

Sister Ursula Kendig, SC
Entered eternal life on July 11, 2022

Dear Friends and Family, Brother Benedictine Monks (Fathers Anthony, Hillary, Jerome and John) and, Dear Sisters...

*Jesus said, "Blessed are the Poor in Spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs..."*

Those who are poor in spirit humbly realize and trust that every gift and blessing comes from God. There is nothing arrogant or self-righteous about someone who is truly poor in spirit. God's Spirit and will are at the core of their lives.

Throughout a life that was both gifted and filled with struggles and suffering Ursula lived every day with courage, hope and love. She was the kindest, most honest person I have ever known. In Ursula, there was no guile. She truly was poor in spirit.

I would like to share just a few memories. Ursula was:

- Generous to a fault
 - She was observant of the needs of those around her whether it be helping an elderly neighbor when she and Vir (Sister Virginia Margaret) lived down the shore....or at the Villa where she did laundry for others; carried breakfasts for those in need, shared her time and talent on the keyboard with someone who also needed to play, painting, caring for Villa chapel; she did what she could.
- She did not know how good she was and how gifted she was as a teacher/educator, an artist, a wonderful musician on the keyboard, and cook.
- Urse was a fixer. She could figure out how things worked; how to make something work; or put it back together.
- She was willing to learn and grow...whether IT/computer technology, finding new ways to fix something broken; make something beautiful; figure out a way to do new things, e.g. when coffee pots were taken away at Villa she found coffee bags and shared them with others.
- She was an Educator who loved teaching, cared for her students' learning. She was deeply interested in their humanity and their struggles.
- When I first visited Urse and Vir as a new councilor for Congregation they were so nervous they made me nervous, but we bonded over her chicken potpie, the best ever! The rest happened easily.
- Life was not simple or easy for Urse...but she "toughed" her way through and later in life when the opportunity came, she embraced new insights and change with hope and courage and own brand of humor...she was so grateful to Sister Elizabeth "Liz" Kremp for walking with her through many of these learnings.
- Urse loved her family so much, her niece Eileen and nephew Eugene from the shore who were always there, always responsive, always generously loving. She believed in you and treasured you.



- Ursula had a deep sadness at death of her friend Vir (Sr. Virginia) who shared her love of education and service. I will always remember that when Vir was taken to hospital as an emergency at the end of her life. Eileen left work to come immediately. It meant everything to Ursula, she often mentioned it.
- She dearly loved her family in Ohio where she and Vir spent much time – with the children and extended family ...so many to mention – fearful of missing someone but surely Teresa, Angel, Dee, and Michael in California, and her cousins Maureen, Kathleen, and Patty.
- One fond memory of Ursula occurred when Ursula, Barbara Conroy and I went out to lunch at Charlie Brown's, her favorite restaurant. Barbara suggested nachos to begin. Urse said, "Oh I could never eat something like that". She ordered her own appetizer, and we ordered the Nachos. "I'll try just one, she said. After she finished half the order, she said these are really good". We ordered them the next time, too.
- Ursula loved being a Sister of Charity. She had a conscious desire for God's love and to be in God's presence; to be worthy always, always seeking God in her life, always seeking love and forgiveness.
- She struggled with self-doubt, always trying to do what was right.
- She was so grateful, for anything, even a tidbit of affirmation.
- We walked together for many years. Urse was a dear friend, and I will miss her greatly.

Merciful God, we place our sister and friend Ursula into your hands. She sought you throughout her life and now she is home.

Many blessings, dear Friend. Your kindness and courage, your hope and love will never be forgotten. Amen.

Sister Rosemary Moynihan, SC