

Maryknollers are unique. There is a spirit among us that binds us, both individual and collective, that makes things happen. It started the evening we arrived in New York when Anne Kong, class of 71, invited all of her classmates and the twenty-two 'Torontonians' to dinner at her Battery Park condominium overlooking 'Ground Zero'. The energy, strength and generosity of this lady is very much appreciated.



Friday, August 6th, marked the official beginning of the Reunion, with registration of the participants, the taking of the class photographs and the distribution of souvenirs and directories. On Saturday morning, two busloads of Maryknollers and friends descended onto Motherhouse where the Sisters warmly welcomed them with a prayer service held in the chapel. Sr. Marie Gladys Gonzalez danced to the song 'You are Mine' by David Haas. Sr. Miriam Xavier Mug and Sr. Agnes McKiernan were not well enough to



attend the events in Manhattan but we had a chance to meet with them "at home". Sr. Miriam Xavier could address each of the three girls she taught in 1955 by name. Sr. Agnes was a colleague of Gertrude Chan and they traded stories of yester-years.



We also toured the burial grounds of the Sisters who died. A list of the Sisters who taught at MCS and have since passed away can be found on our website, their names, and when and where they died. Just click on the link http://www.mcsontario.org/recent_happenings.htm and you will find many more pictures of the Reunion.

The venue of the Gala Dinner was at Chelsea Pier 60 at the waterfront where we had the chance to enjoy the night view of the city. The food was great. Over 250 alumnae and friends attended. The keynote speaker was Sr. Joan Delaney from Chicago. She spoke of the '*inquiring mind*' – inquiring about *things*, about *people* and about *ideas*. First comes the awareness of our natural surroundings, then the interaction of people we come in contact with on the daily basis and finally the books/media and high technology that enable us to continue to exercise our inquiring mind intellectually which in turn, help us to synthesize them by applying, learning and sharing the contexts with others.



Sr. Jeanne Houlihan commented her latent appreciation of the verse from the School Song "The mother of our future, from whom we shall carry TRUTH to home, to country, to the world; we call this our first duty". It was the word 'TRUTH' that finally struck her to learn all Maryknollers truly live up to the motto.



The 5th Reunion concluded on Sunday with a farewell Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on 5th Ave. between 50th and 51st Streets. All in all, every one had a great time, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the **New York Organizing Committee. Congratulations New York Maryknollers. Work well done!**

The 6th Reunion will take place in **San Francisco in 2007**. As a junior alumna of 1987, I can tell my future alumnae not to be afraid of being intimidated by our more senior alumnae. We mixed so well and shared so many of their light-hearted moments of old arguments with old friends, the girlish chitchatting with no pretense, and the stories that the older members told of their days at school more

than half a century ago!



Once again it is time for the **Academic Achievement Award**. Children of members with an overall average of above 80% in six Ontario Academic Credits are eligible to apply. The awards will be given out at the dinner on Oct. 29. Transcripts should be sent to **P.O. Box 20056, Nymark Postal Outlet, 4839 Leslie St., North York, M2J 5E4** no later than Oct. 8, 2004.

For further queries, please contact Gertrude Chan at 416-496-9671.

Welcome to our new members: **Katherine Chan Wan**, yr. 1967 and **Susan Fong Jeong**, yr. 1971. If you come across any school-mates of yours who have not yet joined our association, do try to recruit them in. The more members we have, the stronger we become. Forms are available through any committee members

Mahjong Dinner

Friday, October 29, 2004

The first social gathering organized by the newly elected committee is a mahjong/dinner on Friday, October 29, 2004 at Galaxy Chinese Cuisine (喜福樓). Details are as follows:

Venue	Galaxy Chinese Cuisine, 350 Highway 7 East, Unit 101, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 3N2 Tel. 905-707-0988	
Date	Friday, October 29, 2004	
Time	mahjong game	1 p.m.
	registration	6.30 p.m.
	dinner	7 p.m.
Cost	mahjong	\$20/table and food is not included
	dinner	\$30.00 members \$35.00 non members \$10.00 Children under 6 years old



To complement the evening, the 2004 Academic Achievement Awards are given out to the children of our alumnae. It must be emphasized that at least one of the parents must accompany the award recipient to the dinner.

To reserve your seat, please fill in the form below and return it with payment as soon as possible **no later than October 18**. You are obligated to honour your commitment. *If you cancel your reservation less than 72 hours prior to the event, payment will be charged as we need to confirm with the restaurant.*

Reply Form

Please complete this form and mail it (**together with your cheque**) to:
 P.O. Box 20056, Nymark Postal Outlet, 4839 Leslie Street, North York, ON M2J 5E4

Member's Name _____
 (Please print)

Year _____

Address _____

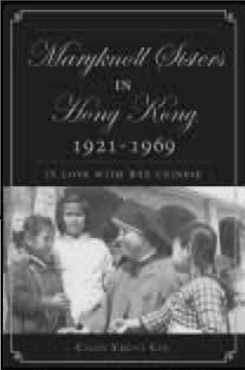
Tel. No. _____ E-mail Address _____

Guest's Name(s) 1. _____ 3. _____
 2. _____ 4. _____

Cheque Enclosed \$ _____

Date _____

A SPECIAL OFFER FOR ALL MARYKNOLL CONVENT SCHOOL REUNION ATTENDEES!



The Maryknoll Sisters in Hong Kong, 1921-1969

In Love with the Chinese

CINDY YIK-YI CHU

The Maryknoll Sisters in Hong Kong, 1921-1969: In Love with the Chinese describes the adaptation of American women to cross-cultural situations in Hong Kong from 1921 to 1969. The Maryknoll Sisters were the first American Catholic community of women founded for overseas missionary work, and were the first American Sisters in Hong Kong. Maryknollers were independent, outgoing, and joyful women who were highly educated, and acted in professional capacities as teachers, social workers, and medical personnel. The assertion of this book is that the mission provided Maryknollers what they had long desired—equal employment opportunities—which were only later emphasized in the women's liberation movement of the 1960s.

"Dr. Cindy Chu's volume is a richly documented, fair-minded, and illuminating account of the Maryknoll Sisters' experience in Hong Kong from their arrival in 1921 through the 1960s. She shows how that experience became significantly intertwined with the history of Hong Kong itself during those difficult, changeful decades as the Sisters responded to one pressing social need after another. This helping hand came at a time when the Hong Kong Government was understandably overwhelmed by the numbers of refugees that poured into the Crown Colony, especially during the 1950s. The story thus helps explain how Hong Kong managed to cope so remarkably well with some truly exceptional and formidable burdens in the mid-twentieth century, by utilizing, as it did, such fortuitously available, competent and relatively inexpensive volunteers. In turn, the selfless American Sisters were rewarded with a degree of acceptance and with conversion opportunities that, otherwise, might not as readily have been there."

—Stephen Uhalley, editor of *China and Christianity: Burdened Past, Hopeful Future* and author of *A History of the Chinese Communist Party*

CONTENTS: Introduction • Early Arrival, 1921-1937 • Difficult Years, 1937-1951 • Extreme Poverty of the 1950s, King's Park and Tung Tau Tsuen • Refugee Committees in the 1950s and Chai Wan • Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon Tsai, and Social Services in the 1960s • Kwun Tong and Chai Wan in the 1960s • Conclusion

Cindy Yik-yi Chu is Assistant Professor of History, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong. **Nov 2004 / 256 pp. / 1-4039-6586-2**
 \$59.95 d. (C\$87.95 / £35.00)

The author will donate all royalties received through the sale of the book to the Maryknoll Sisters

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