Honorary Mary Mulheron Award to Pat Williams By Christine Sorensen, Pastoral Minister Church of the Risen Savior

Have you ever had that experience where something truly important is said in an off handed way and you are quick enough to catch it? That happened to me when I was visiting Blessed Pat Williams as she was preparing for her homegoing. We prayed and she received Communion and then we talked. She said that she had always hoped to be a Mary Mulheron Award recipient, but it just hadn't happened. As I drove back to my office, I called Adaire Lassonde and told her about the conversation and God's Grace took over.

The APM Board agreed that an honorary award for Pat would be a way to say "thank you" for her years of faithful, loving ministry. When Dr. Wm. McDonough at St. Catherine's University was asked what he thought of the idea he supported it 110% and did all that he could to quickly get a certificate, sign it, frame it and have it ready for us. I called to arrange a time when some Board members could present it to Pat only to be told she was rapidly declining. Pat's daughter asked if we could come right away while Pat will still responsive. Adaire and I drove right over to Pat's home and had the blessing of giving her the certificate. She was both humbled and delighted. It was an honor for us to represent the Board and express our gratitude and affection to Pat. She has now gone home to our loving God who created her and we who remain will long be inspired by her dedication and example. Well done, good and faithful servant.

Pat