

Remembering Bishop Emeritus Huang Shoucheng of Mindong, and Bishop Zhu Weifang of Wenzhou

Staff of the Holy Spirit Study Centre

Bishop Emeritus Vincent Huang Shoucheng (黃守誠) of Mindong (福建省閩東教區) passed away on July 30, 2016 at the age of 93. Bishop Vincent Huang was born on July 23, 1923 in Kangsi Town, Fu'an County (福安縣康厝鎮). He was ordained a priest in 1949. In 1950 he was forbidden to carry out pastoral work. After that he was imprisoned three times, for a total of 35 years.

Bishop Huang was secretly consecrated as Bishop by Bishop Liu Shuhe (劉書和) of Yixian, Hebei Province in 1985. He served as the Auxiliary Bishop of Mindong under the jurisdiction of Diocesan Bishop Xie Shiguang (謝士光). In 2005, He succeeded as the Diocesan Bishop. He retired in 2012 and was succeeded by Bp. Vincent Guo Xijin (郭希錦). According to *UCANews*, the local authorities would not allow the Mindong Catholic community to refer to Bishop Huang as bishop, but only as pastor during the funeral service. The faithful were not allowed to dress the Bishop in episcopal vestments.

Bishop Vincent Zhu Weifang (朱維方) of Wenzhou (浙江省溫州教區) passed away on September 7, 2016 at the age of 89. Bishop Zhu was born on December 10, 1927 in Yongjia County (永嘉縣), Wenzhou City. He entered Ningbo Seminary at the age of 13 and studied at different major seminaries, He was ordained a priest on October 6, 1954. He was forbidden to carry out pastoral work for 22 years, and in 1980 he returned to Wenzhou to start his evangelization work. He was consecrated a bishop on January 20, 2009 and officially took up the office as Bishop of Wenzhou on December 23, 2010

He kept good relations with the late Bishop James Lin Xili (林錫黎) and the late Administrator Francis Wang Yijun (王益駿). He also led the rally to protest against the forced demolition of churches and crosses in the Wenzhou Diocese in 2015.