

In Loving Memory of
Miss Edith Wong
1946-2018



逾越聖祭

黃鳳蓮老師
安息主懷



Memorial Mass & Sharing Session
October 6, 2018

「這場好仗，我已打完；這場賽跑，我已跑到終點；這信仰，我已保持了。」

(弟茂德後書 4:7)

天主教在黃鳳蓮老師(Miss Edith Wong)的人生中，透過不同的人，以愛觸動了她的生命。而她亦懷著謙虛的心，以她的生命去回應天主的召叫。透過教學工作，她除了把知識傳授給學生之外，還關顧她們在身、心、靈三方面的需要。

當她面對疾病痛苦的時候，縱使曾經歷過憂慮與失望，但她仍能保持對天主的信心，以堅忍不屈的精神接受各項療程；亦懷著謙卑之心，好讓家人及學生們可以好好照顧她。靠著聖體聖事及祈禱的力量，從中獲得平安，並有勇氣去面對各種困難與挑戰。如今，她已打完這場好仗，完了人生的路，可以安息主懷。

天主藉着她，將愛傳給她所接觸的人，使我們能在她身上，看到天主的臨在。我們有幸在求學的階段，遇上這位良師益友。她的一生，能真確地活出天主的愛，並教導我們學習去愛，學習去服務他人，學習去成為天主得心應手的和平工具。

與其說「Miss Wong 離開了我們」，不如說「Miss Wong 成了我們的守護天使」。天主以她的生命影響更多生命、觸動更多生命。讓我們懷著感恩的心，感謝天主派遣了這位天使，在我們生命不同的階段中與我們同行。讓我們彼此代禱，並在生活中延續她愛主愛人、無私奉獻的偉大精神。

讚美天主！感謝天主！

代女

劉心怡 Zenia Lau

Class of 92

SHARING SESSION



How would we remember Miss Wong?

A sincere, kind, compassionate, fair, humble, determined, passionate, fun-loving, versatile, open-minded, humorous, generous and grateful person? Yes, actually, ALL of the above. For Maryknollers, she will always be remembered as a respected and well-loved teacher and friend. For colleagues, she will be remembered as a mentor, a popular senior that brought a strong sense of affinity and harmony to the Group. For her family, Miss Wong will always be remembered as a kind, hardworking and selfless big sister who had countless stories to tell. Her love of life and gratitude was most admirable amongst all her virtues, and could be summarized by her repeated mentions of “I count my blessings and I am thankful to God for such a great prerogative” whilst her free and humorous spirit best captured by her remark “Mo nei gum ho hey” would stay in our hearts forever.

How many of you remember Miss Wong saying, “Now girls...” during your years at MCS? Indeed, she considered all the girls that she taught as her daughters. In her own words, “I have borne no child of my own, but I have daughters all over the world.” She dedicated almost half of her life to teaching and nurturing Maryknoll students. Miss Wong embodied all the virtues that MCS holds dear and instills in its students.

Miss Wong was born in 1946 to a humble family and grew up with 4 other siblings whom she helped support in her youthful years after her father’s passing. She began her studies with a Catholic Primary School and ranked first in Yuen Long District in the Secondary School Entrance Examination. She then went to Ho Tung Secondary School, and graduated from the then Northcote College of Education. She was baptized and confirmed in 1965 before joining Maryknoll. Miss Wong worked under Sister Rose Duchesne, the Principal at the time for 7 years, followed by Sister Jeanne Houlihan and Mrs. Lydia Huang until her retirement. She further attained a B.Sc degree in Psychology and Professional Studies in 1998.

As Miss Wong's major was in Physical Education at the College of Education, (something that she often joked about was how she knew nothing else, but a well-executed somersault was what got her into this major), she was initially tasked with teaching all classes P.E. from Forms one to five at Maryknoll. Previously, P.E. was not offered as a full subject, so the amount of exercise by students at school could be random and inconsistent. Miss Wong's aim was to introduce students to regular exercise for good health and have some fun along the way.

From working with simple hula hoops, tug-of-war type ropes and a few softball gloves and bats, step by step and with a tight budget, she added folding mats, net balls, benches, pommel horse etc...to the sports inventory. Eventually, our students didn't just exercise for health, they excelled in team sports and competed in Inter-School competitions. For the sake of promoting and strengthening internal sporting events, all students were divided into the 4 "houses" that we know. Our students, all gems, grew to participate in Swimming Gala, track and field events, life-saving and ball games. Miss Wong's hard work led to the possibility of these sporting activities.

One would be mistaken to think that Miss Wong's teaching was confined in the area of Physical Education. The reality was she also taught Geography, Mathematics, Religious Studies and Chinese History as the years went by. On top of her teaching duties, she became a homeroom teacher her second year at MCS which gave her more opportunities for close communication with her girls. She gained an understanding of various challenges faced by students ranging from academic, motivation issues to family or other socio-economic concerns. She approached all with patience, fairness, empathy and discernment. She was an anchor, a counsellor and an inspiration to many.

Another pioneering program that Miss Wong helped develop at Maryknoll was the Girl Guides and the Rangers Programs. These groups had always maintained close connections amongst themselves and with Miss Wong. Her selfless contribution in time and effort in these extra-curricular activities had helped promote leadership and community involvement amongst Maryknollers and had borne great fruit.

Miss Wong had been a strong voice in support of an approach that embraced diversity while recognizing the uniqueness in all students and enabling them to develop their best potential.

Miss Wong retired and moved to Vancouver, Canada in the late 1990's. She stayed active by exercising and socializing with friends, some of whom are parents of Maryknollers that she got to know through her students over the years. Twice a week, Miss Wong practised basketball. She also kept abreast about the latest talk of the town by watching the Hong Kong news and TV episodes. Miss Wong had remained a very devoted Catholic. Saying the Rosary was her daily ritual. She attended mass every Sunday without fail whether in Hong Kong or in Canada.

The past-time that she enjoyed most was corresponding with her Maryknoll Family and meeting them when she had time. Miss Wong was warmly welcomed wherever she traveled. On her trips back to Hong Kong, Miss Wong was busier than most celebrities. Her calendar was often FULLY booked by her former students and teaching colleagues. Miss Wong's memory was amazing and remembering names or anecdotes was her forte. She remembered because she genuinely cared. Gatherings with Miss Wong were filled with laughter, love and fond memories of a time when life was innocent and a bit simpler.

We thank Miss Wong for her dedication to education and especially to MCS.

We are grateful to her family for sharing her with us and for their understanding when she spent more time with us than with them.

To home, to country to the world, Miss Wong truly gave her all.

We love you and we miss you.

We would like to dedicate a poem by Carolyn Brunelle to her memory.

“I Fought The Good Fight” by Carolyn Brunelle

*Life is a matter of choices
made at every fork in the road,
and not made for an easy way
to carry or lighten the load.*

*But I've been strong,
carried on through the fog of life;
able to say
I fought the good fight,
did my very best,
triumphed over my fears
and laid them all to rest.*

*I've made my share of mistakes,
but by my choices I still stand,
for in all my chosen paths,
there's always been God's hand
reaching out to guide and comfort
in each and every day,
and in all my darkest hours,
that grace has shone the way.*



*“I have borne no child of my own,
but I have daughters all over the world.”*

Miss Edith Wong, our beloved teacher and friend

