



## **Chapter Meeting Communique June 26, 2023**

### **Morning Session: Finance/Stewardship Presentation**

The major portion of the morning's meeting centered on the Chapter Financial Report, introduced by Sister Francis Finsterbusch and then explained by Bob Powell, the community's CFO.

Sister Francis introduced the process of the presentation by first emphasizing the confidentiality of the report that would be offered. Delegates were asked to sign their names to the printed documents, consider the document during Bob Powell's presentation, and then return the document at Tuesday's meeting. Sister Francis also acknowledged the communal debt of gratitude owed to those sisters who had served as past IHM treasurers.

The IHM finances are currently under the auspices of Bob Powell who assists the General Administration and Sister Francis. In his position, Powell does not serve in a decision-making capacity. In his position, he can study and predict financial issues, as well as present quarterly and annual updates. He also serves on Camilla's Advisory Board and works with the General Administration on major financial decisions.

Prior to Bob's presentation, Sister Catherine suggested that the delegates should regard the report as one more spiritual dimension of the chapter. Following his presentation, table members would consider possible questions and concerns that may have arisen.

Powell's report was presented as a PowerPoint that coordinated with the printed reports already distributed. Following a short break, Bob responded to questions that had been submitted prior to and during the break.

Sister Francis Michael thanked Bob in the name of the IHMs. Sister Mary Ellen Tenny expressed her words of gratitude and then mentioned that the annual corporation meeting is open to all IHMs who would be interested to learn more about community finances.

The morning session ended. Liturgy followed the morning session.

### **Afternoon Session: First Big Picture Conversation-Prayerful Loving Relationships**

The afternoon session began with a Contemplative pause.

The afternoon session centered on information that had been gleaned from an earlier chapter meeting. The focus evolved from Big Picture Conversation 1: Prayerful Loving Relationships Within, Among, and Beyond [God, Self, Others, All Creation]. Sister Kathleen Sabatino introduced the session by reminding members of the assembly that we are being called to revitalize our community living as messengers of God's love and presence. Sister Joanne then raised the questions: What is being asked of us as a community just for today and into the

future? What is being asked of us as a community in taking the next step? To what can we commit ourselves at this time as we move into the future? The questions arose from the synthesis of thought submitted by chapter delegates at an earlier meeting. Members at each table joined in a discussion after several minutes of silent reflection. Sister Joanne used the story *Just for Today* (based on the writings of Pope John XXIII) as an introduction to the discussion.

Following the discussion, the question was raised: “What is being asked of us as a community in taking the next step and to which we could commit at this time and as we move into the future?” Responses were gleaned from each table. Sister Catherine asked the delegates to take some reflection time and then to respond to what had been offered by members of the delegation. The responses offered were many and varied. The response sheets from each table were collected to become part of the Chapter implementation.