

This page will offer monthly reflections on soul-stirring encounters evoked by the author's everyday life experiences and invite readers to contemplate their own related experiences.

October 2007

An Invitation



While walking the grounds of a retreat center situated on a high bluff overlooking Lake Erie, I encountered the two interconnected chairs pictured here. They were clearly designed to invite conversations between people.

This powerful symbol invited me to ponder conversations I longed or needed to have. Several things arose in me. A desire to simply sit a while in God's presence -

open, listening, communing. Gratitude for precious friends with whom I open my heart. A stirring of grief at the loss of friends through distance, death and time. Awareness of people I avoid or with whom I have unresolved issues. And the striking beauty and fragility of this place and the silence it evoked in me.

Let the interconnected chairs invite you to conversations you need or want to have - with God, with those you cherish, with those you may keep at a distance, with our beautiful, fragile Earth. I invite you and myself to the inner and outer space conducive to the conversations for which our hearts long.

Photo and text by Mary McCann, IHM

If there is anything you'd like to share with us, e-mail visitation@ihmsisters.org