

Amplifying Our Shared Charism



OSP IHM

JULY 10 - 13, 2025



OSP IHM Hymn 2025

Called by our faithful God, to share the love of Christ,
Stirred by the Spirit, to love and serve,
Rooted in living faith, strengthened by hope and love,
Though many branches, we are one.

Led by God's Providence, walking in Mary's faith,
Nourished in Christ's Word and Sacrament,
In hope we journey forth, seeking to do God's will
Proclaiming God to all the world.

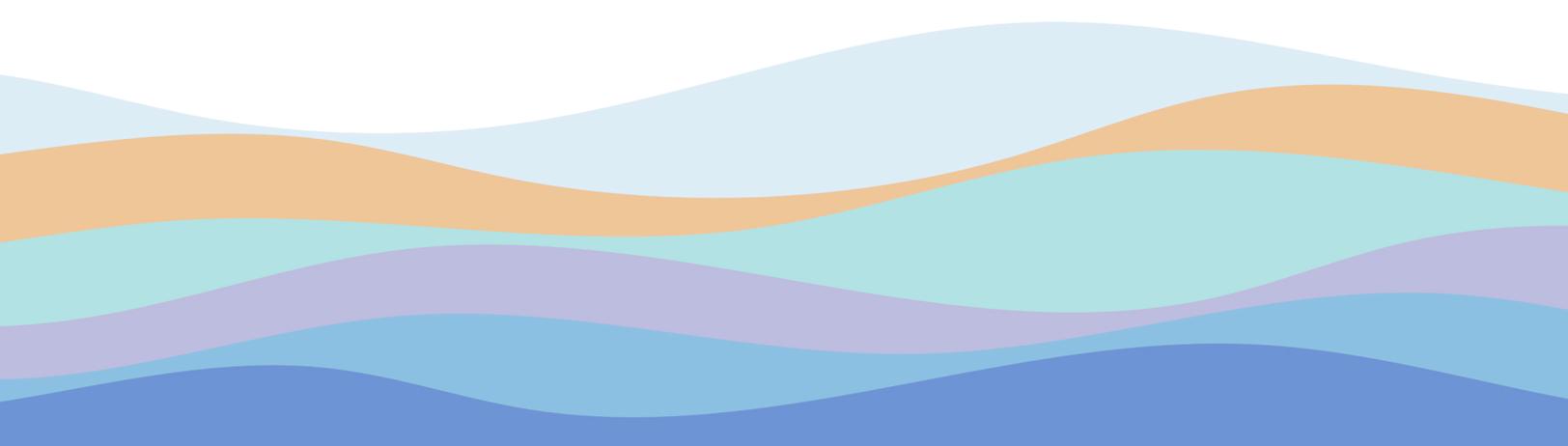
Praise to our faithful God, who calls us each by name,
Praise be to Christ, our redeeming Lord,
Praise to the Spirit, whose grace transforms- us
And strengthens us to do God's will.
Amen, Amen!

2025 Lyrics

Sister Marjorie M. McCall, IHM Malvern, PA

Sister Marianne Therese Lallone, IHM Malvern, PA

Tune: CRUSADERS' HYMN (111271) (O God of Loveliness)



Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
The Oblate Sisters of Providence

Ten-Year Gathering
July 10-13, 2025

AMPLIFYING OUR SHARED CHARISM

Agenda

Thursday, July 10, 2025

1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

FOCUS: Grand Opening, Reconnecting, Building of Relationships, and Visioning

Friday, July 11, 2025

10:00 AM to 12:00 noon and 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

**FOCUS: Amplifying our shared charism in the world
through the process of Asset Mapping**

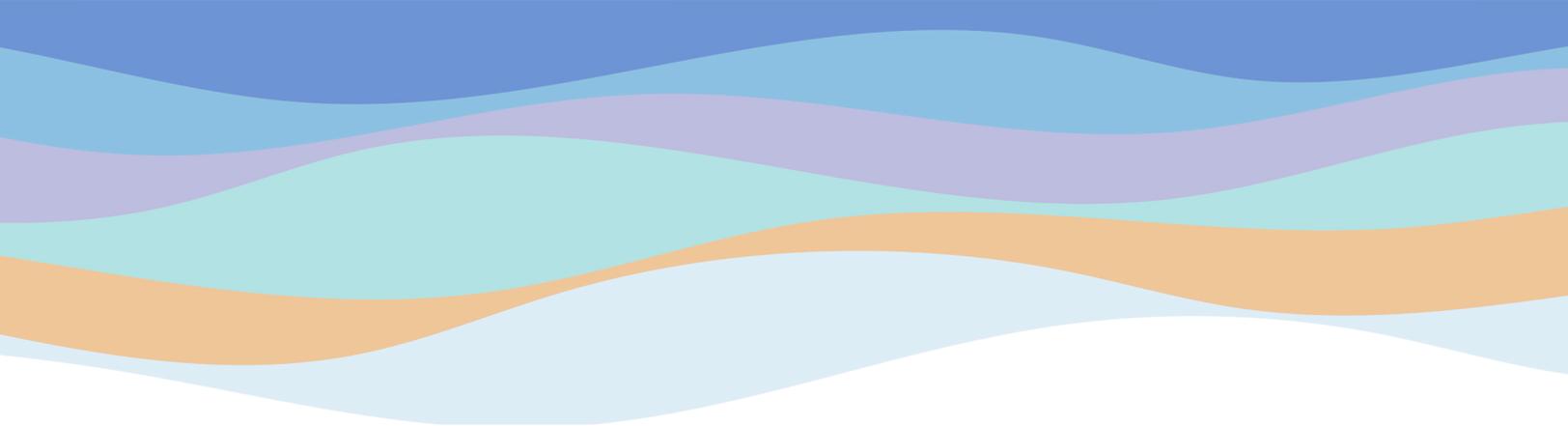
Saturday, July 12, 2025

10:00 AM to 12:00 noon and 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

FOCUS: Review of Possibilities

Sunday, July 13, 2025

Closing Eucharistic Celebration and Gathering (held at individual locations)



Pre-Reflection

On Thursday, July 10, beginning at 1:30, we will all gather virtually for our 10-year gathering. This is a time to connect with each other, pray together, and celebrate the joy of our common charisms. To help you prepare for the opening session, we ask that you prayerfully reflect on the following question. Bring your response to the gathering at which time you will have an opportunity to share your reflection in a small group.

Introduction

Throughout the history of our congregations, women of deep faith have responded to unmet needs in society (health, education, social justice, etc.). These pioneer women shaped the future of our ministries today. We remember their daring persona, creativity, and determination. Moved by the needs of their day, they planned wisely, trusted in God, and acted with confidence and hope.

Quiet Reflection

Can you identify a person in your congregation who inspired you by her daring persona, trust or creativity? Be prepared to share your experience about this person.

Thursday, July 10

1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Grand Opening, Reconnecting, building of relationships, and visioning

All that I am I give - with steadfast faith, unwavering hope and enduring love.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

I. Welcome and Context Setting

II. Opening Prayer and Ritual

1. Welcome and Remembering our Cloud of Witnesses
2. Welcome and Gratitude to the Grey Nuns
3. Looking at All We Have Done and Been Together
4. What Lies Ahead?

III. Small Group Conversation

Process: Begin with a time of quiet. One by one (using mutual invitation) invite each Sister in your small group to share her responses to the Pre-reflection question: Can you identify a person in your congregation who inspired you by herdaring persona, trust, or creativity?

Afterwards, reflect together on what you are all saying collectively.

1. How is God at work in our communities right now?
2. What is it only we can do collectively?
3. How can we step forward with a daring Spirit, our trust in God, and creativity?
4. Select one Sister to serve as spokesperson during the plenary. She is asked to simply share the “highlights” of your small group onversation.

Facilitators, please submit the question form found on the Nix dashboard for your group response directly after the sharing session.

VI. Plenary Sharing

VII. Preview of Day 2 and Asset Mapping Process

Brief introduction to Asset Mapping as means to advance movement forward.
Overview of the Process and How it Works

VIII. Closing Ritual- Gathering the Graces



Friday, July 11

10:00 AM to 12:00 noon

FOCUS: Amplifying our shared charism in the world

Nothing is impossible with God

Pray with confidence

Wait with patience

Mother Theresa Maxis

I. Welcome

II. Opening Prayer

Greeting: S. Susan Armbruster, IHM Scranton

Opening Hymn: Je vous salue, Marie (Angélus) - Emmanuel Music

Reflection: S. Mary Catherine Chamberlain, IHM Immaculata

An Address in the Spirit of Mother Theresa Maxis

Contemplative Pause

Prayer: S. Nancy Hawkins, IHM Scranton

Prayer from Theresa Maxis' Prayer Book, translated from the French by Sister Margaret Loftus, IHM (2015) and adapted for this morning prayer.

Mother Theresa's Prayer

My God, we offer ourselves to you from the heart of our souls and spirit. We offer and consecrate to You all that is in ourselves, our memory, words, thoughts, and actions along with our pains and difficulties. We submit them to Jesus, Your Divine Son and we ask You, in His name and infinite merits, the grace of final perseverance and that of making everything Your holy and adorable will. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Saint Teresa's Prayer

Christ has no Body now but yours
No hands, no feet on earth, but yours
Yours are the eyes through which He looks
Compassion on the world
Yours are the feet with which He walks
to do good

Yours are the hands
Yours are the feet
Yours are the eyes
You are His Body

Christ has no body now but yours
No hands, no feet on earth but yours
Yours are the eyes through which He looks
Compassion on the world
Christ has no body now on earth
But yours



Artist: Sister Helen David Brancato IHM



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?*

Asset Mapping Questions

Physical Assets

What are the specific physical assets of OSP IHM?

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

What are some of our natural resources?

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

Dig Deeper

What did we/you used to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

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

Facilitators, please submit the question form found on the Nix dashboard for your group response directly after the sharing session.

Small Group Process – Groups B

Framing Question

How Can We Leverage Our Bonds of Relationship in Service to the Gospel?

What assets/gifts do we have to help us?

Asset Mapping Questions

Individual Assets

What is something OSP IHM cares deeply about?

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

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

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

What are some talents/skills you see in someone you know who isn't here today?

Dig Deeper

What did we/you used to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

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

Facilitators, please submit the question form found on the Nix dashboard for your group response directly after the sharing session.

Small Group Process – Groups C

Framing Question

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

Asset Mapping Questions

Associations/Partners

What are some groups that OSP IHM partners with?

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

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

Dig Deeper

What did we/you used to be good at?

What are gifts or assets we might take for granted?

What are gifts that allow our communities to survive?

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

Facilitators, please submit the question form found on the Nix dashboard for your group response directly after the sharing session.

Small Group Process – ALL

Framing Question:

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

Small Group Conversation – 1 hour

- A. Review the list of generated assets from the morning.
- B. Examine the assets generated and then ask yourselves:
How can we combine our assets in new ways to amplify our charism in service to the Gospel?
- C. New Possibilities with the most Potential: What assets, if combined, hold the most potential to amplify our charism in service to the Gospel? Name at least 1-2 possibilities:
- D. Ask one person to serve as spokesperson during the plenary. Send your recorder sheet with your group's response to question "C" to Michelle.

Facilitators, please submit the question form found on the Nix dashboard for your group response directly after the sharing session.

Closing Ritual- Gathering of the Graces

Introduction: S. Nancy Hawkins, Scranton

Reflection Hymn: St. Teresa Prayer

Reflection: Ritual Action

With open hands, let us pay attention to what the Spirit is calling us to embrace and live within our congregations and the world.

Blessing:

+ May the peace of the risen Christ dwell in our hearts, bless, guide and protect us, and give us eternal life. Amen.



Saturday, July 12

10:00 AM to 12:00 noon

FOCUS: Review the Possibilities

Do all you can for the glory and honor of God.

Mother Mary Lange

I. Welcome

II. Opening Prayer

Prayer: S. Bernarda Montenegro, OSP

Oratory at the Motherhouse of the Oblate Sisters of Providence

Reading/Reflection: S. Mary Stephen Beauford, OSP

Contemplative Pause

Procession: Blessed Assurance

Sisters are processing from the Oratory to the Blessed Sacrament

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Closing: S. Ana Jovito Hidalgo



III. Review of Process and Where We Are

Small Group Process - ALL

Small Group Conversation:

- A. Review the list of possibilities individually (quietly)
- B. Ask: How can we cultivate inner and interpersonal transformation and take initiative?
- C. How might we live today into the emerging future that our Creator is inviting us toward?
- D. What combination of assets offer or hold the most potential for us?
- E. Name 1-3 that you believe offer or hold the most potential for the full group.

Facilitators, please submit the question form found on the Nix dashboard for your group response directly after the sharing session.

Lunch Break

Small Group Presentations

Each group will come forth with possibilities for new ways to combine collective assets.

Contemplative Pause (Reflecting on the Presentations)

Plenary Sharing

What did you hear that has the most potential to amplify our charism in service to the Gospel?

Begin with a contemplative pause.

Ask: What is taking shape here as we consider combining our assets in new ways?

Next Steps – Moving Forward

Closing Ritual- Gathering of the Graces

Introduction: S. Eleanor Mary Marconi, IHM Scranton

Reflection Hymn: Blessed Assurance Instrumental

Reflection– Ritual Action

What graces were gifted to you throughout this day and our time together?

What graces do you want to bring to the people of God?

We invite you to open your hands and welcome these graces.

Blessing: S. Marie Claire Matsinger, IHM Immaculata

+Almighty God,
send Your blessing upon each one of us here,
upon each and every treasured member and associate of our congregations,
and upon all who have brought us to this day of grace.

As we walk together into a future ablaze with Your Love,
ignite anew within us
the pioneering spirit, courage and strength
of Venerable Mother Mary Lange and Mother Theresa Maxis.

Loving God of our past,
Faithful God of our present.
Provident God of our future,
praise, love, thanksgiving be Yours
now and forever. Amen.



Committee Members

Program Development Committee:

- S. Rita Michelle Proctor, OSP
- S. Mary Ellen Tennity, IHM Immaculata
- S. Maxine Kollasch, IHM Monroe
- S. Katie Clauss, IHM Scranton

Liturgy, Prayer and Ritual Committee

Friday Prayer

- S. Susan Armbruster, IHM Scranton, Co-Chair
- S. Mary Catherine Chamberlain, IHM Immaculata
- S. Nancy Hawkins, IHM Scranton
- S. Evie Craig, IHM Monroe
- S. Ana Jovita Hidalgo, OSP

Saturday Prayer

- S. Kathleen Monica Schipani, IHM Immaculata, Co-Chair
- S. Marie Claire Matsinger, IHM Immaculata
- S. Mary Stephen Beauford, OSP
- S. Bernarda Montenegro, OSP
- S. Eleanor Mary Marconi, IHM Scranton

Sunday Liturgy

- S. Marie Gipprich, IHM Immaculata
- S. Christina Marie Roberts, IHM Immaculata
- S. Rachel Terry, IHM Scranton
- S. Catherine Luxner, IHM Scranton
- S. Kathy Onderbeke, IHM Monroe
- S. Delphine Okoro, OSP

Lyrics to OSP IHM Gathering Hymn

- S. Marjorie M. McCall, IHM Immaculata
- S. Marianne Therese Lallone, IHM Immaculata

Committee Members

Grand Opening Committee

- S. Teresa Haug, IHM Immaculata, Co-Chair
- S. Lisandra Pedraza Burgos, IHM Monroe
- S. Annette Beecham, OSP
- S. Mary Sue Carwile, IHM Immaculata
- S. Judith O'Brien, IHM Scranton, Co-Chair

Communications Committee

- S. Ann Oestreich, IHM Monroe, Chair
- S. Marcia Hall, OSP
- S. Grace Surdovel, IHM Scranton
- S. Monica Sicilia, IHM Immaculata
- S. Jane Aseltyne, IHM Monroe
- S. Audra Turnbull, IHM Monroe

Technology Committee

- S. Terri Jordan, IHM Scranton, Chair
- S. John Evelyn DiTrollo, IHM Immaculata
- S. Grace Surdovel, IHM Scranton
- S. Kathy Onderbeke, IHM Monroe
- S. Agnes Andrew Logan, IHM Immaculata
- S. Elizabeth Anne Bartholomew, IHM Immaculata

Special thanks to our facilitator, Sue Weber, for the sharing of her insights and skillful facilitation, to *Nix Conference & Meeting Management* for their guidance and expertise, and to Martha McGinnis from *Visual Logic* for capturing so beautifully our days of sharing.



An Address in the Spirit of Mother Theresa Maxis

Sister Mary Catherine Chamberlain, IHM

My Dear Ones,

How wonderful it is to address you this morning. Throughout the centuries I have watched you grow into a beautiful community of holy ones who have, by God's providence, ministered to his people.

I see how you are challenged by worldly unrest in these times. No era is devoid of trials. We must be people of virtue and believe that our God of boundless love sustains us now, just as in the past, and will continue to do so even as we encounter new opportunities to engage with God's people. Divine Providence is unrelenting, and I add "... how impenetrable are the secrets of God's Divine Providence."

You know that my earthly life included trials. I suffered from being misunderstood, misguided, and, and even my family heritage was questioned. Despite this, my great desire was to serve God as a religious sister and to minister to all those who hungered for justice.

You know the truth! You delved into my past and uncovered my story. You uncovered the racism of my time that was supposed to be a stumbling block. I can tell you that nothing deterred me nor destroyed me. Rather, God's good grace motivated me to walk in the path of daring while offering deeds of hope. I implore you to continue the journey!

As members of the Church, we are exhorted to live justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with our God. These words of the prophet Micah compel us to be God's faithful witnesses. Also, the prophet Zechariah challenges us to address the needs of all people who are considered to be the world's castaways. Heed the messages of both prophets!

Our Rule is still applicable in these times of challenge. Our charism, based on the life of Christ, remains to be as life-fulfilling now as it was at the time of our foundation. Love, hope, and joy are the substantial virtues that keep our eyes focused on Christ and validate why we serve the people of God. By devotion to Our Blessed Mother, the virtues of humility, simplicity, selflessness, and devoted charity empower us to be handmaids of the Lord.

So, my beloved children, I pray that God's good work continues through each of you. Be the hands and heart of Christ to all who have grown faint or disillusioned. Stand with those who are considered the "untouchables" of this age. Be nourished in Christ so that you can share his love. View yourselves as humble servants of God who advocate for equality, diversity and inclusion. Open yourselves to the prompting of the Holy Spirit. And, when we meet again, beloved ones, I believe we will have many past reminiscences to speak about! Amen.

+Praise be to Jesus and Mary, Ever Virgin.
Now and forever!



*Message of Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange
to her daughters,
The Oblate Sisters of Providence*

Sister Mary Stephen Beauford, OSP

Praised be Jesus and Mary, my dear daughters.
Now and Forever, Mother.

Throughout the centuries, we have proved our unrelenting love for the Universal Church, by embracing the Works of Mercy. Through God's chosen instrument, in the person of Rev. James Hector Nicholas Joubert, a French born Sulpician priest, we made ourselves available to be used as God's chosen instruments to establish a new and unique congregation, the Oblate Sisters of Providence. We courageously, involved ourselves in the work of taking care of God's most abandoned souls. As the first Women Religious Order of African descent in the modern world, we followed the Lord's call, by beginning our ministry in Baltimore, Maryland to educate African American children. We never refused to minister to anyone in need. We endured as a Religious Congregation, even in the face of poverty, injustice, racism and extreme hardships.

My loving daughters, because of God's loving Providence, we are still being of service to this very day. I say, we, because I was with you throughout the beginning hardships. We lived through the challenges as Oblate Sisters of Providence. My daughters, you fought the good fight over the years and continue to do so.

Your perseverance to follow the Lamb of God does not go unnoticed. Know that our Savior is watching over you as you strive to do your best. Just think, we began in 1829, when so many saw us as a failed experiment. We are still here. Our God is seeing you through. You will still meet challenges, you will still fight battles, but you are planted on the "Battlefield of the Lord." You bear the armor of faith and your sword, your holy vows of consecration. Always remember, that "God makes a way, out of no way and God will see you through.

So, my loving daughters in Christ, always relish the beautiful gift you bring to the Church through your consecration. Wherever you are sent to minister, you bring the "Good News" to those who are in need. Always pray and keep this thought in mind: "Our sole wish is to do the will of God." God knows your hearts and your deepest desires. I pray, that God will continue to bless you as you remain open to God.

You will always have my love, dear daughters in Christ.

You are forever dear to my heart and I offer your intentions daily to God, our loving Father and to Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

Praised be Jesus and Mary.
Now and forever, Mother!

About Susan Weber

Susan M. Weber has served as a strategic planning consultant, researcher, and professional group facilitator for over 30 years serving the Catholic Church, religious communities, Catholic schools, and non-profit organizations throughout the United States and its territories.

Currently, Susan is the Senior Director of the Evaluation & Communications Project located at the Center for Congregation, Indianapolis. Her work in evaluation is focused on coaching grantees of the Religion Division of the Lilly Endowment Inc., especially in the areas of evaluation and evaluative practices and methodologies.

Susan holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Humanities from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and a Master of Science degree in Adult Education from Indiana University, Bloomington. She has completed course work toward a Masters in Pastoral Theology, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College.

In addition, she has professional certification for group facilitation through Indiana University and certification in Appreciative Inquiry from Case Western University. Susan is a member of St. Maria Goretti Parish, Westfield.

She is a Providence Associate with the Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods Indiana. She has served on the Board of Trustees of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and on the Mission Advisory Board for the Sisters of Providence. She serves on the Justice Coordinating Commission for the Sisters of Providence.

A partial list of clients involving facilitation, planning, and evaluation:

Client	Project
• Catholic Theological Union	Strategic Planning Facilitator
• Center for the Study of Consecrated Life (CTU)	Anti-Racism: Moving Along the Arc
• Archdiocese of Indianapolis	Market Study for a Cristo Rey HS
• Grand Rapids Dominicans	Chapter Facilitator
• Sisters of Providence	General Council Strategic Plan
• LCWR	Evaluation of Leadership Pathways
• Religious Formation Conference (RFC)	Together Program/Evaluator
• Sisters of Mercy of the Americas	2023 Chapter Facilitator
• Leadership Collaborative	Evaluation of Leadership Programs
• Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration (FSPA)	2018 Chapter Facilitator
• Hilton Fund for Sisters	Evaluation Design
• GHR Foundation	Evaluation Design
• US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking	Capacity Assessment
• Sisters of Charity, Nazareth	Wisdom Circles Conversations





The logo depicts a tree with its trunk and branches intricately interwoven, symbolizing the interconnectedness, relationships and unity of the Oblate Sisters of Providence and the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It signifies growth, resilience, and the enduring strength of life that has come and will come from our collective support and working together to build a more vibrant relationship with God's people and the world.

Evoking a wide range of powerful emotions and associations, the four colors used in the tree's creation represent the four distinct congregations. The versatility of the blue hues, symbolizing renewal, wisdom, and inspiration, conveys a sense of trustworthiness and dependability.

The grey base of the tree represents the unique experiences and deep faith, inspired by the example of the Grey Nuns, that confirmed Mother Theresa Maxis' vision of continually seeking to bring God's will to fruition. From this came a flourishing of new life for our congregations.

The logo features a stylized flame, its form suggesting both power and serenity. This flame symbolizes the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit and the fire of God burning deep within the hearts of our congregations. This divine spark acts as the source of life and inner strength on our path to hope and transformation.

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AMPLIFYING OUR SHARED CHARISM





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