

# Not So Far Afield

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARYKNOLL AFFILIATES

#### September/October 2022

Volume 31 Number 5

#### MY MANTRA: HAITI WILL NOT PERISH!

Renate Schneider - Chicago Chapter

Michael Deibert's book title kept replaying in my head during my recent visit to Jérémie, Haiti, where I had lived and worked for 23 years, until COVID and the mounting insecurity forced me to return to Chicago. When I finally decided to go back for a visit, I was nervous, but once on the plane, I was excited and happy, wondering how I would find things.

Infrastructure. The Jérémie airport was much nicer than I remembered, and I was amazed at how much the road had improved—all asphalted until we reached Jérémie. It also looks as if the floating bridge will be ready in July or shortly thereafter. In the meantime, motorcycles and 3-wheelers stop on one side of the river and take loads from trucks, cross the damaged bridge (2017 earthquake) with the goods, and on the other side of the bridge load trucks which then can deliver the goods.



Communications have definitely deteriorated: internet signal not working, and telephone connections very poor. Jérémie had no electricity this year until July.

**Food.** The market in Jérémie has plenty of food. If you have money, you can find whatever food you are looking for. Blanchard, a friend who works in Macaya

up in the mountains, said malnutrition is very visible there because the soil is not very good. They have plantains, but other crops do not really take. Right now, they are trying to revive coffee production.

At home in Jérémie, I enjoyed a lunch of Pwason roz (red snapper), with lots of avocados, akra—my favorite, and fried plantains. Absolutely delicious, and totally unexpected. Life is good. I am somewhat embarrassed to say this in a country that is suffering so.

**Politics.** One friend feels there is more danger from gangs in the countryside than in Jérémie proper. Interestingly, many of the gang members in Port au Prince are from Jérémie originally. While Jérémie is relatively secure, weapons are coming in—AR-15s and others. It seems the so-called politicians are heavily into the arms race and

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#### LIVE IN CHAOS OR BUILD PEACE

This issue highlights Affiliates who may see chaos but work to build peaceful communities. Renate Schneider revisits a Haiti in chaos where the rule of law is ignored. She has worked there for many years—educating, building houses and building peace. Even seeing the chaos, she is confident the good people of Haiti will persevere.

Hugh Menton's Samaritan in Mission emphasizes that our neighbors, suffering like the robbers' victim, are right before us calling for relationship. Some Affiliates have responded to their neighbors' suffering through a Mission of Welcome to the migrants and refugees in their communities. They see the chaos and the need, and take action, building peace.

Ron Covey's Affiliate-led mission, Caminando Por La Paz, has been educating youth and building peace in one of the more needy areas of Guatemala City for over 10 years. Read about the roles Ron is hoping more Affiliates will help with.

Affiliates may see chaos but take action—respecting and helping our neighbors, being involved, voting to build a peaceful community and world. Write to <a href="mailto:NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com">NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com</a> and tell us what peace-building you see.

**Not So Far Afield (NSFA)** is a bimonthly publication of the Maryknoll Affiliates and is also available online at MaryknollAffiliates.org. The name is a play on the title of the original Maryknoll Magazine: *The Field Afar*. Affiliates share in the mission and family spirit of Maryknoll Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, and Lay Missioners.

Mission Statement: Maryknoll Affiliates, while continuing to pursue their own life's journey, commit themselves to the mission goals of Maryknoll in the context of Chapters that gather for prayer, reflection, and action. Maryknoll Affiliates challenge one another to witness to mission as a way of life by going beyond borders, locally and globally, walking with the poor and excluded, and striving for peace and justice for all of God's creation.

For further information, see Maryknoll Affiliates.org, contact Executive Coordinator Bob Short, email AffiliateBShort@gmail.com, or write to:

Maryknoll Affiliates P.O. Box 311 Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311



### WANT TO CONNECT WITH OTHER AFFILIATES?

Try attending the lively virtual discussions hosted by the Los Angeles Affiliates: "At the Knoll." These Zoom meetings are open to all Maryknollers.

The next "At the Knoll" Zoom meeting is on September 27th, at

4-5pm PDT, 5-6pm MT/ 6-7pm CT, or 7-8pm ET.

To join the Zoom Meeting, copy and paste this link into your browser:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86873264251? pwd=UmFIY0tQVFZIUitONEE1WTBYeXhzQ T09

Or log into zoom.us and use:

Zoom Meeting ID: 868 7326 4251 Passcode: 283478

See you At the Knoll!

#### Not So Far Afield Co-Editors:

Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss & Paula Schaffner

Articles in *Not So Far Afield* do not represent the opinion of any of the Maryknoll entities.

**Submissions:** We welcome letters to the editor, articles, photos, and suggestions for articles. All submissions are subject to editing. Please contact us at NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com.

**Subscriptions:** To report a change of address, subscribe, unsubscribe, or change to/from print or digital versions, email:

NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com or contact Bob Short



#### REACH OUT WITH FACEBOOK

Using social media can better connect Affiliates and show our Maryknoll Affiliate Movement to the world. Facebook is a fun way to connect, but what if you have never used or have questions about Facebook?

Our website/social media person, Lisa Stengel, a gifted digital technician and teacher, is offering a free Affiliate Zoom session:

#### Posting on Facebook

Thursday, September 8th at 4:00pm ET.

Please register at: https://tinyurl.com/msxv38p9

Before the Zoom Session, take a look at our Affiliate Facebook Page:

#### https://www.facebook.com/maryknollaffiliates

While you're visiting our page, you are welcome to comment on a posting. Note that if a posting is in another language, Facebook can translate it for you!

Affiliates are urged to post about our recent chapter or individual volunteer activities, a book we found inspiring, an upcoming event, or perhaps an inspiring article we want to share. Our posts will help connect us with people who have not yet discovered the Maryknoll Affiliates.

Give it a try, and then bring your questions to Lisa's September 8th Zoom presentation on posting. We look forward to visiting with you and other Affiliates and missioners around the world.

#### NO FACEBOOK ACCOUNT?

It's easy to sign up at <a href="mailto:facebook.com/reg">facebook.com/reg</a>. All that is needed is your name, email address, gender (mark "custom" if you don't wish to publicize it), your date of birth, and a password.

Prepare to be amazed by the number of people you know who are already on Facebook!

#### HELP IS GREATLY NEEDED

Caminando Por La Paz in Guatemala has been an Affiliate mission since Father Tom Goekler, MM, died in 2010. If you are one of the 1,000 recipients of Caminando Por La Paz\* quarterly E-news, you read



Ron Covey's apology for its lateness; he said he was "suffering a lack of energy." In the newsletter, Ron makes a plea for assistance on the role he

has assumed for the last 12 years. One of the most difficult aspects of a mission role is ensuring it will continue when it is time for a missioner to bow out. Ron, seeing that he cannot

We can only continue the work of Father Tom with your wonderful support!

"keep all his balls in the air" much longer, listed the many facets of his role where others could help without having to travel to Guatemala:

- Family Coffee project: procurement, sales, managing online store, working with Honduran growers and Texas roasters, advertising
- Internet presence: manage two websites, conduct email blasts, handle PayPal, maintain two banking sites, and more
- Quarterly E-news: lay out the newsletter, basically a photo essay using stories and photos provided by the Guatemalan staff
- YouTube channel: apply video production skills to add to the videos currently available
- Fundraising: besides coordinating current opportunities to donate—on websites, in newsletters— grow the donor base by following up with mission groups that visit Caminando
- Sponsorships: publicize program that supports students in schools and work with the Guatemalan organizer who monitors the sponsored children

Have you asked yourself, "What should I do?"

If a few new Affiliates answer Ron's call, we Affiliates can continue to support the work Caminando does in a poor area of Guatemala City.

Perhaps several members of your Affiliate chapter could make it an ongoing mission project to handle, or join a committee handling one of these areas. Ron asks anyone who is interested to contact him at <a href="mailto:ron@fathertomscoffee.online">ron@fathertomscoffee.online</a>.

\*Sign up to receive Caminando Por La Paz E-News at <a href="https://www.fathertomsmission.org/">https://www.fathertomsmission.org/</a>.

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Haiti Will Not Perish, Continued from page 1

distributing weapons, and civil war is mentioned as a possibility.

No solution is in sight regarding the situation in Haiti. A hamlet outside Jérémie has a gang with weapons, so the area is insecure. They steal the peasants' livestock, but the peasants in turn have killed two of the gang members.



Motorcycle passing a burning roadblock amid anger over fuel shortages. Photo - VOANews.

A gang tried to take over Jérémie, but all the motorcycle drivers and the local people with lights and candles stopped them from entering, and they did not try again. Yesterday, the people stopped a guy from stealing a motorcycle, and killed him. Since the justice system is not working, people take matters into their own hands. The police were part of the motorcycle stealing gang, but there was so much protest that the police stopped.

Mental Health. Fr. Jomanas, the Dean of the law school where I used to teach English, and I talked about Haiti and the mentality of fear, a result of past history, which is so prevalent among the people. A good friend and former co-worker feels that Jérémie will stay peaceful, but stress is a constant companion. Fr. Maxime, who works in Lopino, a small hamlet outside of Jérémie, confirmed what mental health workers spoke of—mental health issues are on the rise.

Elcie, a nurse and one of our mental health agents, is worried about her son—he's 28 with no job. He has had computer and other training and thinks of going into business for himself. Elcie told us about a woman who is pregnant with twins and just lost her husband and her oldest child. With four other children, and now twins coming, she is at the end of her rope.

**Health Services.** Things are going well for GADHA, a health organization that my friend

Bette founded: they will train Haitian doctors to do breast biopsies, and Cuban medical personnel are doing ultrasounds. This is a great step forward for Jérémie, avoiding trips to Port au Prince. HIV is still an issue, but the medication is coming in regularly. COVID also had a great impact, but more people are beginning to be vaccinated.

Haitian Connection. A friend, who is my right hand on many Haitian Connection projects, and I discussed the summer program which we will have in five communities in and around Jérémie for 7-14-year-olds.

I got to meet a couple students receiving scholarships from Haitian Connection— Melchie, in photo, in second-year agronomy, and Stacy, who is studying culinary arts elsewhere and management/ administration at UNOGA.



University of the Nouvelle Grand'Anse (UNOGA), where I worked as the Vice Rectrice for over ten years and am now on the Advisory Council, has a number of new, well-maintained buildings. With 360 some students, it has a guest house for professors and a solar pump for water. The trees we planted have grown substantially, and the campus entrance looks appealing. With inverters and solar panels, they have electricity during the day, and the Advisory Council has made a commitment to help look for an internet solution. Their biggest problem is still finances.



Haitian sunset from my roof.

Learn more at HaitianConnection.org

A good visit with wonderful people. They were appreciative that I came to visit despite the insecurity and difficulties of traveling. But in some ways the visit was bittersweet, seeing how so much more difficult life has become. While the suffering and anxiety regarding the insecurity is always present like white noise, Haiti will not perish, it cannot—the people will persevere.



#### SAMARITAN IN MISSION\*

Hugh Menton – Greater Los Angeles Chapter, Regional Coordinator for CA and HI

he Samaritan story from Luke's Gospel has always communicated to me the essential message of our Christian faith-love God and love my neighbor.

The story of the Good Samaritan ends quite simply, "Go and do likewise." But what is doing "likewise," particularly if I find myself living more like the Jewish scholar, the priest, or the Levite than the Samaritan who shows mercy traveling that notorious road to Jericho?



As a Maryknoll Affiliate, I encounter the "robber's victim" through connections with Maryknoll Lay Missioners, Maryknoll Sisters and Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers in their communities and countries of service.

My brief immersion trip with the Maryknoll Lay Missioners in El Salvador—seeing Ann Greig's work with the women of a poor neighborhood of San Salvador to provide affordable soy milk resources in an area where the infant/child mortality rate is huge; Larry Parr's community/ study center work with youth in a gang-controlled area; Peg Vamosy's organic work with farmers; or Rick Dixon's work with children and families using a wheelbarrow library to build relationship, community, and literacy—took me from the "opposite side" of the road to doing "likewise."

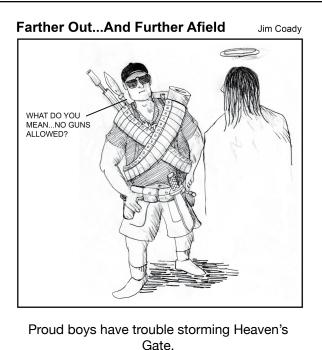
My take-away was the Lay Missioners' and Maryknoll's approach of being present to the communities they were joining and offering their gifts to the people, as the Samaritan's bandaging, transporting, and housing of the robber's victim was given.

I brought this approach back to my life in Southern California. In order to do "likewise," I found my presence was needed. Also, missioners' work flows from the needs of the community one serves and is shaped by that community. Like the robber's victim's needs being visible to the Samaritan, missioners are guided by observation and interaction. I found the same approaches of "doing likewise" work with the homeless and poor of the local US communities.

There is one aspect of relationship that does not unfold in the story of the Good Samaritan. A relationship between the Samaritan and the robber's victim is missing from the story. It is only implied with the Samaritan's suggestion of a return and left up to the imagination of our own journeys. In Maryknoll missioners' lives in their communities of service, it is clear the relationship that develops between missioners and those served is one of neighbors. Both the missioners and communities know the answer to the scholar's question, "And who is my neighbor?"

The missioners' examples lead me to the related wisdom from a Hebrews text "...this command that I enjoin on you today is not too...remote for you...Nor is it across the sea." Our neighbors, suffering like the robber's victim, are right before us in our sight, calling for mercy and relationship, as are we.

\*This reflection first appeared at https:// maryknollogc.org/resources/scripture-reflection/ fifteenth-sunday-ordinary-time



#### A MISSION OF WELCOME

Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss – Portland Chapter and Paula Schaffner – CA Central Coast Chapter

All four expressions of Maryknoll are known for missions of welcome. The Summer 2022 issue of *Maryknoll* Magazine highlighted welcoming refugees. Returned Maryknoll Lay Missioners Merwyn and Kristin De Mellow, after working in Afghanistan, reach out to Afghan refugees in the US. A Maryknoll staff person is active in refugee resettlement around Ossining, NY, and financial donations from members of the Maryknoll Society and from the Society itself also assist local refugee resettlement. The Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns, focusing on the recent Ukrainian displacements, emphasized ways to welcome refugees.

Welcoming is a Maryknoll charism which the Affiliates share. The NSFA often features Affiliates who work with immigrants. As we looked back on some of these stories, it impressed us that our welcoming grows out of the Maryknoll Affiliates' Four Pillars: Global Vision, Spirituality, Community, and Action. Of course, all these stories are about Actions Affiliates have taken, but the following stories demonstrate the roles played by the other pillars in our welcoming.



**Global Vision** helps us be aware of and empathetic to the needs around the world. <u>Gail Kelley</u>, who unexpectedly passed away in November 2019, had developed a relationship with the Semahoro family from the Congo when they were resettled in Raleigh, NC, in 2016. The 2019 November/December NSFA quoted Gail:

The members of our Refugee Resettlement Ministry have indeed seen the face of Christ in the strangers we have welcomed. They have inspired us with their unshakable faith, their unquenchable desire to be free in spite of persecution and imprisonment, their family values, their joy in simplicity, and their determination to become full and productive Americans. As a Maryknoll Affiliate, I am proud to be part of this ministry to vulnerable people from whom I learn so much.

The Affiliate pillar of **Community** helped the North Bay CA Chapter in supporting refugees. The 2018 May/June issue explained, Nancy and Bob McFarland had begun to work with a rapid response team to help undocumented immigrants. One family who fled Haiti for their safety had traveled through many countries before reaching California. They learned that this family of four (including the pregnant mother) was sleeping on half of the living room floor of someone else's apartment. Even though the McFarlands had health concerns and would soon be traveling to the 2017 Maryknoll Affiliate Conference in Guatemala, they had a spare bedroom and could not refuse to help.

The McFarlands' cautious "Yes" was echoed throughout the community. They were gratified when 17 of their associates immediately volunteered to help materially and with transportation. The father, Jean, spoke to another faith community that collected \$1,800 to help the family pay expenses. Another Affiliate gave the family a car he could no longer use. The community has come together to support the family of five. Nancy reminisced,

A healthy baby was born to the family and it was like a real Christmas story. Jesus was a refugee.

The family applied for asylum because the violence they were experiencing forced them to flee Haiti. Although lawyers volunteered some of their time, the asylum application still cost about \$5,000. Affiliates transported and accompanied the family to the immigration hearing, carrying the 25 pounds of paper applications for the four refugees.



In the 2020 March April issue <u>Nancy Bourassa</u>, of the Fox Cities Chapter, in Wisconsin, told NSFA that four members of its Immigration Task Force are Fox Valley Maryknoll Affiliate Chapter members. <u>Kathleen Gribble</u>, chapter coordinator, has offered her home for asylum seekers waiting for their court date.

#### **WELCOME**, continued



**Spirituality** supported Mary Beth Buchner and the Albany Affiliates in their outreach to recent immigrants. In our May/June 2022 issue, Albany, New York, Affiliate Mary Beth shared her Overwhelming Experience:

I recently joined a group called a Good Neighbor Team with some of my fellow Maryknoll Affiliates.... When the opportunity presented itself to work with a newly arrived immigrant family, I was excited to be a part of a team that welcomed them to our country. How difficult could it be to get one little family settled into their new home, and their new city?

... As I was falling asleep that night, images flooded my mind. I found myself wondering what it must feel like to flee my country on a moment's notice with little more than the clothes on my back. ...I started to pray for strength and guidance, and together with some of the most amazing comrades on God's good earth, I began to have a bit of faith that we could and would rise to the occasion. We'd learn and grow and work together, and, however imperfectly yet creatively, we'd do what we could to help. So, we put one foot in front of the other and committed ourselves to welcoming our new neighbors.

We are inspired by these Maryknollers who "Welcome the Stranger" and thank them for sharing their experiences in the NSFA. A future issue will feature Affiliates who take their mission of service to the US-Mexico Border. We invite you to tell us about welcome to immigrants in your community and about your efforts at the Border.



#### PHRASES FROM A REFUGEE SHELTER

Gathered by Mary & Manny Hotchkiss El Paso migrant refuge, April 2022

#### **Bienvenidos**

Cross the borders

Welcome the stranger

Looking to find myself

Esperanza is my name

How can I help

Speak in Spanish.

Go over the barriers

Know many languages

Can I share

Communicate kindness

Share a smile

We have so much

Yearning to be free

Home is the mouth of a shark

Send me your tempest tossed

I have no papers

Part of the problem

I'll do any kind of work

My family emigrated

Dios que bendiga

To whom much has been given

Change gonna come

A broken system

You are safe here

Where am I

Always work to do

Trying to survive

God loves you

A brief sojourn

Stories to tell

What do you believe

Open the doors

I am afraid

There but for the grace of God

What would Jesus do

Walk with the people

Where am I going

I can do this

A chance for life

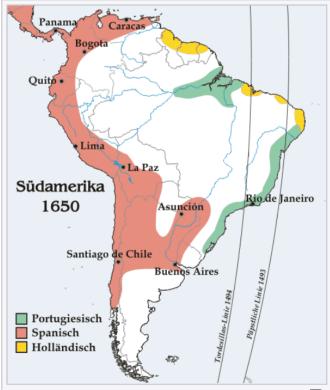
**Muchas Gracias** 

#### DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY DISMANTLED

Dave Murphy and Marie Venner – Virtual participants in Portland Chapter

Portland Maryknoll Affiliates had an interesting discussion at their May meeting about the Church's "Doctrine of Discovery." A multigenerational group discussed *The Land Is Not Empty*, Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery, authored by Sara Augustine.

In what appears to be one of the better kept (though appalling) "secrets" in the Catholic Church, The <u>Doctrine of Discovery</u> originally allowed European entities to seize lands inhabited by <u>indigenous peoples</u> under the guise of "discovering new land." The doctrine originated in a series of fifteenth-century papal bulls, in particular the "<u>Inter Caetera</u>" bull of May 4, 1493, which called for non-Christian nations and peoples to be "reduced to the Catholic faith and Christian religion" and "subjected" in order "to



Map of South America; the meridian to the right was defined by *Inter caetera* (1493), the one to the left by the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494). Modern boundaries and cities are shown for purposes of illustration.

propagate the Christian Empire." <a href="https://www.oregonhumanities.org/rll/magazine/possession-spring-2021/lies-of-discovery/">https://www.oregonhumanities.org/rll/magazine/possession-spring-2021/lies-of-discovery/</a>

This Doctrine has been used by western democracies around the world to justify theft and atrocities committed against indigenous peoples, including in the United States, where the Supreme Court ruled in 1823 that the Doctrine was "international law" and could be used as a directive to seize land and other property held by Native Americans. The Portland group discussed how the Doctrine continues to be used to support decisions invalidating or ignoring aboriginal possession of land in favor of modern governments, such as in the 2005 case of Sherrill v. Oneida Nation in the US.

The lack of awareness of this dark history promulgated by the Church is troubling, and the group noted that it has only been in the past ten years or so that the Doctrine has begun to be widely condemned as socially unjust, racist, and in violation of basic and fundamental human rights. In May of 2012, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues held a four-day meeting with the theme: "The Doctrine of Discovery: its enduring impact on indigenous peoples and the right to redress for past conquests."

The <u>General Convention</u> of the <u>Episcopal Church</u>, conducted on 8–17 August 2009, passed a resolution officially repudiating the discovery doctrine. In 2013, at its 29th <u>General Synod</u>, the <u>United Church of Christ</u> followed suit in repudiating the doctrine in a near-unanimous vote. On November 3, 2016, a group of 524 clergy publicly burned copies of the Inter Caetera as part of the <u>Standing Rock</u> pipeline protests

In 2014, Ruth Hopkins, a tribal attorney and former judge, wrote to Pope Francis asking him to formally revoke the *Inter Caetera* Bull of 1493: <a href="https://indiancountrytoday.com/archive/a-letter-to-pope-francis-abolish-the-papal-bull-behind-colonization">https://indiancountrytoday.com/archive/a-letter-to-pope-francis-abolish-the-papal-bull-behind-colonization</a> That has not yet happened. However, in 2010 the Vatican ambassador to the United Nations told the Forum on Indigenous Issues that the papal bull Inter Caetera was rescinded by subsequent bulls and treaties over the centuries and is today merely a "historic remnant with no juridical, moral, or doctrinal value." Furthermore, he said, if nations set the Doctrine of Discovery as a legal precedent, refuting it is a matter for their lawmakers.

Continued on page 9.

#### **Doctrine of Discovery**, continued

In a landmark speech in July 2015, Pope Francis acknowledged the "grave sins" on the part of the Church in colonial times. "I humbly ask forgiveness, not only for the offense of the Church herself, but also for crimes committed against the native peoples during the so-called conquest of America," he said. Unfortunately, the Doctrine of discovery continues to have major ramifications and is a bedrock of US law, cited by the Supreme Court in the last 20 years.

Our Portland-based group agreed that we must look for opportunities to raise awareness of this issue and advocate for and support indigenous people as they seek respect for their grievances. In addition to revocation of the Doctrine, many Native Americans have expressed an interest in

gaining access to stolen lands for the purposes of holding routine ceremonies that strengthen their traditions, as well as having a place to stay while they hold these ceremonies and gatherings. Assisting with these requests seems like a good place to start.

It is time for the Catholic Church to repudiate this doctrine, by:

- noting its departure from what we believe,
- possibly explaining how this may have come about (like a permission slip given for actions not initially known in full?), and
- urging that appropriate actions begin to be explored.

It is past time.





Steve Newcomb gives a copy of his book, Pagans in the Promised Land, on the Doctrine of Discovery to Pope Francis, who said he'd read it.

Steve and Maryknoll Affiliate <u>Marie Venner</u> have worked together on multiple letters to Vatican personnel about the Doctrine of Discovery.

#### WHAT ARE WE TEACHING OUR CHILDREN?

Al Drinkwine – Seattle Chapter

Recently, as I was leaving a hardware store parking lot, I waited in my truck for a man who was loading the back of his SUV. His four or five-year-old son was by his side. Suddenly, the boy stepped out from behind his dad, with a plastic replica of an autonomic rifle. With a joyous smile and sparkling delight in his eyes, this youngster pointed his toy rifle directly at my head, while repeatedly pulling his trigger. Shock went through my body as I politely waited for his dad to finish loading their car. My mind was bouncing with varied thoughts as to what to say to his dad but I said nothing as I drove directly beside him.

The old idea that "Silence is Golden" is, too often, our truth withholding. Our children learn from, and by what they are taught, or not taught. Toy guns are weapons sold and used to practice killing. They are practice instruments of death and have no place in a child's hand. Furthermore, it is not polite to pretend to kill strangers. Especially, when doing so makes the shooter smile.

WHY???

I truly
don't know why
Some people enjoy
watching other people die.
Violent video games
display killing
as sweet apple pie,
As bullets and weapons
politicians
and gun shop owners
profitably supply.
Killing
is no child's game.
Political inaction
promotes deadly shame ~

Al Drinkwine 7/6/22

#### **WOMEN AS LEADERS**

Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss - Portland Chapter



Carolyn Woo, former dean of the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business, past CEO and president of Catholic Relief Services. (CNS photo/Bob Roller) A review of *Rising:*Learning from Women's
Leadership in Catholic
Ministries
by Carolyn Woo, PhD,
Orbis Books

was immediately drawn into this book by its dedication: "To the Maryknoll Sisters. Thank you for being my first teachers and continuing role models in faith. By your teaching I developed my voice ..." Then Dr. Woo quotes Mother Mary Joseph,

founder of the Maryknoll Sisters: "God has yet a great work for us to do ..."

Dr. Woo carefully enumerates and refutes *misperceptions* about women's leadership in Catholic ministries:

- Few leadership positions are available to women in Catholic ministries.
- Church leaders do not advocate for women's

- leadership in Catholic ministries.
- Lay ministry is subordinate to ordained ministry.
- Women are not well-suited for leadership in Catholic ministries.

She acknowledges that women are sometimes treated as outsiders, suffer discrimination in compensation and treatment, and may be expected to be the cultural caretakers for their team, but stresses there is also much support for women in leadership roles in the Church.

Key attributes of women leaders in Catholic ministries noted by Dr. Woo are:

- They feel compelled to serve those in need.
- These strong leaders are also committed to their staffs.
- As great leaders, they take ownership of the problems in their organizations.
- Their on-going work is rooted in their faith.

I especially enjoyed the journeys and contributed reflections of Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS, Kerry Webber, *America Magazine*, Julie Sullivan, St. Thomas College, and 25 other accomplished female leaders. I recommend this book to anyone contemplating a leadership position (that's you!) but especially if you are a female looking to Catholic ministries.



## BE THE ANSWER

Come out of your churches, your mosques, your temples.

God can hear your prayers for peace, justice, and hope in this broken world just fine,

While you are out creating peace, working for justice, and giving hope to this broken world.

When are we going to realize that humanity is the solution to inhumanity?

When will we finally understand that we are all drops of the same ocean—hurting together, healing together, hoping together?

So, don't just pray for hands to heal the hurting, pray with hands that are healing the hurting.

Don't just pray for arms to help the helpless, pray with arms that are helping the helpless.

Don't just pray for feet to respond to the need, pray on feet that are responding to the need.

Don't just pray for someone to do something, be someone who does something.

Don't just pray for answers. Be the answer.

Source: socialjusticeresourcecenter.org

## News from the Board

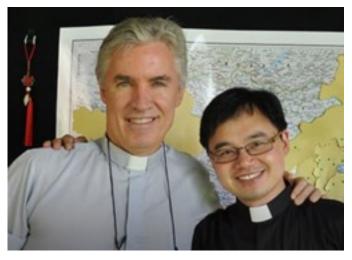
#### MEET FATHER KILKELLY

In this issue, our new Board member who represents the Maryknoll Society on the Maryknoll Affiliate Board introduces himself.

My name is Fr. Timothy Kilkelly, MM, and I was ordained in 1990. Following ordination, I was assigned to Hong Kong for 8 years. Being based in a parish setting was helpful for language and cultural acquisition. I complemented parish ministry with prison and youth ministry.

After studies in Christian spirituality for two years, I served the next 10 years in formation ministry with our students in Chicago. This accompanying candidates on the vocational journey was both challenging and enriching.

I am currently involved in another formation and education program for Chinese church leaders. Following my current service on the General



Father Timothy Kilkelly (left) brings China experience to Maryknoll Society's new leadership council. (https://www.maryknollmagazine.org/2021/09/father-kilkelly-says-god-will-do-the-rest/)

Council, I plan to return to a Chinese speaking area. I enjoy studying different languages and cultures, hiking, sports in general, and reading.

God bless.



To: Maryknoll Affiliates From: Maryknoll Sisters Subject: Stamp Collecting Date: Since @ 1949

The Maryknoll Sisters Stamp Department continues to operate!

We continue to welcome cancelled stamps from all countries, including the US. We are aware in this time of electronic mail there is much less postal mail, but we are grateful for all we receive.\*

#### What we can use:

- Foreign stamps from all countries, both off paper and on paper
- Commemorative US stamps, especially recent ones
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- · Post cards

Please mail your stamp donations to:

Maryknoll Sisters Stamp Department
Maryknoll Sisters
100 Ryder Road
Maryknoll, NY 10545

\*Learn how our stamp collecting started at:

maryknollmissionarchives.org/sistersstamp-department/



Not So Far Afield September/October2022



#### **AFFILIATE VALUES AND ELECTIONS**

What should we do about the coming elections? As Affiliates, we can refer to our **Four Pillars**.

Community and Global Vision prompt us to ask:

- Does this measure or candidate help build my community and the world?
- With whom and how can I share my informed views before the election?
- How can I help others participate?

**Spirituality** suggests we pray for just and fair outcomes.

And, guided by Action, we VOTE!

