



Judy, David and Our Lady of Fatima in the Chapel at Jeanne Jugan Residence

A special Lady in our midst

Throughout our 167 Homes around the world each of our Residents shares a richness of wisdom, a depth of faith, and a witness to unique life experiences. How blessed we are to have the opportunity to listen and learn, to admire and revere, and to celebrate, what Pope Francis describes as “a time of grace.”

At Jeanne Jugan Residence here in Pawtucket, there is a very special Lady in our midst. Just over seventy years old and only three feet tall, the International Pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima resides here at our Home. How can it be that Our Lady lives among us? It is providential, of course.

The story begins eighteen years ago when Judy Studer was diagnosed with terminal cancer. This devastating news was yet another cross Judy and her husband, David, would be forced to endure, this after David's Parkinson's diagnosis and the recent loss of their grandchild at a very young age.

These sufferings and crosses led to an acute loss of faith. Several years ago, in a final effort of prayer, Judy, kneeling before Our Lady at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul during one of

many visits of Our Lady to Rhode Island, made a solemn promise to Mary that she would promote devotion to the Rosary if she were cured. Within a few weeks following that promise, a miraculous healing occurred. Oh the power of Mary's intercession!

For the past eighteen years Judy has been the Custodian of the United Nations Pilgrim Virgin Statue for the World Apostolate of Fatima. Judy and Our Lady have traveled the world spreading the message of Mary's healing power. Whether in India or the Philippines, Chicago or Hawaii, at the United Nations or St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, in hospitals, schools, and parishes, Judy shares her personal experience, her miracle story, and through Our Lady, brings hope to thousands of devoted pilgrims and believers every year.

This year is the 103rd anniversary of the Blessed Mother's appearance to those precious children – Jacinta, Francisco, and Lucia, in Fatima, Portugal. This May 13, on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima and on the 13th of every month through October, all of us at Jeanne Jugan Residence will



Photo of Judy and Archbishop of New York Timothy Cardinal Dolan et. al. in St. Patrick's Cathedral NYC (with permission from www.thefatimastatue.org)

once again give thanks to God for the blessing of Our Lady, the honor bestowed on us that she is in our midst, and the blessing of Judy, a member of our Jeanne Jugan family, her faithful servant. Especially during this time of crisis, Our Lady of Fatima remains a radiant vision of beauty, a beacon of hope, a guiding light, “brighter than the sun.”

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!



Mother Patricia Mary and Little Sisters enjoy the cheer and support of volunteers.

Together We Have It All

St. Jeanne Jugan brought a prophetic vision to her mission of caring for the needy elderly. She envisioned the work that came forth from her heart not simply as work but rather as a family. In this family our Residents, their families, Little Sisters, employees, AJJ, and volunteers all come together as one in this vision.

By mid-March, Covid-19, a phrase that had never been heard before, suddenly became a part of our daily vocabulary. Its appearance has disrupted the family of St. Jeanne Jugan just as it has many others. Yet when this pandemic forced us to close our doors to the outside world, one part of this family has continued to walk through those doors each and every day —our devoted employees:

- Our registered nurses, who constantly monitor temperatures and to whom no snuffle goes unnoticed.
- Our certified nursing assistants, who each minute of each day are the hands and the feet of the frailest.
- Our food service and dining staff who prepare delicious meals keeping everyone well-fortified.
- Our housekeeping and laundry staff who have been going the extra mile to disinfect door handles and light switches insuring our home is clean and keeping the virus at bay.
- Our administrative and maintenance teams providing a smooth and seamless transition amidst a wave of change.

To show appreciation and to recognize their dedication to our Home, we crafted bright and cheerful messages of



gratitude. The words Thank You! God Bless You! We Love You! are posted throughout our Home.

Our volunteers also got in the act! One chilly spring day, following social distancing guidelines, they gathered in front of our Home holding up handmade signs and blowing noise makers thanking the staff during the afternoon shift change as they entered and exited assuring them of our gratitude!

A frequently repeated saying often heard on the second floor is "We may not have it all together but together we have it all" which aptly sums it all up, because together, as a family, we do have it all!



Thank you!

Thank you for your generous support of our Emergency Fund appeal. To date, as a result of proceeds from the annual Winner-A-Day calendar campaign, along with several thoughtful and very generous donations, your contributions total more than \$215,000. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, thanks be to God, your generosity remains steadfast and your support encouraging.

Thank you also for your support of our (canceled) St. Patrick's Day Dinner. We hope you had a chance to celebrate with those you love. Because



of the generous donation of corned beef and more than 1200 scones we baked to sell at the event, our Residents (and those in our Homes in Somerville and Enfield) enjoyed a fun-filled and delicious meal. When



our days return to "normal" please support our good friends at The Old Grist Mill Tavern. Go and enjoy the idyllic setting for lunch or dinner or buy a gift card!

Mass Around the World

Oh what a gift! The Lord comes to me! Every morning! Right to my room, through the kindness of Sister Laurelliya, lsp. What a blessing to be here. It is like having a retreat every day!

I used to go to our beautiful chapel each day for Mass, for private prayer, and to pray the Rosary. I can't do that now but because of Sister Laurelliya's gifts of time and technological know-how, I have been able to watch Mass each day and from around the world! Mass in Ireland, Canada, England, Turkey, Australia and India. There was even a time spent with the Holy Father in Italy!

When I think of the many times (at home) when I wished to be at Church and I couldn't get there, now, even though we are all somewhat isolated and confined, I can participate in the



Mass with thousands, maybe millions of others.

Oh how the Lord has blessed me! I am now at the House of the Lord, grateful that Jeanne Jugan made room for me.

Thank you Sister Laurelliya! Thank you to all the Sisters and staff at our Home for your care and kindness! Thank you God!

Gratefully,
Shirley

A message from Sr. Mary Vincent

The sun shines brightly on this Wednesday morning as I make my way into our kitchen. As the begging Little Sister I am no stranger to the kitchen staff as we work closely together day after day. They are always there to accept whatever the day's begging rounds bring. Yet this morning our director of dining services is putting the final touches on the monthly shopping list for Restaurant Depot. She laments that it is much longer these days. That is because Covid-19 has put the brakes on our begging rounds for the time being,

Now, probably in what is one of the few times in our history, our begging van sits idle. Our visits to the New England Produce Center, the fish market and so much more have come to a standstill. With churches closed we cannot visit the parishes on weekends as we usually do. With an increase of demand on their services, even the weekly support of the Rhode Island Food Bank has dramatically decreased.

Now more than ever your support is critical as we reach out to you once more asking you to support our Residents

and our Home. Your generous gifts and in-kind donations will help take the bite out of that longer shopping list!

Whatever you can do would be most appreciated until we can get our wheels rolling again!

As always, be assured of our prayers for you! Thank you.



MOTHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As we continue to navigate the stormy seas of the global pandemic, hearing news from countries near and far of the sufferings of people around the world, all of us at Jeanne Jugan Residence realize how dependent we are upon one another and how small our world really is.

Recently Pope Francis spoke to all the peoples of the world entrusting them to the Lord through the intercession of Mary, Health of the People and Star of the Stormy Sea. He asked for God's blessings to come down upon us as a consoling embrace, to give health to our bodies and comfort to our hearts. Jesus asks us not to be afraid, calling us to faith and trust in Him, calling us to draw strength and courage from Him and from one another.

And we do! We draw strength from our elderly family as we witness their courage, patience, and deep faith in the face of this pandemic. We marvel at the dedication of our staff who each day reveal Christ's love through their compassionate care of our Residents. Our spirits are lifted by family members



Better days. Millie and I enjoying time together, pre-pandemic.

and steadfast volunteers who bring messages of hope and support from the outside in. We are grateful for our friends and benefactors whose prayers and generous support provide much needed encouragement.

With love and smiles beneath the masks that cover our faces, our staff and Sisters continue to provide for the care and needs of our Residents. Life in our home has changed it is true, asking all of us to make many sacrifices. We respond in trust and faith. The many restrictions and measures that are in

place must be continued. We appreciate the guidance of the Rhode Island Department of Health, our health care associations, and many others who are concerned for the welfare of those confided to our home.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the staff at Jeanne Jugan Residence and all those who work in the homes of the Little Sisters of the Poor around the world. They are special and dear to us and their witness of love, care, and respect is certainly a measure and part of the legacy of hospitality left to the world by St. Jeanne Jugan.

All in our home pray daily for you and for the many who are facing challenges in their day to day life. With deep gratitude, be assured of our continued prayers, that through the intercession of our Mother Foundress, God will bless and protect you and your family.

Have faith, stay strong, trust in the Lord, and let us continue to pray for one another.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Sr. Patricia Mary

SAVE THE DATE

June:

Indoor Yard Sale - postponed to September

August:

PawSox Family Fun Day - tbd

August 21-29:

Novena to St. Jeanne Jugan

August 30:

Feast Day of St. Jeanne Jugan

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS

If you are able to donate any of these items please call 401-723-4314 before you arrive. Someone can meet you outside or you can leave them at the front entrance.

PERSONAL CARE AND SUNDRIES

Kleenex, mouthwash, body wash, body lotion, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, personal cleansing wipes, copy paper

SWEET TREATS FOR OUR RESIDENTS

packaged cookies, doughnuts, muffins, cakes, candy, soft drinks, baking mixes



Dear Little Sisters,

Please accept my contribution of \$ _____
in support of your mission.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Please send me information on remembering the Little Sisters in my will or estate

Please send me your quarterly Serenity magazine

I have submitted a matching gift form through my employer

Contributions can also be made online at www.littlesistersofthepoorpawtucket.org

