

A Simple Note from Mother Cornelia



Dear Friends,

By the time you receive this newsletter, we may already have a new Holy Father! What a surprise to all of us to hear our present Holy Father announce his resignation. One has to admire his courage and his humility to recognize his failing health and to take this unusual step of resignation. Our prayer is one of gratitude for his long years of devoted service to the Church. We remember with fondness his visit to our Home in London, where he addressed the Residents in these words: "I come to you as a brother who knows well the joys and the struggles that come with age." And: "The provision of care for the elderly should be considered not so much an act of generosity as the repayment of a debt of gratitude." (The full text of his address can be found on our National Web Site). Our prayers also accompany the cardinals as they travel to Rome to choose, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, a new Roman Pontiff. When one of our employees, a Greek-Orthodox Christian, heard about the pending election of a new Pope, she asked, "Do you fast for your new pope?" Maybe our prayer could be complemented by little acts of sacrifices for this intention.

May St. Joseph, our protector and provider, bless each one of you in a special way as we prepare to welcome a new Pope in the joy of the Resurrected Christ at Easter!

God bless you!

New Cash Prizes!

JULY 4TH RAFFLE

1st Place Winner – \$5,000

2nd Place Winner – \$3,000

3rd Place Winner – \$2,000

Purchase your tickets now!

\$5.00 each or six for \$25.00

**Drawing will be held on July 4th, 2013
at 12:30 p.m. at Mullen Home**

You need not be present to win.

For additional tickets, please call 303-433-7221.



Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 1976 is Mullen Home's very own Slam Bang Band. Residents shown range in age from 83 to 88.

Serving the elderly poor in Denver since 1917.

Spring, 2013

**MULLEN HOME
FOR THE AGED
3629 W. 29th Avenue
Denver, CO 80211**

303-433-7221
littlesistersofthepoordenver.org



MULLEN HOME FOR THE AGED

Your Chance to Shine in "Diamonds & Denim"

Save the date! - June 8, 2013

An opportunity to celebrate the Little Sisters of the Poor's 95 years in Denver. The evening's event will take place at the new Colorado History Museum in downtown Denver. Award-winning broadcast journalist, Bertha Lynn, from 7NEWS will be our Master of Ceremonies.

More information will be coming your way, so look for your personal invitation in the mail in late April. Sponsorships for the evening are welcome! We have several levels you can choose from: the Archangel at \$15,000 to the Halo level of \$1,000. Each level offers various opportunities for recognition during the gala event. Please contact Peggy Dietz, 303-433-7221, ext. 127 for more information.



Residents gather in 1919 for a group photo on the beautiful grounds of Mullen Home. It was requested that "Residents be citizens of Colorado, at least 60 years of age, and unable to support themselves and in need."

Our 95th year Gala "Wish List"

As you have so graciously and generously helped us throughout our 95 years in Denver, we now ask for your help and consideration of the following ways to help:

- **Stations of the Cross:** "Station sponsorships" are still available
- **Cleaning of windows**, both on the old building, needing special equipment, and the new building
- **Update the outside cameras**, especially on the front parking lot
- **A big screen TV** for the Wii game in our therapy department
- **New nightstands** for the Resident rooms
- **Vital Sign Monitoring Equipment** for the nursing department



The original entrance to our Home in the early 1900s is still in use today for special gatherings and celebrations.



Theresita spends many creative writing hours at her desk in her room at Mullen Home.

Consecrated Laywoman Instructs Everywhere She Goes

By Nissa LaPoint, Denver Catholic Register

(excerpted here with permission from the Denver Catholic Register. It can be seen in its entirety at www.littlesistersofthepoordenver.org by activating the link in "News and Events.")

Theresita Polzin was born to be a teacher. The 97-year-old consecrated laywoman has spent her life instructing people of all ages about academics and the Catholic faith.

"Teaching was and still is my one love," Polzin said from her room at Little Sisters of the Poor's Mullen Home in Denver. "Wherever I went, I tried to teach something."

The Illinois native grew up in Denver and spent much of her 50-year teaching career in Chicago. Today, she invites youth volunteers at the Mullen Home to listen to a short lesson and distributes her authored publications on Catholicism.

Initially, her experience of school was not positive. After her first day of school when 5, 6 and, again, at 7 years old, she asked her mother to let her wait another year. "I really wasn't ready," Polzin said. "She wanted me to go and I went one day and I said, 'I quit.'"

When 7, she complained to her mom, Pearl, after running home from school that she feared the hawks soaring above would catch her.

"She said, 'No. You're too big and they're too small, and they could never lift you.' That has been a guideline for my life," Polzin said. "It makes you feel whatever the obstacle, it's too small."

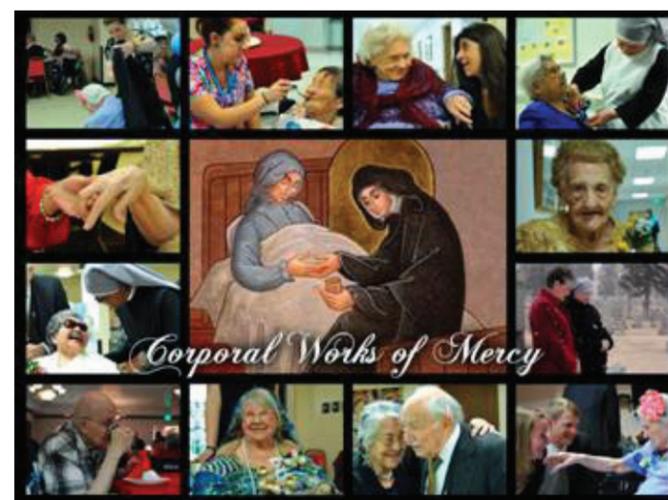
She used that moment for courage when faced with a challenging course, she said. She sped through school—passing four grade levels in two years until she entered fifth grade at 10—and attended the then newly built St. Joseph Polish School in Denver. It was there that she discovered her vocation.

She graduated at 16 and immediately entered a Franciscan order. She made her first vows at 18 and began teaching seventh grade at a school in Chicago. Three years later, Polzin made her final vows. She loved teaching and taught at Catholic schools across Chicago from elementary to high school and eventually college. She attended classes herself after school and received her bachelor's degree in history from DePaul University. She later earned her master's degree and doctorate in sociology from Loyola University Chicago.

In Denver, she taught at Metropolitan State College of Denver for 14 years.

She penned pamphlets and books from the classes she taught that focus on the mystical body of Christ, the essentials of the Catholic faith, the saints and the emotional development of children. "She gives them out to everyone," said Sr. Joseph Maureen, adding that Polzin is called the "resident poetess" at the home and often initiates the plays put on by the Residents.

Extra Mile Award for Mullen Home!



Volunteer photographer Ellen Lundwall wins the "Extra Mile Award" in the "Good Samaritan Photo Contest" by the Little Sisters' Communications Office. You can admire other photos by her on our Casino Night Slideshow on the blog of our web site: www.littlesistersofthepoordenver.org/blog-sp-320



Resident Kitty Sednek and her daughter are ready to "get the dice rolling!"



Resident Edith Stricker, 103 years young, enjoys the company of admiring volunteers during the evening's festivities.



Sister Emmanuel discusses betting strategy with Resident Gloria DeLeon.



The roulette table never stopped spinning!



It takes a "group" to make a great prom! In addition to the staff and Little Sisters, volunteers came from the Air Force Academy, CU Boulder, Regis University, University of Wyoming, and Colorado School of Mines. Thank you to all!

Prom Night Shines with "Fun Productions"

By Sister Joseph Maureen, lsp

Fun Productions, Inc. in Aurora, CO made the magical night of prom even more magical! In fact, according to Resident Katherine Lesley "It was the greatest party I've ever been to at Mullen! Everyone was dressed so beautifully – the gowns were all so gorgeous. It was a night to remember!!"

Friday, February 8th, at 5 p.m., two Little Sisters were at the front door to meet the volunteers. As they arrived, they were given a name of a Resident, their room number, and a corsage. The students then went to meet their "blind date!" and escort them to the dining room which was decorated for the occasion with much attention to detail.

After dinner, the Residents and their

guests were invited to the auditorium for "A Night in Las Vegas." After receiving their poker chips, the "gambling began!" Dealers at the blackjack tables were busy all evening; the Wheel of Fortune was a great hit with everyone; crowds gathered at the craps table where everyone wanted to throw the dice! No money was involved but that didn't matter as the volunteers helped the Residents turn in their chips at evening's end for the prizes they wanted.

It was marvelous to see the interaction of the young adults with the Residents. Everyone was happy. St. Jeanne Jugan's words echoed in our hearts: "Making the elderly happy—that is what counts." Before our guests left they were making plans for another big event for next year!

Divine Providence: Our Only Guarantee ...

Our foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan, began her work of caring for the elderly poor reliant on the intercessions of St. Joseph, confident that he would provide bread and anything else for her poor. Though much has changed since Saint Jeanne Jugan's work began in 1839, we continue trusting in St. Joseph's Divine Providence to help us. Each year, we are blessed with the many gifts and donations from parishes, foundations, donors and benefactors who help us continue our mission of caring for the elderly poor.

Thank you for all your donations and God Bless you all!

Foundations that gave in 2012 ...

- Anschutz Family Foundation
- Boettcher Foundation
- The Catholic Foundation
- Dominican Sisters of Springfield, IL
- El Pomar Foundation
- Falkenberg Foundation
- Francis M. Foster Fund
- Virginia Hill Foundation
- Holy Cross Catholic Church
- Mabel Y. Hughes Trust
- Kenneth Kendall King Foundation
- May Bonfils Memorial Trust
- J.K. Mullen Foundation
- Priester Foundation
- Sacred Heart of Mary
- Jack A. Vickers Foundation
- Weckbaugh Foundation

