

# Galing MC

CONNECTING MC TO THE  
MARYKNOLL/MIRIAM COLLEGE ALUMNI COMMUNITY

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2025

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## APPOINTMENT OF NEW MC PRESIDENT



The Board of Trustees of Miriam College announces the appointment of **Dr. Maria Regina Lucia M. Lizares** as the school's 10th President, effective January 1, 2026.

A distinguished Maryknoll alumna, Dr. Lizares brings to the presidency an exceptional blend of academic leadership, industry experience, and scholarly achievement, shaped by over two decades of multi-sector professional work and more than a decade of academic service at the University of the Philippines Diliman.

Read more about Dr. Lizares [here](#).



# NEW SBDO DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT

The Office of the President is pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees has approved the appointment of **Ms. Aurorita M. Mendoza as Director of the Office of Strategy and Business Development (SBDO)**, effective **December 1, 2025**.

Ms. Mendoza will lead the SBDO Cluster that integrates the offices of **Strategic Alignment, Business Development, Marketing and Communication, and Alumni Engagement**. Under her leadership, SBDO will focus on identifying and pursuing opportunities for sustainable growth, strengthening MC's brand and institutional visibility, and cultivating meaningful, mutually beneficial relationships with alumni.

Let us warmly welcome **Ms. Rorit**, a **Triple A Awardee**, and look forward to her leadership and meaningful contributions in advancing our institution's strategic goals and in further strengthening our engagement with the alumni community.





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## MIRIAM COLLEGE HONORS EXEMPLARY EDUCATORS AT THE MC100 TEACHER AWARDS

Miriam College held the 5th MC100 Teacher Awards, recognizing teachers and alumni who embody the values of truth, justice, peace, and the integrity of creation.

The program began with a prayer led by Elaine G. Urbano, Chairperson of the Miriam College Maryknoll Alumni Association, followed by a welcome message from Ms. Grace F. Favila, OIC President of Miriam College. The key message was delivered by Ms. Chit Lijauco, Amazing Alumni Achiever 2025, COLL 1970, and the program was hosted by Mr. Janver Wylie T. Bondoc and Ms. Mary Ann S. Ortega, both previous Teacher Award winners.

Recipients of the Gurong Veritas Award were Dr. Grace Brillantes-Evangelista of HEU-SASE, Analy A. Cantos, Karl P. Petate, and Abigail Mae C. Jayin of MC Nuvali, and Jeannie A. Muñiz of SDTEC. The Gurong Veritas judges were alumni of HS 2000.

The MC Global Teacher Award was presented to Rey Adrian L. Espiritu and Aila Martha D. Serrano of Grade School – Loyola Heights, Karl Vincent B. Go of HEU-SASE, and Dr. Reynaldo A. Jorda of HEU-SBEA. Judges for this award were alumni of COLL 1975, HS 1980, HS 1985, and COLL 2000.

Recipients of the Amazing Alumni Teacher Award were Leanne E. Alonso of High School – Loyola Heights and Dr. Clarissa Carmelita M. Ligon of HEU-SASE. The judges for this award were members of the Miriam College Maryknoll Alumni Association (MMCAA).



**Keynote Speaker Ms. Chit Lijauco (Coll '70)**

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A message on behalf of all awardees was delivered by Ms. Jeannie A. Muñiz of SDTEC, accompanied by a special performance by Daniel Ray Eramis of MC Alviaera. As part of the MC100 celebration, the Teacher Awards reaffirm Miriam College's gratitude to its educators who continue to shape minds and hearts for service, faith, and excellence.

Arthaland sponsored the refreshments for more than 100 guests. ARTHALAND is focused on building sustainable boutique developments while protecting the environment. To add to its growing green portfolio, ARTHALAND recently launched LIV along Katipunan.

Derived from: <https://www.facebook.com/MiriamCollegeQC/posts/pfbid02MtBFICZdHsBHGsmv4dt8o4gTGid7QzL5x12UKZnEASnaAwwUpGwtUXNFJJqVeRDYI>

## MC100 YEAR 5 TEACHER AWARDS



**Gurong Veritas Awardees**



**Finalists of Amazing Alumni Teachers**



**Amazing Alumni Teachers Awardees**



**Global Teachers Awardees**

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# GAWAD MIRIAM 2025

Miriam College's true strength lies in the people who serve with passion, purpose, and dedication.

Every day, our faculty, staff, and leaders bring to life the mission, values, and vision that shape us as a community.

This is the heart of **Gawad Miriam: Isang Natatanging Pagkilala sa Kahusayan**—an annual celebration honoring individuals and teams whose contributions create meaningful change within the College and beyond.



## Congratulations to the first Gawad Miriam 2025 awardees!

### Rising Star Award

- Jhaymar Garcia — Gold
- Reneline Ragundiaz — Silver
- Ynah Ignacio — Bronze



### Community Engagement Champion Award

- Renz Allen Gali — Gold
- Renato Dela Cruz — Silver
- Julisa Mojica — Bronze



### Excellence in Innovation and Creativity Award

- Jalizah Jaira Lim — Gold
- Zorvin Patrick Ferrer — Silver
- Joan Domingo — Bronze





## **Excellence in Teamwork and Collaboration Award**



- Marketing and Communications Office  
— Gold



- Miriam College High School  
— Silver



- MMISMO  
— Bronze



## **Excellence in Service Award**

- Jed Martin Tingson — Gold
- Lessie Balledo — Silver
- Isabelo Miguel Castro III — Bronze



## **Outstanding Leadership Award**

- Dr. Trixie Marie Sison — Gold
- Maria Louella Tampinco — Silver
- Sofia Soledad De Guzman — Silver



## **Lifetime Achievement Award**

- Dr. Trixie Marie Sison

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# UNIVERSITY OF NORTHEASTERN PHILIPPINES OFFICIALS VISIT MIRIAM COLLEGE



Miriam College, School of Arts, Sciences, and Education, Department of Arts and Design warmly welcomed the entourage from the University of the Northeastern Philippines (UNEP) on October 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

The delegation was led by Madam Delicia Alfelor-Tibi, Vice President for Finance of UNEP, recipient of the MC100's 2018 Amazing Alumni Award (Triple A Awardee), and Executive Director of UNEP's Circle of Consummate Artists. She was joined by Hon. Rudyard Contreras Pesimo, Vice President for Research and Creative Works, Artistic Director of UNEP's Circle of Consummate Artists, and incumbent Punong Barangay of Santa Clara, Buhi, Camarines Sur; and Ms. Leanne Montemayor, Technical Consultant for Marketing and Communications of UNEP.

Just weeks earlier, on September 22, 2025, Miriam College made history with the Bachelor of Design Immersion Tour 2025 in Bicol (see attached website and Facebook page links). This event marked the beginning of a partnership with UNEP, highlighting initiatives to strengthen institutional ties, promote the proliferation of arts and culture, enrich research and creative works, and explore possible academic exchanges between faculty and students, among other provisions.



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The visit served as a courtesy call to Miriam College’s academic administrators and officials: MC President Grace Favila; Assistant President Cynthia Morales; Dr. Margarita Acosta, Director of the Alumni Engagement Office; Dr. Carmen Peñalosa, Director of the Center for Strategic Research, Creativity, and Intellectual Property; Ms. Carolyn Ui, Director of the Global Relations and Partnerships Office; and Dr. Francis Julius N. Evangelista, Dean of the School of Arts, Sciences, and Education.

Exciting collaborations are set to unfold through a three-year memorandum of understanding initiated by Dr. Geofferson Ting, Program Chairperson of the Department of Arts and Design. This agreement reflects the unit’s ambition to further establish Arts and Design in the Miriam College community through practice-based and service-learning endeavors. UNEP’s contributions also align with the celebration of Miriam College’s centennial year in 2026.

The visit was officially documented by the Marketing and Communications Office, led by Ms. Nancy Concepcion.



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# CONTINUING THE MARYKNOLL LEGACY THROUGH MMJ'S LEGACY



70th Death Anniversary of

*Mother Mary Joseph*

**Mary Josephine "Mollie" Rogers (1882-1955)**  
Foundress of the Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic

Come and join us in remembering and paying tribute and honor to MMJ on her 70<sup>th</sup> death anniversary on **October 9, 2025, Thursday**. The short program will start at **12:55 PM** at the **MCHS Entrance Courtyard**



Last October 9, the Miriam College High School community commemorated the 70th Death Anniversary of Mother Mary Joseph (1882-1955), the foundress of the Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic. A short program was held near MMJ's bust at the High School Entrance during lunch time. This was participated by the faith-formation clubs and organizations of the High School namely: the Campus Ministry Auxiliary, the Student Catholic Action, the Sodality of Mary, and the Student Council.

The highlight of the program was the reflection sharing of three members of the High School community: the Student Council President, Angelia Vinnie L. Del Rosario; the 2025 Amazing Alumni Teacher Awardee and PE and Health Teacher, Ms. Leanne E. Alonso, and the High School Principal, Ms. Sofia Soledad DG. De Guzman. They shared how the Maryknoll spirit continues to inspire and motivate them in the teaching and learning process and in the programs and activities they build for the Miriam community and the communities it serves.

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# MIRIAM COLLEGE HONORS THE BLESSED MOTHER THROUGH DUAL MARIAN EXHIBITS

Loyola Heights — October 2025. In celebration of the Month of the Holy Rosary, Miriam College united faith and creativity through two inspiring Marian exhibits — the Marian Exhibit of the Miriam College High School (MCHS) and the Miriam of Nazareth Exhibit of the Higher Education Unit (HEU) Art Appreciation class under Dr. Joseph Renta.

The Maryknoll-Miriam Identity, Spirituality, and Mission Office (MMISMO) supported the high school exhibit, which ran from October 7 to 21. It featured various images of the Blessed Virgin Mary that served as focal points for prayer and reflection. Guided by the theme of honoring the Mother of Christ, the exhibit invited students to deepen their devotion through the Rosary and to recognize Mary's enduring presence in their daily lives.



High school teachers also integrated the exhibit into classroom discussions, encouraging students to reflect on Mary's virtues of faith, obedience, and compassion. Many students shared that the experience strengthened their understanding of Marian devotion and reminded them of the power of prayer in nurturing community and character.

Meanwhile, the HEU's Miriam of Nazareth Exhibit highlighted the creative expressions of first-year students from the Bachelor of Design track. Under the guidance of Dr. Renta, students were tasked to portray Mary from their own perspective, using art as a medium for spiritual exploration. Each artwork served as a personal homage to the Mother of God, reflecting how the students drew inspiration from her life of humility, courage, and grace.

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Dr. Renta emphasized that the creative process was as significant as the final piece. “Art should evoke inspiration from the Creator,” he said, underscoring how each student’s artistic journey became an act of reflection and prayer. The students also shared personal narratives about how they envisioned and executed their works, offering deeper insight into how faith can find expression through art.

Both exhibits offered the Miriam College community a meaningful encounter with faith and artistry, reminding everyone that devotion and creativity can beautifully converge. Through the lens of faith and art, students honored Mary – the model of discipleship and womanhood – and celebrated her vital role in the story of salvation.

As the community continues to commemorate the Month of the Holy Rosary, these exhibits stand as powerful testaments to how the Miriam spirit – rooted in faith, service, and excellence – continues to thrive in the hearts and works of its students.



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# 7TH KATIPUNAN CONFERENCE



DFA Secretary Maria Theresa P. Lazaro (Coll '79) as keynote speaker



The Miriam College Department of Global Affairs and Diplomacy, joined by Dr. Robert Frederick Hayden Jr., Chairperson of the Department, Dr. Jeanette Isabelle V. Loanzon, Professional Lecturer at Miriam College and Assistant Director General for Policy and Strategic studies of the National Security Council, and joined also by Ms. Lynda C. Garcia, Miriam College former Director of the Marketing and Communications Office, attended the 7th Katipunan Conference held at the University of the Philippines Diliman on October 15–16, 2025.

The two-day event gathered experts, scholars, and practitioners to discuss key issues in national security, economic resilience, and the Philippines' strategic direction in a changing world. It was organized by the UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies (Strategic Studies Program and Special Project), Ateneo Policy Center of Ateneo de Manila University, and Miriam College.

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The plenary, moderated by Mr. Edcel John A. Ibarra, Assistant Professor at UP Diliman, featured Ma. Carmina B. Acuña, Assistant Director General for Policy and Strategic Studies at the National Security Council, and Dr. Te-Anne C. Robles, Assistant Professor at UP Diliman's Political Science Department, discussing economic resilience amid global challenges.

Day 2 featured experts, and Maryknoll College alumnae Edith Yotoko-Villanueva, President and COO of the Sugar Industry Foundation; Annette Balaoing-Pelkmans, Ph.D., Program Convenor for UP CIDS's Chains for Change initiative; and Anya Cruz, Former International Studies Society President, who explored economic resilience from sectoral and trade perspectives.

The final plenary tackled strategic alignment and security in the Indo-Pacific, featuring Jyun-Yi Lee, Ph.D., Associate Research Fellow at the Institute for National Defense and Security Research; VAdm Fumio Ota, JMSDF (Ret.), Ph.D., Senior Fellow at the Japan Institute for National Fundamentals; RAdm Rommel Jude Ong, AFP (Ret.), Senior Research Fellow at the Ateneo Policy Center; and Darren J. Lim, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer at the Australian National University, with Dr. Robin Michael Garcia of Ateneo School of Government as moderator.

The conference provided a vibrant platform for interdisciplinary exchange. Participants engaged in forward-looking discussions aimed at navigating the Philippines' evolving strategic landscape amid global uncertainties.



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# ADVENT SEASON HAS OFFICIALLY BEGUN AT MCA!



Friday, December 5, Miriam College Alvia joyfully welcomed the season of waiting and hope through its first Lighting of the Advent Star, carrying the theme: BATWIN: Where the Light of Hope Begins.

The celebration opened with a First Friday Mass presided by Rev. Fr. Eduardo T. De Leon, preparing our hearts for the journey ahead. After the Mass, the community gathered for a special program where both students and employees shared their gifts and talents.

The event was charmingly hosted by Erhyn Castor of Grade 7 and Meagan Francisco of Grade 5. Sandro Coronel from Grade 3 led the assembly in prayer, followed by a heartfelt opening remarks from our BEU Principal, Mr. Patrick Vicerra.

The program was filled with festive performances. Grades 5 and 6 set the tone with a touching Christmas carol. This was followed by an energizing dance number by the Grades 7 and 8, who performed in the tune of Rocking Around the Christmas Tree. These performances brought smiles and excitement to the crowd.

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One of the most meaningful moments of the event was the Panunuluyan, a beloved Miriam College tradition retelling Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. This moving reenactment invited everyone to reflect on the question: "Will we open the stables of our hearts for Jesus?"

The story was brought to life by the Primary students from Kindergarten to Grade 3, with special participation from Grades 5 to 8. Students, teachers, and guests joined as "taong-bayan", walking with the Holy Family from Nazareth to Bethlehem until they reached the humble stable where Jesus was born.

The celebration continued with a paraliturgy before the highly awaited moment—when the Advent Star was lit, shining brightly as a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem who guided us toward Christ, the true Light, and the source of all hope. As the star illuminated the night, the MCA community stood together, reminded that hope continues to shine in all of us.

It is truly a hopeful year at MCA—and an even more hopeful one awaits!

MCA greets you a Happy Advent Season!



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# CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2025

What a joyful morning it has been as we kicked off this much-awaited annual celebration! The ceremony was beautifully hosted by Dr. Marge Acosta, Director of the Alumni Engagement Office, whose warmth set the perfect tone for the event.

We were honored to have Ms. Cynthia Morales, Assistant to the President, grace the opening with her inspiring remarks—reminding us of the spirit of community and giving that this season brings.

To elevate the energy, our amazing COF1 performers lit up the stage with a vibrant dance number that had the crowd cheering!



The highlight of the ceremony was the ribbon-cutting, led by Ms. Cynthia Morales alongside student representatives from the different units—symbolizing unity, creativity, and shared celebration.

The Christmas Bazaar runs until tomorrow! Come visit, explore, and support our local student sellers and community partners. You might just find the perfect holiday treasure!

Derived From: <https://www.facebook.com/MCHEUOSA/posts/pfbid02EQgQDttiEnwmYkMG5vUmuM2sGqNsArcNomBtxcaiwbwC7sVPsFANixXwa4Sa9ksgcl>



# BUSY SENIOR KNOLLERS IN MANDALUYONG!

by Lot Ortiz-Luis  
(Triple A Awardee 2024)

In the City of Mandaluyong, a small three-year-old development group—Lingap Angat—was co-founded by a Knoller, Lot Ortiz-Luis. Under its advocacy, Lingap Karunungan, a volunteer-driven literacy program, is now on its fifth batch at Mandaluyong Elementary School. Currently, the program serves 100 tutees from Grades 2 and 3, using starting modules based on the locally developed Marungko Method. The volunteer tutors come from all walks of life—young professionals, college students, a few senior high school students, and seniors or retirees—and while many reside in the community, not all tutors are from Mandaluyong. Regardless of where they come from, they invariably fall in love with both the work and the young learners they serve.

Among the senior volunteer tutors are three dedicated Knollers who reside in the community: Mila Encarnacion Alto (GS '58/HS '62/Col '66), Elo Gonzales Poblador (GS '60/HS '64), and Gigi Bautista Travers (GS '58/HS '62). For 15 Saturdays, they hold one-on-one tutorial sessions with their assigned tutees and delight in the steady reading improvements they witness week after week.

For Elo, the experience has been deeply enriching. "I believe that I have learned more and been enriched from the children that I teach reading to," she shares, reflecting how the act of giving often becomes a source of personal growth. Gigi, meanwhile, finds profound meaning in her role as a volunteer tutor. "Being a volunteer tutor gives me a sense of purpose—it's so heartwarming to know I can help someone in my own little way," she says. Mila speaks warmly of the impact on her tutee, noting that "tutoring my third grader in developing her reading skills is a rewarding experience—it helps build her self-confidence."

Lingap Angat's school-based literacy program or Community Learning Hub is managed by a small Project Team composed of young professionals/volunteers led by a very dedicated Project Manager, Karlo Catapang.

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The dedication of the volunteers has not gone unnoticed. This year, for the first time, Mandaluyong Elementary School did not conduct a Grade 3 summer literacy program, a testament to the effectiveness of Lingap Karunungan. The DepEd City School Division Office has also formally recognized Lingap Angat for its valuable contribution.

Truly, the commitment of all the volunteers stands as a testament to what compassion, service, and shared purpose can achieve—qualities that lie at the very heart of what it means to be a Knoller.



Senior Knollers still give back as one-on-one literacy tutors to early learners in a public school and continuing to make a difference in their immediate community.

R to L (2nd row): Elo Gonzales Poblador (HS '64), Mila Resureccion Alto (GS 58/ HS 62/Col 66), Gigi Travers (GS 58/ HS 62).  
Foreground: Lot Ortiz- Luis (GS '62/ HS '66/ Col '70), the Co-Convenor of a 3-year-old community development group Lingap Angat in the City of Mandaluyong.

DepEd City School Division Office has also awarded Lingap Angat for its contribution.



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**Senior Knollers at Work**



**Volunteer Tutors for Lingap Angat come together**

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## MCHS '75 GOLDEN HOMECOMING

### FIFTY YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP AND FOND MEMORIES

Our 50th high school anniversary was a wonderful chance to reconnect, reminisce, and reflect. One of our proudest legacies was giving back to our alma mater through our scholarship program: 50 scholars for our 50th year.

We also enjoyed a joyful line-up of activities—Gary V's concert, our classmates' art exhibit, MC Tour, Heritage Tour at Intramuros, Pampanga tour, dancing at Savannah Moon, and a special dinner for our balikbayans hosted by Anna and Gary V. We capped the celebration with a lively dance number during the Homecoming and a warm despedida for everyone who joined.

Fifty years of friendship—and still going strong. Grateful beyond words.



Launch of 50@50 (Fifty SDTEC students on our 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Year)



"Gary back to MC", a successful fundraising activity



With some of our artists, "Expressions" art exhibit

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MC Tour - that's the big bamboo tree behind us



"Meet and Greet" with our SDTEC scholars



@ SavanahMoon: More dopamine boost for us



Pampanga's historical church: San Guillermo



A night with Gary V hosted by wife Annapa



Parols for the balikbayans @ Pampanga



A dance rehearsal at the Marian Auditorium



Black Pink, Beyonce, Spice Girs; Madonna, Abba, Aretha Franklin and Donna Summer

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At the dressing room just before the program



Ms Malvar & Ms Sabado as our special guests



A celebration after the Homecoming Program



A despedida party for our balikbayans who joined us



"Still dancing at 50!"

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**ALUMNI**

*in the Spotlight*

**DR. ITTO AGRAVA**

Written By: Ruth Nacional, Editor-in-chief of Chi Rho Publications



Dr. Ma. Amparo 'Itto' Agrava's aspiration to become a physician began with a deeply personal realization: there was no health advocate within her family of lawyers. Today, she brings the same incomparable empathy as Head of the Child Neuroscience Division at the Philippine Children's Medical Center, making a meaningful difference in the lives of countless Filipino children and their families.

In her leadership role, Dr. Agrava oversees several subspecialties, including child neurology, neurodevelopmental pediatrics, and child and adolescent psychiatry. With Dr. Itto's wealth of expertise, she also passionately mentors the future generation of healthcare practitioners as part-time faculty at her alma mater Far Eastern University—Dr. Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation's College of Medicine.

Her decision to specialize in child neurology was shaped by a pivotal family experience when her cousin was diagnosed with epilepsy. Dr. Itto noticed the myths and misconceptions that surround neurological conditions and decided that she wanted to curtail these by advocating for education on how child patients and their families can still thrive and pursue their dreams.

Dr. Itto has always been driven by her desire to care for her patients. Her ability to lead and transform has led her to successfully lobby programs and initiatives, and advocate for community empowerment through health education. Her work clearly demonstrates her willingness to accept challenges, solve problems, and take ownership.



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These qualities were nurtured early in her life, particularly during her formative years at Maryknoll College, where she graduated as part of High School Class of 1983. Dr. Agrava recalls how the values of social responsibility and justice were instilled both in theory and in practice, shaping her into a selfless and dedicated individual.

After high school, she went to the University of Santo Tomas for pre-medicine, and later studied medicine at Far Eastern University.

Faith has also kept her grounded throughout her journey. Dr. Itto's advice for aspiring medical practitioners is to put God at the center of everything, and to be fully committed to caring for patients and their families.

Driven by her foundational values, Dr. Itto believes that a Maryknoll graduate is a person who exudes excellence, is guided by faith, and is a true believer that God is there.



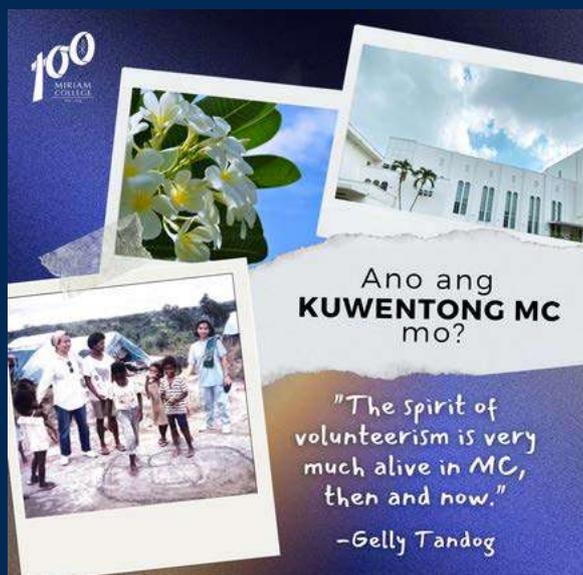
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# KUWENTONG MC



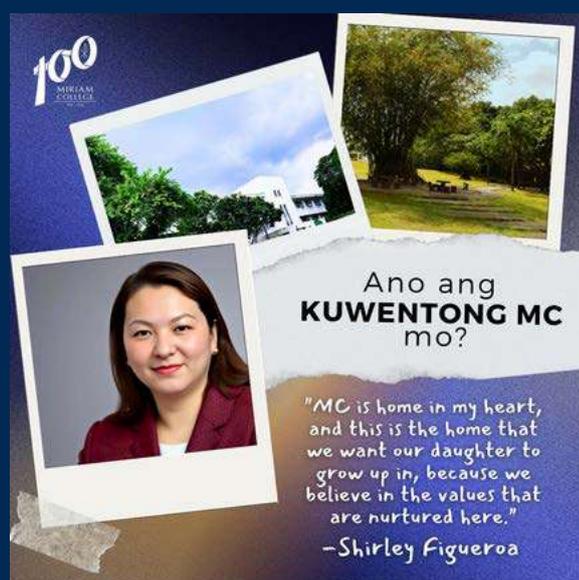
In July 1991, a couple of weeks after Mt. Pinatubo erupted, Miriam College, through its relief operations Kilusang Miriam sa Kalamidad (KMK), brought not only relief goods to affected areas (Floridablanca, Olongapo, Masinloc to name a few) but joy, laughter, and friendship as well. Several employees from different units joined this activity; we even had lunch outside the house of one of the volunteers amidst the sands. It was during this calamity that I got to work with other MC employees and formed friendships with them. I was still on a non-permanent status then, and I was inspired by how Miriam College responded to the call of times. The spirit of volunteerism is very much alive in MC, then and now. -Gelly Tandog, Alumna/BEU Faculty

PAY IT FORWARD. CHOOSE TO LOVE AND SERVE. Ito ang [#KwentongMC](#) ko.

Many years ago, I was blessed to have met this woman who sponsored me through college. We had no connections, but God made a way for me to meet her so that I can pursue my dreams and have a better chance in life. During those years, I would often tell her, "One day, I will pay you back," to which she would always respond by saying, "I am never asking you to pay me back. But you can choose to pay it forward; you can choose to love and serve."

That woman who helped me get through college is, in fact, an alumna of this institution.

Today, I have a chance to give to the institution that raised that selfless woman, and I am very thankful for this opportunity. I thank God for blessing me with a daughter, who has been instrumental to my journey home – Miriam College. Although I am relatively new here in terms of tenure – as I am not an alumna and this is just my daughter's third year as a student – I knew ever since then that there has always been a part of my existence that belongs here. MC is home in my heart, and this is the home that we want our daughter to grow up in, because we believe in the values that are nurtured here. Hindi ako Knoller, pero ang puso, diwa at pagkatao ko ay hinubog ng Miriam College. Salamat MC! -Shirley Figueroa, MCGS Parent





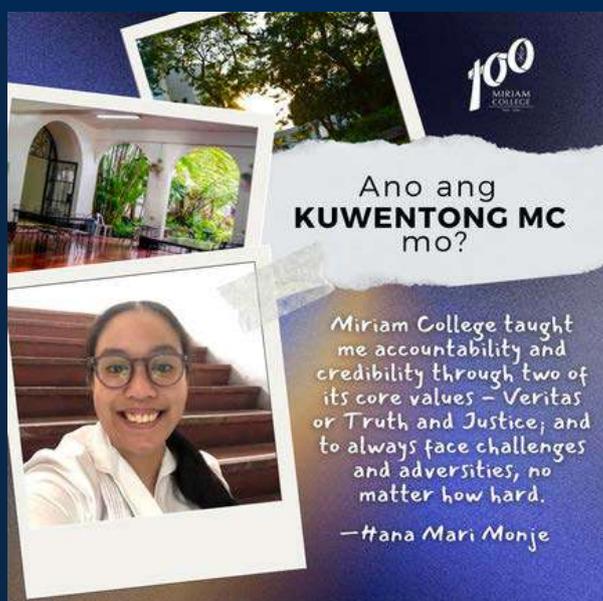
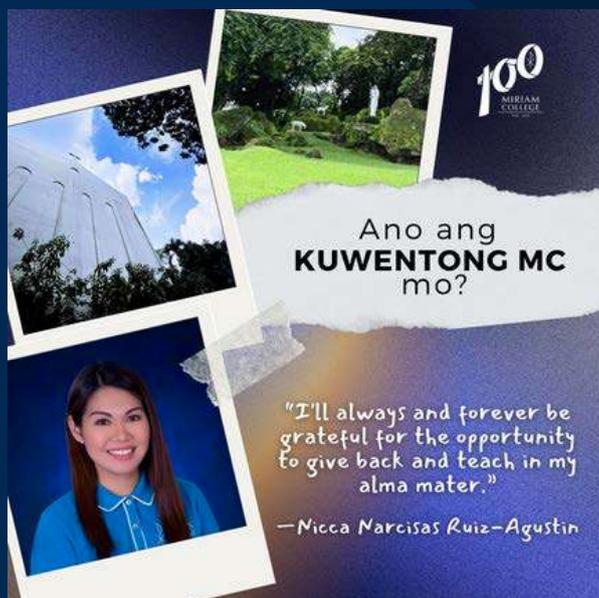
# KUWENTONG MC

From buying me a Lisa Frank pencil to sending me to Miriam College, papa and mama worked hard to make sure that I live a decent life. They did not buy all of the designs, but growing up, they always made sure that I'd have enough.

Now, as I use one of my Lisa Frank pencils my parents bought for me when I was 9 to observe a Grade 3 English class, I feel that my life has come full circle in living out the Ideal of a Maryknoll Sister - Limpid Simplicity of Soul.

I'll always and forever be grateful for the opportunity to give back and teach in my alma mater.

I enjoy working with and learning from my former teachers. As they say, home is where the heart is. It is not a steady place, but a force that can be found wherever there is love. For me, I know this to be true, ever since the year 1992. -Nicca Narcisas Ruiz-Agustin, Alumna/BEU Faculty



It took me exactly seven (7) years to be admitted into Miriam College at the age of 27, due to my mental health. However, Miriam College and the MC Community made me feel that despite my condition, and my classmates and schoolmates belonging to a younger generation, I always felt that I belonged here.

I entered Miriam College during the COVID-19 Pandemic with online classes at hand. This meant that I had to find ways in which I had to be adaptable and resilient to anything and everything given to my Millennial self - that I, too, can attain anything and everything I want to be just as much as my professors believed in my capability and

ability. More than anything, Miriam College taught me accountability and credibility through two of its core values— Veritas or Truth and Justice, respectively, and to always choose the Philippines and the Filipino people no matter the hardships, challenges, and adversities ahead. -Hana Marie Monje, Student

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# KUWENTONG MC

Kapag sinasabi ko sa iba na 30 taon na akong nasa Miriam College, madalas kong ibinibiro na kasama dito ang panahon ko bilang high school at college student. Nakakatuwang sabihin ito, pero paalala rin ito kung gaano kalalim ang koneksyon ko sa MC.

Nung binalikan ko ang mga nagdaang taon, may isang bagay akong napansin—ang tagal ng panahon na nasa MC kami nina Ms. Magre at Ms. Lydia ay malamang na mas matanda pa sa higit kalahati ng mga naririto ngayon. Ipinapakita nito kung gaano karaming oras ang naibigay namin sa komunidad na ito, pero mas mahalaga, kung gaano rin karami ang naibalik nito sa amin.

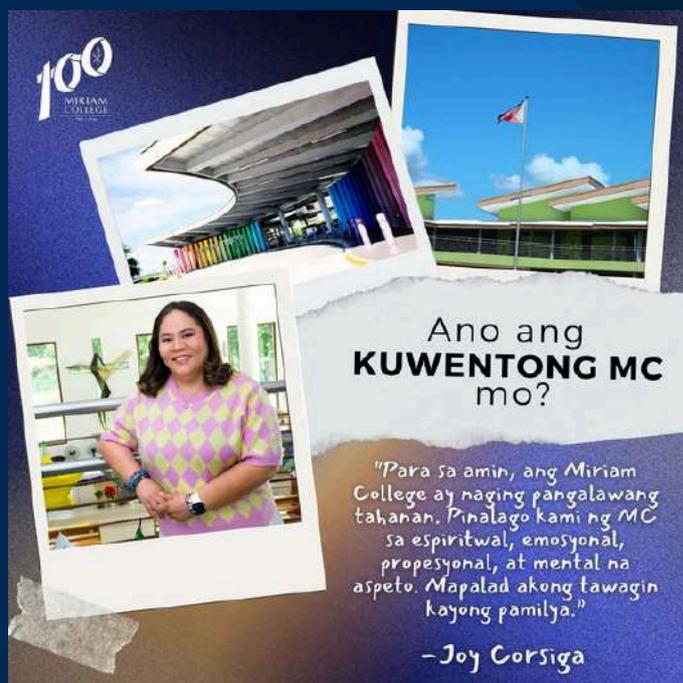
Para sa amin, ang Miriam College ay naging pangalawang tahanan.

Dito kami nakahanap ng panghabambuhay na pagkakaibigan—mga kaibigan na itinuring na naming pamilya. Naging saksi kami sa tagumpay, hamon, at mahahalagang bahagi ng buhay ng isa't isa—ang iba pa nga sa amin ay naging ninang sa mga anak ng aming mga katrabaho. Ang ganitong klase ng samahan ay nabubuo lamang sa mga dekada ng pinagsama-samang karanasan.

Higit sa lahat, pinalago kami ng Miriam College sa lahat ng aspeto ng aming buhay. Sa espirituwal, pinalakas kami ng mga retreat, recollection, at misa. Sa emosyonal at mental, napayaman kami ng mga pagkakataong matuto, magbigay sa iba, at nabuo bilang mga propesyonal at indibidwal. Para sa akin, ang pagkakataong makapag-mentor sa iba at makapag-aral sa ibang bansa ay mga biyayang lagi kong pahahalagahan.

Kaya ngayon, sa ngalan nina Ms. Magre, Ms. Lydia, nagpapasalamat kami sa Miriam College—sa paghubog kung sino kami ngayon, sa pagbibigay sa amin ng pagkakataong makapaglingkod nang may layunin, at sa pagbibigay sa amin ng lugar na maituturing naming tahanan nitong nakaraang 30 taon.

Nais din naming bigyang-pugay si Ms. Aileen Lacson, na hindi natin kasama ngayon ngunit mananatili sa ating mga puso. Ang kanyang dedikasyon at diwa ay palaging magiging bahagi ng MC. Tiyak na mami-miss natin siya.



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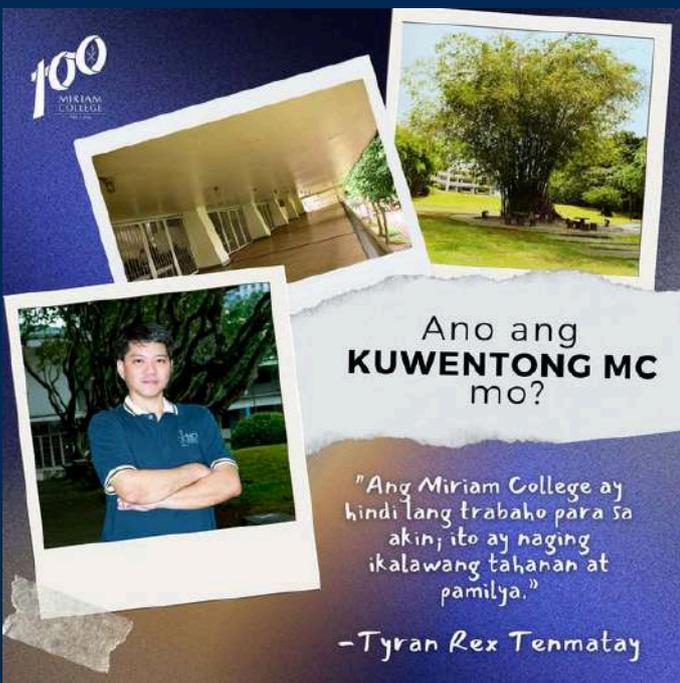
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# KUWENTONG MC

Personal na pasasalamat din sa Miriam College Loyola Heights, lalo na sa CSC, kung saan ginugol ko ang malaking bahagi ng aking 30 taon. At isang espesyal na pasasalamat sa aking Miriam College Nuvali family. Salamat sa inyong pagmamahal at suporta. Mapalad akong tawagin kayong pamilya.

Sa Miriam College, sa mga katrabaho, kaibigan, at sa lahat ng naging bahagi ng paglalakbay na ito—maraming salamat. -Joy Corsiga, Director/Principal (MC Nuvali)



Sinasabi natin sa ating mga estudyante na ang eskwelahan ay natuturing ikalawang tahanan, at kasama nito, ikalawang pamilya na rin.

Bakit Pamilya?

Nag-umpisa ako sa MAE (ngayon ay SDTEC) noong 2009. Sampung taon akong bahagi ng pamilyang ito bago lumipat sa High School, kung saan nakilala ko ang susunod kong Pamilya.

Ang Miriam College ay hindi lang trabaho para sa akin; ito ay naging ikalawang tahanan at pamilya. Sa MAE, nakilala ko sila Sir Carlo, Ms. Grace, Sir Herbert, Ms. Glo, Ms. Tess, at Ms. Michelle—mga tumayong nanay, tatay, at kapatid ko.

ila ang nagbigay ng gabay, suporta, at inspirasyon. Itong relasyon na ito ay hindi lang basta-basta trabaho, dahil ito ay may puso at pag-unawa

Noong 2019, lumipat ako sa High School at nakilala ang panibagong Pamilya. Kasama ko sila Ms. Emy sa Library, Ms. Sof at Ms. Che sa iba't ibang gawain, at kamakailan sila Ms. Delfin at ang mga Subject Area Supervisors. Sila ang mga taong inaasahan ko at umaasa sa akin.

Hindi lang sa aking unit; sa HEU, GA, at ASD, marami rin akong nakilala na itinuturing kong Pamilya.

Sa mga bagong miyembro ng MC, sana maramdaman ninyo ang pagiging bahagi ng aming Pamilya. Sama-sama nating paigtingin ang pagtutulungan at pagmamalasakit dito sa Miriam College. -Tyran Rex Tenmatay, MCHS LMC Supervisor



# GALING MC

## KUWENTONG MC

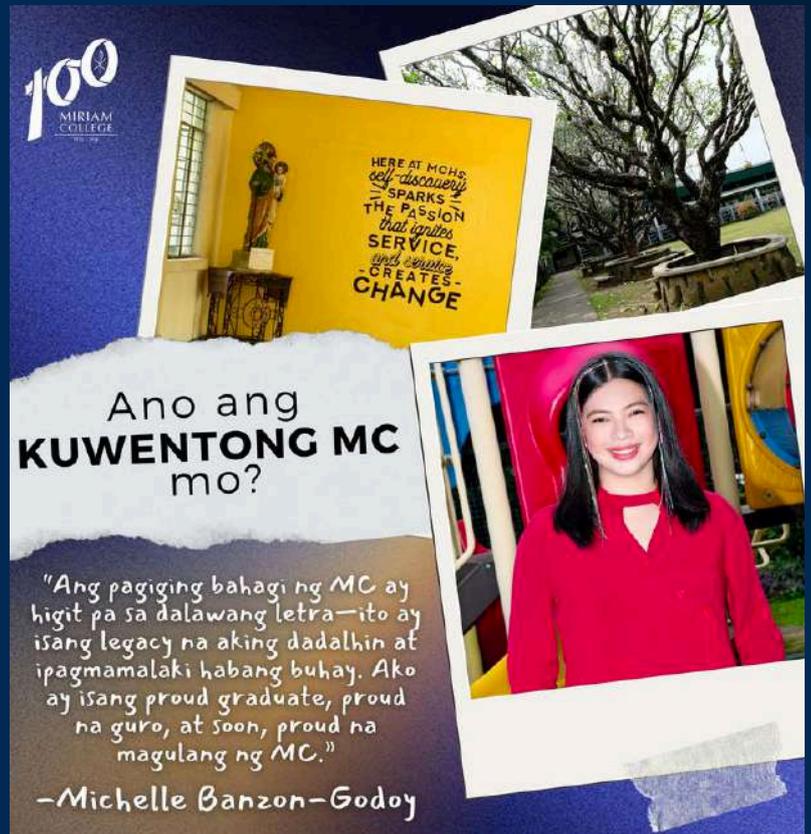
Ang kuwento ko bilang guro ay nagsimula sa takot at pagkabalisa sa paaralan noong bata pa ako. Ang aking mga karanasan bilang mag-aaral ang nagtulak sa akin na maging isang pre-school teacher. Nang magsimula akong magturo, naging mantra ko ang MC—Miriam Community, na nagbigay ng pagmamahal at pag-aalaga sa akin, lalo na sa panahon ng mga hamon tulad ng pagbaha, pandemya, at pagpanaw ng aking batang pinsan.

Sa suporta ng MC, natutunan kong lumaban, bumangon, at magtiwala sa sarili. Tinulungan ako nitong ma-boost ang self-esteem, maging lider, at linangin ang aking kakayahan. Natutunan ko rin na maging M-C: magaling pero cute!

Ang passion, pagmamahal, at pag-aalaga ko para sa mga estudyante at kasamahan ay nagbigay sa akin ng lakas na magturo, makipag-collaborate, mamuno, at magtagumpay. Naging M-C din ako: Michelle na Confident!

Dahil dito, naging posible ang mga accomplishments tulad ng pagtatapos ng masteral, pag-attend ng conferences, at pagtanggap ng Global Teacher Award. Sa loob ng 10 taon, nakita ko ang paglago ng aking mga estudyante kasabay ng sariling pag-usbong bilang guro at tao.

Ngayon, proud akong maging bahagi ng isang community na humuhubog ng susunod na mga lider. Ang pagiging bahagi ng MC ay higit pa sa dalawang letra—ito ay isang legacy na aking dadalhin at ipagmamalaki habang buhay. Ako ay isang proud graduate, proud na guro, at soon, proud na magulang ng MC. —Michelle Banzon-Godoy, Faculty (MC Loyola Heights)



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# MC *Announcements*



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SERVICE.**

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Eligible applicants must:

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- possess the necessary skills for a specific mission area.
- demonstrate a spirit of service and volunteerism.
- be willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines for 6 months to 1 year.
- be prepared to live a simple lifestyle.
- be between 24 and 30 years old.

#### VOLUNTEER PACKAGE:

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- SECRETARIAT, CATECHISTS & MODERATOR

#### SIGN-UP HERE:

[https://bit.ly/MIS\\_LA-Sign-Up\\_SY2024-2025](https://bit.ly/MIS_LA-Sign-Up_SY2024-2025)



#### FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:

Ms. Isabela Marie Uytengsu  
MMISMO Program Coordinator  
iuytengsu@mc.edu.ph  
89306272 loc. 1170

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# MMCAA *Corner*

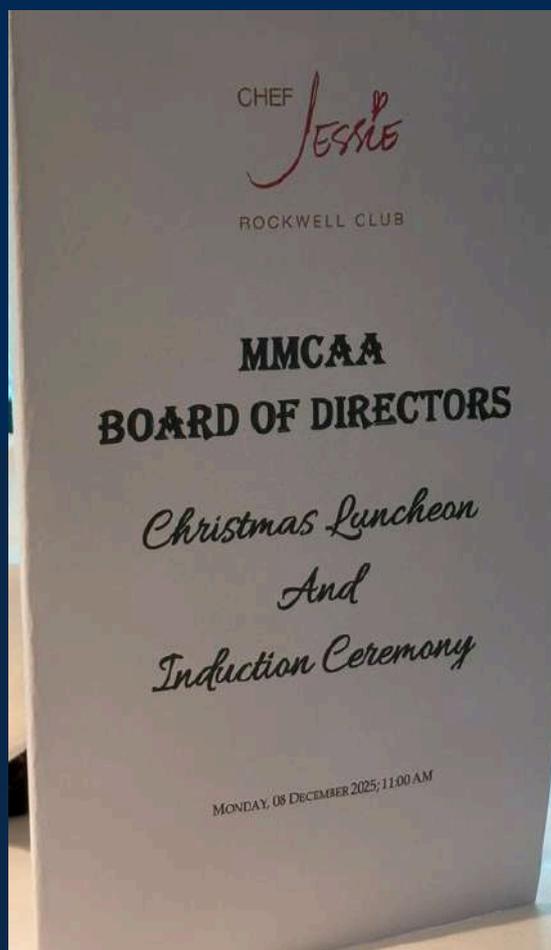
**MMCAA CELEBRATES THE SEASON  
WITH CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND  
INDUCTION OF INCOMING DIRECTORS**





The Maryknoll–Miriam College Alumni Association (MMCAA) ushered in the holiday season with warmth, fellowship, and renewed commitment at its **2025 Christmas Luncheon and Induction Ceremony**, held on **December 8, 2025**, at **Chef Jessie–Rockwell Club**, Rockwell Center, Makati City.

Set against the festive spirit of Christmas, the luncheon brought together Maryknoll–Miriam College alumni across six decades for an afternoon of celebration, camaraderie, and gratitude. It was a meaningful opportunity for alumnae across generations to reconnect, strengthen bonds, and celebrate the shared values that define the Maryknoll–Miriam spirit.



A highlight of the event was the Induction Ceremony of the incoming MMCAA Directors: Pia Esperanza Agbayani (CSC 74, GS 81, HS 85), Lourdes Alviar-Yam (CSC 75, GS 82, HS86) Elaine Gavino-Urbano (GS 79, HS 83, Coll 87), Dr. Glenda Faye Ledesma-Pereira (GS 78, HS 82), Anne Michiko Tria-Tetangco (CSC 91, GS 98, HS 02) and Ma. Lydia Ysip-Orosa (Coll 68), marking an important milestone for the Association.

The induction formally welcomed a new set of leaders who will help steer MMCAA's vision, programs, and initiatives in the coming year. Their commitment to service, leadership, and community reflects the enduring legacy of Maryknoll–Miriam College education.



Also joining in the fun were: Special Assistant to the OIC President, Mrs. Cynthia Morales, newly-appointed Director of the Office of Strategy and Business Development, Ms Rorit Marco-Mendoza (Coll 68), Alumni Engagement Office Director, Dr. Marge Acosta (Coll 86), former Board Directors and members of the Centennial Legacy Book team: Amb. Millie Sta. Maria-Thomeczek (Coll 74), Mac Caro-Gepuela (GS 70, HS 74), Joji Pineda-Flores (GS 70, HS 74) and Patty Diaz-Sianghio (GS 78, HS 82). The gathering embraced the joy of giving, with guests encouraged to come in Festive Holiday Smart Casual attire and participate in games, a raffle and exchange gifts adding a lighthearted and joyful touch to the celebration.

More than a social event, the MMCAA Christmas Luncheon and Induction Ceremony was a testament to the strength of the alumni community—one that continues to grow, lead, and serve with purpose. As the year draws to a close, the occasion offered a moment to celebrate accomplishments, welcome new leaders, and look forward to another year of meaningful engagement and shared mission.



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## 2026 JUBILARIANS, get ready!

*As our alma mater turns 100 years old,  
we enjoin graduates of years ending in  
**1** or **6** to take part in the  
2026 homecoming festivities!*

**Class Representatives are requested to get in  
touch with the MMCAA office.**

Email: [alumni@mc.edu.ph](mailto:alumni@mc.edu.ph)  
[alumni.mmcaa1979@gmail.com](mailto:alumni.mmcaa1979@gmail.com)  
Landline: (02) 89306272 loc. 1187

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# MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND HEALING HONOURING OUR BLESSED MOTHER



MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND HEALING  
HONOURING OUR BLESSED MOTHER

*"We celebrate her faithful  
presence in our lives."*

Hosted by MMCAA Europe Chapter  
and Miriam College Campus Ministry Office  
with MMCAA Manila

at the Miriam College Chapel

Celebrant: Fr. Herbert Santos,  
Parish Priest of Our Lady of the Pentecost,  
Loyola Heights

4 OCTOBER 2025  
12:00 NN CET / 11:00 AM BST / 18:00 MANILA  
ZOOM DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Let us gather as a community in this time of grace and renewal.

Our Blessed Mother is our advocate and comforter. She intercedes for us, carrying our prayers to Jesus with a mother's heart. Just as she stood at the wedding at Cana, attentive to the needs of others, she stands with us today, bringing our petitions for healing, mercy, and peace before the Lord.

Derived From: <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php.fbclid=813034098134985&set=pb.100082852076813.-2207520000&type=3>



## THE LEGACY WE CARRY: 100 YEARS FROM MARYKNOLL TO MIRIAM

As part of our **Centennial Celebration**, we present a **once-in-a-lifetime keepsake: a limited-edition coffee-table book featuring 100 alumni and families** who have lived lives of **service, courage, thought, creativity, and education, empowering women and children across generations.**

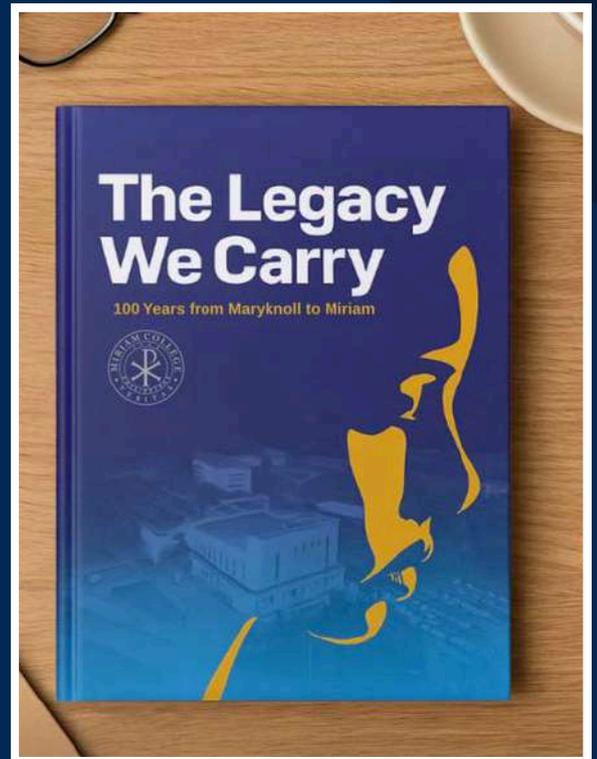
With stunning photography and stories written by **award-winning alumni writers**, this book is more than a collection of memories—it is an **inspiration, a source of pride, and our gift to the next generation.**

**Only a limited number of copies will be printed. Be among the first to secure your copy of this historic treasure.**

The book is set to be released in time for our Centennial in **September 2026.**

**Reserve here:** <https://forms.gle/MJRaWiX74ksUCWdW7>

*Note: Tentative price is ₱5,000. Final pricing will be confirmed closer to release.*



[Click this for the video!](#)

## PLANTING TOMORROW: THE MC GREEN LEGACY

**Planting Tomorrow:  
The MC Green Legacy**

*A Reforestation Initiative for the Sierra Madre  
advocated by the Maryknoll / Miriam College Alumni Association*

**Reforestation Site:  
Brgy. Mamuyao, Tanay, Rizal**

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PHP 50K FOR A FULL HECTARE  
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DECEMBER 31, 2026**

- ✓ Be part of this green movement.
- ✓ Reconnect with fellow alumni.
- ✓ Leave a living legacy.

**For inquiries: [alumni@mc.edu.ph](mailto:alumni@mc.edu.ph) /  
[alumni.mmcaal1979@gmail.com](mailto:alumni.mmcaal1979@gmail.com)**

As part of Miriam College's centennial celebration, we invite all alumni to be part of a meaningful legacy – a reforestation program that symbolizes MC's commitment to truth, peace, justice and integrity. Sponsor a hectare (or 2!) today!

# MICHELIN SELECTED: ESMERALDA KITCHEN

Join us in congratulating Ann-Francis King Añasco (MCHS '90)—her restaurant, Esmeralda Kitchen, has been MICHELIN Selected in the very first MICHELIN Guide Manila and Environs & Cebu 2026!

A true taste of Filipino creativity and heart, Esmeralda Kitchen brings pride to the MC community through its inspired dishes and warm hospitality.

As one of our MMCAA Alumni Card merchant partners, Esmeralda Kitchen offers all MMCAA Alumni Card holders an exclusive 5% discount!

For reservations:

- Mayon – 0917 831 7533 (11AM–10PM)
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For food trays: 0917 688 5289

Esmeralda Kitchen Branches:

- 43 Mayon St., Brgy. Sta. Teresita, QC
- One Balete Bldg., Balete Drive cor. N. Domingo, QC





## JOIN A MARYKNOLL/MIRIAM COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER NEAR YOU!

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**USA West Coast**

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**Australia and New Zealand**

[mmcaa.ausnz@gmail.com](mailto:mmcaa.ausnz@gmail.com)

*"Wherever we are, wherever we'll be.  
Faithful we'll always be to thee."*

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# CAMPUS TOURS

**ALEX RIDGE (COLL' 94) & EVANIZA AGCAOILI (COLL '94)**



**REGINA GUZMAN'S FAMILY (HS' 82) WITH MS. CHERRIE OF LTM**



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# 2025 Q4 Snapshots



MS. GIGI BERMEJO (MCHS 1977), TOGETHER WITH DR. MARGE ACOSTA AND SOME STUDENTS OF DESIGN FROM MIRIAM COLLEGE, AT LIKHANG HABI MARKET FAIR WHERE SHE GAVE A PRESENTATION ON THREADS OF GOLD.



MS. DITTA SANDICO (MCHS 1977 AND TRIPLE A AWARDEE) TOGETHER WITH DR. ACOSTA IN LIKHANG HABI MARKET FAIR.



MC AND MMCAA REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDED THE BEYOND PARTNERSHIPS: A NIGHT OF APPRECIATION HOSTED BY CARDINAL SANTOS MEDICAL CENTER (CSMC). IN THE PHOTO ARE CSMC PRESIDENT & CEO RAUL C. PASDANGANAN AND PATIENT EXPERIENCE CONSULTANT, MARILEN LAENITON



MARYKNOLL/MIRIAM COLLEGE ALUMNI WERE INVITED TO VISIT THE MARIAN EXHIBIT MOUNTED BY THE HIGH SCHOOL IN CELEBRATION OF THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY.



AEO IN ATTENDANCE AT THE MARIAN PROCESSION, JOINING THE COMMUNITY IN FAITH AND TRADITION.



AEO DURING TRICK OR TREAT 2025, WITH GIVEAWAYS SPONSORED BY MONDE NISSIN.

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# 2025 Q4 *Snapshots*



DR. MARGE ACOSTA INTRODUCED DFA SECRETARY MARIA THERESA P. LAZARO (MARYKNOLL COLLEGE 1979) AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER IN THE 7TH KATIPUNAN CONFERENCE.



MC ADMINISTRATORS, TOGETHER WITH DIRECTORS OF THE MARYKNOLL/MIRIAM COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (MMCAA) IN A COURTESY CALL TO DFA SEC. MARIA THERESA P. LAZARO (MARYKNOLL COLLEGE 1979).



MS. TESSIE TAN, MC BOT, ALUMNA OF ST JAMES ACADEMY AND MARYKNOLL COLLEGE, TOGETHER WITH DR. MARGE ACOSTA, VISIT THE FIRST MARYKNOLL MARKER AT ST. JAMES ACADEMY (ORIGINALLY NAMED MALABON NORMAL SCHOOL IN 1926).



MS. SEVE M. SANTOS, SCHOOL HEAD AND FOUNDER, WELCOMED AND GAVE DR. MARGE ACOSTA A TOUR OF SUMMIT SCHOOL: A PROGRESSIVE CHILD-CENTERED PRE-SCHOOL IN BGC.

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# 2025 Q4 *Snapshots*



MIRIAM COLLEGE ATTENDS ARDP'S PUSO NG PASKO PERFORMANCE AT MALACANANG, LED BY MS. ALICE REYES.



A SPECIAL BLOCK SCREENING OF LAKAMBINI GREGORIA DE JESUS, A FUNDRAISING EVENT BY THE KATIPUNERAS, WAS ATTENDED BY MARYKNOLL/MIRIAM COLLEGE ALUMNAE.



AEO STAND UNITED IN SUPPORT OF THE ADVOCACY AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.



MIRIAM COLLEGE WELCOMED AND VENERATED THE FIRST CLASS RELIC OF ST. CARLO ACUTIS FROM DECEMBER 11 TO 19, 2025. THE ALUMNI COMMUNITY WAS ALSO INVITED TO VISIT THE RELIC.

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2025

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Alumni  
Engagement  
Office



# SCHEDULE A CAMPUS TOUR!



## Campus Tour Procedure

### 1. Schedule the Tour

Contact the Alumni Engagement Office (AEO) to schedule your campus tour. Please include the specific locations you wish to visit.

✉ Email: [alumniengagement@mc.edu.ph](mailto:alumniengagement@mc.edu.ph)

☎ Landline: (02) 8930 6272 loc. 1189

### 2. Coordination

The AEO will coordinate with the Department of Leisure and Tourism Management (LTM) to facilitate your tour. Once arrangements are confirmed, the AEO will get back to you with the details.

### 3. Submit Visitor List

Provide the full names of all attendees in advance for security and gate pass processing.

### 4. Dress Comfortably

Wear comfortable clothes and rubber shoes suitable for walking.

### 5. Prepare for the Weather

Bring essentials such as a water bottle, mini fan or handheld fan, hat or cap, and an umbrella to stay comfortable during the tour.



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# MC100 *Merchandise*

IN THIS  
*Season of Giving*  
SHOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE



**MC100 SCARF**  
P2,800




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**MC100 TWILLY**  
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**MC100 ROSARY**  
P1,110



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**DIWATA SERVING TRAY**  
BY DITA SANDICO  
Maryknoll College High School 1977  
In collaboration with Dos Casas  
P 3,500



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# MC100 HEIRLOOM COLLECTION

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BY: MARIA ANGELICA 'GIGI' BERMEJO (MCHS 1977)

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\*MINIMUM OF 5 PER DESIGN BEFORE PRODUCTION BEGINS



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Miriam College High School 1994

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# DONOR'S MENU

Please click the link below to access the donor's menu:

A graphic for the Miriam College Donor's Menu. It features a central photograph of a white, multi-story building with a flagpole flying the Philippine flag. The graphic is framed by blue and yellow wavy borders. In the top right corner, there is a circular logo for "100 MIRIAM COLLEGE 1924-2024". In the bottom left corner, there is a circular logo for "MIRIAM COLLEGE 1924 VERITAS". Below the photograph, the text "Miriam College Donor's Menu" is written in large, bold, yellow and white letters. Underneath that, the tagline "Marking Changes, Making Champions" is written in smaller yellow text.

**Miriam College**  
**Donor's Menu**  
Marking Changes, Making Champions

<https://tinyurl.com/MCDonorsMenu>