



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

## THE CARDINAL KUNG FOUNDATION

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Easter 2013

Dear Friends:

I enclose herewith a booklet of the Stations of the Cross as a token gift for your generous donations to the Cardinal Kung Foundation. Cardinal Kung composed these prayers himself while he was under house arrest by the Chinese communist authority under the custody of the Patriotic Association Bishops in Shanghai between 1985 through 1988 immediately after 30 years of imprisonment. It is a beautiful composition, simple words flowing from his heart, penetrating, and penitential. I believe it must have reflected Cardinal Kung's decades of meditations on the Passion while he endured the isolation and sufferings during his 30 years of imprisonment. These meditations must also have repeated in his mind thousands of times -- not only as a constant reminder of Jesus' enormous generosity and love to mankind, but also taking his own suffering as a very small way of participating in Jesus' sufferings. Therefore, once he had his first opportunity when the conditions during his house arrest became a bit more permissive, he fetched his pen and wrote down his meditations on the Passion during all these years. Hence, the birth of this booklet. The Basilica of St. John the Evangelist in Stamford, Connecticut, will use this booklet for the Stations of the Cross during this Lent.

I suggest that these meditations be savored along with the following intentions among your other personal intentions: firstly, for the suffering Church in China; secondly, for all those imprisoned for their faith all over the world; thirdly, for the intentions of Pope Benedict XVI, and many more prayerful years for him; fourthly, for the Holy Spirit to bestow abundant wisdom and courage to the 107 Cardinals to elect a new Pope who could lead the Church effectively and convincingly during this very difficult period in the world and in the Church; and, fifthly, for the opening of the cause of canonization for Ignatius Cardinal Kung.

We are grateful for the service and sacrifices that Pope Benedict XVI has so generously given to us, his children, as the Vicar of Christ these past eight years. We are particularly grateful for the paternal solicitude that he has extended to the suffering Church in China and for his magnanimous Letter to China dated 2007. The fruit of that Letter will surely mature in the years to come, although, in the near-term, it may not seem to have produced its desired effect, at least publicly. We thank Pope Benedict XVI for his efforts to reform the Church in a troubled time, a time of a great crisis of Faith. He brought reverence back to the Roman Rite, restored the general availability of the traditional Latin Mass in our parishes, appointed stalwart shepherds where needed most, and he offered himself as a Christ-like teacher and peacemaker for all people in the world. May God give Pope Benedict XVI the peace he seeks and deserves. Let us pray for Pope Benedict XVI, to give thanks for his pontificate, and to pray for the Church as we look to the future and the election of a new Pope.

In order for the Cause of Cardinal Kung to advance, we need the support of the local diocesan ordinary. That is why we must pray that the next bishop of Bridgeport (The seat for the Bishop of Bridgeport has been vacant for nine months) will favor the speedy advancement of the process for canonization for Cardinal Kung. I am extremely grateful for the effort of Monsignor Stephen DiGiovanni in preparing this Cause for Cardinal Kung.

Monsignor DiGiovanni is the pastor of the Basilica of St. John the Evangelist in Stamford, Connecticut. He was named by Bishop Lori, the previous Bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport, with the approval of the Vatican Congregation for the Causes of Saints, to study the possibility of an eventual opening of the cause for canonization of Cardinal Kung. Please pray one "Hail Mary" daily for the opening of the cause of canonization for Cardinal Kung.

By dying on the cross, Jesus has completed the Redemption for all mankind. Cardinal Kung wrote in the meditation on *the Fourteenth Station of Cross*: "Jesus spent over 30 years glorifying God and teaching us His divine way. He set the example to exhort mankind to put aside their own desires; He instituted Sacraments to give us the grace to do good and avoid evils. If only mankind would follow Jesus' teaching and make good use of the Sacraments, everyone could be assured of the Kingdom of God. O Victory!" May we all grow in our relationship with Jesus and Holy Mary during this season of Lent through prayers and meditation of the Stations of the Cross.

I would like to share with you an advice from the Ty Mam Dun Poor Clare Colettines in Wales, England (newsletter of the First Sunday of lent) that "*the best companions for the pilgrimage through lent to Easter are prayer, fasting and almsgiving to help us in our relationship of love with God, ourselves and our neighbor.*" Please remember the underground Church in China in your prayers and almsgiving during the Lenten season.

I wish you and your family a blessed Easter.

Yours sincerely in Christ



Joseph Kung  
President  
Cardinal Kung Foundation

**Please Remember Cardinal Kung Foundation In Your Will.**

**Thank you.**