

**Practical suggestions for response/action:**

- I will pray daily for my sisters and brothers who suffer with AIDS.
- I will seek out, pray over and discuss materials on HIV/AIDS and racism with others.
- I will notice what or how medical or other care gets provided and to whom.
- I will use my influence to educate others on the connections of HIV/AIDS and racism.
- I will respond to advocacy opportunities on issues of race and HIV/AIDS.

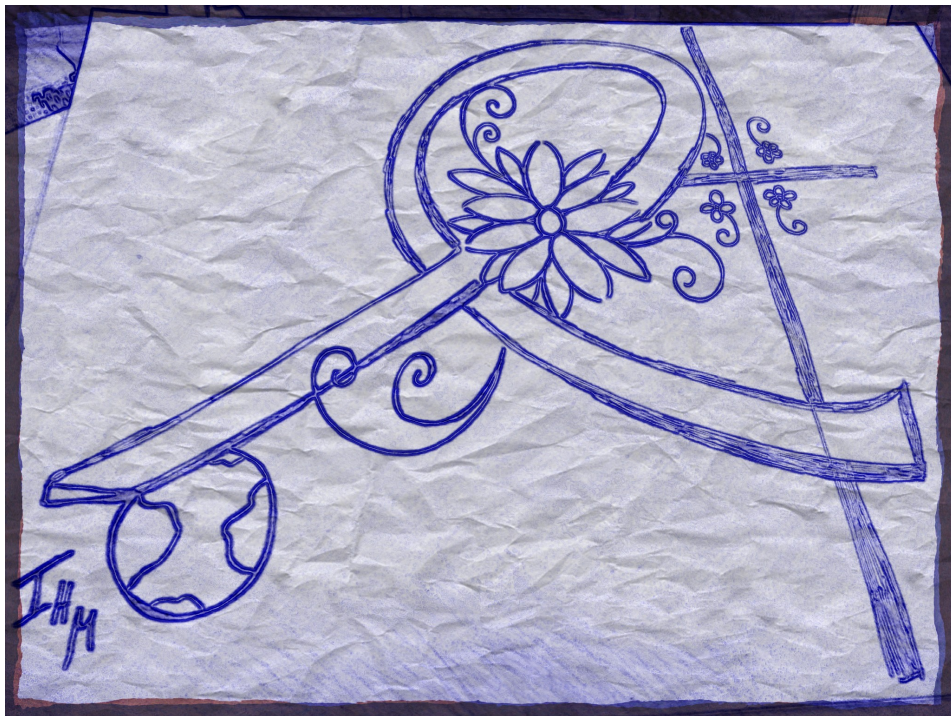


Photo courtesy of Sabrina Melni

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Sisters, Servants of the  
Immaculate Heart of Mary  
610 West Elm Avenue  
Monroe MI 48162  
[www.ihmsisters.org](http://www.ihmsisters.org)



# AIDS Faces of HOPE



**WORLD AIDS DAY  
PRAYER SERVICE**

**Dec. 1, 2013**



**WORLD AIDS DAY – DEC. 1, 2013**  
**IHM PRAYER SERVICE**  
**For and with all who suffer from**  
**HIV/AIDS**



**Opening Song:**        *A Place at the Table (v. 1-3)*        Lori True\*

For everyone born a place at the table, for everyone born clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead.

**Refrain:** And God will delight when we are creators of Justice and Joy.  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of Justice and Joy.

For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding to share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for woman and man, a system that's  
fair.        **(Refrain)**

For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song.  
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for everyone born, the right to  
belong.        **(Refrain)**

**Scripture Reading:**    **I John 4:7-8**    *(New American Bible)*

Beloved,  
let us love one another  
because love is of God;  
everyone who loves is begotten of God  
and has knowledge of God.

The person without love has known nothing of God  
for God is love.

**Reflection**

**Prayer:**                **Creator God, Holy One**

Creator God, Holy One  
You who have woven all peoples  
In a vast array of  
Color and language and culture  
Hear us now as we gather  
To raise our voices as one  
In compassion, praise and thanksgiving.

Creator God, Holy One  
You, who call us,  
In all our differences and cultures  
To come together  
Like one great quilt of many colors  
Hear us now as we search  
For oneness in a divided world.

Creator God, Holy One  
Birther and nourisher of all humankind  
Be gentle and compassionate with us  
As we reach out to one another  
To tribes and nations across the globe  
To those living in the shadow of HIV/AIDS  
To the new and different  
To those we love and those we fear.

Adapted from Edwina Gateley

**Prayer Together**

O God, Fountain of all Justice,  
Countless times we turn to you.  
Many have used Scripture  
as a weapon of stigmatization and discrimination  
against people living with HIV and AIDS.  
Grant us strength in your Spirit and in your Truth  
So that we will never tire of turning to you,  
never stop loving your law of love and solidarity.  
Transform our lives and our hearts  
So we may discover with surprise  
That you are able to use even the most corrupt  
To construct a world of dignity.  
Gather our strength and enable us to persevere,  
working with Jesus to build a kingdom of inclusion.  
Amen.

**Closing Song: A Place at the Table (v. 4-5)**

For just and unjust, a place at the table, abuser, abused, with need to forgive.  
In anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy, for just and unjust, a new way to live.  
**(Refrain)**

For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be.  
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be  
free.        **(Refrain)**

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