

# LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

## VILLA GUADALUPE

*Serving the elderly poor in Gallup, New Mexico since 1983*



## The Holy Family

### A Model For All Families

In a little manger in Bethlehem, on a quiet December night, hidden from the noise of the world, the Savior was born. As he took his first breaths, he was greeted by the tender look of his loving mother and the humble protection of his earthly father. Later, hidden away in Nazareth, the Holy Family found a safe and nurturing environment where Jesus could grow in wisdom and grace as he prepared for the mission for which he was destined.



*"Here are just three poor persons who loved one another and it is they who would change the face of the earth". ~ Paul Caudel*

As an echo of that first home shared by Mary, Jesus, and Joseph, Villa Guadalupe is a haven hidden away from the noise of the world. When you walk in the entrance you are not only under the patronage of Our Lady, the namesake of the home, but you are greeted by a large statue of St. Joseph, to whom we turn for the daily needs of our home. It is a place of perfect community where acts of supernatural love are manifested among the Residents themselves, the Little Sisters, the employees and the volunteers. Here we Little Sisters

provide a refuge to many needy elderly persons. Our vow of hospitality leads us to make the home a welcoming place for the elderly, grown weary on their life's journey, to find rest and come face to face with Jesus, not only in the tabernacle, but in the love and smiles of those who care for them.

The home is aglow with a love which extends outward into the community. This is expressed in the loving generosity of our benefactors and volunteers who tirelessly give their gifts and talents to support the mission started by St. Jeanne Jugan. They truly help make Villa Guadalupe into one big family united in prayer, joyful service and mutual love.

All are welcome to come and join our family. Being part of the Villa Guadalupe family will draw you back to that home where the Christ-child first laid his head in the loving presence of Mary and Joseph. There is a deep sense of love, unity, joy and peace for all who visit this little haven.



*"See how Jesus, Mary and Joseph loved one another... In our little family, it must be the same". ~ Jeanne Jugan*

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### SAVE THE DATES

#### Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass with  
Bishop James Wall

7:30 PM

Christmas Day Mass

10:30 AM

New Year's Day

10:30 AM



## What a Wonderful Day

Contrary to what a number of people were expecting, our annual family picnic, held this year at the end of October to celebrate the 225th anniversary of the birth of St. Jeanne Jugan, turned out to be just beautiful! While planning for the event, some were concerned that the chilly weather at this time of year might discourage many from joining us. However, when the day came, much to everyone's surprise, a great number of families responded to our invitation. The day was wonderful in every sense of the word — the weather, food, the fellowship — everything! There were individual games for all ages and family games as well. It was indeed a joy to see how everyone was having a great time as one would see in any family gathering.



## Welcome to our "Family of Faith"

Upon expressing his desire to embrace the Catholic faith and after having been instructed in it, our 93 year old Resident, Edwin Anderson, received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation in the month of November. The joy that filled his heart at those moments was so evident that it radiated across his face. We were so happy to welcome him to our family of faith and we look forward to accompanying him as he begins his journey as a child of God. What a wonderful advance Christmas gift he received from our Lord this year — the gift of faith and the grace to open his heart to receive it!



## The Celebration of Life Gala

After months of preparation, the first-ever fundraising event for Villa Guadalupe, the “Celebration of Life Gala” was finally held on November 11th! We are so grateful to all those who supported us all along in this endeavor and made it possible. The event was not just a success because of the funds raised, but because of the good time we all shared!

The Gala, as its title suggests, was a “Celebration of Life” — the life and legacy of St Jeanne Jugan, foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor, whose 225th anniversary of birth and baptism we commemorated that evening. It was also to honor the life of our elders to whom Jeanne Jugan devoted her life. Lastly, it was for all those present at the event and those associated with the Little Sisters who were unable to come. It was an evening of celebration and thanksgiving for the life with which we have been gifted.

The venue for this evening event was well decorated, giving the impression of a starry night in Paris. The French theme had been chosen because this was the country where St. Jeanne Jugan was born. The stars hanging from the ceiling, a cardboard structure of the Eiffel Tower and several ornately decorated spots perfect for photos really added to the beauty of the venue. It was indeed a site to behold!



*Pat Mitchel, a Resident, posed for a picture at one of the bistros. Her smile says it all.*



*The “Celebration of Life” Gala committee, who made this evening possible. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK!*



*Carol Williams, Resident, with friends took pictures by the Eiffel Tower for keepsake.*



*Sr. Mary William presenting Bobbie Franklin, a committee member, a small token of our appreciation.*



*Everyone danced their way through the night.*



## Forever and For Always, We Are Grateful

In thirty-one countries around the world, the Little Sisters continue the work of St. Jeanne Jugan by serving the elderly of the human family. Her vision of family extended far beyond the Little Sisters and their elderly Residents. She believed that because God is our Father, all men and women are brothers and sisters – members of one family – and thus responsible for one another.

As our friends and benefactors, you are part of our very large family. We owe a debt of gratitude to each one of you for continuously helping and supporting us in our mission. There are no words to express how much of a difference you make in the lives of the elderly that you help. So we invite you to come visit our home, the home you helped build, the home you continue to support and sustain. We invite you to come and meet the very people whose lives you deeply touch and transform through your various gifts. Thank you for believing in our mission and being part of it.

Every day, together with our Residents, we pray for you and your intentions in thanksgiving for your kindness. Each month in all of our 180 homes throughout the world, a Mass is offered for all of our friends, families and benefactors – living and deceased. You and your loved ones are remembered in all of those Masses.

Through your goodness and generosity to us during this past year we have been able to accomplish many projects which include; the purchase of 19 new hi-low beds with new mattresses; electrical work – replaced current light bulbs with LED in our parking lot, replaced burned out generator board, completed emergency roof repair due to excessive water moisture, etc.

Our prayers and these Masses are the best gift that we can offer you and we do so wholeheartedly. May St. Jeanne Jugan obtain blessings in abundance for you and all your loved ones.



In the basket by the icon of St. Jeanne Jugan, foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor, are the prayer intentions of our friends and benefactors. We always remember these intentions in our prayers especially during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours.



## BUILDINGS AGE TOO... WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Villa Guadalupe has been serving the needy aged of Gallup for almost 35 years and our building is aging.

In the New Year we hope to undertake important maintenance repair work, including testing the exterior building walls that are so badly damaged by moisture, *but we need your help.*

Sister, please accept my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help with the ongoing maintenance of your Home.

(A special thank you to those have already sent in your Christmas donations.)

All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



*Please remember the following before Our Lord in the manger*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL!