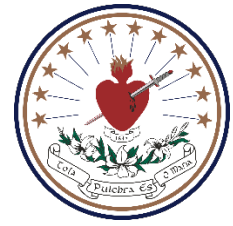


Mission Moment
December 1, 2020



In the past month our Congregation celebrated two milestones. First – on November 10th our Congregation was 175 years old. We were founded by a Redemptorist priest, Fr. Louis Florent Gillet, in Monroe, Michigan in 1845. Our founding sisters, Mother Theresa Maxis, along with two other sisters formed the first community of sisters. The three lived in a small log cabin along the Raisin River in Monroe. For the first two years this new little community was known as Sisters of Providence. In 1847, the name of the community was changed to Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to reflect the Sisters’ desire to imitate the Blessed Mother in her openness to grace and readiness to serve.

That first winter of 1845 was very harsh for these first three IHM Sisters. Their first convent and school consisted of two leaky log cabins. The kitchen was actually a little shed, and next to the cooking stove there was an old cupboard where dishes were kept. On rainy days the Sisters had to go with an umbrella to take the dishes out, and they would often be sprinkled with rain in the small dining room. Kitchen utensils like forks and spoons had to be shared since there weren’t enough to go around and not one of the Sisters was really a good cook. Even with all these inconveniences and real experiences of poverty, the Sisters were very

happy and light-hearted, displaying the special virtues of the IHM congregation: Humility, Simplicity, Self-forgetfulness, and Devoted Charity.

After 175 years the legacy of grace and undaunting trust in Divine Providence continues in the lives of each IHM sister.

The faculty and students celebrated Founder's Day. The theme of the assembly was "Lifted by Hope." Students, faculty and staff submitted artwork, writing, dance and even baton twirling to answer the questions: Where did you see hope today? What lifted you up? Who lifted you up? Participants shared their talents and insights into how they, their families, friends and fellow students are moved by hope....connecting this right to the IHM charism of Love, Creative Hope and Fidelity.

Second: On November 12, 1920, Immaculata College received its official Charter and so this year marks 100 years of our Immaculata University. We celebrate the University's Historic Past and look forward in Hope to its Ambitious Future.

And so, "For all that has been, and for all that will be" we say, "Praise, Love, Thanksgiving our God to thee!"