



# Visitation Spirituality Center

**Programs**  
**Fall 2024**

**VISITATION CENTER** is available for **A DAY AWAY!** If you are looking for a contemplative space for prayer, study, or personal reflection consider spending a day, or part of a day with us. Just contact us in advance to make your reservation with a call to (248)433-0950 or an e-mail to [visitationnorth@ihmsisters.com](mailto:visitationnorth@ihmsisters.com). (Free Will Offering.)

## **Musing over Mugs**

**September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6, 10:00am-12:00noon**

Over a cup of coffee or tea, women explore the graces and challenges of their lives as seen through the eyes of faith. Marie Miller, IHM, is our facilitator. (Free Will Offering)

## **The Gospel of John: Unlocking Meaning and Mystery**

**Saturday, October 18, 9:30am-12:30pm**

**Annemarie S. Kidder, PhD, IHM Associate**

The Gospel of John is the most complex of the Gospels. Written a few decades after the synoptic Gospels, it presents Jesus as the glorified Christ, the one who has come from above and will return there again. In doing so, John draws on various literary tools, such as metaphor and imagery, intimate prayers that Jesus has with the Father, and long discourses in which Jesus reflects on his role on earth and in heaven. The Gospel author offers us also three additional epistles that shed light on early developments in the Johannine community and the early church. The hope is that this retreat will help us encounter the risen Christ of faith in a personally relevant and meaningful way. (Suggested Offering: \$25)

## **Women and the Earth: Reflections on Elizabeth Johnson's Theology of Creation**

**Saturday, October 25, 9:30am-12:30pm**

**Susan Rakoczy, IHM, PhD**

Renowned feminist theologian Elizabeth Johnson first called attention to the feminine reality of God in her book *She Who Is*. As her theology further developed, she probed the intersection of women, creation and the natural world. This presentation will explore how her theology helps us to realize more deeply Pope Francis's stress in *Laudato Si'* that "everything is connected". (Suggested Offering: \$25)

## **A Morning with Dr. Maya Angelou**

**Saturday, November 8, 9:30am-12:30pm**

**Joni Scott**

Dr. Maya Angelou passed in 2014, and a decade later, we continue to celebrate this accomplished woman who wore so many hats: civil rights activist, poet and playwright, director, composer, memoirist and storyteller, singer and dancer, professor, as well as mother and grandmother. She has been the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, three Grammys, and more than fifty honorary degrees. Her son, Guy Johnson, has noted: "My mother's principal message was one of inclusion, that despite our ethnic, religious, and cultural differences, we are more alike than unlike. She believed that we are all images of God, no matter how we look or what name we use to call upon the Divine and Sacred Being." All this, and more, will be explored as we look at this immensely powerful phenomenal woman. (Suggested Offering: \$25)

## Let's Take a Walk through the Celebration of the Eucharist

Theresa Koernke, IHM, PhD

**Saturday, November 15, 9:30am-12:30pm**

Have you ever stopped and asked yourself any questions about your experience of celebrating the Eucharist: How many times have I made the sign of the Cross? Why? What is the Eucharistic Prayer? How did it come to be? Why do I say, "praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ?" and what does it mean? What did St. Augustine mean when he said, "Say AMEN to who you are"? Take advantage of this opportunity to ask these questions and more.

The Eucharist is, after all, the "source and summit" of Christian life and spirituality. Like a precious jewel, one cannot appreciate it by looking at it from only one angle or in only one light. One needs to examine it this way, now that, now in this light and then in another to comprehend its true beauty. (Suggested Offering: \$25)

## Advent in Four Words

**Saturday, December 13, 9:30am-12:30pm**

Kathie Budesky, IHM

The season of Advent is an opportune time to reflect on the promises of Christ's coming—past, present, and future and to rediscover what it means to wait with HOPE, live in PEACE, celebrate with JOY, and LOVE with the heart of Christ. Consider this program an invitation to see Advent through the lens of transformation, where personal faith and communal longing meet the living story of God-With-Us. The morning will include input, time for personal prayer and reflection, as well as lively conversation. (Suggested Offering: \$25)

## Annual New Year's Eve Retreat

**Wednesday, December 31, 10:00am-4:00pm**

Francis J. Daly, SJ and Kathie Budesky, IHM

New Year's Eve is the perfect time to stop, to reflect, and to look back in gratitude on the old year that is setting and to listen to the invitation of the Spirit for the New Year that is dawning. Join us for a day that includes input, time for personal prayer and reflection, conversation, an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a lunch catered by Panera Bread. The day will end with the celebration of the liturgy for the feast of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Registration Deadline is Friday, December 19, 2025. (Suggested Offering: \$50)

Visitation Spirituality Center 7227 Lahser Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301 [visitationnorth@ihmsisters.org](mailto:visitationnorth@ihmsisters.org) [visitationnorth.org](http://visitationnorth.org) (248) 433-0950

### Registration Form

## Visitation Spirituality Center

☐ The Gospel of John: Meaning and Mystery (October 18)

☐ Morning with Maya Angelou (November 8)

☐ Advent in Four Words (December 13)

☐ Women and the Earth (October 25)

☐ Walk through the Eucharist (November 15)

☐ New Year's Eve Retreat (December 31)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Be a Visitation "Frequent Flyer":** For those who register for three or more programs, there is a \$5 reduction for the cost of each program.

**Send your registration and check to:** Visitation Spirituality Center, 7227 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301; email [VisitationNorth@ihmsisters.org](mailto:VisitationNorth@ihmsisters.org), or call (248)433-0950.



*We are a place of welcome  
for all who seek quiet space,  
spiritual companionship  
or opportunity for spiritual growth.*