

Maryknoll Family

5th Edition



Summer 2020

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A message from Sister Jeanne...

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has pause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within."
-Albert Schweitzer

Dear Maryknollers,

The list can go on and on as we pause to think of the wonders of God in each person we meet. Maryknoll Sisters throughout the world know the sparks our missionaries receive from your hearts. Thank You. The death of George Floyd has and hopefully will continue to kindle many sparks (not able to count) around the whole world. Prayers for justice and peace are mingled with the demands of reform in the police force but also racism in the hearts of many.

Here at the Center, we have fewer restrictions but no visitors; masks and social distancing remain. The virus is so strong we are fortunate to have dedicated doctors, scientists working to find a vaccine. Prayers for each of them.

*Love and prayers,
Sister Jeanne*

Maryknoll Sisters Center News

Covid-19 Update

We have some great news to share regarding the COVID-19 outbreak at the center, there have been no new cases of the virus and the majority of our Sisters who were infected are now doing well and on the mend! While we rejoice in that positive news, as of today, sadly 7 Maryknoll Sisters have passed away from COVID-19. We remember the beautiful spirits of our Sisters who have been called home to God. It remains our top priority to prevent another outbreak of this virus and to keep our Sisters and staff at the center safe. **Please know we are doing all we can to face this pandemic head on, and continue to adhere to all proper protection procedures advised by the Health Department.** We thank you for your immense generosity, support and prayers during this trying time. Each day our Sisters are praying for the safety and well-being of you and your families too! Stay strong, we are in this together.

~Chelsea Lopez, Communications

Maryknoll Sisters Center News, continued.

The Legacy of Mother Mary Joseph

At an event held in Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, Sister Claudette made a presentation about the legacy of Mary Josephine (Mollie) Rogers, Maryknoll's founder and an alumna of Smith.

Mollie was born on October 27, 1882 to a large Irish Catholic family. She attended Smith College from 1901 to 1905 where she was exposed to, and became enamored with the fervor of the American Foreign Missions spirit, one of Smith College's founding visions. Years later Mollie said, "I love Smith College very much....It was there that I got my vocation."

We are happy to share with you here, Sister Claudette's presentation about the life of Mother Mary Joseph, which is both informative and inspirational.

Sister Claudette LaVerdiere

After graduating from high school in June, I entered Maryknoll from Winslow, Maine in September, 1956. I received a Bachelor of Science in Education at Mary Rogers College, Maryknoll, NY in 1967 and was assigned to Rosary College in Tanzania. In one way or another, all of my mission experience has been in some form of education, most of it in formal classroom teaching, with the exception of the five years I served as a team member with Kenyan colleagues in the development of Small Christian communities on the Kenya coast.



Sr. Claudette LaVerdiere

After obtaining a Master of Theological Studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago in 1986, I taught New Testament courses at Tangaza College, an intercommunity seminary for religious men, in Nairobi, Kenya. In 1990 I was elected for a six-year term as president of the Maryknoll Sisters, following which, I obtained a Licentiate in Sacred Theology at the Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, MA before returning to Nairobi in 1999. The college had added three more institutes in my absence, so that I now had courses in the School of Education, that of Spirituality/Religious Formation, as well as in the School of Theology.

In 2011, Orbis published my manuscript of the life and spirituality of Mother Mary Joseph Rogers. From 2013 -2015, I taught New Testament classes in the major seminary in Dhaka, Bangladesh and then spent three additional years teaching English and History in Grade 7 at the English Medium School begun by Sister Miriam Francis Perlewitz and Joan Westhues in the late 80s.

I am now based at Maryknoll, New York where I continue to research and write on the legacy of our Founder, Mother Mary Joseph.

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Maryknoll Sisters Center News, continued.

In September 2018, an invitation came to three of us from Matilda Rose Cantwell, Director of Religious and Spiritual Life at Smith College, to participate in a special Mass in celebration of the life of Mollie Rogers on October 14. Ms. Cantwell asked if I would speak about Mollie at the Mass, adding, "We are eager to re-acquaint our community with her work and celebrate our connection with your order."

Smith women were already aware of Mollie's uncommon vision of the world and how it had grown exponentially when she witnessed the jubilant singing of the Protestant women who were commissioned to mission in China after graduation in 1904. That experience had led Mollie directly to St. Mary's Church on Elm Street where she knelt before the tabernacle and dedicated her entire life to mission, however that would happen for a woman in the Catholic Church.

On October 14, Sister Antoinette Gutzler, our president, henceforth "Nonie," and Sister Genie Natividad who authored a lovely little book, a collection of some of our older Sisters' remembrances of Mother Mary Joseph, and I arrived in good time for the 4 P.M. Mass at which Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski of Springfield, MA was principal celebrant and Fr. Francis Reilly concelebrated. There were also two lay deacons in attendance. The venue was Smith's interdenominational chapel where a group of people continue to gather for the liturgy as they used to when their good friend, Elizabeth Carr, "Liz," was Catholic Chaplain at Smith. As the day unfolded, we learned that it was this group of people who had masterminded this event in honor of Mollie Rogers.

I spoke after Communion to a full chapel, many of whom were friends of the Maryknoll Sisters. The talk was well received, drawing also warm comments from the Bishop. After the liturgy, everyone was invited to proceed to Bodman Lounge downstairs for a wonderful potluck dinner and special dessert. How special? Well, that Sunday was the day before the feast of St. Teresa of Avila, a woman who'd held great significance for Mollie from her earliest days at Maryknoll. Teresa was a no nonsense woman who knew how to balance contemplation and action without shortchanging either, and she also knew how to have fun. Mother Mary Joseph who also knew how to have fun and how urgent it would be for Maryknoll Sisters to cultivate Teresa's outlook on life, initiated a very delightful custom. Annually, on October 15, we celebrated St Teresa in style with ice cream sodas. Eileen Sullivan, a key player in this event, knew about this tradition somehow and was ready with all the trimmings.

Nonie's appreciation made for a perfect ending to a day with Mollie! In her closing remarks, she said that it was such a grace to be at Smith and to share in the spirit that lies deep within this holy place. She continued: "way before the days of the Second Vatican Council, Mollie was already ecumenical – ready to bring forth a vision inspired by the Holy Spirit and lived out in those young Protestant women eager to be missioned to China. And now before me are you women filled with creativity and potential still to be realized. Perhaps now is the time for us, Mollie's daughters (the Maryknoll Sisters), to thank you and call forth from you what God is doing in your midst this day."

St. Mary's is now closed but the tabernacle was donated in June 2018 to the Maryknoll Sisters in Ossining, NY, thanks to the foresight of Liz Carr and the generosity of Eileen Sullivan, '73.

Smith College - Helen Hills Hills Chapel - October 14, 2018

I am happy to speak to you about Mother Mary Joseph, the founder of the Maryknoll Sisters, a woman who was characterized by great-hearted holiness, uncommon common sense and a delightful sense of humor. I dedicate this talk to you, in gratitude for the intrinsic part Smith College played in the Maryknoll Story, for without Smith, there might not be a story to tell. “How so?” you may ask, since we are meeting for the first time. Well, let me share the Story with you, in Mollie’s own words. “It was a warm June evening,” she said – and she remembered this incident as if it had happened that very day.

It was a warm June evening, still, warm and sweet with the fragrance of the flowering campus. I was a junior in one of the largest non-sectarian colleges in the country, and, as I walked slowly towards the Student’s Building from the Hall which had been home to me for three years, I dreamed in the manner of every girl of that age about the future, of what my part was to be in the betterment of the world. I would soon be a senior and a definite decision must be made.

These wholesome reveries were suddenly broken by shouts of joy as the great doors of the Student’s Building were flung open and floods of light poured out upon the paths. A crowd of girls rushed out and, before I realized what was happening, a circle had been formed around five or six of them and the stirring strains of “Onward Christian Soldiers” were winging themselves over the campus.

I soon learned that these girls had just signed the Student Volunteer pledge and that the following September would see them all on the way to China, foreign missionaries, for seven years. . . . Everybody in the college knew what the Student Volunteer pledge meant . . . but this was my first experience in the actual offering of the young women and they were the College’s best. . . .

Something—I do not know how to describe it—happened within me. I forgot my errand; I was no longer mindful of the beauty and joy about me; I passed quickly through the campus, out of the college grounds, and across the street to [St. Mary’s] Church where, before Jesus in the tabernacle, I measured my faith and the expression of it by the sight I had just witnessed. . . . From that moment, I had work to do, little or great, God alone knew.

Throughout her life, Mother Mary Joseph would speak of Smith College as one of the most significant influences that led her to her life’s work. She credited the ardor for the Gospel in her Protestant companions as “the star” that guided her toward mission, going so far as to say that if it had not been for Smith, she might not have discovered her missionary call. So now you see what we mean when we say, “Without you, there might not be a story to tell.”

Maryknoll Sisters Center News, continued.

On October 27 this year, Mother Mary Joseph would be 136 years old. She was born in 1882 and died on October 9, 1955, eighteen days shy of her 74th birthday. By today's calculations, she did not have a very long life, but what she accomplished is nothing short of remarkable. For one, she was deeply attuned to the presence of God in her life and on the strength of her spiritual depth, she was able to take bold risks in mission, without fear of failure or censure. This afternoon, I will mention just one of her innovations.

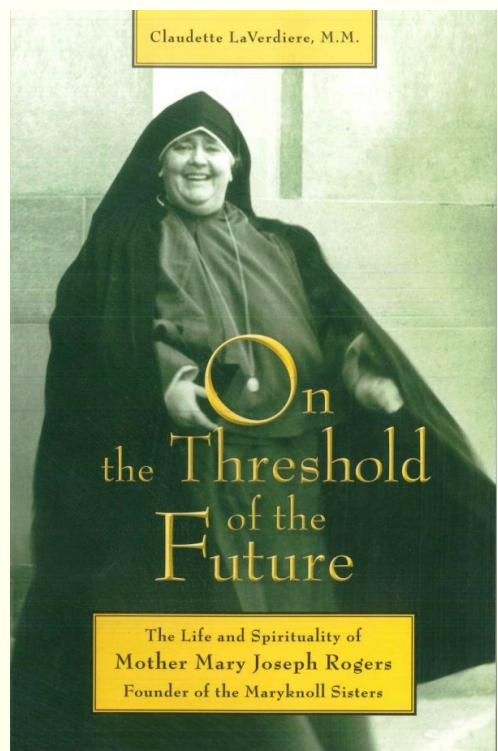
In the last 1920s and 30s in China, Maryknoll's Bishop Ford proposed that the Sisters go out two by two into the villages in his diocese. He had actually got the idea from observing Mother Mary Joseph when she came out to visit the Sisters in 1923. Even though she had no Chinese language, Ford noticed that the Chinese women readily took to her smile as she accompanied the Sisters in their duties. The Chinese women felt comfortable with her, as with the other Sisters, but Mother Mary Joseph was singularly approachable. Ford hoped that in a country where contact between men and women was strictly monitored, the Sisters would be able to go directly into the villages to mingle with the women at the hearth of the home. Mother Mary Joseph answered his proposition with, "Of course. I believe this is our essential missionary work." To proclaim the Gospel, she said that the Sisters needed to be out among the people, to accept hospitality, eat what was put before them, and for days on end if necessary, live with little comfort in order to experience the mutuality of the Gospel.

In those days, that Sisters should work in this way was radical. In fact, it was unheard of. Normally, after a day's work, Sisters repaired to their convents and closed the door so that they could enter into the rhythm of prayer and silence. When the cardinal in Rome sent his approval of this method of missionary work for the Sisters, both Bishop Ford and Mother Mary Joseph were glad and probably relieved. But what is most instructive for us is that she, who was always very respectful of ecclesiastical authority, had not waited for approval to prepare more young Sisters for assignment to apostolic work in China. The driving force for her was the mission of Jesus. Maryknoll Sisters needed to be willing to do whatever was necessary, wherever it was needed. Perhaps the most enduring value of her openness to innovative ministries is that it has inspired generations of Maryknoll Sisters to think outside the box. She passed on her genes.

Mother Mary Joseph's mission vision was clear and incisive. She wanted it to command our entire being, from living in the presence of God, to cultivating a sense of humor, without which, she said, we could not possibly live peaceably in community. Just as she did not take herself too seriously, she did not want us to take ourselves too seriously. As a reminder, she liked to repeat "Father Hubert's classic," a true story that originated in Hawaii. At a Sunday Mass when our Sisters were present, after the actress Carol Landis died by suicide, Fr. Hubert said:

Carol Landis had plenty husbands, but she wasn't happy. She had plenty money, but she wasn't happy. She had plenty good looks, but she wasn't happy. Now, the Sisters have no husbands, but they are happy. They have no money, but they are happy. They haven't much good looks, but they are happy.

Now you know something more about us, that we are very happy women and we wish *you* all the happiness the world can give!



On the Threshold of the Future, The Life and Spirituality of Mother Mary Joseph Rogers, Founder of the Maryknoll Sisters

by Sister Claudette LaVerdiere

Sister Claudette is among the most knowledgeable persons one can find about Mother Mary Joseph today. In her book we learn many interesting facts about Mother Mary Joseph.

After graduation, Mollie Rogers worked on a magazine called *The Field Afar* founded by Father James A. Walsh. The publication was an illustrated bi-monthly, begun on January 1, 1907, to promote foreign mission work in the United States and the work of Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers in China.

“The year 1910 was one of sea change for James Anthony Walsh, Thomas Frederick Price, and Mary Josephine Rogers, with all three collaborating in pursuit of the same dream. Together, they dedicated their lives to the foundation of a society for foreign missions in the United States. Together, they founded the Maryknoll Mission Movement.” This galvanized Mollie’s leadership in forming a religious body and her purpose in foreign mission. Later, Mollie, together with two other Sisters, founded the Maryknoll Sisters Congregation.

On February 14, 1920, the Congregation was officially recognized by the Church as Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic and soon after, on February 21st, Mollie and 22 Sisters pronounced their first vows. From then on, Mollie became known as Mother Mary Joseph.

Maryknoll’s mission work began when, on September 12, 1921, a group of six Maryknoll Sisters departed for China, and became the first American women religious foreign mission overseas.

Following the first mission, Mother Mary Joseph travelled to China in 1923, 1926 and 1927 to gain an understanding of the difficulties the pioneering Sisters encountered and adjustments they had to make.

In 1929 Mother Mary formulated the Mission Policy to address the problems and challenges of the Maryknoll missionaries overseas. Adaptability, resilience, courage and devotion are words that come to mind when reading about how the Sisters coped – all attributes that continue to be at the heart of Maryknoll’s spirit of mission till today.

In 2011, Sister Claudette finished her book on the Maryknoll centennial as a tribute to Mother Mary Joseph. In it, she wrote, “May the celebration of her life and spirit inspire many to dedicate their lives to the mission of Jesus in the twenty-first century.”

Maryknoll Joint Mission News, continued.

Maryknoll Sisters, Maryknoll Lay Missioners, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers and Maryknoll Affiliates jointly celebrate and officially send forth five new missionaries.

On **December 19, 2019**, four new Maryknoll lay missionaries and one Maryknoll Sister were sent forth into missions: Greg Garrity and Brenda Seymour to Kenya, Julie Lawler to Cambodia, Jillian Forster to Haiti and Sister Rolande Kahindo to East Timor.

For video of mission sending, click here: <https://mklm.org/video-2019-sending/>



Maryknoll Lay Missioners celebrate **International Women's Day** on March 8, 2020. In recognition of 45 years of the remarkable, inspiring and self-sacrificing work, the lay missionaries are our unsung heroes who helped build the Maryknoll ministries around the world. Maryknoll lay missionary programs around the world help women earn a living at a women's cooperative in Zaragoza, El Salvador. In Tanzania, they work in the local diocese to promote girls' education and combat gender based violence: female genital mutilation, child marriage and domestic violence. In Haiti, the program offers high school scholarships, safe lodging and leadership training.



MARYKNOLL CELEBRATES EARTH DAY

Earth Day is a movement that has given voice to an emerging consciousness of the unity of creation and the "new creation" that is the resurrection of Jesus. The mutual love between God and God's people calls us to love and care for one another and all of creation. Earth Day is celebrated on April 22

Prayer for the Earth

All-powerful God,
you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness
all that exists. Pour out upon us
the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace,
that we may live as brothers and sisters,
harming no one.

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue
the abandoned and forgotten
of this earth,
so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world
and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty,
not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature as we journey
towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

— Pope Francis

*In honor of **World Ocean Day** on June 8, the Maryknoll Sisters released a video tribute to the beauty and importance of the world's oceans, created by Sr. Marvie Misolas, MM, the Sisters' NGO representative to the UN. Sr. Margarita Jamias, MM, also submitted the following poem.*

Link to video: <https://www.facebook.com/189604658287720/videos/901689133626744/>

Water is GIFT....

Water comes down as rain from clouds above,

Water flows from lofty mountain streams,

Water runs deep in the Earth in underground aquifers,

Water roars in the mighty oceans.

Generously, water comes to us, and sustains life.

We cannot commercialize water.

Water is LIFE...

Water is the womb of life.

The first one-celled prokaryotes sprung from the ocean,

Water surrounded me in my mother's womb before I saw the sun,

Water has the power to ease the burning thirst of humans and all beings,

Water gives life to seeds and future harvest.

Water is SACRED...

Water passed over my head at baptism- symbol of my birth in Christ,

Water is mingled with wine- our humanity becomes one with Divinity.

Clear, Pristine Water is DYING...

As mine tailings are dumped in its flowing streams,

As toxic wastes and plastics make our oceans underwater cemeteries devoid of life,

As mangrove swamps are destroyed and coral reefs are bleached,

As Corporate greed poison its pristine freshness.

LET US RESTORE TO LIFE OUR DYING WATER.

The CALL of WATER is to SACREDNESS...

Clear and pristine waters tell the story of events and memories of LIFE of people.

Its intricate pathways bind all creatures together in mutually enhancing

Earth-human relationship.

Water flows through us, through the earth, then on to the Ocean of LIFE where

We unite efforts to conserve, heal, and love our Sister Water.

Water rushes through these hands.

May I use them skillfully to preserve and enhance LIFE in our planet, our Common Home.



Sr. Martha Bourne

In loving memory...

Sister Andree Bernadette Normandin passed away on May 1st and she was 97 years old. She was a Maryknoll Sister for 73 years and her mission for much of her time overseas was in Taiwan.

Sister Andree was born in Montreal, Canada on June 2nd, 1922 and her family moved to Massachusetts when she was five months old. After finishing high school and working for six years as a secretary, she entered the Maryknoll Sisters Novitiate in Maryknoll on October 5th, 1946. She made her first Profession of Vows On April 6th, 1949 and her final Vows on April 6th, 1952 at the Sisters Center.

Sister Andree attended Yale University to study Mandarin from 1949 to 1952 and worked as a secretary at the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers from 1951 to 1954 when she finally received her first overseas mission assignment to Taiwan. After learning Taiwanese for one year, she began her teaching at the Religious Educator Training School in Changhua and ministry of pastoral and catechetical at nearby villages. In 1960 to 1966, she moved to the mountain area of Wu She to continue her work. In 1967 to 1971, she was assigned to the Maryknoll Sisters Hostel in Taichung to serve as Congregation's Coordinator and Regional Board Member for the Maryknoll Sisters Taiwan Region.

In 1971 Sister Andree returned to the US where she earned a Bachelor degree in Asian Studies from Seton Hall University in New Jersey.

In 1976 she returned to Kaohsiung and worked until 1990. Her mission in Kaohsiung was working with young factory workers, serving as Chaplain and Director of the Pastoral Care Department at St. Joseph's Hospital for the terminally ill, opening and serving as Assistant Director of a Samaritan Home for unwed mothers. She returned to Monrovia, CA to be the coordinator at the Maryknoll Sisters House.

In 1999, Sister returned to Taiwan to work with AIDS patients and researched and wrote the history of Maryknoll Sisters Congregation in Taiwan. In 2004, she retired to Monrovia and in 2014 she fully retired and settled in Maryknoll Sisters Center in New York.



Sister Andree Bernadette Normandin
1922 - 2020

In loving memory, continued.

Sr. Alice Wengrzynek, M.M. died on April 30, 2020 at the Maryknoll Sisters Center, Maryknoll, NY. She was 85 years old and had been a Maryknoll Sister for 66 years.

Alice was born in Simpson, PA on September 29, 1934 to Anne (Dziadkowicz) Wengrzynek and Walter Wengrzynek. She had one brother, Walter and four sisters, Anne, Mary, Kathryn and Sister Rose Agnes (RSM). She is survived by only one sibling, her sister Anne.

She entered the Maryknoll Sisters Novitiate as a Postulant in Clarks Summit, PA on September 2, 1953, made her First Profession of Vows at the Maryknoll Sisters Center on March 7, 1956 and her Final Vows on March 7, 1962 in Kansas City, MO.

Sister Alice received her first overseas mission assignment to Taiwan in 1964. There, she did clinic, youth and parish work in Changhua until 1968.

She was then assigned to Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital in Hong Kong, where she held various positions until 1981.

Sister Alice began working with mentally and physically handicapped children and adults in Hong Kong from 1981-1986. During this time, she also helped conduct educational workshops in various places such as Hong Kong, Macao, China, Taiwan and India.

In 1986, Sister Alice returned to the U.S. until 1989. She then returned to Hong Kong for a brief period, doing pastoral work in the New Territories in the Parish of Hung Shui Kui, Yuen Long until 1991.

From 1991-1996, Sister Alice returned to the Maryknoll Sisters Center and was appointed as Secretary to the President of the Congregation, Sister Claudette LaVerdiere. She continued her secretarial duties to the new Congregation President, Sister Helene O'Sullivan from 1996-2002.

She spent the next few years serving in the Maryknoll Mission Archives Department until 2008. Sister Alice also volunteered around the Maryknoll Sisters Center until 2016 when she fully retired.



Sister Alice Wengrzynek
1934 - 2020

Maryknollers Around the World

We are proud to honor in this issue one of our fellow Maryknollers, Carolyn Woo, Distinguished President's Fellow for Global Development at Purdue University. Carolyn was born and raised in Hong Kong. She spent her early years studying at MSS and immigrated to the United States in 1972 to attend Purdue University where she graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Economics, Master's in Industrial Administration and PhD in Strategic Management. Carolyn has occupied important positions in academia as well as in the fields of development and charitable relief.



Carolyn Woo, Ph.D.

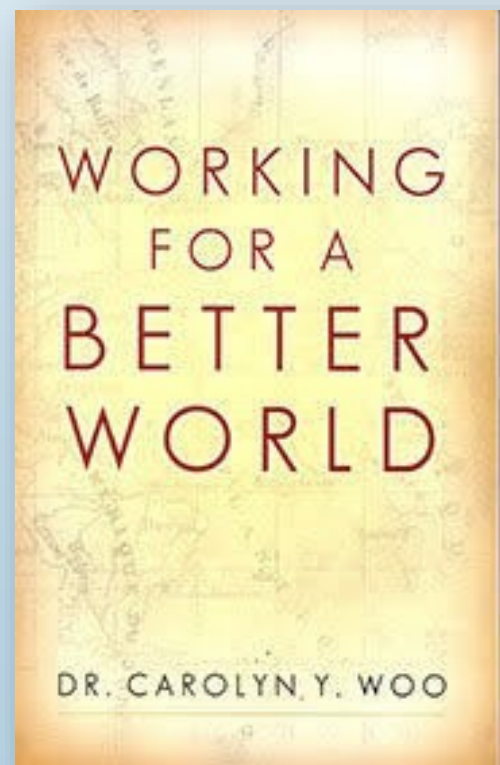
We are pleased to recognize Carolyn for her career accomplishments as well as her dedication and commitment to making the world a better place. In 2015 Carolyn wrote and published her autobiography *Working for A Better World* during her work as President and CEO of Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Her book tells a personal story of how her parents moved as refugees from China to Hong Kong. Carolyn attributes her success to hard work and compassion, and has been quoted as saying, "The poor don't get a lot but they get us, therefore they deserve the very best of us, not our second best." Besides her numerous achievements in professional life, Carolyn is a stellar example of how to successfully balance a demanding career and personal life.

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Maryknollers Around the World

She has raised two successful boys with the help of her husband David, whom she credits with a tribute in one of her monthly columns in *Our Global Family* for the Catholic News Services (CNS). In another column, *Reflections of A Mom*, Carolyn shares her experiences raising Ryan, a clinical professor of medicine specializing in geriatrics and Justin, a Catholic school teacher of theology. Her boys are to Carolyn "blessings from God" and she has taught them early to "work hard ... to never put people down but to lift people up." Carolyn says, whenever she is introduced she is the proudest to be referred to as the mother of Ryan and Justin. "It is by this that I measure everything else." Carolyn was instrumental in her role at CRS and achieved outstanding results, truly living up to the spirit of her book, *Working for A Better World*. Carolyn is a great role model and she represents all the best attributes of Maryknoll.

~Tania Chen Souza, MCS Class of '67



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Maryknollers Around the World continued.

Bio of Carolyn as it appeared in the announcement of her appointment at Purdue University as Distinguished President's Fellow for Global Development:

Carolyn Yauyan Woo became a Distinguished President's Fellow for Global Development at Purdue University in February 2017. In this role, she is assisting Purdue in various international collaborative efforts.

During 2012-2016, Woo served as president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Woo served on the Board of Directors of CRS from 2004-2010. As president of CRS, Carolyn was featured in the May/June 2013 issue of Foreign Policy as one of the 500 Most Powerful people on the planet and one of only 33 in the category of "a force for good." During her time leading CRS, Purdue and CRS established a strategic partnership.

Prior to working with CRS, Woo served from 1997-2011 as dean of the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business. During her tenure at Notre Dame, the Mendoza College was frequently recognized as the nation's leading business school in ethics education and research. Woo was the first female dean to chair the accreditation body for business schools — AACSB: Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business — and directed its Peace through Commerce Initiative. She helped launch the Principles for Responsible Management Education for the United Nations Global Compact.

Woo's teaching, research and administrative leadership in academia have been recognized through Best Paper Awards by the Academy of Management, selection as one of 40 Young Leaders of American Academe by Change Magazine, and the journal of the American Association for Higher Education.

Woo first came to Purdue as a student, then became a faculty member and served as an administrator. She was born and raised in Hong Kong, and immigrated to the United States in 1972 to attend Purdue University, where she received her bachelor's degree in economics, her master's degree in industrial administration and her doctorate degree in strategic management. She joined the faculty in the Krannert School of Management and later became associate executive vice president for academic affairs until 1997.

Woo is a distinguished alumna and honorary alumna of Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame. She has received honorary doctorates from Providence College, Loyola University of Maryland, Manhattan College, Wake Forest University, the University of Notre Dame and others.

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Maryknollers Around the World continued.

See her tribute to her husband in one of her Catholic News Services monthly columns: <https://www.crs.org/media-center/carolyn-woo%E2%80%99s-cns-column-paying-tribute-fathers>

You can read more of Carolyn's inspiring writings in Our Global Family on Archive of Carolyn Woo's monthly column for Catholic News Service: <https://www.crs.org/archive-carolyn-woo%E2%80%99s-monthly-column-catholic-news-service>

Carolyn's book *Working for A Better World*: <https://www.crs.org/media-center/working-better-world-%E2%80%93-you>

Maggie Yum, MSS class of '76, met with Carolyn over dinner recently. Here is Maggie's write up of their conversation.

Carolyn Woo MSS1971

The late Sister Mary Lou Teufel, my former teacher, always told me she would clear her schedule to go watch football at Notre Dame University at the invitation of Carolyn Woo. She then would ask me if I knew Carolyn Woo and I always said no, then she would go on explaining who Carolyn was; till the tenth time she asked me, I just replied memorizing with what she said about Carolyn; you can see how Sister Mary Lou was touched by her. I finally had a chance to meet Carolyn and her husband David at her classmate Sylvia Khong Terpstra's home in San Francisco in 2016 when she came here to give commencement address at the Santa Clara University. My impression of Carolyn was she is a very humble, easy to get along and loves to eat. She completed undergraduate, master and doctorate degree at Purdue University. She was Dean for the Mendoza College of Business at Notre Dame in Indiana for fifteen years and then CEO of Catholic Relief Services. She left Catholic Relief Services in 2016 and has since been a Distinguished President Fellow for Global development at Purdue University. She authored a book "*Working For A Better World*" published in 2015 and is highly recommended to read; it is a fun, sentimental, nostalgic, spiritual, inspiring book to read. Below is Carolyn's sharing of her days at MSS.

Continued on next page.

Maryknollers Around the World continued.

Magdalen : How did you learn about Maryknoll Sisters' School (MSS) ? What was your first impression of the school and the Maryknoll Sisters?

Carolyn : As I entered in primary one, my mom was the one who made the selection of the school. I had taken the entry exam for another Catholic school nearer to our home and failed. This setback redirected me to a place that was the best for me. I remembered meeting Sr. Virginia Flagg (Stella Marie then) the first time and how kind and gentle she was. I just had the sense that she delighted in us. There was not the usual fear that children would generally have of their principals. I remember being enfolded into Sr. Dorothy's habit when we got vaccinations so that we did not have to see the needle. I felt that we had the most beautiful school and I wore my uniform with so much pride.

Magdalen : What is the best memory of MSS?

Carolyn : There are so many memories: the Maryknoll sisters, my classmates and all the experiences I had with them together. Hong Kong had a highly competitive academic environment, and somehow we understood that we should help each other, that we would flourish TOGETHER. I had two best memories. First was being prepared for the debate contests with Sr. Helene, Mrs. Patricia and my teammates. It was my first training on research, developing a point of view, crafting cogent and clear arguments while anticipating rebuttal. I would lose my voice in the mornings of the debates and my friends would be ready with different remedies to nurse me back. Second was our lunch time which was spent in conversation, raucous sessions in the Judo room and ten minutes sitting in the chapel to leave our worries behind.

Magdalen : How did the Maryknoll Sisters impact your life?

Carolyn : The Maryknoll Sisters were my first teachers in Faith. God became real to me because God is real to them directing them to spend their lives in service all over the world. I learned from them that privilege must be returned in care for others: our classmates, the poor and the voiceless. The Sisters models that Faith is joyful and that it fosters the "can-do" attitude as God multiplies good work. The Sisters and what they stand for dwell in my head, my heart and my spirit.

Magdalen: How are you coping with the Coronavirus environment?

Carolyn: The Coronavirus has made clear how vulnerable we are, exposed the impact and extent of inequality in our society, and demonstrated the devastation of nonsensical and self-centered leadership. There are both a sense of sadness and the hope for a more cohesive caring society. My husband and I attend daily on-line mass and say the rosary at night. For my birthday and for upcoming Mother's Day, I have asked for zoom meetings with the whole family to say the rosary. I have been sewing facial masks; over two hundred now. We try to be generous and support the organizations doing good work.

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Maryknollers Around the World, continued.

Magdalen: Are there any other messages that you like to say to the Maryknollers?

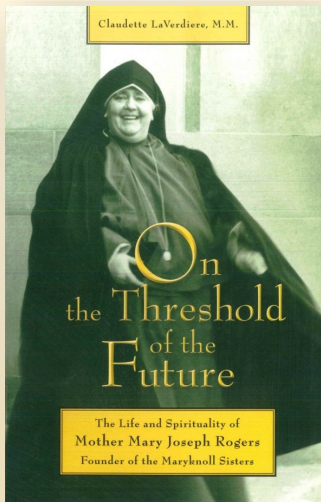
Carolyn : At Maryknoll, we were blessed to be part of a special community fashioned from Faith and energized by the sisters' mission to bring out the best in each Maryknoll "girl." We should continue their spirit and their work to show our gratitude to them.

Magdalen : Indeed, Let us join Carolyn in continuing the Maryknoll spirit and their work to show our gratitude to them.



Carolyn Woo and family meet Pope Francis.

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