

Sisters of the Holy Family

Sister Patricia Wittman, SHF

February 19, 1928 – September 13, 2026

Sister Patricia Wittman died at the Sisters of the Holy Family Motherhouse in Fremont in the early morning of September 13, 2026, at the age of 98. She was born in Portland, Oregon, on February 19, 1928, to Clara Varitz and Stephen Wittman, and entered the Sisters of the Holy Family from St. Andrew Parish in Portland on July 2, 1953, at the age of 25.

Sister Patricia spent three years in her early religious life as library assistant at our Holy Family College, before beginning a period of religious education that took her to Southern California, Utah, Las Vegas, and Hawaii. In

1976 she returned to the Bay Area and served again as librarian at Holy Family College until 1987 when the college closed. Then she began 22 years of service in the library at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park.

In the words of Fr. Gerald Coleman, PSS, who served for 16 years as president-rector of St. Patrick's, "She was an important spiritual presence to both faculty and seminarians. I promise you that I will offer Mass for her in thanksgiving for her Religious life and her important presence at the seminary."

Sister Patricia returned to Fremont in 2016. She was known as a gourmet cook and had cookbooks and cookware galore! She even had a tv cooking show for awhile many years ago. Sister had a wonderful sense of humor, and a very clear and distinct voice for reading at liturgy. She loved color, and tended to wear very colorful clothing, always color-coordinated, of course!

Sister Patricia's funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, October 7 at 3:30 p.m. at the Sisters' motherhouse in Fremont. Burial will take place the following afternoon at Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma.



"...to
seek out
and
advocate
for the
poor and
needy,
especially
families,

for the
kingdom
of God..."

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