

Small Group Process—Groups A

Framing Question: How Can We Leverage Our Bonds of Relationship In Service to the Gospel? What assets/gifts do we have to help us?

Group 1

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

What are some of our natural resources?

We prepare meals for others; we rent farmland Question 4: people use our Chapels, conference spaces, facilities that provide space e.g., YMCA sessions; (M) Theresa Maxis Center in Riverview; schools or parishes use our space and resources; office space; places for prayer, Spirituality Centers, retreats; Stone Harbor for retreat; Conference Center for business use; Our Lady of Peace - large space rented to Geisinger; space for artists; space for politically groups. We have women with immense gifts to be shared.

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

What did we/you use to be good at?

Most of us were educators so we were good at educating others; good parishoners who reached out to others; making connections with God's people; good at healthcare; good multitaskers; getting people back on their feet; social work; implementing Vatican II, organization; moving the Church forward; promoting women in the Church; fostering the humanities (art, music); standing up for people, institutions that are poorly served; making the world a better place.

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

We don't realize our witness to God's unconditional love and its impact on people and the world; we take for granted our communal prayer especially focused on the universe (the power of our collective consciousness to transform the world); beauty; we take for granted reflective silence -we don't always need to use words; we fail to use how our skills as teachers can be refitted for other things;

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Group 2

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

Malvern campus; Schools; Stone Harbor, Property in South America and Puerto Rico; physical assets are shrinking

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

Land reclamation, Combined ministry at border; donors and Partners in mission; keeping pace with technology; energy in connecting together

What are some of our natural resources?

People: vowed members and Associates; Experience

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

Most who have space available have already opened it up to outside groups

What did we/you use to be good at?

enjoyed a self-sufficiency in members and resources; running multiple institutions

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

witness to the Gospel; prayer and contemplation as a regular practice; role of discernment before action; our coming together for greater impact ALLOWS to Survive: humility, accept a smaller part, willingness to look at future, build and sustain relationships, earth Consciousness, honesty about realities and struggles, give what we can

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

resiliency, invitation, understand presence with /to others as witness, power of listening, dream together, planting seeds and nourishing seeds others planted; evangelization

Group 3

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

Spaces in our area that could be used. Each individual in our community. Shared technology. Each individual sister is the physical asset. Capacity to share where and when we can. Blessed with ability to care for the elders. Camilla Hall and other nursing facilities. Each person has an asset that amplifies our shared assets. Also together we can have a bigger impact for reaching out to the poor--Central TX and Haiti are examples. Retreat Centers and Spirituality Centers can benefit all of us.

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

Scranton- membership is unique to each of us. Unique gift of our sisters that are artist and musicians are especially unique to us. Imm -- the gift of hospitality we as IHM's imm have that gift of hospitality and we know how to celebrate. Strategic spot we have history that needs to be told and we have land and we have survived difficult and we have retreat space. IHM IMM still able to respond to needs and assist with activities requested from us such as archdiocesan needs. Long standing presence in Education and we have a background of support from those we have educated over the years. We have also assisted other communities to get grounded. Each have unique relationships with other congregations. Such as education sisters from other congregations -- Sisters from Mbosa, Comboni sisters etc.

What are some of our natural resources?

Our lands in general are natural to repurpose the plastic and also the resources Scranton has done a rain garden flow to repurpose and we have other land that we could think about using some of our land as natural habitat. Caring for the resources and land that we have. Environmental focus with what we have. OSP land could be used for providing food for the poor up until 1960 we farmed to provide food we may consider to do this again for our own food and food for the poor. Our Mission in Costa Rica -our sisters work on recycling going to businesses to repurpose plastic and waste oil.

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

IHM imm sharing our Nursing Home after we are no longer at capacity. Use of our land for farmers. Our Lady of Peace residence -currently at capacity but after that capacity lessens how can we open up it for others. Sacred Heart hall we have third floor for retreats and availability for renting. IHM in Peru we have two schools that we use for camacity and during the weekend parents and local groups use our facilities and our large chapels are also used. They use the auditoriums . We do share our facilities in Peru. Large convent at La Planicia is used for retreats and also welcome students.

What did we/you use to be good at?

We are good at teaching- OSP in elementary also day care center, reading and math center and HS also good at pastoral ministries and some of the black Churches closed and now some of those parishioners come to our Chapel. We want to open our house more. People like to come to our chapel and it is always open. Also coming to Mother Lang's oratory. IHM IMM are good organizers and perfectionist (gift and curse) Scranton are good organizers we use to be good at Education running the schools but now our next to the last principal has just retired. Less sisters in the field in educaiton but we want to be good at helping our lay staff imbibe our Charism. Supporting others in Liturgy and religous practice. We use to be great singers and musicians.

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

We may take each others gifts for granted. We have to recognize we are an important piece in the community. That we need each other -- also remember to celebrate. Taken for granted that the energy is left but the wisdom is there to impart.

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

We are really good at praying but we may take it for granted. Recognize the good we bring and the good of prayer and the simple uncomplicated beauty around us and be grateful. We have a deep faith, hope and trust. Following faithfully as our founders have done. With our sisters dying e come together in crisis but we are working on coming together without a crises.

Group 4

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

a. People b. Buildings and property c. Employees

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

Transferring of ownership by IHM Monroe to Saint Therese, potential purchase of Saint Mary' Academy to an outside owner to redevelop and repurpose this large property. - Immaculata summer house and retreat house – sold property and kept ocean property and rebuilt the retreat house and it is used by sisters but also lay people for training and spiritual enrichment.

What are some of our natural resources?

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

Immaculata – studies about our buildings – what needs to be done and how we can repurpose and use them. Part of the Motherhouse is being used as a grade school, part as a spirituality center. -College convent being used as a dorm for students. Connect all four congregations and brainstorm about buildings and best practices to find solutions.

What did we/you use to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

IHM's in Monroe have another organization that took over the health care (Saint Therese) and also the academy is being repurposed from an outside contractor. - Convent at Marion – takes in family members for skilled care. - Looking to consultants for ideas as to how to use these building. - Tap into local resources. 8. collaboration in Texas and Haiti projects with all our congregations. Third year at the Texas border. Looking at different ways to serve

because of what is happening in the United States. How do we continue to help the migrants. There is a big presence in southeast Michigan that Monroe IHM's could be more involved in.

Group 5

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

The Sisters, themselves. Congregational Properties. Inter-congregational collaboration and co-sponsored works.

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

St. Joseph Ministry for the Disabled (Scranton); IHM Literacy Center (Phila) St. Therese Senior Living (Monroe). Border Ministry (all)

What are some of our natural resources?

Our network of collaboration with other congregations. Land reclamation project (Monroe). Organic gardens and composting (all). Green burial option (Monroe, Scranton).

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

Immaculata University - Gillet Hall given up for student residence; sisters moved to Motherhouse. Monroe - Motherhouse given to St. Therese senior living. Sisters still live in that residence.

What did we/you use to be good at?

Education. We are still educators, but education takes on different forms now as we strive to educate people in different ways and ministries. Using our transferrable skills.

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

Our prayerful presence and sharing our faith with others (Religious Enrichment) - with children, elderly, homebound, parishioners, everyone we meet in our ministries and our daily encounters. We have creative hope and transferrable gifts: adaptability, resilience, resourcefulness.

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

We support one another in our various ministries, within and across our congregations. Where one IHM is, we all are! We always have each other!

Group 6

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

Each sister is our most valuable asset in addition to our congregational holdings, buildings, cars, congregational institutions (universities, schools, sponsored works), retreat centers, retirement homes, archives

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

farm land (Immaculata), sharing our spaces with other congregations

What are some of our natural resources?

solar farm, grants for restorative property use, open space to be used by others

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

ASEC African Sisters Education Collaboration, International Sisters living at St. Joseph Center, Scranton, & Camilla Hall, Immaculata, Sharing spaces we currently occupy with the general public for worship and various civic, personal/professional needs

What did we/you use to be good at?

organizers, mobilizers, educators, leaders, taking charge

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

Constant transitions- leads to flexibility & adaptability, as a result we have the resources needed to keep making changes; call to collaboration; sometimes we overlook the gifts of others-"now there is no back row"; benefactors, associates & co-ministers

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

ministry of presence & connection: love for mission & desire to companion others in good times & bad; OSPIHM Initiatives (committees, programs, gatherings, projects) have been successful & meaningful. Let's keep them going.

Group 7

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

Our sisters and associates are our greatest asset. Monroe retreat house; Immaculata Stone Harbor retreat house; recent re-purposing of Monroe Academy; our properties--but greatest asset is our people. Our missions in South America have enriched the Congregation and made us more globally aware. Immaculata IHM's going to Peru in 1922 paved the way to welcome the other branches to South American ministry.

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

The wisdom and experience of our sisters; our cemeteries

What are some of our natural resources?

Nature around us provided by Divine Providence

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

Gillet Hall at Immaculata University was recently donated to the University for student housing. More and more groups are using the Stone Harbor Retreat House.

What did we/you use to be good at?

We have been excellent teachers, organizers, nurses. These skills remain with us and are used in other areas.

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

The grace of perseverance. We finish what we begin. We don't give up. Scarcity is the beginning of creative hope.

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

McAllen Texas border ministry is path for future sharing. The combined skill-set of our sisters is amazing! Our associates and younger members can be challenged to use their gifts to the hilt! We are good at working hard without our ego getting the way. We inspire kindness in others.

Group 8

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

Members - there would be many more younger people if we put ourselves together; Embodied wisdom of members; same founders with a shared vision, though there are variations; Riverview center; Universities (Marywood and Immaculata); St. Joseph's Center (Scranton); IT infrastructure powering virtual gatherings; Nursing facilities; We all have ministry sites where we're servicing the underserved (ESL [Immaculata], Friends of the Poor [Scranton]); Archives, heritage rooms, chapels (all); Missions abroad, especially in Peru, Puerto Rico and Mexico, with schools (all)

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

St. Joseph's Center (Scranton) - not only the building but the people who have carried the mission forward; House of Prayer (Monroe) - spirituality has grown throughout the last few chapters and continues to develop; Living in the Motherhouse but not owning it frees up people for ministry, unburdens the community from financial responsibility (Monroe); The former St. Mary's Academy is being transformed into multi-use (building still belongs to Monroe), including housing on the top three floors and a possible parking structure, there could also be ministry opportunities there in the future (Monroe);

What are some of our natural resources?

Solar farm (Monroe); Organic farm open to the neighborhood (Monroe); Land restoration project at IHM Center (Scranton); Farming on congregation property, as well as farm-to-table options for motherhouse (Immaculata); Members and associates are natural resources, all that we developed within ourselves along the way is an incredible resource for being present to people, being good listeners;

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

Eventually, Camilla Hall will probably welcome sisters from other congregations (Immaculata); Monroe is already doing some of this work with apartments for lay people; Building transformation project in Monroe includes four ballrooms that will be available to the community (Monroe); Motherhouse library now open to the public (Monroe); Archive

access for public, genealogy, etc. (Monroe); Central area on first floor where community room is where artists put works (sisters, associates, community members) (Monroe)

What did we/you use to be good at?

Education - to draw forth the potential within each person, think about it in that light now; We're still educators whether we're in a classroom or not;

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

Learners as well as educators; Adaptability; Joyfulness; Hospitality; Respect for and appreciation of others' wisdom, especially our elders; One of the gifts of aging is that you respect your gifts more as well as those others have - you know what it took to get there

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Inherently charitable; Seeing people, really seeing them, and really loving them; Inclusivity; Deep respect of the "other;" Quality of the way we interact with others;

Group 9

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

After spending a lot of time on property, a gem we recognized is our collective story — our archives; how do we curate our art, historical books, textbooks, poetry, music, etc. created by our sisters for the life of the world and narrative of religious life?

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

Scranton: land preserve, IHM Center shared with international sisters; Immaculata: large properties, Camilla Hall - begun to extend hospitality to other congregations, Motherhouse - opened to sisters ministering in the area to live, carefully handing over school properties (done in Chile, in process in Peru). (Monroe and OSP not represented)

What are some of our natural resources?

Arboretum, land

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

Scranton: OLP - space to lease; St. Joe's leasing part of IHM Center; Immaculata - houses Vietnamese sisters studying at Villanova, looking into how Camilla Hall can be used by lay people in the future.

What did we/you use to be good at?

Education, arts, resourcefulness

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

archives, our IHM/OSP story — what does our story give witness to for our world today?

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Collaboration

Group 10

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

Immaculata - Camilla, Stone Harbor, Immaculata University, Land (farming) / Scranton - Our Lady of Peace, Marywood, Center

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

McAllen, TX, Immaculata/Marywood University, Stone Harbor, Peru - Lands/Buildings, Individual leadership skills, Financial Stability, Vision looking to the future, Education/talents of individuals

What are some of our natural resources?

Property Buildings, Financial Help, Education/Writings, Presence/Charism, Education, Joy & Sense of Youth/Youthful Spirit

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

Immaculata - Stone Harbor, St. Aloysius, Spirituality Center, Camilla (in the future?), Scranton - International Sisters who live at the Center, Our Lady of Peace - used to collaborate with Geisinger, Our own convents - sisters from other communities

What did we/you use to be good at?

Tremendous organizers, Educating others, Sharing God's love, Joy, Youthful presence (regardless of age), Witness, Passing on our assets

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

Each other! Being aware of our need to be grateful, Leadership, Legacy, the grace that God gives us, appreciating and supporting our younger sisters

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Our Charism, Opportunities to connect like this, discovering what we have in common

Group 11

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

membership; education; buildings and spaces that we have and can share; books; our archives, associates, scholars who provide education and ongoing formation through their presentations and writings; creative use of technology. sponsored ministries

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

We want to be vital as long as possible and work with those who share our values; relationships; Raisin River; mixture of races and languages in our community; IHM Associates; our unique relationship as three IHM congregations and our ongoing bond and connection with our Oblate Sisters of Providence

What are some of our natural resources?

Teaching ESL River Raisin and retreat center; campuses; Environmental practices; we are a voice for conservancy areas; relationships with students; Earth Committee includes students from Marywood University; food, clothing and shelter provided for those in need through our sponsored ministries; natural goodness of our sisters and associates; art gallery; houses in Monroe; Teach ESL, Campuses; Environmental practices at our motherhouses; Voice regarding conservancy; relationship with students; Earth Committee includes sisters and university students;

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

Riverview Retreat Center; Visitation North at Maria High School; IHM Center; Academy building in the process of being developed;

What did we/you use to be good at?

Education and it now continues in formal @ informal ways; front-line activation is now being done in new ways; ways we relate to people in hospitable ways; we were good at teaching and now teach an alternate vision to dominant cultures via Catholic Social teaching; sharing our gifts and talents to meet people's needs in new ways; redoubling our current efforts to serve together

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

we are missionaries and can continue to explore Hospitality; pooling our resources; radical interdependence; re how to use gifts; re how to use our gifts to spread God's word through technology; Blessed by people who help us; we find new ways to be agile, imaginative and creative so we don't forget; hospitable

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

ability to have fun, get to know each other, celebrate; inclusivity; get things done; life-long learners; we are good catalysts for one another; not afraid to do what is ours to do; learn that we can challenge each other and trust in God's providence

Local Community—Group 5

What are the specific physical assets of IHM/OSP?

All of the sisters are our greatest asset, associates, and companions in ministry, those who support us--priests, laity, benefactors, those joined to us in our apostolates, our retirements homes, our motherhouses, our positive mindsets--that we're still looking to serve, our ministries, the ways we serve--our adaptability

What are some unique assets that are unique to our congregations?

Trust in providence, our charism, willingness to work together--joining forces, collaborative ministries that already exist, our apostolates, all of our congregations teachers

What are some of our natural resources?

That we are inquisitive--thinking outside the box (e.g. seeking the sisters in Quebec), our educational backgrounds, college campuses, retreat centers and hermitages, academies, nursing homes, Pacis Hall.

What spaces do the congregations control that could be used by someone/organization from the outside?

It is already happening in our retreat/spirituality centers, renting our fields out to farmers, our universities, Camilla Hall--having other communities send their sisters there and lay people--eventually.

What did we/you use to be good at?

We're still good at a lot of things! Organization (classroom management, creativity in obtaining necessities, making things happen by our ingenuity), demonstration schools/Saturday classes, mentoring, The Workshop Way (OSPs), Textbooks (voyages, etc.).

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted

Education and experience, pastoral ministers (homes, nursing homes, hospitals), our spirituality--using our gifts, technology, lifelong learners, our joy and presence!

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Having fun and being happy, witness, how we appreciate one another, joyful bearers of the good news, compassionate to each other, appreciative of one another, collaboration, knowing how to "stoke the fire", not letting ourselves burn out. Hospitality! (THERE WAS NO QUESTION ON WHAT OUR OUR GIFTS THAT ALLOW OUR COMMUNITIES TO SURIVE): financial security, Camilla Hall, vocations and continuing to seek them, faith, people we work with (we're still ministering), witness, being the "Giving Tree" even when we think we've given all, we can still be the stump where someone can sit and we can listen.

Small Group Process—Groups B

How Can We Leverage Our Bonds of Relationship in Service to the Gospel? What assets/gifts do we have to help us?

Group 12

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

Here is our list: those who are most in need, the underrepresented, immigrants and the underprivileged through education, current issues around racism, the gift of providence (rediscover it anew), community life, social justice, arts/beauty, spirituality, devotion to Mary, intercongregational connection and being PART of those we serve :)

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

generosity, desire for collaboration, energy, appreciation of our charism, leadership abilities through educated experience, optimism, hopefulness, the ability to inspire others to awaken their fervor, the gift of presence rooted in acceptance of reality and valuing the dignity of each person

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

This was a question that we were surprised by at first, but eventually got some thoughts together. We looked at the FREEDOM we have through our vowed consecration to be present to respond to crises of our day. We also thought about how people might not know how we work across differences in society and among our selves because of our willingness to be united. There is power and possibility within our community living that they world does not really understand. We also need to share the story of our founders to continue to apply their lessons to our contemporary reality! Finally, we talked about how maybe we have the invitation to break out of our known reputation to be able to embrace creatively something new.

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

We did not 'like' this question at first, because of the word ONLY. We are not the only ones who do things well. We admitted from the very beginning that we cannot do 'it' alone. So, the things we were able to name were our openness and willingness to be able to collaborate and the power we have to continue to invite.

What did we/you use to be good at?

To be able to SHARE and not claim things as my own or desire my own space

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Depth of each sister's spirituality/prayer life, we are well provided for in the buildings we have, healthcare, food, etc... theological education of our members

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

Depth of commitment to mission, our rich history, celebrating with joy and laughter when we come together, gratitude for our God-given gifts AND sharing them for the good of all, our attention to what God is asking of us, the associate's program in Monroe

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

We didn't answer this question, but the question 'What are some talents/skills you see in someone you know, who isn't here today?' we did...here are our answers: sense of humor (rooted in our self-acceptance), visionary, sense of care for the earth/eco-spirituality

Group 13

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

We care deeply about service, about challenging and erradicating the sin of racism. Relationships are important in getting to know and respond to one another. Reaching out to the most vulnerable and having hospitality of heart. Standing with those on the margins or those who are seen as "other". We see that now with the ministry at the border. While there may have been a call to merge the branches in years past, we respected the different branches and the ways they each live out the charism. We care deeply about seeing a need and taking action.

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

Organization has helped us to be productive and empowered us to make a difference. An openness of and discernment of new possibilities. Perceiving and being alert to needs of our times in order to respond. Talent of being creative in the face of so many shifting things and we are called to reacclimate ourselves and find creative ways to work together. We feed off of each other well.

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

We can do things as religious because we do not have family obligations, so we can take more risks as it were, in ministry. We collaborate and share resources and support one another (we network). We share hospitality with other Congregations.

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

Making choices that will be required in our future. Only we can do that for ourselves, people outside cannot do that. Having the gift of our spirituality and shared history/ charism. Because of our relationship with the Oblate Sisters, we have a unique perspective on the sin of racism. We hold one another accountable as we strive for holiness and to serve God's people. We can and do continue Mother Theresa's legacy and how we have been challenged and called by that.

What did we/you use to be good at?

Good at education- but we had to take it and expand the umbrella of education. Where we used to be individual, we have had to partner with others (other schools or congregations)

that are not explicitly "IHM". We have been used to doing things on our own and learning how to merge is something we need to learn how to be good at (we have been good at doing things alone and to navigate transitions and different visions is difficult because it's new territory). When there was a need or vacancy, we found a way to do it/ fill it but now we need help because there may be needs that are beyond our scope (ie. legal needs for people). We need to make sure that what we used to be good at does not limit us. Amplifying is significant and doing things together.

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Spirituality that can be shared with others. And what our presence might mean in another's life (often we aren't even told about the simple things we do that were impactful). Our organization and planning is a major asset that can often be taken for granted. The gifts that come out of our challenges (ie. the only thing Monroe owns is the cemetery and that is a challenge)- what is the grieving and the loss that is ours to share? While there is freedom and partnerships in decisions, what's the gift that is ours that came from that?

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

Trust in Divine Providence that even when things are unclear, God will inspire us to find a way. Another is this- what we are doing now- meeting each other, collaborating, bringing the family back together again to look at new possibilities. Open to learning- both our strengths and our limits. We have looked at reality in a holistic way (the reality isn't only about us. There are global realities)

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Flexibility and openness to letting go. Also, we are getting better at (not at the really good at, but improving) on collaboration and creative brainstorming with honest sharing, willingness to be vulnerable. We are around for the long-haul. We can stand and face uncertainty together. This question is kind of tricky because we are not together that often. We are good at running meetings. We have come together at the border (recognized and organized with a lot of energy), there is a spirit of collaboration and hospitality.

Group 14

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

Our countries/migrants; the poor and abandoned such as in Central Texas and New Mexico; Mission being present to people or whatever the mission is; knowing that we are one; we are the communities.

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

Staff; Leadership having expertise in technology; technology skills; Vision; Can accept and grow in charism; hope for the future

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

Combining 3-4r: Communications; Relationships and skill levels; Emerging future modules; All the work with Zoom; education and tech wise; lay people to help and lead

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

What did we/you use to be good at?

Teaching; Not "used to be" many still are.

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Ministering; have so much; don't have to worry; communication skills; education; about bills/lights

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

Flexabilty; education, each other in the community; someone to count on or go to/call;

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Group 15

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

gratitude for God's impact on our history, they are avenues of grace for communities and Church, appreciation for outcomes of providence, commitment to the poor and the abandoned, meeting unmet needs, environment shared history and impact on the injustice of racism.

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

professional expertise, appreciation for professionalism, visionary leaders had to strengthen bonds of relationship, common humility skills as educators, desire for relationality and commitment to build relationships, celebrating our relationships

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

Tell our story, still inspires us and others, our story and history has an impact on racism in society today, spirituality not as well known, fostering arts in communities, alphonsonian and redemptive mystery is living the paschal mystery, it is a source of hope today

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

address racism, story of Teresa and illegitimacy piece, a deep spirituality can be known through Theresa, a sense of accompaniment and actually being with those who are on the peripheries today and especially people of color, LGBTQ+ community

What did we/you use to be good at?

risk takers, Louis Florent said "I begin without thinking of the future."

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

wisdom of old age, lifelong learners, gift of spiritual opportunities

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

willingness to live a common life, optimism, providence piece, women of vision, charism
graces

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

celebrating, articulating things, word crafting

Group 16

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

justice, immigrants, ways to change the political landscape, gift of teaching and education, capacity to influence, care for the environment

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

Evolving spirituality, contemplation and a variety of new spiritual practices, higher level of courage, integrity and honesty in running our congregational entities, integration of our values and remaining true to them always, behavior: all are equal-take out the garbage, serve on the board; no shady dealings

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

Teaching the charism by our lives, making known the Redeeming love of Jesus, calling people to more and inviting them to touch into their own values, help IHM/OSPs to live our lives more authentically

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

Our writers, musicians, and artists continue the traditions of St. Alphonsus, we've learned how to transition physically, spiritually, and psychologically from one need to another bringing forth the education and skills we have acquired; eg. IHM/OSP House at the border in McAllen

What did we/you use to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Stamina-we find new ways to serve and collaborative, we have each other backs even when we disagree, lack of jealousy among the congregations that help us progress and make us good collaborators, our capacity to walk with and support other congregations coming to conclusion, the capacity to accept the role of commissary

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

Life-long learners, strength of our lay associate programs, collaboration for the common good with sometimes unlikely partners, willingness to pay the price in sustaining our charism, mission and core values, advocacy: speaking up and out, speaking the truth to power, and standing with the marginalized and standing with the marginalized

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Group 17

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

prayer, respect, love for poor, relationships, appreciation from those we minister with and for, freedom to respond to needs,

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

strong leadership skills, trust in transformation, collaborative efforts, ie Associates, invites people in

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

consciousness of our responsibilities for our Earth Home (Laudato si)

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

Radiate the presence of God in our being, live from the sense of the glass half full, sense of collective identity (4 communities connected through history into present time)
Uniqueness of our beginnings and how we moved forward to expand, and come together after years into a new realization of our connectedness. Capacity for Welcoming! Grey nuns welcomed Theresa Maxis into their Community. She was welcomed back into IHM,
Welcoming of those who come to us from other cultures, immigrants.... We can move forward through obstacles, We can stand together collectively, , we are not single u its, but "bigger" than just ourselves by being together.

What did we/you use to be good at?

Good educators, organization, scholarship, transferrable skills, broadened the concept of "education"

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

transferable skills

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

we are strong women , not easily deterred by obstacle as we move forward. The image of a rubber band describes us, circular together, flexible and stretching.as women religious in God's providential care.

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

We are not afraid to recognize vulnerability and mistakes made, We are fearless in our pursuit of spirituality and education (expansion of spirituality centers OSP Pre K-8)

Group 18

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

We care about the marginalized and are called to respond accordingly. We as congregations have come to deeply care about one another. As we planned this meeting that was evident. We can continue caring for one another. We have innate organizational skills and we treat one another as equals. It is a gift to the people we serve. We have great organizational skills. Racism, Haiti, McAllen are projects we have been working on....can we boost them? Can we take a look at this to reenergize the gifts that we have committed ourselves to? As Sue Weber reminded us, diminishment is a reality however God is at work beyond our individual congregations. As we see opportunities to collaborate may we see God's work among us.

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

We are organized. There is a richness in who we are individually because we need one another. Our heritage is a rich gift and helps us to define our core values.

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

There is something about how we are together that calls people to "experience" us. Our unconditional love is the gift we can share with one another! God is putting in our path needs/ways that we can exercise this unconditional love for God's people. We have the gift of hospitality- that all are welcome. The knowing is heartfelt and not necessarily "word" knowledge. Because of our faith... we have the gift of seeing God's presence among a broken world--or how to lead others to see God's presence in today's worldly challenges. We also have the gift of the contemplative that does not go away no matter our age....we cannot underestimate the power of prayer. One thing we are all know for is that

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

What did we/you use to be good at?

we are educators--and we are good at it....but now as teachers--let us gift the world with the deep call of contemplation. We used to be good at opening new places but we no longer have that capacity but together we may be called to something different.

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Mutuality that stems from humility and simplicity--we love each other--the person. With the way that our government are going-- the needs are right here before us. We may take for granted our gifts and yet we are still called to organize them. We take one another for granted--perhaps we lose someone and realize that we will not always have the opportunity to be together. We may also take for granted to tremendous gifts God have given us. We also take for granted the prophets among us. This is the moment for prophetic witness together. The "Letter of Hope" was a step toward that.

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

Our faith! It helps us to recognize the challenge of today as part of God's work among us. Our sense of hospitality. Being able to be wise stewards of all that we have. The wisdom of making good decisions.

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Being together and hearing each other is very enriching. We are rooted in our Grandmothers....Reliance of Divine Providence--All Will be Well!!!!

Group 19

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

Vulnerable, marginalized populations

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

Ability to listen; hospitality;

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

Collaborative efforts; belief that Providence provides

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

Witness to the strength and value of community

What did we/you use to be good at?

"Used to be"? How to use skill sets in appropriate settings

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

Focus the neediest, most vulnerable; focus on prayer needs

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Char is call us to hospitality, love, generosity... being the servant of all.

Group 20

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

The poor, the marginalized, those who are persecuted, immigrants, Our life together in community, our vocations

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

Knowing that the Charism is a gift to be shared, Our Associates reflect back to us the who we are and who we are called to be. the skills of collaboration spirit of kindness and energy augments our capacity

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

The witness of our life in community ---show others how we live ; kindness and joy ament our capacity

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

make intentional effort to prepare prayer experiences good liturgy, show others how to live Show others how to manage and live within change, Help others to understand the difference between change and transformation

What did we/you use to be good at?

Education-teaching

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

The time we have for prayer and contemplation--we have the gift of a quiet home. The opportunities for education and different ministerial experiences ; the support from community to use our gifts. we still have the capacity to resource ourselves and the direction we put our lives in

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

Blessed with opportunities for ministry; Support from the Congregation; support from people in ministry; knowing that we are interconnected no smallness when it comes to the Gospel

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

time for prayer; a quiet home, gratitude from people in ministry our capacity to offer hope transfer of skills We are ingenious, imaginative, we don't give up Trust in Divine Providence ; we take on what comes to us Reverencing the mystery of our vocation

Group 21

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

Openness to NEW ways to God is still creating (evolving) the Kin-dom of God. We recognize the richness in our diversity, we are all anxious to share what we have received, we desire to heal the deep wound of racism in our history and therefore address that wound in our world today,

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

Hope, Contemplative Transformation. We have Leadership, Volunteers and others who enrich and accompany us in wider understanding and experience.

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

We witness the confidence in God and become wisdom figures to those who hunger for what we have, pastoral presence, model using our time well..

What did we/you use to be good at?

Balance of Contemplation and Action

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

The memories of our past gatherings, the powerful gift of coming together can model for others how to form community that demands justice for ourselves and others

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

The power of women's ways of knowing and acting in a male dominated world.

Group 22

What is something IHM/OSP cares deeply about?

God's People, ministries, Eucharist, one another, poor, justice, inclusion, promoting the human and spiritual lives of all.

What talent or skills are present in the staff, leadership, volunteers of IHM/OSP?

Commitment, living the Charism, generosity, love for the Congregation, like family, they carry us, creativity, humor, humanity, education, experience, trust

What is something IHM/OSP can do that others outside the community don't even know?

We are available and willing despite our age, we can be contemplative and intercede, people are unaware of all that we do in schools and ministries, the prayers of our retired Sisters, we have developed skills as needed....car dealers, real estate agents, builders as side jobs!

What is it only IHM/OSP can do and do well?

Live and share our Charisms.....others can be very human and lead and plan and form communities but we do that well also.

What did we/you use to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

Passion, we know that we are getting closer to God's side and that challenges, motivates and inspires us.

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

How we can affect others for good

Small Group Process—Groups C

How Can We Leverage Our Bonds of Relationship in Service to the Gospel? What assets/gifts do we have to help us?

Group 23

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

LCWR, UISG, Sothern Sudan, Elephant in the Room, Mr Masserant-Working on the Academy in Monroe, Sisters Against Human Trafficking, Catholic Charities, Mercies, Jesuits, Oblate, Haitian group- Little Sisters, Hudson Valley Formation Group, RFC, Starfish Family Series, Michigan Peace Team, Midwest Kindred Spirits, School, Christo Rey, Strangers No Longer, Dignity Detroit, Grant Writers

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Catholic Relief, LBGTQ/Suicide Couciling, Second language learners, Prayer Partners, Social Justice Groups

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

Translators for Immigrants, Peace and Justice Groups, Groups that are already established and we support, Offering building space to other groups, young adult Groups

What did we/you use to be good at?

Prayer being Central, Good at getting things done, Building and creating new school programs, Being creative with little or no resources, teaching, organizing, speaking out, sustaining missions, stepping out of our comfort zones

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Writers, Hospitality, Education, Flexibility, Prayer, Each other- Feeling lonely in a place with so many people, Material things

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Willingness to take on new concepts/ides, celebrating, Hospitality, having Fun, Supporting each other, building relationships, Sharing in Ministry, we can be different yet united, Working together inter community, and ease that we feel with each other.

Group 24

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

LCWR Catholic Char Network Little Sisters Haiti River Raisin Institute CRS Propagation of the Faith Cristo Rey Network

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Inter-Religious Groups Local Environmental Groups Protest Organizations

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

ESL Senior and Cancer Volunteer Driver Visiting the Sick Homeless Projects Catechist Choir Musicians Artists Lawyers Institute for Priestly Formation Telespond (elderly help) Sisters of St. Casimir/SWOP Literacy Programs

What did we/you use to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Our Education Networking Openness to others Legacy of those who came before us Our families

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Being able to dialogue with people we never knew before Those of us who see the bigger picture People of vision who move us ahead Those of us gifted with financial skills Openness to change

Group 25

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

Companions in Prayer & Ministry; NETWORK; Rich in Mercy (Haiti); Fonkoze (Haiti); IHM-OSP Retreats on Racism; Our shared ministry in McAllen "Valley Girls" intercongregational group!; Strangers No Longer; Welcoming the Stranger; Friends of the Poor (Scranton); Alliance to End Human Trafficking and their focus on the connection between HT and immigration; Partners with group addressing the epidemic of mental health

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Universities that have legal advocates for immigrants/migrating people; professionals that address mental health needs; Literacy groups

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

See above two questions

What did we/you use to be good at?

Educators - we're still good at this and seeing how it transfers to things like ESL, Obres Sociales in Peru, ASEC (educating African Sisters)

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

The gifts of community, prayer and presence; our ability to create prayer services and experiences for ourselves and others that may help heal our divisions; the arts/poetry/dance/music; Spirit of Fr. Gillet

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Recognizing that we're part of the "force field" of God's energy; We're better when we come together, like we are these days!

Group 26

Associations/Partners

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

What did we/you use to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Group 27

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

LCWR, Network, Regional groups, NW Formation Conference, Giving Voice, Companions in Prayer, JPSO, Boards of Schools, Border House, Pope Leo, Detroit Archbishop Wisenburger, local Dioceses, Haiti Committee, HIV/AIDS Committee, Ministry Grant participants...

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Strangers No Longer, Human Trafficking, A Nun's Life, Anti-Racism Groups, Outreach to homeless, addiction, food insufficiency groups, Catholic Charities and mostly collaboration among OSP/IHM

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

Celebrating, hospitality, developing arts (music, liturgy, ritual), involvement with moviemakers, novelists, social media

What did we/you use to be good at?

Sense of Providence; entering energy of founding story; openness to diversity

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Learning together, humor, joy.

Group 28

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

the Church; different religious groups like the Jesuits or Benedictines; Pax Christi; other peace and justice groups

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

the Church; different religious groups like the Jesuits or Benedictines; Pax Christi; other peace and justice groups

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Jewish Voices of Peace

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

urban gardening groups; anti-racism groups; environmental sustainability groups

What did we/you use to be good at?

teaching

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

community; trust in leadership; rituals; basic goodwill of members

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

creativity; connecting with the ancestors [remembering and honoring those who came before]

Group 29

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

St Therese, Huddle, Sisters of Haiti, Sisters at the Border, Consortium CMSWR, LCWR, Laudato Si, Network, Nuns on the Bus

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

LGBTQ, More Accompanying of Immigrants in Texas and Mexico, Dignity of Detroit, Immigration issues-Haitians not being allowed into USA

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

We answered personally. Catholic Theological Society of America CTSA, North American Academy of Liturgy, Pax Christi, Country First, Five Calls, Catholic Charities, Indivisible, Poor Peoples' Campaign, USCCB, PA Catholic Conference

What did we/you use to be good at?

Legacy of Education on ALL LEVELS, Spiritual Direction, Working with Unwed Mothers

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Iconography, Music, Art, Spiritual & Theological Leadership, Open to Diversity

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Responding to the needs of the day, flexibility, taking risks, thinking globally
A sense of hope, Spirituality and theology, determination to live the mission, Social Work and Pastoral Ministry

Group 30

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

ASEC, Solidarity with South Sudan, Sisters of St Casimir, LCWR VII, UISG initiatives, NETWORK, GSR, AHLMA, BLACK Sisters,

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Groups with which individual sisters relate are too numerous to count

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

Inter religious, Strangers no Longer, Stronger Together Huddle, local outreach groups, Guardianship, Sisters working with other groups

What did we/you use to be good at?

Building relationships, Catholic Social Teaching, initiating response to needs

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

education, organizational. Technology resources, seeing needs, gathering people and responding

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Intentional prayer as energy of the Spirit

Group 31

Associations/Partners

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

What did we/you use to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Group 32

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

City of Monroe, people we work with, LCWR, Confrere (IN Peru), RCRI, USCCB, dioceses in U.S. and where we minister throughout the world, partnering with Jesuit and Redemptorist Fathers, associates in our communities, Cambodi Sisters and Sisters of St. Joseph, Kenya (with Immaculata IHMs), donors to congregations, members of boards of our sponsored institutions, electronic libraries, vendors to our institutions, maintenance and technology services to institutions, faculties, colleagues in our places of ministry, sisters in infirmary and retirement minister to staff, IHM Board of Governors, OSP IHM Haiti Committee, OSP IHM Racism Committee...

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Care of immigrants (Strangers No Longer), synodality groups in diocese and parishes, persons who participate in our liturgies invited to dialogue with us, seeking to renew our associations with other religious congregations that we've lost contact with when we were no longer involved with them in education, working with abuse victims,

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

Some involved in synodality, spirituality centers, spiritual direction, lay persons who come to our retreat centers, professional associations with lay colleagues, alumni from our schools, recognition of our call to minister to persons who are seeking a way back to God when we meet them shopping or traveling...

What did we/you use to be good at?

For some no longer in teaching roles, we were initiators—now called to be collaborators—not establishing ministries but working with others. Our passion for justice remains for God, the spiritual and can be continued in our relationships, writing, social media, liturgy, sharing of experiences of care taking...

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

Support of our former members and families, legacy of St. Alphonsus (crib, cross, Eucharist, Mary), education given to us by our congregations, experience of racial issues in our congregations which assist us in promoting diversity, inclusion, anti-racism, equity; our

ability to speak the truth—ex. Issues of artificial intelligence that need to be said based on our heritage

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

Creative hope helps us to survive—to adapt to changes; our multi-lingual communities that allow us to a wider ministry; support emerging religious life (Hope 2025 conference in Rome for young religious); our simplicity—call to return to let go of things we do not need in order to meet the needs of others, ability to move without many things; need to recognize we're part of a larger story of transformation/kingdom of God. Our joy to announce the Good News as we move forward in wisdom, age and grace....Collaboration of leadership teams of each congregation to create opportunities for OSP IHM to work together.

Group 33

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

Border Project, Healing Racism, Network, Sisters against human trafficking, ASAC African Sisters Education, Laudate Si, Peace and Justice, Pax Cristi, Dignity Detroit: Catholic Gay National Group, Monroe: Strangers No Longer, Immaculata: New Sanctuary Movement, IHM Sisters for Peace and Dignity Mass, No Kings March, River Raisin Institute for Environmental Concerns

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Standing with our neighbors who are living in fear: immigration, gay/transition community; Collaboration with Senior Adult Living in our neighborhoods, Accompanying immigrants in all aspects: navigating the current processes, court, food support,

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

Returning from prison

What did we/you use to be good at?

we are strong educators, leaders, willing to try/give our all, , we don't just talk but do,

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

courage/risk-takers, compassion, our presence and respectful treatment of others

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

collective voice of women religious, technology communication,

Outside or Unknown Group

What are some groups that IHM/OSP partners with?

Supporting Archdiocesan efforts, serving at the Mexican border, administration and teaching positions in parochial school system, ministry in parishes, Compassionate Companions, Huddle, LCWR, Haiti Project Juarez project, Bioneers, River Raisin Institute, Social Justice programs, support local and global organizations (Catholic Charities, Catholic Relief Services, parish outreach activities), spirituality centers (retreats, days of reflection), associates

What are some new groups that IHM/OSP could partner with but have not up to this point?

Crisis outreach programs: World Kitchens, ecumenical and evangelical program

What groups or associations are you part of outside the congregation?

school systems, nursing homes, hospitals, service organizations

What did we/you use to be good at?

administrative skills and teaching skills: organized, efficient, effective, detailed, concerted effort, helping the poor

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

the prayerful support of our sisters who are no long in active ministry, our common life for the common good, willingness to live a life of service

What are we really good at together, but don't recognize it?

dependence on God for the following: trust, common life, outreach, opening our minds and hearts for direction, rooted in service; we evolve based on needs of the day, deep spirituality, moral compass, diligent (we do not give up), sustainability (for the community and world)