Our Ministries

Guided by the mission, we minister in a variety of areas, working with others to shape a world transformed by love and compassion. Our ministries include, among others:

- Education in grade schools, high schools, colleges and universities
- Pastoral care in hospitals, long term care facilities and other health care settings
- Parish ministry and parish outreach into poor communities
- Social services for poor and homeless families, those with AIDS and others in need
- Spiritual direction and retreats
- Advocacy efforts to help people get the resources needed to fully participate in society
- Programs and services for older adults in a variety of settings

Our Community and Partners

- “IHM” is the often-used acronym for Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- Our community has more than 250 IHM Sisters.
- There are 122 IHM Associates, lay women and men of all faith traditions who are formally associated with the IHM congregation.
- Approximately 160 of our sisters reside at the Motherhouse, and of these, approximately 100 require a level of supportive care.
- Our community is enriched by the many volunteers at the Motherhouse and in varied IHM ministries around the world.
- SSIHM employs more than 200 staff, most of whom work at the Monroe Campus.
- The River Raisin Institute, founded by the IHM Sisters in 2003, is an independent nonprofit educational organization that promotes transformational learning and sustainable community.

Ihm-Sponsored Works in Education

We sponsor three educational institutions:

Marygrove College • Detroit
Marian High School • Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
Detroit Cristo Rey High School • Detroit

FACT SHEET

Urged by the love of God, we choose to work with others to build a culture of peace and right relationship among ourselves, with the Church, and with the whole Earth community.
THE MONROE CAMPUS

• The 108-acre campus is located on West Elm Avenue, facing the River Raisin.
• The Motherhouse is home to approximately 160 IHM Sisters and to offices and services supporting the IHM congregation.
• St. Mary Center, formerly a girls’ academy, is in the process of being evaluated for adaptive reuse.
• River House-IHM Spirituality Center offers quiet spaces for reflection, prayer and retreats.
• St. Mary Organic Farm, begun in 1999, is a two-acre community garden using sustainable growing practices – a visible expression of the IHM commitment to sustainability.
• The IHM Sisters lease land to DTE for a 518-kilowatt solar panel array behind the Motherhouse, one of the largest such systems in the region. An interactive kiosk near the Alphonsus Liguori Library in the Motherhouse provides a real-time display of the electrical output, the daily and monthly solar output and the environmental impact.

OUR SUSTAINABLE RENOVATION

Today’s IHM community considers sustainability a moral mandate for the 21st century. We see the plight of the Earth, its creatures, and its nonrenewable resources and, in response, we have pioneered the use of sustainable principles in the renovation of our 376,000-square-foot LEED-certified Motherhouse and campus.

Our sustainable renovation stands as a national model of sustainable living. By using Earth-friendly materials and practices, creating constructed wetlands, installing a geothermal heating and cooling system, and practicing the principles of right relationship, the IHM community has transformed its campus into a learning laboratory and center of new growth.

Living sustainably means something as basic as recycling materials and choosing products made in people and Earth-friendly ways and as profound as re-examining our traditional understanding that humans are the center and purpose of creation.

Our growing ecological consciousness places all humans in interdependent relationship to each other and to all life on the planet. Our commitment to live sustainably is a natural outgrowth of our commitment to work toward a world of peace built on justice.


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