



Perbayre Sparks

August 2014

Religious Women from China go for Leadership Initiative

During the past summer De Paul University welcomed 25 sisters from China to a month-long workshop on leadership. It was called *The Chinese Leadership Initiative* and aimed at compassionate and collaborative ecclesial leadership. It is a collaborative effort of De Paul University, the Faith Institute for Cultural Studies in Shijiazhuang and the Chinese Province through the leadership of Fr. H. O'Donnell.

Themes on vocation and consecrated life, spiritual leadership, relational leadership and on pastoral and community leadership were discussed for each week.

During the four weeks, afternoons were spent visiting the city, parishes, families, and the works of communities. A Columban priest familiar with the face of poverty in Chicago arranged visits to sites where religious and laypeople reach out daily to people living in poverty. The Vincentian community at De Paul each Monday evening invited six sisters to dine with

the community and, after dinner, share their stories with confreres.

The sisters, though from 20 different communities, bonded very well throughout the course of the program. Their openness and energy made a deep impression on all they met.

Vincentian children go camping

The annual Vincentian Children's Camp was held once again in St. Vincent High School last July 1-5, 2014 participated by 70 children and 50 young volunteers. This year was unusual yet also a blessing since most of the children and volunteers are non-Christians. With a theme "You are the Light of the World", children and volunteers learned about topics on Catholic faith and Vincentian spirit. When the Provincial Visitor asked the children during the closing Mass with a question "do you want to come here again next year?" They answered with a resounding yes. Hopefully, we will see them again not only next year but soon in our weekly church liturgy.



Taiwan SSVP groups meet

Sixteen leaders from active conferences and potential groups of Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Taiwan gathered last August 9, 2014 at SVP Hall of CM Shilin Residence. Facilitated by Hong Kong National Conference President Maurice Yang, they discussed on how to develop more the SSVP and the possibility of creating a national conference. In recent years, SSVP groups under CM parishes in Taidong and Taipei become active in doing social services that they become the social service arms of the parish. Hopefully, more groups would be active as more confreres support the need for social services in pastoral and missionary works.



Popular mission held for 1st time

The Chinese Province organized and held for the first time a popular mission in Jinlun and Dawu Parishes, Taidong from August 10 to August 17. 5 priests, 9 nuns and 1 seminarian from China, 4 CM priests and several local lay ministers and catechists participated in home visitations and other activities to deepen the faith of



parishioners and to introduce Christian faith to non-believers. The mission activities began with commissioning of missionaries during the Sunday Mass last August 10 in Jinlun Church and ended a week after. Missionaries were all grateful for the experiences they received from the hospitality and simple life of aboriginal people. Being first in Taiwan, confreres are in full support of the activities while priests from other parishes in the Diocese of Hualien are curious to know the nature of the program.

Exchange program for 2 Vincentian schools in Asia

Last August 9-19, 2014 St. Vincent High School in Sze Hu hosted 4 teachers, 20 students and 2 priests from St. Louis High School, a Vincentian school in Indonesia, as part of the exchange program for teachers and students. This program is designed to enhance the experience of students and teachers for other cultures. Thus, visitors lived with their host-family and joined in other cultural activities prepared by the school. Through the effort of Fr. H. Susilo, this program between two Vincentian schools in Asia is on its 4th year and is eyeing for broader partnership with other Vincentian schools in Asia-Pacific.



CM helps China clergy go to Taiwan



The CM Chinese Province organized another exposure activity for the same group of clergy from China who went to Chicago, USA last year for Leadership Initiative. This time, it was so near in distance, language and culture – in Taiwan. The group arrived last August 20, 2014 and will be here until September 10. As of this writing, 13 priests from Hebei Province attend talks on different topics and go for exposures to some church-based social service institutions. An opening Eucharist presided by Fr. J. Van Aert was held last August 21 in the



chapel of Shilin Perboyre Residence and a sumptuous dinner at nearby restaurant immediately followed. Thanks to Fr. P. Wierzbicki and his group of lay volunteers who arranged the program's daily activities and to Beunen Foundation for its financial support.

De Paul Social Service Center for China helps organizations

The De Paul Social Service Center established by CM Chinese Province specifically for China helped 13 social service groups and organizations that are in need of financial funds. The DPSS Center gave a total amount of 436,300 RMB (71,600 USD) through the supervision of Fr. P. Wierzbicki. DPSS Center is on its 2nd year of existence as it tries to help effectively for the capacity-building of some church-based social service organizations. A new website and logo will soon be available for more effective promotion. For inquiries and help, you may contact the Chinese Provincial Office.

BIRTHDAYS

September 1: Fr. Pawel Wierzbicki (1967)
 September 11: Fr. Ferdinand Labitag (1970)
 October 9: Fr. John Wang (1956)
 October 12: Fr. Robert Chap (1939)
 October 13: Fr. Joseph Lin (1974)
 October 26: Fr. Eko Prasetyo (1964)
 October 28: Fr. Paul Xi (1963)
 October 30: Fr. Hugh O'Donnell (1934)
 October 31: Fr. Johannes T'sai (1926)

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

September 8: Fr. Henricus Susilo (1998)
 September 9: Fr. Eko Prasetyo (1993)
 September 10: Fr. Jan Van Aert (1961)
 Fr. Henk Cuijper (1961)
 September 26: Fr. Peter Reedy (1981)
 September 30: Fr. Yohanes Murjiyono (2006)

FEASTS AND MEMORIALS

September 2: Bld. Francois, Gruyer and co.
 September 9: Bld. Frederick Ozanam
 September 11: St. John Gabriel Perboyre
 September 27: St. Vincent de Paul