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梧州扶輪社員賴存忠神父--香港瑪利諾神父教會學校創辦人

Wuchow Rotarian -- Father Peter Alphonsus Reilly  
Founder of Maryknoll Fathers' School in Hong Kong

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Father Peter Alphonsus Reilly (賴存忠神父), M.M. (1912–1994) was a Maryknoll priest who served at the Catholic mission in Wuchow (*Wuzhou*), Kwangsi (*Guangxi*) Province, Republic of China (中華民國廣西省梧州). He was assigned to the Wuchow Vicariate after his ordination and arrived there in September 1941, serving throughout World War II behind Japanese occupation lines. As the Vicar General, he helped Bishop Frederick Anthony Donaghy (唐汝琪主教) (a Wuchow Rotarian) establish the first Catholic mission school in the area, Sacred Heart Primary School (聖心小學), before being expelled by Communist forces to the British Crown Colony Hong Kong (香港) in 1952. Father Reilly was best known for his extensive educational and pastoral work in Hong Kong:

- Educational Pioneer: He founded the Maryknoll Fathers' School (瑪利諾神父教會學校) in Hong Kong in 1957 and served as its first supervisor. He was also the first priest to establish a co-educational Catholic school in the region.
- Parish Development: He established the St. John the Baptist Parish (天主教聖若翰堂) in Kwun Tong (觀塘) and founded several primary schools in that industrial area.
- Government Advisor: He was the only foreigner selected by the Hong Kong Government to serve on the Colony's Language Board of Examiners, testing British expatriates for government positions.

During his missionary years in Wuchow, Father Reilly joined the Rotary Club of Wuchow (梧州扶輪社) as an Active Member holding the Classification "Religion – Catholic Mission" with nickname in both English and Chinese like this "Sa Tsang 沙僧" in the Club.



## The life of Father Reilly

Peter Alphonsus Reilly was born in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., on 15 July 1912, son of Peter A. and Mary Cox Reilly. He had three brothers, two of whom became priests---one in the Covington Diocese, Kentucky, and one in the Boston Archdiocese. He had two sisters, one of whom was Sister Anne Eucharist of the Sisters of Charity. Peter attended St. John's Parochial School and graduated from Boston College High School. He attended Boston College for two years and entered Maryknoll Major Seminary, Ossining, New York, on 11 September 1933. He was ordained a Maryknoll priest on 16 June 1940 at Maryknoll Seminary.

As a seminarian and all through his very productive priesthood, he was exemplary in every department. He was an excellent student, a physical giant, undaunted in moral courage, meek, pious, an efficient and reliable worker, generous and unselfish with his time, self-sacrificing in conceiving ways of helping others and effective in doing things to please them. He was a great organizer of games and a fine athlete, popular, good natured, well-liked and at the same time a private person.

### Mission in China

Following ordination, Father Reilly was assigned to the Maryknoll Vicariate Apostolic of Wuchow in Kwangsi Province, South China. After a year of Cantonese language and cultural studies in Hong Kong he moved to Wuchow in September 1941 and served there behind the Japanese occupation lines throughout World War II.

As the Japanese army retreated in 1945, Father Reilly re-entered Wuchow on a river boat with 3 American Special Forces men and a Chinese Army group. As the Vicar General of the Wuchow Vicariate he assisted his close friend Bishop Frederick A. Donaghy in establishing Maryknoll's first Kwangsi Catholic mission school, called Sacred Heart Primary School.

In 1949, after a home leave, Father Reilly returned to Wuchow which by then had fallen to the Chinese Communists. On 19 December 1950 Father Reilly narrowly escaped imprisonment, but during his two years under the Communists he was often interrogated at the police station. He was finally expelled and entered Hong Kong in December 1952.

### Mission in Hong Kong

In Hong Kong, Father Reilly was first given a diocesan parish assignment. To begin with he established a tiny mission in a wooden hut surrounded by thousands of refugees in a place called Kowloon Tsai (九龍仔). Like other Maryknollers expelled from China, Father Reilly set up clinics, domestic industries, welfare projects and food distribution among the bewildered and destitute thousands of refugees.

But when the Maryknoll Fathers were asked to concentrate on caring for the refugees pouring into Hong Kong, Father Reilly joined his confreres who along with their spiritual ministry to the refugees, were setting up relief stations and establishing schools. He chose Kowloon Tsai as his location where he started building a primary school and rented a Mass centre. The school was still in the building stage when the government asked him to add a secondary school to the building plans. He built a primary and secondary school for 2,000 young people in the area which developed into a renowned and highly successful academic institution. He remained as Supervisor and Director of this school through the years until 1994. The result of this was the Maryknoll Fathers' School which Father Reilly lovingly developed into one of the outstanding secondary schools in Hong Kong and where he lived for most of his 41 years in Hong Kong.

Father Reilly also built a large chapel and became the pastor of the area wherein thousands were instructed and baptized. He also established St. John's Parish in the industrial area of Kwun Tong and worked in the outskirts of the area of Sau Mau Ping (秀茂坪) and Kai Liu (雞寮), where clinics, domestic industries, etc., were initiated. He secured land from the Government for many Maryknoll schools.

### Cultural and Educational Services

Throughout his missionary life and in spite of the time and energy expended on the establishment and construction of many educational buildings, Father Reilly remained in pastoral work as a dedicated pastor. He lightly claimed two distinctions in his work in Hong Kong:

(1) He was the only foreigner to be chosen by the Government to join the Colony's Language Board of Examiners, which examines British expatriates prior to Government appointed positions; and

(2) He was the first priest to build and open a Co-educational Catholic School in Hong Kong.

### Service Above Self

Rotarian Father Peter Alphonsus Reilly died in St. Teresa's Hospital (聖德肋撒醫院), Hong Kong, of cardiac arrest on Sunday evening, 20 June 1994. He was 82 years of age and a Maryknoll priest for 54 years. His funeral Mass was celebrated by Cardinal John Baptist Wu Cheng-Chung (胡振中樞機) in Kowloon.

Until the time of his death, Father Reilly continued to run his Kowloon Tsai Mass Centre as a part of St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Father Reilly said of himself: "I have always been happy and peaceful in my vocation and deeply loyal to Maryknoll."

Because of his dedicated service, he will be sorely missed by many. Father Reilly is remembered as a "saintly" figure by his former students and parishioners for his dedication to educating the poor and his commitment to the Maryknoll mission.



## 梧州扶輪社員賴存忠神父--香港瑪利諾神父教會學校創辦人



賴存忠神父 (Father Peter Alphonsus Reilly, M.M.) (1912 年-1994 年) 是瑪利諾神父，在中華民國廣西省梧州天主教傳教區服務。任命後，他被分配到梧州代牧區，並於 1941 年 9 月抵埗，整個第二次世界大戰期間在日本佔領區後方傳道。身為副總會長，他協助唐汝琪主教 (Most Reverend Bishop Frederick Anthony Donaghy) 在當地創辦了第一所天主教會學校—聖心小學 (Sacred Heart Primary School)。1952 年，他被共產黨軍隊驅逐至英國殖民地香港。賴神父最為人稱道的是他在香港廣泛的教育和牧靈工作：

- 教育先驅：他於 1957 年在香港創辦了瑪利諾神父學校 (Maryknoll Fathers' School)，並擔任首任校監；他也是第一位神父在香港創辦男女同校的天主教學校。

- 教區發展：他在觀塘建立了天主教聖若翰堂(St. John the Baptist Parish)，並在該工業區創辦了多所小學。
- 政府顧問：他是唯一被香港政府選派，擔任殖民地語言考試委員會委員的外國人。該委員會負責測試英國僑民的語言能力，以選拔擔任政府職位。

在梧州傳教期間，賴神父加入了梧州扶輪社(Wuchow Rotary Club)為現職社員，職業分類「宗教—天主教傳教」，在社內的英文和中文暱稱「Sa Tsang 沙僧」。



### 賴存忠神父生平

賴存忠於 1912 年出生于美國麻省波士頓(Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.)。他在家鄉依次讀完小學和中學，並順利進入大學。在修完二年大學課程之後，於 1933 年 9 月 11 日加入瑪利諾會，進入其位於紐約的瑪利諾會總修院(Maryknoll Major Seminary)進修。1940 年 5 月 16 日，他在瑪利諾會修院晉鐸。身為神學生，以及在他卓有成效的神職生涯中，他在各方面都堪稱典範。他學業優異、體格魁梧、道德勇氣無畏、謙遜虔誠，工作高效可靠，慷慨無私地奉獻時間，樂於助人，並善於取悅他人。他組織比賽出色，也是一位優秀的運動員。為人友善和藹，深受愛戴，同時又是一位注重隱私的人。

#### 在中國傳道

晉鐸後不久，賴存忠隨即被選派到香港的瑪利諾會修院，先在此地學習中國語言(廣東話)和文化。一年後即 1941 年 9 月，在太平洋戰爭爆發及香港淪陷於日軍之前，他從香港進入瑪利諾會在廣西的梧州教區，開始了他的在華福傳生涯。在這裡，賴存忠神父作為梧州代牧區的副總會長，協助主教唐汝琪神父在此建立起了瑪利諾會的第一所廣西天主教小學——梧州聖心小學。

1949 年底，中國國民黨政府退出中國大陸，梧州也由中國共產黨的人民政府當政。在餘下來的二年裡，賴存忠雖然不像其他瑪利諾會士那樣，被軟禁或者關進監獄，但卻是在當地政府嚴密的監視之下生活，無法像以前那樣從事傳教和舉行神職儀式。最終，他還是於 1952 年底被中華人民共和國政府驅逐出了中國大陸。

#### 在香港傳道 拓展教育

從大陸出來，賴存忠神父來到英國殖民地香港。站在香港這塊土地上，他發覺，十年之後又回到了原來的出發點。剛剛回到香港時，賴神父先是被派往教區當聖職人員。當大批中國大陸的難民湧入香港而需要瑪利諾會伸出援手時，神父們設立診所、家庭手工業、福利項目，想方設法援助難民。正當瑪利諾會神父集中精力照顧難民時，賴神父義不容辭地加入了他們的行列。除了為難民提供精神關懷外，還設立救濟站和建立學校。

為此，賴存忠神父選擇了九龍仔作為其服務區。他在這裡籌建一間小學校，並租得一塊地方作為彌撒中心，主任司鐸。自那以後直到去世，賴存忠神父一直都在主理九龍仔彌撒中心，使之成為聖方濟各堂（St. Francis of Assisi Parish）不可分割的一部分。

當小學校的校舍還在籌建之中時，政府當局建議在此基礎上，再添加上中學的規劃和建築工程。這一事件的結果連他都沒有想到：由於賴存忠神父的愛心，堅韌不拔地努力建造，以及百般愛護扶持，這所中學發展成為了香港極負盛名的學校——瑪利諾神父教會中學。而賴存忠神父則在其後的 41 年，基本上都住在這間學校裡。

瑪利諾神父教會學校是香港第一間由美國天主教傳教會創辦的學校，致力於提供優質教育。創立於 1957 年，賴存忠神父為創校校監（1957 年-1994 年）。開校初期，中小學部同一校址（九龍深水埗區桃源街二號）。當時中小學部各佔一幢內設 12 個課室的大樓，並共用兩天及露天操場。1965 年中學部擴充新翼，多提供 12 個課室及多個特別室。至此，中小學部均開設 24 班，只設有全日班，每級四班總共 24 班。

[小學部在 2003 年 11 月成功申請新校舍，於 2008 年 11 月落成。位於深水埗海麗街 11 號的新校舍，佔地 7,630 平方米，擁有設備齊全的特別室和課室。現時桃源街小學部舊校舍，供中學部發展。瑪利諾神父教會學校中學部，為香港首間津貼中學。因瑪利諾外方傳教會(The Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America - Maryknoll Society)無力繼續辦學，此校連同該會另外兩間屬校，於 2023 年 9 月 1 日起交還予天主教香港教區直接營辦。]

以九龍仔為基點，賴存忠神父也建造了一座大型教堂，並擔任司鐸。數千人曾在此受教和領受洗禮。他還在觀塘工業區建立了聖若翰堂區，在秀茂坪和雞寮一帶開展傳道，並在那裡創辦了診所、家庭工作坊等。他也從政府爭取到土地，為日後在該區建造幾間小學校，打下基礎。

### 文化及教育服務

在整個傳教生涯中，賴神父投入了大量時間和精力，來營造多所學校。但他始終是一位盡職盡責的牧者，堅持牧靈工作。他謙遜地提及自己在香港的兩項成就：

- (1) 他是唯一一位被政府選中加入殖民地語言考試委員會的外國人——該委員會負責在政府任命英國僑民職位之前，進行語言考試；
- (2) 他是第一位在香港建立並開辦男女同校的天主教學校的神父。

### 超我服務

1994 年 6 月 20 日，扶輪社員賴存忠神父因心臟功能衰竭，於香港聖德肋撒醫院(St. Teresa's Hospital, Hong Kong)息歸主懷，享年 82 歲。他的安息彌撒，由胡振中樞機主教在九龍主持。

賴存忠神父在其晉鐸後的 54 年傳教士生涯中，是另一位來到中華傳教多年、然後又留在香港並最終病逝於香港的瑪利諾會士。他一生奉獻於香港教育和牧職，以其對教育的熱忱和對學生的無私關愛聞名；以其神貧、高尚的人格，深受師生信徒愛戴。是香港天主教會的重要人物，被譽為「聖人」化身，其精神和貢獻為人追思紀念。

賴神父這樣評價自己：「我一直對自己的聖職感到快樂和平靜，並且對瑪利諾會懷有深深的忠誠。」總之，賴存忠神父是香港天主教界和教育界一位具有深遠影響的傳教士和教育家。