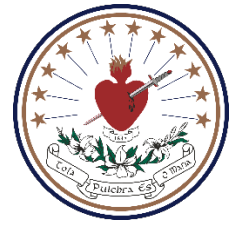


**Mission Moment**  
**September 29, 2020**



**Purpose: On-going education for the Board on the IHM charism and its connection with the Mission of VMA.**

I am reminded of when there was a gathering of faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni and friends of Villa to create a new strategic plan; the number one thing that was a definite was to continue VMA in the IHM tradition and charism.

From our IHM rule we read: “The Charism of our community is Love, which continues to manifest itself today in the sisters’ joyful service of God and his people; Creative Hope, which puts all its confidence in God’s loving Providence; and Fidelity, which inspires fervor in one’s vocation in Christ and in one’s mission in the church.

Charism is like the heartbeat that keeps alive the mission. Charism is not just words on a page, but something that fuels service.

There is a Charism committee in Villa made up of faculty members. Each year the school focuses on a different aspect of the charism: Love, Hope, Fidelity and Mary. Last year’s theme was “Anchored in Love.” This year’s theme is: “Lifted by Hope.” Every activity, prayer, service project, etc. revolves around this theme of Hope. The logo was created by the students and you will see this logo on ID lanyards, communications, Hurricane Happenings, etc.! Look for it: A variety of hands reaching up to the Holy Spirit.

I think we would all agree that our world is in need of Hope these days. Let us all carry this theme “Lifted by Hope” in our hearts and in our daily lives.

Our Co-founder, Mother Theresa Maxis, faced many challenges in pursuing her personal life mission: the well-being and growth of the IHM Congregation. She forged ahead with undaunting courage and hope. We see this same courage and hope today in the VMA leadership of S. Regina and her team.

Let us be Lifted in Hope as we hear these words of Mother Theresa Maxis:

“Nothing is impossible with God.

Pray with confidence.

Wait with patience.”