+05/01/2019+

SISTER PATRICIA ANNE CORBEY – MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

*TODAY WE COME TO THIS HOLY PLACE TO CELEBRATE A LIFE WELL LIVED IN SERVICE TO HER FAMILY; IN SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY,*

*THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY NAMES OF JESUS AND MARY*

*AND A LIFE OF SERVICE IN SERVICE TO PEOPLE;*

TO FAMILIES AND CHILDREN IN NEED OF HEALING.

Sister Pat as she was known to family, friends and clients was baptized on Christmas Day, 1954; entered eternal life on Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019 in Silver Spring, MD. Beloved daughter of the late Margery Anne (Helm) and Robert Joseph Corbey, Sr.; sister of Lynn Scullen, Kay Briscoe, Therese Divita, Robert Corbey, Michael Corbey, Rosemary Corbey, and Colleen Corbey; cousin of the late Rev. Jake Powderly. Pat is also survived and much-loved by her many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Sister Pat is respected and valued in her religious community, the Associates and Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. Pat was professed for 33 years. Sister Pat served on the Board of Trustees of the Academy of the Holy Names, Silver Spring and Tampa, FL; St. Jude Foundation of Archdiocese of Washington, DC; and Nick’s Place, Beltsville. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of the Holy Names Ministry Fund which provides for projects serving people on the margins of society – a concern dear to Sister Pat – c/o SNJM Ministry Fund, POB 398, Maryhurst OR 97036

On Easter Sunday, a little over a week ago, around 9:45, I was on my way here to celebrate the10:30 mass. The joyous event of the Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. When my phone rang, I didn’t give it a thought. Now a good many of us in this church have received phone calls where after a few short seconds we know it’s bad news. Pat’s good friend Sheila had gone to pick her up to come to that mass. She shortly found that Pat has passed away earlier that morning. She couldn’t believe it; I couldn’t either.

When I got to church, I was still in a state of shock. Knowing that many parishioners knew Pat, I was trying to decide whether I should announce her death. Susan De Quattro came into the sacristy. We spoke and decided the right thing to do on Easter Sunday was to share the news that Pat had died. Her life had not ended but it was changed. Towards the end of my sermon when Mary runs to tell the apostles that His body is gone, I then shared that Sister Pat Corbey had passed away. I think I shared that I had hesitations about sharing that news on such a special celebration. And I remember asking at the end of the sermon, “Do we believe in the resurrection? Yes! Do we believe that Jesus rose on Easter Morning? Yes! A resounding yes!

1. Our readings today, Isaiah 61: supports our beliefs “Our God will transform death forever. God will wipe away the tears from all of our faces.”
2. Paul’s letter to the Corinthians 13: If I speak in all the tongues on earth but do not have love, it just a noisy cymbal.
3. Love is patient and kind; not jealous. Love rejoices in the truth. There is no limit to God’s love.
4. Matthew 5:1-12 – Love is a way of life not a passing fad. Love is not a theory. Love is not easy. Blessed are you who love. Blessed are you who teach others what love is. Each and every day we have to work at. Patience, kindness, listening, giving space, giving direction, and allowing others to follow their dreams. It is not easy but it is what Jesus; and therefore, our faith asks of us.
5. As we read on Pat’s prayer card: “I am most happy when someone I am working with in therapy begins to feel unconditionally loved, valued and touched by God.

SO MAYBE PAT MIGHT LEAVE US WITH HER OWN TAKE ON THE BEATITUDES

Matt. 5:1 When he saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.

Matt. 5:2 He began to teach them, saying: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who are convinced of their basic dependency on God, whose lives are emptied of all that doesn't matter, those for whom the riches of this world just aren't that important. The kingdom of God is theirs.

Matt. 5:4 Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are they who when their hearts are broken see the hand of God in the care and concern of family, neighbor and friends.

Matt. 5:5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are those who know that all they are is a gift from God, and so they can be content with their greatness and their smallness, knowing themselves and being true to themselves. For they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Matt. 5:6 Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are those who wear compassion like a garment, those who have learned how to find themselves by losing themselves in another's sorrow. For they too shall be satisfied.

Matt. 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the merciful, those who remember how much has been forgiven them, and are able to extend this forgiveness into the lives of others. For they too shall receive God's mercy.

Matt. 5:8 Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are those whose hearts are free and simple, those who have smashed all false images and are seeking honestly for truth. For they shall see God.

Matt. 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are the creators of peace, those who build roads that unite rather than walls that divide, those who bless the world with the healing power of their presence. For they shall be called sons and daughters of God.

Matt. 5:10 Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those whose love has been tried, like gold, in the furnace and found to be precious, genuine and lasting, those who have lived their belief out loud, no matter what the cost or pain. For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matt. 5:11 Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

We wish to place others before ourselves.

We wish to place ethics before expediency.

We wish to rate principle as being more important than pleasure.

We wish to seek generosity rather than greed.

We wish to value love as higher than lust.

We wish to place character before charisma.

We wish to place Christ before all. AMEN

Prayer for Our Beloved Dead

We give her back to you, O God

Who first gave her to us?

And as you did not lose her in the giving, so we do not lose her in the returning.

Not as the world gives do you give, O God.

For what is yours is ours also, if we belong to you.

Life is unending because love is undying

And the boundaries of this mortal life are but a horizon

And a horizon is but the limit of our sight.

Lift us up O God, that we might see further:

Strengthen us in faith that we might see beyond the horizon!

And while you prepare a place for us, as you have promised, prepare us also for that happy place,

So that, where you are, we may also be with those whom we have loved --- forever.

HOMECOMING By Glen Willis, SDS

*D A7 D G D*

*Home come on Home, You who are weary come home.*

*G D Bm D A7 D*

*Softly and tenderly, Calling, Home come on home.*

D G D A7

One day I stood by the seashore, a ship by my side spreads her sails.

D G E7 A7

An object of beauty and power, seeking harbor thru fog and thru gale.

D G D A7

With sadness I watched her grow distant, a speck tween the sea and the sky

D G A7 D

Although, I know she must leave me, my heart wants to keep asking why?

CHORUS:

D G D A7

Someone standing beside me cries out sadly and says, She is gone.

D G E7 A7

But somewhere new eyes are waiting to see that proud ship coming on.

D G D A7

And there a voice shouts a welcome, her journey is ended, she’s home.

D G A7 D

For her a new day is dawning, and Jesus has welcomed her home…. CHORUS:

D G D A7

Sometimes the night is so lonely- the darkness, the pain and the cold.

D G E7 A7

Sometimes our hearts feels like breaking, with silence and stories untold.

D G D A7

But then there’s the new light of morning, the new hope that comes with the dawn.

Jesus is standing beside us, gently he welcomes us home.

HOMECOMING IS ADAPTED BY GLEN WILLIS FROM

THE POEM GONE FROM OUR SIGHT BY HENRY VAN DYKE

ISAIAH 61 :1-2-3 The Anointed Bearer of Glad Tidings

1[\*](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/61#29061001-1) The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted,

to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners,[a](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/61#29061001-a)

2To announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God; To comfort all who mourn;[b](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/61#29061002-b)

3to place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes,

To give them oil of gladness instead of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a faint spirit.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-2, 4-7

If I speak in human and angelic tongues[\*](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/13%22%20%5Cl%20%2254013001-2) but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. A 2And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing 3If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.[c](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/13%22%20%5Cl%20%2254013003-c)

4[\*](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/13%22%20%5Cl%20%2254013004-1) Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated,[d](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/13#54013004-d) 5it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,[e](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/13%22%20%5Cl%20%2254013005-e) 6it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. 7It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.[f](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/13%22%20%5Cl%20%2254013007-f)

BEATITUDES;

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are the meek,
for they shall possess the earth.
Blessed are they who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice,
for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when men reproach you,
and persecute you,
and speaking falsely, say all manner of evil against you, for My sake.