

Editorial

Today we can present to our readers the fourth 2012 issue of *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* (中國宗教評論). As in previous issues, it includes the regular series of News Updates which give an insight into recent events and general trends with regard to religions and especially Christianity in today's China.

The article "Models of Caring for Migrants in Taiwan" by Fr. Peter O'Neill SSC, chaplain to migrant workers and immigrants in Hsinchu Diocese, Taiwan, highlights the missionary responsibility of the local Church to respond to both the pastoral and social needs of migrant workers.

In his contribution "Lessons from Matteo Ricci. Reflection on the Chinese-Western Transfer of Ideas by Matteo Ricci and Its Implications for the Chinese-European Encounter," Prof. Dr. Michael Lackner, Department of Middle Eastern and Far Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, gives an interesting insight into Matteo Ricci's missionary endeavor and his impact on Western images of China. "For the problems of cross-cultural exchange in our times, we may retain that Matteo Ricci was a pioneer, who made two civilizations accessible to each other. The tool he used was the commitment for understanding Chinese culture (and, first of all, to master the language) by searching for ideas and institutions China shared with the West. Later generations of Westerners, missionaries, diplomats, and merchants, have departed from Ricci's approach and have emphasized the differences between China and the West, ..."

Both contributions were presented at the 8th European Catholic China Colloquium in Freising in September 2010, on the topic "Chinese in Europe – Trends and Catholic Perspectives."

Religions & Christianity in Today's China is freely available on the website of the China-Zentrum, www.china-zentrum.de. Additionally, readers who subscribe to *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* will regularly receive e-mail updates providing web links to the contents of each newly published issue.

The China-Zentrum is a non-profit organization. For the publication of *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* we are dependent on the generosity of our friends and readers. In order to help us cover inevitable costs, we would be very grateful if you could consider sending in a voluntary contribution.

Being most grateful for your support and interest towards our work, we wish all our readers peace and blessings for the Feast of Christmas and the New Year 2013.

Sankt Augustin, December 2012

The Editors