



Mary Lam (1971, Form 6)

Sylvia Keung (1999, Form 5)

Christine Tsang (2001, Form 5)

Family Ties

Our beloved SPCS is a big family and for some Paulinians, the word “family” carries a deeper meaning. Mary Lam graduated from SPSS in 1971 and studied Form 6 at SPCS. Her daughter Sylvia Keung, daughter-in-law Christine Tsang and granddaughter Danielle Lam (N2, SPN) are all fellow Paulinians.

When asked about the reason why she had chosen SPCS for her daughter, Mary stated that not only is SPCS renowned for its quality education, but also from her own experience, she was assured that SPCS develops each student’s talent to a maximum in a conducive environment. Besides being attracted to the excellence in academic teaching at SPCS, she valued the importance of spiritual, physical and emotional well-being for her daughter. Throughout the years, she has seen the unchanging culture of SPCS, under which each student is given opportunities to develop her potential, irrespective of background, race or religion. Mary particularly cherishes the care and encouragement given by Sr. Isabel to her and her elder sister, Ivy Lam (1972, Form 7) during their studies at SPCS. She considers friendship from her golden days of girlhood to be of utmost importance. The self-confidence that she has built up while in SPCS helps her to advance herself and to cope with crises in her life. Mary has a strong sense of belonging to SPCS and is proud of being a Paulinian.

To continue the Paulinian lineage, Mary enrolled her daughter, Sylvia into SPK. Even though her family had immigrated to Australia, Mary later applied for Sylvia to return to P.3 in SPCS Primary Section. Sylvia then progressed onto SPCS Secondary Section and studied there till F. 5 before leaving for the U.K. Sylvia and her family are especially grateful to Sr. Margaret and her teachers for their personal care, support and guidance back then, which reflected the school’s genuine concern for the students. Their wise counsel enabled Sylvia to focus on developing her language abilities through studying English Literature and French,

while enhancing her interest in humanities and social sciences, which eventually led her to study Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

For Sylvia, going to the beautiful Christ the King Chapel to pray half an hour before school began was her favourite daily routine, which gave her peace and purpose each day. She enjoyed hanging out leisurely with her good friends before the assembly and she looked forward to school every day. She also developed her love for music through joining the school choir and her passion for sports from participating in the swimming team, athletics team and other house activities. Moreover, the education at SPCS has kept Sylvia firmly grounded spiritually and emotionally despite having left for further studies in the U.K. for 6 years and then practised law for another 4 years. The service spirit has always been staying alive in everything that she does. Since November 2011, Sylvia has returned to SPCS to help our beloved alma mater. Being able to contribute back to the school has brought her great joy and satisfaction. She also finds it a blessing that her daughter, Danielle, can study at SPN and flourish under the loving care and guidance of Sr. Koo and the rest of the teachers and staff.

All these years during her studies and now as she works here as a guidance counsellor advising and guiding younger Paulinians in their career choices and further studies, Sylvia has seen how SPCS has lived up to its motto "Omnia Omnibus", as well as how our school promotes all-round development from academic, physical, moral, social to spiritual development by providing varied opportunities and pathways to all students. What impresses her most is that Paulinians are always very willing to serve others in society with compassion, generosity and love. Helping out at SPCS also enables her to see the school from another perspective other than that of a student – she is constantly amazed by the dedication and hard work of all staff members of SPCS, especially her former teachers who remain as young and vibrant as before! Sylvia is very thankful that through the school's 160th anniversary events, she can reconnect with some long lost friends and recall cherished memories with her former classmates.

Christine Tsang, Sylvia's sister-in-law, is a Paulinian from kindergarten to Form 7. Christine's parents considered SPCS as one of the best schools in their neighborhood, and they found the all-round education offered by SPCS from kindergarten, primary to secondary school appealing. Three of Christine's cousins, namely, Iris, Gabriel and Raphael Tao are all Paulinians. To Christine, SPCS is a special place where she gained not only knowledge from

different academic subjects and interpersonal skills for the working world; but most importantly this is where she has made life-long friends with fellow students and teachers. Christine is thankful to the teachers who have taught her over the years and treasures all the friendships that have been established through participating in the dance team in primary school, the school choir at secondary school, and overcoming challenges in public examinations. In particular, Christine is truly grateful to Sr. Margaret for her encouragement and approval for allowing her to study English Literature as one of her A-levels without prior knowledge in the subject before. The enjoyable two years of studying Shakespeare's plays and movies appreciation inspired Christine to study English Language and Communication for her undergraduate degree at King's College, University of London. Christine still recalls a lovely occasion when she watched a musical with Sr. Margaret during her visit in London.

Christine was one of the main actresses at the school musical "School of the Future" for the school's 150th anniversary and she was grateful for the opportunity to lead hymns singing at morning assemblies. These experiences have not only deepened her love for music, but also developed her ability in leading worship singing at church. Being a Christian, Christine considers upholding the teachings of Jesus Christ as one of SPCS's core values and one's golden rule in life. She always remembers the fruits of the Holy Spirit in the Bible and endeavours to persevere in whatever positions God has put her into. She remarks that SPCS has been very successful in cultivating a natural and well-supported environment for learning and speaking English which has inevitably given Christine a good foundation to pursue a Master's degree in Law in the U.K. later on and commence her legal profession as a solicitor. Christine notices that SPCS girls are very presentable in public, often display intelligence, respect for others and good etiquette. She believes that changing from a Grant-in-aid School to a Direct Subsidy Scheme school has remarkably given SPCS more autonomy and resources in developing each student accordingly to one's unique potential and personality.

The school's motto "Omnia Omnibus" is indeed the true tie and beautiful spirit of service that joins Paulinians across various generations into one big family - once a Paulinian, forever a Paulinian!



Written by Vivian Lai (1992, F6)