



St. Mary's Past Students' Association

NEWSLETTER March 2015

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Message from our Patron

Ms. Catherine Wong, Principal of SMCC

Dear Alumnae,



115 years of blessings and love

St. Mary's is 115-years-old! As members of this big family, here is an occasion to rejoice and celebrate. Join us especially in the Open Days, Drama, Concert and of course the Dinner organized by our own PSA!

115 years is almost two generations, a long period of time. As one would expect, innumerable changes have taken hold of – the neighbourhood, the rooms and buildings in the campus, the educational system, the curricula and syllabuses, the student intake profiles, the faces... but, what is truly pleasing and rewarding to us, the family of St. Mary's is – the spirit, the culture and the values. In a nutshell, the St. Marian legacy has remained the same, untainted! The youngsters, present day students, still bear the same signature trademark and characteristics that identify them as St. Marians. On countless occasions, the professors, principals or administrators I have come across have unreservedly commented with approbation that St. Marians have good language ability, are capable, responsible, unafraid of hard work and willing to serve. The pride I derive whenever there are happy anecdotes relating to their students, teachers, colleagues or even wives as our graduates, makes me count our blessings!

We are blessed to have a Foundress. St. Magdalen had a broad, profound vision, and a brave heart. She had her deep faith anchored in God, was bold and confident in opening schools for the poorest of the poor. She went straight to the focus of education in 'Formation of Heart'. It amazes me all the time to see that the educational principles she had laid down in her 'Rules for the Schools' are being practised under the new senior education system now, 200 years later. Her kind of foresight and insight, her daring and yet humble spirit

of service, the inheritance of St. Marians, that have not only survived and matured, but also flourished to take a permanent hold on us for decades to come.

We are blessed to have the sisters. The ones that I know of are all faithful followers of our Foundress. Like any of us, having different temperaments do not deter them from having big, unselfish hearts, staunchly leading St. Mary's in the direction set by St. Magdalen.

We are blessed to have devoted teachers who care, and whose hard work, devotion and dedication set the path for St. Marians to strive and achieve. We are firm to let students know what is expected of them, while we guide them to pursue their dreams. We are more than ready to go the extra mile to encourage or inspire when they feel despondent or overwhelmed with day to day stresses.

We are blessed to have alumnae who love their alma mater so much that they would do what they can to keep giving and supporting the school and their juniors, in service and in finance, and in acting as shining examples to let the girls see what they are capable of achieving and becoming one day.

We are blessed to have trusting parents who believe in Canossian education. So many are ready to collaborate in giving the best education and care to their daughters.

We certainly are blessed to have loveable and teachable young St. Marians, who are willing to learn and try hard. They are of such good nature that they are ever ready to work together, so that they succeed together.

Our love for St. Mary's is written all over our faces!
Happy 115th anniversary and long live St. Mary's!
God bless!

With love from,
Ms. Catherine Wong

115th Anniversary's Thanksgiving Mass and Students' Work Exhibition of SMCS

This year, our Alma Mater celebrates her 115th anniversary. The first official event was held by St. Mary's Canossian School (SMCS) on Saturday, 7 February. With the presence of Sr. Cynthia Chan, Provincial Superior of the Canossian Missions, Ms. Maria Cheung, School Headmistress, the members of the Incorporated Management Committee of SMCS, and the Chairpersons of both the Parent Teacher Association and the Past Students' Association, party poppers were popped to mark the opening of the exhibition on students' work in the hall. The exhibition showcased the talents of our primary students in different subjects including Chinese, English, Mathematics, General Studies, Religious Studies, Visual Art and Project Learning. It was also a great reflection of the time and effort the teachers have made in guiding and grooming our primary girls.

Later in the morning, a Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated at the Rosary Church with Fr. John B. Tsang, the parish priest, being the celebrant. Fr. Tsang delivered a Homily with "thankfulness" as the main theme. He reminded everyone of the history of St. Mary's, and the dedication of all sisters and teachers throughout the years who have contributed so much to nurturing generations of St. Marians. (The Homily is shared on the following page.) A liturgy dance was presented by a group of lovely primary 3 and 4 girls, and class prefects offered, on behalf of their class, good deeds based on this year's school theme: "Humility". At the end of the Mass, our primary teachers and girls solemnly pledged to uphold the Canossian spirit.

The morning ended with a lunch reception during which sisters, teachers and guests enjoyed a cozy meal and shared a delicious birthday cake. This was indeed a sweet conclusion to the day's happy events!



Pop! Happy anniversary to St. Mary's!



Students' work on display.



The Liturgy Dance during mass.



The birthday cake...which was delicious!



Thank you for your continuous support to the PSA.

The ExCo wishes you and your family a Happy Year of the Sheep!



嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校 創校115週年感恩祭講道辭 — 玫瑰堂主任司鐸曾慶文神父

陳會長修女、校監黃修女、張校長、中學部黃校長、家長教師會會長、舊生會會長、各位修女、各位老師、各位職工和各位同學，

今日我們在感恩祭中慶祝嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校創校115週年。我們懷着感恩的心多謝天主，在過去115年裡透過嘉諾撒仁愛女修會創辦，管理、保護及發展嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校，學校得以有今日的成就和發展，我們感謝嘉諾撒仁愛女修會、歷屆的校長、老師和職工的貢獻，更特別多謝天主在過去115年來給予學校的福佑和庇蔭。

嘉諾撒仁愛女修會是於1900年在尖沙咀海旁創辦聖瑪利學校，初期學校只有兩個課室，男女學生只有30人。1903年嘉諾撒修女在恩人的熱心贊助下，興建了聖瑪利校舍主樓，1906年加建漆咸道校舍，1923年至1930年重建上述兩座校舍，1938年至1941年進行了校舍加建工程。1940年第二次世界大戰爆發，在日本佔領和統治香港其間，學校於1941年12月8日至1945年9月17日，學校停學四年，其間修女們利用校舍收容難民。世界大戰結束後，香港人口迅速增長，校舍不敷應用，於是在1953年興建了瑪利亞樓。學校初期兼收男女生，1940年後逐漸轉為純女校。學校曾經開辦幼稚園、小學部及中學部；初期為英文學校，後來分設有中、英文部。70年代發展成為中英文小學及英文中學。在60年代末期至70年代初，修女們亦開設了女子夜校，幫助那些失學而在職的女青少年，幫助她們完成學業。1960年聖瑪利學校改名，改稱為嘉諾撒聖瑪利書院，小學部稱為嘉諾撒聖瑪利書院小學部，其後在1981年小學部改名，改稱為嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校，中小學部行政各自獨立。1992年嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校在操場興建了行政樓和有蓋操場。2000年開始籌劃興建學校新翼，以推行全日制；2003年新校舍落成，名為聖柏姬達樓，學校由上下午校合併為一間24班全日制小學。2011年中小學實施一條龍升學模式，2012年開始推行小班教學。2013年學

校成立了法團校董會。

回顧過去115年，香港社會環境起了重大變化，嘉諾撒聖瑪利學校無論在校名、校服式樣、校園生活、學生人數、課程發展、及行政管理等都作出了相應的改變，以適應時代的進步和社會的需求。但嘉諾撒的辦學精神始終如一，堅持天主教教育的宗旨，着重全人教育。學校不但栽培學生成才，有辦事能力及有組織能力，更栽培他們成為一個有道德觀念、有社會責任感、有正義感、有同情心和有仁愛心的人，因為我們的社會不但需要有知識和才幹的人，我們更需要有品德和有社會責任感的人。學校的校訓是：一心一道。主耶穌的教訓是我們人生該走的道路，我們一心一意，跟隨着主耶穌走，敬主愛人，為人謙遜有禮，樂於服務眾人，特別是關愛貧窮弱小的人。

提起感恩使我想起耶穌醫好十個麻瘋病人的故事（路加17:11-19）。麻瘋病在耶穌的時代是無法治愈的絕症，高度傳染性，病人被隔離，被趕出城外在荒野的地方單獨居住和生活。十個麻瘋病人懇求耶穌醫好他們，耶穌答應了他們的請求，醫好了他們的麻瘋病，叫他們往見司祭接受檢驗，證明他們已完全康復，可以重新融入社會。十個麻瘋病人都獲得了痊癒，但只有一個撒瑪利亞人回來多謝耶穌。主耶穌感嘆地說：醫好的不是有十個人嗎？為什麼只有這個撒瑪利亞人懂得回來多謝天主呢！其餘九個在那裡呢？

受了別人恩惠，要懂得感恩，說聲多謝，這是我們應該做的事，千萬不要做個忘恩負義的人。讓我們慶祝創校115週年的時候，讓我們大家感謝天主，也感謝感謝嘉諾撒仁愛女修會、學校歷屆的校長和老師和職工們的貢獻。各位同學感恩的具體表現，就是勤奮向學，努力充實自己，將來服務社會。

天主保佑。



15th Anniversary SMCC Open Days - “Nostalgia 溯”

More events are coming up to mark St. Mary’s 115th anniversary! Our Alma Mater awaits our home-coming on the Open Days on **14-15 March 2015, Saturday and Sunday**. Alumnae and friends can enjoy stories and ideas of St. Marians, young and old, far and near, under the theme “**Nostalgia 溯**”. Guests are welcome to take a stroll down memory lane while browsing art masterpieces in the Visual Arts section, and meet Mr. Geoff Oliver in the “Dramatic Memories” section where he will share his fond memories of drama productions dating back to the 1980s.

With a donation of \$80 you can also pick up a copy of the special booklet “Nostalgia 溯”, together with two specially designed bookmarks. Do come and join the meaningful event!
Opening hours: 14 March (Sat) from 1:30-5pm, and 15 March (Sun) from 10am–3pm. (Please note that parking space is not available on campus.)



115th Anniversary Concert – “TUTTI 115”

The 115th Anniversary Concert “TUTTI 115”, organized by the SMCC Music Club, will be held on **29 June 2015 (Mon) at 7:45pm in the Concert Hall of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre**. Delightful melodies and enchanting music will be played by our School Orchestra, Chinese Orchestra and Choirs. The School Concert Band will perform together with the band of Queen’s College, while our Alumnae Choir will collaborate with the Alumni Choir of Wah Yan College Kowloon. Two of our alumnae, Dr. Michelle Tsui (soprano) and Miss Agnes Tse (violin solo), will also showcase their talent on this special evening.

Tickets are at \$120, \$220 and \$320, and will be available at all URBIX outlets in May 2015.

The Music Club would like to call for our support in the music development of St. Mary’s. To make a contribution, please send a cheque payable to “The IMC of St. Mary’s Canossian College” to Ms. Rainbow Tse, St. Mary’s Canossian College, 162 Austin Road, Kowloon. Please state “Concert Donation” and write your name clearly in block letters of the back of the cheque. For contributions of \$200 or more sent in before 22 May 2015, your name can also appear on the programme booklet! If a receipt is required for tax deduction purpose, do include your mailing address. For enquiries, please contact Ms. Rainbow Tse of the School Office at 2724 2771.

School Drama 2015 – “The Gift”

This year, in a departure from the usual light or romantic dramas, the school will present a musical play which is more serious in tone. Titled “**The Gift**”, the play invites the audience to contemplate the meaning and the gift of life. Directed by Mr. Geoff Oliver & Ms. Eudora Lee, the play, with book & lyrics by Mr. Oliver, has original songs with music composed by our students.

The Drama Week is from **20-25 April (Mon to Sat)***, with the Gala Night on 24 April (Friday). Performances start at 7pm in the SMCC School Hall. **Tickets are available at \$100 #, \$180 #, \$250 and \$500 each.** For reservation please visit the school’s website or contact Ms. Queenie Cheng of the School Office at 2724 2771.

(* No performance on 23 April Thursday. # Not applicable on 24-25 April.)



St. Mary's 115th Anniversary Dinner – Make your reservation now!

We are pleased to announce that the **St. Mary's 115th Anniversary Dinner** will be held on **3 October 2015 (Sat) at Palace (焗府) at The One in Tsimshatsui.** (For those who may be unfamiliar, The One is the mall where 東英大廈 used to be!) **The school campus will be open for past students during the afternoon from 2:30-5:30pm.** Do come to visit your Alma Mater then followed by a reminiscent walk to the restaurant along Kimberley Road!

Tickets are available at \$500 per person, adults and children alike. Chinese banquet-style dinner will be served. Tables are limited so if you don't want to miss the opportunity, do reserve your seats now by completing the Reply Form on the last page of this newsletter! We promise you that it will be another memorable evening where you will meet friends and teachers, and have non-stop chatting and photo shooting! **Reception starts at 6pm and dinner at 7pm.** Look forward to seeing you then!

ALUMNAE DAY ACTIVITY 2014 – POON CHOI ON CAMPUS!

More than 250 alumnae, friends and family shared a brand new experience during our Alumnae Day on Saturday, 29 November 2014 – Poon Choi dinner on campus!

The preparation team was a little worried when it started to drizzle in the afternoon. Tables had to be moved to the covered playground where things became a bit crowded. Fortunately, this turned out fine as participants could first enjoy their dinner away from the cold, and then fed their cameras with gorgeous photos of the playground in the evening! All had a great time and were looking forward to another one in the future. On behalf of the PSA, we thank our patrons Ms Catherine Wong and Ms Maria Cheung for their help and support to make the evening a special one!



Girls united from all ages!



All joined to sing the school song.



A snapshot of our campus at night.

45 years of Success

Still remember how you got your first compass and protractor? Or your Chinese calligraphy brush and ink? Chances are high that you went to talk to the Tse brothers at the familiar store nearby - Success Stationery! First opened in 1970, Success Stationery is one of the oldest shops on Austin Avenue. Apart from becoming a trusted name in the neighborhood, its long history has also earned it a mention in the Lonely Planet Pocket Guide!



..... Greetings to St. Marians from Mr. Philip Tse (left) and Mr. Ray Tse (right).

“I had only finished secondary school for a year when my brother and I started Success Stationery,” said Mr. Ray Tse, the younger brother. “I was a young man then without much working experience. Our parents ran the Success Book Store at Waterloo Road, and business was growing. They were thinking of having some kind of extension. Meanwhile a relative of ours who was running a stationery store at this address decided to sell their business, so my brother and I took over, and named it Success Stationery after our family’s store,” explained Ray.

2015 is the 45th year that Success Stationery has been in operation. It also means that the Tse brothers have been a neighbor of St. Marians for over four decades! “Working daily from 10am to 10pm, we see St. Marians and nearby residents more often than we see our own family,” said Mr. Philip Tse, the elder brother. “Of course we sometimes get complaints from our wives, but we’ll find ways to make up for it.” he laughed.



..... The original shop sign since 1970! The Tse brothers in front of their shop.

“Business has changed a lot over the past decades,” recalled Ray. “In the 70s, we sold stationeries as well as educational toys for children. Apart from retail customers, we also got orders from schools and businesses. We had an advantage then because not many suppliers can document clearly in English in those days,” he explained. “We were busiest in the 80s as the economy picked up. There were strong demand from students for good stationery items, and a lot of offices were set up in the neighborhood. We didn’t even have enough space to put our stock!” St. Marians in the 80s should recall how stock was piled up in the shop at that time, and how the brothers “climbed” up the stockpile to reach for some goods...now we know why!



When asked how they see St. Marians of different generations, both Philip and Ray shared similar views. “Students nowadays are more easy-going while those in the past were more sophisticated. They are generally courteous and well-behaved, and we’ve made friends with many of them through the years,” said Philip. “We have visiting St. Marians from time to time, some bringing their children, and

Old pens...those were the days!

others even their grandchildren! Many want to show their family the place where their mother or grandma bought her stationeries,” Ray added, with sparkles in his eyes. “These moments are the happiest for us, we always enjoy meeting old friends and catching up!”

While we are no longer young students, Philip and Ray remain the same helpful and friendly brothers whom we can always rely on to get almost any stationery we need. Next time when you visit your Alma Mater, don’t forget to walk across the street to say hello to our dear old friends!

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ Class Reunion News ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

The Class of 1985 will be celebrating their 30th Anniversary this year. A reunion will be held on 21 March 2015, with a school tour in the afternoon followed by dinner at Zhe Jiang Heen (浙江軒). For details, please contact Jeannie Tong at jeanytg@gmail.com/ 9223 5673 or Susanna Chung at susannachungss@yahoo.com.hk/ 9227 6000.

The Class of 1965 will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary in Toronto, Canada. A reunion cruise is planned for May 17-24, Sunday to Sunday, departing from Fort Lauderdale, Florida to visit Haiti, Mexico, and the Cayman Islands. Please contact Veronica Loo at handsway@rogers.com for details.

Notice of the 2015 Annual General Meeting of St. Mary’s Past Students’ Association (SMPSA)

Date : 21 March 2015 (Saturday)
Time : 3:00 pm
Venue : Geography Room, 2/F Marian Building

All members are welcome!

Agenda:

1. Adoption of the Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting held on 22 March 2014
2. Chairman’s Report
3. Adoption of the Financial Report for the last financial year ending 31 August 2014
4. Election of office-bearers for the Council (College)* for the term 2015-2017
5. Election of office-bearers for the Council (School)* for the term 2015-2017
6. Formation of the Executive Committee of the SMPSA for the term 2015-2017
7. Any Other Business

Proxy Forms and Nomination Forms can be downloaded from www.stmaryspsa.org.

** Only Life Members who are past students of the corresponding school are eligible to vote for the resolution.*

St. Mary's 115th Anniversary Dinner **REPLY FORM**

(You can also download this form from www.stmaryspsa.org)

Please fill in and return the following Reply Form latest by 7 September 2015.

Name: _____

Contact Tel: _____ Email Address: _____

PSA No. (if any): _____ Year of Graduation: _____ (Form)

RESERVATION - I would like to attend the Dinner and make the following reservation:

<u>Ticket Price</u>	<u>Number of Seats</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>
\$500 each	_____	\$ _____

Ticket collection point (please "✓" to select) School Office (29-30 Sep) Restaurant (on event day)

1. Group booking is encouraged. Each table carries 12 seats.
2. Payment through direct deposit to the SMPSA bank account is encouraged (St. Mary's Past Students' Association, Hang Seng Bank Account #289-8-123415). Please email or fax the deposit slip with the Reply Form to us for record.
3. For payments in cheque please make the cheque crossed and payable to "St. Mary's Past Students' Association" and mail it with the Reply Form to St. Mary's Past Students' Association, 162 Austin Road, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon. Please mark "115th Anniversary Dinner" on envelope.
4. Seating will be arranged on a first-come-first-served basis.
5. Reservation confirmation will be sent via email or telephone latest by 26 September 2015.
6. In case of over booking, the name and contact details provided above will be used to process refund.

PRIZE SPONSORSHIP - I would like to donate a gift/some gifts for lucky draw and/or table prizes.

Item: _____ X _____ pieces
Item: _____ X _____ pieces

Kindly contact Ms. Queenie Cheng of the School Office at 2724 2771 to arrange for collection.

DONATION - I would like to make a donation in support of the St. Mary's Canossian College Development Fund (tax-deductible). Enclosed is a cheque in the amount of _____, made payable to "The IMC of St. Mary's Canossian College"

Please provide the following information if a receipt for tax deduction purpose is required.

Name on receipt: _____ Cheque number: _____

Address for sending receipt:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For enquiries - Email: activities@stmaryspsa.org Tel : 2724 2771 Fax : 2724 2719