

USCCA

美中天主教交流协会



US-CHINA
CATHOLIC
ASSOCIATION

2024

Annual
Report



uscatholicchina.org

US-CHINA CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION

MISSION

Inspired by the Gospel, the mission of the US-China Catholic Association is to build bridges of friendship and dialogue between the people of China and the United States by offering educational, service, and cultural programs in support of the Church and the larger society.

VISION

The vision of the US-China Catholic Association is to build friendship and cooperation between Catholics in China and in the United States for the flourishing of society.

HISTORY

Founded in 1989 as a collaborative effort by concerned U.S. bishops, Maryknoll, Jesuits, and other religious congregations, the United States China Catholic Association was established to support the Catholic Church in China during a pivotal time.

Launched in the post-Maoist era, as China reopened to the world and the local Church began rebuilding, the USCCA partnered with Chinese Catholics to help reestablish seminaries, reopen parishes, and revive sisters' religious congregations.

Initially focused on informing U.S. bishops about the Church's progress in China, the USCCA mission evolved in the early 2000s to fostering bridges of dialogue and friendship between Catholics in China and the United States. This commitment remains steadfast, grounded in compassion and a shared witness to the Gospel, throughout ongoing challenges shaping the Church in China since the 1600s.

Looking ahead, the USCCA Board of Directors and Associate Directors are dedicating the next year to reimagining our programs and strategies, ensuring our mission continues to thrive in the years to come. Through these efforts, we remain committed to fostering dialogue and building meaningful connections between the peoples of China and the United States.



Letter from the Chair

As I reflect on the progress we've made in 2024, I am filled with gratitude for the collective effort that has propelled us forward. This year has been a time of organizational transformation, foundational development, and growth, providing direction and momentum for the USCCA's future.

One of the most notable achievements this year was the successful development and implementation of an updated financial system. The USCCA's finances are stable, with processes in place to ensure responsible stewardship of resources entrusted to us by our donors and supporters.

Our annual conference was another highlight of the year. The 2024 USCCA International Conference, which also was a celebration of 35 years of the USCCA, was both impactful and financially balanced. This accomplishment is a testament to the exemplary leadership and the hard work of the conference committee, many volunteers, and the contribution of all participants. It was not only an enriching experience but also provided valuable insights to guide future conferences.

In addition to these successes, our Friendship Ministry is thriving. Similarly, the Book Circle continues to engage and inspire our global community. Our Affiliates are growing.

Our communication channels have never been more active. Thanks to the technical expertise and content contributions from the USCCA Board members and others, we maintain an up-to-date website and produce vibrant electronic newsletters and blogs that keep our community informed and engaged.

We are blessed with a highly committed Board, and as a direct result of dialogue and engagement of conference participants and presenters, echoing our Conference theme, Our Hope is in Christ, we welcome ten new Associate Directors who will join the USCCA Board in 2025.

While we celebrate these achievements, we are also mindful of the challenges ahead in 2025. We ask for your continued prayers and support as we navigate the waters ahead, charting our course for leadership as well as direction to best serve the US-China Catholic Association's mission and communities. The USCCA Board will convene in Chicago for a weekend of dialogue and collaborative planning for future years.

In conclusion, 2024 has been a year of significant progress. From stabilizing operations to strengthening our Board and delivering impactful programs, we have built a strong foundation for the future. We continue striving toward our mission with renewed energy and purpose. Together, with your support, we can achieve even greater things in 2025 and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Tan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Peter Tan
USCCA Board Chair

Celebration of 35 years of USCCA at the 29th International Conference

The Conference Theme - “Our Hope is in Christ”

In August 2024, at the 29th International Conference, we celebrated the 35th anniversary of the USCCA, bringing together over 135 lay and religious individuals at DePaul University, Chicago. Attendees traveled from the U.S., mainland China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Italy, and Canada to participate in this special gathering.

Keynote speakers for the Conference included Bishop Junmin Pei of the Diocese of Liaoning, China, Dr. Anthony E. Clark of Whitworth University and Emeritus Director of the USCCA, Fr. Augustine Tsang, S.J., Fu Jen Faculty of Theology of Saint Robert Bellarmine in Taiwan, and Dr. Naomi Thurston, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The 29th International Conference reaffirmed the USCCA as a “culture and community of encounter”.



Participants of the 2024 USCCA International Conference
DePaul University, Chicago, IL, USA

2024 USCCA Conference Photos and Reflections



Meeting old friends and making new ones at the Conference

"...the conference illustrated the importance of direct dialogue between Chinese and American Catholics. It was a unique experience of fraternal communion and friendly dialogue across borders."

(Michel Chambon, presenter)



Conference Mass at the St. Vincent DePaul Church

"There were wonderful insights into the dedication of the Catholics supporting Sino-Western friendship, the integrity and ecumenicity of the USCCA."

(Conference participant)



Speakers at the 2024 USCCA Conference

"I could not help but feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in the USCCA's work and commitments. This was a manifestation of hope."

(Conference participant)



USCCA Directors celebrating the 35th anniversary of USCCA at the 2024 Conference banquet

"The USCCA Conference inspired me to learn more about the church in China, especially the social service opportunities the brave Catholics have taken on.... was so encouraged by what Christians in China are doing, and it inspired me to do more myself."

(Conference participant)



The Matteo Ricci Award

The USCCA recognizes an individual or organization having made significant contribution to fostering dialogue and building friendship among Catholics in the U.S. and China. The Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers China Educators and Formators Project is the recipient of the 2024 Venerable Matteo Ricci Award. This award was granted in recognition of the generous contribution of Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers to the graduate education of 175 Chinese priests, sisters, seminarians, and laity, and for building friendship and dialogue between the people of China and the USA.



Fr. Tim Kilkelly, M.M. and Fr. Lance Nadeau, M.M., Superior General of Maryknoll Father and Brothers, received the 2024 Matteo Ricci Award, presented by Fr. Hugh O'Donnell, C.M., on behalf of USCCA.

Chinese and American Friendship Ministry (CAAFM)

- New co-chairs Kathleen O'Brien and Alfred Gui are bringing vitality, energy, and creativity to the program.
- In the spirit of Pope Francis, the USCCA understands the importance of opportunities for meaningful dialogue and friendship such that a "culture of encounters" creates spaces and places to experience the best of American culture, values, and faith intelligible to people coming from a very different socio-cultural background.
- The USCCA's Chinese and American Friendship Ministry provides programming of welcome and outreach to Chinese international students; it also enhances the ability of theology professors, campus ministers, and other university members who work with these students, to successfully engage them on campus.
- The presence of these young people on U.S. campuses is a testament to the value that Chinese parents and Chinese young people see in an American education. It also represents an opportunity to share friendship and a more human vision for the future with these young people.
- This program based on friendship, dialogue, and mutual respect comes from the heart of our mission. We stand ready to share the source of our inspiration with those who seek to know the Gospel.
- For inquiries, please contact, the Chinese and American Friendship Ministry at director@uscatholicchina.org

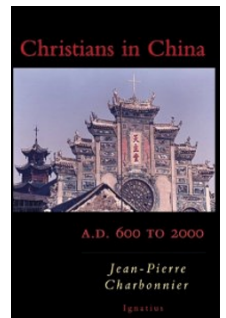
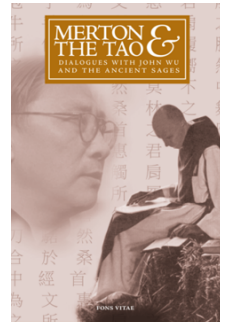


Book Circle

The organizers of the USCCA Book Circle facilitate opportunities, throughout the year, for participants to learn about history, Chinese culture, theology, philosophy, and the life of the Church in China. Their passion for learning enables curious minds from around the world to build bridges of friendship through Book Circle discussions held via international video calls.

“The goal of the Book Circle is to provide an opportunity for intellectual and spiritual engagement with both Catholicism and Chinese wisdom. The greatest thing about the Book Circle is the variety of participants who come from diverse backgrounds, including Chinese students, theologians, a psychologist, an art scholar, and priests. The discussions on Thomas Merton drew some new people who otherwise might not have had an interest. We have enjoyed the open-ended nature of the discussion full of philosophical and spiritual import, not to mention inter-cultural and inter-religious learning. The USCCA is privileged to facilitate the ongoing cultural and religious exchange between Catholics and the Catholic Church in China and the U.S. We open our minds to great writers who help us navigate the rich spiritual treasures of East and West. The 2025 itinerary with John C. H. Wu will be a wonderful learning experience for all.” —Dr. Kathy Stout, Book Circle, facilitator.

Fr Hugh O'Donnell, Mary Sluka and Kathy Stout are the "tripod" organizers of the Book Circle. Their collaboration and friendship have provided a balanced, solid and dynamic leadership of the group.



Public Lecture Series



華源協作
CHINASOURCE



In Collaboration with ChinaSource and China Academic Consortium, in 2024, we offered three public lectures by Dr. I'Ching Thomas (hosted by ChinaSource), Dr. Lian Xi (hosted by CAC), and Dr. José Casanova (hosted by the USCCA).

I'Ching Thomas spoke on “Human flourishing in Confucian thought: A Christian response”, focusing especially on Confucius’ teaching on self-cultivation and benevolence as keys to achieving the ideal of the Noble Man. **Dr. Lian Xi** presented his book “Blood Letters” about the untold story of Lin Zhao and on what her story reveals about Christianity in twentieth-century China. **Dr. José Casanova** lectured on the three phases of the globalization of Catholicism in Asia, with special focus on developments in China. The USCCA appreciates the partnership with ChinaSource and China Academic Consortium.

Mission Appeal

For over 35 years, the USCCA has been a part of a shared journey of faith, gratitude, and learning between Catholics in China and Catholics in the United States, who are living the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Mission Appeals, hosted at weekend Masses in parishes across the United States, provide a unique opportunity to reflect on the USCCA Mission and interesting news about the Church in China. During these Eucharistic celebrations, guest speakers such as Fr. Joseph Lin, CM, Fr. Rob Carbonneau, CP, Fr. Hugh O'Donnell, CM, and Thomas McGuire share stories of building bridges of friendship and dialogue with the people of China—work rooted in a partnership with Chinese Catholics that began in the early 1900s.

After Mass speakers often engaged in conversations with parishioners who had questions about the Church in China. Parishioners often comment, “I did not know there was a Catholic Church in China.”

These stories of faith unite communities, connecting parishioners across the United States to the experiences of their Catholic brothers and sisters in China. Through these encounters, we celebrate our common faith, shared struggles, and mutual hope. These moments remind us of the enduring friendship and dialogue that continue to sustain and strengthen the bond between Chinese Catholics and Catholics in the United States.

To those who have joined us in this journey—whether by contributing to our Mission Appeals, attending our events, or praying with and for us—we extend our heartfelt thanks. We also invite all readers to deepen their engagement with our mission. Together, we can continue to foster mutual understanding and witness to the Gospel through participation in our initiatives, financial support, and prayerful solidarity.

Let us remain steadfast in our shared hope in Christ and our commitment to this mission of faith and friendship.



Tom McGuire,
USCCA Emeritus Director,
spoke at a Mission Appeal.



Digital Communications and Looking into the Future

Digital Communications

- Multimodal communications share the latest USCCA news and messages with a diverse array of stakeholders.
- Weekly newsletters inform over 2,500 readers about the work of the USCCA.
- A dynamic website showcases timely information, vibrant writers, and engaging blogs.
- Site sessions on the USCCA website have increased by 85% since 2023.
- Page visits on the USCCA website have increased by 143% since 2023.
- The number of followers of the USCCA Facebook page has increased by 63% since 2023.
- The number of subscribers to the USCCA YouTube channel has increased by 463% since 2023.

Looking into the Future: 2025 Initiatives

- Increase our information and educational sources through the USCCA website, webinars, and the USCCA partners
- Learn from and serve existing Chinese Catholic parish communities throughout the United States
- Increase the reach and impact of our Chinese and American Friendship Ministry and accompaniment of Chinese students in American colleges and universities
- Plan for our 30th International Conference, August 2026, Houston, Texas
- Continue prioritizing conference-related content and expand promotional efforts for similar initiatives.
- Use the high engagement metrics to fine-tune e-newsletter frequency, topics, and visuals.
- Create more opportunities for audience participation, such as polls, submissions, or interactive posts.

Gratitude and Invitation to Get Involved



The work of the USCCA is made possible each year by the support of our donors, contributors, and supporters. With their steadfast commitment to our mission of friendship, the USCCA has endured and adapted for 35 years and counting. We sincerely thank these friends in Christ for everything that they continue to achieve through programs such as the Chinese and American Friendship Ministry, Book Circle Discussions, Speaker Series events, and international conferences. Thank you—Xièxiè—谢谢!

2024 USCCA Finances

Revenues	USD	%
Conference	82,581	47%
Donations	65,816	37%
Mission Appeal	14,871	8%
Others (e.g., dividends, publications)	14,273	8%
Total Revenues	177,541	100%

Expenses	USD	%
Staff	76,930	49%
Conference and meetings	59,910	38%
Services and fees	14,289	9%
Administration	5,309	3%
Total Expenses	156,438	100%

Get Involved with the USCCA

[Email Newsletter](#)

[Book Circle Updates](#)

[Join Affiliates](#)

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

[Ways to Donate](#)

Follow the USCCA on Social Media

 [LinkedIn](#)

 [Facebook](#)

 [Instagram](#)

 [YouTube](#)

The USCCA is a recognized Catholic organization under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Oakland. It is a 501(c)(3) organization and your donation is tax-deductible, as allowed by law. The success of our work depends upon the generosity of caring people like you.

Gratitude to Benny Mattis, Margie Smetana, Phoebe Qian, Anne Tsui and many Board members for their contribution to the preparation of this 2024 USCCA Annual Report.



uscatholicchina.org

USCCA Leadership and Staff Team

Directors

Mr. Peter Tan, Board Chair
Dr. Richard Madsen, Vice Chair
Mr. John Dewan, Treasurer
Dr. Anne S. Tsui, Secretary
Fr. Rob Carbonneau, C.P.
Dr. Alfred Gui
Fr. Francis Li
Fr. Joseph Lin, C.M.
Dr. Deacon Doug Lovejoy
Ms. Kathleen O'Brien
Fr. Hugh O'Donnell, C.M.
Mrs. Mary Sluka

Emeritus Directors

Dr. Anthony E. Clark
Dr. Dn. Doug Lovejoy
Mr. Thomas McGuire
Fr. Abbot Doug Mullen
Dr. Jean-Paul Wiest

Associate Directors

Dr. Stephen Tsai

Incoming Associate Directors

Fr. Aaron Bohr, S.J.
Fr. Edward Griswold
Mr. Drew McNeil
Ms. Karina Patman
Ms. Margie Smetana
Dr. Huili Kathy S. Stout
Ms. Vicky Lianghai Sun
Sr. Dong Hong Marie Zhang

USCCA Staff

Mr. Gerald Doyle
Ms. Catherine Dugan
Mr. Benny Mattis

Visit uscatholicchina.org/about to learn more about Board members and Staff team.



uscatholicchina.org