



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. Her life embodied the insight: "preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words."

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 Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity. The poetry of Our Holy Father and

the spirituality of Elizabeth which saw the indwelling of the Blessed Trinity in each baptized person as the central mystery of the Christian life inspired Pat's life and contemplation. As a young Sister she meditated on Elizabeth's insight:

'It seems to me that I have found my Heaven on earth, since Heaven is God and God is in my soul. The day I understood that, everything became clear to me. I wish to tell this secret to those whom I love so that they also, through everything, may also cling to God...' (Letter 122).

Pat's 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. The outreach of her love was evident in her life and overwhelming at her death. Her family and the family of her friends was extensive and in her quiet devotion and fidelity to all who touched her life that insight of the indwelling of the Trinity was preached by word and example.

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. 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. A passionate opponent of the Death Penalty, she stood on many occasions outside the Prison in Carson with a lighted candle in protest and when asked came to an execution that the prisoner might look on someone who cared as he died. In the record of who survived her, she requested that Jay Greene be included...

“ through bonds of prayer and friendship, Sister Pat is survived by one adopted Grandson, Jay Greene. Jay is currently on Death Row in Ely, Nv and wrote movingly of the place Pat held in his life.

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.