



New Life NOTES

*Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Scranton, Pennsylvania*

Spring 2003

Meet IHM Candidate Norma Poma Arpi

LIMA -- My name is Norma Poma Arpi. I live here in Lima. I have the hope of one day being a part of the Congregation.

I am writing so that you may get to know me better. I am in the second year of candidacy in formation. Last year was a year of learning new things. I arrived in Lima after having lived in Sicuani all my life. It was hard at first to make the change from the mountains to the coast.

I live with Srs. Michael Marie Hartman and Amanda Del Valle. Sr. Michael Marie is my formation director and is helping me grow closer to the Lord. She is teaching me to know the charism of the Congregation and the vision of religious life.

Last year I attended classes at CONFER which is an institute where many diverse young people attend from various congregations. I have learned many things especially in the area of self-esteem, personality and prayer.

Besides attending CONFER classes, I am a practical nurse and I helped as a volunteer in a clinic. My task

*“Tengo esperanza de algún día pertenecer a las
Hermanas del Inmaculado Corazón de María
y comprometerme con Cristo.*

*También tengo la esperanza de conocerles a Uds.
para poder compartir personalmente.”*

was to take the vital signs of patients, do patient intake and give injections. I have also had the opportunity to take guitar lessons.

Four times a week I meet with Sr. Michael Marie to study English and to share how my prayer and studies are going. With Sr. Michael Marie I have been looking at the life of Alphonsus Liguori. This year I am in school to strengthen my secondary studies.



Sr. Eileen Egan, Sr. Tomasa Fernandez and Norma Poma Arpi.

The candidacy is helping me to have a relationship with Christ, centered on him, and to know that he is the principal person in my life. I am getting to know all the marvels of God and all that God has given me. Many times we don't realize that God is in all the circumstances of life. At this time I am getting to know God in all things and desire to learn more each day.

This is a time for me to draw closer to the Lord and to learn to live in community, to value and appreciate the life of each person because Jesus lives within each person. It is a time of intimacy with Christ and his people.

Really, God calls each person but sometimes we are fearful to follow Him. I thank God for calling me and asking me to follow Him.

I hope one day to be a member of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to give myself to Christ. To this call I respond, “Lord, here I am.” I also hope to know all of you so that I may share with you personally.

IHM Regional Vocation Representatives

Chapter 2002 endorsed the appointment of sisters in different geographic areas of the Congregation to assist the director of vocations in the work of attracting new life.

The regional representative will serve as the local contact person for congregational vocation activities. She will meet twice a year with the director of vocations/affiliates to help coordinate specific vocation activities in each region. She will officially represent, when possible, the IHM Congregation at vocation activities sponsored by the National Religious Vocation Conference, the local diocese or the congregation vocation office. She will communicate regularly with the director of vocations regarding any vocation activities in her respective diocese or region. She will be willing to co-facilitate any discernment days or weekends in her region once or twice a year. She will serve as the vocation director's official liaison to meet regularly with interested young women in her respective region. The hallmark of the regional vocation representative will be on-going communication and participation in vocation activities offered by the IHM Congregation, the diocese, regional NRVC or other sponsor. This appointment will be until June 2006.

It is with great joy and a deep sense of gratitude that the Congregation announces that the following sisters have generously responded to the invitation to be a regional vocation representative.

BALTIMORE / WASHINGTON

Srs. Jean Louise Bachetti,
Angela Kim, Ann Parker, Maureen Schrimpe

DELAWARE

Srs. Sandra Grieco, Redempta Sweeney

FLORIDA

Srs. Ann Berendes, Helene Hicks,
Florence Marino

NEW YORK

Srs. Mary Ann Lang, Ancilla Maloney,
Patty Tippen, Mary Elizabeth Muir, Ann Marie Pierce

NORTH CAROLINA

Srs. Susan Armbruster, Kieran Williams

PENNSYLVANIA

Scranton: Srs. Maryalice Jacquinot, Trish Scalese

Save the Date

October 17 – 19, 2003

“Come and See”

Weekend for Young Women ages 16-22
Our Lady of Grace, Manhasset, NY

November 14 -- 16, 2003

“Come and See”

Weekend for Young Women ages 16 –22
IHM Spiritual Renewal Center, Cresco, PA

March 19 – 21, 2004

“Come and See”

Weekend for Young Women ages 16-22
IHM Spiritual Renewal Center, Cresco, PA

Activities of the IHM Vocation Director

The following is a listing of some of the activities of Sr. Ruth Harkins in her ministry as director of vocations where she has worked to promote greater awareness of religious life and the IHM Congregation:

Busy Person's Retreats for College Students

Marywood University (2)
University of Scranton
King's College
Lycoming College

High School Vocation Awareness Programs (9 schools)

Diocese of Camden, NJ -- 3 schools
Diocese of Scranton, PA -- 5 schools
Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA -- 1 school
Diocese of Brooklyn, NY
Hispanic Vocation Rally -- NY

Elementary Schools Vocation Awareness Programs (8 schools & 6 parishes)

Career Day -- 1 school
North Carolina Pilgrimage -- 2 schools
6 parishes
Pittsburgh, PA -- 5 schools

Parish Vocation Awareness Days

St. John the Baptist Parish, *Silver Spring, MD*