



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ and A Happy Mothers Day! Today as we salute, honor and thank God for that particular woman who is our mother, we also remember the beautiful vocation that is MOTHERHOOD. Without it, without our moms saying “yes” to that vocation over and over again, we simply would not be here. How different the world would be! How beautiful the world is because of moms! On this Mothers Day, I salute one particular woman whose chaste celibate life mothered countless people, St. Jeanne Jugan, the foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

It’s been two years since the Little Sisters have visited us for their annual collection. Recently, they asked that we remember them. To that end, you can find an envelope enclosed in this bulletin that can be mailed directly to them or placed in a future collection. At the end of May, we will collect any monies and write a check to the Little Sisters of Newark, Delaware for their work. Let’s join together to support their holy vocation. For Holiness begets holiness, Love begets Love and the Vocation to Motherhood begets both!

A Happy Mother’s Day to all our moms and to those ladies whose lives speak life into our broken world.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

### **SAVE THE DATE**

On Saturday, May 22 at the 5PM Mass, we will welcome to our back to the parish, DEACON Ryan Nguyen. Deacon Ryan will preach and assist at that Mass. While that Mass will be live streamed, all are welcome to be with us for one of Deacon Ryan’s first homilies!

#### **ST. JEANNE JUGAN, FOUNDRRESS OF THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR**

Jeanne Jugan grew up in a small town in revolutionary France. Times were tough. Violence ruled the day. For thousands, begging was a way of life. Those who openly practiced their faith were not merely ridiculed – they were imprisoned or killed. Jeanne received her faith formation, secretly and at great risk, from her mother and a group of women who belonged to a lay movement of the day.

By the time Jeanne was four years old her father had been lost at sea. Her mother found odd jobs to make ends meet. Neighbor helped neighbor. As a young girl Jeanne worked as a shepherdess. She learned to knit and spin wool. Later she went to work as a kitchen maid for a wealthy family.

On fire with love for God, Jeanne barely learned to read and write. Her education consisted mostly of on-the-job training in the school of real life. Neither beautiful nor talented in the usual sense, she was gifted with an extraordinary heart. Jeanne was on fire with love for God!

Barely out of her teens, Jeanne felt the call of divine love. Preparing to leave home, she told her mother “God wants me for himself. He is keeping me for a work which is not yet founded.” Jeanne took the road less traveled, setting out to work among the poor and forsaken in a local hospital.

Many years went by before Jeanne discovered her vocation. Finally, one cold winter night she met Jesus Christ in the person of an elderly, blind and infirm woman who had no one to care for her. Jeanne carried the woman home, climbed up the stairs to her small apartment and placed her in her own bed. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



**SAVE THE DATE for the next St. Patrick's Young Adults Social**

**Saturday, May 29, 2021**

Calling all young adults, married and single, mid-20s to mid-30s! Have you always wondered about how to befriend that other person or couple you see each week at Mass? Trying to connect with others your age from St. Pat's? Then save the date for **Saturday, May 29 at 6:00PM at Braeloch Brewing (225 Birch Street)** for a casual meet-up! RSVP online at [www.stpatrickkenettsquare.org](http://www.stpatrickkenettsquare.org). Individual bar tabs for food and beverage. Children welcome. We hope to see you there!



**ASCENSION THURSDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Wednesday, May 12 at 5:00PM

Thursday, May 13 at 7:30AM, 9:00AM,  
12:00PM & 7:00PM

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

From then on, Jeanne would sleep in the attic. God led more poor old people to her doorstep. Generous young women came to help. Like Jeanne, they wanted to make a difference. Like her, they believed that "the poor are Our Lord." A religious community was born!

There were so many old people in need of a home, so many souls hungry for love! The work rapidly spread across France and beyond. Struck by their spirit of humble service, local citizens dubbed the group the Little Sisters of the Poor. The name stuck! For herself Jeanne chose the religious name Sister Mary of the Cross. She would live it in its fullness...

The work of the Little Sisters continued to spread, borne by the wind of the Spirit. So did Jeanne's renown-until one day she was mysteriously cast aside by an ambitious priest who had taken over the direction of the young community. Jeanne was replaced as superior and sent out begging on behalf of the poor. And then one day she was placed in retirement, relegated to the shadows. At the time of her death 27 years later, the young Little Sisters didn't even know that she was the foundress. (CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN)

Jeanne had often told them, "We are grafted into the cross and we must carry it joyfully unto death." How she lived these words! What a radiant example of holiness she gave to generations of Little Sisters!

Like the grain of wheat that falls into the earth and dies, Jeanne's life would bear much fruit. Thousands of young women followed in her footsteps. The Little Sisters' mission of hospitality spread to the ends of the earth, like a great wave of charity. In his time, God would raise Jeanne up. At her beatification Pope John Paul II said that "God could glorify no more humble a servant than she." Pope Benedict said that Saint Jeanne's canonization would "show once again how living faith is prodigious in good works, and how sanctity is a healing balm for the wounds of humankind." A friend of the poor-a Gospel witness for our time-a Saint for old age and every age!

**LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY**

Let us all unite to pray the rosary as the family of St. Patrick Church. Please join us in this virtual connection on Sunday nights at 7:00PM and let us be united in mind and heart while meditating on the mysteries of our salvation in Christ.

Join by clicking the link found below or you may call in:

Webinar ID: 819088101952/Passcode: 664136

312-626-6799 or 301-715-8592



**Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from you.