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LEGION OF MARY
FOUNDED 7 SEPTEMBER 1921

The Legion and Communist China



Cardinal Kung

In 1948 there are 148 dioceses, 5,000 priests, 7,000 sisters and 3,400,000 Catholics in China. China's population is 350,000,000. By 1951 2,000 presidia of the Legion of Mary have been formed in China. "Holy Mother's Army" is seen by the Communists as a secret army. Legionaries were required to register at the Police Station to renounce their Legion membership . They were also asked to renounce Bishop Kung and the Pope. Very few signed the papers. It is estimated 1000 Legionaries died in prison. Thousands were sentenced to 10,20,30 years in prison. **T.S. Shen, Shanghai Senatus President, father of five was tortured and executed. Non Chinese clergy are expelled.**

The Legion and Communist China



Sept.8 1951-April 28, 1953 Irish priest **Fr Aedan McGrath** is imprisoned for being a Legion of Mary member. From 1937 to 1951 Fr McGrath was instrumental in establishing the Legion in China.

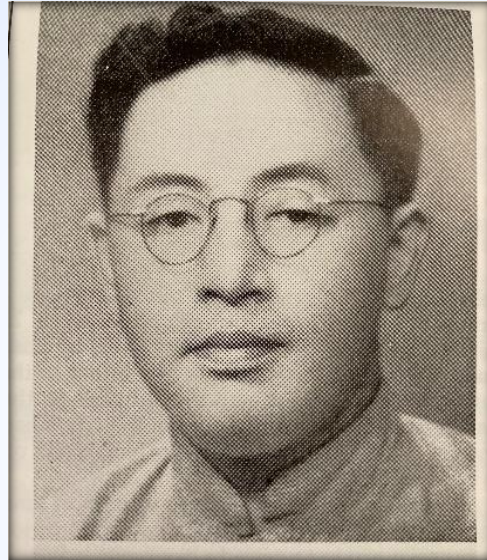
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September 8, 1955- September 8, 1988 - third year seminarian Matthew Koo is imprisoned for being a Legion of Mary member. 400 Chinese priests are imprisoned. 166 members of the clergy are killed or die in prison. Fr Koo was ordained in China after his release from prison, He emigrated to the US and currently resides in San Jose, Ca. Sept. 8 1951-April 28, 1953 Irish priest



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Fr. Joseph Seng- was a Spiritual Director of the Legion of Mary in China and a joint translator of the Legion Handbook was arrested together with five other priests (including Fr. Aedan McGrath), died while in prison as a result of his refusal to cooperate with the Communist Chinese officials. He died as a martyr of the Church a Legionary till the end.

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Cardinal Kung released from prison while being processed to be put in house arrest in 1985.

假釋後的上海龔品梅主教

Bishop Kung, Bishop of Shanghai, personally supervised the Legion of Mary. As a result many members chose to risk arrest in the name of their God, their Church and their Bishop. “Long live Christ the King, Long live the Pope”