

## Maryknoll Alumnae Association of New York (MAANY) – 2025 Year in Review

2025 was a milestone year for us Maryknollers, as we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Maryknoll Convent School.

### **MCS Centenary Celebration**

Fourteen of us from the New York tri-state area participated in the Centenary Gala Dinner on February 8<sup>th</sup>, which was attended by over 2,000 alumnae. Our association contributed to the gala program by producing a video showing the founding of the Maryknoll Sisters and their mission in Hong Kong <https://youtu.be/W8wsCoVSZ6o?si=L6EHMxqIBYnGhwI0> and displaying historic photos from the Maryknoll Archives at the venue. [https://youtu.be/kTQjtpHz-6k?si=4M\\_w6vyA62LUqx4U](https://youtu.be/kTQjtpHz-6k?si=4M_w6vyA62LUqx4U)

The video presentation ended with Chinese New Year greetings, delivered in Chinese, from Sisters who have served in the Greater China area. <https://youtu.be/8cKjSObgx5I?si=UlbesWCo82wtV5xc>



MAANY presents MKS at centenary gala Feb 8, 2025



The Gala kicked off a series of centenary events, some of which we attended. The events, lasting through the end of July, included the fantasia of lights (a light show at the school's façade), a concert, a mass, a homecoming, an open house, a symposium, a relay competition, and a school play.



Through proceeds from the various events, the MCS Former Student Association was able to donate US \$125,000 to the Sisters Center as a token of thanks for the excellent education the Maryknoll Sisters had provided us for over a century! This video captures images from the centenary festivities: <https://youtu.be/wLv3z-vpt0c>

New York Alumnae enjoyed their visit to the MCS Heritage Centre located in the Primary Section.



## Worldwide Reunion Macau Tour

A Macau Tour was organized to provide another opportunity for alumnae to get together during the Centenary and Reunion weekend. Several of us joined this trip. Included in the itinerary was a special stop at "Our Lady of Fatima Church" where a few Maryknoll Sisters had served and oversaw their Elderly Center. This trip was designed as a pilgrimage tracing the legacy and footsteps of the Maryknoll Sisters in Macau.



## Celebrating and Supporting our Maryknoll Sisters

In January, we celebrated the 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday of **Sr. Betty Ann Maheu**, one of the founding members of the MCS Foundation in Hong Kong. <https://youtu.be/BykpMrKwTCc?si=fSkhBh1weZnbBP1n>

In April, there was a belated birthday celebration for both Sr. Betty Ann Maheu and **Sr. Rosalie Lacorte** who is our contact at the Development Office. <https://youtu.be/yGiWJ-TQmYs?si=-8Hdp2xxw5OFPhBE>



In February, **Sr. Joanna Chan's** artwork was featured in an exhibition in Flushing. A few alumnae were pleased that they were able to attend the opening reception of what may likely to be her last public exhibition.



**Spring Concert:** In March, we supported the Maryknoll Sisters' annual **Spring Concert** by sponsoring an ad in the program book and buying tickets to the concert. The concert raised funds for their global mission. This year's theme was the Sound of Music, and the Center was decorated with posters showing scenes from the movie we all love - it was very festive! Those of us who attended were also treated to a wide array of homemade sweets and desserts.



On June 6<sup>th</sup>, MSS alumnae Magdalen Yum and her sister Elizabeth hosted a Chinese luncheon at the Sisters Center, for Sisters who had served in Asia. We were grateful that some of us were invited to join. You can tell how much our Sisters missed Chinese food! [https://youtu.be/IImIJ56Q6xY?si=qYxFE-cL5NW\\_FmMI](https://youtu.be/IImIJ56Q6xY?si=qYxFE-cL5NW_FmMI)



**Fall Festival:** In September, there was the biennial Fall Festival which is a fundraising bazaar to benefit the retired Sisters. Besides helping to promote the sale of raffle tickets, we also provided on-site support to the Sisters. The Toronto Alumnae Association had a booth there to sell donated items and the Sisters appreciated alumnae from our Association who helped to not only man the booth but also unpack and pack items. Some of us had also donated items for sale at the Maryknoll Sisters' tables.



In mid-November, MCS alumnae Tania Souza and Vivien Ng treated a group of Sisters to a homemade meal in a pre-Thanksgiving dinner party at the Sisters Center.



The librarian at the Sisters Center is trying to streamline its collection. This is an ongoing project and some of us are helping the Sisters try and identify any books which may be valuable enough to sell to raise funds for the Center. **If any alumna has any connections in the field, please contact us.**

### **Eden ongoing weekly visits**

Five of us (Anne Kong, Annette Chan-Norris, Ada Tang & her husband Franklin Tang and Helen Wong,) continue to volunteer at the Residential Nursing Home or "Eden" (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> floors of the Sisters Center), paying weekly visits to the 60+ Sisters who live there. From time to time, we were joined by other alumnae during the year. <https://youtu.be/Am9Cebf2jEo?si=GWqJC7yzLJikLIiW>

In October, our beloved Sr. Teresa Leung (94 years old) joined the Eden community (4<sup>th</sup> floor) and we are trying our best to help her adapt to this new environment.

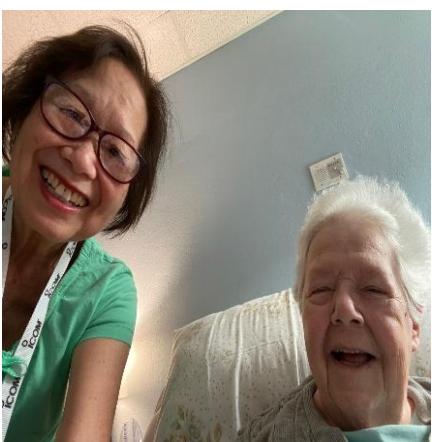
The alumnae volunteer group distributed holiday chocolates, not only for the Eden Sisters but also for the other Sisters at the main dining room.

**If anyone wants to join these visits, please reach out to one of us.**



Helen with Sr Miedal S. & Sr. Elizabeth R.

March



Annette with Sr. Margaret R.

June



Helen, Ada, Rosa, Franklin with Sr. Anne S.

August



Ada, Rosa, Franklin with Sr. Noel D.

October



Anne with Sr. BettyAnn M.

December



Ada, Franklin, Anne, Helen with Sr. Teresa L.

December



Xmas party in the main dining room



Main Chapel during Xmas



Eden - Riverview dining room

## **MAANY activities (Alumnae Visits and Gatherings)**

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, Anita Ho Billings (Class of 1987) visited from Australia. A couple of us helped coordinate her visit to the Sisters Center, enjoyed lunch with her and Sr. Teresa Leung, and gave her a Sisters Center/Seminary Tour.



On March 29<sup>th</sup>, we had our Dim Sum lunch at Congee Village, a happy gathering of 29 alumnae. [https://youtu.be/3auxXnmSWFw?si=7f\\_A0PBIFUk95B4Q](https://youtu.be/3auxXnmSWFw?si=7f_A0PBIFUk95B4Q)



On June 14<sup>th</sup>, 14 alumnae from tristate (NY, NJ, CT) and Pennsylvania participated in an alumnae group tour of the Maryknoll headquarters. We met for brunch at a restaurant nearby before heading to the Maryknoll campus. Brother John Blazo met us at the Seminary, gave us a bit of history on the founding of the Maryknoll Foreign Mission where it all began, as well as a quick tour of key sites. We then proceeded to the Sisters Center where we were greeted by Sr. Anne Reusch (alumnae liaison) and Sr. Rosalie Lacorte from the Development Office. It was a memorable afternoon touring the center and heritage museum with parting gifts from both the Seminary and the Sisters Center. <https://youtu.be/Kf7hoHaWhkc?si=jIMeb1qve9iNIUA>



We welcome any suggestions for future get-togethers in 2026. Wishing you health, peace and happiness!

Anne, one of our steering committee members, represented the New York Association at several meetings at MCS Hong Kong this year.

- 1- August 20, 2025 - Zoom attendance at the MCSFSA AGM where Samantha announced that \$125,000 USD collected from the Centenary Gala, was donated to the Maryknoll Sisters. Anne was able to order several limited editions of Le Creuset mugs with the MCS logo for our alumnae volunteers at the Center during the meeting. Le Creuset started in 1925 and was also celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.



- 2- September 20, 2025 - MCS Foundation AGM at the MCS secondary school auditorium. The 2-hour long meeting was very organized and informative. Anne was able to meet several foundation councilors and was happy to see there were younger talented alumnae joining the foundation. The meeting ended with the alumnae choir singing our school song.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1K7dv1pt8t/>



MeiMei Chan(SS-P), Anne, Ada Chan(PS-P), Joyce Lo (SS-VP)

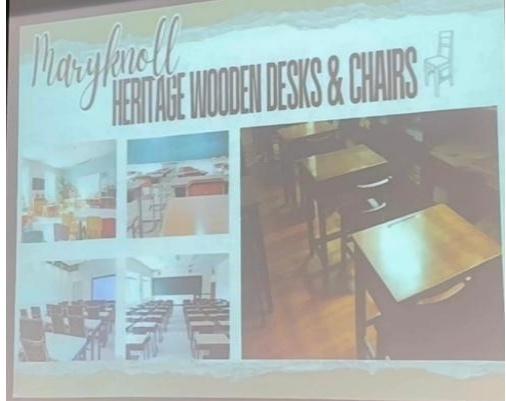


- 3- October 17, 2025 - No words could capture the Maryknoll spirit felt at the school that Friday during the unveiling ceremony of the 2 walls of appreciation to the generous donors to the MCS educational trust for Maryknoll students.



Here are 2 videos to share with all of you. <https://youtu.be/IIw25A-serg?si=xcYXeYSVvpATBhh3> and <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1AHZJ7aNNi/>

During the visit, the attendees were invited to tour the primary section classrooms and listen to an interesting presentation by Cheryl Fung, a primary school teacher and alumna '02, about the Chair Renovation Project at the school.



4- November 29, 2025- A program organized by the Committee on the Maryknoll Spirit in MCS Education. Walking through the cemetery guided by a docent enabled us to feel the hardships of the many priests and nuns who served in Hong Kong since the mid-1840's. We then were led to the tombstones of 11 Maryknoll Sisters where we paid our respects. Other deceased sisters who served are buried at St. Raphael's Catholic Cemetery in Cheung Sha Wan or at the Motherhouse or the Fathers' Seminary in Ossining, New York. After the tour, we had a sharing session at the community center nearby.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1HQbjxDBP6/>

Check out this video of photos taken that day <https://youtu.be/jJXCHeso8xA?si=Rp39NZNB6fO2PmE>



Best Wishes for the New Year 2026

Maryknoll Alumnae Association of New York (MAANY),  
Steering Committee