

"Recognizing the escalation of violence in our world, and especially its impact on women and children, we choose to act with diligence in the pursuit of peace and non-violence."

- IHM Chapter 2000 Directions

IHM Monthly Mobilization to Address Gun Violence

A special thank you to everyone who made phone calls and sent emails to our Michigan legislators in response to our March action request. Thirty-six actions were reported.

This month, we're asking you to do something different. A number of opportunities for meaningful action on gun violence are happening in May. Our request for April is that you mark your calendars, make plans to attend as you are able and share the following information with others you know would be interested.

- On Thursday, May 5, the IHM Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office will host two special prescreenings of the new Robert Greenwald film, <u>Making a Killing: Guns, Greed and the NRA</u>. Excerpts from the film will be followed by discussion and an opportunity to take action. The first screening will take place at the IHM Motherhouse Maxis Community in Monroe from 6-8 p.m. The second screening will take place in Detroit from 6-7:30 p.m. at a location TBD. Flyers for both events are forthcoming and will be shared in an upcoming edition of the JPSO Weekly Announcement.
- Then, from May 17-21, the 21st annual "Festival of Faiths" will be held in Louisville, Ky. The theme of this year's event is "Sacred Wisdom: Pathways to Nonviolence." Featured conference speakers include bell hooks, Vandana Shiva and Jim Wallis. Click here for details. The festival will conclude with a city-wide compassion walk, which will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, May 21. Various local groups (including IHM Sister Chris Dobrowolski's Sowers of Justice Nework) are coordinating the walk as a way of establishing a peaceful, non-violent presence in Louisville just as the NRA begins its annual meeting in the city. The IHM Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office is coordinating a small delegation of IHM Sisters, Associates and friends to participate in these events. If you are interested in attending all or part of the conference (or just participating in the compassion walk on May 21), please email us at ipso@ihmsisters.org. We will provide you with more information and will help coordinate transportation and lodging. IHM Sisters and Associates may apply for education funds to attend the Festival of Faiths.



You may find the IHM Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office's Web materials useful for your committee work, presentations, mission units, ministry and other educational purposes. Be sure check out our regularly updated online resources HERE.