

Fresh off the press:

The Christmas music party for the Nursing Home Sisters on December 22nd was a major success. Our alumnae arrived early and managed to gather almost 40 Sisters into the Dining/Activity Room. When the party began, the volunteer musicians and the local volunteers did an amazing job of providing not only ice cream and cake but the Christmas music (one pianist and two violinists - one of them is only 10 year old). At the end of the program, a Christmas goody bag containing 2 pairs of warm socks and treats was given to each Sister. Everyone left in a festive and jolly mood!



Maryknoll Alumnae Association of New York - 2023 Year in Review

2023 was filled with many opportunities to spend time with the Maryknoll Sisters and gather with other Maryknollers.

In March, we supported the Maryknoll Sisters' annual Spring Concert, always a sold-out performance open to the community. This year's theme was "Sweet 16", in celebration of the sixteenth year of the concert at Maryknoll. Happily, in May, the Sisters Center reopened the nursing home floors to visitors, so some of us were able to see the Sisters, especially Sr. Jeanne Houlihan. Other alumnae have joined a group of Asian volunteers, who bring live music, dancing and joy to the Sisters in the nursing home regularly. In October, we supported the Sisters at their annual Fall Festival, helping with their booth and the Toronto alumnae association booth, soliciting donations for the "Buy a Brick" fundraiser, selling raffle tickets and enjoying the festivities of the day.



There's nothing like delicious food to bring together friends, enjoy each other's company, share updates, and reminisce about old times. In January, we celebrated the Year of the Rabbit with a dim sum meal. A spring brunch in April drew 34 attendees, including Sr. Teresa Leung and Sr. Joanna Chan. We were pleased to be able to buy MCS memorabilia on all these occasions.



As Hong Kong lessened and then eliminated the entry quarantine requirements, many of us have returned to Hong Kong and participated in different events, including the MCS Homecoming in February. At that event, our NY alumnae announced that the **WWR, originally scheduled for August 2022, would be moved to Hong Kong, to be celebrated with our school centennial in February 2025**. All 1100+ attendees at the "Poon Choy 盆菜" loved the fortune cookies we brought from NYC. In November, several of us attended the MCS Artwalk held at the school, where many creative artworks of our talented students and alumnae were displayed. What a precious way to 're-engage' in school activities and watch the bright next generation show their talents and aspirations.



The connection with our school remains strong. After our spring brunch, some of us supported the virtual walkathon for MCS and raised \$40,000 HKD which was sent to the MCS Educational Trust to benefit young Maryknollers. In June, a few of us met with Cordelia Chung, the Maryknoll Convent School Foundation chairperson. The Foundation is our School's sponsoring body, responsible for the supervision of the operation and administration of both the Primary and Secondary sections. Cordelia and two other members of the Foundation spent the weekend at the Sisters Center as part of their continuing effort to incorporate the Maryknoll Spirit into all aspects of an MCS education.



As the Sisters continued their mission here and abroad, Sr. Joanna Chan was inducted into the 41st Annual Westchester County Senior Hall of Fame. This December, several alumnae attended the luncheon to help celebrate those seniors who have "generously given their time and energy to improve the quality of life in their communities or the County at large". Congratulations to Sr. Joanna Chan!

We often hear that Maryknoll "girls" are the most dedicated students known in the world! While we all keep the Maryknoll spirit alive within us, we should continue to give back and show our gratitude to the Sisters who taught, nurtured, encouraged and believed in us. In addition to donating our time, the Sisters benefit from any and all monetary contributions directed to the Development Office at www.Maryknollsisters.org. Donors can specify the use of the gift **"Retirement funds for the Sisters"** or towards any mission or special use.

Thank you to everyone in the Maryknoll NYC Alumnae group for making 2023 a meaningful and fun year.

Wishing you health and happiness!
Hope to see you at many fun activities in 2024!

Steering Committee
Maryknoll Alumnae Association of New York