

Maryknoll Alumnae News

Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital (OLMH), Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon, Hong Kong

In 1957, in response to the thousands of refugees seeking asylum in Hong Kong from mainland China, Maryknoll Sisters obtained permission from the Hong Kong Government and received a land grant in Wong Tai Sin to build a hospital to serve the poor. With the help of the Far East Refugee Program of the American Foreign Service, Hong Kong Land Grant and Catholic Relief Services, OLMH was officially opened on August 16, 1961.

Pioneers of Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital 1961-1963

Missing are Sisters Marie Therese McCourtney, and Sister Rose Goretti Ehm who later left the Community



Sr. Barbara Mersinger
(Founder)



Sr. Ignatia McNally
(First Administrator)



Sr. Dominic Marie Turner



Sr. Monica Marie Boyle



Sr. Maria Reickleman



Sr. Rosalia Kettl



Sr. Ruth Marie O'Donnell



Sr. Helen Kenny



Sr. Marya Zaborowski



Sr. Gloria Ruiz



Sr. Mary Edna Brophy



Sr. Pauline Gibbons



Sr. Patricia Fitzmaurice

Other Early Sister-Pioneers at Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital



Sr. Barbara Walenty
Operating Theatre Nurse
Supervisor



Sr. MaryLou Ann Rajdl
Out-patient Dept Supervisor
and Administrator



Sr. Marilyn Norris
Community Nursing Program



Sr. Teresa Leung
General Secretariat



Sr. Katherine Byrne
Director of Nurses
1968-1971



Sr. Elizabeth Therese Conroy
(Bacteriologist)



Sr. Eileen Franz
Medical Records

Other early members of the staff of Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital included Srs. Dominic Kelly, Nina Balicki, and Carol Helen Connolly.

(Photos courtesy of Sr. Betty Ann Maheu from her book, *Maryknoll Sisters, Hong Kong, Macau, China, 1968-2007*)

Many programs were initiated in the 1970s: Volunteer Program, Community Nursing Service, School of Nursing, Training Seminarians for Hospital Ministry, and Hospital Pastoral Ministry. Later on, Palliative Care clinic was opened to care for people suffering from cancer, the number one cause of death in Hong Kong. In 1982, the first Hospice Care was started in Hong Kong, like Palliative Care Unit, it was the "first" of these special medical services for the people in Hong Kong.

In order to continue to serve the lower income brackets of society, OLMH opted to become one of the 33 public hospitals under the Hospital Authority in October 30, 1987.

Fast forward to today: OLMH has undergone many operating and administration changes and has continued to offer more services in the community with new procedures. Magdalen Yum, MSS 1976, recently visited OLMH for a private tour. Following is her latest update and photos of the new wing and latest equipment.

Magdalen's Report

My interest in the Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital (OLMH) was rekindled by my god brother Ernie So who is a hospital member and also funded part of renovation cost of Winnie So Health Center Community Specialty Clinic (CSC) named after his late wife. My passion for helping OLMH was further enhanced when my late cousin-in-law stayed at the hospice (OLMH-HA) there. I was indeed impressed by the care and attention of the hospital staff to terminally ill patients.

Maryknoll Alumnae News, continued.

Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital (OLMH) in Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon was founded by the Maryknoll Sisters in 1961, the World Refugee year. Many of the Maryknoll Sisters were medical professionals, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, medical technologists and radiographers at that time. OLMH (private) was a Limited Company with Board Members and Hospital members from different professions. As a Catholic hospital, it provides holistic care to patients, particularly those in need and promotion of health in the community as an expression of the ministry of Jesus Christ with a concern and deep respect for the dignity of people.

OLMH-HA

In 1991, OLMH became a public hospital under the Hospital Authority (OLMH-HA) and a Hospital Governing Committee was formed to take care of the public services. At present 66% of the members of this Committee comprises of members from OLMH (private) including Dr. Nancy Fok, Sister Marilu Limgenco and Joseph Hui to name a few.



Main Entrance to OLMH-HA

OLMH (Private)

The OLMH Ltd (Private) Board of Governors also known as Hospital Board continues the Dental and Pastoral services which the Hospital Authority did not support. The incumbent Chairperson is Dr. Nancy Fok, MCS 1965. The Pastoral Ministry team was first implemented in 1977 and are available to patients and their family members to allay fears, apprehension and grief. Dental Service was continued as well.

In 2004, the Hospital Board recognized the needs of the community, collaborated with Hospital Authority in setting up a low cost private "Community Specialty Clinic" (CSC) on the 3rd floor of the Outpatient Block of OLMH (Private) offering specialties clinics where the sandwich-class can avail private patient services without having to pay the high medical fees at private hospitals. Services in the CSC includes Physical Check-up, Ophthalmology, Gynaecology, Orthopedics, Medical/Internal Medicine, Surgery, Cardiac, Dental, Counseling and Endoscopy. In 2018/2019, CSC handled 7804 patients, 318 operations and 155 procedures. The basic consultation fees starts at \$350.00.

Maryknoll Sister Marilu Limgenco became the administrator of CSC in 2005. Her aspirations for serving the needy and poorer community are firm and persistent. Sister Marilu joined Maryknoll Sisters in 1968. In 1983, she was assigned to Hong Kong and started working at OLMH in the Clinical Pastoral Ministry- visiting patients especially those suffering from cancer and also giving support to families and staff. In the past 6 years, she was able to secure private donations for a bone density scanning machine donated to OLMH-HA and also set up the Endoscopy Center for CSC in July 2019.

I am very touched and impressed by how passionate the medical doctors and staff volunteers serving at CSC . Sister Marilu receives no salary; her commitment and dedication to the hospital is definitely making God's love visible and the Maryknoll Sisters' spirit shines through. I encourage alumnae living abroad and in Hong Kong to go visit OLMH to be part of their class reunion activities and their donation choice. We should carry the Maryknoll Sisters' torch to making God's love visible. Appointment can be made with Sister Marilu Limgenco at OLMH Telephone +852 2320 2452 or email olmhadmin@biznetvigator.com . I can also be contacted at +1-4156998822 or email ykw1335@gmail.com .

Maryknoll Alumnae News continued.



Outpatient Block OLMH





Nurse station



New Endoscopy Center at CSC (primarily funded by private donations)

Maryknoll Alumnae News continued.



Endoscopy Recovery Room



Endoscopy procedure Room One

Maryknoll Alumnae News continued.



Endoscopy procedure Room Two



Equipment and Tools Preparation and Sanitization Room

Maryknoll Alumnae News continued.

New Bone Density
Machine Center



Densitometry machine (DEXA) Entrance at OLMH- HA



Densitometry machine (DEXA) – a private donation

Maryknoll Alumnae News continued.



Magdalen Yum visiting Sr. Marilu
in her CSC OLMH office.



Photo taken on Sister Marilu's 80th Birthday, May, 2019

80th Birthday Dinner for Sister Marilu Limgenco



Dr Nancy Fok hosted a buffet birthday dinner to celebrate Sister Marilu's 80th birthday at Café Hyatt Regency in Tsimshatsui Kowloon.

Back Row (left to right):

Emily Ngan (MCS Trust)

Ronnie **Tam** (MCS Alumnae)

Dr Nancy Fok (OLMH Chairperson, MCS 1965)

Samantha Tam (MCS Chairperson Former Student Association)

June Lo (MCS alumnae)

Elsa Ip (OLMH Adm Secretary)

Joseph Hui (OLMH Manager)

Michelle (Helper at Sister house)

Azeem (Friend)

Front Row:

King Pang (Friend)

Leny (Sister Marilu's sister)

Sister Sue Glass (Maryknoll Sister in Macau)

Sister Marilu Limgenco (OLMH Board member, CSC Administrator, Administrator of Maryknoll Sisters HK and China Region)

Lia (Niece of Sister Marilu)

Sister Armeline (Maryknoll Sister)

Magdalen Yum (MSS 1976)

Sister Marya (Maryknoll Sister)

In loving memory...

Sister Janet Carroll passed away on May 28, 2019 after 65 years as a Maryknoll Sister, dedicating her life to work in China. A memorial Mass was held on June 4 to celebrate Sister's life. Following is a letter of appreciation dedicated to Sister Carroll.



Maryknoll Sisters

Making God's love visible

P.O. Box 311, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311

Tel: 914-941-7575

www.maryknollsisters.org

June 4, 2019

Dear Sisters, Family and Friends,

We gather today to celebrate a life that was, in truth, larger than life. We welcome members of Janet's family, some of her many friends, and our Maryknoll community to our liturgy of resurrection this morning for Sister Janet Catherine Carroll. Janet died on May 28, 2019 in Cedar Manor Nursing Home, Ossining, NY. She was 85 years old and had been a Maryknoll Sister for 66 years.

Janet was born in New York City on July 22, 1933 to Ethel Rita (Waters) Carroll and Raphael Peter Carroll and had two brothers, Raymond and Arthur. Raymond predeceased her and her brother Arthur is not well and lives in New Hampshire. His wife, Karol, is here with us today along with Janet's niece Christine and her family, who have accompanied Janet over the years with love and tender care.

Janet graduated from St. Barnabas High School in the Bronx, NY and entered the Maryknoll Sisters Novitiate at Maryknoll, NY on September 2, 1952 from St. John the Evangelist Parish, Kingsbridge, in the Archdiocese of New York.

At her Reception into the Congregation, she received the religious name, Sister Mara Francis, but returned to her baptismal name after Vatican Council II. She made her First Profession of Vows on March 7, 1955 at the Maryknoll Sisters Motherhouse, Maryknoll, NY and her Final Profession of Vows on March 7, 1961 in Taiwan. Janet received her BA in social service from New York University and in 1989, she earned an MA in International Affairs from Yale University. In 1996, Janet received a PhD in Humane Letters *honoris causa* from Siena College.

Janet wrote part of her own biography and here I quote: "In 1956, Janet was assigned to missionary work in Taiwan, ROC, where, after two years of studies in Chinese language, history and culture, she was engaged in a wide variety of urban/rural Socio-Pastoral ministries, in Youth ministry at the national level, and collaborated with the Jesuit Society in developing socio-economic leadership training programs for laity, religious, and clergy. She served as national chaplain of the Young Christian Workers' Movement, was Executive-Secretary of the Institute for Social Action and served as a member of the Social Apostolate Commission of the Chinese Bishops Conference."

After ten years in Taiwan, Janet returned to the USA to study for her BA at New York University; she then returned to Hsinchu, Taiwan for four years as director of the Institute for Social Action. In 1972, she returned to the USA and began the graced time of putting her enormous gifts in service to the Congregation and the Church—in the field of academic, ecumenical Mission study and in efforts to learn about and support the Church in China. She directed our Congregational Research and Planning Office from 1972-1978, traveling the Maryknoll world with Fr. Larry Egan, giving workshops and seminars on mission planning.



*Sr. Janet Carroll
1933 - 2019*

In loving memory, continued.

In 1979, Janet initiated our Congregational presence at the United Nations as part of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations, and for this she received the Papal Honor: *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* in 1987.

From 1989 until 2003, Janet was the Executive Secretary of the US Catholic China Bureau, facilitating education and outreach relating the Catholic Church in the USA to that in China. She edited the CHINA CHURCH QUARTERLY, coordinated the National Catholic China Conference and led many religious study tours to China. At the same time, Janet facilitated and participated in many mission and ecumenical meetings in the USA and various countries around the world, while serving on many Boards such as the Overseas Ministries Study Center (2001-2008), ORBIS Books (1997--present), and the American Society of Missiology, in which she also served as president. In this period, she partnered with Maryknoll Society in the effort to educate many Chinese sisters and priests, a work that will bear fruit for years to come. Her newest engagement was with the All-Africa Sisters Conference, Sister to Sister—a new experience for her and a great joy!

These are all achievements—what of the woman behind them? Janet was above all a woman of loyalty—to Maryknoll, to the Church, and to the people and Church of Taiwan and China, and to us, her friends and family. Her gifts were always at the service of those who needed them. She stood up fiercely for what she saw as principle—sometimes coming into conflict with friends and colleagues—but, even in the midst of the fray, they knew she loved them. She kept up with the movements of the Church in China until she died—devouring articles and lectures, writing fierce letters to magazines if she did not agree with their approach, and calling friends with whom she shared her passion for all things Chinese.

Janet made and kept friends from all over the world—as well as with her Maryknoll Sisters—her death leaves a large void in the community here. She had high expectations of herself and her stated hope as she neared the end of her life was that, when she died, she had left the world a better place, and she surely did that. And now, as Larry Lewis noted, she has probably already re-arranged the furniture in heaven!

For many years, Janet was not in good health—arthritis, heart and pulmonary issues combined in the fall of 2018 to slow her down—and, although she stayed in contact with the work she loved, she was in and out of hospitals and rehab centers and never really was physically strong again. However, her mind and heart stayed active. The day before she died, she met with many of us Maryknoll Sisters, her niece Christine, and with Fr. Tim Kilkelly and the four Chinese priest-students—she ended as wanted, still engaged with her sisters, her family and with the Church in China.

We are very aware of the national and international scope of Janet's life and work, and we reach out in prayer to Janet's many friends from far and near who are not here today and we thank them for their support and prayer.

We welcome our Maryknoll brothers, Fr. Larry Lewis, Janet's longtime good friend and colleague, and Fr. Tim Kilkelly who worked with Janet and has accompanied her with care and concern these last months.

In Our Lady of Maryknoll,



Sr. Betty Ann Maheu MM
Community Members



Sr. Luise Ahrens MM

Condolences may be sent to: Mr. & Mrs. Arthur R. Carroll
240 Sagamore Street
Manchester, NH 03104

Sister Janet Carroll wrote her biography for The International Bulletin of Missionary Research. Click on this link to read the article: [Sr. Carroll Biography](#)

Maryknollers Around the World

Maryknoll Family Worldwide Network is truly global. We are proud to introduce our MCS Alumni Association of Australia (MCSAAA) and its President Iola Chan. The Maryknollers in Australia are continuing to spread the Maryknoll Spirit of caring and sharing with their upcoming event. A very warm welcome to our Aussie alums from Down Under!

Iola writes:

We have a very small membership - even though we reach many Maryknollers when many of them visit us on Facebook. It's all good as long as there is a platform to care and share all things Maryknoll, but we would still like to welcome and encourage more alums to sign up as members.

My relationship with Maryknoll started when I attended Kindergarten at MCS - K3A - the morning class in the classroom at the basketball court - my mum kept reminding everyone my class was the last year K3 was offered at MCS. I was lucky enough to spend 10 years at MCS and would have been in Form 5, Class of 1990 had I stayed on and did my HKCEE. I left Hong Kong in June 1988 when my family migrated to Melbourne.

After high school graduation, I finished my Bachelor degree in Dental Science in 1995 at University of Melbourne (UoM). I now practice as a general dentist for a not-for-profit Community Health Centre in the Northern Suburbs. I also coordinate and supervise dental students on their final year clinical placements from UoM at my work place.

In 2002 I got an email from Anna Ho Wong, MCS Class of '62 inviting me to be part of the Australian chapter start up. Most other Maryknollers who came to the initial lunch meeting in Nov 2002 apparently came after seeing an ad in a local Chinese newspaper. MCSAAA officially formed in 2003 with around 15 Foundation Members and Anna, our first President.

We are currently organizing our Biennial Fundraising Dinner to be held on July 20, 2019. We have just locked in a venue this week, so more details will be posted on our website/FB once our poster has been designed. At our Biennial Dinner we will have raffles, games and auctions - all to raise funds for Cancer Council Victoria as well as to support any donations for MCS. Recent donations raised went towards the Miss Edith Wong Memorial Funds as well as helping to fund Sr Teresa Leung's trip to the last Worldwide Reunion cruise. We sponsor two Maryknoll Scholarships for current students to acknowledge and encourage the efforts they are putting in towards their DSE. We also have a Social Welfare fund to support current MCS students in need.

Any Maryknollers looking at moving to Australia for work/study are welcome to contact us via Facebook (Maryknollers in Australia), or emailing mcsaaa@yahoo.com.au. Most of the EXCO members are based in Melbourne, our Secretary is based in Sydney and we meet four times a year via Skype or in person.



Maryknollers Around the World continued.



FUNDRAISING DINNER 2019



Let's chip in to raise more funds
for Cancer Council Victoria & MCSAAA scholarship

Date: Saturday, 20/7/2019

Time: 6:30pm

Price: \$60 per person
(3 course dinner)

Venue: Box Hill Golf Club Bristo
202 Station Street
Box Hill South

Drinks: At own cost

On the night:

Raffle, auction & games

RSVP & Full payment:

7/6/2019

mcsaaa@yahoo.com.au



Netbank payment:

Acc name: Maryknoll Convent School Alumni Association Australia **BSB:** 033 077 **Acc no:** 211413

Narration: Dinner 'Initials' 'x number of person'. Eg, DinnerHPx2

Special thank you to our wonderful sponsors:

RT Edgar

Aēsop®



facebook.com/mcsaaa

Maryknollers Around the World continued.

I've attached a group photo we took at our last fundraising dinner of the EXCO.



From left, they are:

- Mrs. Marianna Wong (nee Kwok) - Secretary (class of 1980)
- Dr. Iola Chan - President (1990)
- Mrs. Harriet Poon (nee Cheung) - Vice President (1981)
- Mrs. Rebecca Tang White - Treasurer (1987)
- Mrs. Lily Cheng (nee Lam) - Membership Coordinator (1981)
- Mrs. Patricia Ryan (nee Tsung) - Events Coordinator (1987)
- Mrs. Cathy Joseph (nee Lee) - Committee Member (1962)

We have many photos on our FB, the link can be accessed from our website:

<http://sites.google.com/site/mcsalumniaustralia/home>



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Front



Back

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www.maryknollsisters.org/shop or call 914-941-7575 ext. 5639 to order.

Any alum news you would like to share with our fellow Maryknollers in our MFWN Newsletter, please send to Chelsea Waller, Communications Manager, at cwaller@mksisters.org.

The MFWN Newsletters are for internal circulation for MCS MSS alums only. To add or remove a name from our mailing list please email Leslie Mancuso, Development Director, alum@mksisters.org