



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Office of Communications and Planning

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Little Sisters of the Poor to Withdraw From St. Louis Residence

After 147 Years of Caring for the Elderly Poor, Little Sisters Will Leave St. Louis

ST. LOUIS – After 147 years of uninterrupted ministry in St. Louis, the Little Sisters of the Poor will leave their residence located in historic Old North Saint Louis at 3225 N. Florissant Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63107, just two miles north of the St. Louis Arch.

According to local Superior, Mother Gonzague Castro, “It is very sad for the Community to leave our St. Louis residence—it is a painful decision to have to make—especially during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. We just don’t have sufficient vocations to staff the residence in order to meet the spirit of our foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan. We are eternally grateful for the support and love we received during our many years in St. Louis. We love the city nearly as much as we love the people we work with and care for. We’re praying that the Residence can continue and even thrive under new ownership, with a larger staff who can both care for the residents as well as serve as administrators.”

Archbishop Robert J. Carlson offered his support and prayers for the Sisters, “The Little Sisters of the Poor here in St. Louis have, for nearly 150 years, lived their order’s mission, offering 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. They will be missed in our archdiocese as well as in our community and we pray for their mission as well as for vocations to the order.”

Kevin Short, Managing Partner and CEO of Clayton Capital Partners, a St. Louis-based investment banking firm specializing in merger and acquisition advisement, is working with the Little Sisters of the Poor in order to assure that the Sisters can continue their mission as usual during this period of transition while they seek out new owners and management of the property they currently maintain.

The Little Sisters of the Poor are deeply grateful to the people of the St. Louis region, which has supported the residence since their arrival in 1869. There have been innumerable people over the last century and a half who have dedicated themselves to the mission of the Sisters. For those people, the current employees, residents, and family of residents, the Sisters are and will always be very grateful.

The date of the Little Sisters’ departure is contingent on the best possible outcome they can find for the home, its employees, and its residence. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated for the Little Sisters of the Poor and the many years of care they provided to St. Louisans.

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