

**In Memoriam – Fr. Anthony Farren, S.J. (范育倫神父)**

**(September 4, 1923 -- December 26, 2015)**

**Stayed at Wah Yan College, Kowloon**

**1958-1959 Teacher**

**1959-1960 Minister**

**1960-1966 Rector**

**1978-1983 Student Counsellor**

**1983-1986 Teacher**

**1986-1997 Supervisor**

## **OBITUARY**

**From *WYKAAO* (Dec 26, 2015)**

**"From Jesuit: Our beloved Fr. Anthony Farren. S.J. went to God at 12:30am this morning, 26 December, Irish time. He died very peacefully. The family has requested he be buried in Carndonagh, County Donegal. " \_\_ Monica Tang, former teacher of WYK now teaching in Toronto, writes from Hong Kong.**

**The sad news has been confirmed by Cherryfield Lodge, Dublin. Funeral mass will be held in The Church of Sacred Heart, Carndonagh, on Tuesday 29th December at 12:00 noon.**

**Please keep Father Farren in your prayers and stay tuned to arrangement of memorial service in Toronto.**

**Requiem Mass for Fr. Anthony Farren, S.J.  
2016 Jan 13, Wednesday, 7:30pm, at Wah Yan College Kowloon, St. Ignatius' Chapel.**

**From *Donegal Now* (Dec 28, 2015)**

**Rev. Fr. Anthony Farren S.J.**

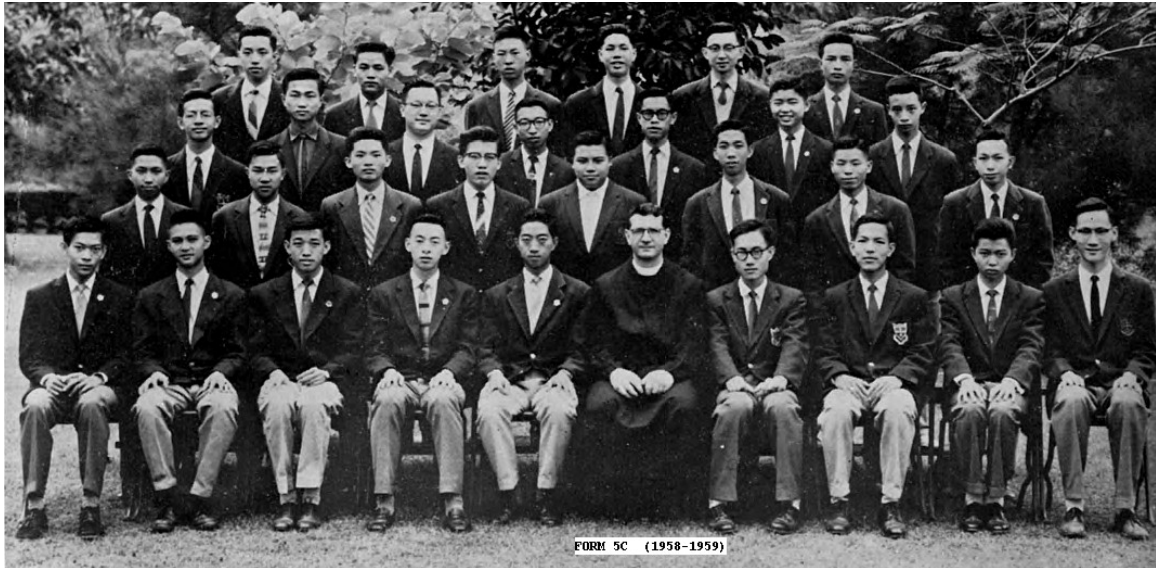
**The death has taken place of Rev. Fr. Anthony Farren S.J., formally (sic) of Pound Street, Carndonagh.**

**His remains are reposing at the residence of his nephew, Charles Farren in Pound Street, Carndonagh.**

**Funeral from there tomorrow, Tuesday, at 11.30am to the Church of the Sacred Heart, Carndonagh, for requiem mass at 12 noon.**

**Burial afterwards in adjoining cemetery.**

## A. Photographs, 1958-1966



**F5C, 1958-1959 (Form-master)**



**F4C, 1959-1960 (Form-master)**



(1962-1963 Fr Cryan Form-Master)

# UPPER SIXTH ARTS

Fr Farren (Rector) (seated - 4<sup>th</sup> left)

**U6A, 1962-1963 (Fr Farren, Rector – seated - 4<sup>th</sup> left)**



*After a staff dinner . . . hence the happy smiles!*

**1960 Staff dinner – top row - 9<sup>th</sup> left**



1960      *Mons. Bianchi blessing the outside of the Chapel.*      Fr Farren (4th left)

**1960 Mons. Bianchi's visit – 4<sup>th</sup> left**



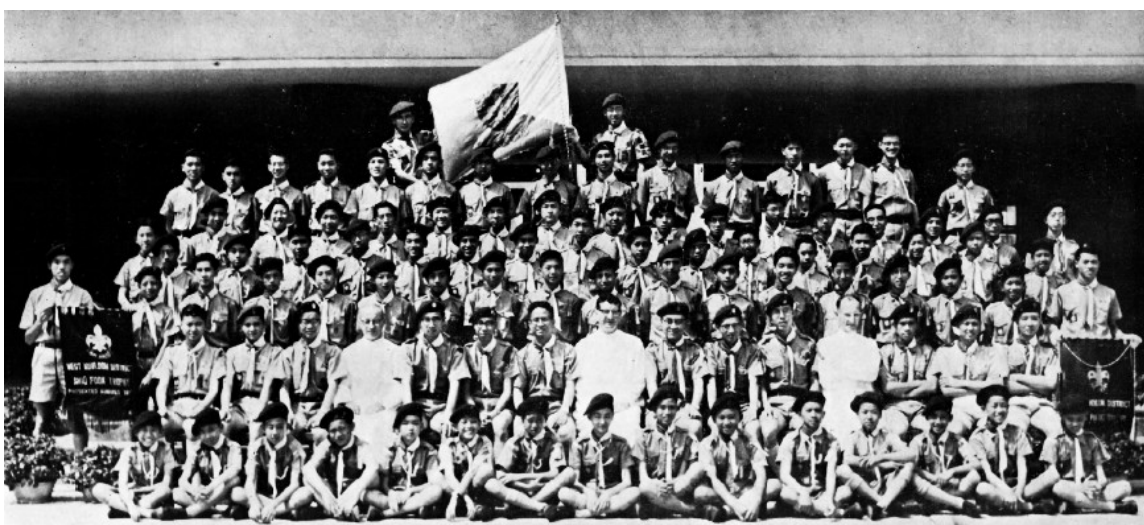
*Fr. Farren  
explains what  
exactly  
"What-ness" is.*

**1960 As classroom teacher as well as head-master**



**THE SCHOOL STAFF, 1960-1961**

**1961 Staff photo – seated - 6<sup>th</sup> left (Father Rector)**



*(1960-1961) The 11th Group, Kowloon.*

**1961 With the 11<sup>th</sup> Group**



**TEACHERS OF ENGLISH**

**1961 Teachers of English -- seated - centre**

**1961 at Mr Pun's son's wedding**



**1961 Attending Mr. Pun's son's wedding --1<sup>st</sup> right**





(1960-1961)

**Life Savers Club.**

**1961 Photo with Life Guard Club – seated - 5<sup>th</sup> left**



*Yip Kin Sang can well smile — he won the 50 metre Breast Stroke!*

(1960-1961)

**1961 Swimming competition medal presentation --centre**





**THE SCHOOL PREFECTS, 1960-1961**

**1961 With school prefects -- seated - centre**

# COLLEGE STAFF AND ROLL

Thirty-Nine Academic Year 1962-63

Very Rev. Fr. Anthony Farren, S.J. *Rector*  
校長范育倫神父  
Rev. Fr. James M. Tarpey, S.J. *Minister*  
事務主任華羽平神父  
Rev. Fr. Francis Chan, S.J. *Prefect of Studies*  
教務主任陳福偉神父  
Rev. Fr. Patrick Toner S.J. *Student Counsellor*  
公教學生神師陶德華神父  
Rev. Fr. Donal Taylor S.J. *Student Sounsellor*  
公教學生神師達樂義神父  
Rev. Fr. Patrick Finneran, S.J. *Sportmaster*  
體育主任方學良神父

Rev. Fr. M. Cryan, S.J.	許禮仁神父	Rev. Fr. J. M. Mallin, S.J.	連民安神父
Rev. Fr. S. Doris, S.J.	莊禮思神父	Rev. Fr. J. Moran, S.J.	武倫神父
Rev. Fr. R. Kennedy, S.J.	簡理察神父	Rev. Fr. J.-J. McAsey, S.J.	張光導神父
	Rev. B. C. James, S.J.	謝敏士修士	
S. P. Aras, Esq.	艾瑞史先生	Li Yiu Bor, Esq.	李耀波先生
Chan Pak Yung, Esq.	陳柏容先生	Lo Chun Hong, Esq.	盧振康先生
Ching Hing Chow, Esq.	程慶疇先生	Ma Yuk Lun, Esq.	馬玉麟先生
Choy Shing Pang, Esq.	蔡成彭先生	Man Tze Fong, Esq.	文子方先生
Fung Kin Fung, Esq.	馮建湧先生	P. J. O'Flanagan, Esq.	
Ho Chun Yuen, Esq.	何鎮源先生	Pun Yau Pang, Esq.	潘友彭先生
Ho Ping Ki, Esq.	何炳圻先生	Sie Chung Tien, Esq.	謝中天先生
Hsueh Wei-shiang, Esq.	薛偉祥先生	So Man Jock, Esq.	蘇文擢先生
Kong Chi Kwan, Esq.	江之鈞先生	Tam Chi Sing, Esq.	譚志成先生
Lai Ping Chang, Esq.	黎炳章先生	Tam Shiu Kwong	譚兆剛先生
Lau Kai Yip, Esq.	劉繼業先生	Tam Wing Cheong, Esq.	譚詠璋先生
Lau King Chi, Esq.	劉敬之先生	Tam Wing Gay, Esq.	譚榮基先生
Lau On Kwok, Esq.	劉安國先生	R. J. Wilkingson, Esq.	韋健慎先生
Lee Hoi Chow, Esq.	李海洲先生	Wong Chin Wah, Esq.	黃展華先生
Miss Lee Tun Yung	李端容女士	Miss Wong Kit Kwan	黃潔君女士
Leung Lit-shu, Esq.	梁烈樞先生	Andrew Yeung, Esq.	楊必安先生

## MEDICAL ADVISER

Dr. Y. Y. Tang, M.B., B.S. 校醫鄧以賢醫生

## CATECHIST

Hung Shui Ching, Esq. 熊瑞徵先生

## PHYSICAL INSTRUCTORS

Chu Chi Shing, Esq.	朱志成先生	Mui Kan Koon, Esq.	梅勤官先生
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## OFFICE STAFF

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Kwok Kam Pui, Esq.	郭錦培先生	Lin Jui Cheng, Esq.	林瑞成先生

1962 - 63 School staff list



(The Shield 1962 p 7)

*WE THANK LADY HOGAN*

**1962 Speech Day**



(The Shield 1962 p 33)

**THE SODALITY OF OUR LADY: 1962.**

**1962 with the Sodality group – seated - centre**



(The Shield 1962 p 50)

## 1962 Sports Day presentation



(The Shield 1964 p v)

Fr. Rector and the Director of Education

## 1964 With Director of Education



(The Shield 1965 p 35)

## 1965 Parents' Day

一九六五年校際粵語討論比賽華仁代表隊獲獎（季軍）後攝

(The Shield 1966 C Section p vi)



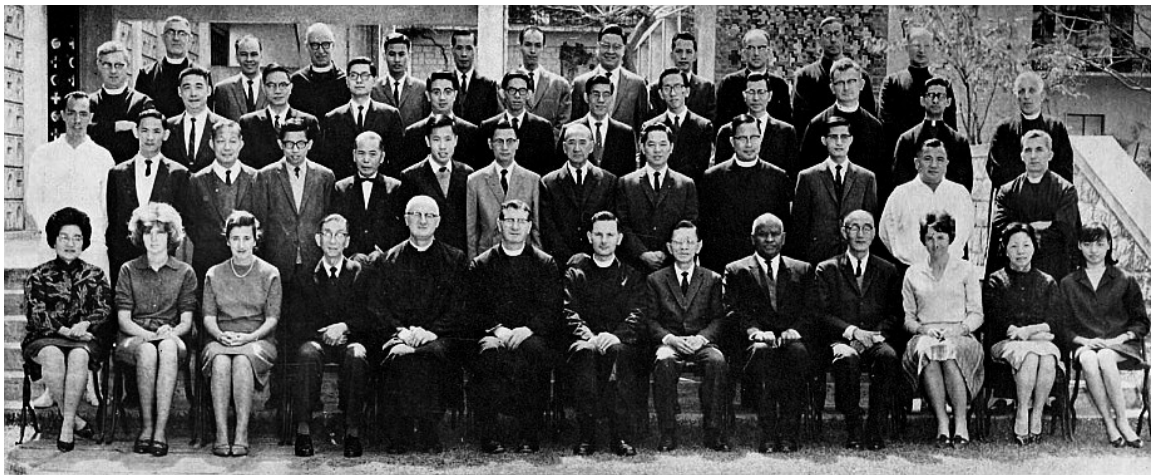
## 1965 HK Inter-school Cantonese debate competition



*The hospitable, and so welcome, cup of tea for the visitors on a chilly day: many thanks to the brewers!*

(The Shield 1966 p 43)

## 1966 Visiting scouts



THE STAFF, 1965 - 1966

## 1966 Staff photo – seated - 6<sup>th</sup> left (Father Rector)



## B. Attending Reunions in North America



1999 Attending 80/75 Wah Yan Anniversaries in Toronto (above 2 photos)





**2000 Attending 7th Wah Yan Int'l Conference in LA (above 2 photos)**

## C. In Ireland – Articles by Dr Au Tak-shing (81)

2007.07.10 Message from Alfred Liu ('76) (-submitted through Gavin Lam):  
"Attached are a few photos taken when I visited **Fr. Farren** at his place in Galway about 2 weeks ago. You can see that he is getting older looking and not feeling too well at the time when I paid him a visit due to the gall stones inside his body. However, he still has a very good memory. At his age (DOB: 4/9/1923), I guess he is better than a lot of people. Please share the photos with other Wah Yan old boys and I think **Fr. Farren** would appreciate if his students can remember his birthday (Sep 4, not too far from now). So please encourage them to send him a card or something around that time."

His address is :-  
Fr. A. Farren, SJ.  
St. Ignatius  
27 Raleigh Road  
Galway  
Republic of Ireland



2007-07-10 Message (note: by Alfred Liu)

二〇一一年二月十九日 星期六 農曆辛卯年正月十七日

### 老了

趁農曆年假，去愛爾蘭探望我的神父老師。他今年八十七歲。  
香港飛倫敦，倫敦飛都柏林，再乘三小時長途巴士，才抵達高威(Galway)。  
和神父見面，即互相問好。

「你看我的氣色怎樣？」神父問。  
我仔細打量，如實說：「你老了。」  
「老了很多嗎？」  
我回答：「比去年老了一年。」  
神父哈哈笑。他在聖誕病了一場，消瘦了不少，但拿着手杖走路，仍算平穩。

第二天早晨，神父和我在宿舍吃早餐。以神父的年紀和身體狀況，早應入住安老院，但神父堅持自我照顧，每天拿衣服放進洗衣機，又弄早餐給自己吃。  
「耶穌來到世上，」我

說：「是服侍人，不是被人服侍。你果然肖似基督。」  
神父微微一笑。我又說：「既然你堅決服侍人，那麼煮牛奶麥皮時，可否順便多煮一點分給我？」  
神父欣然回答：「好的。」  
他就是如斯可愛的老人。吞下一口麥皮，甚甜美，我連聲說好，神父卻抱歉地道：「我現時的體力，無法陪你遊玩一整天。如果午餐後駕車外出兩、三小時，還可以的。」  
就這樣，我們每天外出三小時。神父對風景其實沒有多大興趣，他最享受的，是談天說地。  
有聚，自有散。很快便到了道別的早晨，我緊緊地握着神父的手，道：「明年再見。」  
神父說：「向天父祈求吧。」  
神父的語調並不哀傷，身上散發着一份天父的慈愛，溫暖如初升的太陽。

區樂民 醫筆寫

電郵：apple doctors@botmail.com 逢星期五至日刊登

From 蘋果日報 2011-02-19

## 重聚——區樂民 (Au Tak Shing, 81)

DETAILS CREATED ON MONDAY, 06 FEBRUARY 2012 21:17



蘋果日報 副刊 醫醫筆寫 2012年02月03日 (photo by Martin Lee Ping Hon, 61)

農曆新年，我飛到愛爾蘭的都柏林，探望曾教我英語的神父。(Fr. Farren)  
朋友問我為甚麼每年都去一次，我答一來是為了看看老師，其次是當作避靜。  
神父今年八十八歲，差一點點便看不到他了。三、四星期前，他患上腸扭結，動了一個全身麻醉的大手術。甚麼叫腸扭結？那就是腸忽然自己打結，血液循環受阻，引致腸壞死。若手術延誤，很可能喪命。  
和神父見面的地方，不是他原來居住的宿舍，而是有護士照顧的療養院。經歷大手術，他消瘦了許多，走路得依靠有兩個輪子的金屬架。

一見面，神父故作輕輕地說：「還沒有死呀！」

我笑不出來，只緊緊握着他的手。

面對面坐着，我逐一轉交舊同學叫我帶給神父的禮物。神父尤其喜歡一幅油畫，畫中是意大利的風景；二零零五年，我們一行四人，包括畫家同學和神父，遊覽意大利和梵蒂岡。

畫家同學在賀年卡中說：「神父，待你復元，任你選個地方，再遊玩一番。」

還可以嗎？神父心中一定是這樣想。

跟神父在療養院吃過午餐，他需要休息，我便到市中心走走。歐洲經濟欠佳，遊客確是少了；我住的三星酒店，一個雙人房間每天才六百港元。

站在麗菲河的橋頭，腳下河水流動，雀鳥劃過長空。總有一天，神父要離開這個世界，若干年後，我也會離開，只有麗菲河的水，依然流動。

人每天追追趕趕，所為何事？

## From 蘋果日報 2012-02-03

### 生命中的十字架——區樂民 (Au Tak Shing, 81)

DETAILS CREATED ON MONDAY, 06 FEBRUARY 2012 21:26



蘋果日報 副刊 醫醫筆寫 2012年02月05日 (photo by Martin Lee Ping Hon, 61)

在愛爾蘭停留了五天，每天都致電回家跟母親聊聊。母親問：「吃得好嗎？」  
「除了早餐，所有正餐都在療養院和神父一起吃。」我答道。  
「甚麼？」母親高聲大叫：「老遠飛到歐洲，只吃老人院的食物？」  
說實話，在療養院吃到第三天，信心開始動搖。可是，我很想陪神父用膳，算是對他的支持。  
有天我問神父：「生病時，會否感到沮喪？」  
「基督徒都要撐起十字架追隨耶穌，」神父答道：「十字架有不同形式，有貧困，有逼迫，也有疾病。儘管如此，能夠追隨耶穌，是福樂。」

「你怕不怕死？」我又問。

「不怕，」神父說：「死亡是通往永生之門。自己愈接近死亡，愈為那些未有信仰的人憂心和難過。我帶着盼望離開世界，他們是帶着甚麼呢？」

我開始明白自己為何每年都探望神父，是他對世人的愛心，吸引着我；如果把這顆愛心乘大很多倍，就可解釋耶穌為甚麼能夠吸引億億萬萬的信徒。

到了道別的早晨，神父問：「你不是說星期六才走嗎？」

「今天是星期六。」我回答。

神父拍一拍自己的頭，皺眉道：「這裏不中用了。」

「明年再見。」我握着神父的一雙手。

「謝謝你來看我。」神父也握着我的一雙手，良久也沒有放開。

陽光透過窗紗灑滿一室，牆上的大鐘的的答答，漸漸我不肯定，究竟是誰不願意鬆手。

## From 蘋果日報 2012-02-06

## 不必放大罪惡

農曆新年，我飛到愛爾蘭，探望八十九歲的神父。同行的，還有一個舊同學。

我們拖着行李，走進神父的房間。神父展露愉快的笑容。

神父比半年前又消瘦了一點，但精神尚好，拿着一支手杖走路。

「不拿手杖也可以啊！」神父想即場示範，我立刻阻止。

我們在護老院外漫步，風很冷，我打了個寒噤，神父穿的不比我多，但似乎很適應天氣。

神父是我的英語老師。我好奇地問：「歷史中，愛爾蘭和英國有很多仇怨；你身為愛爾蘭人，走到英國的殖民地教授英語，心裏會否不舒服？」

「沒有呀，」神父說：「耶穌會有位神父，他的父親是愛國者，被英軍殺害。那位神父像我一樣，被派到香港教英語，沒有埋怨半句。」

「怎樣做到呢？」我追問。

「若要算帳，」神父正色道：「人人都是罪人。既然上天能原諒我，為甚麼我不能原諒他人呢？」

「殺父仇人，真的那麼容易原諒嗎？」我嘀咕。

「就算一時不能原諒仇人，」神父和顏悅

色地說：「也不必把罪惡放大；殺父仇人可能是一個，又或數個，我們不應因此憎恨一整個民族。」

我定睛看着神父。神父問我看甚麼，我說：「你真的不簡單！」

神父微微一笑，道：「我其實很簡單。」



電郵：appleDoctors@hotmail.com 逢星期三至五刊登

From 蘋果日報 2013-02-27

## 最快樂

跟神父閒談，是在愛爾蘭的主要節目。

早上參加完護老院的彌撒，神父和我去飯堂吃茶點。

「昨天有一個神父去世。」神父說。那是他的院友。

「你是否很難過？」我問。

「不算很難過，」神父道：「是有點傷心，也感到開心。」

我明白他的意思。一個神父完成了地上的任務，回到天上的樂土，我們應該為他高興。

職員問神父要咖啡還是紅茶，神父點了咖啡，然後問我：「每天喝兩杯咖啡，對身體好不好？雜誌有時說好，有

時又好像說不好，很混亂。」

「八十五歲以上的人，吃甚麼都可以。」我笑說。

「樂民，」神父提高嗓子道：「你就是這麼不認真。」

「哎呀！」我澄清：「我是認真的。」

神父不理會我，翻開報章。他每天都看新聞，但更愛讀評論文章，他說有助吸收新知識和新觀點。

「看來你很留戀這個世界。」我說。

「對，」他答道：「因為我覺得活着很快樂。」

「下一個世界不是更快樂嗎？」我問。

「先感受現世的『很快樂』，」他說：「才可對比將來的『最快樂』。」



電郵：appleDoctors@hotmail.com 逢星期三至五刊登

From 蘋果日報 2013-03-01



## **Fr Farren's Condition - March 7, 2012 to March 17, 2012**

Emails from Dr Au to Martin Li:

Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 1:09 AM

Just received this news from Enda, a priest in Galway:

Unfortunately, he (Farren) had a blockage in his stomach on Sunday morning and they took him to hospital and operated on him. He has come through it alright so far and chatted with his nephews for an hour yesterday, Monday. The results of the tests on what they removed will take 3-6 days so we are hoping it is not cancerous. Apparently this was not connected with his previous operation which was lower down in the gut. He must have a very strong constitution to come through two operations at his age. We are praying for his continued improvement and I will keep you posted.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 12:24 AM

I just talked with Fr Enda, who is in Galway.

Farren had an open-abdomen surgery and was sent to ICU on Sunday (4 March). He has been transferred to a general ward (which is a positive sign). He is able to eat a little bit of food through the mouth. He does not have a private telephone so I cannot be in contact with him.

The cause of the obstruction in the stomach is not known yet. The biopsy result is pending.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2012 12:06 AM

Fr Farren is out of hospital after the stomach surgery. He is now in the nursing home (Cherryfield) again.

His telephone number is 353-1-4985805.

I just talked with him. His voice was a bit weak but he was still cheerful. He said the biopsy report of the stomach problem had not been available yet. He will have a follow up appointment next week.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 不痛了

一個朋友通知我，住在愛爾蘭的神父入了醫院。神父曾是我的英語老師，今年八十九歲。

連忙致電愛爾蘭，醫院的接線生嘗試了好幾次，都接不進病房。算算時間，是當地的中午，可能護士正忙着給病人安排膳食。

晚上，又打電話，總算聯絡上。我告訴護士我是從香港打來的，她很有愛心，把電話轉駁到一個無線電話，然後交給神父。神父入住的，只是公立醫院的普通大房。

神父的聲音有點虛弱，我問發生了甚麼事，他答道：「跌倒了。」

「弄傷哪裏？」

「右大腿骨折，右肩脫臼。」神父說。

「哎呀！」我喊道。

「醫生已做了手術，過幾天我便開始學習走路。你們中國人有句話：『活到老，學到老。』」

「想不想我飛來探望你？」我問。

「為我祈禱就夠了。」

「好，」我答應：「每天祈禱兩次。」

神父知道我平常是每星期祈禱兩次。他笑了。

「傷口是否很痛？」我問：「聽到你骨折和脫臼，我好像也感覺到痛楚。」

「現在不痛了，」神父答道：「因為給你分擔了。」他又哈哈大笑。

電郵：appledoctors@hotmail.com 逢星期三至五刊登

From 蘋果日報 2013-06-05

## 真話

年初三的早晨，我飛到愛爾蘭，走進護老院，對神父說：「你早。」

九十歲的神父轉身看我，道：「恭喜發財！」

「哪裏有神父祝人發財呢？」我皺皺眉。

「發財沒有甚麼不好，」神父答道：「只要多行善事。」

神父是我的中學老師；到現在，他仍是我的老師。

「行程順利嗎？」神父問。

「入境時，有點阻滯。」

神父追問發生何事，我把經過告訴他。

下機後，我將護照遞給入境處職員，職員問：「來愛爾蘭做甚麼？」

「探望已退休的中學老師。」

職員瞄瞄我，道：「是來遊玩吧。」他正想蓋印讓我通行。

「不是遊玩，」我糾正他的說法：「老師年老，不能遊玩。」

職員翻看護照，問：「為甚麼每年都來一次？」

「探望老師。」

「為甚麼每年都要探望一次？」他的眼神變得凌厲。

「因為路途遙遠，如果每年探望兩次，會太累。」我直說。

神父聽了我的講述，哈哈大笑，並問：「職員有何反應？」

「他瞪着我，好像不大相信。」我頗委屈。

「世事就是這樣，」神父道：「你直接說真話，人家卻認為是假話。」

我們靜了下來，都在微笑。為甚麼微笑？因為快樂，真的。

電郵：appledoctors@hotmail.com 逢星期三至五刊登

From 蘋果日報 2014-02-12

## 可怕

來愛爾蘭探望神父，節目是飯前閒談、飯中間談和飯後閒談。

「兩年前你一連接受兩宗大手術，我以為你會死掉。」我說。

「為甚麼你當時沒有說？」神父問。

「因為害怕，不敢說。」

「死亡，沒有甚麼可怕。」神父淡然地道。

「甚麼才可怕？」我問。

「誘惑。」

我沒有回話，讓神父說下去。

「一般人理解的誘惑，」神父解釋：「你是懂得的，我就不說了。原來過度的哀傷、恐懼、抑鬱、絕望，也是一種誘惑，沉溺其中，會令人遠離天主。要記住，天主是喜樂的泉源；有信德的人，不應任由自己停留

在負面的感覺中。」

「依你的意思，」我想了想才說：「如果你死了，我也不應難過嗎？」

「人始終是人，」神父道：「親友離世，難過是正常的，但不應持續地難過。如果你信任天主，你該相信天主會安排我們在天國重聚。」

忽然想起一事，

即問：「如果你病危，你是否希望我來到你的

身邊，跟你道別？」

神父遲疑了一回兒，沒有直接回答，卻反問：「如果你來了，我沒有很快死去，一個月、兩個月的躺在床上，你怎麼辦？」

「要是那樣，」我答道：「我的私家診所多數會倒閉，我就更安心地陪着你到最後一刻。」

神父的眉頭往上一揚，飯前

「醫醫筆寫」

區樂民

電郵：appledoctors@hotmail.com 逢星期三至五刊登

From 蘋果日報 2014-02-13

## 嚴格訓練

在愛爾蘭的第二天，我問神父：「想不想到外面吃午餐？」

神父說：「上次外出活動，是半年前，結果在網球場邊跌倒，引致右肩關節脫位和左髖骨折。」

「這次有醫生陪着你，會安全些。」我保證。

神父答應了。

神父拄着手杖走出護老院，依我的了解，他是不許我攙扶的，我於是跟在後面。神父問：「你在做甚麼？」

「在盤算各種可能。」

「甚麼可能？」神父又問。

「我幻想你跌向右邊，我應怎樣扶你；若是往後翻，我又該如何反應。」

「區樂民，你走在

前方！」神父下令。

「為甚麼你總是那麼獨立，不許人家協助呢？」我好奇地問。

「那是我從小的訓練。」神父堅定地說。

我想正是這種硬朗的性格，讓他在九十歲的高齡，又骨折又脫位的情況下，也能夠重新站起來，獨自走路。

午餐後，我們平安地回到護老院。神父告訴我，次天有體

操課，由物理治療師主持。

「甚麼體操？」我問。

神父立刻站起來，一邊數着「左、中、右」或「上、中、下」，一邊把整套體操示範一次。他做得很認真。

我暗忖，如果神父練的是中國功夫，現在必定是武林高手，比甄子丹更「好打」。

「醫醫筆寫」

區樂民

電郵：appledoctors@hotmail.com 逢星期三至五刊登

蘋果日報 2014-02-13



## 回報

在愛爾蘭護老院居住的神父生日，今年九十一歲。我計算了時差，他應該剛吃完下午茶，我便打電話給他。

「生日快樂！」我說。

「謝謝。」神父認出了我的聲音。

「今天過得怎樣？」

「十分快樂！」神父笑道：「有個比你大數年的學生，從美國來探望我。我正和他閒聊。」

神父有客人，我簡短地談了幾句便掛線。

我很羨慕老師們，只要用心教學，學生必然欣賞，並銘記於心。如果我能活到九十一歲，我很大機會也是住在護老院，但我的舊病人會來看我嗎？

機會渺茫吧。

次天上班，最後一個病人由媽媽陪同，診症後，他的媽媽送我一個大蛋糕。

「為甚麼那麼客氣？」我問。上次她的兒子來求診，已是兩年多前。

「謝謝你當年教訓他，不要把精力全花在搞課外活動，應分配好時間。他今年考進了醫學院。」

我想起來了。他是個聰明的孩子，但課外活動太多，上次來看病時，我跟他分享讀書的心得。

我笑納了大蛋糕，並嚇唬他：「考進醫學院固然好，但也有人不能畢業。必須用功啊！」

他的媽媽大力點頭。

期望六年後，他們會再送我一個大蛋糕。

### 醫醫筆寫

區樂民

電郵：[appliedoctors@hotmail.com](mailto:appliedoctors@hotmail.com) 逢星期四至五刊登

**D. In Ireland – Various photos of visits by '61 grads**



**2004 October Albert Miu's visit**



**2012-01-26 Martin Li's visit at nursing home (above 4 photos)**





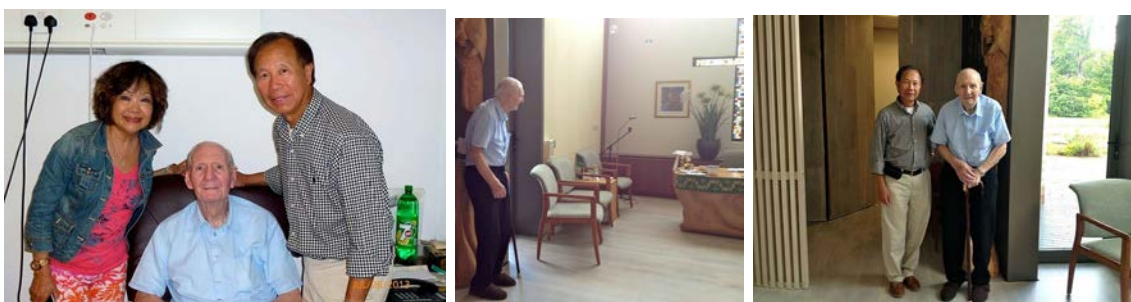
**2012-09-30 Martin Li's visit at nursing home**



**2012-10-01 Martin Li's visit at nursing home**



**2013-06-30 Michael Chan's visit**



**2013-07-26 Gilbert & Margaret Chinn's visit**



**2013 -- Fr Farren**



**2013 -- Fr Farren at the Chapel**



**2014 September -- Augustine & family's visit**

## **E. A Brief Chronology**

Sept 4, 1923	Born; hometown Carndonagh, County Donegal, Ireland
1950	Came to Hong Kong
1952-53	Teacher at WYCHK
July 31, 1956	Ordained
1958-59	Teacher at WYK
1959-60	Minister at WYK
<u>1960-66</u>	<u>Rector at WYK</u>
1963	Sought permission from the Department of Education “to build a boys’ library, a music room, a geography room, a visual-aids room, and some classrooms.” (Morrissey p. 408)
1966-67	Teacher at WYCHK
1967-74	Minister at WYCHK
May 1972	In response to an emphasis within the Society on spiritual renewal, “attended an aggiornamento course at the East Asian Pastoral Institute in Manila”, together with Fr McGaley and Fr Doyle (Morrissey, p. 496)
1968-78	Student Counsellor at WYCHK
Aug 1973	“To improve skills in religious education ... attended the first international workshop for Jesuit high-schools on the subject, ... held in Manila from 20-25 August 1973”, with Fr Coghlan and Fr McIntyre (Morrissey, p. 507)
1978-83	Student Counsellor at WYK
1979	A member of the educational advisory committee of WYK, which had met three times by November 1979
1983-86	Teacher at WYK
1986-1997	Supervisor at WYK

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 1991         | One of the four consultants for the Macau-Hong Kong region which formed part of the “new China province” structure                                  |
| 1997-2000    | Teacher at WYCHK  |
| July 1999    | Attended the celebration of the 75 <sup>th</sup> and 80 <sup>th</sup> anniversaries of Wah Yan colleges held in Toronto, with Fr Coghlan and Fr Zee |
| Aug 2000     | Attended the 7 <sup>th</sup> Wah Yan International Conference held in Los Angeles, with Fr Foley and Fr Zee   |
| 2001         | Left Hong Kong, “faced an operation in Ireland but hoped to stay there to find an outlet for pastoral work.” (Morrissey, p. 682)                    |
| 2005         | Interviewed by Fr Thomas Morrissey who was asked to write a history of the Jesuits in Hong Kong, South China and Beyond                             |
| Sept 2006    | Upon the death of Fr Foley, joined the Jesuit community at the St Ignatius church in Galway   |
| 2012         | Had two surgeries: on gut and abdomen; stayed in the Jesuit nursery home Cherryfield Lodge, Dublin  |
| 2013         | Had a fall and broke some bones, surgery  |
| 2014         | WYK Boys’ Choir visited him at Cherryfield and sang to him (reported in May 2014)   |
| Dec 26, 2015 | Passed away   |
| Dec 29, 2015 | Requiem mass in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Carndonagh, burial afterwards in adjoining cemetery   |

(Note: Many Wahyanites and staff visited Fr Farren when he was in Galway and Dublin, especially at the Jesuit nursery home in Dublin. Among 61 grads, Albert Miu, Martin Li, Michael Chan, Gilbert Chinn and wife Margaret, Augustine Lam and wife Martina and family made visits to Fr Farren. There might be other visits by classmates which I do not know of. Brief chronology compiled by Yu Fong-ying mainly from Thomas Morrissey, *Jesuits in Hong Kong, South China and Beyond*, 2008, and the *WYKAAO* website)



## **F. Greetings to Fr Farren by '61 grads, 2002**

April 23, 2002

Dear Fr. Farren,

Enclosed please find the greeting card package.

The Class of 61 enjoyed so much of your presence at the Diamond Jubilee dinner in 1999 that they were extremely disappointed that you would not be coming to Toronto this June for the Wah Yan Conference. They were also touched by your message to the Class of 62 at their reunion in Hong Kong that you enjoyed having them in Wah Yan. [Your message](#) appears in the April edition of the Wah Yan Kowloon Alumni Association newsletter.

Wong Hin Shing came up with the idea to ask his classmates to send their greetings to you. The response came from Hong Kong and various parts of the world in the form of email messages to him.

At the dinner to welcome Philip Yu from Seattle, whom many of them have not met in 40 years, all present signed a card to wish you well. So that you know who were present, a signature sheet was included to show who was who.

The Wah Yan graduates are wonderful people coming out from a Jesuit Institution. Laurence Tam and Wilson Hsueh who just returned from the '62 reunion in Hong Kong were at the dinner. They shared their experience of how respectfully they were received by the boys they taught 40 years ago.

Please remember us in your prayers.

Yours sincerely,  
<< Classs of 1961 >>

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Father Farren,

During my recent visit to Hong Kong, I tried to look you up at Wah Yan Hong Kong, but I was told you have gone back to Ireland on your retirement.

On the occasion of the 1961 graduates of Wah Yan, Kowloon holding their re-union gathering in Toronto, I would like to join my fellow school mates and teachers in sending you our warmest regards, and to wish you a long and happy retirement.

Thank you, Father, for teaching and taking care of us during our days at Wah Yan, and to continue to provide us with comfort, support and your prayers especially at a time of need. My daughter, Robina, whom you met in Hong Kong has asked me to say a special hallo.

God Bless.

Harry Aitken (5 April 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Father Farren:

I meant to say a few words earlier, but the Hospital I work for is undergoing an inspection and we in Human Resources have a lot to prepare for, and so I'm late with this.

If you remember me at all, which I doubt, my Chinese name is Siu Lee; I was in your Form 6 (A?) class in 1961-62, one of those nondescript fellows who was good at neither academics nor sports (although I have retained my passion for soccer all these years, and I am a great rooter for the Republic of Ireland team which I believe will give a better account of themselves in the World Cup than the English).

Since I left Hong Kong in November 1962, I have lived in the San Francisco Bay Area (I can hardly believe it's been almost 40 years), am married, have a daughter and a grandson who is turning four in July. All these years my Jesuit education (at Wah Yan Kowloon and the University of San Francisco) has stood me in pretty good stead: whatever English I learned I learned at Wah Yan.

I did come back to Hong Kong for a visit last May, and my wife and I took a taxi to the school for a look-around. Unfortunately it was a holiday, and there was no one about, but it turned out to be a very emotional occasion for me.

May I take this opportunity to send you my best wishes, and my heartfelt thanks. Please feel free to write and keep me up to date.

Roderick Siu Lee Auyang (Apr 11, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

YEAH, so happy to read all these responses...4D, Fr. Farren, Your face with the perpetual smile reminds me the happy days of WYC. Soccer, classical music gang, that's what make me to-day. So, as far as I'm concerned, we are still your students, like forever. May the spirit be with us as always.

Also, the 3 recent pictures bring back a lot of memories, especially Mr. Tam, my first physics teacher, and Fr. O'Neill, form master of 2D, the handsome gentle pianist. Please keep it up, everyone!

From, Yiu Man Chan (Apr 11, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Fr Farren,

I attended Wah Yan Kowloon from 1961-63, and I have very fond memories of the experience. You were the principal at the time, and also taught religious studies. I want to thank you and the Wah Yan College for the excellent education I received which has sustained me for the past 40 years.

With best wishes,

Peter Chang (Apr 19, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Father Farren:

I don't recall my years at Wah Yan with a great deal of pleasure. I remember a great urge to fit in and a deep despair of ever doing so. It wasn't until after my university days that I finally came to feel at peace with myself and the world about me. I could not have been an easy boy to deal with. Yet, shining through those days of insecurity and uncertainty, is the support and the comfort that my teachers and friends at Wah Yan gave me, and especially the sacrifice and dedication of my Jesuit teachers who had come all the way from Ireland. I will always be grateful for that, and in my heart there will always be warmth for Jesuits and for the Irish! Whenever I meet someone from Ireland, regardless of their religion, I cannot resist bringing up my indebtedness to my teachers at Wah Yan.

With love and respect, and gratefully,

Bob Chen, Wah Yan Kowloon Class of '61 (Apr 12, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Father Farren,

Time really flies. It has been more than forty-five years since we entered Wah Yan College, but the fond memories of those happy days are still vivid in our minds.

I still remember clearly that when I was in P.6 we won the overall C grade championship in the inter-school athletic meet (by the way I was the champion in high jump), and school treated the C grade athletic team members to dinner in the canteen (the whampoa scrambled egg was one of the dishes and it tasted so good). It was a very joyous occasion.

When we were in F5, you as headmaster encouraged us to be enumerators in the Hong Kong census. It gave me a first and also wonderful working experience.

The F6 and F7 classrooms were in the secluded area below the canteen. Very so often Father Chan, the discipline master then, charged down the stairs in order to catch those naughty students for their disruptive behaviour, but always in vain because they were very alert and acted innocently when he arrived. I feel very sorry for Father Chan, and I understand his feelings and perhaps frustration as I myself had also been a discipline master some twenty years later.

Somehow we the ignorant young kids transform, as in metamorphosis, into mature adults and make contribution to the world in various ways. Thanks to the nurture at WYK.

Best regards,

Fong Wang-bun (Apr 15, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Father Farren,

I am so glad that I have this opportunity to say a few words to you. You were my form master of 4C in 1959. I haven't seen you since leaving Hong Kong after graduation.

I went back to our old school a few times but did not run into you. A couple of times I strolled by and paused outside the Head-Master's office at the far end of the right wing. I couldn't help

remembering the few times when I arrived late for classes. You people didn't treat tardy students very nice those days. Not trying to look for an excuse, but I had to travel a long way including crossing the harbour every morning.

As witnesses, I have Ho Ping-Kwong and Martin Lee who often took the same ferry with me. By the way, this Martin Lee is the bad one, as I just learned from these emails...sorry Martin.

Anyway, after climbing the long flight of stairs leading to the side entrance, the first challenge was to pass your office without being caught. It was difficult to tell through your windows whether you were inside looking out or not. I can almost feel my pounding heartbeats now as I dashed pass your office blindly 40 years ago. Well, I eventually did get caught, but not by you. Not a bad achievement on my part as I think about it now. However, I wonder was I really lucky that you never saw me, or someone was showing mercy on that scared soul.

It is comforting to know you are resting in your homeland after so many years of selfless service in the foreign lands. How fortunate are we to have you and the other Jesuits came so far away to prepare us for the world in our younger days. I wish your retirement years are full of peace and happiness.

Sincerely,

Fok Kee-Sau (Apr 16, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

With best wishes from Yum Sing Kung (Francis) (Apr 12, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Father Farren,

I was so amazed that you remembered me when you were in Toronto in 1999 for the Wah Yan, Kowloon 75th Golden Jubilee reunion. You still remembered that there were two "Martin Lee"s in your class. In case you cannot tell the difference between the two Martin Lee's, just remember that I am the good one - just kidding.

I went back to Hong Kong last year in October after 21 years' of absence. I was going to look you up at Wah Yan, Hong Kong, but was told that you had already left for Ireland for good. However, I had a chance to visit Wah Yan, Kowloon. The trip brought back a lot of good memories - with you in the midst of most of them.

Dominus vobiscum

Martin LEE (Apr 6, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Father Farren,

Please give us your telephone number, email address and postal address in Ireland. 2 Years ago I was in Ireland on a PDA project developed in Ireland.

I find Ireland a peaceful country and becoming very prosperous in the IT/electronic business. I suggest our Wah Yan friends to visit Ireland when we are in Europe and pay you a visit. We also have all reached the age of 60 and we still need your advice about this life and afterwards. I want to say how grateful I am for all the Jesuit fathers I have met in Wah Yan.

With email, you and us can always keep in touch. We can send photos with voices and songs to you on the personal side, I am still working in my business. Web site: [www.aaa.com.hk](http://www.aaa.com.hk). I plan to retire at 75. My wife & I just celebrated our 30 years wedding anniversary. My two sons are graduated from the universities and working in Hong Kong.

My mobile phone is (852) 91956856, office tel is (852) 29510146.

Happy Retirement to father Farren!

Merry re-union to the Wah Yan boys in Toronto!

Hong Kong re-unions are organized by Camelo Leung & I am most grateful for his efforts.

Love From

Clement Lee Wen Hao (Apr 11, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Fr. Farren,

I heard from Martin Lee Chuen Kam, a fellow Form 5 classmate who graduated in 1961, a couple of months ago when he was in HK for vacation, that you had taken up retirement in Ireland.

As a parishioner of St. Margaret's Church in the past two years, I used to see you once or twice a month there saying Mass as a visiting priest. No wonder I'd not seen you lately. Although I had not been keeping contact with the Jesuit priests diligently,

I felt I did stay in touch with many of them reasonably closely over the years. My wife and I were extremely pleased that you did recognize us (Jennie Stradmoor and Carmelo Leung) at the re-union dinner in Toronto, Canada in the summer of 1999.

We sincerely wish you a relaxing and healthy life in your home country. We will always remember you for having helped shape our character during our formative years.

Thank you.

Carmelo Leung (Apr 6, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Father,

How are you?

It may be difficult to recall who I am. If you do, you have great memory. I was in your last Form 4C before you became the Head Master and there was not much else to go by.

I do remember you. You and Father Moran are my two favorite Form Masters. He was kind of serious and quiet and you were more sociable.

You were away from your homeland most of your life doing what you believed in. It is time to enjoy your retirement.

Good luck, good health and God bless!

Yours respectfully,

Peter Lo (Apr 17, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Fr. Farren,

Greeting from Down Under. Having been away from Hong Kong for over 40 years, I have to say that I now call Australia home. Whenever my elder brother (Thomas W.Y.K.), younger brothers (Louis & Edward W.Y.H.K.) and I got together, we recalled our history in Hong Kong.

We are all thankful for the good solid support and guidance provided by Wah Yan College and the Jesuits both academically and spiritually. I rarely go back to H.K. nowadays. My last trip was in 1997 when Francis Ho and I paid you a visit at W.Y.K. The short reunion brought back a lot of fond memories.

It is nice to know that you are back to Ireland and retire among your friends and family.

God Bless And Have A Healthy Retirement.

Albert Miu (Apr 13, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

To My Dear Rev. Fr Farren,

I wish I could be in Toronto this very moment to say to you how thankful I am from your cultivation of me during the years in WYK I became a happy and confident individual since. Through ups and downs in life I get along healthily to enjoy survival with peace of mind all the time.

Thank you so much for the wisdom and discipline in me an outgrowth of your education of me that always help to see the bright side of things later on in my existence till now.

Remember I was intensely weak in History in school but I obtained the best improvement within the period of a couple of terms with you being my teacher of that subject. I worked as an assistant clerk in the WY general office after graduation. Accessible to the Sch. Cert. Exam. records I found I should have got one more "Credit" just for a few more marks out of a total of 600.

At present I am coaching two junior school soccer teams. With a good grasp of the combination of firm air and friendly atmosphere in executing the authority you used to manage your class I learn to treat my boys and girls, likewise to your modus operandi. I, therefore, was well-liked and loved and an idol and a pal to them all.

Hope you relish your retirement. Enjoy such a worthy gathering with your past students. I miss you so much ever and May God bless you always.

Your devotional student,

NG Matthew Kwok King (Apr 18, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Father Farren:

I've learned from Harry Aitken that you're back in Ireland. How are you these days?  
I remember the last time we met was in 1999, when you attended the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Toronto.  
I introduced myself to you, but I'm still not quite sure whether you remembered me or not. (On the other hand, you definitely remembered David Chan.)

I was in your class (Form 4C) in 1959-1960. I still remember once I was dozing off in one of your BK classes, and suddenly I was woken up when a chalk hit me.

I looked up and you were kind of half-smiling, half-reproachful at me.

Even though you were very busy as the Head-Master later on, you were very kind to be a sponsor/supervisor of our classical music appreciation club - me, Bobby Chen, Chan Yiu-Man, Chan York-Lung, Jacob Chow, Jerome Shih and a few others. I remember typing up reports and mailing them to you after we had those periodic music appreciation sessions. Anyways, at certain time, I didn't send those reports to you any more. And that was over 35 years ago...

We in Toronto often mention your name when we have our 61 grads reunion dinners - usually more than once each year. When we heard that you were not feeling well, we worried about you. Hope you're feeling well now and hope you have a peaceful retirement.

Your former student with love,

Hin-Shing Wong (Apr 4, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

<< At Fong-Lun's request, this message is forwarded to Father Farren >>  
"Remembering Our Former Teachers"

Dear Hin Shing,

I play Bach, Beethoven, Handel and Vivaldi pieces all the time. I have more than enough of their music pieces to play right now. Anyway, thanks a lot for your offer to burn some CDs for me. I hope to discuss in length about my musical repertoire to all of you dear and beloved old pals in Toronto later this month. I am exceedingly flattered to have so many Wah Yan guys come to the reunion table. Shall we refresh our memory about Father Chan, Father Kennedy, Father O'Neill, Father Farren, Father Tony, Father Cryan and Father Doody? To me, they are all clean-cut and dedicated Jesuit Priests coming all the way from Ireland to serve the whole bunch of we Chinese guys in Hong Kong. I appreciate their sacrificial love from the bottom of my heart!

Thinking of you and your family as always,

Yu, Fong Lun Philip & Kelly Wong (wife) (Apr 5, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Fr. Farren,

You were my principal when I graduated from matriculation in 1963 to go to the University of Hong Kong. You also taught us arts students B.K. in form six, I think. We studied St Luke (Knox version), and partly from your urging I committed most of chapter one to heart, and can still rattle off a few lines! And I was not a Catholic. I still am not one, but am grateful to the Jesuits for the imparting of biblical knowledge such that I am aware of the teaching of a great religion and have been guided consciously or unconsciously by its doctrines. The sense of both Catholicism and



religious tolerance that infused the school, and the fathers' kindness to all are aspects of Wah Yan that make it so influential in my own upbringing, and I thank you for it.

I would like to join my many good classmates to wish you the best in health and work in the coming years in your home country.

You remember Mr. Patrick O'Flanagan? He was my literature teacher and mentor, and I would like to remember him in this greeting although he passed away some years ago.

Yours respectfully,

Yu Fong-ying (1955-63, WYK)

Vancouver (Apr 15, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Hi, Dear Fr Farren,

Long time no see.

I trust you have no problem remembering me, as we saw each other for good many years when we played soccer in Wah Yan on Saturday afternoons with Cheung Siu Keung, Ng Chun Bong, Lai Ming Chung, Leung Koon Chuen, Tony Cheung Chi Tung and all that until the swimming pool was put up at one end of the soccer pitch. Of course, you were playing your tennis.

In any case, I attach a 'funny looking' recent picture of my to refresh you. (It might confuse you even more as I may not look quite like that in your memory.)

Any way, it was a bit sad that I didn't get to say good-bye to you before you went back to Ireland for good. (I heard that from Fr Deignan quite a bit later.) I hope this short note will find you in good health and that you are enjoying your retirement.

I am still in HK, (working at the HK Polytechnic University), seeing the old Wah Yan class/school mates once in a long while, when someone comes in town and when someone (like Carmelo Leung and Albert Lam Kwong Yu) is kind enough to organize. We are all getting a bit old now. Eating is about the only thing we can do together. No more football like in the good young days. But it certainly is great to be together and talk about the old times as well as the more recent affairs. There is always much to talk about in HK - the politics, the Government, the education, the mainland, Wah Yan ....

Previously I spent more time in Toronto when my family lived there. Since their return to HK a couple of years ago, I go there roughly once a year on business trip and catch up with the Wah Yan boys, particularly the '61ers and Wong Hin Shing. I am thankful to see so many classmates still in good health and well established in their respective fields. I might go back in the coming July/August time.

Well, I have to go now. Please do drop us a few words if you would. Try email, it's a lot of fun and we all can read it very very quickly.

Please do keep well and take care.

Fondly,

Richard Li (Apr 22, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Fr. Farren,

It's time to reflect how much the Wah Yan Jesuits have done for us and our families during the stages of growing up from "naughty teenagers" to mature and successful men everywhere in the world . I want to send special regards to you even after your retirement back to Ireland. I still remember the time you were the Principal and I was normally a good decent student in Wah Yan. You were the one who sent me to detention for the first and last time in my life, because I was caught playing outside the Lower 6 classroom during recess time. This was traumatic, but I learnt so much from this.

No matter what, my respect towards you and the other Jesuits remain the same all these years. What a fond memory we have our acquaintances with you.

My best regards,

Stephen Lam (Apr 22, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Fr. Farren,

I am Andrew Man, a relatively quiet guy of the 61 grads. I don't think you remember me but it is ok. I just want to say how much I have used you, and other Jesuit Fathers, as role model in my past 25 years as a teacher at a university. I have always admired and appreciated the Fathers for coming a long way to Hong Kong to educate us, sacrificing your ties with your family and your own motherland. I pray to God that you have a wonderful retirement in Ireland, a reward you deserve so much.

Andrew Man (Apr 22, 2002)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Greetings received up to 2002-04-23**

**G. Greetings to Fr Farren by '61 grads, 2012-2015**



**2012-04-11 Get-Well card side 1**

For I will restore  
health unto thee...  
saith the Lord...  
Jeremiah 30:17

Dear Father Farren:



A greeting meant to cheer you  
and to bring a prayer your way,  
A prayer that God  
will keep you close  
and bless you day by day,  
That He will give encouragement  
as only He can do,  
And grant a very quick return  
of health and strength to you.



We the '61 Grads are all thinking of you.  
May the Lord be with you and grant you  
His peace.  
Love,  
Hin-Shiy (for the '61 Grads)  
April 11, 2012



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*God Bless  
You  
with a  
Beautiful  
Birthday*

*Praying hands are dearest*

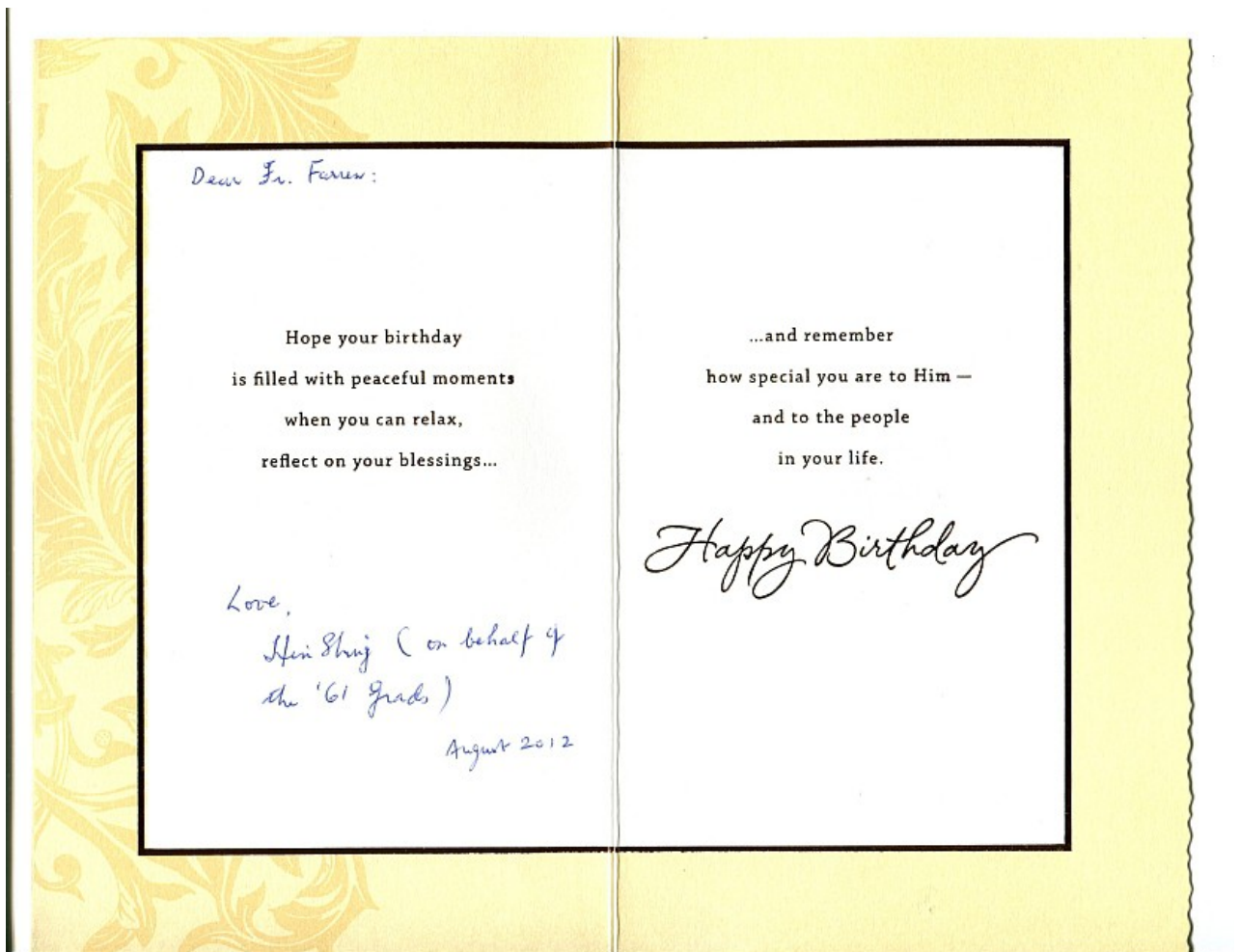
*In the sight of God above,*

*For in their sweet*

*and earnest clasp*

*Are reverence and love.*

2012-08-16 Birthday Card side 1



2012-08-16 Birthday Card side 2

Aug 16, 2012

Dear Father Farren:

Happy 89th Birthday from Mr Ho and the '61 Grads all over the world! How are you these days?

A few months have passed since I last talked to you over the phone. I hope you're feeling much better now.

After the Grand November '61 Grads reunion in Hong Kong, everything has somehow quieted down. There are still occasional gatherings in Hong Kong, Toronto, Vancouver and other places. Some classmates also make frequent trips to the Mainland China. I'm enclosing 6 photos – 2 from Hong Kong, 1 from Toronto, 1 from Vancouver, and 2 from some China trips. (Photos not included, and details of photos omitted.)

1. Hong Kong photo (taken in early 2012)
2. Hong Kong photo (taken in 2012 at Mr Tam's home)
3. Toronto photo (taken in August 2012 – on the occasion of Loo Wei-Zun's and Yu Fong-ying's visits to Toronto; Mr Ho is also the honoured guest)
4. Vancouver photo (taken in 2012)
5. China trip photo 1 (taken in 2012)
6. China trip photo 2 (taken in 2012-members of the Classical Music-Lovers' Association)

Hope you can recognize many of us.

Here are some recent news items concerning Wah Yan Kowloon (not in any particular order):

1. Mr John Tan, current Principal, will retire in 2013.
2. Mr Laurence Tam was conferred the title of Honorary Professor of Institute of Creativity of Hong Kong Baptist College in April 2012.
3. A new university, Jesuit Liberal Arts College, will be set up in Hong Kong.
4. A new centre, Father Deignan Education Centre, was set up in 2012.
5. Fr. Deignan has been chosen as one of the 10 awardees of the Hong Kong Loving Hearts Campaign 2011 organized by ATV.

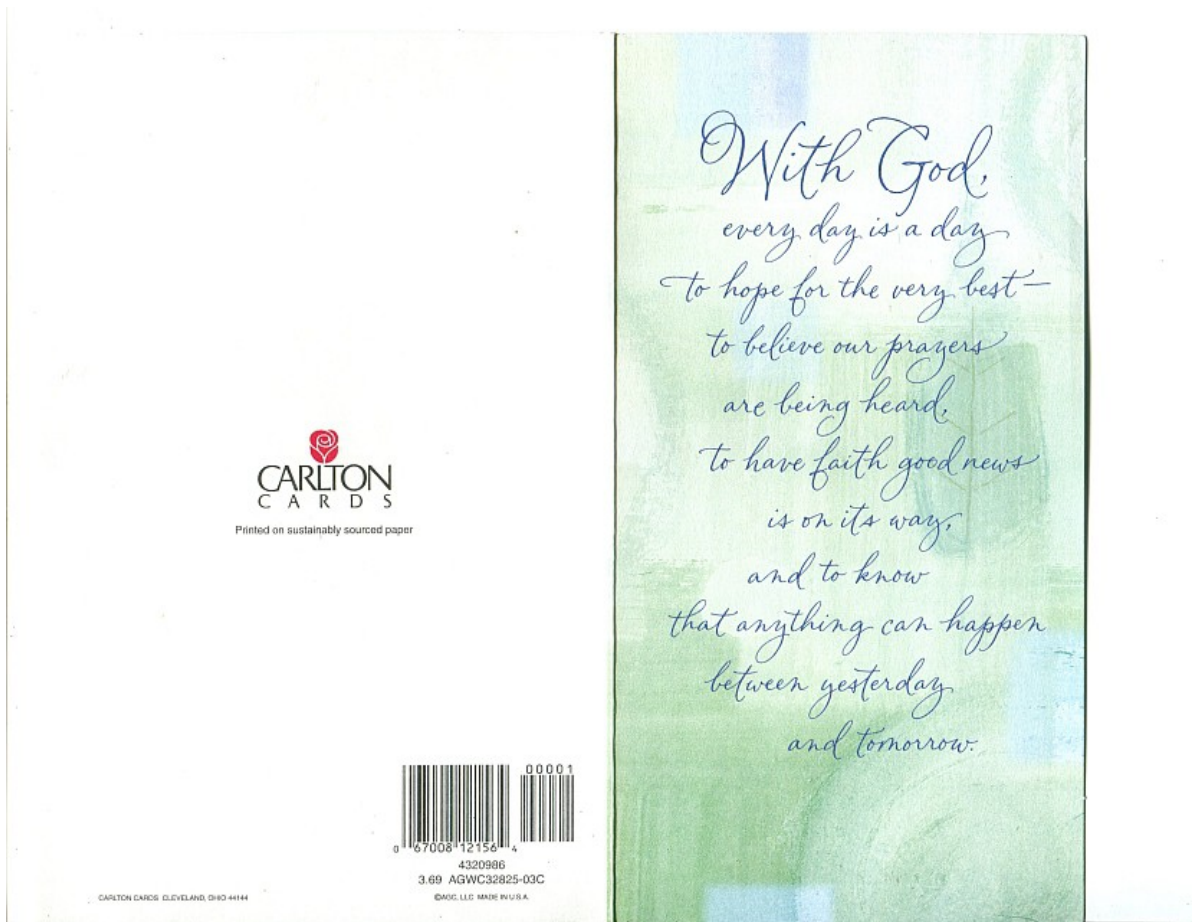
All of us wish you a Very Happy Birthday!  
Love,

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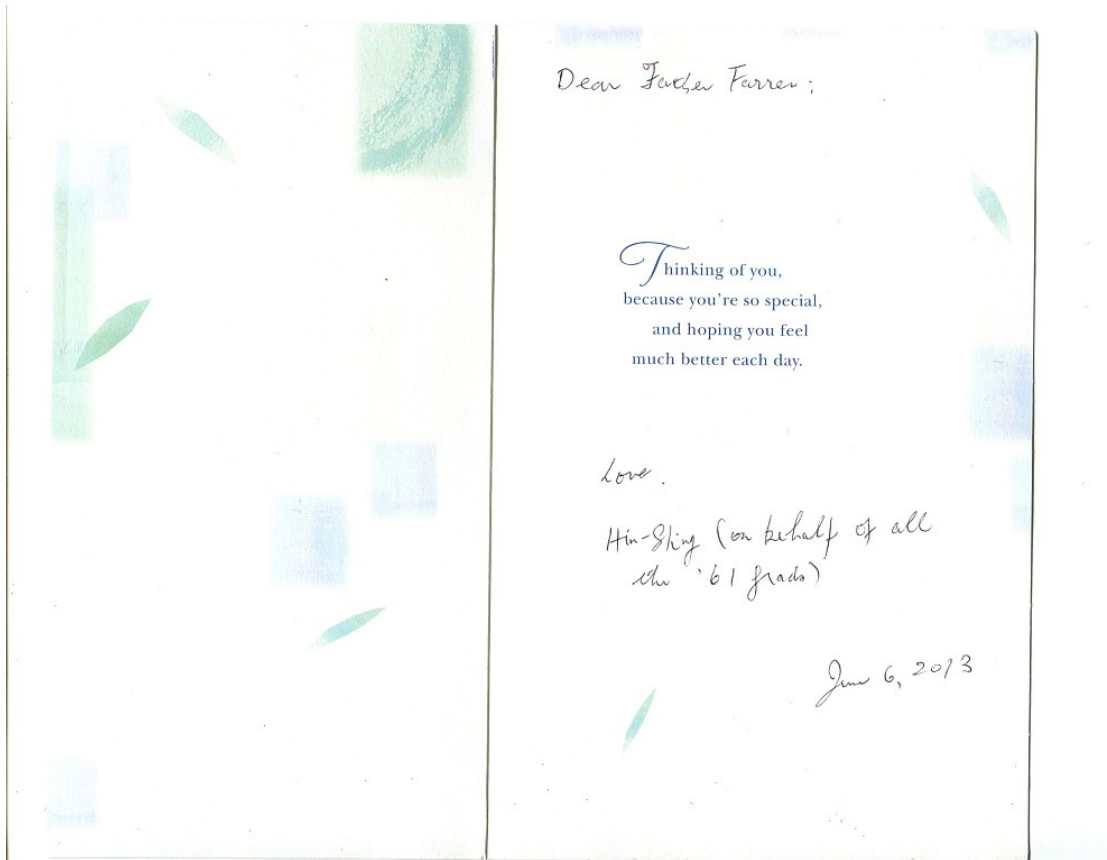
Hin-Shing (on behalf of all '61 grads)

**2012-08-16 Birthday card cover letter**





2013-06-06 Get-Well card side 1



**2013-06-06 Get-Well card side 2**

June 6, 2013

Dear Father Farren:

We are sorry to hear from Simon that you had a bad fall recently and that you're resting at a hospital at this moment.

We are very concerned about you.

May God bless and watch over you.

Love,

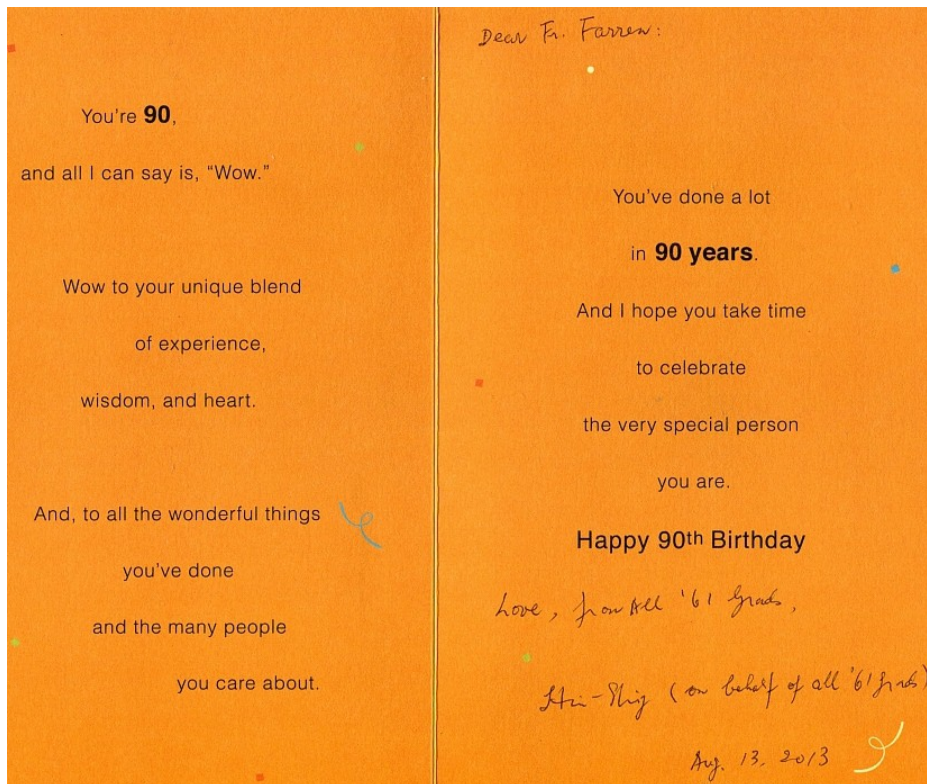
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Hin-Shing (on behalf of all '61 grads)

**2013-06-06 Get-Well card cover letter**



2013-08-13 Birthday card side 1



## 2013-08-13 Birthday card side 2

Aug 13, 2013

Dear Fr Farren:

Happy 90th Birthday from all of us '61 grads!

We are glad to learn from Michael who recently visited you that you're recovering. You looked very alert from the photos he sent us,

Perhaps you have known already - the Wah Yan Old Boys's Association in Hong Kong is going to throw a big dinner party for Fr Mallin who will be 100 years old in September this year. Quite a number of the '61 grads will be attending the dinner that evening.

So far, it has been quiet in Toronto in 2013. However, the Toronto WYKAAO will be having a big banquet for its 30th anniversary in October this year. Some of us '61 grads will be joining this event.

Please take care!

Love from all '61 grads,

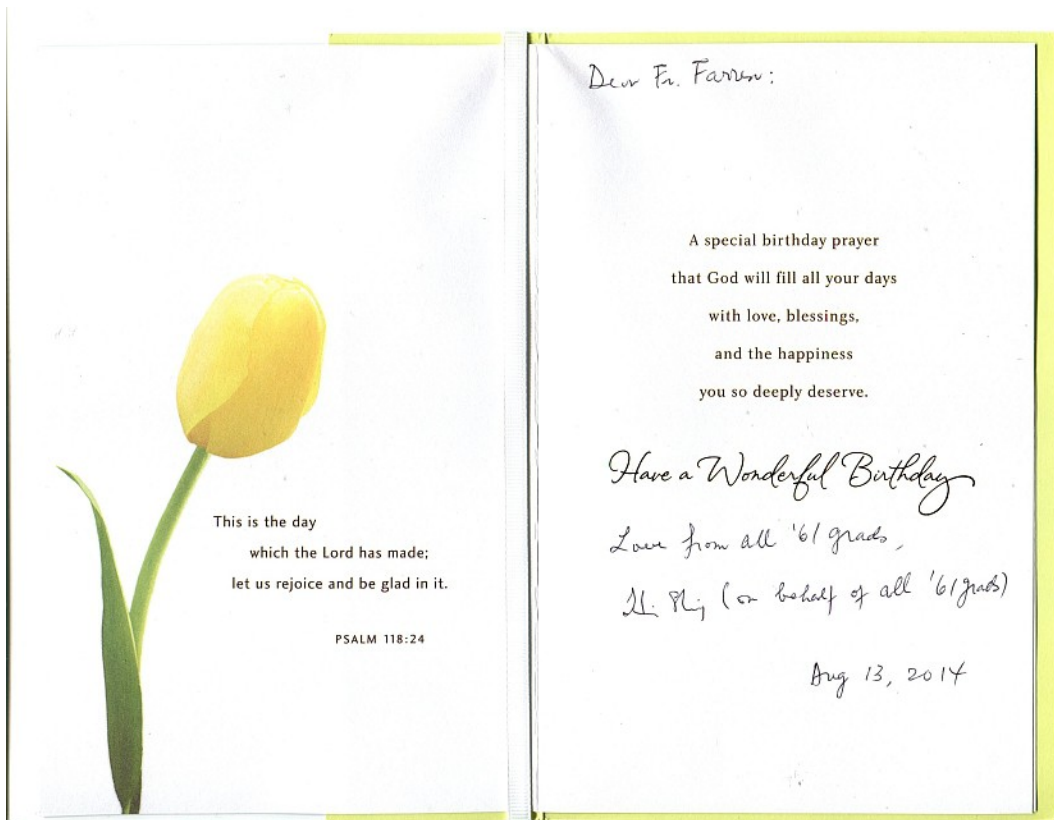
Hin-Shing (on behalf of all 61 grads)

## 2013-08-13 Birthday card cover letter



2014-08-13 Birthday card side 1





## 2014-08-13 Birthday card side 2

Aug 13, 2014

Dear Fr Farren:

Happy 91st Birthday from all of us '61 grads, and hope you're well these days!

For the past 10 months or so, everything has been quiet.

There were two gatherings in Toronto and one in Vancouver. Please refer to the 3 photos.

1. Toronto Lunch gathering with Shen Chi-Hung on 2013-12-06.
2. Toronto Lunch gathering with Gilbert & Margaret Chinn and her relatives on 2014-05-06.
3. Vancouver Dinner gathering with Clement Lee on 2014-05-23.

There will be a September gathering for the '61 grads in San Francisco this year.

Please take care!

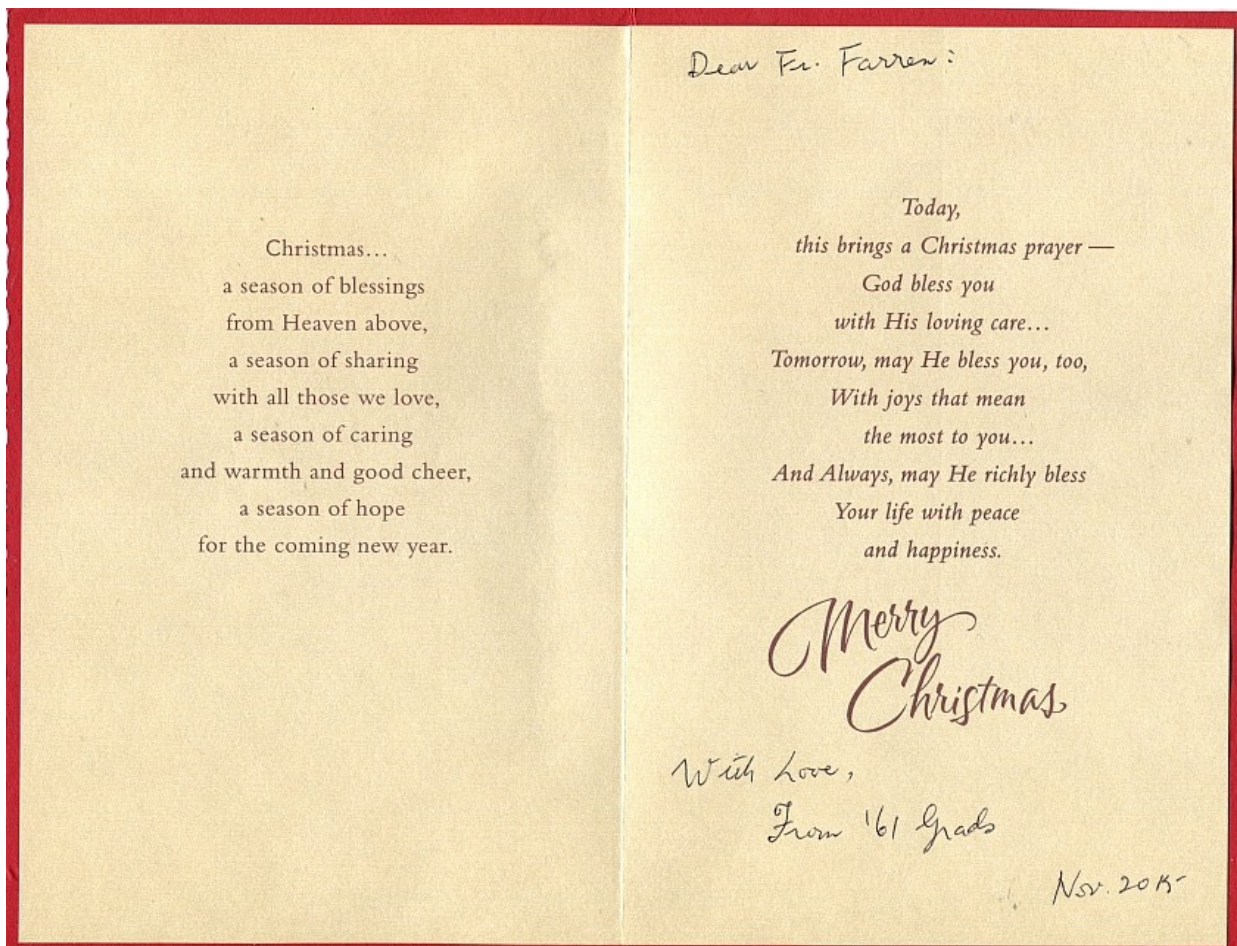
Love from all '61 grads,

## 2014-08-13 Birthday card cover letter





2015-11-27 Christmas card side 1



2015-11-27 Christmas card side 2

Nov 27, 2015

Dear Fr. Farren:

How are you these days? Hope you are well these days.

There were some gatherings among classmates from August onwards this year. The notable ones were:

1. Aug 29: Andrew Man's visit to Boston.
2. Sep 02: Gilbert & Magaret Chinn's visit to London.
3. Sep 28: Stephen Lam's visit to Vancouver.
4. Oct 03: Kenneth Chan's visit to Toronto.
5. Oct 14: Cheung Po-Kay's and Kenneth Ma's visit to Hong Kong.
6. Nov 14: Peter Poon's visit to Hong Kong.

Other news:

- A. Mr Ho had a car accident in Toronto on Oct 9. Fortunately, he is gradually recovering. He was able to attend the Oct 24 WYKAAO AGM Dinner.
- B. Fr Naylor was hospitalized in Hong Kong recently. According to our WYKAAO website on Nov 9, "Fr Naylor was hospitalized. He is in good hands and is recovering in good spirit. Please keep him in your prayers." Our classmates all wish Fr Naylor a speedy recovery and pray for him.
- C. There was an appeal to WYK alumni for donation to Fathers' Elevator Fund. Our class has collectively made a modest contribution of about \$HK 10,000.

We '61 grads all wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and good health to you,

Love,

---

Hin-Shing (on behalf of all '61 grads)

**2015-11-27 Christmas card cover letter**

## H. Greetings from Fr Farren, 2003, 2004

I am resident here and in good health, able to do a certain amount of priestly work.

Life here is much more slow-moving than in H.K. and the roads and streets are less crowded so it is easier for me to get around and to go at my own pace.

With prayers and best wishes for you, your family and relatives.  
A.F.

To Hin Shing and all the Classmates of 1961

May you receive  
many blessings  
this Christmas

that will enrich your life  
throughout the New Year.  
and may you have strength,  
comfort and happiness in  
your journey through life.

A. Farren

## 2003 - Fr Farren's Christmas card to '61 grads



There are certain features in your snapshot that recall your Wah Yan days - basic characteristics! The teachers I easily recognise - although I had to take a second look to recognise Mr. Ho.

I am still helping - a little - in the Church here. A number of us are well into our eighties and young men to take our places are few. But we think that the future for the Church is looking brighter and that there will be more young men becoming priests in the near future. That has always been the way in the history of the church - apparent death and then new life.

I am very grateful for your Christmas greetings and good wishes  
At

To Hin-Shing,

May you experience  
God's love  
during every day of  
the Christmas Season.

Christmas Blessings!  
Happy New Year!

And  
may you all have good health,  
much contentment and  
long and happy lives.

Anthony Farren

"Madonna and Child" by Murillo

2004 - Fr Farren's Christmas card to '61 grads

## I. Tributes and Memories, December 2015 – January 2016

\*\*\*\*\*

Even though I realized that Fr Farren was in very bad health, it still came as a shock to learn that he passed away in Dublin, Ireland some time today.

Fr Farren was my Form 4C (1959-1960) Form-master, as well as our Headmaster (Rector) from 1960 to 1966.

I first encountered Fr Farren in Form 3 (1959). It was during one of the recesses when he was stationed at the corridor on the floor of my classroom. I was quite naughty and liked to play hide-and-seek with the Fathers (most likely Fr Chan?). Fr Farren saw me and yelled "stop" but I just continued running away from him. After recess, I slowly strolled back to my classroom. It was then that I noticed Fr Farren staring at me. He didn't say a word. I was relieved when I got back to my classroom.

About two years ago, when I talked to him over the phone, I mentioned that incident and said I was very afraid he would single me out for detention because I thought he was very strict with such naughty behavior. He just smiled and said he would never intentionally punish a student for trivial reasons.

Fr Farren taught us English and Biblical Knowledge in Form 4. I learned a lot from him in our English lessons. I still remember he taught us some prefixes and suffixes like "mal-" (as in "malefactor"). He spoke in a very deep, monotonous tone. (Perhaps this was due to his Latin training?)

After Form 5, our classical music group invited Fr Farren to be our advisor and he gladly consented. Periodically, we mailed him our weekly/monthly music appreciation activities. I believe we stopped sending him any more mail around 1966.

I visited our Alma Mater in 1963 with some classmates such as Joseph Chan, Jacob Chow and Yu Fong-ying. We paid a special visit to Fr Farren and a photo was taken.



with fr farren - 63 (?)



In the next few decades, I lost touch with Fr Farren.

However, I was overjoyed that he attended the 1999 Diamond Jubilee Reunion in Toronto. I asked him if he remembered me or not. After some seconds, he said he remembered me. Some of us '61 grads had a group photo with him.



Our class started the tradition of sending greetings cards to Fr Farren and other Fathers and teachers during early 2000s. In the early 2000s, Fr Farren also sent us his Christmas cards. (Please refer to the section “Greetings from Fr Farren”.)

In the last 15 years or so, I talked to Fr Farren over the phone on several occasions, usually at the time of his birthday or Christmas/New Year. We had small talk which usually lasted 10 minutes or so, though I believe there was one that lasted for half an hour.

I do miss Fr Farren very much!

Wong Hin-Shing (61) (Dec 26, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

I am deeply saddened to learn that our beloved Fr. Farren had passed away on this Christmas Eve.

I will always remember his kindness to me and my family, and will pray for his reposed soul.  
May he rest in peace.

Harry Aitken (61) (Dec 26, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

May Fr Farren rest in eternal peace in Heaven where he belongs.

Alex Mak (62) (Dec 26, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

How sad, one of the last fathers that taught us had joined the rest.

Closes one chapter of our lifetime.

Bless him and bless us all

Bob Shen (62) (Dec 26, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

I am sad to see Fr. Farren left us but on second thought he had accomplished so much more noble deeds in life especially educating us in Hong Kong across the world far away from his family and from his country, he deserves a rest.... resting in the kingdom of God.

I last met him and spent quiet time with him in the Millennium Wah Yan International Meeting in Universal City Hilton in LA. He was kind and gentle and words of encouragements to everyone he met. He was exemplifying the true Jesuit and Wah Yan Spirit. He was particularly proud of all his Wah Yan students everywhere in the world!

May he rest in peace for ever!

Albert Young (62) (Dec 26, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

Fr. Farren always seemed rather formidable to me, not only because he was Rector (60-66, 91-97) and headmaster during our secondary school days, but also because, as far as I can remember, he did not smile a lot and spoke in a clear but rather clipped kind of manner. He walked with a no-nonsense look about him and was often seen along the corridors of the classrooms. He was my B.K. teacher in Form 6 and 7, and I still keep the photo of him and Fr. Cryan (class master) with the Form 7 Arts boys, a depleted lot of 22 after Form 6 when some left to pursue higher studies overseas and some to work.

Two things stand out in my memory of Fr. Farren. One is that he taught us the Gospel According to St Luke in Form 6 or 7. I was and still am not a Catholic but Catholicism has had a major impact on my life. The direct study of one of the Gospels cast a decided influence on me. The version we used was “in the authorized translation of Monsignor Ronald Knox” (second edition 1954). What noble language it is! And I owe a lot to it whatever there is in my English. I attach some photos of the little book which I used then and have treasured, with my underlinings, some of Fr Farren’s explanations (“swaddling-clothes” – “rag”) and my Chinese translations (“destined”, “acknowledged”, “manifest”). An apt example in this season of Christmas occurs in Chapter 2, in which the angels revealed the birth of Christ to shepherds. The story of Simeon struck me in particular. Simeon was “an upright man of careful observance, who waited patiently for comfort to be brought to Israel.” He had the good fortune of taking the child Jesus in his arms. “And he said, blessing God ‘Ruler of all, now dost thou let thy servant go in peace, according to thy word...’ “ I have since had recourse to more or less the same words in thanks whenever a particularly significant event in my life has been accomplished. I hope that that was the thought that came to Fr. Farren when he told Fr. Hurley, “I am on the way out.” (Dec. 19, 2015, from Fr. Hurley’s greetings, uploaded onto WYKAAO) For he would certainly have gone in peace, having accomplished the educational mission and other priestly duties that the Society of Jesus placed upon him.

Second, an incident occurred during one of our class reunions before 1997. I do not remember which year it was. The topic of conversation suddenly turned to the return of Hong Kong back to China. I asked him across the big round dinner table, “Would the Society of Jesus be still around after the return to China?” It was an unfortunate use of colloquialism, and he was not all that

pleased. He answered in some vehemence, "Of course the society will continue to stick around, as you put it." I was somewhat taken aback and was at a loss for a polite reply, but the answer was clear, and is being borne out by events after 1997.

Fr. Farren served his second term as Rector till 1997. In 1998 Fr. George Zee became school supervisor.

I quote from Fr. Morrissey's book: "During 2001... Fr. Anthony Farren faced an operation in Ireland but hoped to stay there to find an outlet for pastoral work. He had first come to Hong Kong in 1950, and had spent years teaching in the colleges as well as being rector of Wah Yan Kowloon, for two periods, from 1960-'66 and 1991-'97." (p. 682)

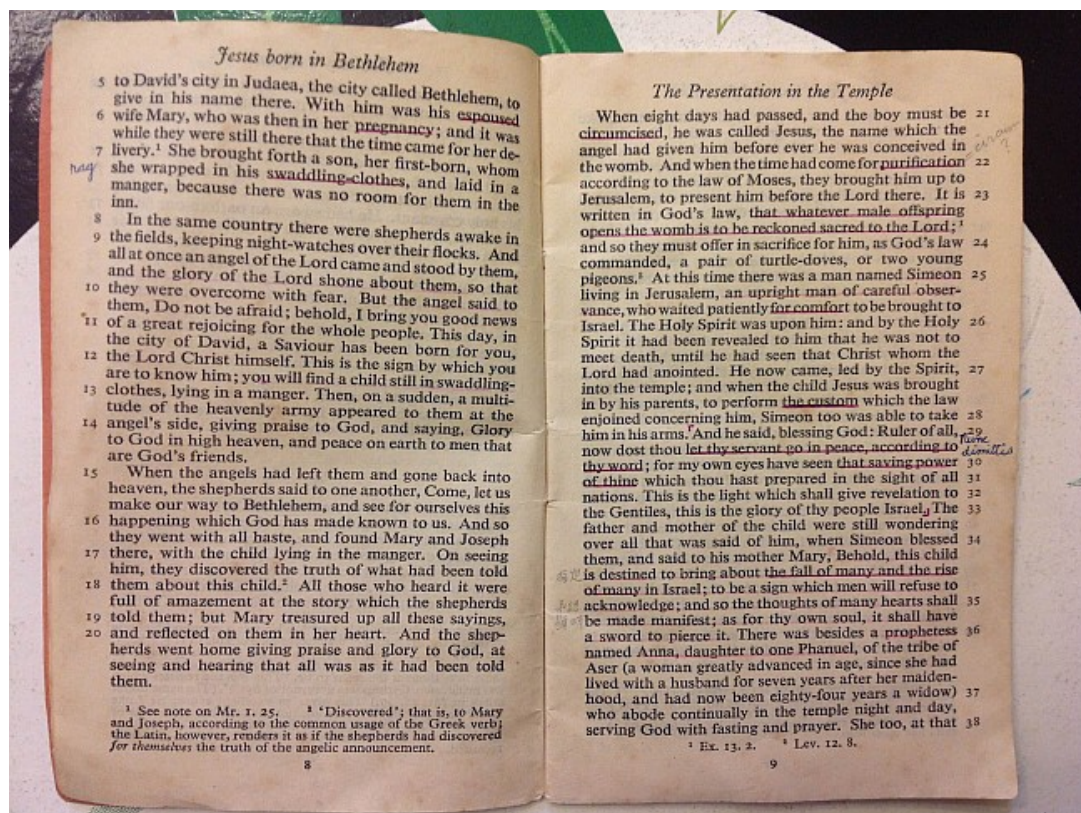
Finally, it was Fr. Farren who in 1960 hired Mr. Patrick O'Flanagan, my English literature teacher and mentor.

Headmaster, thank you and

may you rest in peace as you went in peace!

Yu Fong-ying (61) (Dec 26, 2015, Vancouver)

(Note: Photo from Fong-ying)



\*\*\*\*\*

Will attend church tonite (something haven't done for s while).

Will remember to say quiet prayer for him.

Peter Pang (62) (Dec 26, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

I learnt of Fr Farren's passing today.

Few people mentioned that Fr Farren was the football coach of Grade B school team at our time and he played defense in some display matches. He was a pretty heavy built defence player. He granted me school fee reduction when he was Principal. He still called me Richard after I returned to HK in 1970, probably after I re-introduced myself. I saw him quite a bit in those days because I was President of the PSA and he played tennis a lot then.



**Fr McCarthy & Fr Farren, football players**

Yiu-Man and I will be going to London in the coming May and there were thoughts of visiting Fr Farren in Dublin. Of course it would be too late for that now. I will miss him a lot.

Richard Li (61) (Dec 26, 2015)

(Note: From The Shield 1960)

Our C team did remarkably well — runners up in 7 aside and in Cup Competition. There are many excellent footballers in this batch and I think we can look forward to great things from many of them in a few years time. Thanks, Fr. Farren, for doing a very good job.

**1959-1960 "C" football team (tribute by Fr Finneran)**

**P.J.F.**

**(The Shield 1960 p 89)**

\*\*\*\*\*

The other day, I too was recalling Fr. Farren and all my teachers whose names I still recall... with particular interest in deciding which teacher brought me the most joy on which subject that's taught. I made a list of this correlation and found an obvious link between the most liked teachers with the most liked subjects. These favoured subjects are the ones I did best in. It's certainly a failure and immaturity on my (a student's) part to only like a subject if and only if I liked the teacher! But so be it! It's too late to change that now.

As you said, Fr. Farren was terse, focused, and quick with his criticism when he saw a student "misbehave" in some way, or made mistakes. Hence, in those years I shirked from him because he was never warm enough to have gained my trust ... (as Fr. Moran in Form 1 did, for instance.) In fact I had shirked from most Fathers (excepting Fr Cryan and Fr Moran.) But in these given years, I can now see all my teachers in a more mature, more realistic light. I am grateful and

thankful ... and respectful of all the Fathers and teachers at Wah Yan for they had done a conscientious job. I've also come to see the added dimension of class between the Irish and the British and hence how very dedicated our Jesuit Fathers must have been to their Order and to Jesus to carry on their work here ("under the British,") having renounced even their own family. Behind what I thought as a young man were authoritarian gwailo teachers chastising us coldly in school are in fact persons from "another world" who had made great personal sacrifices to dedicate themselves to their mission, their Order and to their God. Having this realisation so late in life, I had missed all opportunities to reach back to my teachers to give them thanks and show them my deep appreciation! This is a great regret in my life.

Chan Doming (61) (Dec 26, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

May he RIP

York Chen (62) (Dec 26, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

Very regret to learn with deepest sorrow the passing away of our beloved Fr Farren now rest in peace

Steven Cheng (61) (Dec 27, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

Father Farren will stay always in my mind.

Leung Fung-Sun (61) (Dec 27, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

Fr. Farren was a very special person, and will be missed and remembered by all of us.

May he rest in peace.

Harry Aitken (61) (Dec 30, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

Fr Farren will be sorely missed.

Herbert Chang (59) (Dec 30, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

We very much appreciate your compiling all the documents & photos in honour of our teacher & friend. I do remember Fr Farren very well & I did come up to catch up with him at the Toronto celebration in 1999. We had a good visit.

Herbert & I were sitting on each end in the front row in the photo with Fr Farren as our Form Master of F5C.

Henry Lee (59) (Dec 31, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

It's an ultimate recognition for the Jesuit who devoted his full life to education, in and outside the classroom, for us. More so, we benefited from his examples of life, along with other Jesuits', which helped shape our life paths in more ways than one, beyond Wah Yan. We are the fortunate and proud beneficiaries and, I believe, so are people we come in contact with.

Fr Farren had an excellent memory of us from all different years. He is watching over us from up there now. Be good.



Henry Lee (59) (Dec 31, 2015)

\*\*\*\*\*

Life is full of uncertainty and so precarious. I could, perhaps, be the last one to call Fr Farren before his farewell to us. I rang him on his direct number 353-1-4985805 at about 4.30 pm HK time (08.30 am in Dublin) on Christmas Eve. The phone kept buzzing for a long while before being picked up by a lady. I asked for Fr Farren but she said he was not in a condition to answer and yet he asked for who was calling. I gave my name, Ho Ping Kwong, and wished him Merry Christmas. It was then on Boxing Day I learnt of his departure.

Since my return to HK from Australia in late 1969, I often dropped into WYK or WYHK to have a yarn with him. On one occasion I mentioned the not so desirable public exam results of WYK and the idea of turning WYK into a private one such that it could have better authority in the selection of students and hopefully better academic achievements. Fr Farren firmly convinced me this would be against the Jesuits' education ideals and principles to provide education to all; and, if the day was to come against their will, they would rather leave for Ireland and return the campus to the government or to relocate WYK to a more remote area such as Sar Tau Kok to cater education for the ones in need.

At one time I discussed with Fr Farren about our experience of being maltreated, underrated, discouraged and misunderstood by the Prefect of Studies and our F5D(istinction) Form-Master. He disclosed both in their senior years agreed that we could have been better managed and understood. In retrospect, they were quite young too, in their 30s and early 40s. We probably would have done what they did at the same age. Perhaps, this is what has made us stronger.

One thing I would not forget is he invited me to have a cup of tea with him in their dormitory at WYK. When we had the tea, he squeezed the last drop of tea out of the teabag with his fingers. This may be a trivial personal gesture and yet it portrays the thankfulness of the Jesuits towards what they have and the strict lifestyle they observe.

Fr Farren was still in good spirit to talk to me on the phone a few months back and the last words I said to him were 'You Are Always On Our Mind' and distinctly he responded with 'Thank You'.

Yes, He Is Always On Our Mind.

Ho Ping-Kwong (61) (Jan 1, 2016)

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for sharing the slide show of Fr. Farren! It showed an exemplary life well lived. He chose to devote his active years serving young people totally foreign to his own, thousands of miles away! What a man of love and peace!

I was also touched and impressed by the visits made by our fellow WYK alumni to his residence in Ireland. I am sure he cherished those visits, and remembered them with satisfaction to the very end.

Hilary Hsu (59) (Jan 3, 2016)

\*\*\*\*\*

Let our prayers be with Fr. Farren.



I remember him as the soccer coach who stayed with me when, in my first match for the School C Grade team, I fractured my wrist. He took me to the then Kowloon Hospital and waited with me while the doctor put it in plaster at the end of his shift -- which was well past 6 p.m. Didn't know if he was hungry when Victor my big brother came to pick me up, but I was! He cared.

Raymond Lau (62) (Jan 3, 2016)

\*\*\*\*\*

May he rest in peace.

Michael (58) & Elsie Sze (Jan 4, 2016)

\*\*\*\*\*

Yesterday I attended Holy Mass at the Westminster Cathedral at Victoria, London. The congregations attending the Holy Masses were asked to pray for Father Farren throughout yesterday. This was a request made on behalf of the "61 Grads", as a token of our appreciation for Fr Farren's invaluable contribution towards our education and upbringing.

"Fr Farren, you will always remain in our prayers and in our hearts. Rest in peace."

Harry Aitken (61) (Jan 4, 2016)

\*\*\*\*\*

Fr Farren is a very direct and fair headmaster. I will miss him dearly.

My prayers and sincere condolences to him and to the Society of Jesus.

Claudius Seh (61) (Jan 5, 2016)

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## **A Note about the File**

This document was compiled as a mark of the love and respect in which we hold our old headmaster and teacher, Fr Anthony Farren. It was prepared largely from the angle of the '61 grads, for he was rector and headmaster from 1960 to 1966, in our senior years. Some tributes and memories from graduates ranging from '58 to '62 are included with permission. We would like to thank Alex Mak for bringing some of these to our attention. We would also like to thank Dr Au Tak-shing ('81) whose articles have been included because they reveal Fr Farren's state of health, personality, thoughts and religion. Of course, it was the contributors who made this document possible and who keep the memories of Fr Farren alive. The brief chronology shows his many-sided work as teacher, administrator, minister, counselor, priest as well as the arduous efforts he had put in – teaching, making plans, attending meetings, seminars and conferences and advising. He alternated between the two colleges, serving each in almost equal number of years. In total, he served Hong Kong for about half a century. He was able to retire back to Ireland at the age of 78, and continued doing pastoral work there. In return, the love he inspired drew old students and staff to him in a stream of visits, telephones, mail, and digital communication. He lived to be 92. May he rest in eternal peace!

With the photos collected, we also made up a video presentation "Father Farren – In Loving Memory" with accompanying music, which was uploaded onto the WTKAAO website on January 3. It offers a different memorial experience.

**END**

Document compiled by Wong Hin-Shing with the assistance of Yu Fong-ying on December 26, 2015 and finalized on January 5, 2016