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SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

PO BOX 100 OLDENBURG, IN 47036

WWW.OLDENBURGFRAUCISCANS.ORG



December 19, 2021

Dear Sisters, Associates, Co-workers, Family and Friends,

The evening of the Fourth Sunday of Advent, as we anticipated with joy the entry of Jesus into our world, our beloved Sister Pat Zartman celebrated her entry into eternal life with our loving God. At 6:55 PM she quietly and peacefully left us to be with our loving God. S. Martine Mayborg was with her in prayer as she transitioned.

S. PATRICIA ZARTMAN, OSF

Patricia Ann Zartman was born on June 19, 1929 in Cleveland as the first child of William and Mary "Adele" Hankey and was later joined by her sister, Helen. After graduating from high school, Pat trained to be a nurse. It was there that she met and married William Zartman and their first son, William was born. Her husband, a Naval Reserve officer, was called into active duty because of the Korean conflict. He was discharged in 1952. A second son, Joseph was born, then a daughter, Patricia (Patty), and another son, Douglas completed the family.

Pat began studies for a BS in Education and taught at the parish school, St. Ann's in Groesbeck, where their children were being educated. Pat continued her education gaining a Master's in Education as she began teaching in a public school to help put their children through college.

In 1984, her husband died unexpectedly. As she mourned her husband's death she "challenged God to fill up my life again," and He did. She met the Sisters at St. Bart's and often ate and shared prayer with them. Experiencing the joy of the Sisters, she began discerning whether she might have a call to live religious life. She believed that she did.

In 1986 she became a Postulant living at St. Bart's and later lived at Oldenburg as a novice. She professed her first vows in 1988. After discernment, she left the Community in 1990 and became an Associate. Later she and S. Ruth Marie Kluemper were approved to live together.

In 1996, Pat's second son, Joseph, died unexpectedly. In her sadness she found herself being drawn closer to Jesus and his suffering and especially to Mary, as our Mother of Sorrows. As Pat wrote in her autobiography, "I can identify with her (Mary) and her Son quite easily, and can truthfully say that God is a good and giving God, who walks with us and loves us in all our neediness."

Pat experienced a strong desire to return to Community and after much discernment and prayer and listening to her heart, she asked to be permitted to rejoin the Community. She received that permission and was invested on February 14, 1999. After volunteering at Our Mother of Sorrows and serving as a part-time chaplain for the Mercy Franciscan Health System, Pat came to the Motherhouse where she served as a part-time phone operator.

Pat felt she had two families to whom she was very loyal. The second family being our Oldenburg Community and we came to feel that way about her daughter Patty who came to visit Pat weekly. S. Martine described Pat as a good friend, a peace-filled woman and a good

listener who always said she didn't need a lot of things. S. Bernice Stenger spoke of her being an amazing and gentle woman. She was nonjudgmental by nature and willing to give others the benefit of the doubt.

The Magnificat, the Cantic of Mary, was Pat's favorite prayer. Here is the version from Psalms Anew (p. 16) which is prayed every day during Evening Praise and we prayed after her death.

*My being proclaims your greatness,
and my spirit finds joy in you, God my Savior.
For you have looked upon me, your servant, in my lowliness;
all ages to come shall call me blessed.
God, you who are mighty, have done great things for me.
Holy is your name.
Your mercy is from age to age toward those who fear you.
You have shown might with your arm
and confused the proud in their inmost thoughts.
You have deposed the might from their thrones and raised the lowly to high places.
The hungry you have given every good thing while the rich you have sent away empty.
You have upheld Israel your servant, ever mindful of your mercy –
even as you promised our ancestors;
promised Abraham, Sarah and their descendants forever.*

We extend our sympathy to S. Pat's children, William, Patty and Douglas, her niece and nephew, her grandchildren and great grandchildren. We also offer condolences to her beloved Community friends, Associates and other friends. Our wholehearted thanks and sympathy to our nursing and pastoral care staff in St. Clare Hall.

In gratitude for Pat, as a discerning woman.


Sister Annette Grisley, OSF
for the General Council

SISTER PATRICIA ZARTMAN, OSF

Birth: June 19, 1929
Entrance into Religious Life: August 9, 1986
Reentered: August 2, 1998
Entrance into Eternal Life: December 19, 2021

MISSIONS AT WHICH SISISTER PATRICIA SERVED:

1988-1990	Archdiocese of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH
1999-2009	Mother of Sorrows	Cincinnati, OH
2009-2011	St. Bartholomew	Cincinnati, OH
2011-2021	Motherhouse	Oldenburg, IN

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Weigel Funeral Home – visit their website to view Sister's online memorial, and if desired, an online condolence may be left on the site to share with her family and the Franciscan Sisters – www.Weigelfh.com

Memorial Donations in Sister's memory may be given online at www.OldenburgFranciscans.org