvation. Jesus Christ has risen. ALLELUIA!



Here is the best news since the end of most of the Covid challenges — We have welcomed six new Residents into our Home in the last two months. These new Residents have adjusted well and are very happy to be members of our family. As our foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, told us, “It is a great grace to take care of Jesus in the person of the elderly.”

Our mission is to make our Residents feel loved and appreciated. We realize each day that we can not do this alone...we need the help of our benefactors to provide for their needs. Our mission has become your mission also.

You are truly a blessing for us. Please be assured of our deep gratitude and our daily prayers for you and your families.

May our Risen Jesus grant you an abundance of His graces this Easter Season.

Mother Judith, lsp

Chaplain's Corner

By Father Tom Weise

As I pondered Easter Sunday, which fell on the 31st, and last, day of March, it occurred to me that I have been Chaplain of the Little Sisters of the Poor for nine months this time. I was also the chaplain here forty-three years ago.

What have I accomplished this time?

Holy Mass every day for 270 days, lots of Confessions, many Sacraments of the Sick and Last Rites, and six funerals.

One funeral was for a dear lady of 108 years old. We have another beautiful woman here who is 106 and going strong.

Just thinking about these dear, sweet ladies makes me feel young at 87 1/2 years old. I do plan on reaching 101!

That age is in my obituary, which, of course I wrote myself! Why make your relatives do it at a busy time for them already?

Love,

Father Tom Weise
Chaplain



Wish List

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

Dinner Napkins

Individually Packaged Snack Items

Liquid Body Wash

Clorox Wipes

Liquid Dish/Laundry Soap

Body Lotion

Adult Wipes

Shout/Awesome Stain Removers

Lysol Spray

Personal Care Items

Assorted Gift Cards

Thank you for your generosity!