

## Year of St. Joseph

The Little Sisters of the Poor have great devotion to St. Joseph, as their foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan chose him as the patron saint of the Congregation. Marking the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph being declared patron of the universal church, Pope Francis proclaimed a yearlong celebration dedicated to the foster father of Jesus.

After the Virgin Mary, no saint is mentioned more frequently in the writings of the popes than St. Joseph. Pope Francis points out that his predecessors reflected on the limited information handed down by the Gospels in order to appreciate more fully and round out his role in the history of salvation. One hundred fifty years ago Pope Pius IX declared Joseph "Patron of the Catholic Church." Pius XII named him "Patron of Workers" and Saint John Paul II called him "Guardian of the Redeemer."

In his apostolic letter, *Patris Corde* meaning "With a father's heart," the Pope said Christians can discover in St. Joseph, who often goes unnoticed, "an intercessor, a support, and a guide in times of trouble. St. Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all."

As Mary's husband and guardian of the son of God, St. Joseph turned "his human vocation to domestic love into a superhuman oblation of himself, his heart, and all his abilities, a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home." Despite being troubled at first by Mary's pregnancy, he added, St. Joseph was obedient to God's will "regardless of the hardship involved."

"In every situation, Joseph declared his own 'fiat,' like those of Mary at the Annunciation and Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane," the pope said. "All this makes it clear that St. Joseph was called by God to serve the person and mission of Jesus directly through the exercise of his fatherhood and that, in this way, he cooperated in the fullness of time in the great mystery of salvation and is truly a minister of salvation."

St. Joseph's unconditional acceptance of Mary and his decision to protect her "good name, her dignity, and her life" serves as an example of a respectful and sensitive man. Pope Francis also highlighted St. Joseph's "creative courage," not only in finding a stable and making it a "welcoming home for the son of God when he came into the world," but also in protecting Christ from the threat posed by King Herod.

As a carpenter who earned "an honest living to provide for his family," Christ's earthly guardian is also an example for both workers and those seeking employment and the right to a life of dignity for themselves and their families.

## Resident Art Gallery

Thirteen Residents recently showcased their works of art on the gallery making the “outing” the highest attended event for many months. All types of art were showcased, from drawings and paintings to three-dimensional sewing and quilting. The show was well received and the Residents are eagerly working to produce pieces for the next show.



Our Music Therapist Emily sharing the gift of song in the Home.



Residents enjoy Lenten Cards they received from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel students.



Eloise Kibler enjoys celebrating her 100th Birthday!

*“If God is with us, it will  
be accomplished...  
God will help us;  
the work is his.”*

*– Saint Jeanne Jugan*

# Ernest Lelièvre – Missionary in the New World

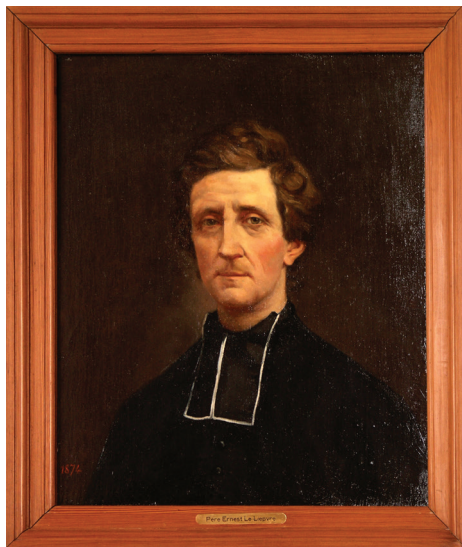
In the summer of 1868, Fr. Ernest Lelièvre cut all ties linking him to the wealth and privileges of his affluent family in the Old World. The Spirit of God could not fail to be with him as he embarked across the Atlantic to America as an ambassador of the Little Sisters of the Poor Congregation. Upon arriving in the New World, Fr. Lelièvre immediately travelled by train and barge across the country to Louisiana, to meet with Bishop Odin of New Orleans.

God's Providence shined upon Little Sisters of the Poor during this foundational meeting. Of Bishop Odin, Fr. Lelièvre wrote "Never has a man better recaptured the zeal of all our great missionaries." The Bishop donated a house with a courtyard, garden and an acre of land for the Congregation. The first Little Sisters were to arrive in the Crescent City in the Fall of 1968 after the brutal summer heat and fever season was over.

This meeting was the first of many with bishops throughout the United States. On his way back to New York, his port of arrival, Fr. Lelièvre stopped in St. Louis, Chicago, Detroit, Baltimore, and Brooklyn. He was welcomed in open arms by the Bishops, each of whom agreed to donate land to establish new foundations for the Little Sisters of the Poor in their communities.

Fr. Lelièvre wrote "My head is spinning with it all. I know it is superfluous to worry, because everything will come to pass and will be accomplished by our Lord Jesus Christ. Just the sight of all that has to be done, all the places we must go, and the responsibilities I must undertake keeps me awake at night, It is then I take refuge and unite myself with the nothingness of Saint Joseph and the home at Nazareth, while the salvation of the whole world was being prepared there."

By September 13, 1868 the first



Little Sisters of the Poor arrived in New York and found the three unfurnished houses in Brooklyn.

Accompanied by two benefactors, the Little Sisters immediately went out to collect, and their visit was announced by the 20 area parishes where

some 350,000 Catholic lived.

"They were so well received," recounted Fr. Lelièvre, "that they came home loaded down like the St. Nicholas donkey. Offerings of food, supplies, clothing, and money were given by people of all ages. Sometimes

enthusiasm dies down after a little while, but this was not at all the case for the Little Sisters of the Poor foundation in Brooklyn. People and businesses continued to support the Home and its needy Residents.

God's Providence was truly with them, as foundations rapidly spread across our great nation over the next few years. Further stories about the life of Fr. Ernest Lelièvre will be shared in future newsletter editions this year.

*Reference: Ernest Lelièvre: 1826-1889 "Have the poor ever had a greater friend than he?" Little Sisters of the Poor, Publications Office*

## OUR MISSION

*Continuing the work of Saint Jeanne Jugan, our mission is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.*



## OUR VALUES

*Reverence for Life  
Family Spirit  
Humble Service  
Compassion  
Stewardship*

**Little Sisters of the Poor  
St. Augustine Home**

## Mother's Message



Dear Friends,

Alleluia, Alleluia! Now that we are well into the Easter season, we join with you in singing our hymns of joy and hope at the Resurrection of Christ! May it be a time of great blessings for you and your loved ones! I hope this newsletter finds all of our friends and benefactors at a place where God's Love is recognizable and experienced. It has been our continued prayer for you all along.

While we are most blessed in our

work, we realize we could not do it without your help. Someone once said, "The Lord puts remarkable people in our path." We see this as we are blessed with a network of wonderful friends and benefactors. You are a part of our extended "family" who help us and greatly enhance the care we give our elderly Residents.

We continue to be vigilant with our COVID safety precautions and recognize God's guiding and protecting hand over our Residents and our Home. Most of our Residents have been vaccinated, as we continue to walk together with our goal of protecting our Residents and bringing them the joy and happiness they so deserve. As the warmer days are ahead of us, we are all looking forward to getting outside on our grounds to enjoy the weather.

Enclosed with this newsletter is the entry form for our 2021 Car

Raffle. Tickets are \$100 each or 6 for \$500, with a Grand Prize choice of a 2021 Buick Encore, 2021 Harley Davidson Road King, or \$20,000 in cash! The drawing will take place on July 1, 2021. I hope you are able to generously participate, as this raffle has raised over \$100,000 for the Home in previous years.

Together in prayers for our country and for all our suffering brothers and sisters throughout the world, we ask our Risen Savior that the joy of the Resurrection will always fill your hearts and homes.

All here at St. Augustine Home join me in wishing you a very happy and Blessed Easter Season.

*Sr. Francis Gabriel, L.S.P.*

Sr. Francis Gabriel, L.S.P.  
Superior

## Swing Fore Seniors Golf Tournament

Dear Friends,

We are happy to announce that our 22nd Swing Fore Seniors Golf Tournament will return to Prairie View Golf Club in Carmel on Thursday September 9, 2021! We had incredible feedback on this course and hope you are able to join us this fall.

We need your help to make this year's tournament even more successful for the Little Sisters of the Poor and the elderly residents of St. Augustine Home. Please consider being a sponsor or bringing a friend or foursome!

For more Information about Golf, Donation, & Sponsorship Opportunities, email Nathan Buonanno at [devindianapolis@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:devindianapolis@littlesistersofthepoor.org) or call 317-415-5767.

**Save *the* Date**  
**September 9, 2021**

**PRAIRIE VIEW**  
**GOLF CLUB**

**Little Sisters *of the* Poor**  
**Swing Fore Seniors**  
**Golf Tournament**