

China Church Quarterly

US Catholic China Bureau

Holy See and China agree to August 4, 2015 consecration of coadjutor bishop of Anyang, Henan province.

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Mutual full approval by Rome and the Party's State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA) to ordain 44 year old *Fr. Joseph Zhang Yinlin* (seen second from left in photo) was greeted with excitement. It was the first consecration since Pope Francis' election in which Rome and Beijing expressed no major disagreements. Unlike previous consecrations, none of the presiding bishops at Zhang's ordination was illicit; all of the bishops present were in full communion with the bishop of Rome.



International religious and secular media news services and writers offering analysis (which in some cases incorrectly stated the facts) generally agreed that this event merited such positive attention. Representative was the August 4 *America Magazine* blog *Gerald O'Connell* wrote "It is particularly significant that bishops not recognized by the Holy See did not attend the ceremony. This appears to be the clearest indicator to date of Beijing's desire for harmonious relations with Rome, and its wish to reach a mutually acceptable accord with Rome on the nomination of bishops."

We who love and respect the contemporary Chinese Catholic Church continue to seek to understand the August 4, 2015 consecration of Fr. Zhang in the context of larger Chinese civil society.

Let us pray for the Catholic Church in China. We always welcome your comments. Please consider mailing a tax-deductible donation payable to the "U.S. Catholic China Bureau" if you like this issue of newsletter.

Robert E. Carbonneau, CP.

CHINESE CHURCH NEWS

The consecration of Fr. Zhang as coadjutor bishop of Anyang, Henan province must be seen in a wider perspective. Struggles continue in Wenzhou and Tianjin. Shanghai Catholics respond to religious education and reeducation. Also questions still surround some priestly ordinations. Such diversity of news reminds us of the challenge of summing up the voices of Chinese Catholics in a single sentence.

Wenzhou, Zhejiang crosses. Ongoing effort on the part of Chinese government officials to tear down church crosses continues to stimulate controversy. Catholics have joined in with their Protestant counterparts to express protest. Sources suggest there approximately 2 million Christians in the province of Zhejiang, including some 210,000 Catholics. For example on 07/24/2015 *Asia News*, it reported that *Mgr. Vincent Zhu Weifang* of Wenzhou, who is almost 90, and 26 priests from his diocese held a protest outside Wenzhou City's main government building.

Responding to the Wenzhou issue on 08/13/2015 was *Hong Kong Cardinal John Tong*. He issued "**The Sufferings of the Cross - an Urgent Appeal**". It represents prayerful attention on the situation by reminding Catholics "The cross is the sign most representative of the Christian faith." "In some of these incidents," he said, "members of the clergy and congregation, during their lawful act of defending their faith, have been detained, causing a lot of tension in local parishes." *Cardinal Tong* also called on the more than 500,000

faithful of his diocese to take steps to help their fellow Christians in Zhejiang by choosing "some forms of penance, such as fast and abstinence" and "especially (to) pray for religious freedom, the dignity of the faith" and in this way to "share the sufferings of their fellow Christians in Zhejiang." In his August 13 *America Magazine* blog *Gerald O'Connell* concluded "Cardinal Tong's appeal is also seen as a sign of solidarity with the local (state-recognized) bishop of Wenzhou, *Vincent Zhu Weifang*, who called for prayers – including saying the rosary –and fasting as a way to protect the faith and the crosses."

A 07/09/ 2015 *UCAN* headline read how **Shanghai priests, nuns were forced to undergo reeducation classes.** According to an anonymous source, "About 30 priests and a dozen nuns joined the program held June 9-11 at the Shanghai Institute of Socialism. Also, *Agenzia Fides* 07/23/2015 wrote that six major mainland Chinese seminaries ended the first cycle academic year by conferring a baccalaureate upon 79 seminarians." Diplomas in hand "the seminarians were assigned to various parishes and basic church communities for service in pastoral work and other Church activities."

On 08/14/2015 *UCAN* wrote: **Two excommunicated illicit bishops in China have ordained priests in separate ceremonies during the past two months.** Catholic leaders expressed concern over the ordinations, saying it was another example of the Communist government tightening its control over the Church. One ordination was in Le shan, Sichuan province and the other one was in Harbin, Heilongjiang province.



On August 12 a Tianjin Industrial Explosion about 120 kilometers east of Beijing killed at least 144 people and injured hundreds. On 08/17/2015 *UCANEWS* reported: The next morning, the Tianjin Diocesan Social Service Center helped line up 60 volunteers to assist the government's rescue and relief work. "First responders also included nearly 100 volunteer groups formed by NGOs or individuals. Using social media Tianjin Catholics asked "others not to come to the scene out of curiosity." *Coadjutor Bishop Melchior Shi Hongzhen*, a Vatican-approved bishop whom the government recognizes only as a priest, lives at Tanggu district's Chongxinqiao Church, which is about 10 kilometers from where the blast happened. On 08/18/2015 *Radio Vaticana* indicated that "the Chinese state media gave rare attention to the words of Pope Francis, after the Holy Father offered prayers for families and relief workers" in Tianjin.



CHINESE CHURCH NEWS

China's Proposed NGO Law

Elizabeth Leclaire in China Briefing 07/29/2015 published: China's New NGO Legislation: A Blessing or a Curse for Foreign NGO. "China's National People's Congress (NPC) has released the second draft of the Law of the Administration of Overseas Non-Governmental Organizations, which will allow for foreign NGOs to establish and office (referred to as the 'mainland office') in China. The NPC is expected to readdress the draft in the near future, as the period to submit public comments or concerns regarding the draft's current state closed on June 5."

Possible implications are: "Foreign NGOs hoping to establish operations in China must ensure that the scope of their activities fall within NPC's list of appropriate NGO undertakings: education, health, charity, environmental protection, culture, science and technology, sports and economy." Furthermore, "In order to establish a maintained office in China, the foreign NGO 'parent' institution, referred to as the competent operational entity (COE), must have already operated for over two years and must be capable of assuming civil liabilities. Civil liabilities typically arise from breach of contract or negligence and are usually settled through payment as a form of compensation." (For more on NGOs see page 7)

Legal regulations relationship to citizens hoping to resolve legal issues

"China's Crackdown on Lawyers and Rights" was the subject of a 07/30/2015 **New York Times** editorial. One point made was : "While the government has accused the lawyers of exploiting legal cases to enrich themselves and subverting the party, the crackdown is undoubtedly intended to crush the 'rights defense' movement, which aims to defend the rights of individuals in a legal system rife with cor-

ruption and abuse." A later point stated: "And yet the number of Chinese lawyers willing to risk their lives and freedom to take on politically sensitive cases has grown, and the concept of public interest law has begun to take hold in the areas of labor and the environment as well as criminal justice and human rights." The editors concluded: "At some point, China's leaders are going to have to modernize and institute a fairer, more predictable legal system in line with international norms if they want their country to grow and credibly lead the world."

On 08/18/2015 the San Francisco based **Dui Hua Foundation Human Rights Journal** posted "*Draft Criminal Law Amendment Takes Aim at Defense Lawyers in China.*" An amendment proposal to Article 309 "is disagreement over the root causes of tension in the courtroom." "Who is to blame when conflict erupts between the various parties at trial, especially between lawyers and judges? Some commentators think the law might make lawyers more orderly in the courtroom. Others think defense lawyers will not stand up strong for their clients. In the end "imposing further limits on the fragile rights of lawyers may actually erode public confidence in the Chinese judicial system even further."



U.S. CATHOLIC CHINA BUREAU NATIONAL CONFERENCE

“The Catholic Church in China:
Respecting the Past, Understanding the Present, Envisioning Future Relationships”
October 9-11, 2015. Mercy Center, Burlingame

October 9. Friday:

Registered participants have afternoon option to visit to Ricci Institute, U of San Francisco. Evening Keynote: *Fr. Rob Carbonneau, C.P., Ph.D.*

October 10. Saturday:

Morning keynote. *Professor Bernard Chien-Chiu LI*. President Emeritus of Fu Jen University, Taipei, Taiwan.

Scheduled Saturday Morning:

- **Panel One:** “Then and Now: Catholic Graphic Art Meets Popular Culture in China.” *Dr. Lauren Arnold, Ph.D.*, San Francisco; *Mr. Gene Yang*, Author, *Boxers and Saints*. (Published, 2013) by First Second Books.
- **Panel Two:** “Chinese Students and Catholic High School Education.” *Mr. Lorcan Barnes*, President, Christian Brothers High School, Sacramento, CA; *Dr. Helen M. Hollis, Ph.D.* Counseling Department Chairperson, Planning and Evaluation Coordinator, Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep, San Francisco, CA; *Mr. Al Zappelli*, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid. Woodside Priory School. Portola Valley, CA.
- **Panel Three:** “Understanding Chinese Faith beyond the International News Headlines. An Open Forum/Discussion on Media.” *Mr. Rick DelVecchio*, Editor, *Catholic San Francisco*. Newspaper of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, CA. *Dr. Cindy Chu, Ph.D.*, Professor of History, Hong Kong Baptist University; *Mr. John Kamm*, Dui Hua Foundation, San Francisco, CA.

Scheduled Saturday Afternoon:

- **Panel Four:** “International Student Exchange.” *Ms. Tricia Bolle*, DEI in Asia; *Raymond Pun*, Cal State, Fresno, CA.
- **Panel Five:** “Chinese Catholicism during this year of Consecrated Life.” *Br. Gregory Liu, O.P.*; *Fr. Hugh O’Donnell, CM*; *Fr. Bonaventure Bai, O.F.M.*
- **Panel Six:** “Chinese Catholic Voices Reflection on Contemporary Challenges.” *Sr. Paulina Shuang Feng*; *Fr. John Chen Guang Qian*; *Fr. John Li Bin*.

5:00 to 6:00 PM Saturday Liturgy followed by Banquet then Evening Networking.

October 11. Sunday: Scholars Sessions

- **Panel One:** “Chinese Catholicism in Twentieth Century America.” *Dr. Xiaoxin Wu*, Ed. D. Ricci Institute, U of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; *Dr. Margaret Kuo, Ph.D.*, Associate Professor of History, California State University, Long Beach, CA. *Dr. Cindy Chu, Ph.D.*, Professor of History, Hong Kong Baptist University
- **Panel Two:** “Chinese Catholicism in Twentieth Century America.” *Dr. Anthony Clark, Ph.D.* and *Dr. Amanda Clark, Ph.D.*: Whitworth University. Spokane, WA; *Dr. John J. Harney, Ph.D* Centre College, Danville, KY.

Pease join our financial benefactors: Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows. Three W International; Drs. Anthony and Amanda Clark; Sacred Heart Cathedral Community, De La Salle Brothers, San Francisco, CA; Anonymous Donors.



U.S. Catholic China Bureau

Sign up now at www.uscatholicchina.org/2015conference
October 9-11, 2015. Mercy Center, Burlingame

Mercy Center, Burlingame, near SFO airport.

Phone: 510-900-2015

Email: director@uscatholicchinabureau.org

Hurry!

2015 US Catholic China Bureau Stewardship

This summer I traveled from San Francisco to Hong Kong, Beijing, China, Houston, Texas and Washington, D.C. At each location I experienced a profound sense of local stewardship and desire to learn more about the Chinese Catholic faith communities. Particularly moving was my attending a Saturday 6:30 PM vigil Mass at South Church (Nantang) in Beijing. The church was absolutely full. Television monitors raised above the pews displayed Chinese music which we all sang together with energy. I felt a similar atmosphere at Ascension Chinese Mission Catholic in Houston several weeks later. In both instances parishioners were hospitable. Equal attention was given to the young, old and families. In Washington, D.C., I regularly fielded questions from friends and family who wanted to learn just how Chinese Catholics are organized. I explained the publishing efforts of Sapientia Press in Beijing and the social outreach of Jinde Charities in Shijiazhuang City, Hebei Province. Back in San Francisco I prayed with Chinese Catholics at St. Clare Church, Santa Clara, CA. Local stewardship is evident in many ways.

Another area of stewardship is the participation of the U.S. Catholic China Bureau in the Mission Cooperative Appeal (MCP). China Bureau representatives travel to parishes and preach or offer a testimonial talk which explains the past and present realities of the Catholic Church in China. Explained is the way China Bureau reaches out to build relationships between the Church in the United States and the Church in China by way of prayer and financial support to individuals and organizations which have a presence in China.

Through the MCP office of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio, *Ms. Mary Sluka*, Secretary of the Board, represented the China Bureau at St. Columbkille Church, Wilmington and St. Luke Parish, Beavercreek. Parishioners donated \$2,030.05 and \$5,722.65, respectively.

A third area of stewardship is the linking of the U.S. Catholic China Bureau with scholars, educators and interested Catholics who network and develop diverse ways to understand and support for the Church in China today. Whenever possible, friends of The China Bureau participate in educational institutions and programs in the United States and China. This process is evident in the bi-annual U.S. Catholic China Bureau National Conference (page 5).



The U.S. Catholic China Bureau values your suggestions and prayers. All donations large or small are tax-deductible. For example, printing and postage for each issue of *the China Church Quarterly* is approximately \$500. With support from 10 benefactors writing a \$50 check made payable to "US Catholic China Bureau" we would be able to cover the cost of this issue. Let us travel our road of ministry and stewardship together.

U.S CATHOLIC CHINA BUREAU

U.S. Catholic China Bureau Activities

As much as possible the U.S. Catholic China Bureau seeks to attend events nationwide. Fr. Rob attended these two events. He, board members and friends of the U.S. Catholic China Bureau are available to speak at meetings sponsored by organizations or academic institutions who want to learn and share knowledge



Dr. Anthony Clark, Ph.D., Whitmore University, Spokane, Fr. Rob Carbonneau, C.P., U.S. Catholic China Bureau and John A. Lindblom, a graduate student at the University of Notre Dame attend August 13, 2015 Scholars Conference at Ricci Institute, University of San Francisco in CA.

Group Photo of the Members of the Houston China Forum June 27, 2015. For more information about this successful event do a web search for "China Forum at the website for the *Texas Catholic Herald*. You will then find the July 14, 2015 article "Bringing the Local, Universal Church together as one: Solidarity with the Catholic Church in China." The article was written by *Luke Liu*.



CHINA NEWS BACKGROUND

Hong Kong Holy Spirit Centre publication **Tripod** Vol 35 no. 177. (Summer 2015), pp. 88-100 addressed social change in *Cynthia Pon's* article: "Reflections on a Recent Visit to Northern Chinas: Urbanization and How Local Church Responds"

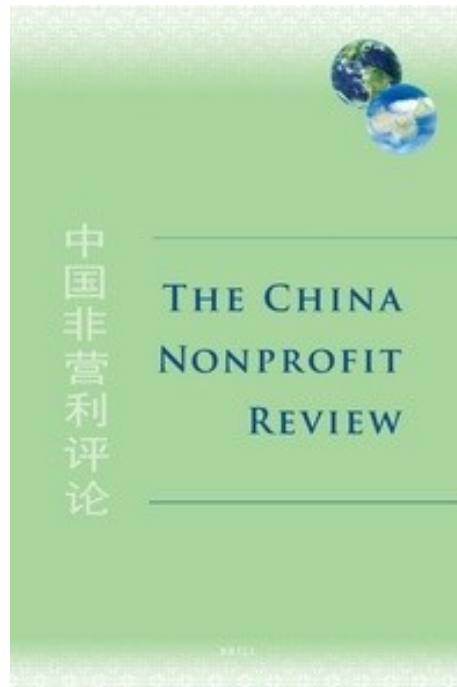
Columban Mission: *Fr. Warren Kinne*, "The Would-Be Sister Monica" Volume 98 (June/July 2015): 16-17 is a reflection on the 99 years of life led by Ms. Xia Jing Xian from Hubei who had known Bishop John Galvin in Hangyang, China.

The Economist: July 11, 2015. Essay *Tales of the Unexpected* pp 41-42 stated: "China has relaxed its one-child policy. Yet parents are not rushing to have a second" child. While *Rigging the daddy race*" pp. 42-43 revealed "How pushy Chinese parents get their kids into the best schools." in China.

Commonweal Magazine via web June 16, 2015 published "*New Tests for 'Old' China's Catholics: Urbanization & Age Threaten Rural Communities.*"

Excellent English language summaries on Chinese religion can be found be web access at **China Zentrum**. See <http://www.china-zentrum.de/E-Journal-RCTC.399.0.html?&L=1>

One article is: "*2014 Statistical Update on Religions and Churches in the People's Republic of China*" by *Katharina Wenzel-Teuber*. Translated by *Jacqueline Mulberge*. All Chinese religions are studies in relationship to SARA (State Administration of Religious Affairs) and in various provinces. A second article is "*News Update on Religion and Church in China November 28, 2014 – February 24, 2015*" Compiled by *Katharina Wenzel-Teuber* and *Katharina Feith* and translated by *David Streit*, it is a selection of various press releases.



More on NGOs: The China Non-Profit Review was first published in 2009: "Chinese nonprofits have become an important and complex force of social development and progress, comprising not only the governmental not-for-profit organizations of the old system, but also a wide array of newly-emerging social, political and civil groups. This peer-reviewed, semi-annual journal, published in Chinese by Social Sciences Academic Press (Beijing) and in English by Brill, is a forum for researchers specializing in the undertakings and organization of Chinese nonprofits. The English version of the journal endeavors to make the latest scholarship on Chinese nonprofits available to a worldwide audience. For more information and a table of contents of back issues go link to

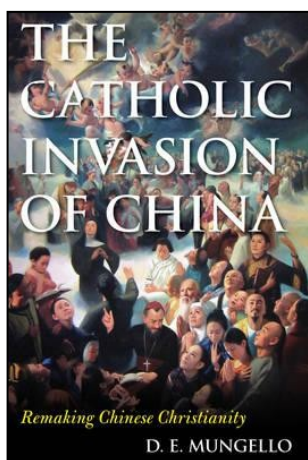
<http://www.brill.com/china-nonprofit-review>.

Journal Articles and Books

In *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* 39, no. 3 (2015): 162–63, Peter Tze Ming Ng offers a book review of *China's Reforming Churches: Mission, Polity, and Ministry in the Next Christendom*, ed. Bruce P. Baugus. Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage Books, 2014. Pp. xii, 336. Paperback \$20

In *Journal of Church and State* (August 19, 2014 Advance online Access) Paul Mariani, S.J. published “The Four Catholic Bishops of Shanghai: “Underground” and “Patriotic” Church Competition and Sino–Vatican Relations in Reform-Era China.” Later, in Vol 57 (Spring 2015) read about Hebei province in Shun-hing Chan, “Changing Church-State Relations in Contemporary China: A Case Study of the Cangzhou Diocese” pp. 243-267; Also Teresa Wright and Teresa Zimmerman-Liu, “Atheist Political Activists Turned Protestants: Religious Conversion Among Chinese Dissidents” pp. 268-88.

Review of Religion and Chinese Society 2, Issue 1, 2015 published Justin K. H. Tse, “Under the Umbrella: Grounded Christian Theologies and Democratic Working Alliances in Hong Kong,” pp. 109-142.



The Catholic Invasion of China: Remaking Chinese Christianity. By D. E. Mungello: (July 2015:Rowman & Littlefield): 194 pages. Hardbook: \$40.00.

“Invasion” Mungello argues, accurately characterizes the dominant attitude of missionaries attempt to introduce Western religion and culture into China during the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Elements of this attitude lingered until the end of the last century, when many Chinese felt that Pope John Paul II’s canonization of 120 martyrs reflected the imposition of an imperialist mentality. In this important work, Mungello corrects a major misreading of modern Chinese history by arguing that the growth of an indigenous Catholic church in the twentieth century transformed the negative aspects of the invasion into a positive Chinese religious force.



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