

We are here this morning to honor the memory of Marilyn Losee, mother of five, grandmother of sixteen, great-grandmother of twelve.

She was born in 1935 - in a time very different than our own ... yet also very similar.

A sort of "Arab spring" was happening in northern Africa. Some Italian colonies in that region combined that year to create the new country of Libya.

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the controversial Social Security Act into law in 1935. And a month and a half later, he dedicated the Hoover Dam.

Porky Pig made his first appearance on the silver screen; and *Fibber McGee and Molly* debuted on NBC radio.

In Major League Baseball, the first night game ever was played in 1935.

And later that year, Babe Ruth played his very last game for the Boston Braves.

I'm not sure if there was any connection between these next two events - but it turns out that for the first time, beer was sold in cans ... and just a few months later in Ohio, Alcoholics Anonymous was formed.

Many other famous people were born that year. Elvis Presley, John Denver, Sonny Bono, Jerry Lee Lewis, Julie Andrews, and Luciano Pavarotti ... as well as the current Dalai Lama.

I've been told that Marilyn worked at Caron Yarns ... and loved knitting.

The Bible talks about knitting.

The Book of Proverbs tells us that the good woman enjoys knitting and chooses only the best yarn.

In Psalm 139, the psalmist tells us that God has knit each one of us into being. And in the Book of Job, we hear that repeated. Perhaps your mom is giving the Almighty a few pointers on His knitting.

St. Paul tells us that as members of the Body of Christ, we are all knit together in God's love ... so that we might support each other and lift each other up.

Which is the other reason, of course, that we have gathered here in this church ... that is, to pray for Marilyn ... and to show our support for her ... so that we might accompany her with our prayers ... as she begins her journey from this world to the next.

The threads of love that were knit during her life here on earth remain, and in a very real way continue to unite her with everyone she loved. May that love, united always to the love of Christ, be for us a comfort in our sorrow.

Well done, good and faithful servant. Come, share your master's joy. *Eternal rest ...*