

September 3, 2015



Dear Sisters and Associates,

On Monday, August 24, 2015, Elizabeth (Betty) Lesch was called home by God. Betty was born into a loving family of two older brothers and three sisters in St. Bernard, OH. She attended St. Clements and Our Lady of Angels. She always felt that her Catholic and Franciscan education increased her faith and love of God. She entered the work force immediately following graduation, married and raised three boys, Doug, Steve and Dan.

She enjoyed coming to visit her sister, Sister Rose O'Brien at Oldenburg and eventually Rose was her contact person when she said, "yes" to the call to become an Associate. They both belonged to a small but vibrant Associate group in Cincinnati. As a Minister of Praise, Betty kept her Franciscan family and the needs of the world in prayer, especially as she prayed for peace. During this time Betty remarried and at the time of her death was married to Tom Lesch for 27 years.

Outgoing and friendly, she enjoyed the times that family and friends came to visit. Her home was a place where everyone felt welcomed and could enjoy some of her good cooking. Meals often included her homegrown tomatoes from her greenhouse. Here she enjoyed growing flowers and vegetables. She also stayed active with an exercise group and volleyball games. Her natural ability to share as a good conversationalist came through when she visited the sick and when she volunteered in the gift shop of Bailey Place at Mt. St. Joseph in Cincinnati.

Her funeral mass was a comfort for Tom and family and especially to her sister Rose. Rose always felt the benefit of Betty's prayer and felt privileged to connect and share life experiences with her.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing." Timothy 2:4-8

In Loving Memory,

Carolyn Meyer and Sister Rose O'Brien