

# China Church Quarterly

## US Catholic China Bureau

### Catholics and China: Abundant opportunities

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I write these thoughts on May 24, 2015. Catholics worldwide celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. Red liturgical vestments remind us how Scripture speaks about the tongues of fire. In Acts 2:1-11 we find the words that all present were “filled with the Holy Spirit and the and began to speak in different tongues...yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God.”

As you read this issue of the *China Church Quarterly* take time to ponder the abundant opportunities to be in the union with Chinese Catholics. News stories keep us well informed about religious change in China. Access to technology has expanded our ability to appreciate the complex realities of hope and faith. During the 1980s the Catholic Church and role of Christianity in China left me with many unknowns. For example, understanding the relationship between the Holy See and China was a puzzle. In 2015 it now appears those holding the pieces still seek a way to share for mutual benefit.

Today, unlike a generation ago, I meet an increasingly number of people in and out of China who are well informed. They frame questions about religion in China with an attitude of expectations that will lead to a picture of understanding relationships that might be accepted by all. Experience tells me this is good.

The U.S. Catholic China Bureau serves a wide variety of people. Receive this *China Church Quarterly Newsletter* and help us to sustain cross-cultural ties.



Our Lady of Sheshan, sustain all those in China, who, amid their daily trials, continue to believe, to hope, to love. May they never be afraid to speak of Jesus to the world and of the world to Jesus.

We welcome your suggestions.

Go to our website at [www.uscatholicchina.org](http://www.uscatholicchina.org).

Contact me:

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*Robert E. Carbonneau, CP.*

# CHINESE CHURCH NEWS

## Organization and blogs: religion and Chinese society

On 04/7/2015 **Doug Badow of the Huffington Post** blogged "Chinese Government Should Protect Religious Liberty to Promote Desire for Social Peace." He argues "Christianity is thriving in China." Still, with "more religious believers than Communist Party members," the "government is unsure how to respond". By offering a "competitive world view to the Party, fear exists that many Christians, especially Catholics, have loyalties beyond China's borders. Religion," Badow notes "brings people together in ways that might eventually influence politics."

On 04/10 2015 **Freedom House** issued "Confronting the Limitations of Chinese Communist Party Repression". It suggested since 2012, Chinese "censorship and internal security apparatus" has fostered "increased" repression "but at a cost to the Communist Party's resilience."

On 05/15/2015 the **Jamestown Foundation** issued **China Brief** (Volume 15 Issue 10). In "China's Two-Track Approach to Christianity: Vatican vs. Wenzhou," authors David Volodzko and Thomas Sesin reflected on historic and general religious change in China so as to appreciate how it applies to contemporary Chinese Christians.

On 05/01/2015 **China Source Blog** reports "New Report Highlights Roots of Religious Persecution in China." **Brent Fulton** summarized prudent understanding pertaining to

the overall meaning of a recent **China Aid** report: "While providing a useful window into this tension", it "does not paint a complete picture of China's religious believers, particularly China's Christians, upon whom much of the report focuses. For every church that has been attacked, there are thousands across China where believers meet regularly with little or no interference. For every believer who has been detained, there are tens of thousands going about their daily lives unhindered. This is not to downplay the seriousness of the incidents detailed in the report, but simply to say that the story of China's Christians is complex and varied, the persecution narrative being but one piece of this larger story."

## Pope Francis' impact continues

On 05/06/2015 **Vatican Radio** revealed the Pope greeted Chinese Wenzhou pilgrims visiting St. Peter's Square and 05/09/2015 **Asia News** revealed the Pope will be the subject of a 13-part fall series broadcast on national Taiwan TV while.

## Historic examples cross cultural respect

On 04/19/2015 **Ferdinand Verbiest Foundation, Belgium** held a commemoration recalling the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Scheut founder **Father Theofiel Verbist, CICM** (1823-1868) in China in 1865.

On 04/20/2015 **Asia News** an-

nounced premier of a movie film on imperial painter *Jesuit Giuseppe Castiglione* (1688-1766). A joint production between Kuangchi Program Service in Taipei, Taiwan and Jiangsu TV, there will be a showing in Italy on September 30 and later distribution in the United States and Europe. 04/26/2015 **Asia News** explained *Jesuit Matteo Ricci* (1552-1610) was honored in Macau at St. Joseph's Seminary mass.

## China control of intellectual inquiry

On 03/17/2015 **Asia News** learned **China's Ministry of Education** ordered national higher educational institutions reply to a survey "how foreigners textbooks are used, whether these are really useful and how they were obtained." In a campaign against "Western values in universities" and in favor of a "better representation of the Communist Party and its leaders." Sensitive subjects include "journalism, law, politics, sociology, history, economic and financial management, philosophy. To counter the "the distortion of these subjects" universities were told to step up propaganda and teaching efforts in Marxism and Chinese socialism to ensure such values "get into the students' heads".

On 04/23/ 2015 **UCAN** announced **Bishop Wang Ruowang of Tianshui diocese in Gansu Province** was hospitalized and in critical condition April 20 after he accidentally came in contact with a high voltage power line.



# CHINESE CHURCH NEWS

## Holy See-China Relations

05/21/2015 *International Business Times* “*Vatican Working Toward Formal Ties With China Despite Rhetorical Disagreements,*” Reporter Michelle FlorCruz analyzed recent trends: “In any new relationship, learning and establishing boundaries can be awkward. In China, amid a back-and-forth spat between the Vatican and the communist government, are an estimated 12 million Catholics attempting to reconcile their religion and their country.” University of Notre Dame associate professor of East Asian language Lionel Jensen offered a context to FlorCruz: “relations fluctuate on a nearly daily basis,” yet he “is confident that the Vatican is committed to finding a way into China. Specifically, Jensen stated: “What I’ve learned is that the Vatican is in fact moving very steadily and deliberately toward improving relations with China and trying to get some official talks going,” Jensen said, “That hasn’t happened yet, but it’s good that both the Vatican and Beijing are talking outside the perimeter of what we call normal diplomatic interchange. There’s something going here. There are feelers being sent out in both directions.”

## Hong Kong

04/03/2015 *Asia News* rejoiced with news that *Cardinal John Tong* welcomed over 3,600 new Easter Catholics. His pastoral letter reminded them the diocese “lives in a free society and can proclaim Christ, and for this we have to be happy and grateful. A week later *Asia News* cited *Lina Chan*, the delegate representing the **Justice and Peace Commission of the Diocese of Hong Kong** in Thailand, presented her report about the situation in Hong Kong (as well as mainland China) to the international meeting on “Peace and reconciliation in the context of Asia.” Special focus was on the political voices raised as a result of the so-called ‘Umbrella Movement.’

## Sheshan and Pentecost Sunday

May 24, 2015 . Joint celebration of these important days promoted an editorial in 05/23/2015 **Hong Kong Sunday Examiner**. Entitled *The suffering and joy of the Church in China* it offers a way for increased faith awareness on Chinese Catholicism. Two excerpts are as follows:

Each May, the Marian Shrine of Sheshan near Shanghai becomes a major focus of pilgrimage for faithful from around China. However in recent years, restrictions and controls imposed by the Chinese government have deterred many from making the visit. Sheshan also calls to mind *Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin* from Shanghai, who has been under house arrest since shortly after his ordination in July 2012, as well as the situation of Sheshan Seminary which has trained priests from a number of dioceses in the past, but is currently restricted to seminarians from Shanghai only.

In the face of all this, the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong and other Chinese Church communities can continue to play a bridge role with the faithful in mainland China by sharing their knowledge and experience in pastoral work, accompanying them in journeying forward and, in turn, learning from them how to witness to faith with perseverance and fortitude.”



Sheshan Basilica, Shanghai

# U.S. CATHOLIC CHINA BUREAU CONFERENCE 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.” *Ms. 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*, 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.

### Scheduled Saturday Afternoon:

- **Panel Four:** “International Student Exchange.” *Ms. Tricia Bolle*, DEI in Asia; *Mr. Luke Liu*, Houston, Texas. *Representative of The Beijing Center*, Loyola University, Chicago.
- **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.” *Mr. Xiaoxin Wu*, Ed. D. Ricci Institute, U of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; *Mr. Joseph Ho*, Ph.D. Candidate U of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. *Ms. Margaret Kuo*, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, California State University, Long Beach. CA.
- **Panel Two:** “Chinese Catholicism in Twentieth Century America.” *Dr. Anthony Clark*, Ph.D. Whitworth University. Spokane, WA; *Ms. Amanda Clark*, Ph.D. Whitworth University. Spokane, WA. *Mr. John J. Harney*, Ph.D. Centre College, Danville, KY.

**Pease join our financial benefactors: Detroit Province of the Society of Jesus; Sisters of St. Joseph, Orange, California, should read Peter Barry, M.M. and Maryknoll. Prayer Companions are Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, Rosalie McQuaide, C.S.J.P and Janet Davis Richardson, C.S.J.P.**



## U.S. Catholic China Bureau

Sign up now at [www.uscatholicchina.org/2015conference](http://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](mailto:director@uscatholicchinabureau.org)

**Early Bird!**

# 2015 MISSION COOPERATIVE APPEAL (MCP)

There is a long history between the U.S. Catholic China Bureau and the mission offices Propagation of the Faith in dioceses and archdioceses throughout the U.S. MCP appeals have provided the opportunity for continued educational outreach on the present and past realities about the Catholic Church in China and a means for providing financial support for numerous Bureau related projects that sustain cross cultural religious and social exchange. Summer 2015 China Bureau appeals will be in the following locations

## Archdiocese of Los Angeles

- *Father Rob Carbonnean, C.P.* at **Visitation Parish, Los Angeles** and *Father Robert Carleton, M.M.* at **St. James Church Redondo Beach**

## Archdiocese of Cincinnati

- *Mr. Tom McGuire* will be at **St. Remey Church, Russia, OH**. *Ms. Mary Shuka* will make an appeal at **St. Columbkille Church, Wilmington, OH** and **St. Luke Parish, Beavercreek, OH**.

## Archdiocese of St. Louis

- *Father Michael Agliardo, S.J.* will make an appeal at **Our Lady of Guadalupe in Ferguson**. *Father John Burger, S.S.C* is to be scheduled at **Assumption Parioch in Mattese**. Both are in the greater St. Louis area.

## Archdiocese of Detroit

- *Fr. Doug Mullin, O.S.B.* will conduct his appeal at **St. Anslem Church and St. Linus Church**. Both are in **Dearborn Heights, MI**.

We are always looking for priests, sisters, deacons or dedicated lay men or women who might wish to make an MCP appeal as a representative of China Bureau. We normally offer to pay for travel of the preacher and provide a stipend. Contact us if you want more information on the above appeals or wish to assist in assisting us in fundraising or promotion.

Mark 12: 41-44 tells of the poor widow who gave generously from the little wealth she had. Catholics might remember this served as the impetus behind giving spare coins to "mite boxes."

In the tradition of the mite box, The Weidman family of Seaford, Virginia sent a generous donation to help underwrite the travel costs of the above MCP Bureau preachers. Would you be so kind to send a check of any amount to assist us to educate the U.S. public about the present realities and relationships related to the Chinese Catholic Church.

### Historical Correction:

As a point of information: via email past Executive Director of the China Bureau *Sister Janet Carroll, M.M.* pointed out that a key person in bring to life this relationship between the Bureau and Propagation of the Faith was *Mr. Doug Mueller* in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. That news jogged my memory because I think I did one of those early appeals.

—Fr. Rob

### Tax-deductible Donation to support the National Conference!

We continue to depend on tax-deductible donations from people like you.

- For a donation of \$500 we will list you as a benefactor of our National China Conference
- For a donation of \$100 we will list you or your organization as a sponsor of a Conference panel
- For \$50 your name or organization will be listed as a friend of the Conference

Have your name listed as Prayer Companion  
Write checks payable to "US Catholic China Bureau" Mail to 16146 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94703.

## U.S. CATHOLIC CHINA BUREAU

### U.S. Catholic China Bureau Board Meeting April 24-25, 2015

Loyola University Chicago hosted our annual meeting. Hospitality was provided by *Father Michael Agliardo, S.J.*, the Rector, Minister and members of the Loyola University Jesuit community. As Executive Director I wish to thank *Father Jeremy Clarke, S.J.* for his past service on the Board. I ask longtime friends of the Bureau to especially thank *Sister Catherine McNamee, C.S.J.* and *Deacon Doug Lovejoy*. They will remain Board members in emerita and emeritus status, respectively.

As the Bureau moves forward we welcome suggestions for candidates who might wish to be Board members.



Left to Right:  
Catherine McNamee, C.S.J.  
Jean-Paul Wiest  
Mark DeStephano, S.J.  
Mary Sluka  
Bob Carleton, M.M.  
Doug Mullin, O.S.B.  
Michael Agliardo, S.J.

We welcome representatives of religious congregations with a present or past relationships with China, Catholic educational institutions of secondary and higher education with exchange programs in China, business and tourists who love China and seek greater understanding. Please contact our office at [director@uscatholicchina.org](mailto:director@uscatholicchina.org)

On June 5, 2015. Father Rob presented a paper entitled “Gospel Zeal: Missionary Citizens Overseas and Arm-chair Missionaries at Home: American Catholic Missions in China, 1900-1955” Conference was held at Hong Kong Baptist University. From June 7-14 Father Rob continued on to Beijing where he learned about educational programs offered at The Beijing Center and visited local Chinese Catholic historic sites.

### U.S. Catholic China Bureau Upcoming Event in Houston, TX

Houston China Church Forum “Understanding the Catholic Church in Greater China.” will be held on Saturday June 27, 2015. 8AM to 5PM Ascension Chinese Mission Catholic Church, 4605 Jetty Ln, Houston, TX 77072. Information: contact Luke Liu: [lukeliuhang@gmail.com](mailto:lukeliuhang@gmail.com).

Aim is to educate and inspire Catholic clergy, laity, religious, students, professionals, scholars and anyone who loves China. Learn about the unknown aspects of Chinese Catholic Church, its latest developments, mission history and quest for human understanding. Supporting organizations are Ascension Chinese Mission, U.S. Catholic China Bureau and the Center for Faith and Culture, Univ. of St. Thomas, Houston, TX. Scheduled speakers: Fr. Rob Carbonneau, C.P., Luke Liu, Houston Deacon Edward Kleinguetl, Debra and Stephen Wang, Marissa Wu, speakers from China via Skype and other local Houston Chinese church leaders.

Proceeds go to The China Bureau to enable speakers and Chinese clergy studying in the U.S. to attend the National China Bureau Conference this October 9-11 in CA. Show your support by being a financial benefactor like An Peng, Helen Chen, the Sycamore Foundation of CA and several anonymous donors. Donations made payable to the U.S. Catholic China Bureau are tax-deductible.

## MAGAZINE ARTICLES

**U.S Catholic** magazine used its Wiseguides series to explain how Jesuit “Matteo Ricci’s spirituality of encounter continues to open doors for Christianity today”. See Fr. Francisco Carlin, C.M.F. “*From West to East*,” Vol 80 (February 2105):47-48.

**Maryknoll Magazine** reflected on China and spirituality especially as it valued Trinitarian Love in article by Larry Lewis, M.M. “*Facing the Crucified One*,” Volume 108 (September/October 2014), pp 48-49. Also Margaret Gaughan, “*With Jesus on the Journey*” Volume 109 (May/June 2105) introduces us to Shaun Crumb, M.M from Minnesota. He was ordained a priest at Maryknoll on May 30, 2015 and will be assigned to the Asia region. He has taught English in Jilin. This editor was fortunate enough to meet him in Chicago on April 26, 2015 at a Maryknoll Affiliates gathering.



**America Magazine** continues to keep readers engaged with China. Stephen Schwankert addresses the Beijing environment in “*Pollution Shadow Over the Future*,” Vol 212 (April 13-20, 2015), p.14.

Columnist in Rome Gerard O’Connell offered two contributions that explain election process of bishops and opportunities for dialogue. O’Connell’s May 1, 2015 blog was “*Bishop Candidates Elected for Two Catholic Dioceses in Central China*.” He wrote “Two priests were elected as candidates to be bishops of two Catholic dioceses in the Province of Henan, the birthplace of Chinese civilization, in central China. They were chosen in closely supervised elections on April 28 and 29, and must now obtain approval from the State-sanctioned Bishops’ Conference—an entity not recognized by the Holy See, before they can be ordained.” Specifically, Father Cosmos Ji Chengyi was mentioned in relation to the Zhumadian diocese and Father Joseph Zhang Yinlin in the Anyang diocese. Each was listed as the only names on the ballot.



**Columban Mission** magazine regularly reflects on the humanity and cultural dimensions of faith in China. Read Fr. Joe Houston, S.S.C., “*In Wuhan, Old is New: Church Renewal in China*” Vol 98 (February 2015), pp. 4-5. His other essay is “*The Beauty of This World. And the Next*,” Vol 98 (March/April 2015), pp. 5-6; Also Fr. Warren Kinne, S.S.C., writes “*Family Ma: Helping a Migrant Family in China*” Vol 97 (October 2014). pp. 18-19 and “*The Gong: Opening Our Minds*” Vol 98 (March/April 2015), p. 22.

Search “Carbonneau” at the **Catholic San Francisco** archdiocese newspaper website to find Fr. Rob’s three recently published articles: March 10, 2015. *Ricci Institute promotes cultural exchange on Christianity in China* April 1, 2015. *The Tenderloin’s China mission link (on Franciscan Father Doolin and St. Boniface Parish)* May 12, 2015. *Sacred Heart Cathedral: Students from China at the crossroads (on Catholic high education of high school students)*

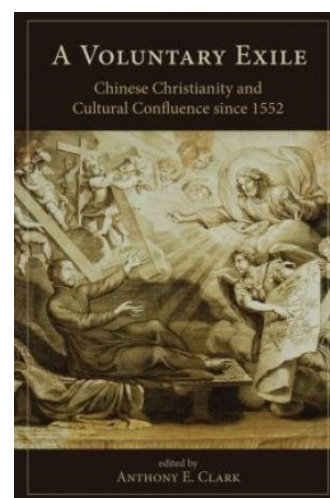
## Journal Articles and Books

China is covered from several perspective in the *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* Vol. 39, No. 2 April 2015 which is available on line. In addition to the article by Peter Tze Ming Ng “Church-State Relations in China: Three Case Studies,” there are two book reviews: *Evangelization in China: Challenges and Prospects*. By Kin Sheung Chiaretto Yan. (Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 2014). Pp. xiv, 178. Paperback \$30 and *Theosis, Sino-Christian Theology, and the Second Chinese Enlightenment: Heaven and Humanity in Unity*. By Alexander Chow. (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013). Pp. 226. \$72.

Shi Xijuan, “Christian scholar Xu Guangqi and the spread of Catholicism in Shanghai,” *Asian Culture and History* 7.1 (2015), pp. 199-209.

*Tripod* offers an article by Zhang Guanglai. Translated by Eleanor Foo. “Catholic Charitable Services in China — A Review and Prospects” and Leo F. Goodstadt, “Hong Kong’s Cruel Poverty” in 34 *Tripod* (Winter 2014), pp. 5-18 and 37-50, respectively. In 35 *Tripod* (Spring 2015) legal-religious issues are addressed. Of particular interest might be Franco Mella, PIME “*The Occupy Movement and Democracy in China*,” pp. 104-110. Fascinating as well is the essay “*Photographs of the Madonna in China*,” pp. 63-72. The journal is available on line via the website at Holy Spirit Centre in Hong Kong.

*Foreign Affairs* has their whole Volume 94 No. 3 (May/June 2015) issue on China. Entitled “*China Now*,” it has eight articles on various social, economic and political topics.



Anthony E. Clark. Editor. **Exile: Chinese Christianity and Cultural Confluence** (Lehigh University Press, 2014) offers articles by eight contributors “which considers themes of religious encounter and accommodation in China from 1552 to the present, and confronts how both Western Europeans and indigenous Chinese mitigated the cultural and religious antagonisms that resulted from cultural misunderstanding.” For more information consult the Bureau website.



### US Catholic China Bureau

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