



**St. Francis' Canossian College
Past Students' Association**

**March 2019
Newsletter**



150th Anniversary Gala Dinner



St. Francis' Canossian College
St. Francis' Canossian School
150th Anniversary Gala Dinner

9 November 2019 (Sat)

6:00 p.m. Reception 7:00 p.m. Dinner

The Grand Hall
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
Harbour Road, Hong Kong

Dress Code: Smart Casual

Dinner Ticket
\$1,500 per head
\$1,200 per head (Age 25 or below)
\$16,500 per table of 12

RSVP:
Margaret Wai 6683-4893 Annie Wu 9171-9739
June Sieh 9283-2325 Lisa So 9713-0326
150dinner@mail.sfcc.edu.hk

Please make cheques payable to:
(1) *St. Francis' Canossian School Past Students' Association*
(or via bank transfer to HSBC Acc No. 658-120761-001) or
(2) *St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association*
(or via bank transfer to Bank of China Acc No. 012-595-0-005035-0)

Co-organised by:
SFCC Past Students' Association SFCS Past Students' Association

Details of the 150th Anniversary Gala Dinner were announced in early December. Reservations have started pouring in and it is encouraging to see nearly 60 tables have already been paid for this historical event.

As this is a mega event which your great support is much needed in order to make it financially viable. While we will look for cash sponsorships to cover expenses like production costs and costs for VIP guests (including Canossian sisters and past teachers), we will need to sell many more tables. So please reach out to your peers, near and far, to form tables. You are also very welcome to invite past teachers to sit with you and spend a wonderful evening together.

A special thanks to some alumni who have generously donated cash in support of the event, displaying the best Franciscan's spirit.



St. Francis' Canossian College
St. Francis' Canossian School
150th Anniversary Gala Dinner
 Registration cum Sponsorship Form

Date: 9 November 2019 (Saturday)
 Time: 6:00 p.m. (Reception) 7:00 p.m. (Dinner)
 Venue: The Grand Hall, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Harbour Road, Hong Kong
 Dress Code: Smart Casual

Contact Details

Name (Prof. / Dr. / Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.) _____ (Family Name) _____ (Given Name)

Organization / Company Name _____

Correspondence Address _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Sponsorship for the Dinner

Please tick the choice below as appropriate:

	Type of Sponsorship	Packages	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/>	Platinum Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/> Centerfold (2 pages) advertisement on commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets; or <input type="checkbox"/> Inside front page advertisement on commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets; or <input type="checkbox"/> Inside back page advertisement on commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets; or <input type="checkbox"/> Back cover advertisement on commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets; and Sponsor's logo displayed on backdrop	HK\$100,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold Sponsor	One inner full page advertisement on commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets and sponsor's logo displayed on backdrop	HK\$40,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver Sponsor	One inner half page advertisement on commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets and sponsor's logo displayed on backdrop	HK\$25,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	VIP Table Sponsor	Sponsor's name shown on acknowledgement of commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets	HK\$16,500 per table
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash Sponsor	Sponsor's name shown on acknowledgement of commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets for sponsorship amount of HK\$5,000 or above	<input type="checkbox"/> HK\$50,000 <input type="checkbox"/> HK\$30,000 <input type="checkbox"/> HK\$15,000 <input type="checkbox"/> HK\$5,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Others: HK\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Table Prize Sponsor	Sponsor's name shown on acknowledgement of commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lucky Draw Sponsor	Sponsor's name shown on acknowledgement of commemorative 150 th Anniversary Gala Dinner booklets	

I wish to remain anonymous on the list of sponsors.

Registration of the Dinner

No. of Table(s): (\$16,500 per table of 12) _____
No. of Individual Participant(s): (\$1,500 per head) _____
(\$1,200 per head for age 25 or below) _____

Please provide the name(s) and contact details of participant(s) as set out in the attached **Names and Contact Details of Participants**. For those who have already registered for the dinner before, this registration form need not be completed.

Payment of Sponsorship for the Dinner and Registration of the Dinner

Payment of Sponsorship for the Dinner HK\$ _____

Payment of Registration of the Dinner HK\$ _____

Enclosed please find a paid-in slip or cheque no. _____ in the total sum of HK\$ _____

Terms & Conditions

1. Payment method:

- By Cheque: Crossed cheque payable to:
"St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association"
- By Wire Transfer: In the name of **"St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association"** and direct to **Bank of China account no. 012-595-0-005035-0**; or
In the name of **"St. Francis' Canossian School Past Students' Association"** and direct to **HSBC account no. 658-120761-001**.

2. Please send the completed form and cheque / paid-in slip to St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association, c/o St. Francis' Canossian College, 9-13 Kennedy Road, Hong Kong. Completed form and paid-in slip can also be sent by email to 150dinner@mail.sfcc.edu.hk.

3. All payments made are **non-refundable**. The 150th Anniversary Gala Dinner Committee (the **"150th Anniversary Gala Dinner Committee"**), comprising representatives of St. Francis' Canossian College (**"SFCC"**), St. Francis' Canossian School (**"SFCS"**), St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association (**"SFCCPSA"**) and St. Francis' Canossian School Past Students' Association (**"SFCSPSA"**), reserves the right to decide on the usage of any excess sponsorship amount and final allocation of tables and seats.

4. For Silver, Gold and Platinum Sponsors, please provide the logo of sponsoring company and/or the design of advertisement by sending email to 150dinner@mail.sfcc.edu.hk in both AI and JPG format on or before **9 September 2019 (Monday)**. The display location and size of the logo and/or the design of the advertisement are subject to the decision of the 150th Anniversary Gala Dinner Committee.

5. For those who are interested to attend the dinner, please note that the deadline for registration of the dinner will be **18 October 2019 (Friday)**.

6. We will confirm your registration by email or by telephone.

7. The 150th Anniversary Gala Dinner Committee reserves the final decision in all disputes and the right to amend/change the Terms & Conditions without prior notice.

8. For any enquiries, please contact June Sieh at 9283 2325, Annie Wu at 9171 9739 or email at 150dinner@mail.sfcc.edu.hk.



Open Days - 1 and 2 December 2018



“Do you hear our joyful voices
Ringing sweetly through the skies?”

This song has been ringing in our hearts. Whenever we hear it, sweet memories of our school days come back. The place where we studied, gathered, played and gained enters its 150 years of existence.



The 150th anniversary celebrations were kicked off on 1 and 2 December 2018 with the School Open Days for both primary and secondary schools. The Opening Ceremony for the former began at 11 am with Mrs. Ingrid Yeung Ho Poi-yan JP, Permanent Secretary for Education and The Rev. Sr. Regina But Cheuk-ye, Provincial Superior of HK & Macau of Canossian Missions officiating the occasion at the school hall, while Sr. Cynthia Chan, School Supervisor, took us back to the time when six Canossian missionaries came to Hong Kong in 1869 by sea. The scene of these brave missionaries was recaptured by a student dance performance followed by Mrs. Yeung, a Franciscan herself, gave a speech with great passion and pride of the school's developments. One of the highlights of the occasion was Guzheng performance by a primary six student and a rhythmic dance recital of Three Character Classic (三字經) by young Franciscans to mark the opening of Fang Hing (芳軒), the Chinese cultural corner for our young Franciscans.



There was a cake-cutting ceremony where everyone cheerfully sang “Happy Birthday” to the school. The theme, 恩寵滿盈, and anniversary greetings were well manifested throughout the exhibitions and presentations. The whole school was filled with joy and laughter in particular where youngsters were enjoying themselves playing the fishing and stamp collection games. Besides the impressive STEM showcase, visitors could test their correct posture using the innovative “ping pong” software.





Immediately after the primary school's celebrations, the secondary school began its Open Day with the Liturgical Celebration at 2:30pm held at the open Basketball Court near the main entrance. The theme 'Grace Upon Grace' not only marks the historic 150th anniversary but also the completion of the School Redevelopment Project. We were most honoured to have the late Bishop Rev. Michael Yeung Ming-Cheung as the principal celebrant of the liturgy and The Honourable Mrs. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, GBM, GBS, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China and Rev. Sr. Regina But Cheuk-yea as officiating guests.



The highlights of the Celebration were the inauguration of the new school compound and the unveiling of the new Four Angels glinting in their mosaic appearance under the broad daylight. Mrs. Lam addressed the assembly in her usual grateful tone as the most notable Franciscan while Rev. Yeung led the thanksgiving prayer before blessing the new school buildings.

The Liturgical Celebration ended at a climax with the song school sang passionately by all participants. The official recording of the ceremony (including the speeches) is embedded [here](#).



A cake-cutting ceremony was immediately held in the library while a series of project presentations performed by students (F.1 to F.5), STEM Workshops, Aerial Photography and aesthetic performances engaging the visitors in different parts of the school premises concurrently.



The school was filled with guests, Franciscans and their proud parents. From their conversations we could tell how the new well-equipped school premises have impressed them but many of them also expressed how much they had missed the old school in which they spent their memorable formative years not only strengthening their knowledge and spiritual virtue but also building a lifelong friendship among peers.

Such a happy occasion could not go without having some souvenirs brought home and we are pleased to report that the 150th anniversary souvenirs (produced by the school and PSA) were much sought during the two-day event and the refreshments offered at the PSA table provided a great mingling time among members including exchanging ideas and views with PSA Committee. Happy faces were seen everywhere and exciting conversations heard all over the place throughout the weekend. On behalf of our members, we wish to express our gratitude to the Open Day working team led by Principal Kenneth Law for a job well done!



Inspiring speeches.....



While you can listen to the speech delivered by The Honourable Mrs. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, GBM, GBS, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China at the Open Day in the official recording embedded above, we are pleased to re-produce Mrs. Ingrid Yeung Ho Poi-yan JP, Permanent Secretary for Education delivered at the Speech Day held in July 2018 below:

“Sr. Agnes, Principal Law, Sisters, Teachers, School Managers, Parents, Ladies and Gentlemen and dear fellow Franciscans,

May I first congratulate the graduates of the year and all the award winners. You have made remarkable achievements and, the graduates in particular, have walked a long way to reach where you are today. Your teachers and parents, I am sure, are very proud of you and they have every reason to be so.

Thirty-five years ago, I was present on the same occasion, like the graduates here today, as a graduate, only that I had spent 13 years in the school, and not 12, under the then academic structure. We did not have a school hall then and the Speech Day took place at the Caritas Hall at Caine Road. I sat on the stage, like the Head Prefects today, received my graduation certificate and my awards, and delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of all graduates of my year. I could not have imagined that 35 years later, I would be the Guest of Honour of the same occasion. 35 years, at the time, was a life time to me. But, to describe it in a most cliché way, the years actually flew by. Yet when I look back, so much has taken place in what seems to be just an instant.

I count myself as blessed for having grown up and found my career at a time when Hong Kong was stable, when the society was becoming more affluent, and when there was no lack of jobs and opportunities. But the greatest blessing that was bestowed on me was the school education I had. I did not realize it when I was at school. I thought all schools provided the same education for their students. But when I went to university and later when I joined the workforce, I found how solidly the school had prepared me for the world, for the obstacles, difficulties, challenges and temptations that laid before me, and I discovered that not all people responded the same way in similar situations or in face of similar problems. Thus when I put pen to paper to prepare for my speech today, it had not taken me long to decide that I would share with the graduates of today, who shared with me the same education in our formative years, what it is in the education of St. Francis that have sustained me through these years.

If I am to name one single most important quality that I learnt here in St. Francis, it is surely integrity. Integrity to me is not just honesty. Integrity is the sum of honesty, fairness, being truthful and reliable, and having the moral courage to point out what is right and wrong even in hostile environments. The school never emphasizes good grades more than these attributes that make an upright person.

People in civilized societies like Hong Kong are generally honest but it is a challenge to even



honest persons to speak out, in a loud and clear manner, for what is right and against what is wrong when they are the minority. What is more alarmingly in recent years, with technology development and the advancement of digital communication means, is that there is a tendency of forming conclusions or emotive reactions and communicating them to others too early and too readily, without pausing to think about whether there exists sufficient evidence or justifications. The trend is not helped by the way some members of our media operate. People receiving such views often add their own comments if they find these views echo their pre-existing ones, creating a snowball effect and the views, not formed on the basis of rational analysis, are then planted deeper and deeper in people's minds. This is certainly not a healthy development, and forms a vicious cycle with polarized positions and extreme politics.

To me, a person of integrity should not only refrain from judging, criticizing or condemning too early or without thinking about the issue independently; he or she should also have the courage to speak against immature or unjustifiable conclusions and to put in a fair word. Such well-intentioned interventions often attract severe criticism, even malicious personal attacks. But I believe our Christian education has taught us not to retreat in face of such hostility, not to be a silent accomplice in what may become murder of truth and objectivity.

Dear Franciscans, when you are at university or other higher education institutions, there is bound to be peer pressure of some kind for subscription to a certain opinion or a certain course of action. I am not asking you to isolate yourselves from your peers or to always be the opposition to mainstream views. But I do ask you to judge fairly and without prejudices, to respond rationally rather than emotively and to uphold your own views and position even though they are different from the majority's, for that is what make a woman of integrity.

Another important quality that school education has taught me, and I am sure has taught all of you too, is charity. Hong Kong is an affluent society, and people who have means do not hesitate to make donations to charitable organizations for helping the disadvantaged. You would certainly all do the same. But charity has a wider application. Our Christian education has taught us to be charitable in human relationships as well, especially with people who are not close to us, the passers-by in our lives, as we call them.

An experience that was particularly valuable to me was my work as a human resource manager. Ten years ago, I was posted to the Civil Service Bureau and part of my duties was to manage the middle and junior ranks of the Administrative Officer Grade. Administrative Officers in the Civil Service are supposed to be able to adapt to different kinds of jobs and are given different positions regularly. In managing officers who were appraised to be not satisfactory in their performance, it would be relatively easy if I played strict by the rules. These officers would simply have to continue to be tried out in the same posts or same type of posts until there was improvement, and they would probably not have any promotion in the interim. I would be seen as fair and having acted according objectively to evidence.

However, some of these officers did have special reasons for not having been considered as up to standard. Some officers might not be able to fit a particular type of job at a particular time of his / her life.



One with a seriously-ill parent or child might lose his / her concentration more easily at long meetings, or an officer having an illness himself or herself at the moment might not be able to withstand jobs with a lot of public functions to attend. There could also be personality clashes between supervisors and subordinates. To give these officers a different job or a different supervisor and not require them to stay put to make improvements would help them tie over a difficult period in life and let them prove their worth. It would not be easy, as normally supervisors would be reluctant to take on staff whose track record had blemishes. Other officers who had performed consistently strong might see the special arrangement for the weak-performers as not fair to them who had always rendered stellar performance. To make these exceptional arrangements was, to some extent, inviting trouble for myself and risking my credibility as a fair manager. It would be much easier and safer for my own career to play strict by the rules. And these officers are, after all, only passers-by in my life.

Yet I believe the rules should not be above charity, especially when we have been charitably treated ourselves. Think of the times when our teachers have gone beyond what was their strict responsibility to spend extra time and effort in helping us overcome a particularly difficult area, or when they have spared more than extra patience to help us correct a mistake, not to mention the Canossian Sisters who started the Canossian schools in Hong Kong in adverse conditions and dedicated their lifetime to our education. They could also see us as passers-by in their lives only. But they had not done so. They had devoted their best to us, making sacrifices all the way.

Dear graduates, you will one day become women with power, authority and means. If you could all be charitable with the people around you: give them more understanding, more opportunities and extra help, talking to them more in an advisory rather than critical manner, or sometimes it may be just giving them a little more time out of your busy schedules, their world, as well as yours, would be different.

A third quality that the school emphasizes, and one which I found to be particularly characteristic of Franciscans, is diligence. Diligence is not doing whatever that comes your way, or doing what should be done by others besides doing your job. Diligence is having the resolve to tackle a problem no matter how complicated it is. Diligence is a readiness to do the hard work needed in analyzing a problem, and leaving no stones unturned in examining and comparing possible solutions to find the best one. Diligence is the commitment to a cause, and to see it through no matter what. Sometimes you need to take a deep breath to continue. For me, God has helped me all along by giving me the strength when I needed it.

You will sometimes be unpopular with your co-workers and subordinates because they see you as creating workload for them. There is often the temptation to put a plaster over a wound and let it heal, and not be bothered to find out what kind of infection caused the wound. This temptation is especially great for me and other General Grade Officers in the Civil Service who are subject to postings. Perhaps the next time the infection hits and the wound re-opens I would be in another job so let us have some peace for the moment. But St. Francis had taught me a different attitude to work. A few months ago when I heard an education expert said that the university graduates of today had an average of 10 to 16 jobs in their lives, punctuated by periods of rests, travel and enjoyment of life, I was a little alarmed. There is no problem with striking a work-life balance, but I hope there would still be a serious goal in life, and a commitment and

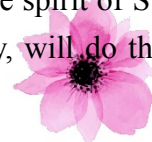


hard work to achieve that goal. Without serious commitment and hard work, without toiling and sweating, we would have no harvest, and when you look back, you might find that you have lived your life in vain.

You would have realized by now that I had not mentioned knowledge as one of the most valuable things I acquired in St. Francis. Indeed it was not, especially for you, students of 21st century in which education systems and schools are gearing more towards helping students to become motivated self-learners rather than simply passing on knowledge. One may ask whether still exists a value for the school as an institution. My answer is a definite yes. We need the school for cultivating in students the qualities I mentioned just now and the values that they should hold onto for the rest of their lives.

There are many more qualities that I have found more and more important over the years as I grew older and was given more responsibilities. I cannot mention them all today, but there is one that I must name before I end. I promise to be brief. It is humility. As I move from post to post in the civil service, I found that there are bound to be things I can learn from my colleagues and my subordinates, be they professionals or General Grade officers like myself. More importantly, the higher I moved up the career ladder, the more I realized that the boss is not the center of the universe. What is done is the sum of everyone's effort. Boss or subordinate, professional or generalist, senior or junior in rank, we are all there to work as a team, and in working as a team we always have something to learn from each other. We must also not forget that our capabilities and hence our achievements do not come by as a matter of course. Our parents and our teachers have toiled selflessly to equip us with the abilities we need for our lives, and we also gain through debating and comparing notes with others who generously poured out their thoughts for our consumption. Ultimately, we owe our blessings to God. This was what St. Francis taught me. It is easy to be taken over by pride as you achieve more and I confess that I am no exception. I have to keep reminding myself that I should sing praise to God when I achieve something, for the achievement is his, and ask God to give me strength when I fail.

Dear Franciscans and ladies and gentlemen, I am sorry that I did not prepare a more humorous speech or one that quotes the success formulae of great persons and might have bored you for a good 20 minutes. But this is truly what I want to say to you from the bottom of my heart having gone thus far in life. In a few years' time I will be retiring from work, and you, the graduates of today, will come onto the world's stage. In St. Francis, you have grown from girls to the young women you are today. Today you will sing the school song for the last time as a student of the school. At the end of this ceremony you will end your status as a student of the school and will become alumnae. But you will be forever a Franciscan. So be worthy of St. Francis whatever your pursuit is, and when you encounter difficulties and setbacks, draw on the strength that the school has built in you to overcome them. You will be surprised how well you have been prepared. I hope that 35 years from now, or maybe in even less time, some of you will be invited to be the Guests of Honour of the school's then Speech Days. And you will then understand how honoured I feel today. To be invited to stand up here and speak is an honour higher than that of being appointed to any senior position in the Government; for my school has considered me worthy of it, worthy of the fine education it has given me. And I promise you all that I will continue to do my best to keep the spirit of St. Francis alive and burning. And I trust all Franciscans, including you, the graduates of today, will do the same. God bless you all. Thank you. “



IMC Alumni Manager Election



The Alumni Manager sits in the Incorporated Management Committee (“IMC”) meetings, manages the school and promotes education. The tenure of our present Alumni Manager, Miss Woo Mei Hou, Nancy, will end on 31 August 2019. Election of the Alumni Manager for 2019-2011 will be held on 23 March 2019 (Saturday) at 1:30pm. The final round of the St. Francis’ Canossian College Anniversary Basketball Championship will be held on the same day. All alumni who have registered as a voter are welcome to vote at the election and to enjoy the games.

PSA Membership



PSA endeavours to promote friendship between alumni and Franciscans’ bonding with the school. All alumni are welcome to join as members of the PSA.

Membership fees should be paid by cheque payable to “**St. Francis’ Canossian College Past Students’ Association**” or by depositing to **Bank of China account no. 012-595-0-005035-0**. Please mail the cheque/paid-in slip together with the completed *Form of Membership Application / Change of Information* (as attached) to SFCC Past Students’ Association, c/o St. Francis’ Canossian College, 9-13 Kennedy Road, Hong Kong.



May we take this opportunity to wish all of you a healthy and happy Year of the Pig!





St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association

c/o St. Francis' Canossian College,
9-13 Kennedy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong
Website: <http://www.sfcc.edu.hk/psa/> Email: psa@mail.sfcc.edu.hk

Membership No.

(For official use only)

Form of Membership Application / Change of Information

Please fill in the following in BLOCK LETTERS and return the completed form to the above address or by email for our processing.

A. Membership (please tick as appropriate)

- I enclose HK\$300 being payment of Life Membership fee.
Paid by CASH or CROSSED CHEQUE (No. _____)
(Payable to "St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association".)
- I am an existing member and I would like to update my personal information.

B. Personal Particulars

Name in English: _____ Name in Chinese: _____

Correspondence Address: _____

Mobile: _____ Home Tel.: _____ Office Tel.: _____

(To help protect the environment, our newsletter will be distributed via email.)

Email Address: _____ Fax: _____

Profession: _____ Position Held: _____

Company Name: _____

C. Year of Graduation (please tick as appropriate)

- I graduated under HKCEE system Form 5: _____ Form 7: _____
- I graduated under HKDSE system starting in 2012 Form 6: _____
- I left school before Form 5 under HKCEE or Form 6 under HKDSE Year & Form leaving school: _____

D. Statement on Collection of Personal Data

- (i) Your supply of personal data to St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association ("SFCC PSA") is on a voluntary basis but we may not be able to process your application with incomplete information.
- (ii) The information provided by you to SFCC PSA will be used for administration and management; membership admission, registration, maintenance and administration; promoting and soliciting contributions for the affairs of the SFCC PSA, St. Francis' Canossian College and other related organization of SFCC PSA (collectively, "SFCC Family"); and furtherance of the objectives under the Constitution of SFCC PSA.
- (iii) By submitting this form, you are giving SFCC PSA your consent that the information provided by you herein may be made available to the SFCC Family as may be necessary for any of the above purposes.
- (iv) Apart from the purposes stated above, your personal information will not be transferred to any other parties, unless such parties are authorized by law and request the information.
- (v) You may at any time choose not to receive any promotion material from us or change your personal data by writing to St. Francis' Canossian College Past Students' Association, c/o St. Francis' Canossian College, 9-13 Kennedy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong or by email to psa@mail.sfcc.edu.hk

Signature: _____ Date: _____