When you support the IHM Sisters, you help us change lives. Your partnership allows us to serve in 13 states, Puerto Rico, Mexico, South Africa and South Sudan. We serve in such diverse ministries as:

- elementary and secondary education
- colleges and universities
- literacy and tutoring services
- religious education
- spiritual direction
- justice, peace and sustainability
- chaplaincy
- pastoral ministry
- health care
- prison ministry
- outreach to the poor
- mental health
- social and retirement services

Additionally, we partner with other organizations and religious orders to broaden our reach and further enrich the lives of so many more of God’s people.

Contributions to the IHM Ministry Fund provide resources to support both ministries of the IHM Sisters and ministries that give evidence “… that with Mary of the Magnificat we stand with and for the poor … working with others to eradicate the causes of injustice and oppression.”

IHM CONSTITUTIONS, ARTICLES 11 AND 13

As a 501(c)(3) organization, our legal name is Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe, Michigan, Inc. Our tax identification number is 38-1359581.

Photo: Students from St. Joseph Preschool, Howick, South Africa

2020 MINISTRY APPEAL

“For wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.”

— PROVERBS 2:10

Please consider a gift to the Ministry Appeal as a way of joining the IHM Sisters in making a positive impact in our world. Together, we can carry out Jesus’ mandate to serve the least of those among us.
RESPONDING TO THE CALL TO SERVE OTHERS

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As director of Religious Education at Holy Family Parish in Parma, Ohio, SISTER YVONNE SPENOSO coordinates religious formation in the parish. This includes preparation for first reconciliation and Eucharist, confirmation for students and adults, RCIA and the annual parish mission. “As IHMs we often talk about being lifelong learners. It’s a great feeling to be able to invite others into this lifelong learning experience as children and adults alike learn more about their Catholic faith, grow in their relationship with Jesus and share in the life and mission of the Church. The education process includes helping people appreciate sacraments and realize their importance to a life of faith. Working with young Christians and seeing their eagerness to receive Jesus for the first time in the Eucharist; seeing teenagers grow in their faith as they prepare to complete their initiation through the sacrament of confirmation; walking the initiation journey with the RCIA candidates as they move toward full initiation into the Catholic Church. These are the rewards of my ministry. Through the sacraments I have the opportunity to invite others to journey with Christ and to respond to their own call to discipleship. “During the time of the pandemic, we were unable to celebrate sacraments with our students and RCIA candidates. Recent weeks have been a time to reconsider how these celebrations will be celebrated in our parish. Things will look different than we remember, but the love of God never changes.”

More than 8,000 miles from Monroe, Mich., SISTERS JUDY COYLE, PEG O’SHEA and SUE RAKOCZY are continuing a long IHM tradition of offering quality education – in South Africa. The 1948 Apartheid laws denied black children an equal education and has left a legacy that has hindered renewal in the country. Quality education offers a glimmer of hope for a new generation of leaders. For the past 30+ years, IHMs have ministered at Catholic Theological Institute in KwaZulu-Natal and at the only Catholic university in South Africa in Johannesburg. They have also trained staff and opened a parish education. Education is a fundamental ministry of the IHM Sisters. Many sisters began their ministry as teachers in elementary or secondary schools, and SISTER DIANE BROWN did as well. Prior to meeting the IHMs, Sister Diane taught middle school students on the Narvao Reservation in Kayenta, Ariz., fourth-sixth grade Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees in Texas and third–fifth grade children in rural Oklahoma for 21 years. After the passing of her husband, she moved to Michigan to take a faculty position at Marygrove College. There she met the IHMs and began her journey, which resulted in final vows in July 2019. With the closure of Marygrove College, Sister Diane began a new ministry as a faculty member at Siena Heights University in Adrian, Mich. During the pandemic, her ministry moved entirely online as she taught science and social studies methods classes for pre-service teachers from an office created in a corner of her bedroom. “Teaching undergraduates online and videotaping lectures has been a challenge. I was glad that students seemed to be pleased to continue their studies remotely, from the safety of their homes.”

We are few IHMs in South Africa, but we are using the education that the IHM congregation gave us to gift our sisters and brothers to deepen their lives through education.

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