



## *Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate*

On the morning of October 21, 2013, our Sister Patricia David passed quietly from this life into eternal life. Dying as she had lived, her peaceful movement into the arms of God constituted the final steps of the grace-filled dance that was her life.

Born in Toledo, Ohio, on May 2, 1937, Patricia was one of two children born to Anna (Liszak) and Frank David. She was a devoted daughter and a loving sister to her younger brother Frank. From childhood on, she was a joyful and gentle presence in the lives of everyone who knew her - relatives, neighbors and friends. Educated by the Joliet Franciscan Sisters at St. Francis de Sales Grade School in Toledo, young Patricia's Hungarian heritage and ethnic identity were nurtured at St. Stephen Church, where later in life she would return to minister.

As an adolescent moved by the Spirit of God, she made her way from Ohio to Illinois at the age of 14, and as an aspirant at St. Francis Academy, she began to examine the call to follow Jesus as sister, disciple, teacher, and companion. Embracing her vocation with enthusiasm and a song in her heart, she became a postulant in September of 1954. In August of the following year, she was accepted as a novice and given the name Sr. M. Francis de Sales. In the estimation of many, her religious name was a perfect fit. Her natural affinity for the young, the poor, the vulnerable and those on the margins was evidenced in countless and creative ways.

On August 12, 1957, Sr. Francis de Sales made her first profession of vows and embarked on a 43-year long adventure in the ministry of teaching. Completing her undergraduate studies in history and education at the College of St. Francis, she later went on to earn a Master's degree from DePaul University. With equal measures of enthusiasm, hopefulness, discipline and delight, her passion "to teach as Jesus taught" was contagious and manifested on a daily basis among her beloved first-graders at St. Coleman School in Pompano Beach, Florida, her energetic middle-graders at St. Jude School in Joliet, Illinois, and countless students in other grades and other schools in Illinois and Ohio.

In 1986, as Pat's aging parents and Uncle Joe began to need more direct assistance and support because of illness and disability, she returned to the Toledo area and began a new chapter in her life. While responding to the particular needs of her loved ones with affection, concern and generosity, she also became acutely aware of the challenges facing so many elders, especially those who were alone and at risk. Turning to the educational

# *Alleluia!*



*Sister Patricia David, OSF*

resources available at Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio, she studied gerontology and soon began working as a clinical geriatric therapist until funding for Intergenerational Services, Inc. in Northwestern Ohio was discontinued due to government cutbacks in Medicare. As a consequence of her firsthand experience, Pat became increasingly more sensitive to the plight of elders made poor and vulnerable precisely because they were unable to access the human services they needed. Invited to serve as a long-distance member of the Board of Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Pat provided both wisdom and insight.

In 2000, upon her return to the Joliet area after accompanying her parents and uncle to the end of life's journey home to God, Pat and those who loved her began to notice subtle changes indicative of the early onset of dementia. Despite her condition, Pat remained steadfast in her commitment to care for the Sisters and residents of Our Lady of Angels for as long as possible, knowing that one day in the not too distant future, she would find her place no longer serving, but being served.

And so, little by little, our Sister Pat graciously returned to God all that she had been given - body, mind and spirit. May the example of her life and witness challenge each of us to respond to the invitation extended to all of us by the *Lord of the Dance*, and let us pray that our Sister Pat may dance in the fullness of God's grace and peace for all eternity. Alleluia. Alleluia!

*"Dance, then, wherever you may be, for I am the Lord of the dance." said He.*

*"And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance," said He.*

## *Sister Patricia David OSF*

*May 2, 1937 — October 21, 2013*

<i>Born:</i>	May 2, 1937
<i>Parents:</i>	Frank J. and Anna (Liszak) David
<i>Postulancy:</i>	September 6, 1954
<i>Novitiate:</i>	August 13, 1955
<i>First Profession:</i>	August 12, 1957
<i>Final Profession:</i>	August 13, 1960
<i>Entered New Life:</i>	October 21, 2013

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### **Ministry History**

1957-1958	Teacher: Grade 2; St. Bernard, Joliet, Illinois
1958-1960	Teacher: Grade 1; Sacred Heart, Englewood, Chicago, Illinois
1960-1961	Teacher: Grade 2; St. Mary, Des Plaines, Illinois
1961-1963	Teacher: Grade 2; St. Raymond, Joliet
1963-1976	Teacher: Grades 1 & 2; St. Coleman, Pompano Beach, Florida
1976-1986	Teacher: Grades 3, 4, & 5; St. Jude, Joliet
1986-1987	Teacher: Grade 1; St. Peter, Mansfield, Ohio
1987-1988	Student: Lourdes College, Sylvania, Ohio
1988-1990	Clinical Therapist: Human Services of NW of Ohio, Inc., Toledo, Ohio
1990-2000	Family Care, Substitute Teacher, Pastoral Care, Toledo Ohio
2000-2003	Sacristan and Community Service; St. Francis Convent, Joliet
2003-2013	Sisters' Transportation Coordinator and Community Service; Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet

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<i>Wake:</i>	Friday, October 25, 2013, 2:00-6:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Prayer Service:</i>	Friday, October 25, 2013, 4:45 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Mass of Christian Burial:</i>	Friday, October 25, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of Angels, Joliet
<i>Burial:</i>	Friday, October 26, 2013, leaving Our Lady of Angels at 9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, Illinois
<i>Interment:</i>	Section 8, Lot 362, Grave 8, Resurrection Cemetery
<i>Predeceased by:</i>	Her parents, Frank J. David and Anna (Liszak) David
<i>Survived by:</i>	Her brother, Frank, sister-in-law, Vicki David of Crescent Spring, KY Nieces and nephew: Ann (John) Hendel, Lori (Matthew) Jaeger and Matthew (Emily) David

*Rest in Peace, Sister Patricia*