

J.M.J.

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June 22, 2019

To our Little Sisters, Associates, Friends and Benefactors gathered for today's
Thanksgiving Celebration for 150 years' presence in Louisville

This year, 2018-2019, is a remarkable milestone for our Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor with the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the first Little Sisters in the United States. Today, I am very happy to send this message to all of you gathered in Louisville to mark 150 years since the arrival of our Little Sisters in this city, and the opening of St. Joseph's Home on September 22, 1869.

I wish to associate myself in a special way to today's Eucharist and we all thank Archbishop Joseph Edward Kurtz for graciously accepting to be the main celebrant. He is such a faithful friend of the Home, and a true Father and good Shepherd. This Mass of Thanksgiving, in the beautiful Cathedral of the Assumption, enables us to express our deep gratitude to the Lord for his watchful care over our community and Residents here, ever since our foundation first opened its doors. Our gratitude extends to all the concelebrating priests and deacons, as well as to the religious Brothers and Sisters who are participating in this joyful celebration.

Together with Mother Provincial Maria-Christine, Mother Paul and all our Little Sisters in Louisville, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all our collaborators who act as intermediaries of Divine Providence for us: our Jeanne Jugan Associates, staff members, benefactors, volunteers and our many good friends, past and present, who have supported us so very generously, and continue to do so day after day, enabling us to provide for the needs of numerous elderly persons over the decades in a family-style environment, according to the charism of our Mother Foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan. Without you all, we would not be here today!

I seize this opportunity to mention another great need: that of vocations, so that our work may thrive throughout the United States and all over the world. Please join us in praying that many young women may have the courage to answer the Lord's call to religious life and discover the immense joy of serving Him in the elderly.

I ask God to bless you and your families abundantly, and may Our Blessed Lady, Saint Joseph and Saint Jeanne Jugan continue to intercede for all your intentions.



*Sr M^{re} del Monte Auxiliadora
supra gle*

Sister María del Monte Auxiliadora
Superior General