



CONNECTION

A publication for the family and friends of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Fall 2016

Volume 24, No. 3

Scranton, Pennsylvania

SISTERS' CELEBRATION A GREAT SUCCESS

On Saturday, August 6, 2016, nearly 300 IHM Sisters and supporters gathered on the beautiful campus of Marywood University for the third Sisters of IHM Celebration. Hosted by the Sisters of IHM Foundation, the event raised essential funding for the retirement needs of the nearly 100 IHM Sisters living in Scranton who have dedicated their lives to God and service to others.

Joseph and Margaret Dougherty were honored for their commitment to and embodiment of the IHM spirit. The proprietors of the former Dougherty's Restaurant in Scranton and their 12 children attended schools and religious education programs guided and staffed by IHM educators.

Jim Bell, a fifth generation Scrantonian, was the featured speaker. Jim spoke about how the sisters impacted his life and why they need support in their retirement. Taught by the IHM Sisters, Jim credits much of his success, as well as his life-long love of learning to the solid academic structure instilled by the sisters. His distinguished career includes 40 years as corporate counsel for General Electric.

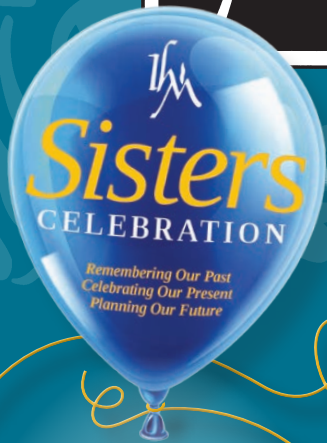
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Front, from left: Rosemary Bell, Sister Cor Immaculatum Heffernan, IHM, Foundation board member, Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, Foundation board member. Back, from left: John Murray, Foundation president, James Bell, guest speaker, Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, Foundation executive director.



Special guests, from left to right: John Murray, Foundation president, Joseph and Margaret Dougherty, 2016 Sisters of IHM Spirit Award recipients, Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, Foundation board member, Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, Foundation executive director.



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PEOPLE & PLACES

SISTER KATHLEEN CLANCY, IHM, APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE WELCOMING SPACE AT THE IHM CENTER



Sister Kathleen Clancy, IHM has graciously accepted the position of Director of the Welcoming Space at the IHM Center in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Working with the Spiritual Renewal Task Force during the next year, sister will continue with what is already in place by way of offering prayer, programs, retreats, and workshops to other sisters and lay people.

SISTER MARY REAP RETIRING IN 2017

Sister Mary Reap, IHM, Ph.D, will retire as president of Elms College at the end of the 2017 academic year. Sister had served as president of her alma mater, Marywood University, Scranton Pennsylvania for nearly 20 years before joining Elms College in 2009. Photo courtesy of Elms College.



THANK YOU!

AmazonSmile Benefits IHM Mission

Thanks to our IHM friends who selected us as their charity spotlight when making online purchases through the *AmazonSmile* charity program. Recently, we doubled the amount our sisters have received in financial distributions.

You can make a difference, too!



Planning on making any Christmas purchases on Amazon? Be sure to remember each time you make a purchase to mark us as your spotlight charity. Visit smile.amazon.com, log into your account, and select **Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary** as your spotlight charity.

Questions? Contact Sister Ann Monica at 570-346-5431 or bubsera@sistersofihm.org.



NUNS ON THE BUS VISIT SCRANTON

Nuns on the Bus, a project of the National Catholic Social Justice Lobby NETWORK, visited Scranton on July 25. The sisters called upon elected officials and candidates to “Mend the Gaps” in income and wealth inequality in our nation.

Sister Donna Korba, IHM, director of the Office of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation, for the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary is also a NETWORK board member. Local representation at the event included the following:

Kneeling, from left: IHM Sisters Lisa Perkowski, Kieran Williams, Donna Korba, Ellen Maroney, Karen Marie O’Neill. Standing, from left: Sisters Jane Marie Connolly, Carol Loughney, Helene Cooke, IHM Associate Jean Shields, IHM Sisters Jean Louise Bachetti, Eileen Egan, Margaret Burke, Ellen Carney, Alphonsa Concilio, Mariam Pfeifer.



CONNECTION

Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
IHM Center, Development Office
2300 Adams Avenue
Scranton, PA 18509

Fall 2016, Volume 24, No. 3

IHM Connection is published three times a year and is mailed free of charge.

Suggestions and contributions are welcome.

Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM
President

Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM
Director of Development

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Contact the Development Office at 570-346-5431 or armbrustl@sistersofihm.org.

www.sistersofihm.org



Please Recycle

IHM Connection is published by the Development Office of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, IHM Center, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18509. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate the works and needs of the IHM Congregation.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Thankfulness is integral to the season of autumn. Surrounded by the bounty of creation's gifts, our hearts overflow with gratitude. We are truly blessed to have the support of so many friends to carry forth the IHM mission through prayers, financial support, and partnership in our ministries.

In this issue of IHM Connection, we share exciting updates of our IHM sisters and friends in carrying out our mission and stories of our connections with others. I hope you enjoy reading about the success of our third Sisters Celebration, the commissioning of four new IHM Associates, a feature on Sister Daria McGinn, IHM, who recently celebrated her 75th Jubilee, and the generosity of a donor through a planned giving program.

The generosity of our dedicated friends, donors, and supporters never ceases to amaze me. Due to your generosity, our IHM sisters are able to continue dedicating their lives to sharing God's love with so many people. Thank you for your continued friendship and support.

We pray in gratitude for the many gifts you have shared with us.

Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM
Director of Development

SISTER ELIZABETH ANN DEMERCHANT ENTERS THE IHM NOVITIATE



IHM Sisters Kathy Kurdziel, director of novices, Elizabeth Ann DeMerchant, novice, and Ellen Maroney, president.

When a woman discerns that she is called to become an IHM sister, she works with the IHM vocation director to determine if her personality, spirituality, education, and experience are compatible with the congregation.

Candidacy, novitiate, and temporary profession are the three phases of becoming an IHM Sister. A year ago, Elizabeth DeMerchant entered the candidacy phase and focused on adaptation to community living. On August 28, 2016, Elizabeth entered into the novitiate, a two-year program. She received the name, Sister Elizabeth Ann and moved into the IHM novitiate house to begin a year of intense prayer, silence, study, and personal reflection. During her second year, Sister Elizabeth Ann will build on the skills already learned and prepare for ministry.

After temporary profession, Sister Elizabeth will continue to discern her call to the congregation and deepen the spiritual, communal, and ministerial aspects of her life. After some time in temporary profession, she will request to make a public profession of perpetual vows. Initial incorporation is ended and she is admitted to full membership in the congregation and commits herself to lifelong, ongoing formation.

Welcome Sister Elizabeth Ann!



Shannon Kowalski, Youth Minister at St. Catherine of Sienna Church, Moscow, PA, IHM Sisters Fran Fasolka and Mindy Welding.

VOCATIONS AMBASSADORS PROGRAM LAUNCHED

From June 10-13, the National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC) sponsored a workshop in Notre Dame, Indiana called "Share the Sacred," kicking off a project in which young adults serve as vocation ambassadors around the country.

Twelve religious communities each prepared a young adult to serve as a spokesperson for their community and for religious life in general. Each congregation was comprised of a team of three: young adult ambassador, communications professional, and vocation director.



Participants learned communications strategies and tactics, and each team devised its own project for sending forth a vocation ambassador to promote religious life. The workshop helped vocation directors and communications professionals to better work and plan together with their young adult ambassadors.

Pictured are the young adults who were recently commissioned by NRVC to serve as vocation ambassadors. Photos by Chris Irr.

ASSOCIATES UPDATE

July and August provided several opportunities for our associates and sisters to spend time together. Three women who are employed by Marywood University's Housekeeping Department were commissioned as associates at Our Lady of Peace Chapel on July 17.

From left: Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, president, Jane O'Neill, director of IHM associate relationship, Pamela Chairge, Karen Rossmell, Sister Mary Denise Thomas, IHM, Sister St. Kenneth Polley, IHM, and Cheryl Kosydar. IHM Sisters Mary Denise and St. Kenneth facilitated the Circle of Grace.



On August 2 the women in the Circle of Grace facilitated by IHM Sisters Susan Hadzima and Kathy Kurdziel were commissioned in the chapel at the IHM Center. The four new associates spent the past two and one-half years in preparation for their commissioning.

From left: Jane O'Neill, director of IHM associate relationship, Sister Susan Hadzima, IHM, Carolyn Flannery, Maggie Germano, Megan Knight, Diane Featherall, Sister Kathy Kurdziel, IHM, and Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, president.



Ten associates from the Scranton area attended the IHM Assembly on July 29 and 30. On the afternoon of July 30 while the Sisters addressed the Financial Report of the congregation, the associates met with Jane O'Neill to discuss the topics and issues that were addressed at the sessions they attended.

Associates Mona Griffer and Ann Williams.



Associate Jean Shields and Sister Michael Marie Hartman, IHM.



THE SISTERS OF IHM FOUNDATION

wishes to acknowledge Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sponsors
for the third Sisters of IHM Celebration:

(Gifts of \$1,000 - \$4,999)

Allied Services Integrated Health System	Christopher Gilchrist
Joseph J. Banick	Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hannan
Andrew Brown's Drug Store	Fafi and Tom Karam
Angelique and Jim Bell	Lenahan & Dempsey PC
Monica Q. Bubser	Attys. Tim and Ruth Lenahan
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Condron	Drs. John & Maggie Mariotti
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In Honor of PJ & Kristen Dempsey	Virginia Shields
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Dempsey Uniform & Linen Supply Inc.	Toyota of Scranton
Pia Ferrario	Mary Theresa Vautrinot

MARYWOOD SEMINARY

Grand Finale Reunion
and Legacy Project



Although it's been many decades since young girls in crisp white blouses and plaid skirts attended Marywood Seminary in Scranton, Pennsylvania, the school spirit has been kept alive by a dedicated group of alumnae. After much consideration, the Marywood Seminary Alumnae Association has decided to bring the formal organization to closure - but not before they plan one last venture - a grand finale reunion! The three day event, scheduled for June 9-11, 2017, on Marywood University's campus, is in the initial stages of planning. For the most up to date information, visit Marywood Seminary's Facebook page. Reunion committee members include: Roseann Brutico, Nada Gilmartin, Patricia Rosetti, Marguerite Nardone Gruen, and Sister Maryla Farfour, IHM, alumnae association moderator.

Even though the association will no longer exist, alumnae are encouraged to plan class reunions and to stay in contact with the retired IHM Sisters who reside at the *Pascucci Family Our Lady of Peace Residence*, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18509. In recognition of the outstanding education they received from the sisters from 1902-1971, the association donated a gift of \$35,000 to the IHM Retirement Fund.

Continued on page 6

Legacy of Friendship

You don't have to donate a substantial amount of money to make a difference in the lives of our IHM sisters who have given selflessly of themselves to serve others for many years. The term "planned giving" encompasses a variety of methods of planning a financial gift to an organization, usually with a tax benefit to the donor.

One popular method is the IRA charitable rollover. Donors age 70½ or older are eligible to move up to \$100,000 from their IRAs directly to qualified charities without having to pay income tax on the money. According to the IRS, qualified charitable distributions can satisfy all or part of the amount of a person's required minimum distribution from an IRA. For more information about distributions from IRAs, please visit <https://www.irs.gov/publications/p590b/index.html>.

Anne Keele, who has made a financial commitment to the Sisters of IHM, is a wonderful example of Christian stewardship. To this day, she recalls with a grateful heart the quality education that she and her three siblings received during the 1940s from the Sisters of IHM at **Our Lady Queen of Martyrs School in Forest Hills, New York**. Over the years, the family has reminisced about the sense of community at their faith-based school and the inspiring sisters who played a significant role in the formation of their Catholic faith. What a blessing Anne is!

We ask you to prayerfully consider making a gift to help advance the IHM Sisters' mission and ministries. You may contact Sister Ann Monica Bubser at 570-346-5431 or bubsera@SistersofIHM.org with any questions.

Always consult with your attorney and/or financial advisor before finalizing a planned gift.

Legal title and address are:
Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
IHM Center – 2300 Adams Avenue – Scranton, PA 18509

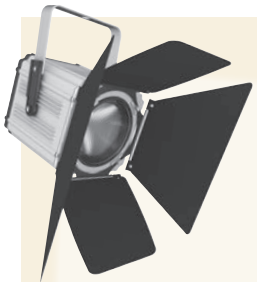
MARYWOOD SEMINARY GRAND FINALE REUNION *continued from page 5*

Upon hearing of the dissolution of the Association, Mimi Hoffman, Class of '62 was inspired to leave a lasting tribute and thus "The Marywood Seminary Legacy Project" began. Last year, Mimi sent detailed instructions for the submission of written memories and anecdotes. With the goal of obtaining as many responses as possible, Mimi recently mailed a reminder and extended the submission deadline to April 2017.

The collection will be preserved in a memory capsule to be placed near the former site of the Seminary in the Motherhouse

which was destroyed by a fire in 1971. In addition, the collection will be presented to the IHM Sisters for their archives.

If you, or anyone you know, attended Marywood Seminary and would like to participate in the Legacy Project, please send your mailing address to: legacyproject@cangemistudio.com or Marywood Legacy Project, P.O. Box 3956, Scranton, PA 18505.



— IHM SPOTLIGHT — WE CONGRATULATE AND CELEBRATE SISTER DARIA

Upon meeting Sister M. Daria McGinn, IHM, her amazing spirit of joy and unflinching focus on the great privilege that it is to serve God becomes immediately evident.

Sister Daria, who recently celebrated her 75th Jubilee, was born in Jamaica, New York, the daughter of the late James and Mary Christian McGinn. Sister Daria and her four brothers received their education from the IHM Sisters at St. Dominic's Elementary and High Schools in Oyster Bay, New York.

For over sixty years, Sister Daria ministered as an elementary school teacher, sharing her love of God and learning with her students in New York and Pennsylvania. Weekends were spent tutoring and teaching religious education classes. Sister Daria earned a bachelor's degree from Marywood University and a master's degree from the University of Detroit.

The truly lasting and profound impact her life has had and continues to have as a teacher and a friend is inspiring. One touching example relates to her lifelong friendship with former student, Monsignor Joseph G. Quinn, J.D., J.C.L., current pastor of Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania.



During a recent visit with Sister Daria at the *Pascucci Family* Our Lady of Peace Residence where she resides, Monsignor Quinn recalled, "In 1956, she was the first nun I would meet in my lifetime, and to this day, I marvel at her gifts and talents. Each and every year, she had 55 to 60 students in her class!" I told her that, "I still find it hard to believe that she could do that without the benefit of any teachers' aides." With her

quick wit, Sister Daria said, "Aides??? We had no room for them! We had no aisles!!!"

"When I look back at her years at Nativity, I am in absolute awe of how the Quinn family has been impacted by the truly extraordinary IHM Sisters. Our lives and our faith have been wondrously graced by the selfless labors of so many of them," adds Monsignor Quinn.

Sister Daria, who turns 98 on December 11th, enjoys her days in community with her IHM sisters and the opportunity to pray for the needs of many people.



(After completing high school, college, graduate, and post-graduate studies, Msgr. Joseph G. Quinn, J.D., J.C.L., became a lawyer, U.S. Magistrate Judge, priest of the Diocese of Scranton, Vice President of Fordham University, and currently serves as Pastor of Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania. Visit our website at <http://www.sistersofihm.org/what-you-can-do/donations-support/> to read Monsignor Joseph Quinn's entire tribute to Sister Daria and the IHM Sisters.)

SILVER CIRCLE

Yearly Membership Program Benefitting Retired Sisters

To learn more, visit us online at www.sistersofihm.org/silvercircle.



Sister Jean Coughlin explaining the benefits of the Silver Circle Membership Program for our retired sisters at Our Lady of Peace Residence.

Funds Help to Cover the Expense of...

- Wellness
- Safety
- Personal Independence
- Healthcare
- Transportation
- Personal Care/Hygiene

...for our Retired Sisters

Drawings are held on the third Wednesday of the month from October to June.

To become a seller, please contact Sister Ann Monica at 570-346-5431 or bubsera@sistersofihm.org.

Winners and photos are published online the day of each drawing.

Please visit www.sistersofihm.org/silvercircle then click on the link that reads "***View Recent Winners**".

Yes! I would like to support the retired IHM Sisters.

I would like to buy _____ Silver Circle Memberships @ \$25 each. (make checks payable to Sisters of IHM)

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Membership Name _____

Address _____

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2015-16 RECAP

- \$186,165+ Raised
- Equivalent of 7,034 Memberships
- 208 Sellers
 - 188 Sister Sellers
 - 20 Lay Sellers

2016-17 GOAL

- Equivalent of 7,020 Memberships
- 226 Sellers
 - 188 Sister Sellers
 - 38 Lay Sellers

How you can help:

FREE!

- Become Lay Seller
- Become a Sister Seller

Each Membership is Only \$25!

- Renew your Membership

(fill out the form and send it in with your check or connect with your seller today!)

- Become a Silver Circle Member

(fill out the form and send it in with your check – you will be paired with a seller who will connect with you about your support!)

END OF YEAR GIVING

Gifts made on or before December 31, 2016 may be tax-deductible for this tax year. Gifts of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds) are desirable gifts whether they have appreciated or depreciated in value.

A charitable contribution may be just the right decision to enable you to itemize your taxes and potentially lower your tax bill.

For more information, contact Sister Ann Monica at 570-346-5431 or bubsera@sistersofihm.org, or visit www.sistersofihm.org. On the left, under "what you can do", click on "Donate". Then, scroll down and click on "Year End Giving".

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IHM Center – 2300 Adams Avenue – Scranton, PA 18509

(Continued from front cover)

SISTERS CELEBRATION A SUCCESS

Event proceeds, donations, and sponsorships enabled the IHM Foundation to present a check for nearly \$70,000 to IHM Congregation President, Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM. For those who missed this special event to support the retirement needs of our beloved sisters, a gift may still be sent to the IHM Sisters or online at <http://www.sistersofihm.org/what-you-can-do/donations-support/>.

To view event details, including more photos, visit <http://www.sistersofihm.org/what-you-can-do/donations-support/>, scroll down and on the right, click on the Sisters of IHM Foundation logo. Then, navigate to the events details and photos page.



IHM Foundation Board Officers and Members, from left: Maggie Mariotti, member, Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, executive director, Michael McGrath, secretary, Sister Cor Immaculatum Heffernan, IHM, member, Tim McMullen, treasurer, Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, member, John Murray, president, Nada Gilmartin, member. Absent Atty. Timothy Lenehan, member.



Colleen Dougherty, Jeff Laboranti, Tony Laboranti, Carol Laboranti, John Dougherty, Peggy Dougherty Piccotti.



Co-chairs and Committee Members, from left: John Murray, Foundation president, Kristen and PJ Dempsey, Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, Foundation member, Terry Padden, Ann and Bruce D'Arienzo, Atty. Larry and Kathy Moran, Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, Foundation executive director.



Nancy Bloom, IHM Sisters Rosemary Goulet and Jane Gaughan.



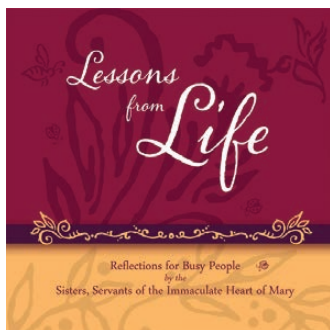
Third Annual Foundation Celebration Co-Chairs: Greg and Marie Nieto.



Sister Ellen Carney, IHM, Atty. Joseph O'Brien, Sister Jean Coughlin, IHM.



Sister Karen Marie O'Neill, Kieran Williams, Sister Raymond Mary McIntyre, IHM.



LESSONS FROM LIFE

Audio Book Available!

Interested in writing a review of this audio book? Contact Sister Fran Fasolka: fasolka@sistersofihm.org for a free download of *Lessons from Life*.

The Sisters of IHM have released *Lessons from Life* in audio book format. Recorded by Tiffany Williams, a professional narrator, all 206 short stories by IHM sisters, associates, and friends, come to life.

The audio book is nearly six hours of listening to a wide variety of personal stories that will touch the hearts and inspire the imaginations of listeners.

Each purchase of the *Lessons from Life* audio book supports the IHM retired sisters.

Please share this link to purchase the book and also to listen to sample stories by Sisters Annmarie Sanders and Kathy Kurdziel: <http://tinyurl.com/p4p6ujt>

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