



CONNECTION

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

Fall 2024

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Scranton, Pennsylvania

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THE IHM SISTERS: MAKING AN IMPACT IN SO MANY WAYS

Forbes Magazine defined the word “impact” as having a strong effect on someone or something, to influence, to make an impression, change, transform, or shape. Former students, parents of students, coworkers, and community members frequently send us notes detailing the impact that the Sisters of IHM have had on individuals, on families, and on their community. This is one story.



Alejandra Marroquin

Alejandra Marroquin first met the IHM Sisters when she moved to Scranton and went to work at Nativity Church (now St. John Neumann). She was responsible for outreach to Catholics of Latino descent working with IHM Sisters Jacquelin Servick, and Maria Goretti Timperio. She expanded her role at the Diocese and continued to look for ways to connect with others in the community. At a Pizza and Prayer meeting just outside of Marywood University, she heard about the IHM Associates from Sister Ruth Harkins, IHM (now Director of Associates) and later studied to become an Associate. At that same event, she met Sister Donna Korba, IHM. The two shared stories of Guatemala – where Alejandra was born and where Sister Donna has taught and ministered. They shared a keen interest in social justice and environmental issues which Alejandra would go on to pursue as an Associate.

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Alejandra served on a panel with the IHM Sisters as part of the Scranton's Story project. Pictured (left to right) Sister Judy O'Brien, IHM, Sister Donna Korba, IHM, Alejandra Marroquin, IHM Associate, Pat Sheehan, IHM Associate, and Sister Terri Jordan, IHM.

HELPING RETIRED SISTERS: 2024 SISTERS CELEBRATION

Thank you so very much for your support of the 2024 Sisters Celebration. **We met our ambitious goal to help support our retired Sisters because of your generosity!**

As John Cagnetti, 2024 Honorary Chairperson, explains, “We are the recipients of their gifts. Those gifts are still with us. Now it is our turn to give back to the retired Sisters. It is up to us to lend a hand and care for them as a thank you for making us who we are.” IHM Spirit Award recipient Dr. Lois Draina continues, “We have an opportunity to say thank you and recognize what they did in their years of service. Think of all that they have done and how you can give back —think of what it will mean to them and to the community.”

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CONNECTION

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

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Suggestions and contributions are welcome.

Sister Kathryn Clauss, 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 - 1514. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate the works and needs of the IHM Congregation.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Jane Goodall once said that, "You can't get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you." In this busy world, we don't often stop to think about how connected we all are and how what we do can make a big difference in someone's life. In this issue, and in communications over the next few months, we will be focusing on the impact that our IHM Sisters have had on individuals and communities. We found the inspiration for this

focus in the mail our office receives. As we sent out invitations to participate in the 2024 Sisters Celebration, the forms came back with notes and with letters from individuals telling us about IHM Sisters who had impacted their lives and the lives of their family.

These stories tell a lot about the IHM Sisters and the way we are called to be servant leaders through lives of prayer and works of education, healthcare, social services, and spiritual ministries. They also reveal a lot about you who have been touched by the IHM mission and charism. You carry our mission and charism forward in your interactions with family, friends, and all those with whom you come in contact.

I hope you enjoy the stories presented here, and that you will send us your own stories as well.

God bless you!

S. Ann Monica Bubser, IHM

Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM
Director of Development



Remain in Our Love

Through the Remain in our Love program, monthly special liturgies are held for ministry locations where IHM Sisters have served but are no longer present. These liturgies are 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.

DATES

October 23, 2024
November 27, 2024
December 18, 2024

January 22, 2025
February 26, 2025
March 26, 2025

MINISTRY LOCATIONS IN THE FOLLOWING DIOCESES

Dioceses of Florida, Mississippi, Georgia, Peru, Puerto Rico, and Guatemala
Diocese of Rockville Centre
Diocese of Nelson, British Columbia; Archdiocese of Los Angeles, California; Diocese of Boise, Idaho; Dioceses of Spokane and Yakima, Washington; Archdiocese of Portland, Oregon; Diocese of Santa Rosa and Archdiocese of Santa Fe, New Mexico
Diocese of Brooklyn and Archdiocese of New York
Diocese of Albany, Rochester, and Syracuse, New York
Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania

Visit our website at <https://www.sistersofihm.org/about/history/past-places-served/we-remember/> for information regarding the ministry locations for which we pray.

Legacy of Friendship

Planned giving is any major gift made as part of a donor's overall financial and/or estate planning. It occurs when a donor believes that the organization's values align with their own and that these values should be preserved. Providing hope and security, it is a gift for today and a promise for tomorrow.

JACK AND DELMA BAGLEY

Sister Katie Clauss, IHM, and Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, recently had an opportunity to visit with Jack and Delma Bagley, friends of the IHM Sisters. At their Sperryville, Virginia farm, the couple has rare Tarpan horses (a breed from Central Asia) along with a rather unique breed of cattle known as Belted Galloways. "Belties," as they are called, are native to Scotland and live on the upland pastures and moorlands. Also nicknamed "Oreos" because of the white belt in the middle of their bodies, Belties have long coats to protect them against the elements. The couple's inspiration to raise Belties came after a trip to Scotland. In addition, their interest relates to Jack's family. His family was originally from Scranton but moved to Dushore to become dairy farmers.

Jack has a BA from the University of Scranton, a MA from Fordham University, and a PhD in International Relations from Georgetown University. Today, he is president of the Bagley Group. Throughout his career, Jack has worked with numerous companies and clients, focusing on research, relationship building, and strategic development.

In the past, he worked as a financial advisor, serving many clients including Heritage College on the West Coast. Over the years, he got to know two of our IHM Sisters who worked in leadership at Heritage College. The friendship continued, even after Jack moved on from the company that he was working for and the Sisters returned to Scranton.

Jack and Delma have been friends of the Congregation and donors for many years. Thank you to Jack and Delma Bagley for your friendship and for your support of the IHM Sisters!



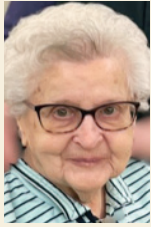
Pictured above from left, Jack Bagley and Sister Katie are greeted by some of the Tarpan horses on the farm.



Pictured above are some of the Belties on Jack and Delma Bagley's farm.

***"Friendship is the only cement that will ever
hold the world together."
—Woodrow Wilson***

2024 Sisters Celebration (continued from page 1)



Sr. Anne Mary Boslett



Sr. Mary Pio Ferrario

On August 3rd, the virtual 2024 IHM Sisters Celebration was held to benefit the retired Sisters. The event video, which featured honorary Chairperson John Cognito and IHM Spirit Award recipient Dr. Lois Draina, highlighted the need for support. The event also featured remarks from IHM leadership and interviews with retired Sisters.

Reflecting on the Pascucci Family Our Lady of Peace Residence, a place that most of the retired Sisters call home, Sister Anne Mary Boslett noted, "I would hope that the people who donate will be able to come and see how much they have given us, and how grateful we all are for all that we have been given. It is a wonderful place."

The Congregation wishes to thank the more than 600 individuals, families, and businesses who donated to support the retired Sisters as part of the Sisters Celebration. As Sister Mary Pio Ferrario expressed, "If you helped us in any way, there are a lot of Sisters here praying for you—including me! Thank you. Thank you for everything you do."



Receiving recognition from Sister Ann Monica Bubser are: top left, Dr. Lois Draina and, bottom left, John Cognito.

On behalf of the Foundation Board and all of the IHM Sisters, we thank you for your support of the 2024 IHM Sisters Celebration benefiting our retired Sisters. Listed here are the Diamond, Platinum, Gold and Silver sponsors. The full list of sponsors is available on the IHM website.

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SILVER SPONSORS

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- Anonymous – in memory of Tom Lucas
- Anonymous – in memory of the deceased members of the DiTolla, Kalosh, and Zeh families
- Anonymous – in memory of Walter Crane and Michael Holmes
- Automated Lifestyles LLC

- Anne Rock Ayoub – in memory of the 1957 Band and the deceased IHM friends of Anne Rock Ayoub
- Attys. Matt and Lori Barrett
- Dr. Alice Charland Bassford – in honor of the IHM Sisters at St. John the Evangelist – Srs. Daniel Mary Heisey, Mary Mercy Gilbert, Maureen Ann Schrimpe, Doreen Willis, Mary Ellen Malloy and Jane Duke, and in memory of Srs. Theresa Ann McElroy, Kathleen Lannak, Merceille Schneider, Lois Buckley, and Janice Heisey
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- The Chestnut Family – in honor of Sr. Dolores Filicko, IHM
- Dr. and Mrs. Peter A. Cagnetti – in honor of John Cagnetti and in memory of Sal and Elizabeth Cagnetti
- Rebecca and Michael Crowley
- Lee and Ellen DeHihns – in honor of Sr. Terry O'Rourke, IHM, and in memory of Srs. M. Dorothy McCaffrey, IHM, and M. Uriel Hurst, IHM
- Doris A. Donohue – in memory of Sr. Mary Jane Maloney, IHM
- Mary Anne Fedrick, PhD -- in honor of Dr. Lois Draina
- The Peter Clauss Family – in honor of Peter and Jane Clauss
- Gus Haas – in memory of Sr. Joan Marie Thompson, IHM
- David and Nancy Hemmler
- Bill and Janet Joyce – in memory of Sr. Catherine Ann Gilvary, IHM
- Ned Kane
- Richard and Lottie Keel – in memory of Sr. M. Ida McDonnell, IHM
- James D. Lane
- Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Langan -- in honor of Dr. Lois Draina
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- Henrietta Reiber Massina – in honor of Sr. Margaret Petcavage, SSC and all of the retired Sisters
- John McGuinness
- Kathleen and Amy McHugh
- Maureen and Jeff McLaughlin -- in memory of Nancy Gallagher
- Mesko Glass
- Anonymous – in memory of Srs. M. Romaine Krug, IHM, Maryla Farfour, IHM, Angela Miller, IHM, Angela Mary Parker, IHM, Marie Rooney, IHM, Patricia Burke, IHM, and M. Jamesine Fraser, IHM
- MyCil – NEPA Center for Independent Living
- Joseph S. O'Connor – in honor of Sr. M. Cor Immaculatum Heffernan, IHM (West Side Central Catholic HS, Kingston–1964) and in memory of Sr. Janice Heisey, IHM (Bishop Hannon HS, Scranton–1962)
- Oliver, Price & Rhodes
- Terrence and Ann Rink – in honor of John T. Cagnetti
- Nancy B. Rocereto – in memory of Helen Brennan
- Ann Shortelle – in honor of Sr. Beatrice Caulson, IHM
- William M. Smith – in memory of my wife, Wanda Smith
- Christopher J. Smith
- Paula Thomas – in honor of Sr. Mary Denise Thomas, IHM
- Brendan J. Walsh – in memory of Sr. Ellen Mullen, IHM
- Tom Warncke – in memory of Judy Reddington

PLEASE NOTE: Bronze and Emerald sponsor recognition can be found on the Sisters of IHM website: — <https://www.sistersofihm.org> — under news and events.

SISTERS TO ENJOY THE VIEW AND THE GREAT OUTDOORS ON NEWLY RENOVATED PORCHES

There is a sign that says, "Welcome to the Porch. Wave hello, sit and read a book, chat, relax, smile, listen to the birds, sip lemonade, enjoy the weather, watch the sunrise or sunset..."

The IHM Sisters living at the Pascucci Family Our Lady of Peace Residence will now once again have opportunities to do all of those things thanks to the support of a donor (who wishes to remain anonymous) and all of the employees at PM Ludovici Contracting and Construction. The workers corrected issues due to weather and normal wear and tear and enhanced safety, particularly for those Sisters who may be using a walker, a wheelchair, or a cane.

During the process, the retired Sisters living at OLP would say hello and wave to the workers daily. The project created a lot of excitement, and the work done makes the living areas safer and more beautiful. In fact, the Sisters were so grateful that they wrote thank you notes and wishes which were collected on a poster board and given to Paul and Mike Ludovici.



Pictured top left, is one of the new porches. Pictured above during the porch renovation project are, from left, Paul Ludovici, Sister Richard Mary Peters, IHM, Tony Colosimo (Ludovici Contracting), friendly visitor Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Sophie, Sister Jane Ellis, IHM, Sister M. Monique Dissen, IHM, Mike Ludovici, and Sister Joyce Marks, IHM.



**Help the Retired Sisters
on GivingTuesday -
December 3rd**

Please mark your calendar to raise funds to help support our retired IHM Sisters on GivingTuesday — December 3, 2024.

We need your help as ambassadors spreading the word about the Sisters. We provide the email and or Facebook templates, and you simply personalize them and send them out to family and friends.

**GIVING
TUESDAY**

If you would like to help this fundraising effort, please email sedord@sistersofihm.org or call the Development Office at 570-346-5431.



One of the "Thank You" poster boards the retired Sisters created.



Plant the Seed
A few simple steps
today will give you
peace of mind tomorrow



October is National Estate Planning Awareness Month

The IHM Sisters - Making an Impact (Continued from front page)

“The IHM Sisters are innovative, progressive, organized, driven, and, at the same time, very welcoming and inclusive,” Alejandra explains. “We live in an individualistic society; however, the Sisters’ strength comes from working as a community and inviting people to share in that community. That has been my experience. When you walk into the IHM Center, you feel peace and joyfulness. Your faith is valued.”

Today, Alejandra works in community outreach at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine. In addition to a demanding job, she was asked to be a member of the IHM Sisters’ Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Committee – which addresses issues of racism, immigration, and climate change while working towards a more just and equitable world. Alejandra continues, “Working with the IHM Sisters has strengthened my faith. Their deeply rooted charism touches everyone they come in contact with. Their selfless service – it is something I want to emulate.”

Alejandra is not alone in her thoughts about the Sisters and the way they have impacted her life.



Alejandra (second from left) with other Associates at the first Associates Assembly.

The Sisters receive cards and letters each year from many different places – Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Florida, California, and others – describing the impact they have had on the lives of others.

As we move toward the end of this year and the beginning of 2025, the impact that the IHM Sisters have had and continue to have will be our focus.

We invite you to join us in this journey and share your stories with us. Email your information to bubsera@sistersofihm.org with the subject line “impact” or call our office at 570-346-5431 to let us know the difference the Sisters have made in your life.

WHY I GIVE

A DONOR'S STORY

By Kathy O'Toole

I have been friends for years with many of the Sisters, since my own sister is in the order. I give to the IHM Sisters often – particularly to the retired Sisters who really need our support. The prayer ministry that they have is very important to me.

I have a very large family. Like all families, we have our ups and downs. Knowing that someone is praying on our behalf – with prayers of petition and thanksgiving – really means a lot.

Our mother used to say “Storm Heaven” with your prayers — and that is exactly what is happening when the IHMs are praying for you! You know that you are not the only one praying for what concerns you. It is prayer with a community, and that community is there with you helping and supporting you. You are not out there all alone.



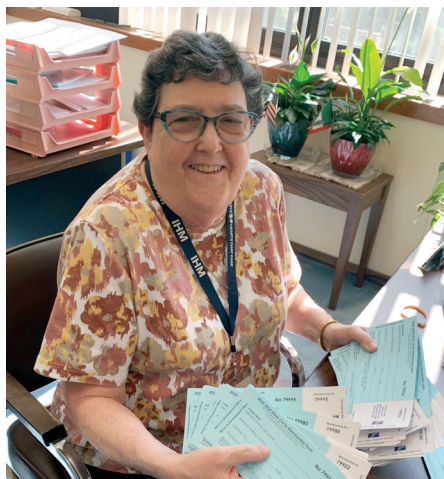
Kathy and her husband Sean with two of their grandchildren, Ella and Mary.

HELP THE RETIRED SISTERS AND HAVE FUN: BE A PART OF THE SILVER CIRCLE PROGRAM!

The Silver Circle Program is a way for you to support the retired IHM Sisters, and have great fun while doing it.

For \$25, you become a member. With that membership comes a chance to win prizes ranging from \$50 to \$1000 each month, from October through June! One ticket gives you 36 chances to win each month. That's **THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR** chances to win during the season. (This is possible because when a ticket is chosen as a winner for a prize, the ticket is placed right back into the barrel for inclusion in the remaining prizes that day and throughout the remaining drawings.)

You can join the program at any time; however, the sooner you join, the more chances you have to win. The program also includes recognition for randomly selected membership sellers as well.



Buy a ticket and help the Sisters with a special goal — to sell a ticket in every state! According to Sister Judith Ann Ziegler, IHM, pictured packaging tickets for sellers, we are well on our way!

Buy a ticket for yourself or buy them as gifts for your friends and family!

Visit www.sistersofihm.org/silvercircle for more information and lists of winners. You can also call the Development Office at 570-346-5431. Join the “Silver Circle” today by filling out and sending us the form below.



Complete and mail this form to the
IHM Center Development Office, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18509-1514

Yes! I would like to support the retired IHM Sisters by purchasing Silver Circle membership tickets!

I would like to buy _____ Silver Circle memberships at \$25 each.

Please make checks payable to the Sisters of IHM. Please print except where indicated.

Member First and Last Name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Member Phone _____ Member Email _____

Members Signature _____

Seller's Name (if applicable) _____