



CONNECTION

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

Summer 2018

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Scranton, Pennsylvania

IHMS WELCOME A NEW CANDIDATE

On March 20, 2018, in a simple ceremony that took place in the IHM Center Chapel, Elizabeth “Liz” Ann McGill joyfully expressed her desire to enter the candidacy phase of incorporation with the IHM Sisters of Scranton, PA. Sister Mindy Welding, IHM, director of vocations, affirmed Liz’s readiness and stated, “Liz will fit well, and her gifts, talents, and skills are immeasurable to our congregation.”

Liz came to know the IHMs at Marywood University where she studied for a BA in history. She also earned an MA in American history with a minor in European history at St. John’s University. Years later, she met the IHMs again when she returned to Marywood University to obtain a Ph.D. in human development with a concentration in higher education. For the last ten years, Liz has been the assistant coach of the women’s soccer team at Marywood.

Liz has been involved in different types of service – campus ministry, service trips abroad, a volunteer at Our Lady of Peace Residence for aging IHM sisters, and a board member for the Women’s Resource Center.



L-R IHM Sisters Mary Elaine Anderson, director of candidates and novices; Mindy Welding, director of vocations; Liz McGill, candidate; Ellen Maroney, president; Ms. Jane O’Neill, director of IHM associate program; and Jean Louise Bachetti, councilor for spiritual development.

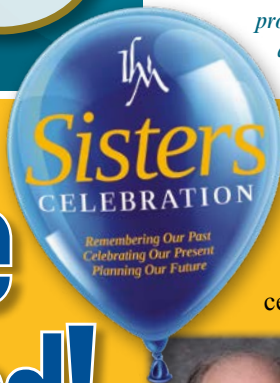
As a candidate, Liz is being gradually introduced into community life and congregational activities. She currently lives with the IHM sisters in Scranton and works at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine as an educational specialist and assistant professor of family medicine.

May God’s love, our lives of prayer, and our example of loving service encourage vocations and sustain Liz on her journey!

What’s Your Connection?

- Prayer
- Education
- Support
- Family & Friends
- Service to Others
- Volunteer

Read how others connect with the IHMs and how you can, too!



You’re Invited!

2018 Spirit of IHM Award Recipients

2018 IHM Sisters Celebration

All are invited to lend support to the retired IHM sisters at a special event on **Saturday, August 4, 2018 at 6 p.m.** Hosted by the Sisters of IHM Foundation, the celebration will be at Nazareth Hall on the campus of Marywood University.



Dr. John H. Doherty, Jr. Dr. Peter A. Cognetti

We will be honoring Dr. John H. Doherty, Jr. and Dr. Peter A. Cognetti with the 2018 Spirit of IHM Award in recognition of their work as physicians, commitment to the poor and underserved in Haiti, and longtime support of the IHM Sisters. Their Haitian ministries are of great significance to the Sisters. Our foundress, Mother Theresa Maxis Duchemin, is the daughter of a Haitian refugee.

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IHM ASSOCIATE

SNAPSHOT



NAME: Joan Eisch

HOMETOWN:
Vestal, NY

IHM CONNECTION:
Joan met the IHM sisters in Vestal, NY at Our Lady of Sorrows

Parish (OLS). She participated in a number of parish groups that were facilitated by Sister Robert Mary Murphy, IHM, pictured above left. When Joan learned about the IHM Associate Program, she spoke with Sister and readily participated in a new Circle of Grace.

CIRCLE OF GRACE ESTABLISHED:
September 2012

CIRCLE OF GRACE LEADER:
Sister Robert Mary Murphy, IHM

COMMISSIONING DATE AND LOCATION:
August 29, 2014 in Vestal, NY

ON BECOMING AN IHM ASSOCIATE: Joan wanted to establish a relationship with the IHMs because she wanted to be a “part of them.” Joan realized that, as the number of IHM sisters decreased, she wanted to be an IHM presence to the OLS community. It is also important to Joan to support the IHM Congregation financially in light of its countless years of service in Vestal.

OUTSTANDING ASSOCIATE MOMENT: The writing of her covenant with God through IHM Associate Relationship was profound for Joan. The sacredness of her covenant relationship was further reinforced during the commissioning ceremony when she signed her covenant and received the blessing of all those present.

ON IHM SISTERS: Joan loves her faith-based connection with the IHM sisters and the other women at OLS who are associates. She feels a real sense of community with these women. The associate relationship brings Joan comfort as she ages since OLS women, IHM sisters, and IHM associates can count on one another.

Would you like to be a part of a warm and welcoming community, experience a deeper spiritual connection with others who share your faith, engage with the IHM sisters and extend the IHM charism? *Contact Jane O’Neill, director of IHM associate program at 570 963-2480 or oneillj@sistersofihm.org.*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW SPACE

On Thursday, April 19, 2018, over 150 IHM sisters, friends, family, colleagues, and others gathered for the dedication and blessing of the IHM Welcoming Space and Land Restoration Project at the IHM Center. Over the past several years, much has been accomplished. The IHM sisters are deeply grateful to all of our supporters including donors, funders, and advisors who have helped make this dream a reality.

Our plan is to make this setting of peace and natural beauty a place of welcome to all. We invite you to reserve accommodations at the Welcoming Space for your next conference, meeting, program, or retreat. Reservations may be made for a half day, full day, or longer. Available services include: a catering department, wireless internet access, multi-media capabilities, a chapel, handicap accessibility, on-site parking, plus seating options for just about any size group up to 300.

For more information or reservations contact Sister Kate Clancy, IHM, at 570 963-2475 or clancyk@sistersofihm.org.



L-R: Sister Donna Korba, IHM, Jan Novatka, Sister Jean Louise Bachetti, IHM, and Joyce Rouse also known as Earth Mama. Photo courtesy of Jake Danna Stevens IStaff Photographer Scranton Times-Tribune.

Every Picture Tells A Story

PHOTO CONTEST

Join those who have already submitted a photo! Did an IHM sister encourage you to obtain a college degree? Or perhaps a sister inspired you to help the less fortunate in

your community. Send us your favorite photo that shows how your story has been impacted by an IHM sister for the chance to win a prize and be featured in future IHM communications. All entries must be received by June 30, 2018 to be eligible. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/ybcmkyp8> for details.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Sister Ellen Maroney, IHM, Congregation president issued the following statement about the recent tragedy in Scranton, PA.

The Sisters of IHM are deeply grieved at the horrific and heartbreaking situation which took the lives of our Sister Angela Miller, her sister, Rose Smith, our employee at the IHM Center for seventeen years, and her son, Alan.

Our hearts and prayers are joined in sorrow with Angela’s and Rose’s sisters, Theresa and Helen, and all their family members during this difficult time. We also join our prayers with our family of employees at the IHM Center, the administrators, staff, and clients of St. Joseph’s Center, with whom Sister Angela currently ministered, and the Saint Clare/Saint Paul Elementary School and parish communities, where she lived and ministered for many years.

We deeply appreciate the outpouring of prayers, wishes, and efforts extended to us by so many in the Scranton community and beyond since this tragedy. We extend our heartfelt thanks to police and fire personnel and all public officials for their heroic efforts.

For over fifteen years the IHMs have participated in efforts to bring awareness to the tragedy of domestic violence by supporting the Women’s Resource Center and the “Empty Place at the Table.” We unite with all who refuse to be numbed by tragedy but instead use their grief energy to work for the fullness of compassion and justice.

Our faith in God’s mercy and love continues to sustain us and gives us strength and hope for this beautiful, yet wounded world.



IHM JUBILARIANS 2018

God Bless and Thank You

Join us in prayers of thanksgiving for our IHM Jubilarians as they mark 75, 70, 60, 50, and 25 years of faithful service to God and to God's people. We would like to send a special thank you to our friends, benefactors, and donors for your support of the sisters.

Send Jubilee mail to: [Jubilarian Name], IHM Jubilarians, IHM Center, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18509-1514 or email: communications@sistersofihm.org. To give a gift to the IHM Congregation in honor of a Jubilarian, print the sister's name on your check memo line and mail to: IHM Development Office, IHM Center, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18509-1514.

Celebrating 75 years of religious life

Sister Jean Toolan formerly Sister M. Dermot
Sister M. Romaine Krug
Sister Ave Maria Foley
Sister M. Priscilla Koblarchik
Sister M. Lenore McAllister

Celebrating 70 years of religious life

Sister M. Janice Barry
Sister M. Chrysta Lerhinan
Sister M. Monica Byrne
Sister M. Michel Keenan

Celebrating 60 years of religious life

Sister Rita Ann Naughton formerly Sister Mary Sarto
Sister Ann Belz formerly Sister Mary Lourdes
Sister M. Monique Dissen
Sister Jacquelyn Donohue formerly Sister M. Julia
Sister Mary Ehling formerly Sister M. St. Gregory
Sister Mary Martha Gardiner
Sister M. Martin de Porres McHale
Sister Loretta Mulry formerly Sister M. St. Laurence
Sister Marilyn Muro formerly Sister M. Juditha
Sister Joan Quinn formerly Sister M. Philip Neri
Sister M. Redempta Sweeney
Sister Ann Berendes formerly Sister M. Desmond
Sister Margaret Gannon formerly Sister M. Anina

Celebrating 50 years of religious life

Sister Jean Coughlin
Sister Rosemary Goulet
Sister Patricia Hauser
Sister Mary Ellen Merrick
Sister M. John Michele Southwick
Sister Mary Denise Thomas
Sister Ann Walsh
Sister Constance Wilt

Celebrating 25 years of religious life

Sister Dora Maria Vizcarra

I CARE WITH THE IHMS

Donors & Sisters Offering Support & Prayers

Nearly 140 supporters of *I Care with the IHMs* provide recurring gifts automatically to the Sisters of IHM. The transition to Contribute Aid Recurrently through Electronic Transfer is easy and will make a real difference for you and for the sisters!



This pre-authorized, hassle-free giving program provides benefits to both the Congregation and our supporters. By eliminating processing and mailing costs, more of your gift money will directly fund IHM ministries. You don't have to remember to send in a check, or when you sent in your last donation, or make a conscious effort to donate. One simple form and you are done.



Meet our two newest prayer partners – Sister Mary Ann Adams, IHM left, and Sister Maria Rose Kelly, IHM, right.

Each *I CARE* supporter will be prayed for by one of our IHM sister volunteers. Once a sister has been identified, details about her will be shared with you and a new "Prayer Partnership" will be formed. The benefits of a prayer partner are immeasurable.

Sister Thomas Mary Dougherty, IHM, has been a prayer partner since the program began over two years ago. "I pray twice daily, once in the morning and once at night, for the special requests of my prayer partners," said Sister Thomas Mary. Although anonymity is an option, two of Sister Thomas Mary's partners have written letters to her sharing stories about their families and associations with the IHMs.

For more information about the I CARE program including our IHM prayer partners, contact Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, at 570 346-5431 or bubsera@sistersofihm.org.

Legacy of Friendship

*A Gift for Today. A Promise for Tomorrow.
Remember the IHM Sisters in Your Will.*



Helen Bozek had a deep fondness for the IHM sisters from whom she received her elementary school education. Helen married George and worked for the federal government for many years. Helen never forgot the hospitable spirit of the IHM sisters.

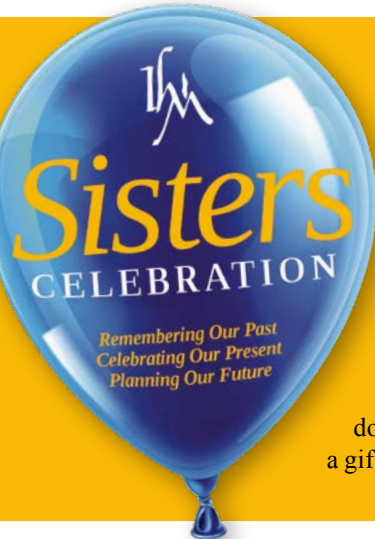
Legacy giving, often called planned giving, is a simple, yet powerful way to perpetuate the IHM Congregation's ministry for future generations.

When Helen passed away, she left the IHM sisters in her will and specifically requested her gift to be utilized for the training and education of new sisters. How blessed we are at this time to have three new candidates who will benefit from Helen's generosity.

If you, like Helen, would like to share the gift of your legacy with the IHM sisters, please consider leaving a legacy to the congregation in your will. For more information, contact Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, at 570 346-5431 or bubsera@sistersofihm.org.

Legal Title and Address:

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



Continued from front cover

2018 IHM Sisters Celebration

Dr. Maggie Mariotti, Sisters of IHM Foundation board member, will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Your \$100 reservation benefits the IHM Sisters Retirement Fund and includes a cocktail hour, dinner, and memories to last a lifetime! There is no cost to IHM sisters for attending.

Visit our website at <https://tinyurl.com/h5tff9h> or call the IHM Development Office at 570 346-5431 for reservations, sponsorship opportunities, or to make a donation to the IHM Retirement Fund. If you cannot attend the event, please consider a gift to honor the joyful, loving service of the IHM Sisters, Dr. Cognetti, or Dr. Doherty.



Master of Ceremonies
Dr. Maggie Mariotti

The IHM Development Office continues to offer special liturgies for communities where the IHM sisters have ministered but are no longer present. We recently prayed for the community of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Honesdale, PA. Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, was thrilled to receive a kind note of appreciation from the pastor, Father William Langan, which reads in part:

“...we are grateful for your special prayers. Thank you and your fellow sisters for the many years of service to the Honesdale community of faith.”



Masses will be offered at 8 a.m. on the dates below at the IHM Center Chapel. Please check our website at <https://goo.gl/kcrKw4> for more details including the ministry locations we will be praying for. All are welcome to attend or tune in via Ustream at www.ustream.tv/channel/ihm-tv.

We invite you to share any special intentions you may have for these masses with Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, at 570 346-5431 or bubsera@sistersofihm.org.

DATES

June 19

July 17

August 21

September 18

MINISTRY LOCATIONS IN THE FOLLOWING DIOCESES

Wilmington, DE; Arlington, Alexandria, VA; Wheeling, W. VA; Lexington, KY

Providence, RI; Bridgeport, CT; Boston, Springfield, MA

Philadelphia, PA; Trenton, Newark, Metuchen, Camden, Patterson, NJ

Raleigh, Charlotte, NC

CELEBRATING NATIONAL CATHOLIC SISTERS WEEK!

Started in 2014, the National Catholic Sisters Week (NCSW) is a series of community events to honor, instruct, enlighten, and bring greater focus to the lives of women religious. This year, the Sisters of IHM were awarded a \$1,000 mini-grant to plan a special outreach initiative during the week of March 8–14 which we named “Side-by-Side Day” to represent the partnership between volunteers and sisters.

Our first ever Side-by-Side Day was such a huge success, that we plan to do it again in the near future. We invite you to join with us to feed the poor. There are many opportunities for donors, sponsors, and individuals or groups to volunteer. Contact Sister Ann Monica Bubser, IHM, at bubsera@sistersofihm.org or 570 346-5431.



On March 11th, 2018, 32 IHM sisters – including residents of the IHM Center and Our Lady of Peace – 47 students, 7 friends and family, 5 IHM associates, and 5 IHM staff members gathered

at four different locations in Scranton, PA, to participate in the event. The energy was high and the volunteers motivated, as they worked in groups to make sandwiches and cookies to pack in lunch bags that were hand-decorated with upbeat greetings and included notes of inspiration. The lunches were later delivered to those in need at St. Francis Soup Kitchen (Scranton), St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen (Wilkes-Barre), and the Community Intervention Center (Scranton).



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

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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 only communication, 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



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.