



EMERGENCY RESPONSE BY ICHS COMMUNITY RAISES 86% OF FUNDS NEEDED FOR REBUILDING OF DISINTEGRATING WATER AND SEWAGE SYSTEM

THE WATER HARVESTING AND SEWAGE MANAGEMENT PROJECT (WHSM)

By Carol Case

Special Article
Fantasy, Legend or
Realty ?

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What's happening at
ICHS 10

The property, [152c Constant Spring Rd, Kingston, Jamaica](#), is owned by The Franciscan Sisters of Allegany (FSA). ICHS occupies 59%, ICPS occupies 21% and the Franciscan Sisters Convent occupies 20%.

The 100+ year-old sewage system of clay pipes and pits disintegrated leaving the property without water, creating a danger to pedestrians, risking irreparable damage to the environment and the water table of the surrounding community.

The ICHS Alumnae Association received an urgent appeal for money to help pay for the WHSM project.



Excavation Work from High School Towards Main Road



THE WHSM FINANCIAL STATUS – (summarized from ICHSAA (Toronto Chapter) Treasurer's report of **MARCH 20, 2021** using information provided/confirmed by The Franciscan Sisters of Allegany (FSA) and ICHS Alumnae Association WELFARE ACCOUNT.)

TOTAL COST – Anticipated \$56,066,973.60 (JA\$)

(This includes amounts to be finalized, fees payable to the National Water Commission, amount for Contingencies - if required)

TOTAL DONATIONS RECEIVED AND PENDING (81%) \$ 45,186,311.04 (JA\$)

COST NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED BY DONATIONS (19%) \$ 10,880,662.56 (JA\$)



Be Safe



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Greetings Sisters,

This is a time like no other in our lives. COVID-19 continues to produce uncertainty, stress and trauma in our community. The economic impact of the virus has taken a toll on all of us financially, yet it is amazing to see you open your heart and purse to support the Water Project.

I am incredibly thankful to all of you for the donations. Your actions depict an unwavering love for our school. It is during times like these that I'm proud to be part of this chapter; working with members who are truly passionate and supportive of their Alma Mater.

Despite the pandemic, there are some fantastic things happening at the school and in our community. Peta-Gaye Nash, a member of the chapter and author of children's books, has written an article titled "Miracle Message" describing her experience with a gentleman at a local coffee shop. Another amazing article that has been circulating on social media depicting our school in the best possible light, is one written by a young man by the name of Tim. He ministered to the poor and needy in Jamaica. His main work is with a group of troubled and troublesome boys at St Francis Primary. He offered one-on-one tutoring to these boys. He also worked with Fr. HoLung's group two days per week. Tim wrote about his experience staying at the Hostel at Immaculate with the Sisters. He spoke about the excellent hospitality shown by Sister Maureen Clare.

These two articles have shown us that a pandemic can bring out the best in people; to make us realize the need to help and to support each other. In keeping with the theme of giving back, I would like to welcome our new member, Mrs. Deborah Banderob (nee Gunter), a graduate of class of 83, to the chapter.

We are taking advantage of new technological innovation in conducting our meetings via the Zoom platform. The chapter is currently hosting all its executive committee meetings virtually; this will allow any member or alumni who wishes to join the chapter to do so from any location.

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Alumnae Association-Toronto Chapter.

May, 2021
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I.C.H.S. Newsletter

Editorial Staff and Webmaster
Heather Bubb-Clarke

Cheryl Naylor Membership

I.C.H.S. Executive Committee 2015-2017

Novelette Graham-Hart	President
Sandra Hardie	Vice President
Cathrine Sani	Treasurer
Jo-Anne Haddad	Assistant Treasurer
Cheryl Naylor	Corr. Secretary
Francine Leung	Recording Secretary

Floor Members

Heather Bubb-Clarke	Nicole Lyew
Carol Case	Yvonne Lyew
Michele –Ann Cardozo	Tanya Tenn-Hugh
Jeanette Chin	Ina Williams
Jacqueline Lue	Annette Wong
	Sadie Wong

Ms. Karen Spence, who is a representative from the Home School Association (HSA) in Jamaica, will act as a liaison between the chapters and the current school principal. Her primary role is to convey information from Jamaica to all overseas chapters. With regards to the ongoing assessment of the school's finances, I am happy to report that the original Press release of \$30,000,000 (JA) was incorrect as stated by the Ministry of Education. The school is still waiting for the final report from the audit team at the Ministry.

In the year ahead, we will continue to monitor the current environment to see what type of events can be done outdoors while maintaining social distancing. I would encourage you to continue to visit our website for updates on activities in the ICHS communities both here and in Jamaica.

Finally, I'd like to express my gratitude to our executive committee members for their tireless work on behalf of the Association.

I am wishing you a good and successful 2021, and looking forward to seeing you soon

Stay home, stay safe, and stay active.

Novelette Graham-Hart, CIM
President, ICHS Toronto Chapter

MEET THE NEW PRINCIPAL



In January 2016, Mrs. Stacey Reynolds, A Roman Catholic, Senior Educator with a wealth of experience and charisma took over the helm of Principal of Mount Alvernia High School. She spent four years and eight months there and made a positive impact on the school, moving the school's ranking into the top five schools in the island.

On September 1, 2020, we welcomed Mrs. Reynolds to the Immaculate Conception High School, when she assumed the post of Principal.

She is the first lay-person to hold this position.

Welcome Mrs. Reynolds! We look forward to a long and productive relationship.



We are saddened to share the news that our Dear Sister Angella Harris passed away on May 29, 2020. Her funeral was held at the ICHS Convent Chapel. In attendance were members of ICHS Staff, Her Family, Franciscan Sisters, Catholic Diocese, and dear friends. A guard of honour was held on the school grounds as the hearse and motorcade proceeded to take Sister to her final place of rest. May her legacy live on... as she sleeps in the arm of her Heavenly Father. Rest Now in Eternal Peace Sister Angella

*Mass of Thanksgiving
and
Funeral Rites
for*

Sister H. Angella Harris, O.S.F.

February 20, 1960 - May 29, 2020

\$10,000.00+	\$100.00 - \$499.00	\$100.00 - \$499.00
anonymous	Angela Karim	Maylynn Cheng
	B. Ho Ping Kong	Michael Martin
\$5,000.00 TO \$9,999.00	Barbara Burke	Michele Ann Cardozo
Annette Wong	Barbara Derrick	Noella Wedderburn
Beverly Valentine	Beverly Stockhausen	Nolia Jackson
& the Estate of Mary Ann Alexander	Carla Munro	Norma Chin
Dorothy Anna Jarvis	Carol Case	Pat Williams-Chung
	Cathrine Sani	Renee R. French
\$1,000.00 - \$4,999.00	Charmaine Chin	Sadie Wong
Daphne Chung and In Memory of	Christine Brown	Sandra Hardie
Marjorie Ingle, Dawn Chong for Crithica P	Christine Chong	Sharon Wong
June M. Chong, Eugenie Ho-Fung, Ana Maria Gonzalez	Claire Haynes	Shirley Chung
\$1,000.00 - \$4,999.00	\$100.00 - \$499.00	\$100.00 - \$499.00
Dianne Collins	Cognitive & Communication Services Inc	Susan McCrindle
Donna Sunn	Daisy Tai	Suzanne Ralston Yip Choy
Jilian Saweczko	Daphne Alvarez	Sylvia Chin
Lucille Guettler (Cayman Islands)	Debbie Jureidini	Tanya Hugh
Terrence Lym in Memory of Michele Lym and	Diana Chai-Chong	Trevor Tenn
TERRENCE & MICHELLE LYM CHARITABLE FUND	Eileen Garcia	Trudy Neumeyer
WGH Realty Inc (Novelette Graham-Hart)	Elizabeth Lowe	Velma Deidrick
Yolande Chan	Fay Wong	Venice Rose
	Gloria Ho Shue	Venice Taylor
\$500.00 TO \$999.00	Grace Marie Chin	Winsome Goodale
Beverley Lodenquai	Jacqueline Lue	
Diane Lyn	Janice Sanders	up to \$99.00
Deidre Fong/	Joan Chang	Audrey Lue
Heather Bubb-Clarke	Jo-Anne Haddad	Barbara Morris
Janet Wong	John Chang	Cecile Weil
Jeanette Chin	June Chong	Felicia Simpson
Jessica O'Reilly	Kathleen DePass	Frances Tenn
Kathleen Jung	Laraine Chen	Gloria Chin
Marguerite Burke	Lauren Chung	Grace Wong
Mary Anne Chambers	Leonarda Lyn	Heather Gray Lamm
Norinne E. Wong	Leslie Chin	Janice M. Spicer
Tracy Yang	Lisa Odendal	Jeanne Look Hong
Yvonne Lyew	Lorna Luke	Jennifer Chong
	Madge Phang	Joan N. Mckinley
\$100.00 - \$499.00	Margaret Joseph	Joy Lue-Quee
Alexandria Leung	Marlene Yvonne Li	Laura O'Reilly
Amar Singh	Mary Mogg	Marjorie Young
Angela Campbell	Max Nelson	Shirley Burgess
Angela D. Wong	Maxine Chin-Fook	Teresa Wong

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER: Each section is in alphabetical order by first name not by amount donated. If you have donated and your name is missing, please accept my apologies and email your donation information to cathrine.sani@gmail.com and I will update the list accordingly

The following information is from the “PROJECT STATUS REPORT Immaculate Water Harvesting and Waste Management System **April 24, 2021**” by: Heston Hutton (Project Manager) of HA3 Ventures, which describes what has been done and remains to be done.

“PROJECT SUMMARY: To design, develop and implement a suitable Water Harvesting and Sewer Management System for the plant of Immaculate Conception Covent, Preparatory and High Schools, which will be suitable to meet the needs of the facility for the next 25/30 years.”

.....

This project will include the following considerations:

- Strategic Review - to include present and future needs.
 - Design a comprehensive Water Harvesting and Sewer Management System for facility. Engage and Secure the requisite State Agencies for regulatory approvals.
 - Engage and Contract the qualified professionals
 - Manage and coordinate the operational activities.
- Financial Management – Records, Payments, Service Levels, etc.

ORIGINAL SCOPE: Sewer Management, Restoration efforts, Installation., Handover (done prior to the close-out of the project.)

ADDITIONAL SCOPE: Distribution Network

- piping to water closets and secondary water storage units across the plant. Pump house: activation of the pumps after installation of the Water-Tanks, Handover – project certification to include verification of the functions of the Water



Distribution

CURRENT PERIOD - April 24, 2021 NEXT PERIOD – April 30, 2021

Phase 1. 100% completed:

- Preliminary/Conditional Assessment o Baseline Assessment
- Surveying Service
- Develop Existing System Report o Feasibility
- Detail designs
- Presentation of designs and approach to stakeholders

Phase 2. 99% completed:

- *Excavation work completed. *Trenches reinstated.
- *Inlet Pipes Installed *Water Harvesting piping being

Harvesting Rainwater
By harvesting rainwater, ICHS can avoid the high fees of purchasing water.

New Sewerage Pipes
Existing galvanized pipes are being replaced by new PVC inlet pipes.

Improved Roadways
Uneven walkways will be restored, curbs will be built and roadways resurfaced.

Manhole Construction
New manholes will be constructed and installed across the ICHS campus.

installed. * Access point



to NWC (public) Sewer Lateral in place * Walkways restored.

Phase 3.

- *Roadways restored
- * Manholes closed-out
- *Restoration 99% completed
- *Transition to the new Sewer System
- *Decommissioning and recommissioning of Pits
- * NWC connections approvals
- *Distribution Network: 98% completed Pump house with Installation of Piping network
- *Commissioning of Secondary Stor[1]age Unit
- *Documentation/Training
- *Handover

In closing, we are excited to report that the work on the ICHS WHSM project is almost completed, and as of May 2021, DONATIONS have covered 86% of the total cost of the WHSM project.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU for your quick and generous contributions to this Emergency at ICHS.



Immaculate Conception Convent
152 Constant Spring Road
Kingston 8

March 30, 2021

Dear Companions on the journey,

Peace and all good!



Heartfelt thanks from the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, in fact also from the thousands who are daily users of the Immaculate property, for your generous contributions towards the WHSM project.

You are all no doubt aware that the Convent Building is well over 100 years old, and that the original sewage system of clay pipes had deteriorated, resulting not only in dangerous sink-holes, but leaching into the water table -- the actual Constant Spring. So this issue was not only affecting the thousands who live, work, and attend school, spiritual retreats, swim, tennis and exercise camps; but possibly every household served by the Constant Spring.

Added to this is the chronic shortage of municipally supplied water; the cost of purchasing and trucking in water to meet basic daily needs, and the fact that a monthly usage/sewage charge was instituted by the Government.

The scope of the project was daunting, as there are now so many other buildings on this 22 acre property - high, prep and infant schools; performing arts centre, music house, summer house, cafeteria, etc.; therefore a staggering daily demand for water.

This untenable situation had to be remedied, so we moved forward in faith, with fervent prayer, to not only fund the project, but to logistically continue daily operations on the property.

God's ways are not ours, and who would've thought Covid was a blessing in disguise, causing the 3 schools and all other activities on the property to go into hiatus so this massive project could gain traction.

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At this point, by the Grace of God, and your generous donations, the project is 90% completed. Between grant funding and donations, we have raised over J\$45,000,000 (approximately US\$321,400), with a balance due of approximately J\$11,000,000 (US\$78,600).

The Convent building is now using harvested water for cleaning and washing. Over time, we are hoping to install guttering & tanks to ALL buildings on the property to accommodate flushing, washing and cleaning needs in all buildings.

This could never have happened without your prayers and financial support and we are eternally grateful. It is especially heartwarming to know that even after many years (decades in some cases) of being away from ICBS, and possibly Jamaica, you still care enough about your alma mater, and want to preserve the opportunity to be educated at ICBS to be there for future generations. Words cannot express how grateful, touched and overwhelmed the Sisters were to see the response from all of you.

Thank you again and may God bless us all abundantly.

Sisters Trinita, Maureen Clare and all the Sisters past and present at the Immaculate Conception Convent and at the Motherhouse in Allegany.

Our Fellow Alumna Making Her Mark



Since graduating ICBS in 1996, Kamika McLean has done plenty of pivoting since joining [KSS HoldCo](#) as its General Counsel in February.

Kamika was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Black Female Lawyers Association in January 2021.

For complete article on Kamika McLean see:
<https://www.vanguardlawmag.com/case-studies/kamika-mclean-%e2%80%92-kss-holdco/>

We congratulate Kamika on her achievements...

You Make Us Proud

Kamika McLean | General Counsel | KSS HoldCo

FANTASY, LEGEND, OR REALITY?

BY TIM SHELREN – [FRANCISCAN MISSION SERVICE](#)

Who was she? She wore a white habit, she was mischievous, funny, pretty and she could fly. That's right, Sally Fields in the television show "The Flying Nun." Until a year ago, Sally Fields' portrayal of this character was pretty much the only picture that came to my mind if I were to think about nuns. Oh, and I must not forget Whoopi Goldberg as Sr. Mary Clarence in "Sister Act." That character and movie certainly offered a fun impression of what life as a Catholic Sister might be like.

Why am I, a fifty-seven year-old male, thinking about the life of a Catholic nun right now? Because I have been living in a convent for the last eleven months. Formerly a life long Protestant, I converted to Catholicism in 2017, signed on with Franciscan Mission Service in Washington, DC and have been serving in Kingston, Jamaica as a lay missionary since. Whew, a whirlwind indeed.

At first, I wondered why Franciscan Mission Service, or God for that matter, would consider moving me into a convent. Contrary to what was happening, as a newcomer to Catholicism and mission service, the hope of possibly living in brotherhood with a group of Franciscan friars was one of the main things that drew me in. Now, I am glad to be a live-in brother to all the Franciscan Sisters of Allegheny in Jamaica at Immaculate Conception Convent. Truly, they are unbelievable.

Especially worthy of a detailed look is Sr. Maureen Clare. Sister is eighty three-years-old, and I have not seen her stop moving once since I arrived in Jamaica.

Picture this... On the night of February 12th, 2018 my plane landed at the Kingston airport. Sr. Maureen Clare was there with two of her female comrades to pick me up. Little did I know, the city streets in Kingston are no different from those in Manhattan, NY. They are crowded, narrow and full of pot holes. Drivers honk their horns like crazy, they cut close in front of each other and they even yell out their windows.

But not Sister! Like the calm in the middle of a tornado, she quietly moved us through the chaos that dark night without showing even one sign of reflexive annoyance. She drove at her own designated pace, chatted cordially and even pointed out Jamaica's famous Devon House Ice Cream. Amazingly, she acted as if absolutely nothing crazy at all was going on outside our four doors. I later found out that this display of tolerance and self-control was only a slight indicator of who Sr. Maureen Clare is.

Through her life, Sr. Maureen Clare, like all the Sisters in her order, has served extensively in the field of education. She started out teaching kindergarten in her youth, and later became the Principle of Immaculate Conception High School for 28 years (the student population there today is 1700, girls only). Today, Sister sits on several school boards, and she serves as Chair of the Board at St. Francis Primary and Infant School, all in Kingston.

At the end of the 2018 winter school term, Sr. Maureen Clare helped head up a four day conference for over 250 of Kingston's teachers and principles

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She asked me to help through those four days. On day-one after we got the crowd seated at the dozens of beautifully decorated round tables overlooking the tropical gardens and pool outside the Convent's Francis Hall where we were gathered, Sr. Maureen Clare proceeded to pick up the mic and welcome everyone. Like the "disciplinary legend" she is noted as in the island's newspaper "Daily Observer," Sister instructed everyone to turn their cell phones off and turn all their conference reading materials face down. "Now, you will pay attention better," she said with *no* smile.

Jamaica is known for being "colorful and lively." This description fits not only the common folk, but also all the teachers and principles at this particular conference. It was summer, school was out, and everyone was wound up and having fun in conversation. "Whoa," I thought, "This crowd is full of PH.D.'s and sophistication. Did Sr. Maureen Clare actually just discipline them?" She did. And you know what happened? All the teachers and principles quickly and happily turned their cell phones off and reading materials face down, and they sat up quietly to listen.

A willing response to a well respected leader, that is what Sr. Maureen Clare's audience was demonstrating. Impressed, I enjoyed a private chuckle. And as the conference hours passed, my fascination only grew.

After Sister led the group in a very meaningful opening prayer and reflection, she participated with three of her colleagues in presenting an all-out PowerPoint presentation. In doing so, she spoke a lot and led a number of group/learning exercises. At the end, she inconspicuously took a quick drink of water. And she proceeded to see to it that everyone at the conference received one of the lunch boxes that were waiting for them in the back.

Please remember, I am talking about an eighty three-year-old woman here. Or better said, an eighty three-year-old island rock, a cornerstone in Jamaica, who is still not only interested in, but capable of working hands-on for Jamaica! She can still discipline, teach and feed the multitudes and show no sign of fatigue. Often I wonder, Sister *must* be feeling fatigued on the inside. How could she not?

Whether or not my suspicion is true, Sr. Maureen Clare continues to head up her Back Door Ministry at the Convent on the last Saturday of every month. This ministry has been in place for over 20 years. Again, very large crowds of people show up for this event. In a controlled manner (controlled by Sister, of course), they line up under the mango tree at the back door of the Convent to collect and carry significant amounts of groceries, sometimes clothing, and even medications home. To assure that no one gets medications that he or she should not be getting, Sister knows each and every one of her visitors by name. If in any instance she is unsure, she has their names recorded and filed. She is that organized.

For the same people who come to her Back Door Ministry, every December Sr. Maureen Clare organizes and hosts a Christmas party. I assisted in that gathering this past Christmas. I do not know where on earth Sister got all her foods and supplies from, but we were able to present to every one of our guests a full sit-down meal with some famous Jamaican "pudding" for desert. And finally, just like many of us do in our homes on Christmas morning, we called out names one at a time and gave out dozens and dozens of beautiful large-sized gift bags. These happenings occurred, as you may expect by now, in an environment made festive with Christmas carols, a Christmas tree, lights, and sparkly gold tablecloths.

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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION TRACK AND FIELD



NEW NORM FOR A NEW SEASON - COACH Q

With the cancellation of the 2020 Boys and Girls Championship due to the novel coronavirus, there was a lot of uncertainty of the championship resuming in 2021. Being prepared for the uncertain, the ICHS track and field team commenced their training in August of 2020 with permission from our new Principal Mrs. Stacy Reynolds who has been in tremendous support of our program since her commencement. The coaches were dedicated to ensuring that our athletes were prepared for whatever opportunity may present itself in 2021. Considering that a few students who would have been eligible for college in 2021 and 2022. Thankfully their sacrifices and efforts were not in vain as the year started out positively with the announcement of the commencement of the 2021 track and field season.

This new season was equipped with a lot of new normals. The athletes coaches and managers had to comply with protocols which were designed by ISSA and the JAAA to keep the sport and its stakeholders safe. With a series of meets dubbed "The ISSA/JAAA Qualification Series". Athletes competed to register times or marks that would be placed in a ranking system of which a top percentage will be selected to participate at the 2021 Boys and Girls Championship. As the season began we had approximately 20 girls in training on any given day, a number significantly less than the projected 70 athletes that we would have expected under normal circumstances. With the number this low the coaches were dedicated to have all the active members reach the required standards to compete at the championship. But before they got to that destination there was the hurdle of Corporate Area Championships which was held on March 19 - 20, 2021. With such a small number of athletes in training there were no expectations to score enough



points to be a challenge to win the championship. The coaches were mainly focused on having good performances and the girls delivered. In class 4 we had Kedoya Lindo who was a finalist in the 100m and 200m, finishing 4 in the 100m and capturing bronze in the 200m. In class 3, our 2019 Triple Champs gold medalist Jounee Armstrong was in similar form winning the 100m, 200m and was a member of the victorious 4x100m relay squad. With her in the 100m and 200m was Shevi Anne Shim who finished 5th and 3rd respectfully. They both were joined by Samoya Brown and Kennice Marriot in the 4x100m relay.

In class 2, our number 1 seed Mickaila Haisley suffered an injury and was unable to complete the championships. Her teammates represented her well in the sprints and the relays. In the 100m, Gabrielle Lyn raced to bronze while Chanel Honeywell also copped bronze in the 200m. Lyn and Honeywell, who were members of the historic Immaculate Conception relay team that won gold at the 2019 Penn relays, showed their experience leading the class 2 4x100m team to victory. Also a part of the team was Cerae Mahabeer and Essence Burbridge who made exceptional contributions to the relay team's victory.



In the sprint hurdles, our senior, Shaneil Lysight raced to a silver medal in a close finish dipping at the line. In the field events, Maja Henry and Merya Simpson finished first and third in the class 2 discuss event. In the class 2 shot put our Immaculate girls kept up to the traditional dominance in the event getting first and second place. Juliet Smith secured the win while Maja Henry captured the silver medal. Safeya Woolcock was just edged out for gold and had to settle for second place in the Class 1 Shot put.

With just a handful of athletes competing at the two day championship our girls still managed to garner 136 points out of 13 events which in the end resulted in 4 place in the standings. Impressive. As we edge closer to the announced date of the Boys and Girls Athletics Championships, May 11-15, 2020, our girls are just happy to be able to compete. It has been a long journey. This may be the longest some of them have trained consistently. They however are always happy to be among their peers especially during this time where they attend school from home. The opportunity to actually be among friends in a positive and safe environment is something that they appreciate now more than ever.

The Championship this year has a lot of changes. As mentioned the qualifying standard is a lot different. Girls have to compete for a ranked position in order to get to the championships. Thankfully we were able to have 15 girls meet the grade.

Immaculate will be participating in the following:

100m classes 4, 3 and 2

200m classes 4, 3, and 2

Shot put classes 2 and 1

4x100m classes 3 and 2

100m hurdles classes 2 and 1



ONE BLOOD
BLUE BLOOD
ONE SISTERHOOD

As we do our final preparations for the championships the coaches would like to thank the various ICHS Alumni for their contributions and support of the program. It is truly a motivation to the coaches and the athletes knowing that we have the alumni in our corner. It is our goal to keep the "Phenomenal Woman" flag flying high today and days to come. Thank you and continue to pray for us.

"SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PARENTS WHO SENT THEIR DAUGHTERS TO TRAINING DAILY.

ENTRUSTING THE COACHES TO KEEP THEM SAFE DURING THIS PANDEMIC"

FRANZ FORDE (HEAD COACH)

IAAF & Usatf Coach
Head Coach/ Technical Director
Track & Field Department



I have witnessed Congregational Director (the modern day term for Reverend Mother) Sr. Mary Margaret from the ladies' Motherhouse in Allegany, NY, for example, come to Jamaica to run a five day Congregational Assembly... Then, fly off to Brazil to run another one. I hear the echo of Sr. Colleen's pans clanking in the Convent's first floor kitchen every morning at 5:00 as she sets out to cook and organize breakfast for everybody. I observe Sr. Marita every day helping on the Convent grounds in the intense tropical heat assuring that the landscape and gardens remain flawless. And I have been on the receiving end of motherly concern offered by several of the Sisters more than once. With passion they tell me things like, "Don't be on the streets at night alone, it's dangerous," and "I will never support the idea of you buying a bicycle, Jamaican driver's are ruthless." I love it. Mind you, I have three children and six grandchildren of my own! What is going on?

I will find out more answers to that question over the next few months. My stay here with my new, wonderful friends is to last for two years. All that I am learning from Sr. Maureen Clare and the other Sisters about serving the world and each other, I plan to take with me when I go home to America. If at that time God does will that I be placed with a group of Franciscan brothers—my original desire—I hope I will be satisfied. In Jamaica, the Sisters of Allegany do actually present like superheroes. And in doing so, they are raising my bar high!



From left to right are Sr. Odette, Franciscan Sisters of Allegany associates Christine and Joan, Sr. Maureen Clare, and associate Theresa. Together, among Kingston's leaders in education, these ladies are champions.

This article was extracted from **VOCARE**

Tim Shelgren is a volunteer with [Franciscan Mission Service](#) and a [CVN Serving with Sisters](#) Contributor. This blog series is sponsored by our [VOCARE Initiative](#), thanks to the support of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.

Miracle Message by Peta Gaye Nash

It was New Year's Day: January 1, 2020. I hadn't yet heard of the coronavirus. My hubby and I went for a walk by the lake. The day was cold but sunny and bright.

"I need more quiet time," I told my husband. "I think that's what is missing from my life." Life seemed to be one big rushed routine. I was juggling two jobs, trying to write, which always came last, take our children to their activities, all of which consumed my time and left me exhausted.

"What is my purpose here?" I asked my hubby. "What is my life's purpose? I wish I knew if I even have purpose. I think God wants me to be more giving," I said wondering if God even existed. It's hard for me to have faith in things I can't see. By giving I meant reaching out to people beyond my circle, by giving my time and my money to others in need.

"But how can I give when I feel so financially insecure?" I asked. We stopped at the Tim Horton's coffee shop on Lakeshore and sat down for a coffee and donut. I wrote my goals in a new 2020 diary I'd recently bought.

Later that evening, I looked for the diary and couldn't find it anywhere. My hubby and I searched the car and our home several times.

"I'm going back to Tim Horton's," I said. "I must have left it there." I entered the coffee shop and saw three men sitting at the table where we'd sat that morning. They appeared to be homeless and looked scruffy and bedraggled. I approached the counter and asked the server if a diary had been turned in and I explained that I might have left it at the table where the three men were sitting. He looked doubtfully at the men.

No diary had been turned in but he told me I could ask the men if I wanted to, but that I should be careful.

"Excuse me," I asked standing awkwardly at the table. "Sorry to bother you, but I was wondering if you'd seen a diary. I think I left it at this table this morning."

"No! No diary," said one man gruffly.

"Okay. Thank you," I answered walking away.

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THE EXPANSION OF THE TENN FAMILY IN 2020, NO NOT BY 10 BUT BY 3. (2 girls and 1 boy)



KAIRI ALISE LYN born July 24th, 2020
Parents Dr. Justin Lyn and Jenny Truong
Grandparents Dr. Herman & Diane Lyn (nee Tenn - 1965) and Great grandaunt Sr. Jean Francis O.S.F)



JALEN WONG born August 28, 2020. Parents Jordan & Janice Wong. Grandparents Peter & Sharon Wong (nee Tenn - 6th form 1971)



Madeline Parker Tenn born October 29, 2020 Parents: Dr. Neil and Catherine Tenn, Grandparents: Kay and Trevor Tenn



Axel Na'im Nembhard-Chuck
Proud parents are Kimberly Nembhard and Marlon Chuck. First grandchild for Michael and Karen (Lee-1968) Chuck. Axel was born on March 1, 2021 at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Toronto

Miracle Message continued....

“Wait,” one of them called out. “I have a message for you. I have a message from the Big Man Himself.” He got up from the chair and stood before me.

I wasn’t sure what to make of this. I stepped back. He looked as though he hadn’t bathed in days but his unshaven face was joyful and he was smiling. He looked kindly at me.

“You are so busy in your life with your children and everything that you’re doing. God is trying to speak to you but you’re too busy to hear him.

I was stunned. How could this man know about my life? I said nothing. He reached out his arms to me. “When you give with this hand, you get back with this hand,” he said. “Don’t be afraid to give. You have purpose,” he said. “You are loved.”

“Thank you,” I said. “I got the message.”

“It’s not from me. It’s from God. Can I have a hug?”

I walked toward him and he gave me a bear hug. The server rushed over. “Ma’am. Ma’am, are you okay? You don’t have to do that.”

“I’m okay,” I said still stunned that God had answered me. “I’m okay.

“You were meant to come here looking for your diary,” the homeless man said smiling.

When I went back home, I searched the car again for the diary and found it in a place we’d previously searched - in the back on the floor.

I realized I’d got the answers to my prayers, answers that I’d been seeking for a long time. I realized I’d experienced a miracle.

I haven’t shared this story with many except my family and closest friends especially because we live in this secular society where many don’t mention God. But it occurred to me that I got this message before the pandemic. It came at the right time. It’s what I’ve held on to in all of this past year’s uncertainty and fear. It’s what I hold on to every time I begin to lose hope or faith. I woke up this morning thinking of this message and decided I needed to share it widely. I want the world to have hope and faith. I want the world to know these things:

Have no preconceived notions about a messenger’s appearance.
Give freely.
You have purpose.
You are loved.
Make time for God.

Fellow Alumni Makes Top 100 List



Business owner Caroline Cole Power makes list of 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada

Caroline Cole Power found out after 11 years, making the transition from employee to entrepreneur to be very rewarding.

The Canadian HR Solutions Inc. Founder & Chief Executive Officer made the distinguished Women's Executive Network 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada list released last December. **Congratulation Caroline !!**

"You Make Us Proud"

See Ron Fanfair article for Caroline's achievements : <https://www.ronfanfair.com/home/2021/1/27/p88pm5xti97wszak0do3gszfeqyxm>

Gone But Never Forgotten



Richards, Beverly (nee Lewis) Class of 57 passed away on February 4, 2021. Predeceased by husband, Joe, an "Honorary old boy" of I.C.H.S. Toronto Chapter and Alumni of St. George's College, where he contributed substantially to both associations here in Toronto. Bev was also predeceased by daughter, Camille. Leaving 4 daughters (Karen, Melanie, Nadine, Trisha) grandchildren and sons-in-law. Bev was a devoted Catholic, mother and wife who enjoyed crocheting and gardening. She was a very active and valued member of the Toronto Chapter Executive Committee for many years. Amongst her many talents she had a beautiful singing voice which she lent to church choirs and our ICHS Glee Club. Bev had a quite humour. When anyone ran an inappropriate joke Bev would be heard saying " *No, don't say that ... you are too naughty*" while still laughing. Both Beverly and Joe are sorely missed .

May Their Souls Rest In Peace



Joseph Oscar LaHaye, husband of Norma (Nee Jervis) Class of 47 passed away on Christmas Day, December 25th, 2020 just shy of his 97th birthday. Leaving stepdaughters: Dawn-marie, Cathrine and Carol (Nee Nash); Stepsons: Derek and Christopher . Joe was an avid supporter of the ICHS Toronto Chapter Events and Fundraisers.



Prayers and Condolence are extended to the families of ...

Our Deepest Condolences to Sadie Wong and family , who lost 3 siblings within a three month period. Sadie Wong was our first President and a member of the executive committee of the ICHS Alumnae Association Toronto Chapter.

Daphne Chung, In memory of a dear wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother who passed away on January 19, 2021. Daphne was very passionate about ICHS. She generously donated to the Water Harvesting & Sewer Management System (WHSM). Daphne is remembered by her beloved husband, Albert, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Maurice Danny Lyn, In memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather, and coach who passed away on January 20, 2021. Danny was a dedicated and passionate coach of the Jamaican Football Club, and Constant Spring Football Club. He will be remembered by his beloved wife, Cherry, children and grandchildren.

Neville Lyn, In memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather, who passed away on April 14, 2021. He was the owner of Patsy Lyn Caterers, in Jamaica, known for their famous roast pork. Neville will be missed by his beloved wife Arlene, children and grandchildren.

They will all be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by their sisters, brothers, family and extended family and friends.

Sadie Wong would like to extend her sincere thanks for all the telephone calls, emails and condolences during this time.

Thank you

Rose Holbrooke, (nee Henriques) ICHS class of 1964 . Rose passed away on Houston, Texas on Sept. 20, 2020. She is survived by her sons Stephen and Troy and their families, as well as her brothers Joseph and his wife Helen (nee Haddad) ICHS alumna, and Charles and his wife Judy. She is remembered by her nieces, nephews, and many friends. May she Rest In Peace

Joyce Lowe (nee Chen) Class of 65 passed recently. May she rest in peace



Over the past 12 months, many of our Membership have lost love ones.

We, the executive members of the ICHS Alumnae Toronto Chapter would like to extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to all that have experienced a great loss.

May their Souls Rest in Peace!



Remember to pay your Dues ... Only \$30 per year.

Out of touch with class mates? Join Facebook



How Time Has Changed

