



CONNECTION

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

Summer 2020

Volume 28, No. 2

Scranton, Pennsylvania



IHM Sisters CELEBRATE 175 YEARS OF JOYFUL, LOVING SERVICE

The year 2020 marks the 175th anniversary of the founding of the IHM Congregation. No doubt there will be much celebrating and reminiscing about the women and events that have shaped our rich history. The IHM story is not just about us; it is interwoven with the faces and voices of the immigrant, poor, uneducated, oppressed, and marginalized. It includes those who inspire us and join us in “seeing and being the light that shines through the cracks of broken hearts... to bring about God’s dream for our beautiful, yet wounded world.” (IHM Direction Statement 2018 – 2022).

Continued on back cover

SISTERS CELEBRATION GOES VIRTUAL!



The IHM Sisters have always sought to serve the needs of God’s people since the congregation’s founding during 1845. This year, the congregation is celebrating its 175th anniversary, and needs your help more than ever. The congregation is doing everything

necessary to ensure the safety of all its sisters, especially those who are most vulnerable, but revenue has declined and expenses have continued to rise during the coronavirus pandemic.

Each summer since 2014, the Sisters of IHM Foundation has hosted a dinner celebration in honor of the IHM sisters which raised

thousands of dollars in support of the IHM Retirement Fund. The Foundation is currently preparing for a new, virtual event on August 1st that will be fun and engaging for everyone. This change in format aligns with CDC guidelines for large events to help ensure the safety and health of our sisters and participants.

Event updates will be posted at <http://www.sistersofihm.org/sisterscelebration2020> and on the Sisters of IHM Facebook page.

Please refer to the back page for information about opportunities and benefits for you, your company, or your organization to help care for the needs of retired IHM sisters who are so deserving of your support. All funds raised directly benefit the ever-increasing costs of maintaining a healthy, safe, and comfortable environment for the retired IHM sisters.

IHM Sisters Celebrate 175 Years

*A Different Kind of Sisters Celebration
Inside: Your Invitation to Support the Retired IHMs*

Adapting Ministries During the Pandemic

IHM Jubilarians

Legacy of Friendship

Remembering Spirit of IHM Award Recipients

Remain in Our Love

SISTERS AND ASSOCIATES ADAPT MINISTRIES DURING THE PANDEMIC

The shelter-in-place directive from our state governors has changed the way the IHM sisters and associates carry out their various ministries. All continue to pray for the health and safety of you and your loved ones during these challenging times. We encourage you to send your intentions to us on a prayer intention card or by email to Sr. Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, at bubsera@sistersofihm.org.



Right now, **IHM Sister Francis Rose Lapitino's** one-on-one personal visits with the sisters residing at Our Lady of Peace Residence are on hold. Always one to keep in touch with others, Sister Frannie is sending personal written notes and making phone calls to the sisters and anyone she knows who lives alone. Sister also sends humorous texts and photos to the health care staff at OLP in appreciation for their dedication during these trying times.



Every morning, **IHM Sister Jeanne Marie McAuliffe's** cheerful smile greeted visitors as they entered OLP Residence. Then in March, the facility closed its doors to visitors but Sister still remains as a receptionist. These days Sister Jeanne is busy assembling the new IHM Remembrance Cards to keep up with the many requests for these

beautiful cards. (See page 5 for information about the new cards) Sister is also organizing the materials for the Silver Circle sellers' packets.



"While our vocation venues such as schools, parishes, and events have been closed, communication remains all around us," said **Sister Mindy Welding, IHM**, director of vocations. Sr. Mindy is working with the Diocesan Vocation Office to present the Bold Choices Retreat for young adults through recorded and live sessions via ZOOM

and is preparing a recorded XLT. (Exalt - an evening of praise and worship, prayer, reflection and exposition/benediction) "While places may be 'closed' God's voice is never shut off and so we continue to pray, plan, reach out, and hope in the future!" added Sister Mindy.

"One-on-one personal visits with our sisters at OLP and the elderly and ill in parishes by IHM Associates are temporarily halted. Phone conversations, email messages, text conversations, and written notes have become the norm for IHM associates," reports **Ms. Jane O'Neill**, director of IHM associates.



Some associates have responded to the needs of the poor and those who are out of work by volunteering at and contributing to food pantries, collections, and giveaways. "Associates like **Ann Williams**, Friends of the Poor, Stewardship Manager, whose occupation is their ministry and are considered essential workers, continue to go to their ministry sites and in many cases are working longer hours than before the pandemic," added Jane.

IHM Sisters Donna Korba and Kate Clancy practice social distancing while planting trees on the grounds of the IHM Center. "Amidst the coronavirus outbreak, tending to the earth is healing for the human soul," said Sister Donna. "IHM sisters have a strong commitment to care for our planet, Earth." The sisters are planting a portion of the native tree species in honor of the IHM 175th Anniversary celebration.



"These past several weeks of sheltering at home have been both challenging and deeply meaningful for the women in initial formation. Like everyone else, **Sisters Giovana Fuentes Bendívez and Elizabeth McGill** have had to respond creatively to the new

normal," said **Sister Mary Elaine Anderson, IHM**, director of formation.

Sister Giovana has been taking theology and psychology courses online offered by universities at no cost. When Giovana was no longer able to continue classes with her sister-teachers at the IHM Center and OLP, Sister Michael Marie Hartman, IHM, who lives with Giovana, volunteered to tutor her daily!

Sister Elizabeth has been studying Feminist Theology online with Sister Nancy Hawkins and helping with the Food Give Away Days organized by Friends of the Poor. In coordination with Sister Mary Kay Faliskie, IHM, Sister Elizabeth planned a gathering of the sisters in Scranton to show their appreciation for the selfless service of the staff at Our Lady of Peace.

Thank You and God Bless CONGRATULATIONS 2020 JUBILARIANS

Join with us in prayers of thanksgiving for all our IHM Jubilarians. We would like to send out a special thank you to all our friends, benefactors, and donors for your support of the sisters. To provide a gift to the IHM Congregation in honor of a Jubilarian visit www.sistersofihm.org/what-you-can-do/donations-support. Or send your gift to:

**IHM Development Office
IHM Center
2300 Adams Avenue
Scranton, PA 18509-1514**

Please print the sister's name on your check memo line.

75 Years

Sr. M. Sabine Higgins, IHM

70 Years

Sr. M. Rosarii Hemmer, IHM

Sr. Mary Ellen James, IHM

Sr. Kathleen McNulty, IHM

Sr. Patricia O'Brien, IHM

60 Years

Sr. Grace Campbell, IHM

Sr. Jane Marie Connolly, IHM

Sr. Eleanor Marie Malanaphy, IHM

Sr. Karen Marie O'Neill, IHM

Sr. Mary Ann Remus, IHM

Sr. Joel Marie Sheehe, IHM

50 Years

Sr. Maria Peter Kratz, IHM

Sr. Therese O'Rourke, IHM

Sr. Mary Persico, IHM

Sr. Maureen Schrimpe, IHM

25 Years

Sr. Susan Ellen Brown, IHM

Legacy of Friendship



Marianne Hanifin Hickey

Over the years, Marianne Hanifin Hickey shared with her family fond memories and feelings about a special friendship she shared with Sr. Romaine Krug, IHM. It was a friendship that began 60 years ago during Marianne's college years at Marywood College (now University) and continued throughout her entire lifetime. After graduating from college, Marianne embarked on a successful career in the food industry but never forgot about the positive influence of the IHMs.

After Marianne's recent passing, John Hanifin, Marianne's nephew and godson, wrote a heartfelt letter of appreciation to Sister

Romaine which included the following message:

"You were her mentor early on and helped Marianne determine the path of her professional career. You were Marianne's 'guardian angel' throughout her entire adult life. Marianne's religious and spiritual dedication was the result of your influence and she was profoundly (and vocally) grateful for your guidance."

As a final gesture of appreciation, Marianne's extended family of siblings, nieces, nephews, and cousins honored Marianne's memory with a generous gift from her estate to the IHM Retirement Fund. The IHM Congregation sincerely appreciates this gift and hopes that all readers will remember Marianne and her family in prayer.

If you would like to share the gift of a tribute or memorial in support of the IHM Retirement Fund, contact the IHM Development Office at 570 346-5431 or email Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, director of development at bubsera@sistersofihm.org.



CONNECTION

*Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
IHM Center, Development Office
2300 Adams Avenue
Scranton, PA 18509-1514*

Summer 2020, Volume 28, No. 2

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**

Some development publications, including IHM Connection, are available via email. To request email communication only, send an email to armbrustl@sistersofihm.org.

Change of Address?

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

www.sistersofihm.org

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 18509-1514. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate the works and needs of the IHM Congregation.



Please Recycle

REMEMBERING PREVIOUS SPIRIT of IHM AWARD RECIPIENTS

2019



Paul and Anne Falzett

2018



Dr. John H. Dougherty, Jr. and Dr. Peter A. Cognetti

2017



Ms. Pia Ferrario

2016



Margaret and the late Joe Dougherty

2015



Mrs. Ellen Harding Casey

2014



Mr. PJ Carlesimo

2020 IHM SISTERS CELEBRATION SPONSOR LEVELS AND BENEFITS

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS	SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS
ANNIVERSARY \$10,000+	Nameplate on plaque at OLP Residence; prominent name recognition on all printed materials related to 175th anniversary events including the official virtual event program; IHM website; appreciation email sent to all IHM supporters; IHM Connection newsletter
PLATINUM \$5,000-\$9,999	Prominent name recognition on all printed materials related to 175th anniversary events including the official virtual event program; IHM website; appreciation email sent to all IHM supporters; IHM Connection newsletter
GOLD \$1,000-\$4,999	Prominent name recognition on all printed materials related to 175th anniversary events including the official virtual event program; IHM website, appreciation email sent to all IHM supporters; IHM Connection newsletter
SILVER \$500-\$999	Prominent name recognition in the official virtual event program; IHM website; appreciation email sent to all IHM supporters; IHM Connection newsletter
BRONZE \$100-\$499	Name recognition during virtual event and an appreciation email sent to all IHM supporters
CONTRIBUTOR UP TO \$99	Name recognition during virtual event



Each month, the IHM development office offers special liturgies for ministry locations where IHM sisters have ministered but are no longer present. All are welcome to attend any of the 8 a.m. masses at the IHM Center chapel or tune in via Ustream at www.ustream.tv/channel/ihm-tv.

Visit www.sistersofihm.org for a detailed listing of the locations we will be praying for. Contact Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, at 570 346-5431 or bubsera@sistersofihm.org with any special intentions.

DATES

June 24

MINISTRY LOCATIONS IN THE FOLLOWING DIOCESES

Wilmington, DE; Wheeling-Charlestown, WV; Arlington, VA and Lexington, KY

July 22

Providence, RI; Boston, Springfield, Worcester, MA; and Bridgeport, Norwich, Hartford, CT

August 28

Philadelphia, PA; and Trenton, Newark, Metuchen, Camden, Paterson, NJ

September 23

Raleigh and Charlotte, NC



Continued from front cover

Born in Baltimore to unwed parents of mixed racial lineage, Theresa Maxis Duchemin knew the harsh effects of prejudice and learned that doors otherwise closed could be opened through education. She was one of the four original members of the Oblate Sisters of Providence, and was the first U.S.-born African-American to become a religious sister and superior general of her congregation. Later, at the invitation of Father Louis Florent Gillet, a Redemptorist priest, Theresa left all behind and traveled to Monroe, Michigan. There, in 1845, she and Father Gillet founded the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The journey of faith undertaken by Theresa and Father Gillet was born in a shared dream of opportunity and possibility for those most in need. Ever faithful to the inner

call of God's Spirit, their courage, trust, passion, persistence, vision, and love for the most vulnerable became the lasting legacy for all IHMs who have followed in their footsteps.



Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM

The image of the Sankofa bird, with its head looking back and feet moving forward, is a visual representation of our chosen theme for this anniversary year: "Rooted in history, focused on the future, united in fire." Grounded in our rich history, we embrace our own yet to be revealed future with the same steadfast hope, passion, and trust in our loving God that was demonstrated by our foremothers.



The previous is an excerpt from an article originally published in IHM Journey and written by Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, who serves as president of the IHM Congregation.

NEW IHM REMEMBRANCE CARDS AVAILABLE

Keep in touch with those you love by sending them an IHM Remembrance Card. Recipients will be remembered in the daily prayers and Eucharist of the IHM Sisters. Each card features a rendering of an original photo taken by Sister Jan Marie Kalyan, IHM.

Visit <http://www.sistersofihm.org/memorialhonor> for details about the new cards and to view the entire collection. Your support of our memorial/honor card program enables the IHM sisters to better serve the needs of others. Cards are available by sending an email to armbrust1@sistersofihm.org or calling 570 346-5431.



2020 AWARD RECIPIENTS AND EMCEE



MaryCarol and Peter Kanton

MaryCarol and Peter Kanton will be honored with the 2020 Spirit of IHM Award in recognition of their commitment to and embodiment of the IHM spirit. The couple shares a great love for the IHMs, the local community, and a desire to give back focusing on Scranton

area nonprofits and IHM-sponsored ministries. Several of the causes where the Kantons volunteer include St. Joseph's Center and Auxiliary, ARC of NEPA, the Erin Jessica Moreken Drug & Alcohol Treatment Fund, and the Marywood Alumni Association.

MaryCarol first met the IHM sisters as a child when her family relocated to Scranton, PA. She credits the sisters with having a profound influence on her decision to become a teacher. After receiving bachelor's and master's degrees from Marywood College (now University), MaryCarol taught elementary school for 39 years.

"I learned one of my most valuable life lessons – the importance of helping those in need – from the IHMs," says Mrs. Kanton.

The Kantons reside in Moosic where Peter owns Kanton Realty, a real estate brokerage and appraisal firm. They have two daughters, Ann Weller and Colleen Devine, sons-in-law, Gerald Weller and Tom Devine, and four grandchildren, one of whom is a current student at Marywood University. Ann is a graduate of Bishop Hannan High School, and

Colleen graduated from Seton Catholic High School.



*Mistress of Ceremonies
Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM*

Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM, president/CEO of St. Joseph's Center and former student of Mrs. Kanton's, will serve as mistress of ceremonies.

DON'T DELAY! EVERY DONATION WE RECEIVE, UP TO \$40,000, BY AUGUST 1, 2020, WILL BE MATCHED \$1 FOR \$1 THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF OUR PHILANTHROPIC LEAD DONORS, OUR PARTNERS IN THE MISSION TO SUPPORT THE RETIRED SISTERS. SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS OF THE IHM DONOR RECOGNITION PROGRAM.



2020 IHM SISTERS CELEBRATION DONATION FORM

GIFT TYPE(S)	DONOR NAME(S) FOR RECOGNITION	GIFT AMOUNT(S)
<input type="checkbox"/> In honor of IHM Sr(s): _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Gift is anonymous	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> In memory of IHM Sr(s): _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Gift is anonymous	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> In honor of Spirit of IHM Award Recipients Peter and MaryCarol Kanton	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Gift is anonymous	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor - Choose One (See below for sponsor benefits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Anniversary - \$10,000+ <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum - \$5,000-\$9,999 <input type="checkbox"/> Gold - \$1,000-\$4,999 <input type="checkbox"/> Silver - \$500-\$999 <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze - \$100-\$499 <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor - Up to \$99 	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Gift is anonymous	\$ _____
TOTAL: \$ _____		

Donations made to the IHM Foundation, a 501 (c) organization, may reduce your taxable income.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Send your gift **TODAY** in the enclosed, pre-addressed envelope and help us exceed our goal of raising \$80,000. Donations must be received by **July 24, 2020** to be included in the recognition program.

- Enclosed is a check made payable to: Sisters of IHM Foundation
- Charge the following credit/debit card:

Card #: _____ CVV#: _____ Exp. Date: _____

If you would prefer, secure online donations may be made at www.sistersofihm.org/sisterscelebration2020

Return this form with your donation in the enclosed, pre-addressed envelope to:

Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, IHM Center, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18509-1514

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN RAISING IMPORTANT FUNDS FOR THE RETIREMENT NEEDS OF THE IHM SISTERS.