



CIN_JN/PL_I024_CL11/190810

1919年8、9、10月 – 2019年8、9、10月
在中國四個的百週年紀念日：

首位在中國去世的慈幼會士的百週年紀念日：賀道行神父 慈幼會士 (廣州 1919年9月18日)

天主忠僕畢少懷神父來華的百週年紀念日 (1919年9月28日)

發出首封會長公函(Inter nos)的百週年紀念日 (1919年9月29日)

把中國的慈幼會傳教事業奉獻給瑪利亞進教之佑的百週年紀念日(1919年10月24日)

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親愛的會友、修女、協進會會員和慈幼家庭其他的成員：
願主的平安常與你們同在！

在我們親愛的父親聖若望鮑思高創立慈幼學會的第一百六十週年之際（1859—2019），又為了回應我們會省四個地區在教育和牧民工作裡所面臨的嚴重困難，我們敬愛的總會長范達民神父到訪了中華會省。在聖母升天節的前後，我們要做一个非常有意義的虔敬和奉獻行為，我指的是把所有中華會省的慈幼人和事業奉獻給瑪利亞進教之佑 – 她是我們慈幼會 113年來在偉大的祖國臨在時的女主保。

這份奉獻是有一個很有趣的歷史背景。讓我在這裡大致說一說(更詳細的敘述請見附件 I, II, III, IV)。

在韶州，在一百年前(1919年10月24日星期五)，在慈幼會第一個傳教士住宅的貧窮小堂裏（新東門），雷鳴道神父（慈幼會傳教事業的領導人，但還未成為主教），以及其他十幾個傳教士（其中包括天主忠僕畢少懷神父），隆重地把最初的慈幼會傳教事業奉獻給瑪利亞進教之佑。他們這樣做，是因為初期的傳教事業已經受到正在進行的內戰所威脅，在那幾年，內戰已經吞沒了整個中國。他們透過誦唸奉獻禱文，把慈幼會的傳教事業奉獻給瑪利亞進教之佑。在一年前(1918年6月9日)，於第一次世界大戰期間，在都靈的進教之佑大殿裏，總會長歐培拉神父也唸了這篇奉獻禱文。歐培拉神父這樣做，是為了慶祝鮑思高神父建成進教之佑大殿的 50 周年。歐培拉神父親筆寫的這篇奉獻禱文的一個特點是，它不僅是為慈幼會士而寫的，也是為母佑會修女和協進會會員而寫的，也就是為整個慈幼家庭而寫的。

在 70 年前（1949 年）的韶州，歐彌格主教承繼雷鳴道主教任韶州的主教。他考慮到當年慈幼會在韶州的工作遇到的困難，與他的傳教士（其中包括親愛的胡子義神父）一起更新了奉獻給聖母進教之佑誦，而這次的更新，是用了三十年前雷鳴道神父和他的傳教士所用的同樣的奉獻禱文。

這一年，是雷鳴道神父奉獻中國的 100 週年，又是歐彌格主教奉獻中國的 70 週年，由總會長范達民神父親自領導，中華會省慈幼家庭的所有團體（鮑思高慈幼會、母佑會、慈幼協進會、鮑思高志願者、顯主會、同學會和進教者之佑善會）將更新歐培拉神父所寫，雷鳴道神父和歐彌格主教所使用的奉獻禱文。百年紀念的確切日期是 2019 年 10 月 24 日，但我們很高興在我們敬愛的總會長的領導下，提早誦唸這奉獻誦。

1984 年，鮑思高神父第七任繼承人衛甘諾神父在第 22 屆全代會，代表所有的慈幼會士，隆重地將慈幼會奉獻給瑪利亞進教之佑——教會之母，邀請了所有當地的團體和個別會士，跟大會成員一起唸這禱文。在他為這個奉獻行動所寫的信中（1983 年 5 月 31 日在總部議會實錄），他提到了鮑思高神父在 1869 年(150 年前)做的一些事情。衛甘諾神父寫道：「我們的父親和會祖鮑思高神父建議，我們對聖母的自我奉獻可以通過「赤子般的信賴」，變得更加有意識和具挑戰性。」他於 1869 年寫了一本小冊子，在公教讀物裡刊登，讓進教者之佑善會的會員使用（該善會那年由他創辦）。鮑思高神父提供給讀者們一個「赤子般的信賴，讓我們把童貞聖母作為我們的母親」。他為這奉獻行動所寫的祈禱是有個中心點，就是讓信徒注視耶穌基督，並向祂祈求，祂是「最初的元始和最後的終結」。正是耶穌基督，在他的見證裡，祂從十字架上讓「他所愛的宗徒若望，成為他母親瑪利亞的兒子」。然後，鮑思高神父的祈禱文將奉獻者的注意力轉向聖母本人。奉獻者要求一個恩寵，即成為兒子，屬於聖母，讓聖母成為母親。是的，把自己「交託」於她的善良，他「選擇」她作為他的母親，要求她「接受」他。奉獻者說：「我把整個的我完全地、不可撤銷地奉獻給你，投奔到你的懷抱中，對你母親般的保護充滿信任。」在此，我們在鮑思高神父的祈禱文中表達了《奉獻》的真正含義，以及其基本的要求和承諾。這是一種信德的行為，它更新了我們受洗成為天主子女的意識」。願這也是我們與鮑思高神父第十任的繼任者、親愛的范達民神父共同奉獻時有的精神！

今天慈幼會事業所遇到的困難，不比我們的前輩所遇到的困難小。我們仍然需要完全地把自己託付給天上母親的關愛和幫助。讓這一次的奉獻，成為總會長探訪我們這個受苦的會省的這段充滿恩寵的時刻裡，其中一個的高峰。

在耶穌、瑪利亞、鮑思高神父之內，



我是你們摯愛的

省會長吳志源神父

2019 年 8 月 10 日，香港

Agosto-Settembre-Ottobre 1919 – Agosto-Settembre-Ottobre 2019
Un Quadruplo Centenario Salesiano in Sinis:

Centenario della morte di Don Ludovico Olive, primo Salesiano morto in Cina (18 settembre 1919)

Centenario dell'arrivo del Servo di Dio Don Carlo Braga in Cina (28 settembre 1919)

Centenario del primo numero del Provincial Newsletter "Inter nos" (29 settembre 1919)

Centenario della Consacrazione a Maria Ausiliatrice della Missione Salesiana in Cina (24 ottobre 1919)

August-September-October 1919 – August-September-October 2019
A Fourfold Salesian Centenary in Sinis:

Centenary of the Death of the first Salesian to die in Sinis: Fr Ludovic Olive SDB (Canton [Guangzhou] 18 September 1919)

Centenary of the Arrival ad Sinas of the Servant of God Don Carlo Braga (28 September 1919)

Centenary of the First Issue of the Provincial Newsletter "Inter nos" (29 September 1919)

Centenary of the Consecration of the Salesian Mission in Sinis to Mary Help of Christians (24 October 1919)

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Hong Kong, 10 August, 2019

Dear Confreres, Sisters, Cooperators & Other Members of the Salesian Family,

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

In this 160th year since the foundation of the Salesian Society by our dear Father St. John Bosco (1859-2019), on the blessed occasion of the visit to CIN of our beloved Rector Major Fr. Ángel Fernández Artime, in response to the serious difficulties that our educational and pastoral work is facing in all the 4 Territories of our beloved Province, before-during-after the great Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven, we are going to make a very meaningful act of piety and devotion, I mean the Act of Act of Entrustment of all CIN Salesian people and works to Mary Help of Christians, the titular patroness of our 113-year old Salesian presence in our great motherland.

This Act of Entrustment has a very interesting historical background. Let me outline it here below (for a more detailed account see Attachments I, II, III, and IV).

One hundred years ago in Shiuchow, on Friday, October 24, 1919, in the poor chapel of the first missionary residence of the Salesians (San Tung Mun), Don Luigi

Versiglia (the Head of the Salesian Mission, but not yet a Bishop), together with a dozen other missionaries (among them the Servant of God Don Carlo Braga), solemnly entrusted the incipient Salesian mission to Mary Help of Christians. They did so because the incipient mission was already threatened by the ongoing civil war that in those years had engulfed the whole of China. They entrusted the Salesian mission to Mary Help of Christians by reciting the Prayer of Consecration (Entrustment) recited one year before, while World War I was still raging, on June 9, 1918, in the Church of Mary Help of Christians in Turin, by the Rector Major Fr. Paolo Albera. Fr. Albera did so in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Don Bosco's completion of the Church of Mary Help of Christians. A special characteristic of this Prayer of Consecration, written by Fr. Paolo Albera himself, is that it is made not only for the Salesians, but also for the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians and the Cooperator Salesians, i.e for the whole Salesian Family.

Again in Shiuchow, seventy years ago (in 1949), Mons. Michele Arduino, second successor of Msgr. Luigi Versiglia as Bishop of Shiuchow, given the difficult times that in that year had come upon the Salesian work in Shiuchow, renewed together with his missionaries (among them dear Fr. Gaetano Nicosia) the Entrustment of Salesian works to Mary Help of Christians, using the same Prayer of Consecration used thirty years before by Fr. Luigi Versiglia and his missionaries.

This year, one hundred years since the Entrustment made by Fr. Luigi Versiglia and seventy years since that made by Bishop Michele Arduino, led by the Rector Fr. Major Ángel Fernández Artime in person, all CIN communities of the Salesian Family (Salesians of Don Bosco, Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, Salesians Cooperators, Volunteers of Don Bosco, Sisters Announcers of the Lord, Past Pupils, and ADMA) are going to renew this Entrustment, using the Prayer of Consecration written by Fr. Paolo Albera and used by Fr. Luigi Versiglia and Bishop Michele Arduino. The exact date of the centenary would be October 24th, 2019, but we are happy to anticipate this Act of Entrustment guided by our beloved Rector Major.

In 1984, the 7th Successor of Don Bosco Fr. Egidio Viganò, on the occasion of General Chapter 22 and in the name of all the Salesians of Don Bosco, made a solemn Act of Entrustment of the Salesian Congregation to Mary Help of Christians – Mother of the Church, inviting all the local communities and individual confreres to join the Chapter members in this Act. In the Letter with which he prepared this Act (31 May 1983 in AGC) he mentions something that Don Bosco did exactly 150 years ago in 1869. Fr. Egidio Viganò writes: “Our Father and Founder Don Bosco suggested that our self-entrustment to Mary could be made more conscious and challenging by an ‘Act of Filiation’. In a booklet written by him in 1869 and published in the Catholic Readings for use by the devotees of the ADMA (founded by him that year), Don Bosco offered the readers an ‘Act of Filiation by which we take the Virgin Mary as our Mother’. The prayer written by him for such an Act centres the attention and the supplication of the devotee on Jesus Christ, ‘first

beginning and last end'. It is Jesus Christ who in his Testament from the cross gives to 'the beloved apostle John the quality and title of son of His Mother Mary'. Then, Don Bosco's prayer directs the attention of the devotee to Mary herself. The devotee asks the grace of 'belonging to her' as a son, to 'have her as Mother'. Yes, 'entrusted' to her goodness, he 'chooses' her as his Mother, asking her to 'accept' him. The devotee says: 'I make a total and irrevocable donation of my whole self to you, abandoning myself in your embrace, full of trust in your maternal protection'. We have here expressed in this prayer of Don Bosco the very meaning of the Act of Entrustment as well as its fundamental demands and commitments. It is an Act of faith that renews our baptismal consciousness of being children of God". May this also be the spirit with which we make the Act of Entrustment together with the 10th Successor of Don Bosco, dear Fr. Ángel Fernández Artime!

The difficulties that the Salesian work is encountering today are not lesser or smaller than those met by our forefathers. We still need to entrust ourselves completely to the loving care of our heavenly Mother and Help. Let this Entrustment be one of the highpoints of this grace-filled time of the visit of the Rector Major to our suffering Province.

In Jesus, Mary, Don Bosco, I am,



Yours affectionately,

Fr. Joseph Ng Chi Yuen
Provincial

ATTACHMENT I

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HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE ENTRUSTMENT OF THE CHINA SALESIAN FAMILY AND ITS WORKS TO MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS BY DON LUIGI VERSIGLIA AND MSGR. MICHELE ARDUINO

Exactly 100 years ago in Shiuchow, on Friday, October 24, 1919, in the poor chapel of the first missionary residence of the Salesians (San Tung Mun), Fr. Luigi Versiglia, together with a dozen other missionaries, solemnly entrusted the incipient Salesian mission to Mary Help of Christians, reciting the Prayer of Consecration (Entrustment) before a statue of Mary Help of Christians that had been solemnly enthroned the night before (Thursday, October 23, 1919). This Act of Entrustment itself had its own interesting historical background.

One year before, on June 9, 1918, in Turin, while World War I was still raging, the Rector Major Fr. Paolo Albera had commemorated with a solemn Mass the 50th Anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of the consecration of the Mary Help of Christians Church built by Don Bosco (1868). After the Mass, Fr. Paolo Albera had put a golden scepter, donated by the Salesian Cooperator Princess Czartoriski, in the hands of the holy image of Mary Help of Christians and had entrusted all Salesian works to her, using a Prayer of Consecration composed by himself. A characteristic of this Prayer is that it takes into account not only the Salesians of Don Bosco, but also the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, and the Salesian Cooperators, men and women. Even though at that time Salesians did not speak yet of “Salesian Family” as we do now, still the reality of the Salesian Family was already there. After the Act of Entrustment made in the name of all by the Rector Major Don Paolo Albera on June 9, all the Houses of the Salesians and of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians and all the families of Cooperators all over the world were encouraged to entrust themselves to Mary Help of Christians using the same Prayer of Consecration.

Only three days before this solemn Act of Entrustment, on June 6, 1918, in the same Church of Mary Help of Christians, Fr. Paolo Albera had conducted the first expedition of seven Salesian missionaries to the new Salesian mission of Shiuchow in China. The ceremony of the sending-out was presided over by the Venerable Bishop Luigi Olivares. The “Farewell Sermon” was preached by Cardinal Giovanni Cagliero. It was on that occasion, that Cardinal Cagliero told the Chinese missionaries: “What last word shall I give you in particular? The word that Don Bosco gave me and my companions at the first expedition of 1875: ‘Look for souls, not for money, or fame, or honors: Da mihi animas, coetera tolle! Take special care of the children, the poor, the aged, the sick, and you will gain the blessing of God and the good-will of men. Recommend and spread constantly the devotion to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and to Mary Help of Christians, and you will see what miracles are.’”

The seven missionaries were: Fr. Sante Garelli, Fr. Vincenzo Barberis, Fr. Ernesto Cattaneo, Fr. Carlo Frigo, Fr. Bassano Larena-Faccini, Fr. Gaetano Pasotti, and Br. Giovanni Gnavi. Before leaving Turin, these missionaries had taken part in the Golden Jubilee celebrations of June 9 and had brought with them the text of the Prayer of Consecration to Mary Help of Christians written by the Rector Major Fr. Paolo Albera for the occasion. They also brought with them a beautiful statue of Mary Help of Christians. This statue was the gift of Turin’s university students to their departing spiritual director Fr. Sante Garelli. This same statue will be enthroned in the San Tung Mun chapel one year later the night before the solemn Act of Entrustment of Salesian work in CIN. Only six of these seven missionaries, accompanied by Fr. Luigi Versiglia, on October 17th, 1918 arrived in Shiuchow, where they were welcomed by Fr. Ludovic Olive. After a few months of study of Chinese, they scattered in the mission residences.

On August 9, 1919, a second group of nine missionaries was sent out to China by Fr. Paolo Albera. They were Fr. Giuseppe Colombo, Fr. Galdino Bardelli, Fr. Luigi Boccassino, Fr. Stefano Bosio, Fr. Carlo Braga, Fr. Giuseppe Cucchiara, Fr. Umberto Dalmaso, Fr. Bortolo Fochesato, and Fr. Beniamino Ronchi. They arrived in Macau on September 29th. While Fr. Boccassino and Fr. Ronchi remained in Macau, the others left for Shiuchow where they arrived on October 20th, 1919, welcomed by Fr. Giovanni Pedrazzini (Fr. Ludovic Olive had died in Canton just one month before on September 17th, the first Salesian to die in China). The evening of Thursday, October 23rd, the statue brought the year before by the first group of missionaries was solemnly enthroned by Fr. Luigi Versiglia in the little chapel. On Friday, October 24th, at 7:30 a.m. Fr. Versiglia celebrated the solemn votive Mass of Mary Help of Christians with the participation of all the missionaries. In the evening, after the Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament, all the missionaries recited the Prayer of Consecration to Mary Help of Christians composed by the Rector Major Fr. Paolo Albera the year before.

On Sunday, October 26th, the Act of Entrustment was repeated with the participation of all the faithful. On Monday, October 27th, the new missionaries departed for their mission residence, each one coupled to a “veteran” missionary who had arrived the year before...

The history is not yet finished. Seventy years ago, in 1949, Msgr. Michele Arduino, second successor of Msgr. Luigi Versiglia as Bishop of Shiuchow, given the difficult times that had come upon the Salesian work in the Shiuchow diocese and not only there, renewed together with his missionaries the entrustment of Salesian people and works to Mary Help of Christians, using the same formula used thirty years before by Fr. Luigi Versiglia and his missionaries. Some of the missionaries that made this second Act of Consecration together with Msgr. Michele Arduino we have been given the gift to know and love (one of them was dear Fr. Gaetano Nicosia).

(This historical material has been derived from the following publications: 1. *Bollettino Salesiano*, Periodico mensile dei Cooperatori di Don Bosco, Anno XLII, N. 6-7, giugno-luglio 1918, pp. 1-39. Also in <http://www.sdb.org/bs/1918/191806.htm> 2. Eugenio Ceria, *Annali della Società Salesiana*, Volume Quarto: Il Rettorato di Don Paolo Albera 1910-1921, Torino: Società Editrice Internazionale, 1951, Capo VI: Due centenari e due cinquantenari, pp. 73-92. 3. Michele Arduino, “La divozione a Maria Ausiliatrice in Cina”, in Accademia Mariana Salesiana, *L’Ausiliatrice della Chiesa e del Papa. Relazioni commemorative per il cinquantenario dell’incoronazione di Maria “Auxilium Christianorum” nella sua Basilica in Torino 1903 – 17 maggio – 1953*, Torino: Società Editrice Internazionale, 1953, pp. 271-274. 4. Mario Rassiga, *Breve cenno storico sull’opera salesiana in Cina*, Hong Kong: Aberdeen Technical School, 1973, Capo XII: Le Spedizioni Missionarie del 1918 e 1919, pp. 80-83).

ATTACHMENT II

Guido Bosio, *Martiri in Cina. Mons. Luigi Versiglia e Don Callisto Caravario. Nei loro scritti e nelle testimonianze di coetanei. Profilo storico*, Torino: Elle Di Ci – Leumann, 1977,

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Il nuovo gruppo di missionary, nove Sacerdoti, salpato da Marsiglia il 23 agosto 1919, era giunto a Hong-kong domenica 28 settembre (Sacerdoti: Bardelli Galdino, Boccassino Luigi, Bosio Stefano, Braga Carlo, Colimbo Giuseppe, Cucchiara Giuseppe, Dalmasso Umberto, Fochesato Bartolomeo, Ronchi Beniamino. La relazione del viaggio in *Boll. Sal.* Gennaio 1920, pp.13-14; cfr. anche M. Rassiga, *Breve cenno storico*, pp. 82-83).

[...]

Ma al loro arrivo in Cina, i nuovi missionari trovavano i Confratelli in lutto. Dieci giorni prima, il 18 settembre, era morto Don Lodovico Olive, all'età di 52 anni. Era venuto in Cina con Don Versiglia. Essi erano gli unici della prima spedizione rimasti in Cina: due santi, che avevano lavorato per tredici anni fianco a fianco, amandosi come fratelli.

[...]

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Il giorno stesso in cui i nuovi missionari arrivavano nella Casa di Macao, il 29 settembre 1919, usciva il primo numero d'una pubblicazione che durò molti anni e servì a cementare gli animi dei Confratelli in quello "spirito di famiglia", che è essenziale alla vita delle comunità religiose.

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Domenica 19 ottobre 1919, sette dei nuovi missionari giunti a Macao partivano per la lor Missione di Shiu-chow. Li accompagnava Don Versiglia. Don Beniamino Ronchi aveva raggiunto pochi giorni prima Shek-ki nell'Heung-shan, la Missione che era stata un tempo di Don Olive, e Don Boccassino era rimasto a Macao a sostituire Don Guarona come consigliere scolastico e insegnante. Il gruppo dei nuovi missionari giunse a Shiu-chow nel pomeriggio del 21 ottobre 1919. Erano ad attenderli alla stazione i loro Confratelli Salesiani, che vantavano già un anno di missione, ed un gruppo di cristiani.

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Il 24 ottobre 1919, commemorazione di Maria Ausiliatrice, nella povera cappella della residenza di Shiu-chow si tenne una cerimonia molto importante e significativa per la vita della nuova Missione. Essa fu come il suo battesimo.

[...]

La sera del 23, fu tirata fuori dalla sua cassa una bella statua dell'Ausiliatrice, donata l'anno prima a Don Garelli dalle studentesse dell'Università di Torino, e fu collocata sull'altare della cappella. La mattina del 24 Don Versiglia celebrava la Messa comunitaria alla presenza di tutti i missionari, e nel pomeriggio, dopo la benedizione eucaristica, tutti recitavano la formula di consacrazione di se stessi e della nuova Missione a Maria Ausiliatrice.

Era la stessa formula che Don Albera, con il suo Capitolo, aveva recitato nella Basilica di Maria Ausiliatrice in Torino, celebrando il giubileo del Santuario.

La Missione aveva un nome: "Missione di Maria Ausiliatrice" ed una protettrice, che fece sentire in modo straordinario la sua protezione.

“Abbate fiducia in Gesù Eucaristico e in Maria Ausiliatrice, e vedrete che cosa sono i miracoli”. Era la raccomandazione che Don Bosco aveva fatto personalmente a Don Cagliero la vigilia della partenza della prima spedizione missionaria per l’America. (*MB XI*, p. 395).

The 1919 Expedition of which the Servant of God Don Carlo Braga was a member was the 6th Missionary Expedition for China.

The 1st was the 1905 Expedition with Fr. Versiglia Luigi, Fr. Olive Ludovico, Fr. Fergnani Giovanni, Br. Carmagnola Luigi shoe-maker, Br. Novice Rota Gaudenzio taylor, and Br. Novice Borasio Felice type-setter.

The 2nd was the 1911 Expedition with Fr. Bernardini Vincenzo and Fr. Pedrazzini Giovanni

The 3rd was the 1912 Expedition with Fr. Canazei Ignazio, Fr. Lucas da Silva Jose, Br. Fantini Ottaavio, and Br. Viola Luigi

The 4th was the 1913 Expedition with Fr. Guarona Giovanni, Fr. Del Corno Giuseppe, Fr. Guglielmino Vincenzo.

The 5th was the 1918 Expedition with Fr. Barberis Vincenzo, Fr. Frigo Carlo, Fr. Garelli Sante, Fr. Larenò-Faccini Bassano. Fr. Pasotti Gaetano, and Br. Gnani Giovanni

The 6th was the 1919 Expedition with Fr. Bardelli Galdino, Fr. Boccassino Luigi, Fr. Bosio Stefano, Fr. Braga Carlo, Fr. Colombo Giuseppe, Fr. Cucchiara Giuseppe, Fr. Dalmaso Umberto, Fr. Fochesato Bartolomeo, Fr. Ronchi Beniamino.

ATTACHMENT III

Prayer of Entrustment of Salesian Work to Mary Help of Christians

Written in 1918 by Rector Major Fr. Paolo Albera, 2nd Successor of St. John Bosco, Used by Don Luigi Versiglia in 1919, by Bishop Michele Arduino in 1949, and by the 10th Successor of Don Bosco Rector Major Fr. Ángel Fernández Arttime in 2019.

O Mary, powerful Help of the Christian people, listen kindly to the fervent prayers that rise up to You in this solemn hour.

Because of Your motherly concern for the moral and religious needs of the new generations growing up in these new times, You inspired the Venerable Don Bosco to devote himself to their education and upbringing. That faithful servant of Yours, as soon as he saw the beginning of the work entrusted to him, decided to build in Your honour the Church of Mary Help of Christians in Turin. His purpose was to see to it that, in the fullness of the future expansion of his mission, all his children would revive the memory of Your help and motherly protection. If he were alive today, used as he was to proclaim himself totally indebted to You, what a song of praise would he raise up to You!

You now see how, together with his Successor, the threefold Family that was born of Your inspiration and Your will, lies prostrate before Your altar. The Salesians, the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, the Cooperators, men and women, are overcome with joy in contemplating the glitter of the golden scepter that they have put into Your hand. Of one heart, they yearn to proclaim You their august Queen.

O Mary Help of Christians, the Work of Don Bosco is Yours, all Yours, Yours by right. But we, in the lively desire to show You our filial gratitude, want it to be Yours also because of our unanimous, absolute, and irrevocable consecration. We want to consecrate to You our mind, our heart, all the forces and faculties of our soul, every moment of our life, because it is Your graceful gift that we all are children of Don Bosco and Your children. To You, then, O Mother most tender, collectively and individually we consecrate ourselves today, with the firm intention of being always, with Your help, more hard-working apostles of charity in every part of the earth.

With the most joyous hopes, we consecrate to You also our works, most especially the youthful masses that are gathered or will gather in the future at the foot of Your altars, under the banner of Don Bosco. Make them grow, O Mother of God and our Teacher, and keep them ever Yours, even amid the dangers and pitfalls of the world, so that the Vicar of Jesus Christ may delight in seeing the Kingdom of God spread, also through them, everywhere.

O Mother of Jesus and our Mother most amiable, accept this devoted and affectionate offer with Your usual kindness. Let Your royal scepter be always raised to protect and defend the houses and missions of the Pious Salesian Society and of Your Daughters; let it point the way to Paradise to the souls gathered in all their works; let it protect and defend the family and the work of Cooperators, both men and women. Let the whole world see and know that the children, the admirers, and the friends of the Venerable Don Bosco are, and want to be, Yours, today, always, and forever. Amen.

奉獻給聖母進教之佑誦

吁瑪利亞，信友之助佑，請俯聽我們在這莊嚴時刻向您所作的虔誠祈禱。

您以慈母的心腸關懷年輕一代的道德和宗教的需要，從而啟發鮑思高神父從事他的培訓和教育工作。您這位忠僕，一看到委託給他的事業開始建立，便想為您在都靈建造這座聖殿，務使眾人都能從他使徒事業的龐大發展中，清楚地看到您的助佑和保護。他經常都把一切歸功於您，假如他今天仍活著的話，將要以怎樣的歌曲來讚美您！

您與他的繼任者，看到因您啟發而創立的三個家庭成員，即慈幼會士、母佑會修女，以及協進會會員，大家一心一德，俯伏在您的祭台前，滿懷歡樂地欣賞他們所獻給您的，那支閃閃發光的金色權杖，並高呼您為他們的母后。

吁聖母進教之佑，鮑思高神父的事業是完全屬於您的。為了表達孺子感恩之情，我們願意藉這奉獻，一致地，完全誠服及永不後悔的把自己全獻給您。我們願把自己的心神、精力、才幹，以及生命的每一刻，都奉獻給您。因為我們所以成為鮑思高和您的神子，也是您的恩賜。因此，至慈祥的母親，今天我們要個別和集體地，把自己完全奉獻給您，並堅心定志，以後要賴您的助佑，在地球的每個角落，時常成為更勤奮的愛德使徒。

我們以喜樂和希望把我們的工作也奉獻給您，尤其把那些在鮑思高旗幟下，聚集在您祭台前的青年隊伍奉獻給您。天上的慈母和導師，請您增加他們的數目，並時常在世俗的危險和陷阱中保護他們，務使耶穌基督的代表，樂於見到天主神國的廣揚，也透過他們而擴展到世界各地。

吁，耶穌之母和我們至愛的母親，請您以一貫的仁慈，接納這個忠誠與孝愛的奉獻。您的權杖要不斷地保護和捍衛慈幼會及母佑會的會院和事業，給他們所引領的靈魂指出前往天堂的道路，並保護和捍衛協進會會員的家庭和工作，務使全世界的人都能看到和知道，聖鮑思高的神子、朋友和仰慕者，都願把自己完全隸屬於您，今日以至永遠。亞孟。

ATTACHMENT IV

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Shiuchow, the Third of the First Three Stages of Salesian Presence in Our Great Motherland, the Land of Don Bosco's Dreams

Salesian presence in Sinis began 113 years ago in Macau in 1906, 108 years ago in Heungshan (now Zhong Shan) in 1911, 101 years ago in Shiuchow (now Shaoguan) in 1918. The pioneer of all three stages was the Salesian Protomartyr Saint Luigi Versiglia. On the blessed occasion of the visit of beloved Rector Major Fr. Ángel Fernández Arttime to CIN, we are going to renew the Act of Entrustment of Salesian people and works to Mary Help of Christians made 100 years ago by Saint Luigi Versiglia and his first missionaries.

This Act of Entrustment of Salesian people and works in the great motherland was triggered by the critical situation encountered in the very first year of the Shiuchow third-stage Salesian presence (1918-1919). In fact, the whole nation was engulfed in the scourge of civil war. To appreciate the background of the 1919 Act of Entrustment, it may be good to do two things: first, to outline, in chronological order, how the first Salesians entered the troubled Shiuchow district; second, to review the glorious and heroic history of the Shiuchow mission itself. In doing both things, several places are mentioned whose names (written in traditional spelling) are familiar to the confreres who, in the past twenty-five years, took part in the "Torch Action" Missionary Youth Volunteer Movement begun in 1994.

1. Chronology of Salesian Presence in Shiuchow

So, in the first place, we review the chronology of the Salesian penetration of the Shiuchow area:

- 13 October 1917: First mention of the planned entrustment of the Shiuchow Mission to the Salesians made by Msgr. Gabriel De Guébriant MEP of Canton to Fr. Luigi Versiglia SDB on the ship that brought them as pilgrims to the shrine of St. Francis Xavier on Shang Chuan Island;
- 21 December 1917: Fr. Luigi Versiglia and Msgr. Gabriel De Guébriant sign the contract between MEP and SDB, with the stipulation that by 01 March 1918 two or three SDB missionaries must enter the Shiuchow district;
- 27 December 1917: The entrustment of the new Mission by the MEP to the SDB is announced by Fr. Luigi Versiglia to the Salesian confreres in Macau and Fr. Versiglia appoints Fr. Ludovic Olive (from Shek Ki, Heung Shan) and Fr. Giovanni Guarona (from Orfanato, Macau) as the two first missionaries to go to take over from the MEP and local priests the missionary work in Shiuchow district;
- 26 February 1918: Olive and Guarona leave Macau for the Shiuchow mission;
- 28 February: Olive and Guarona arrive in Shiuchow, welcomed by Fr. Pierrat MEP who was passing by Shiuchow;
- 01 March: Olive and Guarona take a boat for Chi Hing and Nam Yung, but the boat leaves only on 03 March;
- 05 March: Olive and Guarona arrive in Chi Hing;
- 06 March: Olive and Guarona leave for Fong Tung, but on the way they are robbed by a band of seven pirates, so return to Chi Hing, where they stay for the one day 07 March;
- 08 March: Olive and Guarona from Chi Hing proceed to Nam Yung and then to Kiang Kong, welcomed by Fr. Lessaint MEP, the missionary resident in Nam Yung with Chinese Fr. Ton; then from there they move to Fong Tung, where Guarona stays for a few days before returning to Chi Hing, while Olive goes to Nam Yung;
- 23 April: Accepting the recommendation made by Rector Major Fr. Paolo Albera, the MEP-SDB contract is approved by Propaganda Fide in Rome;
- 28 April 1918: Versiglia leaves Macau to visit the two missionaries, going first to Fong Tung, then, having heard that Nam Yung is a disaster area because of civil war, with Guarona tries to go to Nam Yung to see Fr. Olive, passing by Kiang Kong.

So, this is how our Salesian mission in Shiuchow began 100 years ago. At that time, the Shiuchow district had a surface of about 35,000 km² and a population of 3 millions, the city of Shiuchow itself had about 60,000 inhabitants, Nam Yung 35,000 inhabitants, Lin Chow 30,000 inhabitants. These being the three largest cities, the whole region called "Nam Shiu Lin".

The letter with which Fr. Luigi Versiglia announces to the Rector Major Fr. Paul Albera the historic development of a Salesian presence in Shiuchow is worth reading and meditating:

Macau, 4 January, 1918

Beloved and Most Reverend Father,

You cannot imagine what joy fills the heart of your children in China. The attached documents will tell you more clearly than I can do how our dear Congregation in China is entering into a new phase which will certainly

be important and glorious; in this new phase the things foreseen by our beloved Father Don Bosco begin to become reality.

You must have already received a letter of mine in which I gave you a report of the conversation I had with His Excellency Msgr. De Guébriant, the Vicar Apostolic of Canton. Now you can see the contract I could not refrain from signing, also thanks to the encouragement of the other confreres. The date of the contract is the Feast of St. Thomas Apostle and it falls within the Christmas Novena. We have reason to hope for the best and to think that it is really the Child Jesus who has wished to prepare for us this field for our apostolate in a way that we could never have believed.

It is true that this development will increase the worries and sacrifices of the Congregation and of our beloved Superiors; but it is a question of the glory of God, of the good of souls, and of the honour of our Congregation; we are sure that nobody will wish to remain behind. May God and Mary Help of Christians be blessed...

After this preamble, almost a little effort of our heart, in the appended papers I continue to offer a short commentary of the attached contract, submitting it to the examination of the Superiors.

Bless us all, most beloved Father! With your prayers, please, obtain for us the grace to be good Salesians and good Missionaries.

Please, present to all the Superiors our affectionate homage and consider me in everything,

Most affectionately in Corde Jesu,

Fr. Luigi Versiglia

2. Chronology of Pre-History of Salesian Presence in Shiuchow

In the second place, we give a very concise look at the glorious and heroic history of the Shiuchow mission before the Salesian penetration:

- The Shiuchow Catholic community was founded by the great Fr. Matteo Ricci S.J. in 1589 (this year is the 430 anniversary of this second-oldest Catholic community in modern China!) When the first Salesian missionaries arrived in Shiuchow, the ruins of the house in which Fr. Matteo Ricci had lived and worked were still visible in Hosai. Nothing can be seen today, but the memory of the site of his original presence is still alive in oral tradition. The written tradition (first of all Matteo Ricci's own diary) is full of details of Fr. Matteo Ricci's life and work in Shiuchow.
- Fr. Matteo Ricci had come from Shiuhing where, since 1583, with his confrere Fr. Michele Ruggeri who had preceded him, he had founded the first-oldest Catholic community in modern China.
- Fr. Ricci remained in Shiuchow for 6 years (26 August 1589 – 18 April 1595), spreading the faith as far as Nam Yung.
- After about one century of Jesuit missionary work, there came the Franciscans, the Agostinians, and the MEP who, in the year 1685, took over the whole mission assisted by some local Chinese priests (the Catholic community in Fong Tung dates from that time, c. 1700, this is the oldest Catholic community entrusted to the care of the Salesians of Don Bosco).
- Because of intermittent persecutions, the Catholic communities flourished more in remote villages than in the town of Shiuchow itself. Missionaries recurrently expelled from other provinces and ordered out to Macau, did not go as far as Macau, but retreated to the most remote mountain villages, where imperial police could hardly follow them. Their presence in the bigger centres, instead, would have been very quickly detected, and the expulsion to Macau would become all too effective. That is why, in the big centre of Shiuchow itself there were very few Catholics with no resident missionary to take care of them.
- When Fr. Ludovico Olive and Fr. Giovanni Guarona arrived in the Shiuchow district, however, Shiuchow had a resident Chinese priest Fr. Ly; Nam Yung had as resident priests the missionary Fr. Lessaint MEP and the Chinese priest Fr. Tong; Linchow, like Shiuchow had only the Chinese priest Fr. Tzan.
- With the arrival of the Salesians, the MEP missionaries and Chinese priests withdrew to Canton, the centre of the MEP Kwangtung mission.

Dear confreres, in God's mysterious designs, the Shiuchow missionary field was watered by the blood of the Salesian Protomartyrs St. Luigi Versiglia and St. Callisto Caravario, the blood of three missionaries Fr. Vincenzo Munda, Fr. Bassano Larena-Faccini, Fr. John Matkovics, and the blood of our Chinese confrere Fr. Simone Leong Shu Tchi, who, like our Protomartyrs, is a martyr of faith and charity. All six confreres died for their fidelity to their vocation and mission. Thanks be to God!

But Shiuchow is not the only soil in CIN to be irrigated by Salesian blood. At least five other Chinese confreres have died in our great motherland for the faith. And several others have undergone 20-30 years of

imprisonment for the faith. The longest imprisonment (37 years!) was that of dear Fr. Paolo Fong Ting Chung who is still happily with us at the golden age of 100!

Let us keep the Shiuchow mission in our prayer. In particular, let us pray for the young diocesan priests who are working there and for the Sisters Announcers of the Lord who were born in this mission. May the good Lord give them an abundance of holy vocations.

Let us pray also for the whole motherland. Certainly, the blood of martyrs, in God's good time, will be the seed of many, many new Christians. Salesian people and works entrusted 100 years ago to Mary Help of Christians will certainly continue to bear abundant fruit! God bless!