



December 2016  
Winter Edition

# Ontario Maryknollers

Official Newsletter of Maryknoll Convent Former Students (Ont.)



## Christmas Greetings from Sr. Jeanne Houlihan

December 2016

Dear Maryknollers,

Is the world worse today than yesteryear? Sometimes it may seem that way but a reading of the Old Testament finds Syria in serious trouble just like today. The difference is in the planes, tanks, guns and ammunition, which means more people killed, homeless, abandoned. Power and greed were dominant and still are. The promise of the Messiah would bring justice and peace. This is the HOPE and I BELIEVE. Why? Everywhere you see small groups gathering to bring about justice and peace.

2016 was a record year of Maryknollers visiting from Canada, Hong Kong and the United States for the GALA. Generosity and loyalty are still shining forces of our former students. The singing of our school song at the GALA made me realize how avant garde the words were and still remain important for today. "to carry truth to home, country and the world". Certainly I witnessed this in many words and deeds at our first GALA. Needless to say our Alums made this a success.

A few thoughts about your former teachers: Sister Corinne is fair and will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2017. She sometimes joins the former students in singing the school song; Marie Ann Lipetzky at 93 meets the newspaper deliveries at 5 a.m. Her voice remains golden as she is a member of the choir. She is No. 1 in reworking the masculine nouns for God (who is not masculine); Ann Carol Brielmaier is not stopped by her walker. She travels everywhere and participates in all events at the Center. Mary Lou Tüefel will be 94 and has good days and less good days. Teresa Leung has the best up-to-date file on email and home addresses, phone numbers and latest information. Joanna Chan was one of four chosen by NYC to honor persons who have made contributions to the city. I really like her quotation." For a community leader, the fondest dream is perhaps not to see the final success of making it in America, but to look beyond the seeming differences that divide individuals." She was the only woman and the only honoree still living. If you are coming to NYC I hope you will visit the museum. It is completely digitized. And, if you are coming to NY I hope you visit me at Maryknoll. We do have rooms available for guests if you let us know in advance. Nancy Tong from Toronto and Vivian Ng from Albany, NY visited in the first week of December.

I chose the star for this letter because it symbolizes for me the ever-present God in all of life. A significant part of being at Maryknoll is being spiritually in process twenty-four/seven. "The evolutionary view of Christ reveals Christ as intimately present to salvation or to God beyond, not only one's religion, but outside of religion, through art, science, love of nature, great generosity and service to other people. God adjusts:"God's self" to each of the creatures whose natures he created." (Thomas Keating: God is Love)

May I wish each of you the **BLESSINGS of Christmas** and **Joy-filled New Year!**

Love and prayers,  
Sister Jeanne Houlihan

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☆ **Committee Members** ☆  
☆ **2016 ~ 2018** ☆  
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## Letter from the President

Wendy Man



Dear Fellow Maryknollers,

As the weather turns chilly and we start shopping for our Christmas list, the end of 2016 is around the corner. On behalf of our committee, I wish you and your loved ones a **Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.**

In October, our alumni organized the Biennial General Meeting at The Donalda Club. We had 36 members joining the BGM this year. Since we need to make the minimum required patrons of 50 persons, we opened our lunch to some of our family members and friends. We had a great time catching up with each other over lunch. You can find the details of our BGM meeting later in the newsletter. At the end of the meeting, we took a group picture, which will be on the Christmas card that is going to be sent to the Motherhouse with our alumni's annual Christmas gift. If you miss our BGM this year, please come and join us next time in 2018. It's always great to meet up and revive our Maryknoll spirit as we gather.

In our new term, our committee has some changes as Maria-Elena Prata Noronha resigned from the position of the Vice-President. Nena has been a key member in our committee over several terms. Her effort and continued support is greatly appreciated. Her stories and laughter will certainly be missed. Thank you very much for your great service over the years, Nena.

Every two years, we update and reprint our membership directory. The latest one is now available. Some of our members have already got a copy of the new directory at our BGM. Since we hope to save some mailing costs, if you haven't got a copy yet, please contact one of our committee members to get one.



In the New Year, we are planning to have 2 activities for our members and families, one in the Spring and one in the Fall. As always, we welcome all activity ideas from our members. We will try to make your ideas into reality. Also, we would love to share any great news that you, your family and your Maryknoll friends celebrated recently. If you have any news to share with other fellow members, please contact us. We will put them in the upcoming newsletters.



## Report of the Biennial General Meeting

Our BGM was held on Sunday October 16, 2016 at the picturesque Donaldo Golf course conveniently located in North York. Fifty members and spouses socialized over an elegant scrumptious buffet luncheon prior to the actual meeting.

The satisfied spouses then left and our members stayed for the BGM. The format of the meeting followed our bylaw: confirmation of the minutes of the previous BGM, presentation of the financial report and a report of the activities of the association for the previous two years. Gertrude Chan and Irene Legay gave a moving report of their attendance at the Maryknoll Gala in New York just days before. No nominations were received for the committee of 2016 -

2018. Therefore, the committee members of 2014 - 2016 agreed to remain on the committee for one more term. Also, as the committee did not receive any applications for our Academic Achievement Award, no award was presented this year.

To conclude the meeting, the group posed for our annual Christmas photo which will be put on our Christmas card to our dear sisters at the Motherhouse.

*The Toronto Alumnae  
wish the Maryknoll Sisters  
a Blessed Christmas*



Click on the picture for a larger view

## United Through Mission Gala

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MARYKNOLL SISTERS' United through Mission Gala was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 14 October 2016.

There was a good representation from Maryknoll Sisters and Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, their Mission Partners, and various alumnae from Maryknoll Convent School and Maryknoll Sisters' School, totalling 288 participants. The event was not only "Grand" but also "Meaningful" and very "Emotional" as all were singing high praises of our Maryknoll Sisters for their extraordinary ministries, uncompromising courage, seamless care, affection and dedicated work throughout all these years, bearing God's light to all !

The event started at 7:30pm with a cocktail, sponsored by Moira and Bruce Conzelman, and a Silent Auction, sponsored by Waldorf Risk Solutions, which silent auction continued throughout dinner.

There were a number of speakers, one of which was Shelley Lee, an Alumna of MCS ('68). Shelley served in the Hong Kong Government and the HKSAR Government for 35 years before retiring as the first female Permanent Secretary of Home Affairs. Apart from bringing democracy to the students' lives at MCS in 1978, Shelley helped to form the Association of Female Senior Government Officers to fight for equal rights and remuneration for married women.

The dinner menu was "Spectacular". Even more so were the performances by Sister Ann Hayden, whose singing was accompanied by Sister Catherine Erisman on the piano, our blessed duo talents ! Over 40 MCS and MSS girls sang their respective school songs towards the end of the evening to help reach the targeted silent auction fund of USD 100,000.

The Gala event was covered by television.

As our Sisters quoted: In the words of Mother Mary Joseph, *"these have been lovely years in which we have worked together and my heart will always sing its hymn of gratitude to you, for your patience, your faithfulness and your love, and to God, for having given us to each other in this glorious work for the extension of God's Kingdom."*

## Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebrations



**Marie Louise (Rocha) and Ryan Chang** celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in April 2016. They renewed their vows after Sunday Mass at Blessed Trinity Parish followed by a reception in the Parish Hall for family and friends.



The beautiful picture of the newly weds 50 years ago.

## Glad Tidings from Far and Near



On Sunday, August 14, 2016, fifty years to the day since their wedding in Claremont, California, **Nancy (Chung) and Patrick Yeung** celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with family and friends. The festivities took place at their former parish, St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Markham, Ontario, where No. 2 son, Fr. Alex Yeung, LC, celebrated Sunday Mass and witnessed the renewal of his parents' wedding vows.

After Mass, a lunch reception was held downstairs in the parish hall - the MC was No. 1 son Gerald. The whole reception was master-minded by daughter-in-law Victoria (Gerald's wife). The meal featured many succulent Chinese dishes, including roast pig. The "Brothers Four" and their children offered an enjoyable post-meal entertainment program, which featured a lovely rendition of "La Vie en Rose" by granddaughter Alison (accompanied by grandson Ben) and a comical "Fifty Anniversary Year Song" by Fr. Alex (accompanied by Ben) that had the audience roaring. The groom's remarks included the playing of three songs that are near and dear to the anniversary couple's hearts - "I'll Be Loving You Always," "You Are My Love," and "Lord You Are So Good," the latter two of which Patrick composed himself.

MCS was well represented amongst the over 200



guests who attended the reception. One MCS

alumnus in attendance, Dr. Angeline Chan (n. Yeung, MCS 1959), Patrick's sister, was the 'matchmaker' who first introduced her classmate Nancy (n. Chung, MCS 1959) to Patrick, while another, Sr. Earnest Chung, (MCS 1960), is Nancy's sister who went on to become a Maryknoll Sister herself. The Jubilee couple was presented with an Apostolic Blessing from His Holiness Pope Francis on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary by their sons and their respective families: Gerald & Victoria, Benjamin, and Alison; Fr. Alex; Dr. Patrick Jr. & Dorothy, Lucy, Cecilia, and Josephine; and Christopher & Jennifer, Angela, and Joseph.

**Miranda**, daughter of Jacqueline ('74) and Keng Fong, married **Christopher Sherwood** in Toronto on September 1, 2016. Miranda and Christopher are both working in the wine industry. Miranda is currently studying to get her Wine Master accreditation. The newly wed couple will reside in London, Uk.



Three generations of beautiful Yuen ladies taken on Saturday, September 3, 2016 at St Luke's Catholic Church at Thornhill, Ontario, on the wedding day of **Adrienne Yuen** to **Wayne Huang**.

Grandma:  
Roxy Wong Yuen ('55)  
Mom:  
Gloria Lam Yuen ('76)

Daughter: Adrienne Yuen





Lily Wong '70 and Peter Yeung's son **Matthew** married **Vicki Wang** on June 18, 2016. The weather was beautiful and the ceremony was lovely."



We had our ruby reunion celebration dinner on November 6, 2016 at the Kowloon Cricket Club.

There were about 60 of us

including our former teachers.



We had a wonderful time catching up, sang and danced.

The organizers did a marvelous job. We had auctions for

charity, lucky draw and everyone left with a grand table prize.

There were a good showing of Toronto members: Teresa Lau, Jenny Wang, Betty lau, Amy Law, Eleanor Chan, Jocelyn Lee, Agatha Wan, Wendy Cheong, Frances Yeung, Kathy King & Gloria Lam.

We are now looking forward to our 45th anniversary in another 5 years.

Submitted by Gloria Lam Yuen, 1976 Year Rep

MCS Class of **1966** Reunion Organizing Committee (Shelley Lee, Ivy Tong, Emily Niem, Julia Chan and Coring Tsang) did a fantastic job in planning, arranging and gathering classmates from all over the world to gather in Hong Kong from 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2016 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 2016. It is our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our secondary school graduation. On the first day we visited our mother school, first the Primary Section and then the Secondary Section. We were greeted by both principals. Seeing familiar places where we spent years in our childhood, we were very excited and talked about things we did, teachers we remembered..... We cherished those lovely memories and felt grateful to our school.

We had the first dinner at Yau Yat Chuen Club. We were honoured to have Ms. Marita Shek join us.

On the second day we visited Nanlin Garden and had a vegetarian banquet in the restaurant in Chi Lin Nunnery. The garden was like an oasis in the concrete jungle. It was beautifully designed and the museum had many interesting exhibits.

On the third day we had a whole day tour. First we visited Tai Po Chi Shan Zhi which housed a gigantic statue of Kwanyin. The temple was built by Mr. Li Ka Shing and is only opened to a very small number of visitors daily. After a buffet lunch we visited Tai Po Train Museum and Tai Po market.



On the fourth day only 12 participants went on a tour to Chu Hai in China. On the final day, we had a farewell dinner at Hong Kong Club. Mrs. Evelyn Ho and her husband joined us for dinner. Many

of us had not seen her since we left school. Since it was the last evening of our reunion, we sang many



songs together, including of course our school song (but at a much lower key). We had great fun these few days and hoped to have another such gathering in the future.

Submitted by Nora Ho Man, 1966



After a complete year of marriage engagement, **Michelle Lai**, & **Joshua Sumali** were joined in matrimony on Oct 1st, 2016 at St George Golf & Country Club with both families & friends in Etobicoke. Michelle is the daughter of Amy Chow ('74) and Stephen Lai.