

Rationale for Belief Statements

In faithfulness to the Focus Statement of Chapter 2018, “to revitalize and respond anew to our charism of love, creative hope, and fidelity”, and to develop a “deepened understanding and a clearer articulation of our charism...in vibrant and tangible ways”, the attached document entitled, ***Belief Statements of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary***, has been developed for our reflection and practice. The first three statements have their roots and mandate in ***Faithful Witness*** and clearly articulate the “Why” of our consecrated life. These statements do not include all that we believe, but they do offer considerable illustrations for what we accept as true regarding Mission and Ministry. The daily, practical living out of our beliefs are contained in the final six invitations to live as “joyful bearers of God’s redeeming love” and have their roots and mandate in ***Faithful Servant***.

Some suggestions for use...

- ✚ Post in each house in a prominent place.
- ✚ Use as a resource and direction for the annual goal setting in each local convent.
- ✚ Use along with the Charism Examen for personal reflection.
- ✚ Post in a prominent spot in your place of ministry.
- ✚ Adapt the final six “invitations” to be reflective and inclusive of the people with whom and to whom you minister in your local site.
- ✚ Use for reflection and prayer at your first meeting of the new year with both returning and new colleagues in your place of ministry.
- ✚ Be creative, develop your own methods for reflecting upon and implementing this very important document in your local convent and in your place of ministry.

To our Lay Colleagues,

Please feel free to adapt the Belief Statements to your ministry if you are attempting to continue the IHM Legacy at your place of ministry or you are attempting to begin anew. We are so grateful for your desire to join with us in ministering to the people of God. We will be happy to assist you in any way possible.

