



# Ontario Maryknollers

Official Newsletter of Maryknoll Convent Former Students (Ont.)

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☆ 2018 - 2020 ☆  
☆ COMMITTEE ☆  
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## Letter from the President

Wendy Man, 1988

*Dear Fellow Maryknollers,*

Happy Thanksgiving! This is a great time to look back and count all the blessings God has given us throughout 2019.

I am especially grateful to my committee members as they have put in great efforts in planning and making our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration a great success. I would like to thank all our members, Maryknollers from afar, our friends from Wah Yan College Kowloon and other friends and families who came to celebrate with us. While we enjoyed a great evening of delicious food and networking, we raised some funds for our beloved sisters at the Motherhouse through our silent auction, donations, pledged singing performances and 50-50 raffle tickets. On behalf of the Sisters at the Motherhouse, I want to say thank you to all the donors for your generous support.

On October 5, we celebrated Sr. Marie Corinne Rost's life at St. Gabriel's Passionist Parish. We remembered how Sister led us in our music lessons and sang our School Song and praises to God. Our dear member, Juliana Shee Joe of 1955, gave a great memoir of Sr. Marie Corinne. Juliana once brought Sister to the Roy Thompson Hall for a symphony concert. Sister could identify each musical instrument and whispered to Juliana. Her passion for music and love for God touched lots of fellow Maryknollers. When the mass ended, the day turned warm and sunny. It felt that Sister Marie Corinne and the Angels all came out to celebrate her life and sing praises to our Heavenly Father.

2019 is almost ending. May God bless you and your family. May peace be with you.

**President**

Wendy Man

**Vice President**

Ludia Fong

Katy Lang

**Secretary**

Winnie Wong Wong

Judy Tong

**Treasurer**

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## Our 35 years in Toronto

Patricia Ho Wu, 1971

We celebrated our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Gala at the Granite Club on Saturday, September 7, 2019.

The evening kicked off with a reception at 6 p.m. when our president, Wendy Man ('88), performed the ceremonial cut on the first roasted suckling pig, as a traditional token of celebration. Members and guests joyously savoured the plated nibbles and checked out the various table displays of the Silent Auction, Memorabilia and Cash & Carry items. Dr. Alan Joe, husband of Juliana Shee Joe ('55), set up a table to promote his book "*Of Ox and Unicorn*", donating all the proceeds to the Motherhouse. Meanwhile, a team was also in action selling tickets for the 50/50 Raffle. The reception hour was gleeful, spirited

and absolutely thunderous.

The official part of the evening began with our Canadian National Anthem. Our emcee, Nena Noronha ('60), asked us to remember Sister Marie Corinne when we sang our Maryknoll School Song. Sister Corinne went to heaven on September 1 and many of us were taught by her to sing the school song at her music classes. When the music and the video (sent from Hong Kong for this occasion) started, we were all thrilled to find ourselves singing with the MCS School Choir with the music performed by the school orchestra. The current music director at MCS is Joanna Wong of Toronto. Joanna's proud parents Alice ('58) and David were in the hall with us.



Wendy Man, our president, delivered her welcome speech. She acknowledged the attendance of our teachers and thanked those Maryknollers who travelled from afar to celebrate this milestone anniversary with us. She spoke of how we have grown from our humble beginning of 28 in 1984 to our present day membership of over 300. She then called upon the past presidents to perform a cake cutting ceremony.

Mrs. Rosalind Lo ('58), said Grace and dinner commenced. After the appetizer was served, Nena introduced Miss Gertrude Chan ('55) on stage. Miss Chan delivered the message on behalf of Dorothy Cheng Tsang ('63) who was the founder of our alumni chapter when she first immigrated to Toronto. Dorothy was unable to attend our Gala due to the turmoil in Hong Kong.

Sister Jeanne delivered her remarks through a video sent to us from the Motherhouse. (Please click <https://drive.google.com/file/d/17z6DbpfuXpcoy4hoMSjLRJCJLRK0S-3g/view?usp=sharing> to view the video). She ended her speech with a prayer for us to say in times of despair.

The New York Alumni Chapter represented by Anne Kong ('71), Diana Wong ('71) and Mary Ng ('74) delivered their greetings to Toronto and promoted the upcoming New York Worldwide Reunion to be held in New York, August 6-8, 2021.

While the main course was being served, a video showing the past activities of the Toronto Alumni was shown. The video recapped the 35 years of laughter, camaraderie and hard work that we shared in keeping our Maryknoll spirit very much alive in our adopted city far away from Hong Kong.

The highlight of the evening arrived when Wendy went on stage and thanked all the Maryknoll husbands who supported our events over the years. After a round of applause, the Maryknoll 姑爺s were invited to go up to the front and take a group photo to commemorate our Gala. Dr. Jeffrey Fong, husband of Ludia Au Fong ('71), representing the group of Maryknoll husbands, in turn congratulated us on our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary and dedicated the song "My Girl" to all the Maryknollers. It was a hilarious sight watching Dr. Jeffrey Fong leading the singing with the normally very serious gentlemen joining in the chorus. At the end of the song, Nena asked the husbands to invite their other halves to start the dance. Tony To, the husband of Anne Kong ('71) from New York, started the dance with his singing performance. His performance was fantastic! We later found out that he was the winner of many singing contests in the New York area. The evening continued with more singing and dancing. The many pledges received to Sing for the Sisters, the 50/50 Draw, the Silent Auction, the sale of *Of Ox and Unicorn*, and the Cash & Carry, all contributed to benefit the Motherhouse.

The Gala ended with the draw of door prizes and the 50/50 draw.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to those who supported our Gala and we hope you will continue to support us in the years to come.

To view larger and better quality pictures of the evening, please click <https://photos.app.goo.gl/HG4iinfKHYVxBYNE9>



## Sr. Marie Corinne, Eulogy Juliana Shee Joe, MCS 1955

**S**r. Corinne was born on July 29, 1917 in Jefferson City, Missouri by the Mississippi River of a happy religious family. She went to heaven on Sept. 1, 2019 at Maryknoll Motherhouse, Ossining, New York, at the ripe age of 102.

Sr. Corinne entered the Maryknoll Sisters Novitiate in 1937. She spent most of her life devoted to religion and music. She received her B.A. in music with minor in piano from Manhattanville College of the Sacred Heart, N.Y. in 1942. Her joy and knowledge of music would be part of her every mission assignment. First she was assigned to L.A. as a music director for oriental children. In 1946 she was assigned to Hong Kong where she taught religion and music and gave piano lessons at Maryknoll Convent School. It was there we had the good fortune to get to know Sr. Corinne. She was our music teacher for many years during which time she founded the beautiful girls choir, *The Glee Club*. She entered us in many inter-school music competitions and we won great honours under her tutorship.

In music classes, Sr. also introduced us to classical music appreciation of great composers, identification of musical instruments and also singing the Latin Mass hymns. My nursing classmates in England were so surprised that I could sing the Kyrie Eleison and Gloria in Excelsis Deo in Latin.

Sr. later became the principal of the primary section of the school until she reached 60, the mandatory retirement age in Hong Kong. In 1996, she officially retired to Maryknoll Sisters retirement home in Monrovia, California.

Sr. Corinne touched many students in different ways. For me personally, I owe much to her for introducing me to appreciate music in all its forms. When she visited Toronto in the 1990s, I took her to attend a concert at Roy Thompson Hall, *The Symphony "Pictures at an Exhibition"* by Mussorgsky. She was so thrilled as she whispered in my ears the various instruments of the orchestra, the same way that she had taught us at school when I was a teenager.

Sr. Corinne now can listen to symphonies all day long with angels playing in the heavenly orchestra. May she rest in peace. It would be her turn to take me to the concert when my time on earth has come to an end.



## A Fall visit to the Maryknoll Motherhouse, Ossining, NY Shirley Cheong, MCS 1981



This is my first time visiting the Maryknoll Sisters Center, a.k.a. "The Motherhouse", in Ossining, New York. It was an amazing and memorable trip to visit Sister Jeanne Houlihan, our Principal of MCS in the 80's and other retired Maryknoll Sisters during our Canadian Thanksgiving weekend in October.

The theme of this trip was to try a new route by taking the Amtrak train to New York instead of flying. I was lucky to have Ms. Gertrude Chan as my travel buddy and tour guide to the Motherhouse. It was a flash one day visit starting with driving to the Niagara Falls, Ontario and crossing the US Border via the Rainbow Bridge. We parked our car at the Amtrak NIAGARA FALLS, NY (NFL) train terminal and took the overnight train. After 8 hours of relaxing, comfortable and stress-free ride, we arrived at CROTON-HARMON (CRT) station in Ossining at noon the next day. The Motherhouse was only a short 10 min drive away.

At the Motherhouse, we received the warmest welcome by Sr. Jeanne. She took us to their dining hall for lunch and showed us the complex. We then strolled to the Maryknoll Seminary where the Maryknoll Fathers were. There was a museum explaining their history of the missions around the world.

After dinner at the Motherhouse, we visited Sr. Joan Delaney, Sr. Teresa Leung, Sr. Ann Carol and Sr. Victoria Marie at the nursing home on the 3rd Floor.

We had a wonderful time chatting with the many Srs. at the dining hall during dinner and breakfast time the following morning. They also have daily mass at the chapel. We attended the Sunday Mass with music and the choir singing the hymns.



I was so happy and fulfilled after seeing our Maryknoll Sisters in their retirement at the Motherhouse with dignity. They are still actively volunteering at the Maryknoll Centre. By clicking on the link, a video of the visit is available for all to enjoy, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYPgzwkXAq4&feature=youtu.be>.

If you are thinking of heading to New York next time, do feel free to drop by and visit them. If you want more information regarding the Motherhouse, please visit their website at [www.maryknollsisters.org](http://www.maryknollsisters.org) and to become a sponsor. Although this was my first visit but definitely won't be my last.

## Mini Class Reunion in Toronto

Patsy Tung Chao - 1959



Standing L-R: Patsy Tung Chao (67), Julie Kit Chu, Anna Lee Lee, Roy Chao  
Sitting L-R: Mary Mui, Doris Wong, Nancy Chung Yeung, Patrick Yeung, Jane Ying Chen, Maria Ling Lin

Class of 1959 will be celebrating their 60th Anniversary with a reunion in Hong Kong. Since Nancy Chung Yeung will not be able to join them in Hong Kong, a few of them made the trip to Toronto in August to spend two days with Nancy and Patrick. Julie Chu Kit (Shanghai), Maria Lin (Shanghai), Jane Ying Chen (Los Angeles), Mary Mui (New York), Anna Lee Lee (Toronto), Doris Wong (Toronto).

## Sapporo Visit, Japan

Winnie Wong Wong - 1973



One day in November 2018 a group of Maryknoll girls decided to take a trip to Sapporo, Japan.

After many Whatsapps, detailed planning by two brilliant Elizabeth (Ching and Huang), 11 girls of '73 and '74, from Hong Kong, Vancouver, Toronto embarked on the journey October 16, 2019.

Joy, fun, laughter and chit chat throughout the five days visit. old friendships rekindled, wallets emptied and appetite stuffed to the fullest.



# Welcome New Members

We are **very happy** to report that we have SIX new members joining us as of September 2019.

They are

<b>Abigail Tsang Kan</b>	(Associate Member)	1987
<b>Mabel Tse Ong</b>		1965
<b>Connie NG</b>		1969
<b>Mary Ng</b>		1974
<b>Winnie Lee</b>		1986
<b>Jeanne Tsui</b>		1991

We hope to see more often of them in our coming events and get to know them better.

## Back Cover of Dinner Program Book - Sept. 7, 2019

We are very thankful that Ilenna Tai designed the logo for us to use for the celebration dinner tickets, souvenirs, and most of all for the program book. The picture below is the back cover of the 8" x 11" booklet.

