



Building community creating common ground

Community grows when we pause long enough to notice the needs in our own backyard, then weave together shared experiences, trust, and meaningful participation through events and collaborative action.

St. Martin's Home, nestled in the beautiful campus on Maiden Choice Lane... We are one family, living and thriving under the care of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

As you may have guessed, this newsletter's feature is our community engagement and relationships.

We begin with a couple of locals from Arbutus, Janice and Frank Baird. Janice and Frank have been married for 57 years and were members of Our Lady of Victory.

Having met many moons ago at a Key Rowe Club Dance at St. Agnes, while Frank was studying at St. Charles Seminary. Frank soon discerned that his call was to a life of marriage. Frank and Janice remained committed to their faith and raised their two daughters and five grandchildren with deep spiritual roots.

After spending 50 years in their family home, Frank and Janice needed another option. Their beloved home needed repairs and modifications for aging in place. Relocation was now imminent.

They knew of the Little Sisters from previous ceramics fundraisers. They were very interested in applying to the

"newly designed" independent living cottages. After being waitlisted for over a year, they were welcomed into the John Paul II Cottage, where they met and fellowshiped with three other couples. Janice mentioned that through the height of COVID, these three other couples became their extended family.

Janice and Frank reflected, "God truly looked after us. When we could no longer drive, He led us to a new church at the Little Sisters, surrounded us with the Sisters, and gifted us with dear new friends right when we needed them most."

Janice and Frank have made their home at St. Martin's for the past six and a half years.

Blessed with family nearby, they delight in visits from loved ones, especially their grandson, who rides his bike here after school. Their hearts remain full of cherished memories from Arbutus, Poplar Avenue, and the home they lovingly shared for so many years. In this chapter of their lives, Janice and Frank find peace and joy in the blessings that surround them, confident that God's hand has guided them every step of the way.

Volunteer Spotlight: Jeff Peck

I was born and raised in Lansdowne, just a few miles from St. Martin's. I am the oldest of six. I attended St. Clements parochial school and then Cardinal Gibbons High School, just up the street on Wilkens Avenue. I was raised Catholic. My 89-year-old mom still attends Mass every Sunday. I worked here at St. Martin's while I was in high school, from 1973–75. I was on the housekeeping crew. Stairs and elevators were my specialty. Sister Gemma was our boss. I'm pretty sure I witnessed her perform a miracle on a hot summer day in 1974, and I'm happy to share that story with anyone who is interested.

Both of my maternal grandparents also lived here, from about 1971 until

my grandmother passed away in 1976. It was nice to spend time with them regularly.

After high school, I moved to New York City, attended art school, fell in love, married, and started a family back here in Baltimore.

I am retired now, and earlier this year I began looking for a way to share some of the blessings I have received over the course of my life. The Little Sisters



made a lifelong impression on a 17-year-old boy, not with the words they said but in the way they lived and the work they did. Their faith, kindness, and compassion were unmistakable, even to that 17-year-old boy in 1975. That's saying something! It made perfect sense to try volunteering here. I had not been inside this building in literally half a century. The world has changed a lot in that time. I have changed a lot. But at 601 Maiden Choice Lane in Catonsville, the love, generosity, and devotion have not changed. It feels good to be back, and I am thankful for the opportunity to be involved.

St. Martin's Family, growing and sharing!



Visit our website to see more photos from the event.

Our Residents at St. Martin's are also growing and helping to build community.

They are participating in more activities, encouraging engagement and socialization.

With our recent "Mafia Murder Dinner Theatre," Resident groups assisted with welcoming and guiding our guests to both Main Street and the Auditorium for our big event. The Residents "dressed the part," and their warm smiles completed their ensembles. Additionally, thanks to a few generous sponsors, some of our Residents attended the Dinner Theatre and spent the evening enjoying the festive cheer.

Thank you, thank you, thank you, to our donors, sponsors, attendees, volunteers, and staff who helped make the production successful.

Also, a wonderful shout-out to our middle school students from Garrison Forest School's Visual Arts class for the Mafia Silhouettes! This was an incredible community service project and the perfect touch for our evening!

Building a city of God

*We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day.
The One who has loved us has brightened our way.
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be
a light for his people to set their hearts free.
Let us build the city of God. –Dan Schutte*

Building Community and bridging the gaps come in various ways.

In 2025, the Knights of Columbus, Council 1622, was brainstorming for a new and different way to engage their community of farmers towards a meaningful project. The proposal was for "Lettuce Pray." A farm-to-table initiative that would provide fresh fruit, vegetables, and some assorted meats to the Residents and Sisters at St. Martin's Home. The focus would be on gathering farm leftovers and distributing them to those in need.

Since late 2025, the Knights of Columbus have reached out to farms across Maryland, with truly remarkable results. Thanks to these efforts, St. Martin's Home has received generous donations of fresh eggs, sausages, hams, vegetables, and even the occasional lamb roast. Our Food Service team gratefully accepts these contributions and thoughtfully incorporates them into our weekly and monthly menus.

We are also excited to announce a **new partnership with Good Soil Farm** in Emmitsburg as a weekly Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) pickup site. This initiative allows individuals to purchase farm-fresh, boxed assortments and conveniently pick them up locally.

Adding to the spirit of community,



Beatrice Smith, Food Services Director, St. Martin's Home

several of our Residents at St. Martin's are enthusiastically stepping into roles as Resource Volunteers. They will help greet and welcome visitors while assisting with oversight of the weekly pickups.

The City of God is a shared community, yours and ours, and we are grateful to grow it together. Many thanks to our wonderful farmers and the Knights of Columbus!

Here are a few of our participants below.

England Acres Farm and Market
Detrick Rd, Mount Airy, MD

Copper Penny Farm
Ballenger Creek Pike, Adamstown, MD

District Farms
E Basford Rd, Frederick, MD

Little Captain Creek Farm
Old Kiln Rd, Thurmont, MD

Open Book Farm
Roy Shafer Rd, Middletown, MD

Oak Spring Farm
Mt Zion Rd, Freeland, MD



A NOTE FROM MOTHER

Dear friends of St. Martin's Home,

We find ourselves in the month of May, the month dedicated to our Blessed Virgin Mary. Honoring Mary during May is believed to bring spiritual graces, guidance, and protection.

Mary is a loving mother who intercedes for the faithful, helping them navigate both small and significant troubles. The month encourages believers to cultivate piety, gratitude, and a closer relationship with God through her example. Mary is the model of faith, hope, and love for all mothers.

We give thanks to all of our earthly mothers on Mother's Day. The Little Sisters of the Poor have the privilege and honor of caring for many mothers who reside in our Home. We have the precious opportunity to return the love that they have shared with countless people throughout their journey, each one special in their own way.

Our Mother Mary is also known as "The Queen of Peace." We call upon the Blessed Mother, Queen of Peace, for her intercession for peace throughout the world, especially now. Peace is needed in the world, in our country, in our communities, and in our homes.

Please join us in praying for



peace this month:

Most holy and immaculate Virgin, Mother of Jesus and our loving Mother, being his Mother, you shared in his universal kingship.

The prophets and angels proclaimed him

King of peace. With loving fervor in our hearts, we salute and honor you as Queen of Peace.

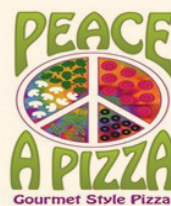
We pray that your intercession may protect us and all people from hatred and discord and direct our hearts into the ways of peace and justice which your Son taught and exemplified. We ask your maternal care for our Holy Father, who works to reconcile the nations in peace. We seek your guidance for our President and other leaders as they strive for world peace.

Glorious Queen of Peace, grant us peace in our hearts, harmony in our families, and concord throughout the world. Immaculate Mother, as patroness of our beloved country, watch over us and protect us with your motherly love. Amen.

Thank you to all who support us in our mission to serve our Residents and to those who will join us in our daily prayers. May God bless you with unity, charity and peace.

Mother Jeanne Mary, lsp, Superior

Upcoming Events



Partner Patron Night

Wednesday, June 24

3-7 pm

Peace a Pizza in Catonsville

20% of the proceeds go to Little Sisters of the Poor! Members must mention the fundraiser at the time of payment to receive credit for the transaction.



Nun Run 2026

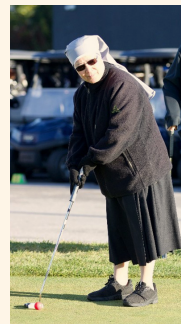
Saturday, September 19

NEW LOCATION:

UMBC Campus

1000 Hilltop Circle

Baltimore, MD 21250



Golf Tournament 2026

2nd Annual "We Are Family"

Monday, October 19

Rolling Road Golf Club

814 Hilltop Road

Catonsville, MD 21228

Registration is open on our website! Sign up today.

Wish List

Forever Stamps

Gift cards for Giant and Amazon

Thank you to everyone whose love and kindness support the Mission of the Little Sisters of the Poor.