

Rally in Solidarity with Catholic Sisters (May 29, 2012, Washington, DC)

Kate Kelley

For centuries, the Catholic sisters have devoted their lives to service. They are in the schools where children learn, the shelters where the less fortunate sleep, the hospitals where our loved ones receive care. They do, and have always, taken care of humanity, doing Christ's work in a world where it is not always appreciated or praised. In my own life, I have been blessed to have the friendship of a nun, Sister Cheryl, who is a member of the Cleveland, Ohio chapter of the Sisters of Charity. As a teenager, filled with the fire of human rights and social justice, she guided me and supported me in my desire to help others in my career. She herself has been helping others for decades, most recently working with the poor women of Cleveland and assisting them in the mountains of paperwork required for public assistance.

Throughout her life, Sister Cheryl has been devoted to the living work of Christ, and as many sisters do, she follows her faith to do what we are tasked with as Christians - to love one another, to help the less fortunate, to be the light of good in a world that is often filled with darkness. Sister Cheryl and the other sisters across the world who devote their lives to the light of good do not ask for recognition or reward, which is precisely why they deserve our support, and it is why I feel fortunate to be speaking on behalf of them today.