

## Sister Patricia Ann

KELLY

Sister Pat, having finished her contemplative prayer on earth, went to the eternal contemplation of God in heaven on Sunday, October 7, 2007. She died at home at the monastery having listened to the Sisters' pray by her bedside:

*The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!"*

*Let the one who hears, say, "Come!"*

*Let all who thirst, say, "Come!"*

*Let all who desire the water of life, say,*

*"Come Lord Jesus! Come!"*

*Amen (Revelation 22)*

Pat did not talk or write about herself, but all you had to do was watch her life unfold to see that she has been talking to us all along. She was born in New Jersey on June 6, 1937 and, to hear her companion novices tell the story, decided to become a Carmelite the next day. In reality, Pat was twelve years old when she began to knock at the door of the Carmel in Morristown, NJ. She kept knocking for seven years and began her life in Carmel on September 12, 1956. She used the intervening years to develop a profound spiritual life centered on the works of St. John of the Cross and an evolving understanding of and devotion to the Trinity. Her conventional life of a cloistered contemplative nun laid the foundation for her true calling to the Carmel of Reno in 1970. She transferred to Nevada that year and it was here in Reno that her deeply contemplative spirit reached out to touch the lives of all who knew her.

Sister Pat saw our printshop, not as a small business but as an outreach of ministry. As she processed orders she acquired innumerable friends and prayer intentions, as no invoice was sent without a promise of prayers. She saw our life of contemplation as meant to be shared with the broader community and founded an Ecumenical Prayer Group in 1982 that continues to this day. After the expansion of the monastery in 2001, she began the Wednesday evenings of Contemplative Prayer. Issues of Social Justice engaged her energies fully and she was a faithful member of the Life, Peace and Justice Commission of the Diocese of Reno. A passionate opponent of the Death Penalty, she stood on many occasions outside the Prison in Carson with a lighted candle in protest. She walked for peace, stood outside the Courthouse on Monday evenings as a presence for peace and walked the labyrinth at Rancho San Rafael for the victims of torture.

The Sisters wish to thank Pat's family and the family of her friends who came over the past months to visit, all who sent cards and assisted in her care. We wish to express our special thanks and gratitude to Dr. Ann Marie Barnet whose daily visits were treasured.

This fragment from among her papers would be her living message to us at this time:

*Once given the vision of one's true place in the life stream, death is no longer complete or final, but an incident. Death is the way-the only way- life renews itself. When the person has served her purpose as a channel, the flow transfers itself to other channels, but life goes on. And in this great drama of life renewed, one sees and feels the divine Presence and feels one with God.*

Sister Pat was pre deceased by her Father, Patrick Kelly, her Mother, Margaret Brennan Kelly, her brother, Patrick and sister, Marge. She is survived by the Sisters of Reno Carmel, her sister Marie Kelly Hogan of Knoxville and her brothers Robert and William Kelly. Also surviving are Dear neighbors, "little brother & sister" Kevin and Kathryn Gallagher. She wished to remember her Nieces / Sharon / Leslie / Karin, / Marie Patricia/ Kim/ Leigh Ellen... Nephews /Edward / Christopher / Robert, / Douglas /... Great Nieces / Taryn and Marla / Melissa/ Hauna and Alyssa / Lisa and Anna / Regina /Kathryn and Caroline / Madden, Janet Douglas and Mary Heyward / Lindsay / Olivia and Andrea / Anais ...Great Nephews / Brandon and Dustin / Brian / Gerald / Keegan and Gavin / Patrick / Spencer, /Gage and Darren / Dylan and Jacob.

Through bonds of prayer and friendship, Sister Pat is survived by One Adopted Grandson, Travers Greene.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at the Carmelite Monastery on Friday, October 12, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to the Memorial Fund at Carmel.

The Walton Funeral Home, Reno has with great kindness assisted in the Funeral arrangements and the Sisters wish them to know their deep gratitude.