

Patricia Bagley, IHM

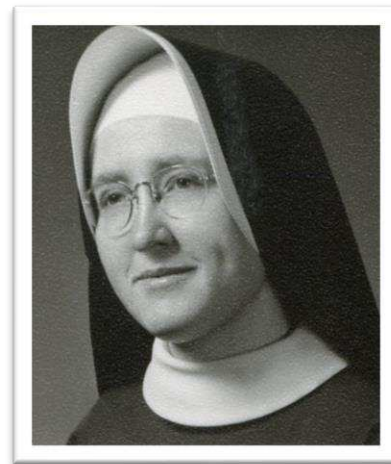


Sister Patricia Bagley grew up in a family with six children, the second of five girls. From home in Garden City, they took the bus to school at St. Mary's in Wayne. Pat's father had a great love for IHM Sisters and especially for Sister Rose De Lourdes. He traveled to see her every year, bringing his family so he could show her their latest achievements. Early on Pat grew to love the IHMs due to her experience with Sister Rose De Lourdes.

Her family had a deep faith. They welcomed the news that Pat and her brother, Dennis, had both chosen to respond to the call of God by joining religious life and the priesthood. Her classmates helped celebrate the ordination of her brother to the priesthood. Though he returned to lay status, he remained active in the church. Her maternal uncle, living in Minnesota, was a Benedictine Oblate whose deep spiritual life had a great impact on Pat and her life as an IHM.

Pat began her teaching experience at Our Lady Star of the Sea in Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, but soon moved to St. Charles Parish in Detroit. The contrast was overwhelming; her classroom at St. Charles was in the basement of the church.

In the 1970s, Pat began a new ministry as part of a pastoral team, first at St. Lucy Parish in St. Clair Shores and later in Mt. Clemens and Harper Woods. Pat loved the variety possible only in pastoral work: working with women, RCIA, religious education, sacramental preparation, etc. Pat received the nickname, *The Caution*, during her time in Harper Woods where she could often be found riding a motorcycle around the parish.



While at Harper Woods, she needed to find new accommodations and moved in with Joan Shattuck, her husband, Dan and a Dominican sister. Thus began a 30-year friendship with Joan and when her husband died, Joan moved with Pat to Hale where Pat led days of reflection for catechists and women in the parish for ten years. While in Hale, Joan cared for her aging father whom they annually drove to Florida. Pat and Joan eventually moved to Lakeland, Florida where they have lived since 2004. Initially, Pat assisted with RCIA, but found her calling in ministry to seniors. Her pastoral ministry skills prepared her well

for the compassionate support of seniors. She has continued outreach to seniors in the Lakeland area, providing regular support and hospitality to a woman of Jewish heritage and others in need.



During the pandemic, Pat experienced the passing of her brother, her sister and two brothers-in-law. She continues to grieve this loss and provide compassionate support to her extended family. Often, she was unable to be personally present for wakes and funerals due to COVID-19 and her own compromised immune system. She and Joan hold all in need, known and unknown, in their daily prayer routine.

Pat is grateful to the community and Leadership for encouraging us in prayer and action for the People of God.