

# IHM sisters E-NEWS

APRIL 2021

## Christmas Tribute Tree donors provide a valuable gift

By Marilyn Meadows  
Assistant Director, Development

Sisters have been enjoying the new state-of-the-art Biodex Balance System. Thanks to the generous benefactors who supported the 2020 Christmas Tribute Tree, we were able to purchase this system.

The balance system has been designed to meet the needs of those looking to improve balance, increase agility, develop muscle tone and treat a wide variety of pathologies. The system's ability to immediately generate and print outcomes keeps the sisters focused on achieving therapy goals, while the visual, easy-to-use touch screen games make the treatment fun.



We are grateful to all who made this possible!

*"With assistance from the staff, training on the Biodex Balance System has improved my balance, strengthened my body, increased my stamina and stimulated my brain."*

*Thank you to everyone who donated to the Christmas Tribute Tree and made it possible to purchase this system."* - Sister Patrice Selby



## Spirituality programs

On Saturday, April 17, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (EDT), Nancy Sylvester, IHM, will facilitate the webinar, **"What is Our Future? And What Does Faith Have to Do with It?"** We'll look at:

- ◆ How to take seriously the insight of Albert Einstein, who believed that we cannot address the problems of today out of the same consciousness that created them; and
- ◆ How to understand the power of our prayer as we explore the transformative role contemplation plays in opening us up to other ways of seeing who we are.

This program explores how consciousness develops and its impact on what we experience; and contemplation as a spiritual practice and how it transforms us over time.

The registration deadline is April 9; suggested offering is \$25. To register, contact Maxis Center at or [maxiscenter@ihmsisters.org](mailto:maxiscenter@ihmsisters.org) or 734-250-8314 register online at <https://bit.ly/2MrEBSz>.

*Instructions to access the webinar will be provided at registration.*

## Then and Now

Margaret (Peggy) Devaney, IHM, “Sistá,” to most whom she has served for the past 40 years in her Oakland County Jail and Outreach Ministry, is truly a woman who “Irish step-danced” from the Detroit Gaelic League. Her “call” to the IHM congregation as a young teen grew out of the loving support of her Irish immigrant parents, especially her mother. Peggy’s dad, a bus driver, was tragically killed in a pedestrian accident leaving mom, a practical nurse, to raise John, Michael and his young daughter, Peggy.



Peggy’s academic degree preparations (bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education; and a Master of Divinity degree in theology) and lifelong service are undergirded by her guiding mantra: “God leads us where we did not plan to go.” As expressed in the IHM Constitutions: “We hear the cry of all God’s people, especially of the poor and abandoned.” [Read more.](#)

## Coming up

Sunday, May 9 through Friday, May 14, 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. (EDT), Kathleen Duffy, SSJ, PhD, will facilitate the retreat, **“Embracing Struggle: Walking in Hope with Teilhard de Chardin.”**

The call to embrace struggle is not an act of resignation but a commitment to life in its fullness. In this retreat, we walk with Teilhard de Chardin – Jesuit, scientist, mystic – and explore the struggles he faced, especially in the world and Church, and prayerfully reflect on our own life experiences.

The registration deadline is April 22; the suggested offering is \$275. To register, contact River House – IHM Spirituality Center at 734-240-5494 or [riverhouse@ihmsisters.org](mailto:riverhouse@ihmsisters.org).

*Please note: We hope to offer the retreat in person at the Motherhouse, however, this depends on COVID-19 health requirements at the time. If in-person is not possible, the retreat will be offered as a webinar.*

## Remembering



**Jane (John Fisher) Farrell, IHM**  
**April 30, 1929-March 29, 2021**

**Katherine (Kathy) Blanchard, IHM**  
**May 3, 1950-March 20, 2021**

## Virtual Earth Day 2021

Please mark your calendar for Earth Day 2021 – Thursday, April 22. While we still cannot gather to celebrate due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s celebration will be held virtually with a prayer service that will be Livestreamed from the Motherhouse Chapel in the morning and in the afternoon, a pre-recorded video presentation featuring music, poetry and youth voices in the movement to address the climate crisis.

Check the IHM website ([ihmsisters.org](http://ihmsisters.org)) in the coming weeks for links to the celebrations.

## Immaculata, Class of 1972 Reunion!

May 14-15, 2022, Immaculata Class of ‘72 will hold their reunion at **The Inn at St. John’s** in Plymouth, Mich., with accommodations onsite and just 15 minutes from Metropolitan Airport.

There is an optional bus tour of Detroit on Saturday morning; dinner on Saturday includes a four-course, plated meal with dessert; and Mass will be celebrated in the onsite chapel on Sunday.

For more information, contact Rita Cowper Whitehead at [Whitehead.rita@gmail.com](mailto:Whitehead.rita@gmail.com) or Annette Crongeyer Collins at [annetteforhim@yahoo.com](mailto:annetteforhim@yahoo.com).

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## Marygrove Minute

Spring greetings to all Marygrove Alums! Save the date! The first Marygrove College Reunion in two years is planned for Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021, on the Marygrove Conservancy campus. We are hopeful that health conditions will allow a wonderful afternoon of reconnecting and remembrance. Both Class of 1970 and Class of 1971 will be celebrating their special 50-Year Reunion year. All are welcome, regardless of your graduation year. Please spread the word ... more details to come.

Marygrove alums, including President Emerita Dr. Beth Burns, were recently part of the School at Marygrove's Black History Month via Zoom. They added personal experience, history of Sister Theresa Maxis and poetry to the mostly student-led event. Relevant and personal education continues on our beloved campus! Click [here](#) for more P-20 Campus news.

The Alumni Association is now looking for dedicated Board members who have experience with event planning, fundraising, community connections or other Board experience and can commit to attending four meetings a year and serve on Board committees. Please respond if you are willing to further the legacy of Marygrove in this way.

Please check out our Facebook page, Marygrove Alumni & Friends, and look for our new webpage very soon under the Marygrove Conservancy website ([www.marygroveconservancy.org](http://www.marygroveconservancy.org)). To stay connected, please use [Alumni@marygroveconservancy.org](mailto:Alumni@marygroveconservancy.org).

Remember that the [www.marygrove.edu](http://www.marygrove.edu) site is available if you are looking for a transcript. Follow the link to the State of Michigan application form.

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## Reflection

By Julie Vieira, IHM

As we move into Easter, we come with a renewed commitment to prayer, to finding God in all things, and to living out our baptismal call to serve others, especially the most vulnerable among us.

As I look at the ways in which I am serving others, I am reminded of Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) which illustrates the openness, compassion, and courage it takes to serve others.

I definitely want to be the one who sees the need, knows what to do, and effortlessly tends to the downtrodden and carries on with life like this superhero Samaritan. Yet most of the time, I am the one who is scared to acknowledge someone else's need – even scared to acknowledge my own need! – I am the one who doesn't know what to do in the face of someone who has been beaten into the ground, who is suffering, who is hurt and angry and grieving. I am the one who has to make great efforts to open myself to others and who struggles to carry on with life when I am aware of so much pain in the world. [Read more.](#)





Deep Faith. Courageous Spirit. Action for Justice.

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ihmsisters.org

*Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only  
be achieved by understanding*

*- Albert Einstein*

## News from Marian High School

By Rachel Smith  
Marian High School  
Communications Coordinator

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in United States history. During the last week of February, Marian's Diversity Matters Club dedicated Tuesday's Morning Prayer to the lives and contributions of African Americans.

On Wednesday, a club member highlighted the life of Langston Hughes and recited his poem, "Dream Variations," during announcements; and in homeroom a survey on Race Relations was disseminated to the student body.

During Thursday's homeroom, a video was shown of Marian Sophomore Kamryn Winchester giving the award-winning speech "How to Overcome Our Biases? Walk Boldly Toward Them" by Vernā Myers.

Lastly, Friday morning meditation came from instrumental African reflection music.

Additionally, Black History quotes and a special display were featured in Marian's main hallway.

## Raffle Update

Tickets for the 2020-2021 season are available for purchase from individual IHM Sisters and Associates or by contacting the Development Office at 734-240-9860. Tickets are \$25 and cash prizes range from \$50-\$250. See who won in [March](#).



2020-2021 Michigan State Raffle License No. C-29576

## On the IHM website

[\*ihmpact\*](#) is published quarterly, highlighting news and events of the IHM Sisters as well as offering articles for reflection and contemplation. It is available by subscription or online.

## Pass it on ...

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