



**SPIRITAN CHINA EDUCATION FUND
FOR ADVANCED FORMATION**

November 19, 2018

Dear Friends,

In 1982, when China just reopened its door, Father Donald Nesti, CSSp, was one of an official group of 21 American Catholic educators who visited China's Catholic churches. It was obvious that the Catholic faith was strong but also that the Church had not yet experienced or implemented the vision of the Second Vatican Council. Fr. Nesti had a desire and need to assist the Church in China in its evangelizing outreach. We recognize that it is first and foremost the responsibility of the Church in China to bring the Gospel to the Chinese. Yet, we, in Houston, can provide rich educational and pastoral resources that enhance the ministry of our Chinese Catholic brothers and sisters in preaching the Gospel.

To that end, the Spiritan China Education Fund for Advanced Formation seeks to establish relationships and academic opportunities for Chinese priests and religious leaders to continue their education at the graduate level in Houston. Under the support of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit and St. Mary Seminary, our first student, Father Yifu Lyu, will soon graduate from University of St. Thomas (with high achievement) and return to China. This accomplishment would not have been possible without the generous contribution from people like you. Now, we are working to bring our next priest student to Houston. We invite you to be a part of this endeavor to join hands with our Chinese Catholic brothers and sisters to show the world that we are all one People of God that transcends all frontiers.

Please join us by bringing your friends to attend this Chinese Education Fund Dinner! We count on your prayers. We also invite you to consider the several levels of offering financial assistance to support future Chinese priest students in their studies in Houston. The dinner promises to be an evening of table fellowship in which to share warm hospitality and a ten-course meal for which the Chinese are famous (last year we drew nearly 500 guests). This year, we have several distinguished church and civic leaders receiving awards – a gesture of international solidarity in the Universal Church. Cardinal DiNardo has once again graciously consented to be there to show support and welcome you along with Bishop Curtis Guillory (Diocese of Beaumont), Fr. Louis Zee (Retired Pastor of Ascension Chinese Mission) and Bonna Kol (President, Asia Society Texas Center).

We look forward to greeting you at our Dinner. May God continue to bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patrick Leung
Board Chair, Spiritan China Education Fund for Advanced Formation

Gordon Quan
Honorary Co-Chairs, Father Matteo Ricci, SJ, Chinese Education Dinner

Sylvia Quan