



# THE CARDINAL KUNG FOUNDATION

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Dear Friends:

## The Status of the Cause for the Beatification/Canonization of Cardinal Kung

In his Parish monthly magazine, *THE EAGLE*, dated January 2012, Monsignor Stephen DiGiovanni, the Pastor of the Basilica of St. John the Evangelist in Stamford, Connecticut, U. S. A., revealed that he was named by Bishop William Lori, the previous Bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport and now the Archbishop of Baltimore in Maryland, with the approval of the Vatican Congregation for the Causes of Saints, to study the process of beatification and canonization in relation to the possibility of an eventual cause for the canonization of Ignatius Cardinal Kung PinMei.

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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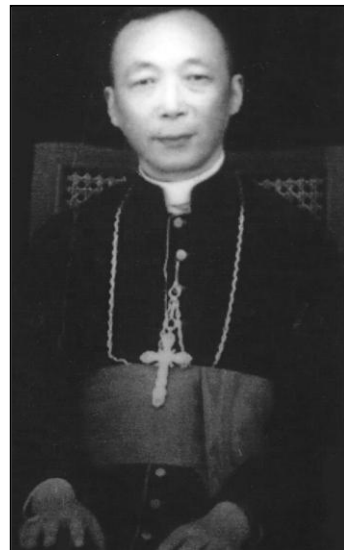
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\* In Memoriam

to the Catholic Church and to the Successor of St. Peter. He was sentenced by the Communist Party to life in prison. In 1979, Blessed Pope John Paul II secretly (*in pectore*) named Bishop Kung a Cardinal. After thirty three years imprisonment for the Catholic faith, Cardinal Kung was released and spent his last years in Stamford, Connecticut. He died in 2000 and was buried from the Basilica of St. John the Evangelist.

We are very grateful for Monsignor DiGiovanni's effort for the future opening of Cardinal Kung's cause. We now need to storm heaven with prayers to open this cause if this is God's will. I have the great joy to enclose herewith a copy of this photo card in the hope that the opening of Cardinal Kung's cause may benefit from your frequent or daily "Hail Marys". Please contact us if you want more copies of this card.



To commemorate the birthday of Cardinal Kung on August 2, Monsignor DiGiovanni produced an inspiring photo card of Cardinal Kung to urge the congregation to pray for the opening of the cause of his canonization. The photo of the young Bishop Kung was taken in 1951 when he was the Bishop of Shanghai. On the other side are the words of then Bishop Kung speaking at the Mass of Consecration to Pro Nuncio Archbishops Riberi after he accepted his episcopal appointment in 1949.

*"I thank the Holy Father above all for his confidence in me. Better than anyone else, he knows our situation. Despite this, he has created a new diocese. Is this not a palpable proof of his paternal confidence? Yet, it is he who holds the rudder of this new barque, as if repeating Christ's order, 'Put out into the deep', and I confidently respond 'At Your word, I will lower the nets.'"*

The card continues to explain: Ignatius Kung Pin-Mei spoke these words of gratitude after being named the first Bishop of Soochow, China, by Pope Pius XII in 1949, only months after the People's Liberation Army marched into Shanghai. In 1950, he was named the first Chinese Bishop of Shanghai and the Apostolic Administrator of the Dioceses of Soochow and Nanking. Bishop Kung was arrested on September 8, 1955, for his steadfast loyalty



The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist 聖若望大殿  
Stamford, Connecticut, USA 美國康州史丹福市

Monsignor DiGiovanni also made a large print of Cardinal Kung and placed the image in front of the side altar of St. Joseph, the Patron of China. This is a continuous reminder to encourage the congregation to pray for the opening of the cause. This image has now been on display for more than a month.

Monsignor DiGiovanni has started publishing a six-part biographical series of Cardinal Kung in the weekly Parish Bulletin. Much information that had not been previously published came to light through Monsignor's research. Starting from July 29, 2012, five parts have been published. I strongly recommend that you read the series on the website of the basilica at <http://stjohnsstamford.com>. Look for the article at the tab "Bulletin".

**Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** As part of the efforts of the parish of the Basilica of St. John that a cause for canonization of Ignatius Cardinal Kung be opened soon after the appointment of a new bishop, three days of prayer will be celebrated at the Basilica: October 11, 12 and 13, ending with the 4 p.m. Mass on October 13th with the consecration of the parish to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Bishop Kung's first work was to consecrate his Diocese of Shanghai to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The following of Monsignor DiGiovanni's lead for the intention of the Cardinal's cause for canonization will be a blessing for the parish of the Basilica of St. John. Please mark your calendars and look for details. The address of the Basilica is at 279 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT, 06902. Their telephone number is 203-324-1553.

**Tea, Noodles, and Rice:** There will be a gathering after the 4 p.m. Mass for the Consecration of the Parish of the Basilica of St. John in Stamford to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. All are welcome. However, because of the limitation of space, please register by mailing back to us the enclosed form. It is free.

**If you cannot be in Stamford on October 13** to participate in the Marian Consecration and praying for the opening of the cause, you may also join us spiritually during these three days of prayer and also recite Cardinal Kung's prayer of consecration on October 13, 2012. With many individual consecrations joining the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, it will be a very strong supplication to move Holy Mary's mercy on her children in the underground Church.

#### **Prayer of Consecration By Bishop Kung PinMei**

Shanghai, May, 1954

*Holy Mother, once speaking to Bernadette you said: 'I shall make you happy, not in this world, but in the next.' Throughout your whole life you followed the way of the Cross which is the unique road leading to Heaven. We do not ask for the happiness of this world, but we ask to imitate your courage to follow the way of the Cross through this world. O Holy Mary of the Immaculate Conception, we ask you to pray for us. Please turn your eyes of mercy towards us, protect us and help us through this world in order that we may enter into the Kingdom of God and enjoy life eternal. Amen.*

#### **Bishop Thaddeus Ma DaQin**

On July 7, a very unexpected event happened in the cathedral of Saint Ignatius in Shanghai. A Vatican and Chinese government approved candidate, Thaddeus Ma DaQin, was consecrated Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Shanghai. Thaddeus Ma was holding at that time a couple of senior positions at the Shanghai Patriotic Association. A wondrous thing happened: the new bishop delivered a thunderbolt in his acceptance address. He announced his resignation from the Patriotic Association in order to devote himself exclusively the spiritual ministry of the faithful of Shanghai. In addition, during the ceremony, he cleverly avoided the imposition of hands attempted by Bishop **Zhan Silu, a Patriotic Association Bishop not recognized by Vatican**, nor would he drink from the chalice of communion shared with him at the altar. Communist Party officials attending the ordination were furious and three tables reserved for them at Ma's reception banquet were left empty. The police quickly placed Bishop Ma under house arrest in Official Church's SheShan Regional Seminary and forbade him to wear any Episcopal insignia such as pectoral cross, ring, beretta and etc.

That was one month ago. Bishop Ma is still under house arrest at SheShan, barred from exercising his duties as a shepherd of the Church. The persecution of the Roman Catholic Church is obviously very much alive in China. The opening of the cause of Cardinal Kung will be a great encouragement to the underground Church, but will require incessant prayers in light of the current political climate.



**Bishop Thaddeus Ma**  
馬達欽主教

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

**Thank You**



***"Born in Christ, lived in Christ, died in Christ: forever belongs to Christ"***  
**Remembering Paul Cardinal Shan Kuo-Hsi, SJ, Bishop Emeritus of Kaohsiung, Taiwan**

**G**od received His Eminence Paul Cardinal Shan Kuo-Hsi at age 88. He served as the Bishop of Hualien and Kaohsiung in Taiwan, President of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conference, and President of the Regional conference of Chinese Bishops in Taiwan. He was an adviser to the Vatican on China policy. He was also well known for his commitment to interfaith dialogue, the poor, and promoting vocation training, especially for the Aboriginal priests in Taiwan.

Soon after his retirement at age 80, he was diagnosed with terminal cancer with six months to live. He turned his terminal illness into an unusual and powerful ministry. He devoted his energy on his famous *"Farwell to My Life"* lecture tour in Taiwan delivering over two hundred lectures at schools, prisons, and hospitals about coming to terms with death. Instead of six months, he lived for almost eight more years.

Cardinal Shan is a special friend and had played unique roles in Cardinal Kung's life overseas. Almost 22 years junior to Cardinal Kung, the two Cardinals first met when Cardinal Kung just arrived in the United States in 1988. Cardinal Shan stayed with Cardinal Kung for two weeks without seeing his own friends. Cardinal Shan briefed Cardinal Kung on the important developments of the Church since 1955 when Cardinal Kung was incarcerated and totally cut off from the outside world for 32.5 years.

Cardinal Shan made another special trip to Connecticut to participate in Cardinal Kung's Thanksgiving Mass for the Tenth Anniversary of his living in the free world and his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday. In his homily, Cardinal Shan explained his admiration towards Cardinal Kung's life and ministry. He said: *"being a white martyr is even more difficult than shedding one's blood in a red martyrdom. For Christ and His Church, Cardinal Kung suffered his whole life, every moment of it. Even at age 97, while living in the United States, he is cut off from his flock and diocese. He continues to bear this cross in his heart and in his prayers."* Cardinal Shan equated the deep bond between Pope John Paul II and Cardinal Kung with the bond between a mother and her unborn child when he said: *"We all lived nine months in our mother's wombs. Cardinal Kung lived twelve years in the heart of the Blessed Pope John Paul II."*

When Cardinal Kung died on March 12, 2000, Cardinal Shan again came immediately to bid good-bye to his beloved friend. For five days he devotedly accompanied Cardinal Kung through his last journey on earth when Cardinal Kung was lying in State at the Basilica of St. John in Stamford, Connecticut. He concelebrated the funeral Mass before flying to San Jose, California. Here, on March 20, 2000, he celebrated the Latin Tridentine Rite Requiem Mass at Five Wounds Church. Finally, Cardinal Shan officiated at the Interment ceremony by blessing the Cardinal's coffin and the crypt at Santa Clara Mission Cemetery, Santa Clara, California.

On the morning before the funeral Mass in San Jose, Cardinal Shan read the Chinese government press release stating that *"History will judge Kung Pin-Mei as a criminal of China who had divided the church in China and the country."* Cardinal Shan was so disgusted of such injustice that he vigorously defended Cardinal Kung and cried out emotionally at the pulpit, *"History will indeed judge. The criminal will not be Cardinal Kung. The criminals will be those who sent Cardinal Kung to prison. The criminals will be those who persecuted thousands of religious believers."*

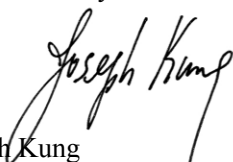
Although never worked in China and never lived under the Chinese communist government, he was very passionate on the martyrs in the persecuted church in China. Cardinal Shan worked tirelessly on behalf of the 120 martyr-saints of China canonized on October 1, 2000. He pleaded to Pope John Paul II, *"If these martyrs were not canonized (to avoid the sensitivity of the Chinese government), they would be martyred twice - once by the Chinese government and again by the Church."*

Cardinal Shan authorized the Cardinal Kung Foundation to begin gathering information and material related to Cardinal Kung's life and ministry. He further approved the English version of "Prayer for the Intercession of Cardinal Kung" which may be found at the back of Cardinal Kung's second class relic card.

We invite all friends to join us in prayers to thank Cardinal Shan for his help and affection to Cardinal Kung and to the underground Church. We further pray to Cardinal Shan to intercede on the future opening of the cause of Cardinal Kung that God be gloried in the sufferings long endured by the faithful for the Church in China and the salvation of souls. We also pray that one day Cardinal Shan's own cause for canonization will begin. We love and admire you, Cardinal Shan.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely in Christ



Joseph Kung  
 President, Cardinal Kung Foundation



CARDINAL SHAN

CARDINAL KUNG