

social and educational services were also permitted in the field of religion, i.e., if specific invitations requesting outside cooperation were extended by local church units, this would not only help China realize the goal of one human family and one church but it would also help implement the government's policy on freedom of religion. This, in turn, would boost the international reputation of the Motherland. I once made this same suggestion to Director Ren Wuzhi. I make it here again in the hope that you may be able to bring this idea to fruition.

Due to a number of favourable factors, Hong Kong and Guangzhou are closely knit. We hope that the future will bring us many more opportunities to come together and to cooperate with each other, working hand in hand for unity and communion within the church at the

service of humankind.

Now, allow me to propose a toast to you, Director Liu, and to all the members of your delegation. Let us join together to bring a better and brighter future to the Motherland and people everywhere. I wish you good health and success in your visit and in your many endeavors.

In his response, Director Liu pointed out that the government's religious policy had been implemented rather ideally in Guangdong Province. To emphasize his point, he cited the following statistics: to date 1,230 temples and churches have been reopened. These figures include 230 Catholic churches. He mentioned that the most pressing problem at the moment is the advanced age of the clergy making the training of successors critical.

News in Brief

Death of Leshan's Bishop Deng Jizhou

Bishop Deng Jizhou of the Leshan Diocese in Sichuan Province passed away on August 10, 1990. Born in Chengdu in 1902, Bishop Deng studied philosophy and theology at Rome's Pontifical Urban University during the 1930's. He was ordained a priest in Rome in 1936. Upon his return to China he served as a priest in Chengdu and in Jinzhu County, and as a member of the faculty of Chengdu Seminary. He was appointed bishop of Jiading Diocese (now called Leshan) by Pope Pius XII in 1949.

Bishop Deng acted as a co-consecra-

tor for the 1958 ordination of Li Xiting as bishop of Chengdu. In 1963, he again served as co-consecrator for the ordination of Shi Mingliang appointed bishop of Chongqing. Bishop Deng was sentenced to labor camp in 1969 and released in 1979. At his death, Catholics in the Leshan Diocese numbered 40,000, a two-fold increase from 1949.

Xingfa Appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Taipei Archdiocese

On October 18 this year, Pope John Paul II appointed Father Xu Xingfa, superior of the China Province of the Franciscan Order, as auxiliary bishop of

the Taipei Archdiocese. Bishop Xu was born in 1922 in Dongya County, Shandong Province. He entered the Franciscans in 1946 and was ordained a priest in 1951.

Death of Archbishop Zheng Tianxiang of Gaoxiong

Archbishop Zheng Tianxiang of Taiwan's Gaoxiong Diocese died there on August 19, 1990. He was 68 years of age. Archbishop Zheng was born in 1922 in Fuzhou, Fujian Province. When he was 16 years old he entered the minor seminary in Fuzhou and at 23 he joined the Dominican Order in Hong Kong. At the age of 30 he was ordained a priest and sent to Rome for further studies. In 1961, he was appointed bishop of Gaoxiong and named archbishop in 1979.

New Shepherds Consecrated for Heilongjiang and Inner Mongolia

On August 26, 1990, eighty year old Father Liu Huanbo was consecrated in Harbin as an auxiliary bishop of the Harbin Diocese. The principal consecrator was Bishop Zong Huaide, acting president of the Chinese Bishops Conference, and the co-consecrators were Bishops Liu Jinghe of Tangshan Diocese and Jin Peixian of Liaoning Diocese.

Bishop Zong Huaide was also the principal consecrator on October 28, 1990 in Huhehot, Inner Mongolia, when Father Guo Zhengji was consecrated bishop of the Shaanba Diocese and Father Zhu Wenyu consecrated bishop of the Chifeng Diocese. Co-consecrators at the ceremony were Bishop Wang Xueming of Huhehot and Guo Yingong of Datong.

Catholic Publishing Developments in Shanghai and Beijing

On October 30, 1990, the first Catholic printing press to open in China since 1949 was opened in the Shanghai district of Qibao. The press will print religious books, magazines, holy pictures and calendars. Also 10,000 copies of the Franciscan edition of the Old Testament were printed in Beijing with government approval and distributed nationally in September.

Novices Take First Vows in Guangzhou

In Guangzhou, on the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, August 15, 1990, Bishop Lin Bingliang received the religious vows of the first group of Guangzhou novices. The fourteen new Sisters were from 20-30 years of age.

Recent Ordinations

There have been a significant number of ordinations in China in recent months: nine in Shanghai ordained by Bishop Jin Luxian on November 18; four in Sanyuan City, Shaanxi Province, by Bishop Anthony Li Duan, on October 24; three in Suzhou by Bishop Ma Longlin, on October 27; one in Hongdong City in Shaanxi Province, by Bishop Francis Han Tingbi on September 2.

Three young men from Suzhou, are the first to be ordained in the history of the Suzhou Cathedral. Father Raymond O'Toole of the Holy Spirit Study Centre attended. On December 8, three other young men will be ordained in Jinan, Shandong Province.