



CHRISTIANITY  
IN MODERN CHINA



People, Communities,  
and the  
Catholic Church in China

*Edited by*  
Cindy Yik-yi Chu  
Paul P. Mariani

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# Christianity in Modern China

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Editors

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*To Sister Betty Ann Mahen, MM*

## PREFACE

This edited volume is a concerted effort of academics from various parts of the world to explore key issues in Sino-Vatican relations, Church leadership, and the development of local Catholic communities. The cooperation of experts across national boundaries is the main strength of the book. Among the authors are three Italians, four Chinese, one French, and one American. Together they contribute articles, which discuss the Chinese Catholic Church and the aspects of its activities such as politics, diplomacy, literature, charities, pilgrims, and youths. Most of the authors, of two nationalities, live in China and offer the insiders' perspective on the Chinese Catholic Church and its relations with the Vatican. Two Italians write on the Church in the post-Mao era, providing readers with detailed analyses to further understand Sino-Vatican relations and the provisional agreement that Pope Francis reached with Beijing on the appointment of bishops in China in September 2018. Other authors consider the activities inside the Church. This volume is timely and approaches the topic of the Chinese Catholic Church from the viewpoints of policies, people, organizations, communities, and the landmark in Sino-Vatican relations in 2018.

The editors would like to thank Rev. Peter Choy of the Holy Spirit Seminary and the Yuan Dao Study Society for the generous support of this book. They also appreciate the expertise and work of Mr. Tom Marling in preparing the volume for publication. Looking beyond the publication of this book, the editors would like to draw your attention

to a much larger project in future, on the Catholic Church in China and other East Asian countries. Stay tuned for the news of the upcoming publications of the authors.

Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong  
Santa Clara University, USA

Cindy Yik-yi Chu  
Paul P. Mariani

## NOTE ON NAMES OF PEOPLE AND PLACES

Pinyin is used for the names of people and places in China mainland, for example, Xi Jinping and Sheshan, respectively. As for Chinese Catholics on the mainland, their Christian names appear before their Chinese names, for example, Aloysius Jin Luxian—Jin being his family name and Luxian being the combination of the two Chinese characters that follow his family name. There are exceptions, such as Ignatius Kung Pinmei and Dominic Tang Yiming.

As for Chinese Catholics in Hong Kong and outside the mainland, their names are spelled in the way they prefer, for example, Joseph Zen Ze-kiun—whose family name is Zen and Ze-kiun being the two Chinese characters following his family name.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| BCCCC   | Bishops' Conference of the Catholic Church in China                                |
| CCAC    | Chinese Catholic Church Administrative Committee                                   |
| CCP     | Chinese Communist Party  |
| CCPA    | Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association   |
| CDPF    | China Disabled Persons' Federation   |
| CRS     | Catholic Relief Services   |
| CTPM    | Committee of the Three-self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China |
| HKSAR   | Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  |
| NCEE    | National College Entrance Examination  |
| NGO     | Non-Governmental Organization  |
| NPO     | Non-Profit Organization  |
| OCLP    | Occupy Central with Love and Peace (also known as Umbrella Movement)               |
| PIME    | Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions  |
| PRC     | People's Republic of China   |
| PSB     | Public Security Bureau   |
| ROC     | Republic of China (Taiwan)   |
| SARA    | State Administration of Religious Affairs  |
| SBM     | School-Based Management  |
| SBV     | Studium Biblicum Version   |
| TCV     | <i>Today's Chinese Version</i> of the Bible (1975)                                 |
| Ucanews | Union of Catholic Asian News   |
| UFWD    | United Front Work Department   |
| WTO     | World Trade Organization   |

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# The Chinese Catholic Church in Changing Times

*Cindy Yik-yi Chu*

**Abstract** In September 2018, the Vatican announced that Pope Francis had reached a provisional agreement with Beijing on the appointment of bishops in China. The Vatican expressed the hope that this breakthrough would lead to further improvements in its relations with Beijing. In a landmark in the history of the Catholic Church in contemporary China, the two sides agreed to allow for the ordination of bishops agreeable to both the Vatican and China. This book provides readers with the information and insights needed to better understand Sino-Vatican relations and the rationale behind the decisions taken by Pope Francis. It includes articles that discuss the Chinese Church as a whole and those that focus on particular aspects of its activities, including diplomacy, politics, leadership, pilgrims, and youths.

**Keywords** China · Hong Kong · Shanghai · Catholic Church · Sino-Vatican relations

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