OKTOBERFEST WAS A SUCCESS…thanks to many volunteers and those who attended on such a beautiful autumn day. May I thank our many IHM Companions and IHM Sisters who assisted in sorting, pricing and staffing the Gifts Galore booth prior to Oktoberfest? Pam DiMartini, Our Lady of the Assumption Companion, and Violet Cali, Our Lady of Peace Companion, are pictured greeting shoppers. More than a dozen Companions assisted in making this venture a success socially and financially. Oktoberfest is the only fund raiser we have for our Sisters in Camilla Hall. Many thanks and God bless all.

As we now celebrate our 175th year since our founding in 1845, we truly praise and thank God for His abundant graces and blessings upon our Congregation. The November Fall Gathering of Companions with Sister Helene Thomas and Sister Marie Roseanne presenting the “story” of Divine Providence within the history of our IHM Congregation was very informative and well received. Companion, Pat, said that it is “Divine Providence brought all of us together with our IHM Sisters.” Our induction prayer service welcomed eight new Companions having completed their first year with us. Congratulations all!

Heartfelt Gratitude to Sister Mary Faith Lawler, IHM

For eighteen years, Sister Mary Faith Lawler has been the IHM Facilitator to our IHM Companions at St. Martin of Tours Parish under the title of Our Lady of Peace Companions. Each gathering of Companions included prayer forms rooted in the IHM tradition, faith sharing of spiritual reading and concluded with private prayer in the convent chapel.

Three years ago, Sister Faith was assigned to Pacis Hall in Chester County to minister to our Sisters in Camilla Hall, our community nursing home. Sister Faith continued, however, to facilitate Our Lady of Peace Companions by commuting once a month to northeast Philadelphia.

As a Congregation, we are ever so grateful to Sister Mary Faith for her faithful dedication and commitment to our IHM Companions in Prayer and Ministry. As Companions, they are most appreciative of Sister’s selfless giving and joyful spirit of hospitality and companionship. May God continue to bless Sister Faith with His most abundant graces and may our Blessed Mother continue to sustain her by keeping her close to her Son’s Sacred Heart. God bless you, Sister Faith!
Please prayerfully remember the following Companion who died November 2019:

Mr. Paul Raper – Blessed Sacrament Parish, Norfolk, VA
Paul was an IHM Companion for 20 years.
May Paul and all our deceased IHM Companions rest in the presence of the Beatific Vision.

Welcome to one of our newest Companions’ group at St. Patrick Parish, Norristown, Pennsylvania. Blessings on all as you pray together with Sister Rosemary DePaul and discover our IHM charism and prayer traditions.

Sunday, April 19, 2020 - Spring Day of Reflection
at Villa Maria House of Studies.
10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Topic: “Welcome the Stranger”
Presenters: Sister Mary T. Dooley, IHM and Sister Bernadette Mary Hiester, IHM
Sunday Mass: 2:30 p.m.
Registration Fee: $35
Registration Date: On or before April 3, 2020
All are welcome.

Please note… New Address for: Villa Maria House of Studies
1 Our Lady Circle
Malvern, PA  19355
610-647-2160 ext. 1925
ihmcompanions@gmail.com

If you know a Sister in IHM Ministry where there is no group of IHM Companions, would you encourage her to get in touch with me at (ihmcompanions@gmail.com) about beginning one? Thank you.

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Please duplicate or email this Newsletter to your local IHM Companions. Thank you and God bless!