

HONG KONG CATHOLIC LAY MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

(2007 TO 2008)

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Background

1983

The Hong Kong Catholic Church sent two lay missionaries, Miss Jessica Ho and Miss Elizabeth Woo, to Tanzania, Africa through the Maryknoll Lay Missionary Program.

1985

These two lay missionaries returned to Hong Kong. Through the efforts of Miss Jessica Ho, who shared her mission experience, there was a growing awareness and interest in responding to the call to mission by some young adults. The Maryknoll Lay Missionary Program encouraged Miss Ho to establish a local association to facilitate sending Hong Kong lay missionaries to other local churches.

1986

Miss Ho invited a group of lay people, missionary sisters and priests to form a planning committee to help in establishing the Hong Kong Catholic Lay Missionary Association.

1987

Bishop John B. Wu approved the establishment of a Lay Missionary Association in Hong Kong.

1988

The Association was incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance as a charitable organization. At present, we are the only Catholic lay missionary association in Hong Kong facilitating mission abroad.

1990

From 1990, 11 lay missionaries have been sent to Africa and Asia. 3 of them are still in mission.

Lay Missionaries	Years of Service	Mission Countries
Cecilia HO	(1990-1993)	Zimbabwe
Rose WAN	(1994-1996)	Mauritius
Michelle CHEUNG	(1994-1996)	Mauritius
Imelda LAM	(1994-1997)	Kenya
Eunice LO	(1994-1997)	Kenya
Rose YIP	(1996-2001)	Cambodia
Lucia WONG	(1996-)	Cambodia
Stephanie CHAN	(2000-)	Cambodia, Kenya
Wendy LUI	(2004-2008)	Cambodia
Cissy YIM	(2006-2008)	Cambodia
Philomena LAU	(2006-)	Thailand

Aims

1. To respond to the call for full and active involvement in the Church's life and mission as lay people serving in other local churches.
2. To respond to the needs of the poor and the marginated, collaborating with them and helping them to recognize their worth and dignity and their God-given potential.
3. To help the people to whom they are sent to become self-reliant and missionary themselves.

Special Activities

1. To recruit and help people prepare for service in areas of needs in other local churches.
2. To help applicants discern whether an overseas lay missionary assignment is the right step for them.
3. To provide the applicants with an orientation to missionary service through formation in theology, mission spirituality, mission area study and health care etc.
4. To make contact with mission areas seeking the service of lay missionaries, and to facilitate the lay missionary's choice of work and location.
5. To keep in contact with returned lay missionaries, helping them to readjust to, and share their mission experience with the local church.

Personnel: Executive Committee, Advisors and Members

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	:	Ms. Eunice Lo
Vice-President	:	Ms. Jessica Ho
Secretary	:	Mr. Dominic Lau
Treasurer	:	Mr. Joshua Au-Yeung
Formation	:	Ms. Salome Lau Mr. Terence Wong
Publicity	:	Mr. Catherine Wong

ADVISORS:

Rev. Dominic Chan, Vicar General	Rev. Jack Sullivan, M.M
Rev. Sean O’Cearbhallain, SJ	Rev. Giovanni Giampietro, PIME
Rev. John Cioppa, MM	Rev. Renzo Milanese, PIME
Rev. Paul Kam	Sr. Michelle Reynolds, MM
Sr. Ophelia Lui, SPC	Mr. Benjamin Yu, Barrister-at-law

LAY MISSIONARIES IN MISSION:

Ms. Lucia Wong	(from 1996)
Ms. Stephanie Chan	(from 2000)
Ms. Wendy Lui	(from 2004 to 2008)
Ms. Cissy Yim	(from 2006 to 2008)
Ms. Philomena Lau	(from 2007)

MEMBERS:

Mr. Joshua Au Yeung	Ms. Salome Lau
Ms. Stephanie Chan	Ms. Leung Po Kin
Ms. Michelle Cheung	Ms. Eunice Lo
Ms. Cecilia Ho	Ms. Wendy Lui
Ms. Jessica Ho	Ms. Catherine Wong
Ms. Lam Sau Ching	Ms. Lucia Wong
Mr. Dominic Lau	Mr. Terence Wong
Ms. Lau Kok Pik Philomena	Ms. Cissy Yim
Ms. Lau Yuet Hung Teresa	

The Hong Kong Catholic Lay Missionary Association was incorporated under the Companies Ordinance on April 15, 1988. Until October 24, 2008, the Executive Committee has held 208 meetings.

ANNUAL REPORT

1. LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Nineteenth Annual General Meeting was held at Resurrection Church, Kwun Tong on October 28, 2007. The following motions were passed in the meeting: confirmation of the minutes of the Eighteenth Annual General Meeting, confirmation of the annual report (2006-2007), the appointment of Ms. Lim Lai Mei, Certified Public Accountant as the Honorary Auditor of the Hong Kong Catholic Lay Missionary Association. After the Annual General Meeting, there was mission formation program, “Call ♦Community♦ Evangization” in which Rev. Giovanni, Giampietro, PIME, delivered a talk on St. Paul’s Letter to the Philippians, Mr. Joshua Au Yeung, HKCLMA Hon. Treasurer, shared his support to missionary service for 19 years and Ms. Lucia Wong, HKCLMA lay missionary, shared her 10-year missionary experience.

2. CONTACT WITH OVERSEAS MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS

- 2.1. Ms. Eunice Lo and Ms. Jessica Ho were responsible for the contacts with the missionary organizations in Asia and Africa respectively.
- 2.2. For follow-up of arrangements for the HKCLMA lay missionaries, there were contacts with the following representatives of the receiving communities
 - Rev. Terry Charlton, the National Chaplain of Christian Life Community Kenya
 - Sr. Denise Coghlan, RSM, Country Director, Jesuit Service Cambodia
 - Rev. Pier Luigi Siviero, PIME, Thailand
 - Mr. Herve Roqueplan, Country Director, New Humanity, Cambodia
- 2.3. Rev. Paul Kam, one of the HKCLMA advisors, also represented the Association to meet with Mr. Herve Roqueplan, Sr. Denise Coghlan, RSM, and Rev. Gabriel Byong-young Je, SJ in Cambodia in August 2008. There was sharing about the cooperation between the receiving communities of our lay missionaries and the HKCLMA.

3. LAY MISSIONARIES IN MISSION

- 3.1. Ms. Lucia Wong started her missionary service in 1996. She was sent to Cambodia to work with New Humanity in December 2007. She serves as an education advisor and is responsible of providing technical and advisory support to the staff of New Humanity involved in Education Program in order to enhance their capacities and the quality of activities. She is mainly involved in early childhood care and education in 2 provinces, Kompong Chhnang and Mondolkiri.

Ms. Wong and Wendy Lui received Rev. Paul Kam and introduced some Catholic

non-government organizations and the Church in Cambodia to him when he visited them in August 2008.

- 3.2. Ms. Stephanie Chan was first sent to Cambodia in 2000. Since July 2004, she has been serving as a teacher in St. Aloysius Gonzaga Secondary School established by the Christian Life Community Kenya and Hands of Love in Kibera slum, Nairobi, Kenya. Apart from working in the school, she serves as a volunteer catechist in our Lady of Guadalupe Parish.

Ms. Chan returned to Hong Kong in December 2007 after she had completed her first service agreement in Kenya. During her stay in Hong Kong, she shared her missionary experience with the students in Raimondi College and enrolled in two training programs. She had participated in the 3-day Positive Culture Workshop and the 4-days workshop on education drama organized by Don Bosco Youth Centre and Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union respectively.

Ms. Chan returned to Nairobi in February 2008 for her second service agreement in Kenya. Apart from doing service, she had attended an enneagram course by AOSK in Nairobi, Kenya. To further her understanding on African culture and strengthen her missionary spirit, she keeps on attending different seminars and course on African studies and gospel, joins the conversation group on social issues organized by the Maryknoll sisters and attends the lay missionary gatherings in Nairobi.



Ms. Stephanie Chan (second left) and the participants of the Exposure Trip

Moreover, Ms. Chan made arrangements for the HKCLMA exposure trip and welcomed the 4 participants in July 2008. She shared with them her missionary experience and accompanied them to visit other church organizations.

- 3.3. Ms. Wendy Lui was sent to Cambodia as a lay missionary in June 2004. Starting from November 2006, she worked as a social worker in Banteay Prieb, a school run by the Jesuits for the handicapped. She was responsible for taking care of the sick students and the pastoral care of the girls in the school. Besides, she was involved in the outreach work in the village. She helped in the recruitment of new students and in the housing

project in which houses were built for the needy graduated students.

Apart from the work in Banteay Prieb, she helped in other youth formation work. She took up one Christian Life Community (CLC) group for the former students of Catholic Church Student Centre. Besides, she and a Jesuit accompanied 6 Cambodian Youth to India to participate in the Magis Experiment in India in January 2008. In July 2008, she was in charge of the Magis Program in Phnom Penh and Banteay Prieb, Cambodia. Young adults from Germany, Taiwan and Cambodia joined the program. The whole group then joined the Ignatian Gathering and World Youth Day 2008 in Sydney, Australia.



Ms. Wendy Lui (middle in the front row) and some female students in Banteay Prieb

On September 5, 2008, Ms. Wendy Lui returned to Hong Kong after finishing her second two-year contract with the Jesuit Service Cambodia. She has been awarded a scholarship by the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong Laity Formation Fund and will attend some courses on leadership, lay discipleship and spiritual direction in the Philippines in 2009. Before her departure to the Philippines, she shared her missionary experience in various occasions in Hong Kong.

- 3.4. Ms. Cissy Yim was sent to Cambodia as lay missionary in March 2006. She worked in the Jesuit Service Cambodia (JS), taking up the responsibility of finance and accountancy by accompanying, helping, enhancing capacity and supervising the finance team and/or finance function, through which to help develop and implement internal control systems across the JS centers/ projects.

Together with Ms. Rose Yip (former lay missionary) and Ms. Wendy Lui, Ms. Cissy Yim jointly received a HKCLMA exposure group that visited Cambodia in December 2007.

Upon completion of her two-year service in Cambodia, Ms. Cissy Yim was awarded a scholarship by the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong Laity Formation Fund. She is currently taking a graduate diploma program in Christian Studies at the Regent College (Canada) to deepen her faith and theological understanding.

- 3.5. Ms. Philomena Lau was sent to Thailand as lay missionary in August 2007. She works with PIME priests in the mission in Ngao, Lampang Province. After completing her Thai language course, she teaches children in 6 centres. She goes to each centre once a week and four of the centres are in the hills.

In May 2008, Ms. Philomena Lau joined a PIME priest and a group of youth leaders from the hill-tribes in northern Thailand to Bangkok and eastern Thailand for a week. She learned more about the work of different congregations of the Catholic Church in Thailand after having visited their humanitarian projects: two orphanages, a handicapped children's home and an AIDS care centre.

Ms. Philomena Lau often reflects on and shares her missionary experience with others. Apart from writing in the Kung Kao Pao (the Chinese Catholic Newspaper), she shared with the parishioners in 4 parishes when she returned to Hong Kong for her annual holidays in summer in 2008.

4. WORKS ON ENCHANCING MISSION AWARENESS

4.1. Formation Series: The Mystery of Mission in the Book of Jonah

The theme of the series of formation programs was "The Mystery of Mission in the Book of Jonah" in 2008. It included 4 formation days and an exposure trip. The details were as follows:

Formation Day			
Date	Topic of the Talk by Rev. Giovanni Giampietro, PIME	Sharing by	Venue
24/2	Whom to be Sent?	Participants of the Exposure Trip to Cambodia (12/2007)	St. John the Baptist Church, Kwun Tong
20/4	The Struggle of Missioners	Ms. Cissy Yim, HKCLMA Lay Missionary	
29/6	Can't Escape!		
2/11	Strength in Weakness	Participants of the HKCLMA Exposure Trip to Kenya (7/2008)	Resurrection Church, Kwun Tong
Date	Exposure Trip		
19/7-1/8	Exposure Trip to Kenya		

4.1.1. Formation Day

There were about 30 participants on each formation day. Referring to the book of Jonah, Rev. Giovanni Giampietro, PIME, mentioned that Christians were called to mission. The target might be those with whom we hesitated to share our faith and God



Rev. Giovanni Giampietro, PIME (middle) spoke on the formation days.

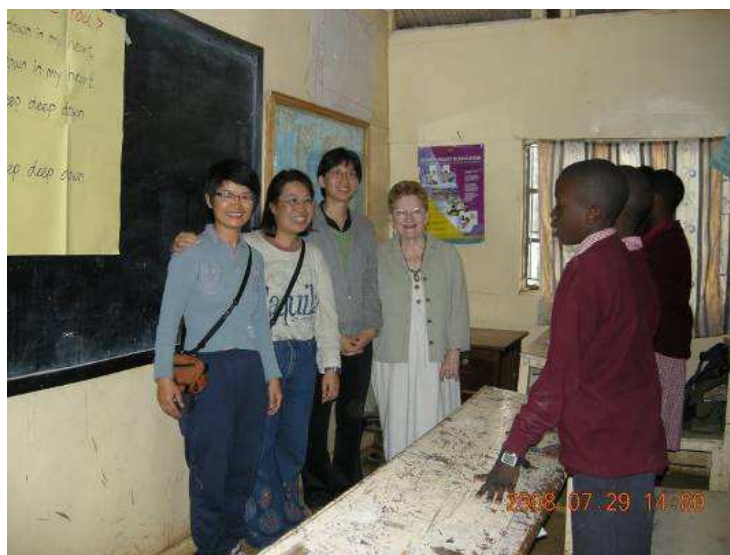
would lead us to accomplish the mission.

Besides, there was sharing by lay missionary and participants of exposure trips. On the first formation day and fourth formation day, some participants in the exposure trips to Cambodia and Kenya shared their observation and reflection. On the

second formation day, Ms. Cissy Yim shared her missionary experience upon her completion of two-year service in Cambodia.

4.1.2. Exposure Trip to Kenya

There were 4 participants in the exposure trip to Kenya. Apart from reflecting on the call to mission, they knew more about the services of HKCLMA lay missionary and other missionary organizations as well as the history and culture of Kenya by meeting with Ms. Stephanie Chan (the HKCLMA lay missionary in Kenya), visiting projects and schools run by various missionary groups, going to historical or scenic sites, joining local liturgies, and praying and sharing together.



The group for the exposure trip visited a school.

4.2. Sharing in Schools and Parishes

The Association welcomed and accepted invitation to share missionary experiences so as to promote mission awareness. There was sharing in the following school and churches:

Date	School/ Parish	Target	Speaker
01/2008	Raimondi College	Students	Stephanie Chan
24/08/2008	Ss. Cosmas and Damian Church	Parishioners (Mass at 9:30am)	Philomena Lau
30/08/2008	Immaculate Heart of Mary Church (Tai Po)	Parishioners (Mass at 5:00pm and 6:30pm)	Philomena Lau
31/08/2008	St. Andrew's Church	Parishioners (Mass at 9:00am and 10:30am)	Philomena Lau
06/09/2008	Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception	Parishioners (Mass at 6:00pm)	Philomena Lau
07/09/2008	Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception	Parishioners (Mass at 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am and 6:00pm)	Philomena Lau
12/10/2008	Ss. Cosmas and Damian Church	Parishioners	Wendy Lui

4.3. Diocesan Mission Sunday Celebration 2008

The Association accepted the invitation from the Diocesan Committee for Mission Sunday Celebration 2008 to help in the Mission Sunday Celebration and Roundtable Conferences. We prepared prayers and invited HKCLMA members and guests to pray in 6 languages for people in the five continents in the Diocesan Mission Sunday Celebration in Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground on October 12, 2008. Ms. Wendy Lui also shared her missionary experience with and introduced the Association to the participants in the celebration. Besides, Ms. Wendy Lui, Ms. Eunice Lo and Ms. Jessica Ho were respondents in the 3 Roundtable Conferences on October 4, October 19 and October 26 respectively.



Ms. Eunice Lo (right) was a respondent in the second Roundtable Conference.

4.4. Kung Kao Pao and Sunday Examiner

Lay missionaries were sent by the Bishop and supported by Hong Kong Catholic

Church. Thus the Association was willing to share news and send articles to Kung Kao Pao. Ms. Philomena Lau's 2 articles about her missionary life in Thailand were sent to and printed in Kung Kao Pao in April and October 2008. Besides, the Association welcomed reports and interviews by the Kung Kao Pao (the Chinese Catholic Newspaper) and Sunday Examiner (the English Catholic Newspaper).

Date	Headline / Topic
Kung Kao Pao	
24/02/2008	Stephanie to Kenya Again (Stephanie Chan shared her life in Hong Kong and missionary experience in Kenya.)
29/06/2008	The Year of St. Paul (Eunice Lo spoke on the example of St. Paul to missionaries and the HKCLMA.)
09/2008	Exposure Trip to Kenya (Report on the trip and Gracie Wong shared her reflection)
19/10/2008	Diocesan Mission Sunday Celebration (Wendy Lui shared her missionary experience in the Celebration on 12/10/2008.)
19/10/2008	Roundtable Conference (Wendy Lui shared that she participated in mission work through the HKCLMA.)
Sunday Examiner	
26/10/2008	Filipinos in HK are Missionary Treasure (Eunice Lo talked about the works and spirituality of HKCLMA in the Roundtable Conference on 19/10/2008.)

4.5. Newsletter

The Association published 2 issues of newsletter this year. The main contents were:

Issue	Main Contents
Issue No.1 2008	- News of Lay Missionaries - Report on the Exposure Trip to Cambodia (12/2007)
Issue No. 2 2008	- Stephanie Chan, "This is My Story, This is My Life!" - Mary Yuen, Gracie Wong and Mui-Yin Ng: Reflections after the Exposure Trip to Kenya - News of Lay Missionaries

4.6. Website (www.hkclma.org.hk)

The contents of our web site had been continuously enriched and updated.

5. THANKS FOR SUPPORT AND DONATION

The Association is very grateful to the following persons and organizations for their support and assistance:

- Cardinal Joseph Zen for his support and blessing
- the advisors for their continuous support and valuable advice

Special thanks to Rev. Giovanni Giampietro for being speaker on our formation days, to Rev. Sean O' Cearbhallain for offering mass monthly for our Association and lay missionaries, to Rev. Dominic Chan for arranging free subscription of Kung Kao Pao for our lay missionaries, and to Rev. Paul Kam for representing the Association to visit the lay missionaries and their receiving communities in Cambodia as well as donating some revenue from the sale of his book to the Association

- Sr. Susan Nchubiri, MM for giving advice to the participants of the exposure trip to Kenya
- Sr. Susan Nchubiri, MM, Rev. Pasini Giorgio, PIME, and Rev. Osvaldo G Metz, SVD for their support to the Association's work in the Diocesan Mission Sunday Celebration by translating the prayer for world peace into Kiswahili, the prayer for the Church into Italian and the prayer for people suffering into Spanish respectively
- Sr. Goretti Yeung and Mr. Anthony Law for their support to the Association's work in the Diocesan Mission Sunday Celebration by reading the prayer for the Church in Italian and the prayer for the people suffering in Spanish respectively.
- Resurrection Parish for lending rooms to the Association for Executive Committee meetings and Annual General Meeting
- Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish for lending room to the Association for Executive Committee meetings
- St. John the Baptist Church for lending room for the 3 Formation Days in February, April and June 2008
- Raimondi College, Ss. Cosmas and Damian Church, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church (Tai Po), St. Andrew's Church and Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for inviting HKCLMA lay missionaries to share about mission
- Ms. Lim Lai Mei for helping as the Honorary Auditor of the Association
- the donors for their generous donation

CHAN Shuk Yin Phoebe

黎應時

LAI Ka Yin

譚雅達

LO Yin Ying

王愛明

WONG Yeung Ming, Billy

陸鳳珠

Raimondi College

蔡月娥

畢萬里

Eunice Lo
President

Jessica Ho
Vice President