

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

QUEEN OF PEACE RESIDENCE

SERVING THE ELDERLY POOR SINCE 1868



*Sharing the Joy.
Joy Johnson and
Sr. Genevieve*

SAVE THE DATES

Garden Party
September 14, 2019

Christmas Craft Fair
November 9, 2019

Ham and Turkey Drop
November 16, 2019

German Fest
January 23, 2020
Hempstead Golf and Country Club

THE JOY AT QUEEN OF PEACE

The spirit and feeling of joy are ever present at Queen of Peace. The joy shown by the Little Sisters, staff, volunteers and associates in the service to our Residents abounds. Joy is difficult to explain, but you can see it through the service of the elderly carried out with dignity and respect.

At Queen of Peace, we were most fortunate to have a physical presence of joy in the person of Joy Johnson. Joy recently retired from Queen of Peace after 29 years of dedicated service. The name Joy is most appropriate for her, for her life story is one of love, faith, trust, compassion and most fittingly, joy.

Joy arrived at Queen of Peace in 1989 for a job interview for a position in the kitchen. Accompanying Joy were her youngest son in a stroller and her four-year-old son in tow. At that time, the kitchen was under the direction of Sister Grace and had a staff of

employees responsible for meal preparations for all of our Residents. Sr. Grace hired Joy for the open position in the kitchen. Joy proved to be a very dedicated and competent worker. Unbeknown to anyone other than Sr. Grace, during this time, Joy was facing some very difficult personal challenges and did not have a permanent place to live with her children. Sr. Grace quietly helped Joy out by allowing her children to come and stay in her office at Queen of Peace while Joy worked in the kitchen. Sr. Grace and Joy were quit a team indeed! As time went on, Joy's living arrangements became more stable and she was able to find a safe and secure apartment for herself and her boys. All the while, Joy remained a dedicated employee with a contagious positive attitude. Joy spread the joy she experienced at Queen of Peace to those with whom she came into contact.

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LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

"In calling you, God says to you: you are important to Me. I love you'... Joy is born from that! The joy of the moment in which Jesus looked at me. Understanding and hearing this is the secret of our joy."

POPE FRANCIS

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She quickly became a friend to many employees and Residents alike. When the food service at the Residence was contracted out to a food service company, Joy began work in the housekeeping department under the direction of our own Sr. Genevieve, and she and Sister became fast friends. Joy continued to thrive at Queen of Peace and remained to many, a physical example of joy – with a beautiful singing voice. As time passed, Joy managed to save for a house of her own and one day moved into the home with her children.

Joy never forgot the lessons she learned and the joy she received from overcoming her

own personal struggles, especially regarding the need for quality child care for working parents. She took this concern personally and when she was able, she became a foster parent to several children, three of whom would eventually lose their own mother to AIDS. Joy eventually adopted two of her foster children.

In her retirement, Joy continues to help provide child care to working parents, many of whom are struggling financially. She continues to selflessly give of herself and spreads happiness to those who are fortunate to cross her path. Our Home is a place of Joy. Our dear Joy is truly an inspiring source of it.



St. Joseph, Protect Those Who Turn To You With Confidence. Amen.

ST. JOSEPH – OUR PROTECTOR **THE JOY OF FAITH**

St. Jeanne Jugan had a special devotion to St. Joseph, head of the Holy Family and its provider, to obtain all she needed to care for the elderly poor. She considered him to be the great Protector and Provider of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Jeanne Jugan saw Christ in what St. Teresa of Calcutta would describe as His "distressing disguises." With great confidence in God's providence and the intercession of St. Joseph,

she begged willingly for the many homes that she opened, relying on the good example of the Little Sisters and the generosity of benefactors who knew the good that the Little Sisters were doing. Jeanne once said, "With the eye of faith, we must see Jesus in our old people—for they are God's mouthpiece." No matter what the difficulties, she was always able to turn to St. Joseph for Providence and Protection.

Today the Little Sisters continue to confide

their needs to St. Joseph, seeing in him a father, in the likeness of our heavenly Father, whose Providence watches especially over little ones. This year, the feast of St. Joseph was celebrated by a special Mass at Queen of Peace with

Bishop Richard Henning of the Diocese of Rockville Centre as the principal celebrant.

After Mass, the Bishop along with our guests and Residents, enjoyed a special lunch along with the traditional St. Joseph's table.



THE JOY OF MINISTRY

In May our dear Resident, Rev. Robert (Fr. Bob) Blauvelt, will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Fr. Bob is truly a joyful priest who has always been generous with his time and spirit throughout his ministry in the Diocese of Brooklyn.

Fr. Bob began his ministry at St. Brendan's in Brooklyn upon his graduation from Cathedral College. His public ministry continued in various positions and parishes within the diocese including several years as a teacher of seminarians at Cathedral College. Fr. Bob was also appointed a Parochial Vicar for the diocese. Throughout his ministry, Fr. Bob's passion was evangelization. He took this passion with him in his parish assignments and, as a result, he initiated a wide range of outreach and pastoral programs to meet the needs of an ever-changing parish community. Ministry to the bereaved,



Fr. Bob enjoying our Valentine's Party

to the homebound, to singles and to divorced and separated Catholics are but a few of the pastoral programs created by Fr. Bob. His passion and commitment to evangelization was recognized by then Bishop Muguero of Brooklyn, who appointed Fr. Bob as the first director for the Office of Evangelization in the Diocese.

Fr. Bob is a prolific writer and his work

"A New Approach to Praying the Rosary" was reproduced into a second edition. He was also a regular contributor to "The Tablet", the official newspaper of the Diocese of Brooklyn. At Queen of Peace, Fr. Bob participates in many of the social events on the calendar and is an avid card player. He is sincerely interested in knowing how everyone he comes into contact with is doing and always has a kind word and a heartfelt blessing to give.

Pope Francis could have been describing Fr. Bob when he spoke of evangelization by saying, "Evangelization is more effective when it is carried out with oneness of spirit... among missionaries and local clergy: this requires courage to seek out ways of working together and offering mutual help in the areas of catechesis and catholic education, as well as integral human development and charity" (September 21, 2014).

A JOYFUL GATHERING

Queen of Peace Residence held its 9th Annual German Fest event on January 24th at the Hempstead Golf and Country Club. The sold-out event featured a magnificent buffet of German specialty foods and desserts, German beer and wines and authentic German music with costumed dance performers. A joyful gathering indeed!

The tradition of German Fest begins our new year of saying thank you to our friends and meeting new ones to introduce to the mission of the Little Sisters. The evening also allowed our Residents to meet and speak with those who steadfastly support the mission of the Little Sisters. Once again, the Auxiliary Committee at Queen of Peace did a tremendous job of decorating the living room and preparing many unique raffle baskets. Thank you for carrying on our splendid tradition of German Fest.

The proceeds from this joyful event goes for the direct care of our Residents at Queen of Peace. Danke schoen! (Thank you very much!)



*Eine freudige Versammlung
2019 GERMAN FEST – A Joyful Gathering*

THE JOY OF MUSIC

2019 AMERICAN BANDSTAND

Back by popular demand, Queen of Peace held its 3rd Annual American Bandstand event on March 7 at the beautiful Antun's of Queens Village. The very well-attended event featured a delicious cocktail hour and magnificent dinner, all sponsored by Joe King and the wonderful staff at Antun's. Again this year, the highlight of the evening was the performance by the Acchords who donated their time and tremendous talent while dynamically performing the music of the 50's and 60's. The dance floor was filled all night. A joyful and nostalgic time was had by all.

American Bandstand has become a "friend raiser" for the Little Sisters. It is a wonderful opportunity for our Residents and Sisters to meet and speak with old friends and make new ones and introduce them to our mission. Our dedicated Auxiliary Committee worked tirelessly in preparing for the event by decorating the dining room, greeting our guests during registration and selling cash raffle and "pick your prize" raffle tickets throughout the evening. Our guests also had the unique opportunity to purchase some delicious Homemade scones.

All proceeds support the mission of caring for the elderly poor with dignity and respect by the Little Sisters of the Poor at Queen of Peace Residence. Thank you for supporting this newest and very entertaining tradition.



The World - Renowned Acchords

A MOMENT WITH MOTHER CELINE THÉRÈSE



The Holy Season of Easter is a reminder of the joyful blessings of new life. The snows of winter are absorbed by the earth and plants begin to sprout. Birds build their nests and they soon fill the air with Springtime music. Life is truly renewed. In writing this message, I find that I am reflecting on the numerous blessings we have been given in the last 49 years of our joyful presence in Queens. These years of service to the elderly poor of Queens and surrounding areas have been happy, challenging and eventful. Many personal experiences and edifying gems of Providence have been recorded and developed into historic treasures.

Our generous benefactors continue to support our Home here at Queen of Peace. We share the love of God in many different ways and our friendships are enduring. Certainly the spiritual solidarity is ever strengthening as we walk together in faith.

As you read the articles in this newsletter, you will see that the joy of serving others brings forth much fruit to build a better world. Thank you all for being part of this family and for helping to provide for the needs of our Home. You are truly our partners as we live out our Mission!

We would also like to ask you to pray with us for an increase of Vocations for more young women to follow in the footsteps of Saint Jeanne Jugan to provide for the needs of the elderly throughout the world.

Thank you.

Blessings,

Sr. Celine Thérèse, Lsp

QUEEN OF PEACE RESIDENCE

THE JOY OF A SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL APPEAL

The Little Sisters 2018 Annual Appeal was dedicated to the major overhaul of our service elevator. With great joy and heartfelt thanks, we are very pleased to inform you that our service elevator has been completely overhauled and is now back in service at Queen of Peace. Your generous response to our 2018 Annual Appeal allowed us to complete this most vital project ahead of schedule and under budget. Thank you!

As you can imagine, our service elevator is an extremely critical component for

the care of our Residents, in that it is used extensively for the delivery of food, essential services and medical supplies. In addition, the service elevator supplements the transportation of our Residents in times of emergency.

The Little Sisters and staff are selfless in the attention that they offer each and every Resident in our care. Our Home is a comfortable, safe and secure one. It is a Home of great joy, all thanks to your prayers and generosity.



JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM VALENTINE'S JOY

On Saturday, February 2 a traditional, joyful celebration continued at Queen of Peace. The 2019 Junior/Senior Prom was hosted by students from Chaminade and Kellenberg Memorial High Schools. Our Residents so look forward to this event each year. This much-loved evening has been taking place at Queen of Peace for 30 years now! This year's theme was the celebration of Valentine's Day.

When the students or "Juniors" arrived, they were given a card with their "Senior" date's

name and room number. Our Residents were decked out in their finest and were ready to enjoy the evening with these remarkable young people. Each student escorted their "date" to the auditorium.

Before entering, each couple, surrounded by red and white balloons, stood to have their photo together. Then the party began with music, dancing, snacks and the opportunity of two distinct generations to enjoy each other's company in a joyful celebration of life.