

# Nature as model, mentor and teacher: A BIOMIMICRY RETREAT



**April 17 - 21, 2023**

Morning sessions: 10:30-noon  
Afternoon sessions: 2:30-4 p.m.  
Evening sessions Tuesday  
and Thursday: 6-7 p.m.

The retreat will  
end at 3 p.m. April 21.

Doors open 30 minutes  
before sessions begin.

Presenter: Gloria Rivera, IHM, MA

**Nature is a wonderful teacher** and can often model to us not only good design – Velcro, for example, was inspired by burr needles – but also shed light on our relationship with God and our spirituality. We have come to know this process of using nature as a guide to elements in life as “biomimicry.” In this retreat, participants will have the opportunity to reflect on their own religious traditions and spirituality while spending time daily inviting nature as a model, mentor and teacher. Participants will have opportunities to reconnect with Nature in a prayerful, reflective context.

**Gloria Rivera, IHM, MA** holds a master’s degree in religious studies and has received training in spiritual direction. As the former coordinator of Great Lakes Bioneers Detroit, an organization that supports sustainable communities, she believes that social justice and environmental justice are one movement. She has been a student of biomimicry for the past six years and will share some of the insights she has gained from her studies.

**Maxis IHM Spirituality Center**  
17380 Grange Road  
Riverview, Michigan 48193

**Registration Deadline:**  
Wednesday, April 5, 2023

**Registration Fee:** \$250 for retreat sessions, lunch and dinner (please indicate dietary needs at the time of registration)

To register, call 734-250-8314 or email [maxiscenter@ihmsisters.org](mailto:maxiscenter@ihmsisters.org)  
Register online at  
<https://bit.ly/NatureAsMentor>



Onsite overnight accommodations are an additional \$200 and include breakfast. For information, contact Maxis IHM Spirituality Center at [maxiscenter@ihmsisters.org](mailto:maxiscenter@ihmsisters.org) or leave a voice message at 734-250-8314.

For the safety of all participants, COVID-19 protocols are in place and are consistent with the guidance of the CDC and the Michigan Department of Health.