Dear friends:

Almost twenty-five years ago during one of my visits to the late Bishop Walter Curtis, the retired bishop of Bridgeport in Connecticut, I updated him on the events regarding the Underground Roman Catholic Church in China. He asked me a pointed question, “Joe, why should I be the only one to know these very important happenings?” I had no answer for Bishop Curtis. He continued: “I alone could not do much. There are about 450 bishops, thousands of priests and nuns, and millions of Catholics in the United States, and many, many more throughout the world. They all need to know the atrocities against the Catholics in China. What are you doing to let them know?”

Bishop Curtis took me across the hall to see Cardinal Kung immediately. With the Cardinal’s approval, Bishop Curtis guided me with patience and determination to start the Cardinal Kung Foundation. The Bishop not only initiated the idea, he wrote a personal check of $5,000 as the seed money to start the Foundation. Cardinal Kung and Bishop Curtis were very pleased when the Cardinal Kung Foundation was registered in Connecticut in November 1991 and later was approved as a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization in 1992. Bishop Curtis served as the Chairman of the Foundation. For five years, he attended every meeting of the Board of the Directors, carefully guiding the Foundation until he stepped down because of his health.

Today, twenty-five years later, through our radio and TV appearances, testimonies before US and overseas government committees, speeches before parishes, Catholic societies and schools, press releases to major media outlets throughout the world, newspaper articles, newsletters and our website, literally millions of people around the globe learned about Cardinal Kung and the continued persecution of the Underground Church in China. Most important of all, through the generosity of our supporters like you, we were able to assist the persecuted Roman Catholic Church in China with financial help and prayers.

This is the sixty-fifth year of persecution of the Roman Catholic Church in China by the communist Chinese government. It is far too long. Helping the Underground Church in China is not only a meaningful act of charity, it is also a good discipline to ourselves as Catholics living in the free world and a reminder that we need to pray and to make sacrifice to strengthen our faith in order to withstand the numerous subtle but increasing religious persecutions in US and in many other parts of the world.

During the last twenty-five years, we continuously establish, update, and expand many projects in order to achieve our mission and to meet the changing needs of the Church. Our mission continues to be: "To promote the Roman Catholic Church in China, now under persecution, through increased prayers, financial support and other appropriate projects."

Inasmuch as many questions are being asked from the field, we need to reintroduce the entire slate of projects in this Foundation to encourage greater participation of our members with clear understanding what projects engage the apostolate that we are in. In fact, there is conceivably a project for every Catholic if one wishes to help the Underground Church in China in some way according to one’s ability and interest.

This newsletter will provide you with clear explanations of all our projects in a printed document that you can file away for easy reference and, if you wish, pass on to others who may share your concerns for religious persecution and liberty of the Church in China. The projects are essentially five groups in number, although each group branches into related ministries.

1) Spiritual Program

We promote prayers both for the Underground Roman Catholic Church in China, and for our separated brothers and sisters in the Chinese government-established Patriotic Association so that those who belong to the Patriotic Association will also
be filled with the Holy Spirit and be courageous witnesses of Christ

1a) Mass Stipends - "The Mass is the most perfect form of prayer" (Pope Paul VI)

Your Mass requests and offerings will be sent to the underground clergy of the Roman Catholic Church in Communist China or elsewhere the underground priests are studying. This is a direct way for you to support the underground ministry while giving your loved ones the most precious gift.

A great majority of our priests in the Underground Church offer only the Novus Ordo Mass in Chinese language for regular Masses, or nine-day novena Masses, or thirty-day consecutive Gregorian Masses. Only one soul for each set of Gregorian Masses is allowed. Because of logistical issues, we cannot accept any Mass request for a specific date or for any recurring Masses on a specific monthly or yearly dates.

A stipend not less than $10 for each Mass is requested. An optional small donation to defray the high administration cost of this Mass Project is appreciated. We need to pay $50 for each international bank wire-remittance charge, postage, stationery, and other costs in order to put the stipends in the hands of the underground priests.

We are sending approximately 6,000 Mass stipends each year to underground Chinese priests in recent years. This is not enough. To meet their financial needs of some 75 priests on our list, we need another 6,000 Masses making a total of 12,000 Masses for each year. To the dozens of underground priests studying in Europe and elsewhere, we hope to offer a stipend for every Mass that they offer. They rely on these Mass stipends for living expenses as their own bishops have no financial means to support them. Please keep the underground priests in mind when you have an occasion to offer a Mass. In thanksgiving to the Foundation's donors, these underground priests offer hundreds of Masses each year (1) for the intentions of the Cardinal Kung Foundation and (2) for the deceased and living benefactors of this Foundation.

You may download from our website a copy of this Mass Request Form. The link is: http://www.cardinalkungfoundation.org/dn/MassRequestForm.pdf Or you may send us a request by mail for the form. You may also request free blank Mass cards from us. You may use the Mass card to inform your loved ones of your intention. We have two varieties. One for Special Intentions for the living. The other one for the Repose of Souls. Please let us know the number of cards you need, indicating if you also need envelopes for the Mass cards. We will mail them to you.

1b) Prayer Sponsor - Members pray for a specific religious in China

The life of an underground clergy or religious is a harsh one, filled with long hours, poverty, risk of harassment, arrest, interrogation or house arrest from a hostile Chinese government. Some of the clergy are elderly. There is no retirement age in the Underground Church. Many are young priests or nuns who follow their vocation rather than seeking jobs in the booming China economy. During the past decade, we also have many clergymen and nuns who have been trained overseas with advanced degrees, but chose to return to the Underground Church rather than the comfort and secured life in an overseas’ diocese. Their fidelity to the Underground Church and sacrifices deserve your prayer support.

A Prayer Sponsor will be assigned a name of an underground clergy or nun as one's spiritual partner in their ministry. Your daily prayer will support this clergyman or nun with the grace and wisdom to be a courageous witness of Christ and to spread the gospel in China. We also pray for the return of Patriotic Association bishops to the Universal Church. We will send you a wallet-sized card printed with the name of this clergyman and the Cardinal Kung’s Prayer for China. You are free to say the Cardinal Kung's prayer or any prayer of your choice. Unless the clergyman has already been arrested and identified by the communist government, we typically will give you only the Baptismal name and initial to protect the identity of the clergyman. This is an effective way to teach your children the precious gift of religious freedom that they enjoy. To join this program, please contact us by mail or by email (cardinalkungfdn@cs.com) with your name, address, names of other family members joining as prayer sponsors, age if the sponsor is a minor. There is no cost to join this program.

1c) Perpetual Rosary - Members pray the Rosary for China

The Rosary is a most powerful weapon against Satan and the most effect prayer for conversion. Cardinal Kung once pleaded in a homily he gave in the US, “The Roman Catholic Church will never disappear in China. We ask you to stay with us with your prayers until Holy Mother saves us in her own time.”

Friends of the Foundation pledge to pray at least one Rosary each month for China on a designated day of their choice. Many have pledged weekly or even daily Rosaries for China. With your help, there will be a rosary or rosaries everyday to support the Underground Church. Please download the Perpetual Rosary for China form at http://www.cardinalkungfoundation.org/pm/pdf/PerpetualRosaryForChina.pdf You can also request the form by mail. There is no cost to join this program.

1d) Annual May 24 Mass - Universal-day of prayer for China

We, together with our benefactors around the world, have been sponsoring an annual Mass in our parishes for many years to pray for the end of persecution of the Roman Catholic Church in China. In union with the intention of Pope
Emeritus Benedict XVI and Pope Francis, we offer a Mass on every May 24, the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, who is venerated with great devotion at the Marian Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai. This year (2015) Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, the Bishop of Bridgeport, Connecticut, sent Father Robert Kinna, his Chancellor, to represent him in presiding at the Mass on May 24 at the Basilica of St. John in Stamford, Connecticut, where all prayed for the Roman Catholic Church in China.

1e) Prayer Cards - Promotes prayers for China

We have a variety of prayer cards to promote prayers for China. Some are prayers or meditations written by Cardinal Kung himself during the early years of persecutions of the Church and also while he was in jail. There are no specific costs attached to the cards or meditation booklets. Optional donation is appreciated to defray the cost of mailing and printing. You can view the sample cards at http://www.cardinalkungfoundation.org/pm/PMprayercards.php You can also request us for a listing of all the cards by mail.

2) Education of Seminarians and Religious Program

2a) Partner in Vocation - Priests, Seminarians and Religious Nuns' education

This program is dedicated to support the education of underground seminarians, priests, and religious sisters studying in China, Europe, and the United States. Between 1993 and May 2015, we have awarded approximately 1,400 annual scholarships, totaling a little over two million U.S. dollars. These scholarships range from a few hundred dollars to more than five thousand dollars each for approximately 210 religious students from the Underground Roman Catholic Church in China. Approximately 75 percent of students completed their Master's degrees, and 10 percent completed PhDs. All those who graduated have returned to China. Many of them are now underground seminary instructors, pastors, chancellors of many dioceses, retreat masters, and convent superiors, among other assignments.

We have approximately fifty religious in this academic year (2014 - 2015) studying in China, in European seminaries and in the United States. Among them, seven are PhD candidates. One of them has just been awarded a PhD in Rome. They are all fluent in the language of their host country. These clergy and nuns, no matter where they were trained - China or overseas - are the future of the Underground Roman Catholic Church in China. They proudly follow their vocations in spite of the hardship and risk for being obedient, loyal, and faithful to the Holy Father. Through the funding of this program, our members can directly assist in the religious formation of the Catholic Church in China. We all understand that we need priests in the Church.

All students studying overseas have tuition scholarship from the seminaries or universities. Some scholarships included room and board. Some even included health insurance. The Foundation offers allowance to pay for room, board and health insurance if these were not provided in the scholarship. The Foundation’s allowance also covers the various fees charged by the university or seminary, costs of books, daily transportation, lunches, toiletries, clothing and other necessary expenses. We also pay for the students’ medication or treatments if the insurance does not cover. We paid for the trips back to China for ordinations and a final one way ticket to China after their graduation. With their Foundation’s allowance, these students were able to focus on their studies. They typically arrived at the overseas seminaries with minimal or no foreign language training. Within 5-8 years, they graduated with Masters and PhD's with honors.

This program costs the Foundation approximately $90,000 each year, while the annual donation to this project from our supporters is only $15,000. We have a serious deficit. We highly recommend this program to you. You can donate any amount to this program.

You can donate with your credit card through our website or mail your donation to us. Please go to our website http://www.cardinalkungfoundation.org/fd/pdf/FDpartnerinvocation.pdf for the detailed procedures how to participate in this Partner in Vocation program. If you prefer, you may also request the procedures by mail.

2b) Adopt-a-Nun program - To support underground convents

As China is very short of priests, the nuns in China are a very crucial team in evangelization. Many rural areas were visited by priests once a month only. The nuns visit and pray with the sick, teach catechism, and form prayer groups, etc. Very often, the diocese is too poor to pay for the support of these nuns in their diocese.

This program enlists a benefactor to sponsor a nun in an underground convent in China for six months for $100, or one year for $200. The money is remitted to the mother superior twice a year. Similar to the Mass Stipends, we will disburse 100 per cent of what we receive to the convents. For your charity, the nuns will pray for the intention of their benefactors daily. Such prayer effort is certified by their superiors. We now have some 250 sponsors helping religious in four convents. The convents use the money to support the living expanses of the nuns, the spiritual formation of the novices, and also for the nuns' higher education in China. In past years, we have educated dozens of underground sisters in their pursuasion of a professional specialty, such as that of a physician in both Western and Chinese medicine, nursing, computer programming, teaching or other social services. In addition, when the convents are short of funds to pay for the sister's tuition, the Cardinal Kung Foundation paid for the difference from its general fund.
3) Social and Apostolic Program

3a) Support to an Underground Catholic Orphanage for Handicapped Abandoned Babies and Children

We have been providing substantial support for many years to an "illegal" orphanage in China that was founded by an underground bishop some thirty years ago. We subsidize the orphanage for its food. The orphanage houses physically and mentally handicapped orphans ranging from only two months old to the eldest who is 33 years old. The older ones are those who entered the orphanage when it was first established approximately thirty years ago. Two-thirds of them cannot take care of themselves, and depend on the nuns for their every living needs. Some of them are attending school.

The orphanage has approximately eighty orphans with thirty nuns taking care of them, totaling 110 persons. Allowing them an average of only US$2 per person per day for their food, it costs US$6,600 per month. We can only afford to help them with US$2,000 per month, equivalent to approximately 30% of the meager food need. In the meantime, we receive only an average of US$600 donation for each month from kind people like you. We really need more help. The poor peasants in the nearby villages do donate some of their harvest to the orphanage.

The orphanage building was built approximately thirty years ago in a hurry and has deteriorated to such an extent that it has been condemned by the government to be demolished. The orphanage capital project has been so far successful in raising some funds to start the construction of a new building, but it is not enough. **They need $130,000 from us.** We are too hard pressed to fund this new building, although we recognize the urgent need for constructing it, and would be overjoyed for the sake of the orphans to see it happen. They are the ones who are really in need. **If anyone can make a one time special donation to fund the capital cost of this handicapped orphanage, both the orphanage and the donor will be very blessed by helping these “least” of God's children.**

A picture is worth thousands of words. Link for this orphanage is [http://www.cardinalkungfoundation.org/fd/pdf/FDadoptanun.pdf](http://www.cardinalkungfoundation.org/fd/pdf/FDadoptanun.pdf)

3b) Persecuted Family Tuition-Assistance Program

This program assists families whose members have suffered persecution due to their leadership role in the Underground Church. Many heads of families were arrested and tortured due to their Catholic ministry activities. We assist such families from time to time by paying their children's school tuition while the father is in jail or unemployed. There is no funding for this project. Our general fund takes care of its needs when the occasion arises.

3c) Assistance to Underground Catholic Refugees Seeking Asylum in the United States

When appropriate, we provide assistance to underground Roman Catholic refugees seeking asylum in the United States. Occasionally, judicial and immigration officers in the United States and Canada as well as overseas, such as in Australia, have called on us as Expert Witness to verify the state of the persecution in China in order to decide on certain asylum cases. We have also been asked by attorneys to testify in the U. S. court for the persecuted Catholic asylum seekers. We have succeeded so far in helping at least twenty families in the U. S. to obtain their religious asylum status, thereby enabling them to live in the United States freely and legally. The Foundation provided such assistance only after extensive verification that the applicants were truly members of the Underground Roman Catholic Church in China.

4) Preservation of the Legacy of His Eminence, the Late Ignatius Cardinal Kung

4a) Cardinal's Writings

This work includes the curation of the collection of the late Cardinal's writings and making them available to Monsignor Stephen DiGiovanni, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Basilica in Stamford, Connecticut, who is in charge of the initial steps concerning the process of beatification and canonization of Cardinal Kung. He is also my pastor.

In June 2005, Bishop William E. Lori, then Bishop of Bridgeport, asked Monsignor DiGiovanni to begin studying Cardinal Kung's life as well as the canonical documents concerning the process of beatification and canonization. This was in response to numerous requests Bishop Lori had received to begin the process of canonization. Consequently, a book, “*Ignatius, The Life of Ignatius Cardinal Kung Pin-Mei*”, was published on June 4, 2013. The author of this book is Monsignor Stephen DiGiovanni, S.T.D. This is an exciting and important step in the opening of the cause of Cardinal Kung’s canonization that all the friends of the Foundation ought to be aware of. I believe that you will be inspired by Cardinal Kung’s life and his episcopal ministry demonstrated through the research and scholarly insight of Monsignor DiGiovanni. You may purchase the book through Amazon by searching “Cardinal Kung” in its book section.

4b) Depository of Information for the Cardinal's Cause and Process for his Canonization

As authorized by the late Paul Cardinal Shan, S. J., the Bishop of Kaohsiung, Taiwan, the Foundation has established a depository to collect information supporting the cause and process for the canonization of Cardinal Kung. As the depository, the Foundation is responsible for gathering documentation that will be used as evidence of the personal
sanctity and heroic virtues of Cardinal Kung, and also for gathering written statements of personal favors received through his intercession. If you have prayed and have received favors through the intercession of Cardinal Kung, I suggest that you gratefully acknowledge Cardinal Kung’s intercession by sending a letter to this Foundation, documenting your special situation. These will be submitted to the Church authority when the cause is open.

4c) Upkeep of the Cardinal's final earthly resting place where there are relics preserved, personal mementos, and his private chapel

Cardinal Kung’s final residence includes his room and his chapel. They are a part of my home in Stamford, Connecticut. We are tending to the upkeep of his apartment for the cause of the Cardinal's canonization.

5) Information Dissemination Program

5a) Newsletter -- Our newsletter is published three to four times each year and is distributed free to almost thirty countries and across the United States. The newsletter informs the public about news and issues relating to the ongoing persecution of the Roman Catholic Church in China. You can read our previous newsletters on our website. http://www.cardinalkungfoundation.org/nl/NLlist.php

5b) Press Release -- Our press releases on persecutions of the faithful in China are issued only after meticulous verification of the authenticity of the news. They are typically carried by all major news wires, such as Associated Press, AFP, Reuters, etc., and by a large number of newspapers worldwide. They are also recognized by many United States and foreign government agencies. Typically, numerous interviews follow each press release, including some foreign press bureaus located in China.

5c) Web-Site -- Our website, www.cardinalkungfoundation.org, has been used by journalists, students, and public alike for their research and information.

As you can see we have kept our hands to the plow. Your donation has made all the above possible. You will recall that the “widow’s two mites” were small in material value, but concerning that most generous woman, Jesus assured the Twelve Apostles: “Amen I say to you, this poor widow hath cast in more than all they who have cast into the treasury. For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want cast in all she had, even her whole living” (Mark 11:43-44). There is no such thing as too small a gift. If our Lord so wills, He certainly can do wonders of grace with hearts that are magnanimous.

China News

1) Shanghai Diocese:

1a) Bishop Ma - One month ago, July 7, 2015, marked the third anniversary of the episcopal ordination of Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin, the government appointed and the Vatican-approved Auxiliary Bishop of Shanghai. This coincides with the third anniversary of his detention by communist China. As you may recall, at the Mass of his consecration, standing before a thousand Catholics and government officials at Saint Ignatius Cathedral in Shanghai, Bishop Ma declared that it would not be “convenient” for him to remain in the Patriotic Association and resigned from the Association in order to focus on the ministry of his diocese. Many in the crowd erupted into thunderous applause. People wept. Bishop Ma had openly declared his uncompromising fidelity to the Supreme Pontiff.

Bishop Ma immediately disappeared from public view. He was forced to move to Sheshan seminary near Shanghai, where he has been confined for the last 37 months and continuing. He was stripped of his new title of Auxiliary Bishop of Shanghai by the government, interrogated for months and required to attend communist indoctrination classes.

1b) Forced "learning" class - During Bishop Ma's absence in detention, priests and nuns in the Shanghai diocese are required to attend "learning" classes on the central theme of the National Congress of the Communist Party. The nuns and priests listened to presentations on the "rule of law and the development of the China Catholic Church" and "the current situation of the China Church and its mission". One Shanghai parishioner remarked: "It is just a big joke to have such a theme. We have to ask what law leads to the indefinite detention of our Bishop Ma on no charges".

1c) Missing Fund - In the meantime, substantial and unusual transactions in the tens of millions of Yuan (exchange rate 6.2 Chinese Yuan = 1 U.S. Dollar) have reportedly gone missing from the Shanghai diocese, transferred to irregular accounts over the last year, having been moved from one bank to another "under instructions from the party's Religious Affair Bureau officials," a source told uscnews.com.

2) China set for first public ordination of bishop since 2012

Father Joseph Zhang Yinlin is scheduled to be ordained Bishop of Anyang in Henan province on August 4. He will become the first publicly ordained Chinese bishop in three years since Bishop Ma was ordained on July 7, 2012. ( Re item 1a, China News above). China’s religious bureau permits candidate's name to be placed on the ballot for bishop election only after the priest has been thoroughly vetted by them. Vatican then has a chance to consider approving these vetted candidates. According to UCA news dispatch on July 31, Father Zhang was approved for ordination by the Vatican. Let us pray that Father Zhang will be a heroic witness as an approved bishop in the Open Church controlled by the Patriotic Association.
3) China's president, President Xi Jinping, asserts state's authority that China must not be allowed to be influenced by any foreign religious organization.

"We must manage religious affairs in accordance with the law and adhere to the principle of independence to run religious groups on our own accord," Xi said on May 20 during a high-level Communist Party meeting. The Vatican is still seen in China as a foreign power that hides under the "cloak of religion" and seeks to "manipulate China's internal affairs". However, on the same day that President Xi delivered his speech, Pope Francis urged Catholics in China "to live spiritually united to the rock of Peter upon whom the Church is built." What a coincidence!

4) Warning over religious believers in Chinese Communist Party Ranks

In an article published by the Chinese Communist Party's Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, it said: "The fact that a small number of party members have forsaken the party's world view of dialectical materialism and have turned to religion is now attracting serious concern, to the extent that it now falls within the purview of disciplinary work...Communism, in essence, begins with atheism...Chinese citizens have the freedom of religious belief, but Communist Party members aren't the same as regular citizens; they are fighters in the vanguard for a communist consciousness..."

5) Continuing church demolition and cross removal - Octogenarian Chinese bishop protests

After more cross were stripped and more churches were demolished, hopes for an end of Chinese government demolition campaign targeting Catholic and Protestant churches have been dashed. Since early 2014, approximately 470 crosses have been stripped and 35 churches demolished. Bishop Vincent Zhu Weifang of Wenzhou and his parishioners together with thousands of believers were dismayed, perplexed and hurt, feeling that this is getting out of control.

With no end in sight, Bishop Zhu, 89, walking with a cane, took to the street and was joined by 20 other priests in a peaceful protest outside government offices in Wenzhou city to stop the cross-removal campaign in Zhejiang province.

6) Pope remembers day of prayers for the Church in China (also read section 1d on page 2)

Pope Francis noted that the statue at the shrine of Sheshan depicts Mary holding the Child Jesus in the air with His arms outstretched "in a gesture of love and mercy." He called on all Christians to “ask Mary to help Catholics in China to be ever more credible witnesses of this merciful love in the midst of their people, and to live spiritually united to the rock of Peter on which the Church is built."

7) Bishop detained, priest disappeared, and altar demolished amid crackdown on Chinese Underground Church in Hebei province.

Bishop Julius Jia Zhiguo of Zhengding in Hebei province was taken away by officials on May 12 and then sent back to his cathedral to celebrate Mass on Pentecost Sunday on May 24. He was detained for 12 days. Authorities also appear to have detained Father Liu Honggeng in nearby Baoding who has not been seen since May 7. Father Liu had been released last August following eight years of detention without trial after he refused to join the government-sectioned Patriotic Association in 2006. Meanwhile, in the same Baoding diocese, two Catholic laywomen were wounded while trying to protect an altar from more than forty police officers who went to demolish it at an underground prayer house. The eight-by-six-meter altar was built before the Chinese New Year in February.

Donation From Amazon

Smile.Amazon.com offers the same products and at the same price and terms as Amazon offers. If you have an account at Amazon.com, you can also reach your account and your profile at Smile.Amazon.com. Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase at smile.Amazon.com to your selected charity without additional cost to you. Some of our donors have started shopping at Smile.Amazon.com and selected Cardinal Kung Foundation as their selected charity. As a result, Cardinal Kung Foundation recently received a check (payable quarterly) due to our donor's purchases. Thank you for remembering Cardinal Kung Foundation. Next time when you shop at Amazon, please follow this link to go to the Smile.Amazon.com. It is https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-1334853 . By using this link, Smile.Amazon.com remembers that you have selected Cardinal Kung Foundation as your favorite charity. You may learn more about Smile.Amazon.com by going to http://smile.amazon.com/about. You can also visit Cardinal Kung Foundation website for more information.

Thank you.

In the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Joseph Kung
President
Cardinal Kung Foundation

Please Remember The Cardinal Kung Foundation In Your Will

Thank You