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**Virtual Family Wiffle Ball “Tournament”
for Sister Pat’s Kids Camp**

We hope that everyone is healthy, safe and enjoying time with family during these truly difficult times. We are so sad that we will not be able to hold the Sister Pat’s Kids Camp Charity Wiffle Ball Tournament this year.

The spirit of the tournament, however, has always been to help others while having fun. With that in mind, and in keeping with our social distancing and stay-at-home mandate, we are encouraging everyone to go outside with their families and play their own spirited game of Wiffle ball. This is how we started over 10 years ago in the backyard, and it would be a great way to keep the spirit of the tournament alive when we can’t all play together.

If you need a bat or a few Wiffle balls, let us know; we will drive over and leave some at your house. We would love to receive some videos or pictures of your family playing together in support of Sister Pat’s. We will put together a video montage for everyone who sends us something.

For any of you who are not familiar with Sister Pat’s Kids Camp, it is a week-long camp in Esopus, N.Y., sponsored by Saint Helen’s Parish for pediatric oncology and hematology patients (of any religious affiliation) at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. For one week each summer, these children get to laugh, play, run and forget that they are patients. In addition to their medical challenges, the majority of the campers come from underprivileged families. This year, we are even more worried about our campers as their compromised immune systems make them more vulnerable to COVID-19. At this time, camp is still scheduled to be held. We truly hope the children will be able to enjoy a week in upstate New York after such a difficult time for them and their families.

We recognize that the needs of all are greater now than they’ve ever been. Just keeping the campers and all those involved with Sister Pat’s Kids Camp in your prayers is a wonderful blessing that we truly appreciate. If you would like to send in a donation, please mail a check to Sister Pat’s Kids Camp, Wiffle Ball Tournament, c/o Monica Bergin, 609 St. Marks Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090. Please include your name, e-mail address and return address so we can acknowledge your donation.

If you want to send videos or pictures of your family game, please e-mail them to jbirle9@gmail.com.

If you need a bat or balls, please e-mail us at pjbirle@comcast.net and we will arrange a drop-off.

Thank you all for your continued support and please stay healthy and safe.

James Birle, Patrick Reynders, Kelly Cushing, Grace Loder, Nora Bergin and the entire Sister Pat’s Kids Camp Wiffle Ball Tournament Board

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