



**Our Lady of the Fields Church
Year of Mercy Reflections
Sunday September 11 & 12, 2016**

For more information on any of the Holy Year programs contact the Evangelization and Faith Formation Office & Staff or Dr. Little at tlittle@olfparish.com

**Remembering
9/11**



"It was a day of looking at the television and trying to conceive the tragedy of it all... "

"We prayed all day for the victims and their families. I remember praying and watching, praying and watching... "

"I remember those buildings. I used to take people there all the time. It was a beautiful spot. So, personally, I knew the spot and liked the spot, and I brought a lot of visitors there."

"I remember thinking that day, 'Why would anyone want to do this?' The hate has to be so great. The misunderstanding has to be so great. 'There's no way to rationalize this action, no matter what their goals were.'"

"I remember being in class at Catholic U when I heard of the attack on the World Trade Center. Smoke could be seen in the distance from the Pentagon. Class was immediately cancelled and the Bishops called an emergency Mass in the Basilica. The place was full with people, some crying, some in shock, but all praying to God."

We are called to remember and to be God's Mercy every day, and especially on this day, in our thoughts, prayers and deeds, May the Mercy of God fill us and our whole world!

The Saints In Mercy

St. Jeanne Jugan, Foundress, Little Sisters of the Poor

St Mary of the Cross (in the world: Jeanne Jugan) was born October 25, 1792 and was raised in Brittany, France, during the French Revolution. The sixth child of eight, her father was lost at sea when Jeanne was four. From her mother, she inherited a deep faith and a profound will to overcome any difficulty. The political climate and the family's finances prevented her from attending school, so she began working full time at an early age.

When a young man asked for her hand in marriage she told him that God wanted her for himself, and was keeping her for a work as yet unknown. She worked as an assistant nurse and from that time her one desire was to "be as humble as Jesus".

Health problems obliged Jeanne to leave the hospital. She was taken in by a friend, and in 1839, at 47 years old she found herself in Saint-Servan where the social and economic situation was disastrous; 4,000 out of population of 10,000 were reduced to begging. One winter evening, she came across a poor, blind lady. Jeanne did not hesitate to give the lady her own bed. This was the initial spark that kindled a great blaze of charity. In 1842, without money, she purchased a dilapidated convent to provide 40 elderly persons care.

From then on she cared for the poor, gathered sisters to help her and trusted Providence. From 1846 through 1850 she founded homes in Rennes, Tours, Angers and in America, Europe and Africa and shortly after her death; they expanded to Asia and Oceania. She died 9 August 1879, on that day, her "Little Sisters" numbered 2,400 members worldwide. They still help today.