

## **OSP IHM 7.12.25 Afternoon Report from Groups -**

Peggy Thompson, Monroe: Group 27

We call for ways of continuing to get to know each other and maintain interaction, and to develop mechanisms for collaboration (including interest-area liaisons and a usable OSPIHM Website). Specifically, we call for a book of essays as a collective Biography of Mother Theresa Maxis, aiming for publication in 2029, the bicentennial of the Oblate Sisters of Providence.

Sr Rachael Wilson IHM Immaculata: Group 23:

Our Idea: Nourishing Relationships

Web page where we can share: Prayer, Information, Stories, Missions/Projects (Immigration, Racism, and those on the margins)

S. Megan Capurso, IHM, Immaculata: Group #13:

1) We propose using a variety of resources- technologies, music, and art (ie. Storyboards, artistic forms, electronic versions of our history/shared story/ charism and their connections to current events, shared website, social media platforms) in order to create and post content to reach out to people (particularly teens/young adults). The hope and aim would be to educate, inform, inspire and foster a sense of hope on social justice issues, Catholic Social Teaching, charism/history, M. Theresa Maxis, M. Mary Lange, Elizabeth Bruyere.

2) Additionally, continuing to create spaces/ resources for younger sisters intercongregationally, to meet and collaborate.

Judy Parsons (I): Group 1

Create a virtual hope chest (a website) as a way to continue the conversation, to answer the call to justice, to deepen our contemplative prayer, and to express ourselves in art and beauty. The website would house ad hoc groups that research, explore, and come up with actions that reflect our shared histories and our responses to the needs of the times as a concrete way of following the Spirit's lead.

Monica Sicilia, IHM, Immaculata: Group 18:

As we continue to grow in relationship to one another as congregations, associates and companions of our congregations, we rely on our common historic grounding (our shared committees on Racism, Haiti and our ministry in McAllen Texas) to focus on concrete, relational ministries that are in response to a specific need. For example: We would commit to walking with an immigrant family and/or supporting the LGBTQIA2S+ community). As the signs of our times demand, we would widen our embrace on a world, that is in such need of God's unconditional love.

Mary Lynn Delfino - Scranton IHM Associate: Group 8:

Create a website and companion app to raise up the stories and witness of our guiding mothers. This website will include a central biography of our founding mothers, provide opportunities for contemplation (synchronous and asynchronous), and allow people to act (e.g., contact legislators, find volunteer opportunities, etc.)

Sr. Mary Persico: Group 28:

We wish to focus on the idea of supporting immigrants, people who are poor, and persons of color. We want to do so in a powerful, prophetic collective voice, using contemplative prayer and our already formed groups and ministries and to be visible to people who need our advocacy and to inspire others to do the same. We cannot stand around and think that someone else will protect those most in need.

Sr. Amanda Russell, Immaculata IHM: Group 12-

We welcome the possibility of creating an inter-congregational virtual prayer space (live and recorded options) to invite sisters to offer various aspects of prayer, reflection, conversation, and encounter with those in society. Options could include livestreamed prayer services, worship, reflection/prayer on immigration and fostering connections through prayer partners. This virtual SPACE becomes free from any pressure, because those could come and leave as they wish. Naturally, this space could become a wonderful opportunity for inter-congregational vocational encounters.

S. Kathleen Schipani, IHM Immaculata: GROUP #3 - The idea of a hope chest – praying and being together. Putting this hope chest together, possibly online that can provide encouragement and possibilities coming together.

This idea surfaced earlier, and we added to it:

"Hope is Happening" a virtual Hope Chest (maybe even app based as well) Open to sisters and associates to contribute photo/poem/prayer/music/quote/art/encounter (short post style) that speaks to hope. It could include OSP-IHM Monthly 20 mins of contemplative prayer virtual or hybrid version for a specific intention

This platform could also tell the stories of Mother Lange and Mother Theresa; It could it also include spiritual and apostolic opportunity invitations and anecdote of what happened in our ministries. This idea could have a lot of possibilities like Intentional Prayer – intercongregational prayer groups. Praying and discerning together just as Mother Lange and Mother Theresa.

Or meet quarterly

Anne Crimmins: Group 31

Margaret Chapman (M): Group 15

WE propose the formation of at least three intercongregational ad hoc committees or task forces: Spirituality, Justice, Education. These task forces would have deadlines to come up with strategies and report back to all the congregations. We also support the discussion of a joint PJP housing all of our sponsored ministries. We support a virtual hope chest and joint website, joint statements when we can. We also encourage a realistic research project on our congregational technology abilities, skills, expertise

Lynne Moldenhauer IHM/M: Group 20:

Development of an interactive online presence that is contemplative, prophetic, and counter cultural as a public witness on particular social justice issues; as ways of engaging with each other and the wider of community, and for contemplative prayer.

Christina Roberts - Immaculata: Group 10 -

A way of using technology, whether it be to create an app or a website (possibly including podcasts & videos) that could be used to be 1) Presence to one another (sharing resources, ideas, ministries, ways to help each other, 2) Presence to God's people (a way to share with others our history, legacy but also to help people learn more about how they can respond to needs of the world as well), 3) Prayer Space - maybe once a month a space for virtual prayer (some time in contemplative prayer and sometime of sharing as well)

Bern Chuk & Mary Ann Spaetti Immaculata: Group 7

Establish a website supported by all four Congregations. It would be used to highlight social justice issues, our shared history, and information about Mother Mary Lange and Mother Theresa Maxis. It could also be a place to meet prayerfully--an intentional prayer day once a month. It could be a place for shared digital archives. We suggest that the cost be shared by the four congregations and that a person be hired to maintain the site.

Margaret Langer Immaculata: Group 10:

Develop a social platform or website, etc. that enables all our congregations to be Presence to Each other, Presence to God's People (Immigrants, people of color, etc.), Presence to God (Contemplative Prayer).

Sr Rachael Wilson IHM Immaculata: Reacted to "Group 10 - A way of ..." with ❤️

Mary Lynn Delfino - Scranton IHM Associate: Group 8 addition: Instagram and/or TikTok account

Evelyn Craig, IHM Monroe: Group 21

We have experienced that "we" all exist because the Spirit has, and is, inviting us together. We used the metaphor of borders. The Spirit challenges the transformation of all that holds us apart from belonging together and belonging to those who are marginalized. Conversion through prayer together - perhaps a retreat together. We believe that deep transformation is our invitation by the Spirit.

Martina Erdlen, Immaculata: From group 33:

Responding to the call of Scripture and the Principles of Catholic Social Teaching, we organize an OSP/IHM committee so to continue the incredible process of sharing we've experienced over these days that would compile all that has come forward from our sessions and brainstorm a common platform where we could learn from one another's efforts and join in support as each one feels called. We suggest this would enable collaboration on a regular timeline.

Anne Crimmins: Group 31 -

To amplify the IHMOSP mission we encourage a shared website. to facilitate communication and connection among the 4 congregations as well as communication to our audiences. This could be a location for communication regarding listed issues such as spirituality, education, peace and justice (now - immigration), shared mission beyond vowed commitment (associates, companions, other)

Lisa Perkowski: Group 9:

We desire collaboration on mission-focused activity of immigration, ESOL, anti-racism, environment, for which we can leverage technology and our education skills, formation, and prayer. We'd ask leadership to

allow such an examination of what structures would support such collaboration to make it public (e.g., as a civil and canonical entity) and a unified brand and body.

Sharon Abela: Group #14:

There are two parts. The first is virtual. Sharing what is being done in each congregation. Supporting common interests and keeping in touch. The second would be a collaborative "hands on" project similar to the project in McAllen. It could be a shorter/temporary project and expanded later to a more permanent nature. An example would be in Baltimore-making a concerted effort in social justice, teaching and outreach to new members.

Ann Oestreich IHM-Monroe: Group 25:

Support the common website. Topics: Spirituality, Justice issues and education. Don't lose the momentum of this weekend! Begin soon with an online 24-hr. prayer monthly linked to an issue and action. FYI: Participating in the LCWR 100 Days of Prayer and Fasting with Sisters from Immaculata on August 1 and with the community in Monroe on August 21.

Sister Emily Vincent Rebalisky, IHM (I): Local Community #5

To take what we have and share it with the world through a shared website for all congregations which shares about our history starting with the OSP history and moving forward. It would also share our spiritual practices and social justice efforts, to include podcasts, articles, and resources on issues such as immigration, racism, Haiti, etc. This would take what we already have and expand and share it such as the social justice info alerts, articles we have in our donor newsletters, links to Camilla Hall praying the rosary, and more! The website and newsletter would take our assets, that is our gifts, ideas, and talents, and current resources and use them in new ways to make them come alive again. Sisters can volunteer to manage this on a committee or be a one-time contributor. We would work together as a family, united to share our presence with others to invite participation and support and inform.

Rita Lenihan IHM: Group 32

Sharings centered on communication...reenergizing our websites that will not just give information about and what we are doing but can be a living resource to reach out to Immigrants, persons looking for spiritual direction, etc. Living resources could be sisters/associates willing to be these contact persons...Reenergize the OSPIHM WEBSITE To publish these resources. Also, not to forget our individual call to respond to the needs of those we meet each day.

Ann Heath, Immaculata:

Representatives from congregations to post on a website; to collate and post all opportunities, articles, prayers experiences, celebrations and grieving, and more. this would not be static, but dynamic. The purpose is to get to know one another. Possibility of discussion boards or platforms, prayer partner connections. A Newsletter could also be created.

Mary Lynn Delfino - Scranton IHM Associate:

Sr. Margaret's Gannon's book, "Paths of Daring, Deeds of Hope" is a great bio of Theresa. Perhaps a new book could have folks be in conversation with that text and her life in a fresh way for our time.

Audra Turnbull: Group 11 -

Education - public statements, public stances and protest, power of lament, recognizing the power of alternative vision, creating and showcasing - mutual aid. Technology - a website that connects the 4 congregations. Outreach - vigil at detention centers, individual persons, collaboration with other partners. Advocacy at the federal, state and local level, Spirituality communal discernment, prayer and lament

Patricia Micklos, Immaculata: Group 2

proposes the use of technology to create a virtual hope chest:

Themes of hope, joy and wisdom

Place of quiet, poem, music, silence

Resources and responses to the issues as they change.

Rita Rinaldi Monroe: Group 24

ONLINE COMMUNICATION -- Combine the social justice information and resources on our individual websites to form a joint OSP/IHM Website and share this on other Social Media sites.

IHM OLP Scranton: From IHM OLP, Scranton Group

Suggestion: sharing virtual events by each congregation with directors of communication who will share with memberships.

Sister Kathleen Bridget Sabatino: Group 6:

To join forces and voices in taking a strong unified stance in support of immigrants and refugees with special focus on Haiti by combine efforts to unite in prayer, sharing resources, and actions by way of a common website, and continually educating ourselves. Perhaps we could open our McAllen Texas House as a special site of prayer, or create a designated time for prayer across the four communities, and commit to pray personally and publicly for this ongoing concern.

In keeping with the vision of LCWR Leadership Collaborative, host in person gatherings that will bring together the newer members of our four congregations so that they can build relationships with one another which will amplify our shared charism

Peggy Thompson, Monroe: Margaret's book is valuable. But there needs to be a biography that takes advantage of the advances in approaches and analytical frameworks that have evolved in the last half century.

Barbara Stanbridge, IHM (M):

I spoke with Gannon before she died, and she agreed that an in-depth bio of Theresa needs to be done, and it would be wonderful if it were a collaborative endeavor by the 4 communities. She, also, said that research needed to be done with the Grey Nuns and this required French speakers. We spoke about the definitive bio that was done on Louis Gillet as a model for what needed to be done on Theresa. Also, it is important to be able to do the sociological research into the cultural history of the immigrant (refugee) community of Baltimore. Diane Batts Morrow's work is an important reference.

Mary Lynn Delfino - Scranton IHM Associate: Shannen Dee Williams, PhD would be another great resource to call upon should we embark on this definitive biography.

<https://udayton.edu/directory/artssciences/history/williams-shannen-dee.php>

Joan Mumaw IHM: Group 30

Desires to build on the energy of the weekend and keep the conversation flowing. Building on what is already in place, we suggest shared intentional contemplative prayer online around an issue of importance; this could rotate among the congregations and may enable speaking with a common voice for justice, peace and sustainability. The Hope Chest as described in Group 1 has great appeal for our group. Technology to assist with this.

Peggy Thompson, Monroe: Shannen's book is almost entirely on the late 20th century. She only has a few pages on Theresa and the 19th-century experience relevant to her life.... I really think that we need a serious analytical treatment of Theresa's life and significance.

Ana Cristina Devoto Crosby: Group 22:

We agree with the OSPs that we are not going away! We need to collaborate and encourage, support and accompany the young. We should not re-invite the wheel! We need to choose from among so many issues and efforts, and many are even yet to be revealed in our fast-changing political world. Could we come together as one strong voice or power? Intercongregational ad hoc committees could work well. Some Sisters are considered to be in their comfort zones when they really lack confidence. A lot of hope and excitement are emerging. We need time to pray over so much material after which we could narrow down the items and regroup to consider the most repeated, practical or necessary projects. Should we provide one or our buildings for a project center? Should we soon have a goal for this year?

MaryAnn Hinsdale and Marge Polys (Monroe IHMs): Written report from Group 29 has not yet been submitted. It will be soon.

Maybe she'd be interested in writing more or could help us identify some ways/people to move forward.

YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO SERVE AND LEARN FROM YOU, BLESSINGS!!

Kathy Kurdziel IHM (S): Group 16

-Intercongregational symbol: Hope or Treasure Chest. Focus areas: Haiti and Immigration, overriding issue Racism

Kathy Kurdziel IHM (S): Group 16

Continued-Survey members to sort out interests and desires and willingness to participate; shared website including charism and spirituality, place to make public statements, feature aspects of community and prayer; write a book as our gift to the world; outreach for vocations to religious life and associate membership; funding as a treasure that could be contributed to the Hope Chest.