



THE CARDINAL KUNG FOUNDATION, Inc.

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Dear Friends,

Web Page: <http://www.cardinalkungfoundation.org>

Upon the Map of China
Rests the Shrine and
Our Lady of She-Shan
Through Whom We Pray
"There may be one fold
and one Shepherd"

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* In Memoriam

Hong Kong's New Bishop Our congratulations to **Rev. Stephen Chow Sau-yan, S.J.** on his appointment to be the Bishop of Hong Kong! Pope Francis finally fills this challenging position that has been vacant since January 2019. Rev. Chow, 62, is known as a prudent, discreet leader. He was born in Hong Kong and is a prominent educator with a doctorate from Harvard University. He has been the Provincial Superior of the Jesuit Chinese Province while being the supervisor of the two campuses of Wah Yan College. Wah Yan is a renowned Jesuit high school in Hong Kong with alumni throughout the world. The episcopal consecration of Rev. Chow will only be on December 4, 2021 (the day when he officially heads the Catholic Church in Hong Kong) thus allowing time for the Society of Jesus to appoint a new Provincial Superior. ***Please join us in praying for Father Chow's new responsibility and for the Catholic Church in Hong Kong.***

Pandemic It is wonderful that in America, many people can now return to their parish churches. Through this terrible pandemic, we had a taste of lockdowns, not being able to go to Mass or visit the church. Now we can empathize with our brothers and sisters in the underground church who have endured this pain since 1949.

No Permit to Reopen Underground Churches In many areas in China, the local government refuses to issue permits to reopen underground parishes unless the priest or Bishop signs a transfer to join the Patriotic Catholic Church, pledging their complete obedience and support of the Independent Church, agreeing that religion is to support the goals of the communist party and the government, and that religion must not have any foreign influence. The underground church continues to struggle under such circumstances.

Wenzhou Diocese Arrests Two young priests in Wenzhou Diocese in Zhejiang Province were arrested on May 4, 2021 after each offered a Mass. They were charged according to the Religious Regulations for conducting religious activities without a permit. They were fined \$30,000 Yuan and \$20,000 Yuan (equivalent to US\$6000 and \$4000) respectively. Permits are issued to members of the Catholic Patriotic Association, an independent church. Heavy fines, confiscation of properties, detention and "reeducation" of the clergy frequently occur in the underground church. Underground church continues to have vocations. It is important to know that while all the Patriotic Association bishops, including the previously excommunicated bishops have been recognized by Pope Francis as a part of the Provisional Vatican-China Agreement, the Patriotic Association are not recognized by the Holy See. "

In spite of 70 years of persecution, Catholic underground bishops maintain their loyalty to the Successor of St. Peter. To cut off 'foreign influence' amounts to cutting of communion with the Pope, which is impossible for a Roman Catholic bishops, unlike bishops in the Christian churches. Risking death and life imprisonment, Bishop Kung told the Chief Prosecutor, "I am a Roman Catholic Bishop. To deny the Pope, I will not be a bishop. I will not even be a Catholic. You can cut off my head, but you can never cut off my duty." The same strong faith has produced thousands of martyrs in China during the past 70 years.

"With what prayerful longing and love do I follow the life of the loyal Chinese Catholic communities." St. Pope John Paul II, July 1, 1991

World Day of Prayers The Cardinal Kung Foundation has a long tradition of holding an annual Mass for China. Since 2007, when Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI established a **World Day of Prayers for China on May 24**, the feast of Our Lady of She Shan, many friends of the Cardinal Kung Foundation requested Masses to be offered in their own parish for the Persecuted Catholic Church in China on or around May 24. This not only brought graces of the Holy Mass for China, it also alerts other parishioners that there is no religious freedom in China. China has progressed greatly during the past 2 decades in the areas of commerce, trade and education, but not in religious freedom.

Prayer Octave for China His Eminence Charles Maung BO, S.D.B., Cardinal Archbishop of Yangon, Myanmar, appeals to the world to elevate this Day of Prayer to "**Prayer Octave for China**" from **Sunday, May 23 to Sunday May 30, 2021**. He issued this appeal as President of the Federation of Asian Bishops Conference. Cardinal Bo said that the Church in China is facing increasing challenges. The pandemic also affected all people in China. He urged prayers not only for the Church in China, but also for all persons in the Peoples' Republic of China. Prayer is the most effective help. Recalling Cardinal Kung's response at an interview after arriving in America, he said, "*If it were not for the prayers of the universal church, I would not even survive one day in the solitary cell in China.*" Cardinal Kung spent 10,650 days in prison, with many long periods in isolation.

Cardinal Kung Foundation's response to Prayer Octave for China We are very grateful to Cardinal Bo for urging prayers for China and its underground church while he is also facing serious challenges in Myanmar. The underground church has been informed of the Prayer Octave for China, and is very grateful. There will be **5 Masses** offered by an underground clergy in China during the Octave to thank all friends of the Foundation who join this Prayer Octave for China.

Dear friends of the underground Church in China. Please join this Prayer Octave for China with whatever prayers you wish: recite 3 Hail Mary each day of the Octave; offer a rosary or pray the rosary with your family so that your children will learn about religious persecution; make the Catholic Church in China your intention at one extra Mass that week; request your pastor to include in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass '**Pray for those suffering religious persecution in China and in the world**'. The Holy Mass is the highest form of prayers. If you are a priest, we will be most grateful if you can offer a Mass for the persecuted Church in China. Religious persecution in China has continued since 1949. Prayer is the only reliable help that can change this situation. In the meantime, the persecuted church needs prayers to sustain them. Once, Bishop Kung prayed the Stations of the Cross in a completely packed church in Shanghai. At the end of the Stations, Bishop Kung prayed aloud with his parishioners, "*Holy Mother, we do not ask you to stop the persecution. But please help us because we are very weak.*"

If some of you are willing to **email me with your pledge of prayers** during the Prayer Octave, e.g. 1 Mass, or 3 rosaries, etc., I will tally these spiritual flowers from you and submit them to the underground church. They will be very encouraged. Donors' names will be omitted

Financial Needs of the Underground Church It is difficult to imagine a diocese with no Bishop Appeal and no Collections. In most dioceses in China, the underground bishop does not have the money to support his own priests. The underground faithful will share this responsibility with their farm produce. A priest has other expanses, such as bus fare, basic livings, medical needs. Your generosity is most important to the pastoral work in China. Friends of the Foundation have been very supportive even during the pandemic when many families experienced unexpected financial loss and uncertainty. Please make use of some of the following resources that can increase or even double your sacrificial donations to the Foundation. Many employers will match employees' donations to a 501c3 charities. The Foundation is a qualified 501c3 charities since early 1990s and are listed in most qualified charity listing. Some retailers companies also offer donations to a charity of your choice, smile.amazon.com, Charitymobile, a prolife cell phone company offering 5% of your monthly bill to your selected charity.

A Great Idea from One Donor I like to share with you a note attached to a donation check. "*I recently received a stimulus check. I would like to share my fortune with someone. Who would be better than the underground church?*" We are very grateful that she remember the underground clergy and bishops. Many Financial Services offer advice on how to best use these unexpected checks, deposit this to your Savings for Urgent Needs; increase your 401K for a more secured future. Using this towards a charity is another way to fulfill our charitable obligations. Most underground churches remained lockdown for refusing to support the independent church. They could not reach the faithful easily because only a Patriotic clergy has a permit for pastoral work. By being faithful to the Roman Catholic Church and the Successor of St. Peter, they lost their possessions during raids and heavy fines. The

underground church blesses the entire church through their fidelity and sacrifice. Please support the underground church as your preferred charity.

Saint Joseph, the Great Patron of China Chinese family has a special place of honor for their father, respecting him as the head of the family. Similarly, China has a great devotion to Saint Joseph, father of the Holy Family. We are very grateful to Pope Francis for declaring this year to be The Year of Saint Joseph. China is in its 70th year of religious persecution, and Saint Joseph had personally experienced persecution and had protected the Holy Family in crisis. The following Prayer to Saint Joseph was frequently recited in the parishes at the end of the Mass or during Adoration. I would like to share with you the prayer that the Chinese have recited for many decades. Please pray with us for St. Joseph's intercession and protection for the Church in China as he had protected the Holy Family.

Links to Some Great Articles From time to time, some friends of Cardinal Kung generously shared with us articles that they have written on the Catholic Church in China. Please remember them in your prayers as they help us to understand the complex and sometimes conflicting situations in China through their very informative articles.

<https://www.crisismagazine.com/2021/the-vatican-remains-silent-on-the-persecution-of-chinese-christians>

<https://magamedia.org/vatican-sellout-to-communist-china/>

<https://europeanconservative.com/2020/10/the-chinese-elephant-in-the-room/>

Enjoy our newly gained freedom as American and European society gradually open up. The Board of Directors joins me in wishing you a safe and relaxing summer.

Agnes Kung

Prayer to Saint Joseph, the Great Patron of China

Great Saint Joseph, we beg you to intercede for us with your beloved Son, Jesus Christ to forgive our sins.

We beseech you as the Patron of all China, to intercede with God for mercy on all non-believers in China. Enlighten them and convert them, that they may receive the virtues of faith, hope and charity. May all Chinese people come to worship God, to proclaim the Catholic faith throughout the nation, to reject temptations. May they one day enjoy eternal happiness with you in heaven, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Imprimatur
Bishop Ignatius Kung Pin-Mei, Bishop of Shanghai
October 7, 1953