



CONNECTION

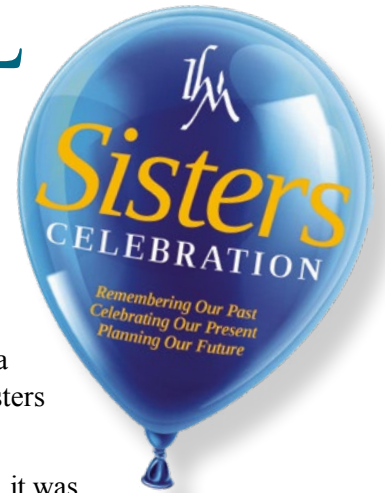
A publication for the family and friends of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Fall 2020

Volume 28, No. 3

Scranton, Pennsylvania

A VIRTUAL SUCCESS



Every summer since 2014, the Sisters of IHM Foundation has hosted a dinner celebration in honor of the IHM sisters with hundreds in attendance. This year, due to the pandemic, the IHM Sisters Celebration was conducted as a virtual event to help ensure the safety and health of our sisters and guests.

“Even though the event was in a different format this year, it was a memorable experience for all who participated,” said Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, executive director, Sisters of IHM Foundation. She credits IHM development staff members and volunteers for putting together a professional program that raised over \$135,000 in support of the IHM Retirement Fund. All donations directly benefit the ever-increasing costs of maintaining a healthy, safe, and comfortable environment for our elderly IHM sisters.

Sister Maryalice Jaquinot, IHM, president/CEO of St. Joseph’s Center, served as mistress of ceremonies and created a picture of the Sisters of IHM’s past, present, and future throughout the program. MaryCarol and Peter Kanton were honored with the 2020 Spirit of IHM Award in recognition of their commitment to and embodiment of the IHM spirit.



MaryCarol and Peter Kanton, 2020 Spirit of IHM Award recipients

Prerecorded speakers included Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, congregation president; Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, executive director, IHM Sisters Foundation; Nada Gilmartin, IHM Sisters Foundation, board member; and previous honorees including Mr. PJ Carlisimo, Mrs. Ellen Casey, Ms. Pia Ferrario, Dr. John H. Doherty, Jr., Dr. Peter A. Cognetti, and Paul and Ann Falzett.

*Remembering
Our Past*

*Celebrating
Our Present*

*Planning
Our Future*

PEOPLE & PLACES

SISTER MARIAM RECEIVES MAR/AMTA LIFETIME AWARD



The Mid-Atlantic Regional Music Therapy Association (MAR/AMTA), presented Sr. Mariam Pfeifer, IHM, with its Lifetime Achievement Award during this year's conference. Recently retired from Marywood University,

Sr. Mariam is still active in the Association for which she served as president in 1993-1994.

Beth Deyermond, MAR/AMTA president, remarked, "For over forty-three years, Sister Mariam has been a guiding influence in the world of music therapy. She trained hundreds of therapists, traveled around the world, and never stopped learning. Sister's name will forever be synonymous with the program at Marywood University."

175 PINTS FOR 175 YEARS

Every day the IHM sisters serve in a variety of ministries but now they want to accomplish something even more. The Red Cross has to collect 15,000 blood donations every day to have enough blood to help patients in 2,700 hospitals and transfusion centers across the country. That's a lot of patients in need of lifesaving blood. The Sisters of IHM are celebrating 175 years of joyful, loving hospitable service with God's people. In honor of this anniversary, they are hosting a virtual blood drive, 175 pints for 175 years.



SOAR! PRESENTS SISTER ANN MARIE WITH AWARD



Sister Ann Marie Pierce, IHM, was presented the Fr. Victor Yanitelli Award by SOAR! at its 34th Annual New York Awards Gala, a virtual event. In acknowledgment of Father Yanitelli's, generous spirit and loving heart, this memorial award was established to recognize a

senior religious in the greater New York area who reflects his spirit and creative service by reaching out to the needs of others.

Sister Ann Marie has been a member of the IHM Congregation for 63 years. She has served as an administrator, teacher, and mentor in Catholic education for more than 40 years. After serving in Catholic education, Sister Ann Marie chose to follow God's call in another way and presently serves God's people as a hospital chaplain.

IHM SISTER PARTICIPATES IN LIFE COMMITMENT PROGRAM



Sister Elizabeth DeMerchant, IHM, participated in the Life Commitment Program sponsored by the National Religious Formation Conference. The program's goal is to create an atmosphere to help deepen the discernment process regarding each participant's desire and freedom to choose a lifelong vowed commitment. After the conference, Sister Elizabeth found herself grateful for the gifts of the

group. She said it was a refreshing blessing to be able to share with others who are also approaching this very significant decision in their lives.



CONNECTION

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

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Suggestions and contributions are welcome.

Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM
President

Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM
Director of Development

If you would prefer to receive IHM Connection and other Communications from the IHM Sisters via email, please send an email to armbrustl@sistersofihm.org with your preferred email address.

Change of Address?

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



As I reflect on the uncertain times in our world today, I am inspired by the meaningful connections the IHM sisters share with others despite the diverse paths and places of our friends and benefactors. One positive outcome of the pandemic I have observed is an increased awareness and profound appreciation for the relationships that keep us grounded and continue to enhance our lives.

Over the last several months, IHM sisters and associates have had to change the way we carry out our various ministries. More than ever, we have the responsibility to continue to be a beacon of hope and light in our world. We sincerely appreciate your financial support which benefits our ministries, furthers our mission, and allows us to care for our aging sisters.

In this issue of IHM Connection, you will read about the dedication of sisters, associates, and friends in carrying out our mission, the generosity of a donor through planned giving, and the support of several foundations.

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

God bless you,

Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM
Director of Development

IHM'S RECEIVE GRANT AWARDS

TJX Foundation (T.J. Maxx) recently awarded the IHMs \$10,000 in support of our educational programs. The TJX Foundation strategically invests in non-profit organizations that address its mission of helping families most in-need to build a valuable future – one where families and children are safe and secure and have the opportunities they need to thrive. The IHM Congregation is sincerely grateful to TJX for their continued support!



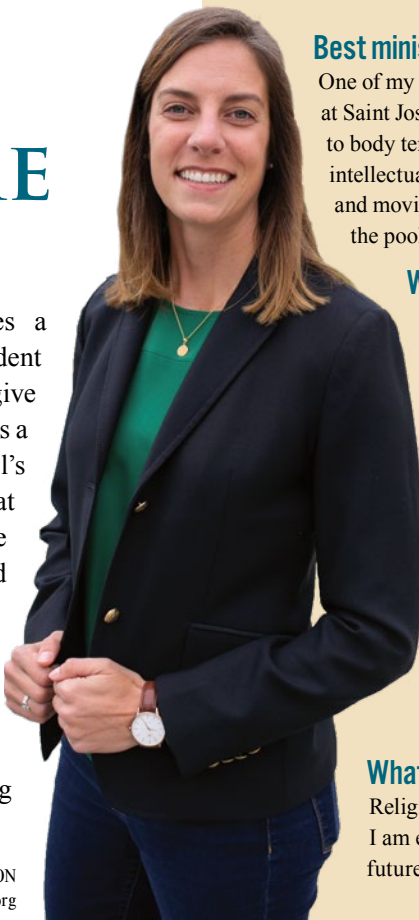
Through the generosity of **SOAR!**, a grant for \$25,000 was recently awarded to the IHM Congregation to purchase tables and seating for the dining room at the IHM Center. These new items will improve the sisters' daily comfort and address safety needs for many years to come. SOAR! is a non-profit organization that raises funds and provides grants to help Catholic religious congregations in the United States care for their elderly and infirm members.



MEETING A REAL NUN WAS A GAME CHANGER

Sometimes a chance meeting makes a lifelong difference. As a college student Sister Liz McGill, IHM, heard a sister give a talk. “I really could not believe she was a nun,” she told *The Wood Word*. McGill’s notion of who nuns are got blown up at the that talk, leading her to take more seriously some inner nudges she had already experienced. Today, after earning her doctorate and serving as an assistant professor of family medicine, McGill has stepped back from teaching and coaching women’s soccer to immerse herself in becoming an IHM sister.

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VocationNetwork.org



Best ministry experience to date?

One of my favorite experiences has been in the aquatic therapy pool at Saint Joseph’s Center in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The pool is heated to body temperature, and many of the residents with physical and intellectual challenges have the opportunity to spend time stretching and moving in the water. Each week I assist a Saint Joe’s resident in the pool.

Who is your favorite saint?

Over the past year my interest in Saint Joseph has grown. Currently, he is my favorite saint.

What’s a fun fact about you?

I will almost never pass up chocolate peanut butter frozen yogurt.

Tell us about a significant service experience you’ve had.

For a month I assisted our sisters in Peru, providing athletic activities for children. Besides the obvious joys of being surrounded by adorable children each week, my experience resonates much deeper. The sisters are beautiful witnesses to living in a supportive, life-giving, and loving community.

What gives you hope about religious life?

Religious life is ever evolving and bursting at the seams with life. I am excited to be part of the present and am hopeful for the future.



Partners in Prayer include L-R: IHM sisters Maureen Cryan, Barbara Nogiewich, Robert Mary Murphy, Jean Conaty, Marie Lourdes Vanston, Loretta Mulry, Marie Moore, and Daria McGinn.

ASSOCIATES, PARTNERS IN PRAYER

The pandemic has made it challenging to find ways to reach out and offer something of ourselves to others. IHM associates have been unable to volunteer and minister at Pascucci Family Our Lady of Peace (OLP) Residence since March. This fall, six Circles of Grace (groups of associates who meet regularly for prayer, study, personal sharing) will become partners in prayer with four communities of sisters who reside at OLP. Let us not forget that all of us can quietly partner in prayer with the beloved sisters at OLP.



Special liturgies for ministry locations where IHM sisters have served but are no longer present will be offered at the IHM Center chapel at 8 a.m. on the dates below.

We invite you to share any special intentions you may have for these masses with Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, at bubsera@sistersofihm.org or 570 346-5431. Visit our website at www.sistersofihm.org and search “IHM Remain in our Love” for a detailed list of ministry locations for which we will pray.

DATES

October 28
November 25
December 23
January 27

MINISTRY LOCATIONS IN THE FOLLOWING DIOCESES

FL, MS, GA, South America, and Guatemala
Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY
Western US, Canada, CA, NM
Brooklyn and NYC, NY

FILLED WITH THE IHM SPIRIT – SR. MARIA ROSE KELLY, IHM



Years of loving service are reflected in Sister Maria Rose Kelly’s lifetime! Growing up she was educated by the Sisters of IHM at St. Rose of Lima, her parish school in Carbondale, PA. As a student, Maria Rose was drawn to the sisters because of their joy and love of teaching. She began to consider the same vocation for a future commitment. She answered God’s call to join the IHM sisters after her senior year of high school.

Sister Maria Rose brings joy wherever she goes and sees the beauty in others through her calm demeanor, quick wit, and kindness. She is excited to share stories of her life experiences and life of serving God through many avenues of spiritual growth. Each new ministry deepened her awareness of God’s presence, enriching those in her care.

Sister smiles as she tells of her love for the students. Her years of teaching English and religious studies challenged her to pass on to her students a commitment of service with openness, sharing God’s love for all...not just themselves!



For ten years, Sister enjoyed serving as vocation director and also as spiritual advisor at the IHM House of Prayer in Verona, NJ. As Sister Maria Rose begins her retirement from teaching at Marywood University this year, she hopes this new phase brings more time for spiritual reading, looking out for the needs of other sisters at the IHM Center and Our Lady of Peace Residence, and spreading her joy.



*No one has ever seen God,
Yet if we love one another,
God remains in us, and in His love
is brought to perfection in us.*

1 John 4:12

**YEAR END
GIVING
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE**
DECEMBER 31

END OF YEAR GIVING OFFERS THE POTENTIAL TO LOWER TAXES

Have you considered making a charitable contribution to potentially lower your 2020 tax bill? It may be just the right decision that will enable you to itemize your taxes! All gifts made on or before December 31, 2020, are tax-deductible for this tax year. Gifts of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds) are desirable gifts whether they have appreciated or depreciated.

To minimize your tax liability and capitalize on tax deductions, consult with a tax advisor or an attorney. For more information about donating to the IHM sisters, visit www.sistersofihm.org. On the left, under “what you can do,” click on Donate, then, scroll down and click on Year End Giving. Any questions, contact Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, at 570 346-5431 or bubsera@sistersofihm.org.

Legacy of Friendship

Mary Scanlon Schoen lived a long, faith-filled life as a wife, sister, aunt, friend and high school teacher. She enjoyed traveling, reading, keeping in touch with friends, and playing tennis. While a student at St. Mary's High School in Manhasset, NY, Mary befriended the IHM sisters who had a profound influence on her decision to become a teacher.

Mary was a devout Catholic and held many things dear to her heart. She wanted to make the world a better place. For years before she passed away in 2018, Mary was a faithful donor to the Sisters of IHM. She believed in the IHM's mission of joyful, loving, hospitable, and self-emptying service to the people of God.

Then, through a generous and thoughtful estate gift, Mary chose the IHM Congregation as a beneficiary of



her IRA Trust. Her funding will help sisters continue in active ministries and assist with the increasing healthcare costs for retired sisters.

Providing an estate gift through your will is a wonderful way to extend your care and actually expand the amount of your generous giving beyond your lifetime.

Consult with a trusted tax advisor or an attorney to discuss your personal, financial, and philanthropic goals.

Through thoughtful planning, you may increase the size of your estate and/or reduce the tax burden on your heirs.

Contact Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, for more information about how you can make

a difference in the lives of the IHM sisters, as Mary Schoen and others have done.



For more information, contact Information IHM Center Communications Office at 570 346-5404.

IHM EVENING OF PRAYER SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

"Again I tell you, if two of you join your voices on earth to pray for anything whatever, it shall be granted you by my Father in heaven. Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst." - Matthew 18:19-20

Second Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM

www.sistersofihm.org/eveningsofprayer

2020

October 14 Our IHM history of being in the midst of the pain in our world and seeing or being light

December 9 Advent Taize prayer remembering the 40th anniversary of the martyrdom of Maura Clark, MM, Ita Ford, MM, Dorothy Kazel, OSU, and Jeanne Donovan

2021

January 13 Interculturality prayer

February 10 Prayer to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the OSP-IHM Haiti Project

March 10 Reconciliation

April 14 Prayer for our Earth and the Environment

May 12 Celtic prayer



Sisters of IHM

A VIRTUAL SUCCESS

Also included were artistic performances by talented IHM sisters, an interview with the Kantons, commentary from the congregation president, and a presentation featuring the rich IHM heritage. All donors and sponsors were recognized at the conclusion of the program.

Visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rgCcJS5_MJk to view the entire program.

On behalf of the Foundation members and all of the IHM sisters, we thank you for your kind generosity and support of the IHM Retirement Fund and the 2020 event.



Sr. Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, Foundation executive director, presents a check from the proceeds of the IHM Sisters Celebration to Sr. Ellen Maroney, IHM, congregation president.

ANNIVERSARY \$10,000+

Pia Ferrario - *In honor of Sister Mary Pio Ferrario, IHM*
Pascucci Family Foundation
Betty C. Floro

PLATINUM \$5,000-\$9,999

Bubser Family - *In memory of Monica Bubser*
Tina Davis and Paul J. Powers, Jr.
Fidelity Deposit and Discount Bank/Mr. Dan Santaniello
Lisa Lori, Esq.
The Concord Advisory Group, Ltd.

GOLD \$1,000-\$4,999

Andrew Brown's Drug Store, Inc. - *In memory of Sister M. Faith Brown, IHM*
Anonymous
Jack and Delma Bagley - *In memory of IHM Sisters Michel Keenan, M. Basil McLane, Anita Brown, and Mary Regis*
Joseph J. Banick - *In honor of Sister Dolores M. Banick, IHM*
Tom and Lyn Blewitt - *In memory of Monica Bubser*
Clauss, Wick, and Acculto Families - *In memory of Marion and James Clauss and Mari Clauss Acculto*
Kip and Margaret Condon
Marie Shea Conmy - *In memory of IHM Sisters M. Arthur Meinzer and M. Joseph Maher*
Connor-Helring & Associates, Inc.
Paul and Anne Falzett
Glenn and Natalie Gress
Steve and Maureen Hannan - *In memory of Sister Kathleen O'Dea, IHM*
Mrs. Rosemary Hrywnak - *In honor of Sister Jean Conaty, IHM*
Martin Hyzinski
John F. Kennedy School Retirees - *In honor of Peter and MaryCarol Kanton*
Peter and MaryCarol Kanton

Lenahan & Dempsey, PC
Thomas J. McGlynn, Jr.
Mr. Roger McGonegal - *In memory of Sister Theresa McElroy, IHM, and the IHM Sisters who taught at St. Mary's Manhasset, NY*
Atty. Larry and Kathy Moran
Vernon and Carol Mummert
Kate Lynott Oursler - *In honor of Sister Marie Lourdes Vanston, IHM*
Pena-Plas Company
Sister Mary Persico, IHM, Marywood University - *In honor of the IHM Sisters*
PNC Bank/Tim McMullen
R.N. DeMeck Roof Management Services/Robert N. DeMeck
Mary Kay (Barrett) Rotert - *In memory of Sister Maryla Farfour, IHM*
St. Mary Catholic Church, Goldsboro, NC
Scranton Label, Inc.
The Scranton Times-Tribune - *In honor of Sister Dolores Filicko, IHM*
Virginia Shields - *In honor of Sister Mary Reap, IHM*
Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth - *In honor of Sister Helene Hicks, IHM*
Sister Jane Snyder, IHM - *In honor of St. Teresa of Avila Community, Sisters of IHM*
Toyota of Scranton
Women Helping Women of Forest Hills, NY



SILVER CIRCLE

YEARLY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM
BENEFITTING RETIRED SISTERS
OF IHM

For more information, visit www.SistersofIHM.org/SilverCircle or call 570 346-5431.

2019-2020 RECAP

\$145,000+ Raised

7,175 Memberships

155 Sellers

2020-2021 GOALS

7,024 Memberships

Increase of Five Sellers

First drawing: October 21, 2020

If you aren't a Silver Circle member yet, consider this: a yearly membership is only \$25 and there are 36 chances to win monthly from October through June. With a total of \$30,600 in cash prizes awarded, you, your family, and your friends do not want to miss this opportunity!

*Complete and mail the form below to the
IHM Center Development Office, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18509.*

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.

PLEASE PRINT

Member First and Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Seller's Name _____