

July 14, 2018

Dear Associates and Sisters,

Associate Patricia Rynard was called home to her loving God on June 19, 2018. Pat was born July 26, 1932 to John Paul and Margaret Ann Fox Barnes. Pat and her husband Oscar (deceased) had six children; Martin (deceased), Michael, John, Joseph, Mary, and Nancy.



While Pat was serving as parish secretary at St. Pius X in Indianapolis, she became acquainted with the Oldenburg Franciscan's and the Associate relationship through conversations with Sr. Barb Piller who was on Mission at the parish. Pat excitedly and enthusiastically welcomed the guidance and support of others who shared like values and goals in her pursuit of the Associate relationship; with Sr. Barb as her contact person, Pat's Associate journey began.

Sr. Barb offers us a glance into the person Pat was; *“Pat was just a good person, who lived life simply. She was generous and fearless, her laugh contagious and her smile so uplifting. Pat's commitment to her children, grandchildren, parish, and OSF family was deep, she was truly a Franciscan. In addition to working at the parish office, Pat loved to take Eucharist to the shut-ins of our parish and they loved her. When she retired from her ministry in the Parish, Pat opened the basement of her home to the poor, and continued ministering to the sick and imprisoned. Her adult children were a little nervous about Pat visiting the Women's prison on her own but she trusted in God to protect her. Prayer sustained her during the challenging times of her life. Her relationship with God was her strength and the source of the trust, love and joy with which she lived. Pat lived life fully. Always and in all ways let her Light shine!”*

Pat felt challenged in sharing the depth of her spirit with others but found having Sr. Barb as a contact person made it easier as they got to know each other. Her annual reflections provide a deeper glimpse into the life Pat lived.

“I try to live a caring and simple life, giving of myself and my treasure in keeping with the Franciscan way of life. I hope to always be with the Oldenburg Franciscan community in spirit and prayer. I appreciate being part of such a wonderful group of women. I do not always have the physical energy to participate fully, but being an Associate is special to me. I truly believe each decision I make is influenced by the Franciscan Charism. Being Franciscan is not only a relationship, it has become who I am...deep in my being. I am grateful for this gift.

Associate Mary Pat Flaherty who was in a small group with Pat shared, “Pat, was very pleasant, always a smile on her face. Pat was a deeply religious person who brought the joy out.”

Pat, we have no doubt that God is smiling with you as you hear the words so many others have heard, “Well done my good and faithful servant.”

May you rest in God's peace,

Jane A. Schaefer