

I am Doris Burnside, widow of Daniel Burnside VMD, mother of two sons, two daughters, grandmother of five and a recent great-grandmother of one little boy. I live in the Quakertown area. I am a retired RN, graduating from the Allentown Hospital School of Nursing. All of this I am most thankful to God for and in my more personal life for being a breast cancer survivor of thirty -six years. To wake each morning to a new day, how blessed I am.

After forty-four years at my previous parish, the time came for me to make a change and I knew where I wanted to go - that was a little over four years ago. From my first entrance that Sunday morning during Advent, I felt welcome. The prayers, music, sermon and the peace all came together, and as I left I felt renewed. In response to my filling out the visitor card in the pew an announced visitor came to my home, followed soon after by an announced visit by Dean Pompa. On his leaving I now knew him as Tony. From these visits came more contacts which led me to join the Prayer Shawl group and the Nativity Book club. Later, under the leadership of Deacon Rodney, I helped with the Emergency Shelter dinners serving the area men in need of food and safe sleep.

The Celtic Spirituality sessions led by Tony were most enjoyable. This culminated in a pilgrimage to Wales for an incredible ten days of fellowship. A sisterhood was formed, and how wonderful it was to be with Archdeacon Rich Cluett and of course Tony. This all led to the Saturday (last Saturday of the month) Celtic Service in the Cathedral at 5 PM. This service is most special to me as it is a time to reflect, pray and give thanks for all that I have.

This Cathedral family has enriched my life with both friendship and spirituality.